



REPORT TO: FULL COUNCIL

DATE: 15 MAY 2014

SUBJECT: PART 'B' REFERRALS FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 3 APRIL 2014

71 Policy on Retail Relief for Business Rates

Considered the report of the Corporate Director (s151).

Recommendation to Council

That Council is recommended to approve:

(I) A Discretionary Business Rates Policy to award retail relief in accordance with Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) guidelines with the following additional provisions:

- (a) All ratepayers in England & Wales will be eligible for the reoccupation relief. However, any ratepayer that occupies 50 or more premises will not be eligible to receive the £1,000 retail relief;
- (b) Charity shops in receipt of 80% Mandatory Business Rates Relief shall not be granted discretionary relief.

(II) That Discretionary Retail Relief be awarded as follows:

- (a) Via delegated authority to Council Officers for 2014/15 and 2015/16 only;
- (b) That an application process is not a mandatory requirement, but that Officers reserve the right to request information in order to apply any award of relief.