

Decision Record – Irrecoverable Debt

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Peter Butlin Deputy Leader (Finance & Property)
Date of Decision (not before 21 July 2017)	21/07/2017

Decision Taken

That the Deputy Leader (Finance and Property) writes-off as irrecoverable the three debts accruing to £26,064.67 as detailed in the published report.

Reasons for Decisions

Individual debts of a value between £2000 and £50000 are written off by the relevant Portfolio Holder

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 proposed write-offs are 0.036% 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 is therefore agreed that these debts totalling £26,064.67 are written-off.

Financial Implications

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

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

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/4117/Committee/586/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin
 Corporate Board
 Legal – Jane Pollard, Ian Marriott
 Finance – Liz Firmstone, Virginia Rennie, John Betts
 Equality – Polly Sharma
 Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Cllr Peter Butlin, Cllr Heather Timms, Cllr Parminder Singh Birdi, Cllr Maggie O'Rourke and Cllr Sarah Boad