

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEMBER SIGNING
MONDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2015**

Present: Cllr Jason Arthur, Cabinet Member for Resources and Culture.

In Attendance: Neville Murton – Head of Finance
Zakir Chaudhry – Policy Strategy Team Manager
Philip Slawther – Principal Committee Coordinator

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
HSP109.	<p>FILMING AT MEETINGS</p> <p>The Cabinet Member referred those present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting and asked that those present reviewed and noted the information contained therein.</p>	
HSP110.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>None.</p>	
HSP111.	<p>NEW DISCRETIONARY RATES RELIEF POLICY</p> <p>The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought approval for the release of the consultation on the proposed Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy for a period of 11 weeks, from 12th November 2015 to 28th January 2016.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member noted that there would be a cost impact to the Council, as offering relief would reduce the level of income received from Business Rates. However, the aim was to attract new businesses into Haringey and to generate growth. In order to limit the financial impact on the Council it was proposed that the relief could be time limited to a period of three years.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member also noted that under Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), Council Tax payers were a key stakeholder group that needed to be consulted with, and that any relief granted should be in the interests of Council Tax payers.</p> <p>In response to a question on how other key groups would be engaged with on these proposals, Officers advised that a number of consultation meetings would be held with different stakeholders to ensure that a wide array of responses was sought. Officers also advised that the Chancellor's Autumn Statement may include changes to national reliefs for small business and reoccupation relief and that these had not been specifically included in the consultation as the Autumn Statement was not due until 25th November.</p>	

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In response to a question about whether the relief policy could be targeted to a specific group, without having explicitly targeted the consultation process to that group, officers advised that if required proposals could be formalised during the Council’s budget setting process.

The Cabinet Member requested that ward Councillors be updated about consultation meetings within their wards.

Zakir
Chaudhry

RESOLVED

I). That the Council consult on its Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy for a period of 11 weeks, from 12th November 2015 – 28th January 2016; and

II). The consultation sought views on the following proposals:

- a) Introducing a new criteria for private organisations which specifically supports growth of the B1 class enterprises;
- b) Incorporate the option into a new policy to offer support to initiatives that support our aim to have thriving high streets and ‘kick start’ regeneration projects and developments;
- c) Changing the level of relief we currently offer to some types of VCO that will bring us into line with neighbouring boroughs and takes into consideration the social value contribution to Haringey and our residents.

HSP112.	NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
	N/A	