

Annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement

Councils are asked to submit a statement on their policy of making Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) under the guidance issued by the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, under section 21(1A) of the *Local Government Act 2003* to full Council or similar. Any revision to the original statement must also be issued.

MRP represents the minimum amount that must be charged to a council's revenue account each year for financing capital expenditure, which will have initially been funded by borrowing.

In 2008 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) issued new guidance on the Minimum Revenue Provision. This guidance provided four ready-made options which would be most relevant for the majority of councils but stated that other approaches are not meant to be ruled out, provided that they are **fully consistent with the statutory duty to make prudent revenue provision**. The options that we have implemented since this new guidance came into operation are:

- 4% of our capital finance requirement before the change in regulations.
- The asset life method in subsequent years. This method provides authorities with the option of applying MRP over the life of the asset once it is in operation, so for assets that are not yet operational and still under construction we effectively have an "MRP holiday".

The total of these two methods has provided the annual MRP figure since the regulations changed up until 1 April 2014. However, what this did not do was align the MRP with the repayment of debt and other long term liabilities. Since 1 April 2014 we have continued with the existing calculations but then considered whether an adjustment is required to reflect the timing of internal and external debt repayment and other long term liabilities. We will continue with this approach, which is more prudent, given the challenges that the Council continues to face.

Any adjustment made will be reflected in later years to ensure the overall repayment of our liabilities is covered at the appropriate point in time. This will depend on the position of the balance sheet each year and will be a new calculation each year but using the same principles.

This method retains the guidance calculations but allows for a more prudent approach, ensuring that adequate provision is made to ensure debt is repaid.

Each year an updated MRP statement will be presented.