



## **CABINET – 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**

### **PUBLIC INTEREST TEST – EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS PARAGRAPH 12 AND 14, SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**SUBJECT: WRITE OFF OF DEBTS OVER £20,000**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

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I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

#### **EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:**

Information relating to a particular individual (paragraph 12). Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14).

#### **FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:**

There is a public interest in the way in which the Council recovers monies owed.

#### **PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:**

The report contains detailed information about the financial affairs of various debtors, disclosure of such information would be in contravention of the principles of the Data Protection act 1998.

#### **MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:**

That paragraph 12 and 14 should apply. I am mindful of the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of public authorities for decisions taken by them in relation to the recovery of monies owed to them. However disclosure of the information contained in the report would be in contravention of the Data Protection Act 1998.

The information is not affected by any other statutory provision which requires the information to be publicly registered.

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:**

On the basis set out above I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, and that the report should be exempt.

Signed: 

Dated: 29/11/17

Post: **Principal Solicitor**

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I accept/do not the recommendation made above.

Signed:   
Proper Officer

Date: 6/12/17