

Agenda Item 12

Executive Member	Councillor Lynne Brooks – Executive Member for Finance & Investments
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Ward (s) affected	None in establishing the Working Group	Key Decision	No
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Subject	Establishment of a Discretionary Rate Relief Working Group
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RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) The Executive is asked to approve the establishment of a Discretionary Rate Relief Working Group of the Executive.
- (2) That the Working Group comprise five Members as follows – (3 Conservatives (one of whom will be the Leader or appropriate portfolio Holder), 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Independent).
- (3) That the Working Group meets two or three times as necessary.
- (4) That the Working Group be asked to consider appropriate terms of reference at their first meeting and the Corporate Head of Service with responsibility for Democratic Services in consultation with the Leader be authorised to finalise the terms of reference.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The proposal to establish a Working Group seeks to assist the Council in meeting its priorities.

The Executive has the authority to determine the Recommendations

The Council has a number of priority themes including

- Access to Services – Helping residents to Access the Services they need
- Environment – Maintaining the character and environment of Mole Valley
- Prosperity – A vibrant local economy with thriving towns and villages

To assist the Executive in meeting those priorities, the Leader wishes to establish the following Working Group:

Discretionary Rate Relief Working Group

To consider how the Council can support local businesses and the local economy with a particular focus on the allocation of a hardship fund as announced in the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s Spring Budget.

It is suggested that the Working Group would undertake a time limited project reporting back to the Executive in the Spring of 2017.

2.0 OPTIONS

1. The Executive can decide to establish the Working Group identified in this report.
2. The Executive can advise the Officers to undertake a different course of action.

3.0 CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Monitoring Officer commentary

The Executive is able to establish this Working Group

S151 Officer commentary

Other than some meeting related expenses which can be accommodated within existing budgets there are no financial implications in establishing the Working Groups.

Risk Implications

None in establishing the Working Group.

Equalities Implications

None in establishing the Working Group.

Employment Issues

Officer attendance at evening meetings will be managed by the appropriate officers.

Sustainability Issues

None in establishing the Working Group.

Consultation

Establishment of Working Groups provides a mechanism for the Executive with Members outside of the Executive when discussing issues to be addressed at future meetings of the Executive.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None from establishing the Working Group.