

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Decision Notice – Special Hybrid Meeting at 6.05 p.m. – 13th January, 2025.

The Council agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor Elliot Penn (Mayor); Councillors Anne Asbrey, Julie Aviet, Gareth Ball, Rhiannon Birch, Bronwen Brooks, Gillian Bruce, Ian Buckley, Lis Burnett, Samantha Campbell, George Carroll, Christine Cave, Charles Champion, Janice Charles, Millie Collins, Marianne Cowpe, Pamela Drake, Anthony Ernest, Christopher Franks, Wendy Gilligan, Russell Godfrey, Emma Goodjohn, Stephen Haines, Howard Hamilton, Sally Hanks, William Hennessy, Nic Hodges, Mark Hooper, Catherine Iannucci-Williams, Gwyn John, Dr. Ian Johnson, Susan Lloyd-Selby, Belinda Loveluck-Edwards, Julie Lynch-Wilson, Kevin Mahoney, Naomi Marshallsea, Michael Morgan, Jayne Norman, Helen Payne, Sandra Perkes, Ian Perry, Joanna Protheroe, Ruba Sivagnanam, Carys Stallard, Neil Thomas, Rhys Thomas, Steffan Wiliam, Margaret Wilkinson, Edward Williams, Mark Wilson and Nicholas Wood.

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors Vince Driscoll, Robert Fisher and Ewan Goodjohn.

AGENDA ITEM 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

There were no declarations received

AGENDA ITEM 3. COUNCIL TAX PREMIUMS ON LONG TERM EMPTY PROPERTIES AND SECOND HOMES (REF) –

The Leader moved the report's recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Brooks.

A Recorded Vote took place on the reference and the report recommendations.

Members	For	Against	Abstain
Anne Asbrey	√		
Julie Aviet	√		
Gareth Ball	√		

Rhiannon Birch	√		
Bronwen Brooks	√		
Gillian Bruce		√	
Ian Buckley	√		
Lis Burnett	√		
Samantha Campbell	√		
George Carroll		√	
Christine Cave		√	
Charles Champion		√	
Janice Charles		√	
Millie Collins	√		
Marianne Cowpe	√		
Pamela Drake	√		
Anthony Ernest		√	
Christopher Franks	√		
Wendy Gilligan	√		
Russell Godfrey		√	
Emma Goodjohn	√		
Stephen Haines		√	
Howard Hamilton	√		
Sally Hanks	√		
William Hennessy		√	
Nic Hodges	√		
Mark Hooper	√		
Catherine Iannucci-Williams	√		

Gwyn John	√		
Dr. Ian Johnson	√		
Susan Lloyd-Selby	√		
Belinda Loveluck-Edwards	√		
Julie Lynch-Wilson	√		
Kevin Mahoney			√
Naomi Marshallsea	√		
Michael Morgan	√		
Jayne Norman	√		
Helen Payne	√		
Elliot Penn	√		
Sandra Perkes	√		
Ian Perry	√		
Joanna Protheroe	√		
Ruba Sivagnanam	√		
Carys Stallard	√		
Neil Thomas	√		
Rhys Thomas		√	
Steffan Wiliam	√		
Margaret Wilkinson	√		
Eddie Williams	√		
Mark Wilson	√		
Nicholas Wood		√	
TOTAL	39	11	1

Having been put to a Recorded vote it was subsequently

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the policy to not grant any level of discount for unoccupied dwellings that have remained so for 6 months which was agreed for 2024-25, be approved for 2025-26.
- (2) T H A T the long term empty property premium of 100% agreed by Full Council on 6th March 2024 for the 2024-25 financial year be approved to be continued for such properties from 2025-26 that remain so for the period up to (but not including) 24 months.
- (3) T H A T the long term empty property premium of 150% agreed by Full Council on 6th March, 2024 for the 2024-25 financial year be approved to be continued for such properties from 2025-26 that remain so for a continuous period of 24 months up to (but not including) 36 months.
- (4) T H A T, as agreed by Full Council on 6th March, 2024, a premium of 200% be introduced from 1st April, 2025 for long term empty properties that have remained as such for a continuous period of 36 months or more be endorsed.
- (5) T H A T the premium of 100% for periodically occupied properties for the 2024-25 financial year agreed on 6th March, 2024 is reaffirmed and approved to be continued for 2025-26.

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 regarding premiums in respect of 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) Upon reviewing the implementation of the premium for long term empty properties introduced from the start of 1st April, 2023, it was felt that a straight increase to the premium levels as previously proposed may counteract the intention of the policy, which was to bring long term empty properties back into use, if the level of charges due hindered necessary works required to make a dwelling habitable. As such it was felt that a stepped approach would be more in keeping with the policy to ensure that persistent long term empty properties were targeted.
- (4) As (2) above.
- (5) The Council was required to determine its policy regarding premiums in respect of second homes as defined in Sections 12A and 12B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as inserted by the Housing (Wales) Act 2014.