



**POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –  
4TH OCTOBER 2011**

**SUBJECT: DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF APPLICATIONS**

**REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The following application for rate relief has been determined by the Head of Corporate Finance under delegated powers (Scheme of Delegation Item 5.2(t) refers).
- 1.2 In arriving at her determination the Head of Corporate Finance has been guided by Council policy laid down by the former Finance Committee on 14 February 1996 and 30 April 1996, together with Welsh Office criteria for considering such applications.

**2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Council is able to assist a wide range of voluntary and sporting organisations by granting rate relief. This report deals with a recent application.

**3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The granting of rate relief is a very cost effective way in which the Council can pursue its Regeneration objective by giving financial assistance to local organisations.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1 Person To Person Citizen Advocacy**

- 4.1.1 The applicant is a registered charity who have therefore been awarded 80% mandatory rate relief in accordance with statutory provisions.
- 4.1.2 Their application relates to a small office which they occupy within the YMCA building at Aeron Place, Gilfach as an administrative office.
- 4.1.3 The main objective of the organisation are stated as to promote the relief of people with a learning disability within Mid Glamorgan and to assist those people to realise their potential to lead fulfilling lives by the provision of the following services calculated to assist such persons to:-
  - (a) obtain their full rights and privileges as a citizen
  - (b) receive long term friendship and support
  - (c) receive all relevant information

- 4.1.4 The organisation achieves its aims by recruiting able-bodied people from the community through local press adverts and social networking sites. They are then giving the required training to provide the above-mentioned services to people with learning disabilities the majority of which reside in care homes.
- 4.1.5 The current annual rate liability of the organisation's premises is £34 and the cost to the Authority of awarding 20% discretionary top up in rate relief at current levels will be £5 with the Welsh Assembly Government pool bearing the remainder of £2.
- 4.1.6 Funding is obtained through an annual grant from Caerphilly County Borough Council for the provision of an advocacy service and a contribution from the Lloyds TSB Trust Fund.

**Decision: That 20% discretionary top up rate relief be awarded.**

## **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no personnel implications.

## **6. CONSULTATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no consultation responses which have not been reflected in this report.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Members note the decisions taken under delegated powers.

## **8. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 To assist local voluntary organisations.

## **9. STATUTORY POWER**

- 9.1 Section 47 of the Local Government Financial Act 1988.

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Background Papers:  
Rate Relief Application Forms, contact ext 3421