

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

CORPORATE DEBT POLICY1. Purpose of report

To request approval to implement the updated Corporate Debt Policy, as set out in appendix 1.

2. Background

The Council is required to collect debts across several different departments. These debts can be in relation to a variety of services ranging from Industrial Units through to Housing Benefit Overpayments.

It is important that the debts are managed and recovered in a consistent manner to ensure fairness and equality for those required to pay the Council for services. This updated Corporate Debt Policy is a continuation of the previous policy.

The most notable change to the Corporate Debt Policy involves the level of involvement from the Council's Legal Services. Debts will now only be referred to Legal Services where all other recovery options have been exhausted and the cumulative debts are in excess of £1,200. At the point of referral to Legal Services will require all relevant documentation to be provided.

The proposed updated policy will be used by all relevant departments, other than where specifically specified.

The updated Corporate Debt Policy is in appendix 1 of the report. The Equality Impact assessment (EIA) is at appendix 2.

3. Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications of the implementation of the Corporate Debt Policy.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the implementation of the updated Corporate Debt Policy be approved.

Background papers

Nil