

## CARACABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

22 February 2023

### **COUNCILLOR - CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE ASSETS LEGAL DEMOCRATIC SERVICES & REVENUES**

For the period December 2022 to February 2023

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### **Collection as of 31 January 2023.**

Council Tax collection was 90.32% against target of 90.35% with a minor shortfall in collection of £28k.

NDR collection is 92.32% against target of 91.40%, an excess in collection of £229k.

##### **Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme.**

The total rebate amount awarded to NNDC council tax customers is £6,114,900.

##### **Non-Domestic (Business) Rates Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF)**

NNDC was the best in Norfolk for paying out the highest percentage of Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF) funding to businesses.

LA name	Total CARF allocation £	Value of CARF relief awarded £	Percentage awarded
North Norfolk	1,580,862	1,562,395	98.8
Breckland	2,058,042	2,011,372	97.7
Great Yarmouth	1,811,708	1,737,225	95.8
Broadland	2,123,630	1,808,849	85.1
South Norfolk	2,572,019	2,125,492	82.6
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	2,631,559	2,172,039	82.5
Norwich	4,926,492	3,604,930	73.1

##### **Government Returns:**

- **Business Grants** – we continue to reconcile these and report data to government on a regular basis.
- **CT Energy Rebate Scheme** - we continue to reconcile these and report data to government on a regular basis.

- **NNDR1 – completed on 7 February 2023.**

**Risk and Performance Audit being undertaken.**

We joined the **national pilot to help work out the new burdens** calculations required by Local Authorities for new NDR Reliefs. Previously there has been a lack of interest by councils with only a few councils talking part.

**VOA Draft NDR Revaluation 2023 List** has been released as announced by the chancellor. There are some working issues which we have reported to Civica. We have also been giving advice to other local councils regarding this and have now tested this as part of the year-end/annual billing work.

**Council Tax and Non-Domestic (Business) Rates Annual Billing** - testing started. NNDR includes new NDR reliefs and council tax includes a merger of two parishes and the new CTS funding.

**2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Ongoing internal training of two Level 3 Business Certificated apprentices. Previous one was National Apprentice of the Year and next month will meet the DWP Minister on his visit to NNDC.

Online forms - reviewing and improving most commonly used customer paper forms.

Enforcement work of reviewing and improving the process to build on the softer approach set up during the pandemic.

**Council Tax and Non-Domestic (Business) Rates Annual Billing.** NNDR includes new NDR reliefs and council tax includes a merger of two parishes and Benefits includes the new CTS funding scheme.

Government new Energy

**Government Returns:**

NNDR3

QRC4 for council tax and NNDR

Setting up the Government's **Energy Bills Support Scheme - Alternative Funding (EBSS-AF)** to pay customers £400 each who have not received payments from suppliers for the main scheme. We are still waiting for guidance however the scheme goes live on 20 February 2023.

**3 Meetings attended**

Norfolk Fraud Hub Meeting 10 January 2023

Civica Account Meeting 17 January 2023

Enforcement Board Meeting 23 January 2023

Revenues staff meeting 25 January 2023

Year-End/Annual billing meeting 24 January 2023 & 9 February 2023

NNDR1 Meeting 31 January 2023  
EBSS-AF Scheme Meeting 1 February & 8 February 2023  
Parish Merger Meeting 2 February 2023