

Record of Decision

New Burdens Business Rate Relief Scheme

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

That the New Burdens Business Rate Relief Scheme set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

Reason for the Decision

The Department of Communities and Local Government are keen for authorities to roll out their discretionary schemes as soon as practical in order to ease the burden of business rates on ratepayers.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

In the Spring Budget on 8 March 2017 the Government announced they would make available a discretionary fund of £300m over four years from 2017-18 to support those businesses that faced the steepest increases in their business rates bills as a result of the 2017 revaluation.

The scheme will be administered by billing authorities discretionary relief powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. A discretionary policy has been designed within a Devon wide framework under the guidance of the Section 151 officers from across Devon. Each authority has adapted the framework policy taking into consideration the amount of money that has been allocated by central government.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation of the Policy Development and Decision Group made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report but not discussed at the meeting.

Is this a Key Decision?

No – Reference Number: I035157

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the

Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017