

WRITE OFF OF IRRECOVERABLE DEBT

Executive Summary

Financial Regulation 12.14 requires the Executive to authorise the write off of any debt over £10,000.

Ahead of the financial year end a small number of Council Tax, Housing Benefit, Sundry debts and Business Rates debts are identified as irrecoverable. Many of these debts will have been provided within the Council's bad debt provision in previous years, but the formal write off has not yet been authorised by the Executive.

Appendix 1 sets out those debts over £10,000 recommended for write off by Officers. Most of these debts relate to Business Rates for which the Council has raised charges of circa £47m in 2019/20. The Green Book to January 2020 shows collection of 92% of the annual charge. The debts recommended for write off may cover liabilities over multiple years and the majority are due to business failure.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to

RESOLVE That the debts listed in Appendix 1 to the report be written off.

Reasons for Decision

Reason: To write off debts over £10,000.

The Executive has the authority to determine the recommendation set out above.

Background Papers:	None.
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