



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of an **INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION** will be held in David Hicks 2 - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **THURSDAY 15 MARCH 2018 AT 4.10 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manjeet Gill'.

Manjeet Gill
Interim Chief Executive
Published on 7 March 2018

This meeting may be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website.

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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Our Vision

A great place to live, an even better place to do business

Our Priorities

Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential

Invest in regenerating towns and villages, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth

Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and supported by well designed development

Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough

Improve the customer experience when accessing Council services

The Underpinning Principles

Offer excellent value for your Council Tax

Provide affordable homes

Look after the vulnerable

Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life

Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency

Deliver quality in all that we do

For consideration by
Julian McGhee-Sumner, Executive Member for Finance

Officers Present
Sharon Pearce, Service Manager, Income and Payments
Luciane Bowker, Democratic and Electoral Services Specialist

IMD NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	5 - 8
1. IMD 2018/12	None Specific	WRITE OFF OF UNCOLLECTABLE BUSINESS RATES DEBT (IMD 2018/12)	

CONTACT OFFICER

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Agenda Item IMD12

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD 2018/12

TITLE	Write off of Non Collectable Business Rates Debt.
DECISION TO BE MADE BY	Executive Member for Finance.
DATE AND TIME	Thursday 15 March 2018 at 16.10
WARD	Non Specific
DIRECTOR	Graham Ebers, Director of Corporate Services
REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED ON	7 March 2018
VENUE	David Hicks 2

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

The write off of non-collectable debt ensures that the Council ledgers are accurate and up to date.

The debt to be written off is in respect of business rates. Any debt written off has a financial impact as the council incurs 49% of the loss.

RECOMMENDATION

Agree to write-off the business rates of £42,450.36 relating to 2014/2015, £87,894.00 relating to 2015/16 and £81,092.45 relating to 2016/17, totaling £211,436.81 as unrecoverable.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Achieve & Succeed Limited occupied business premises at on the first floor of Trinity Court, Milly Millars Lane, Wokingham for the period 3 October 2014 to 28 February 2017. They were issued with a bill for each year, and recovery action was taken, including reminder notices and summonses, and liability orders were obtained in accordance with our recovery timetable, and legislation. Despite contact with the debtor promising payments, no payments were made. All debt had been passed to our enforcement for collection but this was unsuccessful.

Background

Achieve & Succeed Limited were registered for business rates on the first floor of a property at Trinity Court, Molly Millars Lane, Wokingham. The principal activity of Achieve & Succeed Limited is unknown. The enforcement agents informed us that the company was dissolved on 20 June 2017 and this has been confirmed with Companies House.

Analysis of Issues

We have exhausted all possible steps to enforce payment of the outstanding business rates liabilities and the company has now been dissolved. If the debt is not written off it will remain as a bad debt on our records. 49% of the total amount outstanding, £103,604.04 is a loss to the Council, and Central Government funds the remainder. We are likely to exceed our targets for collection on business rates this financial year and therefore I would suggest that the 49% loss could be offset against the expected excess income collected.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	103,604.04	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)			

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None

Cross-Council Implications

None identified

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Director – Finance and Resources	None
Monitoring Officer	None
Leader of the Council	None

List of Background Papers

Details from Companies House of the company being dissolved

Contact Sharon Pearce	Service Business Services
Telephone No 0118 908 8423	Email Sharon.Pearce@wokingham.gov.uk
Date 07/03/18	Version No. 1

Companies House

BETA This is a trial service — your [feedback \(https://www.research.net/r/chbeta\)](https://www.research.net/r/chbeta) will help us to improve it.

Search for companies or officers

ACHIEVE & SUCCEED LIMITED

Company number **08261707**

Registered office address

Dept 1021 43 Owston Road, Carcroft, Doncaster, England, DN6 8DA

Company status

Dissolved

Dissolved on

20 June 2017

Company type

Private limited Company

Incorporated on

22 October 2012

Accounts

Last accounts made up to **31 October 2016**

Nature of business (SIC)

- 99999 - Dormant Company

Previous company names

Name	Period
DENARIUZ LTD	07 Jan 2014 - 07 Jan 2014
ACHIEVE & SUCCEED LIMITED	22 Oct 2012 - 07 Jan 2014

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