

Social Justice and Regeneration Committee

SJR(2)-01-07(p.2)

Date: Thursday 18 January 2007

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Venue: The Senedd, National Assembly for Wales

Draft Housing Revenue Account Subsidy and Item 8 Determinations for 2007/08

Purpose

1. The Minister wrote to the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 5 December 2006 asking that papers relating to the Draft Housing Revenue Account Subsidy and Item 8 Determinations for 2007/08 be circulated to Committee Members for comments which she would take the Committee meeting on 18 January 2007.

Background

2. The text of the Minister's letter is reproduced below:

Janice Gregory AM
Chair
Social Justice and Regeneration Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

5 December 2006

I wish to advise the Committee that I am consulting Local Government and appropriate professional bodies before making *The Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (Wales) Determination 2007/08 and The Item 8 Credit and Item 8 Debit (Wales) General Determination 2007/08*. I would request that the draft Determinations, which are annexed to this letter, be distributed to Committee Members as part of the consultation process. I will receive the Committee's comments at the next Committee meeting on 18 January 2007.

The draft Determinations remain largely unchanged from those currently in force. However, for 2007/08 I have agreed an increase of 5.6% to guideline rents for local authorities. I have also agreed a 4.6% increase to benchmark rents for Housing Associations in 2007/08 and my agreement to both maintains the differential of 1% in line with Assembly Government's policy on rent convergence.

Edwina Hart AM
Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration

Recommendation

3. That the Committee considers the draft Determinations and advises the Minister of any comments at the Committee meeting on 18 January 2007.

Janice Gregory AM
Committee Chair