

Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive
Forward Plan
Reference

E3304

RULE 16 Appendix G to the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy

Decision maker/s	Cllr Richard Samuel, Cabinet Member for Resources
The Issue	<p>The updated Appendix G to 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 88 Act").</p> <p>Appendix G covers:</p> <p>Expanded Businesses Rates Retail Discount</p> <p>The update is required to allow Officers to be able to make further awards of Business Rates Relief to qualifying ratepayers in respect of the 2020/21 financial year and beyond</p>
Decision Date	On 08 Jun 2021
The decision	The Cabinet Member agrees to approve the proposal relating to these reliefs in the attached Appendix G.
Rationale for decision	<p>The Government has introduced several measures to provide Business Rates relief to qualifying ratepayers and guaranteed to reimburse local authorities for the local share of these discretionary reliefs using a grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.</p> <p>The reliefs relating to the Business Rates Retail Discount are prescriptive and, although a discretionary power, clear guidance on its administration is provided by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government.</p> <p>The Government introduced the Expanded Business Rate Retail Discount Scheme in the 2020 budget in reaction to the economic issues faced by businesses during the pandemic. This granted a discount of 100% on qualifying retail leisure or hospitality premises during the 2020/21 Financial Year. For the 2021/22 Financial Year this discount will be 100% for the first three months, then 66% for the remaining 9 months of the year, subject to cash caps. This appendix updates the policy already in place to reflect this change.</p>

Financial and budget implications	As these reliefs are funded by Central Government there will be no financial cost to the Council in making these changes.
Issues considered	Customer Focus; Corporate; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Other Public Sector Bodies
How consultation was carried out	By email
Other options considered	N/A
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:	
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	

Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s	
Date of Signature	
NOT Subject to Call-in	