

## STOCKPORT COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

**Subject:** Business Rates and Council Tax Discounts Annual Review

**Report to Cabinet**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020

**Report of:**

Cabinet Member for Resources, Commissioning & Governance

**Key Decision:** Y

Forward Plan ☒ General Exception ☐ Special Urgency ☐ (Mark with a Y if applicable)

**Summary:**

The Council is required to annually agree the scheme of local discounts and exemptions which are available against liability for Business Rates and Council Tax. This includes the localised Council Tax Support Scheme.

This report summarises the impact of Business Rates and Council Tax discounts and exemptions over the last year and recommends their continuation for 2020/21, along with the addition of a 300% Council Tax premium charge for properties that have been empty for at least 10 years from 1 April 2021.

**Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member:**

The Council Tax Discount and Council Tax Support Schemes have continued to operate very well in Stockport and have had a positive effect on the Council's finances. The recommended increase in the Council Tax premium charge supports the Council's Empty Homes Strategy and provides an incentive to bring back more properties in to occupation.

**Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member:**

That the recommendations outlined in the report are agreed

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee** (if decision called in):

Not applicable

**Background Papers** (if report for publication):

Contact person for accessing

**Officer:** Andrea Griffiths

background papers and discussing the report

**Tel:** 07967 580670

**'Urgent Business':**

**No**

**Certification** (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

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