

## BUDGET PLANNING ROUND 2000

### DRAFT BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Local Government

##### Revenue Support Grant

- additional £26.4/187.4/323.9 million on top of already increased baseline; (making total increases over 2000-01 plans of £171/332/459 million);
- plus £10/0/30 million Performance Incentivisation Grant (PIG)
- allows for 5.6%/5.3%/5.4% increase in spending by Local Authorities; (PIG included for this calculation)
- *coupled with*
  1. average council tax increases of 3%/5%/5%;
  2. on current estimates this should mean that no individual authority tax rise exceeding 9%;
  3. *(NB Estimates based on existing data from authorities; revised data for the final settlement may lead to variations in the final figures)*
  4. plus new burdens of £11.6/31.4/40.1 million *(NB Infant Class Size reduction grant included in baseline)*
  5. plus specific grants

##### Grants

- plus transitional scheme £4/3/2 million

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#### Housing

##### Social Housing Grants/

##### Receipts

- no net change in the total available for the programme; will continue to fund about 1,250 additional or replacement housing units a year;
- receipts from disposals are retained by RSLs in a designated reserve and recycled as Social Housing Grant.

## **Supported Housing Revenue**

### **Grant**

- : +£0/0.9/1.2 million
- to provide an additional 200 bed spaces a year by 2002-03 for homeless and other vulnerable people
- meets the Assembly's plenary motion to extend the categories of homeless people in need of accommodation.

## **Local Authority General**

### **Capital Funding/SCAs**

- : +£5.0/15.0/20.0 million
- to increase resources to local authorities to improve public and private sector housing, with a particular emphasis on community regeneration.

## **Community Purposes**

- : +£3.0/10.0/15.0 million
- to expand the Assembly's flagship Communities First programme aimed at up to 100 of the most deprived communities in Wales;
- several other programmes will complement Communities First.

## **Home Improvement Agencies**

- : +£0.03/0.06/0.09 million

- inflationary uplift to cover cost of Care and Repair agencies throughout Wales.

## **Homelessness and Rough Sleeping**

- : +£1.0/1.2/1.3 million
- to fund an additional 15 projects to help achieve the Assembly's commitment to eliminate rough sleeping and make progress against the 2010 target of less than 500 homeless families occupying temporary accommodation.

## **Home Energy Efficiency Scheme**

- : +£0/2.0/4.0 million
- to extend the coverage of the new Home Energy Efficiency Scheme to benefit 38,000 households by 2003;
- to move towards the target of meeting the needs of all fuel poor households by 2010.

## **Expenses of Rent Officers**

- : extra £0.3 million in 2001-02 from carry-forward
- a contractual commitment to fund the re-structuring of the rent office service in Wales.

## **Local Regeneration Fund**

- : +£0/10/11 million
- to support sustainable regeneration of deprived areas in Wales by local authorities and the voluntary sector; most of this budget is eligible to be used as match funding for Structural Funds.

## **Groundwork Trusts**

- : + £0.2/0.25/0.3 million

- to extend the Groundwork Trusts movement in Wales;
- to create 115 jobs, 460 ha of land improved/maintained, 260 business advised (environmental issues), 32,000 volunteers involved and £7.5 million of external funding levered.

## **Commissioner for Local Administration**

- : + £0.2/0.2/0.2 million
- contractual commitment to fund new standards functions conferred on the local government Ombudsman.

## **Best Value**

- : Audit Commission + £0.3/0.35/0.4 million
- contractual commitment to support Best Value in Local Authorities.

## **Valuation Office Agency**

- : +£0.35/0.35/0.35 million
- to improve the clearance times for appeals against business rate revaluations.
- to deal with increased volume of business rates appeals

## **Local Government Statistics Unit**

- : + £0.4/0.4/0.4 million
- to fund the joint Assembly/Local Government Statistical Unit to improve Local Government statistics.

## **Miscellaneous Local Government**

## **Expenditure**

- : + £0.35/0.4/0.4 million
- to fund research into local authorities using information and communications technology to support service delivery;
- to fund an Adjudication Panel for Wales, under Local Government Act 2000;
- to assist the evaluation of local authority performance under best value.