



COUNCIL MEETING

23 November 2017

DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF ADDENDUM TO POLICY

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of additions to the Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy covering two new areas of local discretion in respect of business rate relief.
2. It is proposed that the following two areas of local discretion in respect of business rates relief should be included within the Council's existing Discretionary Rate Relief Policy;
 - Local Business Rates Discount – to local businesses where there are economic growth considerations
 - Revaluation Business Rates Discount – properties which have seen an increase in their rateable value after the 2017 revaluation which has caused an increase in their net rates payable.
3. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

4. It is recommended that Council:
 - i) approve that the Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy is amended to reflect the additional proposed policies set out in paragraphs 7,8 and 9 of the attached report, regarding the Local Business Rate Discount scheme, and paragraphs 18 and 19 of the attached report, for the Revaluation Business Rate Discount.
 - ii) approve that the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources manages this policy under the delegated authority to manage the Collection Fund in accordance with statutory requirements.