

Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**E2985****Further Amendment to National Non Domestic Rate Policy**

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| Decision maker/s | Cllr Charles Gerrish for Finance and Efficiency |
| The Issue | The Bath and North East Somerset Council Non Domestic Rate Relief Policy gives guidance to officers administering claims for discretionary relief under discretionary powers provided by the Local Government Finance Act 1988. The Policy must be updated in order for the Council to be able to determine applications in respect of the above reliefs which are new from April 2017 |
| Decision Date | 21 st Aug 2017 |
| The decision | The Cabinet Member approves the proposal relating to the reliefs in the document E2985 – Appendix 1 – draft Appendix D to Discretionary rates relief Policy – Revaluation Support. |
| Rationale for decision | The Government announced the introduction of these relief schemes at the Spring 2017 Budget, with the key aims to help businesses and ratepayers adversely affected by the 2017 revaluation. In order to administer the schemes the Council must update its policy on Business Rates Relief and where appropriate introduce criteria and rules to qualify for the reliefs. The awarding of relief will be in the best interests of Council Tax payers as it will support a diverse and vibrant local economy and is fully funded by Government. |
| Financial and budget implications | The detailed financial issues are documented in the document E2985 – Appendix 1 – draft Appendix D to Discretionary rates relief Policy – Revaluation Support. There is no financial cost to the Council other than the administration of the schemes which will be carried out within existing resources which will be supplemented by an additional £12,000.00 of New Burdens funding from the Government. |
| Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report) | Customer Focus; Sustainability; Property; Corporate; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations |
| Consultation undertaken | Cabinet colleagues; Staff; Other B&NES Services; West of England Combined Authority, Avon Fire Authority, Federation of Small Businesses, Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer |
| How consultation was carried out | Internal meetings, by email and post |
| Other options considered | Other proposed schemes from Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council. A scheme where lump sum amounts would be awarded as opposed to a percentage reduction in liability. |

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| Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted: | |
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| Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision: | |
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| Signatures of Decision Makers | |
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| Date of Signature | |
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| Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision |
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