



## Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Clive Betts MP  
Chair of the Housing, Communities and  
Local Government Select Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

04 April 22

Dear Mr Betts,

At the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee session on DLUHC's Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21 on 7 March 2022 I committed to sharing further information with the Committee on several Local Government Finance matters:

### Nottingham City Council

As set out in the Section 114 Notice issued following the breach of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) ringfence, Nottingham City Council have commissioned reports to consider both the specific events around the breach, and wider lessons learned. I understand that both reports are nearing completion and, as internal reports, the council will consider the suitable approach to publication. We will share any relevant lessons learned with the sector and committee. On the return of funds to the HRA, I understand that the council has set aside this sum within its General Fund to repay the HRA and will do so following the finalisation of the reports.

### Council Tax

The department published official statistics on Council Tax increases for 2022/23 on 30 March. They are available on [gov.uk](https://gov.uk).

### Social Care Charging Reform Impact Assessment

The impact assessment undertaken by the Department of Health and Social Care on social care charging reform was published on 5 January 2022 and can be found on [gov.uk](https://gov.uk).

### Council Tax Rebate Scheme

Finally, I would like to provide an update with regards to guidance around Homes of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) and the Council Tax Rebate Scheme. In response to concerns raised by the committee, we have amended guidance and FAQs to make clear that no landlord of an HMO is eligible for the £150 rebate from the core scheme.

As before, tenants of HMOs that pay the energy bills in their property should apply to the discretionary scheme.

Yours sincerely,

ALEX SKINNER