



**DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE**

**PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE LEADER (WITH PORTFOLIO FOR FINANCE & CORPORATE POLICY)**

**TOPIC – NON-DOMESTIC RATES – RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST FOR 2016/17**

**PROCEDURAL INFORMATION**

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination.

**If you wish to make representation on this proposed Decision please contact the relevant Portfolio Holder and the following Democratic Services Officer by 5.00pm on Friday 15 April 2016.**

**Contact Officers:**

**Case Officer:** Terri Horner, Head of Revenues, Tel: 01962 848 160, thorner@winchester.gov.uk

**Democratic Services Officer:** Nancy Graham, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Tel: 01962 848 235, ngraham@winchester.gov.uk

**SUMMARY**

One of the criteria for awarding non-domestic rate relief for village shops, post offices or village food stores is that the premises must be "within the boundaries of a qualifying settlement", as outlined under Section 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

The settlement list must be compiled and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of the financial year for which it is effective, and during this period it must be made available for Public Inspection. The whole of England is treated as rural, apart from urban areas that have a population of more than 10,000. Maps issued by the former Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR) designate rural areas. For Winchester City Council, the map indicates that the whole of the District is to be treated as rural, apart from the Winchester Town

area. The map is the starting point for compiling the settlement list with the criteria that each settlement must:

- Be wholly or partly within the authority's area;
- Appear to the billing authority to have had a population of 3,000 or less on the preceding 31<sup>st</sup> December; and
- Be wholly or partly within a designated rural area (as specified in a designation order).

The settlement list as outlined in Appendix A has been compiled with the assistance of the Strategic Planning Team, as in previous years.

There are no changes to the list for 2016/17.

Approval of the Rural Settlement list is delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate Policy under the Scheme of Delegation to Portfolio Holders (as set out in Part 3, Section 3 of the Council's Constitution).

### **PROPOSED DECISION**

That the list of Rural Settlements shown in Appendix A be approved for the year 2016/17.

### **REASON FOR THE PROPOSED DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Population forecasts have been considered but do not trigger any changes in the proposed list.

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

With effect from 1 April 2013 there was a change to funding arrangements for Non-Domestic Rates. Prior to the changes the cost of Mandatory Relief was met by the national pool and the cost of Discretionary Rural Rate Relief was shared by the Council and the pool. Following the change the Council now funds 40% of all relief given for both mandatory and discretionary elements above the amount of relief in payment prior to the change in funding arrangements. The cost of this relief and all other rate relief is accounted for in the Collection Fund.

During the current year approximately £28,000 will be awarded in Mandatory and Discretionary Rural Rate Relief. The figure for 2014/15 was £32,000. There will be no material impact on the council's general revenue budget.

**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE PROPOSED DECISION**

None

**FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE**

n/a

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR OFFICER CONSULTED**

n/a

**DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

n/a

**Approved by: (signature)**

**Date of Decision**

**Councillor Godfrey – Leader (with Portfolio for Finance & Corporate Policy)**

**APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – Rural Settlement List 2016/17

Appendix A

**RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST**

**2016-2017**

In accordance with SECTION 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 the following is the Rural Settlement List for Winchester City Council.

**The following settlements are based on parish boundaries:**

Beauworth	
Bighton	
Bishops Sutton	
Bishops Waltham -	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of Inset Map No 1 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Boarhunt	
Bramdean & Hinton Ampner	
Cheriton	
Chilcomb	
Compton and Shawford	
Corhampton and Meonstoke	
Crawley	
Curdrige	
Denmead -	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of Inset Map No 7 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Droxford	
Durley	
Exton	
Hambledon	
Headbourne Worthy -	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of Inset Map No 12 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Hursley	
Itchen Stoke and Ovington	
Itchen Valley	
Kilmeston	
Kings Worthy -	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of the Inset Map No 12 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Littleton and Harestock -	with the exception of those properties in the area known as Harestock shown within the boundary H.3 of the Inset Map No 31N of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)

Micheldever New Alresford	-	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of the Inset Map No 16 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Northington Old Alresford Otterbourne Owslebury Soberton South Wonston Southwick and Widley Sparsholt Tichborne Twyford Upham Warnford West Meon Whiteley	-	with the exception of those properties within the boundary H.3 of the Inset Map No 29(S) of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Wonston		

**The following settlements are not based on parish boundaries.**

Colden Common	as indicated within the boundary H.3 on Inset Map No 3 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Knowle	as indicated within the boundary H.3 on Inset Map No 13 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Shedfield	as indicated within the Blue Boundary shown on the map held within the Revenues Division
Shirrell Heath	as indicated within the Red Boundary shown on the map held within the Revenues Division
Swanmore	as indicated within the Boundary H.3 on Inset Map No 24 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Waltham Chase	as indicated within the Boundary H.3 on Inset Map No 26 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)
Wickham	as indicated within the Boundary H.3 on Inset Map No 30 of the Winchester District Local Plan Review (2006)