
REPORT OF CABINET

MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2003

Chair: * Councillor Foulds

Councillors: * D Ashton † C Mote
* Burchell * O'Dell
* Margaret Davine * N Shah
* Dighé * Stephenson
* Miss Lyne

* Denotes Member present

† Denotes apologies received

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION III - Council Tax Discounts

Cabinet received the Director of Business Services' report explaining the new discretions in Section 75 of the Local Government Act 2003 and regulations thereunder enabling the Council as billing authority to vary the level of Council Tax discount in respect of second homes and to reduce the level of Council Tax discount in respect of long term empty properties.

The Director of Business Services also reported that the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister had advised that the Council would be required to make a further Council Taxbase return as at 20 December 2003 and therefore the Taxbase would be reported to Cabinet in January 2004.

The Director of Business Services confirmed that there were no proposals to alter the exemption categories for any properties.

Following questions and consideration of the Director of Business Services' report it was

RESOLVED: That (1) the level of Council Tax discount in respect of second homes be varied from 50% to 10%;

(2) that the level of Council Tax discount in respect of long-term empty properties be reduced from 50% to zero.

Reason for Recommendation: These decisions are required in order to set the Council Taxbase for 2004-2005. The Taxbase was to be based upon information held at 20 December 2003.