

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Monday, 29 January 2024	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E.31/01/24.6	Executive (Councillors Participating: Ross, Adshead, K. Carter, Hynes, Patel, Slater, Thompson Williams, and Wright)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT IN NEW CARRINGTON

- (1) That the approach to Master Planning for New Carrington be noted.
- (2) That the Transport Strategy for Carrington set out at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed.
- (3) That the resolution in September 2021 to progress the planning application for the Carrington Relief Road be noted and that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Place to carry out all necessary steps to secure funding for the route and, in consultation with the Director of Legal & Governance, to conclude any appropriate agreements in principle for securing the land necessary for the route and its related infrastructure.
- (4) That the planning strategy set out in Section 8 of the report be endorsed and the Planning & Development Committee be invited to consider and approve a detailed formula for interim infrastructure contributions.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To support a planned and managed approach to infrastructure provision in Carrington and Partington linked to the Places for Everyone Plan.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

In the light of the current position with supporting Infrastructure and PfE master planning it can be anticipated that until the Carrington Relief Road is approved for construction, planning applications for new development will take the following approach to infrastructure:

Option A – Approve development but with the Interim contribution to infrastructure (to be replaced by Master plan compliant contribution in due course)

Option B – As above but subject to a Grampian condition, linked to infrastructure delivery

Option C – refuse development – either because temporary impacts are so great – or it obstructs future infrastructure provision.

The position above assumes all other planning issues are satisfactory with a proposal. However as the merits of each development proposal are different, it will be for each planning application report to set out the particular approach to be applied in each case.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Monday, 12 February 2024
 (Decision can be implemented on the next working day, unless called in).

PUBLICATION DATE

RECORDED BY:

Director of Legal and Governance

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Monday, 29 January 2024	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E.31/01/24.9	Executive (Councillors Participating: Ross, Adshead, K. Carter, Hynes, Patel, Slater, Thompson Williams, and Wright)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

BUSINESS RATES RELIEF (AUTUMN BUDGET MEASURES) AND NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATING DISCRETIONARY POLICY CHANGES 2024/25

1) That the extension to the 75% RHL Business Rates Relief Scheme in 2024-25, be approved in line with the government guidance.

2) That the amendment to the Council’s National Non-Domestic Rating Discretionary Policy from 1 April 2024 to include backdating time limits for granting awards in line with the current legislative wording which is being revoked, be approved.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Approval to access and administer funds via the schemes detailed in the report is necessary in order for the Council to provide financial relief to eligible local businesses.

Approval to insert the revoked wording from the regulations to the Council’s local policy is required to ensure the Council can meet the financial backdating of any future claims made and to keep the policy consistent to what Trafford businesses are already used to.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Council could decide not to access the available Government funding on behalf of eligible businesses and not award RHL Business Rates Relief. This would mean that the Council would not award the reliefs and subsequently local small high street businesses would pay more business rates. In addition the Council could not make any changes to its NDR policy and therefore discretionary rate relief backdated limitations would not apply. Similarly it could include notice periods for variations.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None

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<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E.31/01/24.10	Executive (Councillors Participating: Ross, Adshead, K. Carter, Hynes, Patel, Slater, Thompson Williams, and Wright)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2024-25

That the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024-25 be approved and the Council be recommended to adopt the Scheme as part of the budget setting process.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To comply with legislative requirements, and recommend adoption of the Scheme to Council as part of the budget setting process.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Council could have considered revising the CTS Scheme for 2024/25, particularly when considering the financial challenges it faces, however, this would potentially mean that residents on benefits and/or a low income would be asked to pay Council Tax for the first time, or more Council Tax than they do now, at a time when residents are facing financial uncertainty.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

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<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E.31/01/24.11	Executive (Councillors Participating: Ross, Adshead, K. Carter, Hynes, Patel, Slater, Thompson Williams, and Wright)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

COUNCIL TAX EMPTY HOMES AND SECOND HOMES PREMIUM - INTRODUCTION AND PROPOSAL TO CONSULT ON EXEMPT CATEGORIES

That the Executive gives approval to:

- Consult on the proposed Council Tax Discretionary Council Tax Premium Exemption Policy;
- Note that the Council Tax Discretionary Council Tax Premiums Exemption Policy will be presented to the Executive for consideration and approval following conclusion of the consultation exercise;
- Increase the council tax empty homes premium to 100% (200% in total) for properties empty between one and five years (currently between two and five years) from 1 April 2024; and
- Implement the discretionary 100% second homes council tax premium (200% in total) from 1 April 2025.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council has the discretion to amend the council tax premium to 100% (200% in total) for properties empty between one and five years (currently between two and five years) from 1 April 2024.

The Council has the discretion to charge an additional 100% (200% in total) on all second homes from 1 April 2025.

Executive approval was sought in October 2022 to align future long term empty home premiums with the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill changes once the Bill received Royal Assent, which it did on 26 October 2023.

This report seeks final approval to implement these premiums as well as to consult on a proposed Exemption Policy in line with the national consultation.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Council could decide to not introduce the additional premiums, however, this would go against the Council's Empty Home Strategy by not increasing available local housing stock and also mean the

Council won't be able to collect the additional Council Tax to increase income to help to fund vital services.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None

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