

## REPORT

To: POLICY & RESOURCES (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE	Subject: REDETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX FOR RESIDENTS IN SHARED CARE ACCOMMODATION
From: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	
Date: 25 August 2006	Ref: AC/BC

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Scottish Executive are by means of a Statutory Instrument, amending the Council Tax regulations to give relief to residents of some Care Homes which recently had their status altered by the Assessor, which left them liable for Council Tax, which had not previously been the case.

2 New Legislation

- 2.1 The new legislation will remove the properties from the Council Tax Register.
- 2.2 The individual subjects will be replaced by a single entry.
- 2.3 The single entry will be entitled to 100% relief.
- 2.4 It will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006.

3 Interim Arrangements

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive has asked that Authorities voluntarily agree to refund any Council Tax paid on these properties.
- 3.2 The Assessor has identified 30 properties affected by the change in the NLC area, all owned by The Abbeyfield Society:-
- > 10 at Douglas Street Motherwell
  - > 10 at Buchanan Street Coatbridge
  - > 10 at Colston Road Airdrie.

4 Costs


- 4.1 The cost of the Council Tax write-off up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006, the period prior to the new legislation, amounts to £30,817.44.
- 4.2 This liability will be reimbursed by the Executive through the Revenue Support Grant.
- 4.3 The total amount paid to date toward the liability which is due to be refunded amounts to £28,799.65.

5 Proposal

- 5.1 There is an obvious benefit to those residents who have been made liable by the Assessor's change in liability, the cost of which will be covered by an increase in Revenue Support Grant.

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 Approve the proposal to write-off the £30,817.44, liability in respect of residents Council Tax liability.
- 6.2 Refund the £28,799.65 paid to the affected residents.



**Director of Finance**

Members wishing further information please contact Mr Brian Cook, Head of Revenue Services, Tel:- 01698 – 302801.