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**THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 20 APRIL 2011
URGENT KEY DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE 19 JANUARY 2011
REPORT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Article 7.10(f) of the Constitution allows for key decisions to be taken without giving the prescribed notice provided that the prior agreement of the relevant Scrutiny Committee Chairman is obtained. The Leader of the Council is required to report quarterly to the Council on how often the urgency procedure is used and to give details in each case. The urgent decisions taken during the previous quarter are set out in the table below. Members of the Council are asked to note these decisions; further details can be made available on request.

Subject (Forward Plan reference)	Decision taken by	Decision Taken	Reason for urgency
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<p>Housing Revenue Account - Rent Report 2011/12 (03480/11/H/A)</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Housing and Property</p>	<p>To approve:</p> <p>(i) The HRA budget for 2011/12 and revised budget for 2010/11 as set out in Appendix A;</p> <p>(ii) The rents being set at Transitional Rent level resulting in an average rent increase of 8.7%. Rents for new tenancies would also be set at the Transitional Rent level;</p> <p>(iii) An increase in garages/car parking charges of 8.7% for tenants for 2011/12;</p> <p>(iv) A cross borough weekly charge to all tenants to recover the costs of the new Digital TV service. This will be effective from April 2012;</p>	<p>Because of the need to give secure tenants four weeks notice of the rent rise and noting that the rent report has been the subject of full discussions by both the Tenants Consultative Committee and the Housing and Property Scrutiny Committee.</p>
		<p>(v) An increase in general Tenant (including Hostels) and Leaseholder Service Charges for 2011/12 in line with revised estimates of costs recoverable; and</p> <p>(vi) That the HRA Working Balance and other reserves be retained at the level set out in section 8 above and section 9 of the attached rent report.</p>	

FOR INFORMATION

Sir MERRICK COCKELL, Leader of the Council