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## EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2011

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### **C.157/11    PROPOSALS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN RELATION TO THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

#### **(iii)    EX.102/11 and EX.128/11 - Discretionary Rate Relief Policy**

Councillors Betton, Mrs Farmer, Mitchelson and Morton, having declared a personal interest, made no comment on this item of business.

Councillor Mrs Geddes, having declared a personal interest, spoke to move the report.

Pursuant to Minute EX.102/11 and EX.128/11, there was submitted Report CD.20/11 and relevant Minute Extracts concerning the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy.

Councillor Mrs Geddes drew Members' attention to errors at Option 3 1. and 3., commenting that the figures £778,037 and £223,979 should have read £78,038 and £23,979 respectively.

Councillor Mrs Geddes then moved and Councillor Bloxham seconded the recommendation that the Council approve:

1. Amendment to the City Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy to provide 100% rate relief to small, local charities and not for profit making organisations as detailed in Option 1 of the report.
2. The Discretionary Rate Relief Policy Statement as shown at Appendix 1 of the report.

In response to a request for legal advice from Councillor Hendry, the Assistant Director (Governance) explained that the Summons and reports for the meeting were circulated in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules and to enable Members to give proper consideration to the various items of business.

Members would require to take a view on whether the amendments highlighted above were so significant that they may alter their view on the matter. Members had to have sufficient time to consider and digest information that was put before them. If Members felt that they had not been given such time then, it may be sensible to withdraw the report until the next meeting of the City Council.

Councillor Mrs Geddes pointed out that Option 3 was not the subject of any recommendation to Council.

Councillor Boaden indicated that the recommendation constituted a very significant policy change and it was important that all information was correctly provided prior to a decision being taken by Council.

Councillor Boaden then moved and Councillor Hendry seconded that the matter be withdrawn.

In response, Councillor Mrs Geddes withdrew the report.

RESOLVED – That Report CD.20/11 on the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy be withdrawn.