

Decision Record – Irrecoverable Debt Write-Off

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Kam Kaur Customer and Transformation
Date of Decision (not before 18 August 2017)	22/08/2017

Decision Taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation agrees that the three debts detailed in this report, accruing to £14,253.21 are written-off as irrecoverable.

Reasons for Decisions

The Constitution of the County Council delegates authority to the relevant Portfolio Holder to write-off debts of between £2000 and £50000.

Background Information

The Council uses all reasonable means to maximise income collection, prevent arrears arising, and manage outstanding debt effectively. Measures include:-

- Discussing financial arrangements and agreements with customers and their representatives when a service is being agreed so they are aware of their responsibilities
- Prompt billing and collection of money due
- Taking court action only after all other reasonable actions by the Council have been exhausted
- Taking appropriate, proportionate and effective enforcement action
- Seeking evidence where customers state that there are no funds to pay debts

In 2016/17 WCC invoiced a total of £71.6m, with £64.4m collected, the remainder being pursued. The proposed write-offs are less than 0.02% of the value of invoices raised in the last year.

The Council is currently pursuing a number of outstanding debts and in the case of the three debts listed in Section 2 of the published report it has been decided that it would be uneconomical to pursue these further. It has therefore been agreed that these debts totalling £14,253.21 are written-off.

The cost of writing-off will be set against the provision for bad debts that the County Council sets aside each year.

The report considered by the Portfolio Holder set out details of a number of debts. Details of these can be found by visiting the relevant webpage.

Financial Implications

£14,253.21 as set out in the report

Report Author	Craig Fletcher
Head of Service	John Betts
Joint Managing Director	David Carter
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kam Kaur

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cmis5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/4132/Committee/590/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Kam Kaur

Corporate Board

Legal – Ian Marriott

Finance – John Betts, Virginia Rennie

Equality – Polly Sharma

Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Resources and F&R OSC – party spokes:

Councillors Cllr Kam Kaur, Cllr Heather Timms, Cllr Parminder Singh Birdi, Cllr Maggie O'Rourke and Cllr Sarah Boad