

## Decision Record – Irrecoverable Debt

<b>Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision</b>	Cllr Jeff Clarke Transport and Environment
<b>Date of Decision</b> (not before 21 July 2017)	<b>21/07/2017</b>

### Decision Taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Environment writes off as irrecoverable the debts accruing to £54000.12 as set out in the report.

### Reasons for Decisions

Where any objections have been received to a road traffic order the Portfolio Holder is required to decide on whether it be approved or not.

### 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 totalling £54000.12 are less than 0.046% 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 debts listed in the report it has been decided that it would be uneconomical to pursue these further. It is therefore proposed that these debts totalling £54000.12 are written-off. The Portfolio Holder may approve the write-off of individual debts between £2,000 and £50,000.

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

### Financial Implications

As set out in the report.

<b>Report Author</b>	Craig Fletcher
<b>Head of Service</b>	John Betts
<b>Joint Managing Director</b>	David Carter
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Councillor Jeff Clarke

## Checklist

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

### List of Reports considered

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/4106/Committee/587/Default.aspx>

### List of Background Papers

N/A

### Members and officers consulted or informed

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

Cllr Jeff Clarke, Councillor Alan Cockburn, Cllr John Horner, Cllr Dave Shilton, Cllr Matt Western, Cllr Jenny Fradgley