

# EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR RESOURCES

Thursday, 5 May 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillor D.M. Jenkins (Executive Board Member)

**The following Officers were in attendance:**

J. Gravelle, Revenue Services Manager

K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

**Democratic Services Committee Room, County Hall, Carmarthen - 10.00 - 10.50 am**

**1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of personal interest.

**2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DECISION RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 24TH MARCH 2016**

**RESOLVED** that the decision record of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 be signed as a correct record.

**3. REPORTS NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

**RESOLVED** pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation)(Wales) Order 2007 that the following items were not for publication as the reports contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**4. FORMER TENANT DEBT WRITE-OFF SOCIAL LETTINGS AGENCY**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute 3 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report included personal data relating to former social letting tenants, including details of their rent arrears. The publication of individual debts was unwarranted and would prejudice the rights and freedoms of the relevant data subjects. Accordingly, the public interest in disclosure was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality.

The Executive Board Member in considering the report requested that further information be provided in relation to the debtors.

**RESOLVED** that consideration of the report be deferred to the next meeting

**5. NON DOMESTIC RATES - DISCRETIONARY RELIEF**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 3 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report contained information regarding the individual ratepayers' recent financial history and/or personal information. Although public disclosure of the report would promote accountability for public finances, it would release confidential financial information. On balance, therefore, the public interest in disclosure at this time was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality.

The Executive Board Member considered three applications for Hardship Relief under the provisions of Section 49 of Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended.

## **RESOLVED**

- 5.1 That application reference 80019259 be awarded a 50% reduction of the balance of the rates owed for the 2015/16 financial year, together with a 50% discount on the rates payable for the first quarter of the 2016/17 financial year up to the end of June 2016
- 5.2 That application reference 80020606 be awarded a 25% discount in respect of the 2016/17 financial year
- 5.3 That application reference 80014557 be awarded a 50% discount in respect 2016/17 financial year
- 5.4 That application reference 80013791 be refused.

## **6. COUNCIL TAX - DISCRETIONARY REDUCTIONS**

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 3 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report contained information regarding individuals that were liable to pay Council Tax. Although public disclosure of the report would promote accountability for public finances, it would release confidential financial information that was not in the public domain and would not normally be disclosed to third parties. On balance, therefore, the public interest in disclosure at this time was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality.

The Executive Board Member considered a report detailing applications which had been received for discretionary reduction of Council Tax.

It was noted that regulations had been introduced with effect from April 2004

giving local authorities discretionary powers to grant locally determined Council Tax discounts or reductions, over and above existing statutory reductions.

## RESOLVED

- 6.1 That application reference numbers 60292364, 40032658 and 60294623 be refused;
- 6.2 That application reference 6026598 be awarded a 50% discount for period 1 April 2010 and 30 June 2014 when the property was subject to Council Tax and not otherwise exempt”

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CHAIR

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DATE