

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER NOTICE OF DECISION

*THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND CONTACT OFFICER*

<b>TITLE OF DECISION:</b>			
<b>AWARD OF RATE RELIEF ON THE GROUNDS OF HARDSHIP</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR STUART LANGHORN</b>		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	<b>CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR REVENUE SERVICES</b>		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>JULIE SMETHURST</b>		
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<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>(1) That having considered this individual case on merit :</p> <p>The application be refused hardship relief for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 as the member is not satisfied that, on the evidence provided, hardship has been proven.</p>			
<p><b>Reasons for the decision (continue on separate sheet or append relevant papers as necessary):</b></p> <p>Having considered the relevant facts of this case, it is not considered there are any exceptional circumstances which would warrant hardship relief being granted. There are many other locally based businesses also faced with hefty empty rate charges, which are currently suffering a downturn in productivity and sales due to the economic climate and consequently not making a profit or seeing profits reduced. In this particular case a conscious decision has been made not to sell the site until the market value increases, and the charge is not significant enough to have any impact on the operating profits of this business. It is therefore concluded that the test of Hardship has not been met and therefore it would not be of benefit to the Council Tax payers of Lancaster to single out this particular company for special treatment.</p>			
<p><b>Is the decision URGENT Yes/NO Please delete as appropriate and give reasons for urgency below:</b></p> <p><u>No</u></p>			
<p><b>I CONFIRM THAT I HAVE BEEN CONSULTED ON THE ABOVE DECISION AND THAT IT IS URGENT AND REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES. (IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 17 OF THE OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES)</b></p> <p><b>SIGNATURE OF OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY</b>      <b>N/A</b></p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b></p>			
<p><b>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</b></p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Councillor Stuart Langhorn		
<b>DATE:</b>	4 May 2011		
<b>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b>			<b>REF NO.</b>
			2011/ic31
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	4 May 2011	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	4 May 2011
<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	4 May 2011	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE ( publication day + 5 working days):</b>	12 May 2011

*A copy of the report considered by the decision taker should be appended to this form and forwarded immediately to Democratic Services on completion.*