

Individual Member Decision Record



This form records an officer decision and is published in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

Decision Maker:	Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Lead Officer:	Janet Waggott, Chief Executive/June Rothwell, Head of Operational Services
Title of Decision:	Expansion of Discretionary Discount Scheme Relief for Businesses Affected by Covid-19
Ward(s) Affected:	All
Type of Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Key decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non key decision discharging (or connected to the discharge of) an Executive function <input type="checkbox"/> Specific delegation from Council or Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Grant of permission / licence <input type="checkbox"/> Affecting the rights of an individual <input type="checkbox"/> Awarding a contract or incurring expenditure which materially affects the financial position of the Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision under urgency
Details of decision:	<p>The government have recently announced urgent budget measures regarding business rates to provide support for businesses following the Covid-19 outbreak.</p> <p>The Council is expected to implement these measures as quickly as possible to provide immediate help to businesses, they are being asked to do this using their discretionary powers under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to grant these reliefs.</p> <p>Local authorities should adopt a local scheme to determine each individual case, having regard to the further guidance provided to</p>

	<p>apply this relief under Section 47. Central Government will fully reimburse local authorities for these using a grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.</p> <p>In the week commencing 23 March 2020 further properties were added to the eligible list by Central Government. On the 26 March 2020 the Business Rate Information Letter (BRIL 5_2020) was issued and confirmed the extension of relief to some properties previously excluded as they have now been ordered to close.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. This decision is urgent, due to putting in place arrangements for Covid-19, the Leader agrees that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Council will implement with immediate effect, 30 March 2020, the Government’s financial rescue package for the additional list of businesses to support and protect businesses affected by Covid-19; and b. That the new discounts apply from the 1 April 2020. ii. That delegated authority is given to the Head of Operational Services to administer the approved Scheme.
Reason for decision:	To administer the government’s business rate relief scheme to assist businesses affected by Covid-19.
Alternative options considered and rejected:	N/A
Member Interests: (Name of any Member who has declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision and details of any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service if appropriate)	None.
Legal, Financial or other implications:	The government will fully reimburse Council’s for the cost of reliefs provided under the new measures by Section 31 grants. The estimated number of businesses who will benefit from the relief is 1,100 who in total will receive over £5 million. A further 18 businesses will benefit for the reliefs who will receive over £56,000.

	<p>Fully documented decisions by officers of the reliefs applied to accounts will be made to ensure all external audit requirements are fulfilled and to ensure maximum return of costs on NNDR returns to Central Government</p> <p>The decision is within the Budget and Policy Framework and is not a Key Decision, therefore there is no requirement to consult the Chairs of the Policy Review and Scrutiny Committees on this occasion.</p> <p>As the decision is made under urgency powers it is not subject to call-in. The Chief Executive confirms that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and is to be treated as urgent.</p>
Background papers:	None.
Contact details for further information:	Janet Waggott, Chief Executive jwaggott@selby.gov.uk
Signed:	<i>Signature redacted</i> Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Date of Decision:	30 March 2020