

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE



DATE	25th June 2013
PORTFOLIO	Housing and Environment Development
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HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2013/2014

PURPOSE

1. To seek approval to release budgets for all schemes within the Housing Investment Programme, which are part of the Council's Capital Programme 2013/2014.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Executive are asked to approve the Housing Investment Programme for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix 1 and the release of the scheme budgets.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To allow the continued delivery of the Council's Housing Investment Programme, approval of the Executive is required to release capital programme budgets before any expenditure can be incurred.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

4. Approval is sought to release a Housing Investment Programme 2013/14 budget of £7,621,938, as outlined in Appendix 1.

5. **Acquisition and Clearance**

The acquisition and clearance budget is to enable the completion of the former Housing Market Renewal land assembly programme in the three neighbourhoods that were prioritised under the scheme. The budget will fund all of the outstanding property acquisitions under the statutory compensation scheme for properties being acquired through the use of compulsory purchase powers, and the subsequent demolition of properties and landscaping of the sites assembled. It also covers all of the ancillary costs associated with this process, including the legal costs of making three compulsory purchase orders, and the securing and management of empty properties being held pending demolition.

6. **Disabled Facilities Grant**

This budget is utilised to provide a range of aids and adaptations to properties to assist disabled occupants.

7. **Energy Efficiency**

This budget provides a range of measures to improve the energy efficiency of residential dwellings and tackle fuel poverty.

8. **Emergency Work Grant**

This budget provides grant assistance to eliminate serious property defects/hazards for qualifying owner occupiers who are unable to meet the costs of repair themselves.

9. **Empty Homes Programme**

This funding is from both the Council's own resources and Government grant. It is used to bring clusters of vacant properties back into use in three areas of the Borough by offering loans to owners of vacant properties, through a programme of purchase and repair, and by offering Purchase Assistance Loans to buyers of the renovated properties.

10. **Market Support**

This budget funds a range of projects to assist the development of key sites across the borough. The costs which are incurred include independent assessment of scheme appraisals and valuations, some land assembly costs, and the treatment of sites not covered elsewhere in the budget.

11. **Vacant Properties**

The Vacant property Initiative returns long term vacant properties back into use. This funding is needed to maintain the properties that we currently have for sale.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

12. The Burnley Housing Investment Programme 2013/14 will be funded from existing approved resources for the 2013/14 programme, detailed in Appendix 1
13. There is no revenue implications associated with this report and all staffing resources required to deliver the Housing Investment Programme in 2013/14 are built into the proposed revenue budget for 2013/14.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

14. In the main the Burnley Housing Investment Programme 2013/14 will be delivered within the Council's existing policy framework.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

15. None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

16. None.

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ALSO: