

## **Item 09 - Discretionary Rate Relief**

The attached report was considered by the Finance & Investment Advisory Committee on 10 January 2023. The relevant Minute extract is below.

### **Finance & Investment Advisory Committee (10 January 2023, Minute 38)**

The Business Rates Manager presented the report which set out the proposals for awarding discretionary rate relief for 2023/2024. Discretionary rate relief could be awarded in isolation or given to supplement a mandatory award.

She advised Members that the gross relief granted was estimated to be £227,253 but that this figure did not account for new reliefs, as the Council was awaiting further guidance. This was an increase of £31,618 from 2022/23, largely due to the change in the rateable value of the new Swanley Leisure Centre.

She drew Members' attention to Seal supermarket, which was no longer eligible for the rate relief it previously received, and the recommendation that it receive 80% discretionary relief. She further highlighted three shops that were no longer eligible for mandatory rural rate relief, but were recommended to receive 100% discretionary rural rate relief for their importance to their communities.

Resolved: That it be recommend that Cabinet approve the proposals for granting relief from business rates for 2023/2024 set out in Appendix B.