

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

**“C158 COUNCIL TAX UNOCCUPIED DWELLINGS: 2023/24 (EL/PR)  
(SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –**

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to reaffirm the previous decision not to grant any discount in Council Tax for empty properties and furnished second homes for the 2023/24 financial year.

The report proposed that the Council consulted on the levying of a Council Tax premium in 2023/24 in respect of long-term empty properties and in 2024/25 in respect of second homes.

This was in line with the Council's objective to increase the supply of housing in the Vale of Glamorgan. The headline annual need for affordable housing in the Vale of Glamorgan from 2021 to 2026 was 1,205 dwellings.

The Leader requested that Recommendation (2) be amended to use paragraph 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgency decision procedure) to allow the consultation to begin immediately, which was agreed.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

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

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the previous decision be reaffirmed that no discount be allowed in 2023/24 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 A T the use of paragraph 15.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgency decision procedure) be authorised to enable consultation to start immediately and allow Cabinet to determine that the Council enters a period of consultation as defined in Sections 12A and 12B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as inserted by the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 regarding the following:**

- **A Council Tax premium be levied in 2023/24 in respect of long-term empty properties;**
- **A Council Tax premium be levied in 2024/25 in respect of second homes.**

(3) T H A T the report be forwarded to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration as part the consultation.

Reasons for decisions

(1) The Council was required to determine its policy on discounts in relation to unoccupied dwellings as defined in classes A, B and C to the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 1998 each year.

**(2) The Council was required to determine its policy on the introduction of premiums in respect of second homes and long-term empty properties as defined in Sections 12A and 12B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as inserted by the Housing (Wales) Act 2014.**

(3) To ensure that the relevant Scrutiny Committee be included as part of the consultation process.”