

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR RESOURCES

MONDAY, 13 January 2020

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

The following officers were in attendance:

A Thomas, Benefits and Council Tax Manager

L. Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer

Regeneration Meeting Room, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP. 10.00 am - 3.15 pm

1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

2. DECISIONS RECORD 7TH NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED that the decision record of the meeting held on the 7th November 2019 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 REPORTS NOT FOR PUBLICATION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as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation)(Wales) Order 2007 that the following items were not for publication as the reports contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.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. COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY DISCOUNTS

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 council 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 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 to grant the Application ref 60241291-4 for relief and not to grant relief for Application ref 20031669

5. FORMER TENANT DEBT WRITE OFF

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 and reconvened at 14:30

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

Also in attendance – Cllr L. Evans (Executive Board Member)

The following Officers were in attendance:

A. Williams, Tenancy Support Lead

R. Heaney, Housing Officer

L. Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer

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 included personal data relating to former council 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 considered a report prepared in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules, seeking the write-off of former tenant debts in excess of £1,500. The report provided the current position on former tenant debt of former tenants of Council Stock.

The Executive Board Member noted that the cases outlined in the report were long-standing cases and that attempts had been made to trace the former tenant and recover sum outstanding, both of which had been unsuccessful.

The Executive Board Member to receive more detailed information in relation to the background of the cases with total debt amounting to £2500 and above.

RESOLVED that:

- 5:1 the former tenant debt arrears detailed within the report be written-off as irrecoverable.**
- 5:2 all future reports contain detailed information on cases with total debt amounting to £2500 and above.**

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

DATE