

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

15 July 2015

1. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Submitted by: Head of Finance
Portfolio: Finance, ICT and Customer
Ward(s) affected: All Indirectly

Purpose of the Report

To receive the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2014/15.

Recommendations

- (a) That the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2014/15 be received.**
- (b) That the actual Prudential Indicators contained within the report be approved.**

Reasons

It is a requirement of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice and its Prudential Code for Capital Finance that an Annual Report is made to the Council in respect of each year's Treasury Management activities.

1. Background

- 1.1 The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (revised in November 2011) recommends that Members should be informed on Treasury Management activities at least twice a year.
- 1.2 This report therefore ensures that this Council is embracing Best Practice in accordance with CIPFA's recommendations in the CIPFA Code of Practice.
- 1.3 The Audit and Risk Committee monitor and oversee the delivery of the Treasury Management Strategy. The Treasury Management Annual Report for 2014/15 has already been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee at their meeting on 06 July 2015. Any feedback from this meeting shall be provided if necessary.
- 1.4 Treasury Management operations are carried out in accordance with policies laid down in the currently approved Treasury Management Policy Statement, backed up by approved Treasury Management Practices and Schedules thereto, and the Annual Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2014/15 approved by Council on 26 February 2014.

2. **Issues**

- 2.1 The Treasury Management Annual Report for 2014/15 is attached at Appendix 1. The economic background and economic forecast included in the report has been provided by the Council's Treasury Management Advisors, Sector Treasury Services Ltd.

2.2 **Heritable Bank**

The original investment with Heritable Bank was £2,500,000. Fourteen dividends have been received so far from administrators Ernst and Young representing a return of 94%, compared to their estimated base case return of between 86% and 90%.

The bank's administrators have confirmed in their latest progress report that if Heritable Bank are successful in proving their cross-claims against their parent Landsbanki in upcoming court proceedings, this would extinguish the Landsbanki claims in full and would enable the Heritable Bank to make a final dividend to creditors of approximately 6p in the pound. There could also be a surplus which would enable statutory interest to be paid in the region of 3-7p in the pound. The exact timing of this outcome is not currently known.

3. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 3.1 The Local Government Act 2003 and Regulations thereto require Local Authorities to comply with the Prudential Code.

4. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from the report.

5. **Major Risks**

- 5.1 Treasury management is a major area of risk for the Council in that large amounts of money are dealt with on a daily basis and there are a number of limits and indicators, which must be complied with.
- 5.2 The overriding consideration in determining where to place the Council's surplus funds is to safeguard the Council's capital. Within this constraint the aim is to maximise the return on capital.
- 5.3 Operational procedures, coupled with monitoring arrangements, are in place to minimise the risk of departures from the approved strategy.

6. **List of Appendices**

- 6.1 Appendix 1, Treasury Management Annual Report 2014/15.

7. **Background Papers**

- CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice (revised November 2011),
- Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement,
- Council's Treasury Management Strategy,
- Local Government Act 2003,
- Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003,
- Guidance on Local Authority Investments issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government (revised March 2010),
- Ernst & Young Progress Report (07 April 2015),

- Sector Treasury Services Ltd Treasury Management Annual Report template (updated 23 April 2015)