

EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE**DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF SUB-COMMITTEE**

A record of the decisions made at the meeting of the Discretionary Rate Relief Sub-Committee held on Wednesday, 26 November 2014, at 12.00 pm.

Present

Councillors

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|-----------------|---|
| Giles Archibald | Town Centres and Small Business Portfolio Holder |
| Jonathan Brook | Strategic Growth Portfolio Holder |
| Peter Thornton | Leader of the Council and Promoting South Lakeland and Finance Portfolio Holder |

Officers

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|-----------------|--|
| John Greenbank | Democratic Services and Scrutiny Assistant |
| Ross McLaughlin | Revenues Officer (BIDS and Reliefs) |
| Matthew Neal | Solicitor to the Council |
| Alan Raven | Revenues and Benefits Manager |

DRR/16 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – That Councillor Peter Thornton be elected Chairman for the meeting.

DRR/17 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence and there had been no changes in membership of the Sub-Committee, and therefore reconstitution of membership was not necessary.

DRR/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no declarations of interest made.

DRR/19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUDED ITEMS

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no excluded items on the Agenda.

DRR/20 APPEAL AGAINST DECISION TO REFUSE AN APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF MADE BY KENDAL ARTS INTERNATIONAL LTD - 53034481**Summary**

Consideration was given to an appeal made by Kendal Arts International Ltd against a decision by the Discretionary Rate Relief Sub-Committee to refuse discretionary rate relief.

The decision DRR/5 had been made to refuse the application as it was considered that Kendal Arts International Ltd's application did not meet the criteria set out in the 'Guidelines For Determining Applications For Discretionary Rate Relief From Charitable and other Non-Profit making Organisation'. In particular that the activities of the organisation did not sufficiently benefit residents of the District, when compared to the cost that awarding relief would have placed on the Council taxpayers.

Kendal Arts International Ltd had appealed this decision. The organisation stated that they had generated more than one million pounds in economic impact by organising the annual Mintfest event.

Members were advised by the Revenue and Benefits Manager that they should not have regard for the financial position of Kendal Arts International Ltd in their consideration of the appeal. It was indicated that members should base their decision on policy guidelines provided at Appendix 1 to the report.

Decision

100% Discretionary Rate Relief be awarded to Kendal Arts International Ltd for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

Reasons For Decision

Members considered that the work of Kendal Arts International Ltd was of an exceptional nature that provided benefits to the Council taxpayers of South Lakeland that outweighed the costs of rate relief.

The awards are in line with the Council's policy regarding granting discretionary rate relief to charitable and other non-profit making organisations.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The Sub-Committee could have decided to reject the appeal and not grant relief.

26.11.2014

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Discretionary Rate Relief
Sub-Committee

The meeting ended at 1.05 pm