
REPORT TO THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE 22 JULY 2009

PORTFOLIO: COUNCIL TAX COLLECTION, BENEFITS AND STRATEGIC HOUSING

REPORT FROM HEAD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUBJECT: BUSINESS RATES WRITE-OFF

1 DECISION BEING RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 That outstanding Business Rates with regard to a premises in Hockley which has ceased trading be written off.

2 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 On 23rd November 2006 it was established from the landlord that the company T J Components Limited was in occupation of 8-11 Eldon Way, Hockley, Essex on 2nd February 2006.
- 2.2 On the 3rd January 2007 a reminder notice was issued to the company's head office address of 5th Floor, 71 Kingsway, London, WC6B 6ST. However this had subsequently been returned on 11th January 2007 with an address label for the property of 8-11 Eldon Way, marked addressee gone away.
- 2.3 The company vacated the premises on 19th October 2006, leaving a sum outstanding and it was established that the company was dissolved on 28th August 2007.
- 2.4 The company has no remaining assets and no recovery action may now be taken against them. The directors of the company are not personally liable for this debt and therefore cannot be pursued.
- 2.5 A proof of debt form has been submitted to the official receiver in respect of the outstanding balance. However, the Council ranks as an unsecured creditor for non-domestic rates.
- 2.6 In the unlikely event that a dividend should become payable, the appropriate sum could be reinstated.
- 2.7 In the above circumstances it is therefore recommended that the sum of £20,927.03 be written off as irrecoverable.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There will be no cost to the Council, as this money will be reclaimed from the Central Pool, which is held with Central Government as the District Council collects Business Rates on their behalf.

3.2 Any monies collected are passed direct to them.

I confirm that the above recommendation does not depart from Council policy and that appropriate consideration has been given to any budgetary and legal implications.

SMT Lead Officer Signature: _____

Jeremy Bourne

Head of Community Services

Background Papers:-

Write-Off Report

For further information please contact Claire Malcolm on:-

Tel:- 01702 318018

E-Mail:- claire.malcolm@rochford.gov.uk

If you would like this report in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.