

Key Decision Details

Decision Name NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

Date of Decision 09 February 2017

Decision maker Cabinet

Approve:

- Describe the Decision taken**
- i. the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy as detailed in Appendix 1 (Charities, Community Amateur Sports Clubs and Non-Profit Making Organisations), and Appendix 2 (Section 44a "Part-Occupation" Relief and Section 49 "Hardship" Relief) of the submitted report;
 - ii. the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy of awarding relief under Government Proposals in all instances where the Council is 100% reimbursed by Section 31 "Burden Grant" pending the required change in primary legislation;
 - iii. the granting of Discretionary Rate Relief for qualifying ratepayers (subject to state aid rules) in the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Zone;
 - iv. the award of Section 47 "Localism Reliefs" only in highly exceptional cases where no other alternative relief is applicable, and the ratepayer aids benefit to the amenities of the community and/or to the aims of the Council's Corporate Plan
 - v. that the Head of Customer Service and the Local Taxation Manager be delegated authorisation to approve the award of Discretionary Rate Relief; and
 - vi. that the Corporate Director be delegated authorisation to deal with appeals against Discretionary Rate Relief decisions.

What were the reasons for taking the Decision? To ensure continued support and fairness to qualifying local ratepayers

following the revaluation of the rating list, and to account for other proposed legislative changes from 1 April 2017 whilst at the same time limiting the financial effects of any changes for both the ratepayer and Council.

What alternative options were considered and rejected?	None considered.
Conflict of interest and dispensation	None declared.
Is the decision a Key Decision?	Yes
Was the decision included in the Forward Plan	Yes
Was the decision subject to the urgency proceedings?	No
List the background papers to any report considered by the Decision Taker	Working Papers and Spreadsheets held in the Local Taxation Section Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended) Business Rate Information Letters (No.3 of 2016 and No.1 of 2017) issued by DCLG on 20 December 2016 and 24 January 2017 respectively
Person Making this report	Mrs Melanie Sage
Date upon which the Decision will come into force, subject to no call-in	21 February 2017
Accompanying Documents	National Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Rate Relief Policy Discretionary Rate Relief Policy - O&S Comments