

**LEICESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP REVENUES & BENEFITS
SAVINGS 2011/12
REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE
DIRECTION)**



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek Members' approval to retain the savings secured by the Leicestershire Partnership for Revenues & Benefits during 2011/12 within the Partnership's consolidated reserves for use during 2012/13, for the purposes stated in the report.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

That Members approve the retention of £70,898 within the Partnership as this Council's contribution to the Partnership Reserves in 2012/13; this amount being Hinckley & Bosworth BC's contribution to the underspend in 2011/12.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

3.1 As part of the Revenues and Benefits Partnership arrangement between North West Leicestershire DC, Harborough DC and Hinckley & Bosworth BC, the individual councils agreed contributions totalling £3.26m to be made to the Partnership in 2011/12. Actual expenditure was lower than anticipated, mostly due to staff vacancies at the start of the new arrangement, which are now largely resolved. This resulted in a Partnership underspend of £179,778 in 2011/12.

3.2 The retention of this amount is vital to ensure that the Partnership's agreed Improvement Plan can be fully implemented in 2012/13. Alongside this there are the known upcoming pressures of the Technical Reforms to Council Tax, for which preparation of a new, countywide scheme is underway on which extensive and speedy consultation work will need to be undertaken, along with the introduction of Universal Credits from October 2013. The approval from the three partner councils for the 2011/12 underspend to be held in a partnership reserve will help enable the Partnership to fulfil these additional obligations.

3.3 Appendix i details the actual expenditure and saving for each local authority with Hinckley & Bosworth BC's element of the contribution being £70,898.09.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [CB]**

Contained within the body of the report.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS []**

6. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

A successful Revenues and Benefits partnership supports the following aims of the Corporate Plan:

- Thriving economy
- Strong and distinctive communities

7. **CONSULTATION**

None

8. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Not using this amount for the Partnership will seriously limit the actions necessary to prepare and address statutory requirements post April 2013	Agree the recommendations in the report and utilise the available finance in accordance with the Improvement Plan and the arrangements being planned for Council Tax Support	Chief Executive

9. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

The benefits of a strong Revenues and Benefits partnership affect all residents both rural and urban.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning implications
- Voluntary Sector implications

Background papers: None

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