

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

**C586 COUNCIL TAX UNOCCUPIED DWELLINGS (L) (CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE) –**

Approval was sought to amend the existing policy for the 2019/20 financial year in relation to the Council's discretionary powers when determining the level of discount to be applied to unoccupied dwellings.

The report brought to the attention of Cabinet the Council's discretionary powers when determining the level of Council Tax discount to be applied to unoccupied dwellings. The report set out the current procedure adopted by the Council when applying empty property discounts and the financial implications in continuing to award the discounts.

The report drew Cabinet's attention to the results and conclusions of the recent consultation on the Council's proposals to remove the 50% empty property discount currently afforded to owners of empty properties and second homes.

It was proposed that Cabinet recommends to Full Council the removal of the 50% empty property discount both from a financial perspective and due to the many positive impacts that could be achieved by bringing empty properties back into use.

This was a matter for Executive and Council decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all of the issues and implications contained therein,

RESOLVED –

**That it be recommended to Full Council**

- (1) T H A T that no discount be allowed from 2019-20 in respect of unoccupied dwellings as defined in classes A, B and C to the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 1998, as amended
- (2) T H AT delegated authority be given to the Head of Finance to implement the changes and to notify the owners of all affected properties.

Reason for decisions

- (1) The Council is required to determine its policy on discounts in relation to unoccupied dwellings each year.

(2) To ensure all of those impacted by the removal of the discount are aware of the changes.