

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CORPORATE SERVICES  
CABINET MEMBER**

**SECTIONS 43 AND 47 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1988  
SECTION 1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RATING ACT 1997**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To decide the level of Business Rate relief to be awarded to ratepayers in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The key points in this report are as follows:
- New rate relief applications for the years 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 have been received, and the recommended level of discretionary relief awarded is based on set criteria.
  - For applications which result in a change to the level of relief, the projected level of relief and the cost to the Council, a total of £7,376.60 is shown in Appendix A.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Policy Committee agreed the legal position and administrative practices for dealing with rate relief on 22 January 1996.
- 2.2 The Corporate Services Cabinet Member on 20 February 2004 (minute 128 refers) agreed to adopt a scoring system based on set criteria for the awarding of discretionary rate relief. The Corporate Services Cabinet Member on 7 February 2005 (minute 233 refers) agreed to amend the criteria. The Corporate Services Cabinet Member on 21 December 2006 agreed to update the criteria and gave approval to the Service Director Finance to authorise relief where the level of relief remains unchanged.
- 2.3 The ratepayers in receipt of rate relief in 2008/9 have had their applications reviewed. To date 222, 92 per cent, of the review forms have been fully completed. Of those, the level of relief has not changed for 191 applicants. New and existing applicants continue to return forms fully completed.
- 2.4 There is no discretion about granting mandatory relief.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 The attached schedule, appendix A, shows 12 applications where the recommended level of relief has changed and five new applications.
- 3.2 The recommended level of discretionary relief, and where appropriate the previous level of relief for each applicant, and the cost to the council are shown on the attached schedule, appendix A.
- 3.3 All application forms will be available at this meeting for inspection by the Cabinet Member. This will enable the Cabinet Member to review in detail, if required, any suggestions set out in the schedule.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 A criteria is used to score all applications and to recommend the appropriate level of rate relief. To continue using this criteria will ensure fairness in awarding relief for new applicants. Members have the option to consider each case on its merits and change the level of relief from that recommended in this report.

### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

- 5.1 Financial  
If the decision is to award the recommended level of discretionary relief in each case, it is estimated the additional amount granted will be £7,376.60. The budget provision for rate relief for 2009/10 is £82,000.00, of which £54,734.41 has already been awarded on the existing charity and rural relief cases. The awarding of relief to the applicants listed on the attached schedule will increase the total cost to the council to £62,111.01.

### **6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 –CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

- 6.1 The Non-domestic rate administration and collection service is a statutory obligation and considerations of rate relief meet the legislation requirements.
- 6.2 Applications are considered and encouraged from all different organisations.
- 6.3 If relief is not granted there is a risk businesses could cease to trade resulting in lack of services and unemployment.

## **7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 No consultation is required.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 To award the level of rate relief to each applicant as set out in the attached schedule to this report.

### **SERVICE DIRECTOR FINANCE**

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Date: 10 June 2009

#### **Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

Local Government Finance Act 1988  
Application Forms  
Cabinet Member Report 20 February 2004  
Local Government and Rating Act 1997

**Appendix A**

App No.	Ratepayer	Property Address	Mandatory 80%	R V £	PR N	Suggested Relief % (Previous)	Amount borne by NLC £
<b><u>RENEWALS</u></b>							
<b>CHARITY/NON PROFIT</b>							
D1	Northern Counties Housing Association	Offices - 263 FrodinghamRd Scunthorpe	N	4250	ND440267390	80 (75)	412.25
D12	Westwoodside Reading Room Snooker Club	Club House – Akeferry Road Westwoodside	N	1500	ND690050180	100 (85)	181.88
D20	Humber Bridge Water Ski Club	Lake Clubhouse Caravan & Premises - West Marsh Lane Barrow on Humber	N	6800	ND045709030	75 (85 )	417.19
D62	Pre School Learning Alliance	Day Nursery & Premises - Collum Lane Scunthorpe	Y	21000	ND445001070	10 (15)	763.88
T113	Epworth Mechanics Institute	Library – Market Place Epworth	N	3250	ND660840083	90 (100)	354.66

## RURAL

PP3	Mr P Hughes T/A Mere Garage	Vehicle Repair Wshop Winterton Road Winterringham	Y	3300	ND392209000	40 (50)	160.05
R1	C Bannister & Son	Garage – 97 High Street Owston Ferry	N	7600	ND740500490	55 (45)	381.95
R2	Alkborough Coronation Club	Social Club – Back Street Alkborough	N	3500	ND010109170	55 (50)	233.41
R3	Beldenn Inns Ltd	Public House – Station Road Gunness	N	4700	ND183209020	30 (40)	84.78
R4	Waltham Pet Care	Veterinary Clinic – Unit 5 Yarborough Crt Ulceby	N	2250	ND362650050	30 (35)	81.84
R5	Mr D Clark	Workshop & Premises - 2 Old Mill Lane Wrawby	N	720	ND431800021	45 (40)	19.48
R6	Mr J & Mrs L Bell	Public House – Shires Gainsthorpe Rd Hibaldstow	N	7800	ND191309020	40 (25)	292.65

**NEW APPLICATIONS**  
**CHARITY/NON**  
**PROFIT**

03/09	Voluntary Action Nth Lincolnshire	Offices – 4-6 Robert Street Scunthorpe	Y	9100	ND440276813	15	644.24
04/09	Stepping Stones of Scawby	Day Nursery – West Street Scawby	Y	11250	ND324300021	20	1284.08
05/09	Act Fast North Lincolnshire	Workshop - Fast Track Kettering Road Scunthorpe	N	10000	ND445001185	100	1706.15

**RURAL**

01/09	Mr & Mrs Green	Public House – Crown Inn Churchtown Belton	N	7300	ND620240360	30	263.43
02/09	Mr A & Mrs A Hudson	Public House – Magna Carta New Holland	N	4500	ND270509390	35	94.70

TOTAL 7376.60