

REPORT TO THE SCRUTINY PANEL for RESOURCES  
MEETING OF 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011

**Status:** Progress Report  
**Title:** Corporate Debt Analysis Update Report  
**Originator:** Leigh Butler  
**Where from:** Scrutiny Work plan  
**Where to next:** Implementation

Objective :

Report to provide Members with a detailed analysis of debts owed to the Council in relation to Council Tax, Non Domestic Rates, Housing Benefit overpayments and Sundry Debts. The report will draw comparisons when compared with 2009/10 collection rates.

1. Outcome sought from Panel

1.1 That members note and comment upon the progress regarding performance for the collection of Council Tax, Non Domestic Rates, Sundry Debts and Housing Benefit overpayments as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.

2 Background

2.1 I refer you to the Council's Corporate Debt Policy approved by this Executive on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2008. See Appendix A for a copy of this policy.

2.2 The Revenues and Benefits Service (A division of Financial Services) is responsible for the billing and enforcement of Council Tax, Non Domestic Rates, Housing Benefit overpayments and Sundry Debt enforcement.

2.3 The net collectable debit raised for 2010/11 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 in respect of:

Benefit)	£45,435,390.72	Council Tax (Net of Council Tax
		Non Domestic Rates
	£33,805,810.98	Housing Benefit
Overpayments	£ 261,142.39	
Sundry Debt (Invoices raised)		£ 4,928,594.34

2.4 The Council's uses both Bristow and Sutor and County Legal Services and they act as agents on behalf of this Council for the collection of any referred debts.

### 3 Points for discussion

3.1 The attached appendices A to D summarising debt recovered for Council Tax, Non Domestic Rates, Housing Benefit overpayments and Sundry Debt.

3.2 The Council's Corporate Debt Policy is attached in appendix E.

### 4 Equality Impact Assessment Implications/Outcomes (attach completed EIA)

4.1 There are no equalities impact assessment issues arising directly from this report

### 5 Impact on Communities

5.1 There will be no direct impact on the Community.

### 6 Legal Issues

6.1 There are no implications.

### 7 Resource Issues

7.1 There are no implications

### 8 Community Safety Implications

8.1 None arising from this report.

### 9 Carbon Management Implications

9.1 None arising from this report.

### 10 Risk Management Implications

10.1 There are none arising directly out of this report.

### 11 Consultation

11.1 No consultation was necessary in the production of this report.

12 Background Papers

12.1 The Council's Corporate Debt Policy has been included in the appendices to this report.

**Previous report(s): Corporate Debt Team – Role and Progress  
22nd July 2010**

**Information Issued Under Sensitive Issue Procedure: *N***

**Appendices:**

- A. Council Tax Collection Performance**
- B. Non Domestic Rates Collection Performance**
- C. Sundry Debt Collection Performance**
- D. Housing Benefit Collection Performance**
- E. Council's Corporate Debt Policy**