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SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Resources and Delivering Value Decision Session

Wednesday, 12 September 2018 at 4.00 pm

Civic Suite

Disclosing Pecuniary Interests - What Must You Do?

(a) You must complete a declaration of your disclosable pecuniary interests, including those of your spouse/civil partner (or someone with whom you are living as such) and send it to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of your election or appointment to the Council.

(b) When you attend a meeting of the Council, Cabinet, Scrutiny Board, Committee, Sub-Committee or Joint Committee etc, and a matter arises in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, unless you have been granted a dispensation, **you must:**

- Declare the interest if you have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

(c) If you are the Leader or a Cabinet Portfolio Holder you may not exercise any of your delegated powers as a single member in relation to a matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or take any other step except to give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of your becoming aware of the interest, or arrange for another person or body to deal with the matter.

Disclosable Interest	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain by you or your partner.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the Council) made or provided within 12 months of your declaration of interests in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.
Contracts	Any contract between you or your partner (or a firm or body corporate in which you or your partner is a partner or a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner has a beneficial interest) and the Council (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the Council and which gives you or your partner a right to occupy the land or receive income.
Licences	Any licence held by you or your partner (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the Council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to your knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you or your partner has a beneficial interest i.e. a firm or body corporate in which you or your partner is a partner or a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest held by you or your partner in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the Council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you or your partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class. “securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

To:
Councillors G Slater, R Hulland and
B Groom

NICK PAGE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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Date Wednesday, 5 September 2018

**CPH RESOURCES & DELIVERING VALUE DECISION SESSION -
Wednesday, 12 September 2018**

AGENDA

7. APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF (Pages 5 - 8)

To consider the applications for discretionary rate relief as detailed in the appendices attached to this report.

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Meeting date: 12 September 2018
Report to: Cabinet Member for Resources and Delivering Value



Subject/report title: Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief

Report from: Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive

Report author/lead contact officer: Louise Lynch, Income Operations Manager
llynch@solihull.gov.uk

Wards affected:

- All Wards | Bickenhill | Blythe | Castle Bromwich | Chelmsley Wood |
 Dorridge/Hockley Heath | Elmdon | Kingshurst/Fordbridge | Knowle |
 Lyndon | Meriden | Olton | Shirley East | Shirley South |
 Shirley West | Silhill | Smith's Wood | St Alphege

Public/private report: Public

Exempt by virtue of paragraph: N/A

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider the applications for discretionary rate relief as detailed in the appendices attached to this report.

2. Decision(s) recommended

- 2.1 The Cabinet Member is asked to consider the applications for discretionary rate relief for the premises listed in the Appendices to this report.
- (i) Determine the percentage of relief to be granted.
- (ii) Determine the duration of the relief (up to a maximum of 2 years).
- (iii) If the relief is not allowed, please provide the reason for the decision.

3. What is the issue?

- 3.1 Discretionary relief is governed by Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988; the intention is that the relief supplements the provisions concerning mandatory relief. The organisations which it is intended should qualify are charities and organisations of prescribed types.
- 3.2 Legislation enables the Council to grant up to 20% discretionary relief, to top up the

80% mandatory relief already awarded to a registered charity. 100% relief can be considered for organisations who are not registered charities but are not for profit.

From 2017/18, the Council has been involved in a full business rates retention pilot with the other West Midlands metropolitan authorities, so the Council will bear 99% of the cost of any discretionary rate/mandatory relief granted for periods funded from 1 April 2017, with the remaining 1% funded by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

4. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?

- 4.1 Each application for relief is supported by a score card (which can be seen in the appendices). The purpose of each score card is to ensure relief is awarded to those charities and not for profit organisations who are most in need, for example small, local organisations who have limited funds who work with the Council to support residents.

5. Reasons for recommending preferred option

- 5.1 The reasons for each recommendation can be seen on the scorecard for each applicant.

6. Implications and Considerations

- 6.1 Delivery of the Council's priorities:

How will the options/proposals in this report contribute to the delivery of the key themes in the Council Plan?

- Build Stronger Communities – to support small, local organisations who have limited funds who work with the Council to support residents

- 6.2 Implications for children and young people, vulnerable groups and particular communities:

- 6.2.1 The client group each applicant supports can be seen in the appendices.

- 6.3 Consultation and Scrutiny:

- 6.3.1 This report has not been presented to scrutiny.

- 6.3.2 Financial implications:

- 6.3.3 The Council has a budget of £62,410 to fund discretionary rate relief. The cost of relief in 2018/19 to date has amounted to £28,569.35 (leaving £33,840.65 available to allocate). If all four applications are agreed in line with their recommendations, this would leave £19,421.48.

- 6.4 Legal implications:

- 6.4.1 None

6.5 Risk implications:

6.5.1 Assessment identified there are no net "red" risks that need to be reported.

6.6 Statutory Equality Duty:

6.6.1 There are no equality implications.

7. List of appendices referred to:

7.1 Appendix 1- The Get A Head Charitable Trust

7.2 Appendix 2 – This Way Up Youth Project

7.3 Appendix 3 – The Real Junk Food Project

7.4 Appendix 4 – Jubilee Church Solihull

8. Background papers used to compile this report

8.1 None

9. List of other relevant documents

9.1 None

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