

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

16 November 2015

1. TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEARLY REPORT 2015/16

Submitted by: Head of Finance

Portfolio: Finance, IT and Customer

Ward(s) affected: All Indirectly

Purpose of the Report

To receive the Treasury Management Half Yearly Report for 2015/16 and to review the Treasury Management activity for this period.

Recommendations

(a) That the Treasury Management Half Yearly Report for 2015/16 be received.

Reasons

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (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.

It was resolved that the Audit and Risk Committee would monitor and oversee the delivery of the Treasury Management Strategy through the receipt of half yearly and year end Treasury Management Reports.

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. It was resolved that the Audit and Risk Committee would monitor and oversee the delivery of the Treasury Management Strategy through the receipt of half yearly and year end Treasury Management Reports.

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 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 approved by Council on 25 February 2015.

2. Issues

2.1 The Treasury Management Half Yearly Report for 2015/16 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.

2.2 Investments outstanding as at 30th September 2015 are detailed in Annex A to the Report.

2.3 **Heritable Bank**

The original investment with Heritable Bank was £2.5m. Fifteen dividends have been received so far from administrators Ernst and Young representing a return of 98%, with the most recent payment of £99,932 being made in August 2015.

As a creditor of the Heritable Bank the Council has also been able to submit a claim relating to the outstanding element of its original investment, with Landsbanki (the parent company of the Heritable Bank). Lawyers, Bevan Brittan, have been instructed by the Council to pursue this claim in the instance that no further dividends are paid by the Heritable Bank.

3. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

3.1 See Background for details.

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 Half Yearly Report 2015/16.

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),
- Bevan Brittan notice to creditors of Heritable Bank (October 2015),
- Ernst and Young creditors of Heritable Bank report (April 2015).