

Decisions taken by the Council on Wednesday, 17 January 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

A1	Minutes	Agreed
A2	Declaration of Interests	None
A3	Young Mayor's Budget	Noted
A4	Announcements or Communications	Four announcements were received.
A5	Petitions	None
A6	Public Questions	Public Questions and supplementaries were asked and answered.
A7	Member Questions	Member Questions and supplementaries were asked and answered.
A8	Council Tax Base Report 2024/25	<p>MOVED by Cllr De Ryk, SECONDED by Cllr Rathbone and RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. note the Council Tax Base calculation for 2024/25, as set out in the annual Council Tax Base government return, attached at Appendix A; 2. agree a Council Tax Base of 90,414.0 Band D equivalent properties for 2024/25; 3. agree a budgeted Council Tax collection rate of 95.0%; 4. agree no changes be made to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for 2024/25, that eligible claimants make a minimum contribution of 25% towards their council tax; 5. agree the continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount of 100% for care leavers up to the age of 25, as set out in section five of this report; 6. agree that the existing policy of a 0% discount for second homes be continued for 2024/25, as set out in section five of this report; 7. agree that from 2025/26 a 100% premium be applied to second homes, as set out in section five of this report; 8. agree that the existing policy of a 0% discount for empty homes Class A (an empty property undergoing structural alteration or major repair to make it

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		<p>habitable) be continued, as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>9. agree that the existing policy of a 0% discount applied immediately for empty homes – Class C (a substantially empty and unfurnished property) be continued, as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>10. agree that the existing Long Term Empty Property homes premium of: 100% for properties empty between two and five years, 200% for those empty for over five years, and 300% for properties that remain empty for 10 years or more continues, as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>11. agree that as per Clause 76(1) of the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill 2022-23, from the 1 April 2025, the definition of a Long Term Empty Property home be amended to a dwelling which has been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a continuous period of one year (currently two years), as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>12. agree that from 1 April 2025 the 100% premium applied to Long Term Empty Property be applied to properties which have remained empty for at least one year, as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>13. agree the continuation of the existing policy of a 25% ‘sanctuary’ discount to ensure residents eligible for a single person discount are not financially worse off as a result of housing a refugee, as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>14. agree the continuation of the discretionary War Disablement Pensions and War Widow Pensions scheme discount as set out in section five of this report;</p> <p>15. note the proposed 2024/25 National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) estimated net yield of £58m, based on current information available.</p> <p>16. agree to delegate the approval of the final 2024/25 NNDR1 form to the Acting Executive Director for Corporate Resources for submission by the deadline of 31 January 2024.</p>

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A9	Review of the Statutory Statement of Principles for Gambling	MOVED by Cllr Powell, SECONDED by Cllr Wise and RESOLVED that the draft Statement of Principles for Gambling for 2023-2026 at Appendix 1 be approved and published with immediate effect.
A10	Scrutiny Meeting Date Change	<p>MOVED by Cllr Schmidt, SECONDED by Cllr Erheriene and RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will <u>not</u> be an additional meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2024 • The meeting of the Public Accounts Select Committee scheduled for 23 January 2024 will move to 29 January 2024. • The business for the OSC meeting on 23 January will be merged into the PASC agenda for consideration on 29 January. • The meeting of Sustainable Development Select Committee scheduled for 29 February 2024 will move to 13 March 2024.
A12	Motions	None
A13	Appointment of the Chief Executive	MOVED by the Deputy Mayor (Acting as Mayor) Cllr Dacres, SECONDED by Cllr Schmidt and RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Jennifer Daothong, Acting Chief Executive as Chief Executive, including designation as Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer, and Electoral Registration Officer.