

Written response to: Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel

Resolution: That the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources provide Members with a briefing note on the repayment of the grant to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the impact on the authority.

Written response from: Financial Services Manager

Response: Following the floods in 2015, MHCLG provided grant funding to allow the Council to provide 100% discount rate relief to flood affected properties. This funding was based on estimates of the amount of discount that would be awarded. Following further updates in 2017, a further advance was provided by MHCLG and each year the Council has been carrying the balance of grant forward to fund continuing discounts for those properties still vacated or not brought back into use.

As at the end of March 2019, there are minimal amount of properties still in receipt of these discounts and the full amount of the grant provided has not been required, therefore, as part of the closedown of the accounts it was deemed unnecessary to carry the grant forward again, but instead recognise that this balance of the grant would need to be repaid to MHCLG.

Date: 02/07/19