



Report to:

Northwards Housing Board

13 January 2009

Item No:

12b

Title:	Resource Pool Changes		
Date:	5 January 2009		
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Confidential:	No		
For: (Please tick action required)	NOTING	DISCUSSION	APPROVAL ✓

PURPOSE OF REPORT

After discussions at the Value for Money Project Group reflecting on the questions asked through the Inspection, it was felt that an improvement could be made to the Resource Pool. It is therefore suggested that the Panel be reconstituted to include residents or Area Panel representatives rather than just Board Members.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board are asked to approve this proposal and ask the officers to work up the detail for a change in the Financial Regulations.

IMPLICATIONS

Equality & Diversity:	A number of the requests directly impact on service delivery with equality and diversity implications
Financial:	All the requests have a financial impact that needs to be assessed against value for money
Staffing:	There should be no direct impact on staffing as permanent staffing proposals are not considered through this mechanism
Decency Target:	Some requests may enhance the delivery of the Decent Homes Programme
Governance:	The proper management of the Pool is a key part of governance
Risk Assessment:	There are no specific risk implications of the pool which is there for service enhancement.

Equality Impact Assessment	
Function being assessed	Resource Pool
Section	Business Services
Date of assessment	10 December 2008
Person Responsible for assessment	Steve Wood
Is this a new or existing policy?	Change to existing arrangements
If there are significant implications in terms of equality please append a summary report.	No significant implications. E&D should be enhanced with new arrangements.

Consultation/Consideration:

	Yes, No or N/A:	Name:	Date:
Sub-Committees:	No		
Area Panel:	No		
Task Groups:	Yes	Value for Money Project Group	26 th November 2008
Ward Councillors:	N/A		

Extract from [existing] Financial Regulations

6 Resource Pool

- 6.1 A Resource Pool shall be created from budget efficiency savings (see 2.3 above), savings identified through the year on particular projects and/or expenditure headings that are not subject to virements and from half of any surplus generated in any financial period (see 4.8 above).
- 6.2 The first call on the Resource Pool shall be any shortfall for funding the payroll budget since there is a timing difference between the inflation increase in the Management Fee and the payroll inflation index.
- 6.3 Budget Holders and Teams are able to put forward service development bids to the Resource Pool for funding at any time during the year.
- 6.4 Bids for funding are for in-year schemes only and therefore permanent staffing proposals are not considered through this mechanism.
- 6.5 Each quarter (or more often if necessary), a Resource Pool Panel comprising the Chair, Vice Chair, Chair of Resources & Audit, the Chief Executive and the Director of Business Services will review funding requests to the Resource Pool and will make decisions on additional resources to be made available. This part of the Budget Setting Process is delegated to the Panel provided decisions fall with relevant financial authority limits.
- 6.6 Bids for funding to the Resource Pool will be assessed based on the value for money provided by the proposal and the potential enhancement to tenant facing services. Consideration will also be given to the authority given to Northwards through the Delivery Plan.
- 6.7 The decisions of the Resource Pool Panel will be reported to the Resource & Audit Sub-Committee.