

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

SUMMARY

This report sets out two new applications for Discretionary Rate Relief

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet are recommended to approve the following awards:

- a) The Lisa May Foundation - 20% top-up relief until 31 March 2022, and
- b) Andover Mind - 10% top-up relief until 31 March 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Outline the background and financial implications of Discretionary Rate Relief.
- Consider two new applications for Discretionary Rate Relief.
- Examine the overall budget position for cost impact of Discretionary Rate relief applications for 2017/18.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Mandatory Relief is available at 80% of the rates payable, and to qualify an organisation must:

- Occupy a property or rating hereditament which is used wholly or mainly for charitable purposes, and
- Be established for charitable purposes only, or
- Be accredited as a community amateur sports club.

2.2 A local authority had discretion to grant “top up” relief of up to the additional 20% to charities that have received the 80% mandatory relief.

2.3 In addition, an authority can grant relief of up to 100% to other ratepayers.

3 APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF

- 3.1 Full details of the applications are set out in Appendices 2 and 3 and are for The Lisa May Foundation and Andover Mind.
- 3.2 Both applicants are entitled to 80% Mandatory Relief and therefore the applications are for the “top up” 20% Discretionary Relief.
- 3.2 The portfolio holder for Concessions and Community Support met with the Principal Revenues and Benefits Officer on 29th September 2017 in respect of the applications.
- 3.3 During the meeting the Portfolio Holder examined both applications in detail and has set out a recommendation for the level and period of support that could be provided for both organisations as outlined in paragraph 3.4 and 3.5 below.
- 3.4 **The Lisa May Foundation** – the suggested level of support is 20% top up relief until 31 March 2022, which is the end of the current 5-year rating list. This decision was made owing to the strong local focus of the Foundation and is consistent with the criteria applied to all other local charities that have applied for Discretionary Rate Relief.
- 3.5 **Andover Mind** – the suggested level of support is 10% top up relief until 31 March 2022, which is the end of the current 5-year rating list. This decision was made owing to the Foundation providing support to a wider area and is consistent with the criteria applied to all other large charitable organisations that have applied for Discretionary Rate Relief and who contribute to the local economy.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Since 1st April 2013, the Business Rates Retention Scheme has introduced a fundamentally new set of arrangements for dealing with the cost of rates. The cost to the Council of granting any relief is most reliably estimated at being 40% of the value of relief granted. Although the total cost is ultimately determined by a range of factors, such as the Council’s total rate receipts measured against its estimated threshold for growth, taking into account any payment levies or safety net contributions payable or receivable.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 shows those charitable organisations that qualify for 80% mandatory relief and which have been granted additional “top up” discretionary relief. The organisations are grouped together under generic headings, and the period of grant.
- 4.3 Appendix 1 also sets out summary details of the non-charitable organisations that are currently in receipt of relief. The appendix includes the value and costs of relief and period of grant.

- 4.4 If Discretionary Relief were awarded to both applications, the financial effect on the Council would be £404.00.

5 RISKS

- 5.1 If the suggested level of Discretionary Relief is awarded to both applications, the financial effect on the Council remains relatively low at £404.00 for the year 2017/18.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder for Concessions and Community Support is supportive of the applications to the level in the report. Each case was reviewed on its own merit and the decision made is within the criteria of the Discretionary Relief policy and is in line with other similar organisations.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

1. Local Government Finance Act 1988, Section 47.
2. Non-Domestic Rating (Discretionary Relief) Regulations 1989 (SI 989/1059).
3. Dept of the Environment Practice Note – Non-Domestic Rates, discretionary rate relief, issued 1989.
4. Full application case file in respect of the applicants.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Report Author – David May / david.may@rushmoor.gov.uk / 01252 398330

Head of Service – Amanda Fahey / amanda.fahey@rushmoor.gov.uk 01252 3983440

APPENDIX 1

| Billing Number | Name | Address | Rateable Value | Yearly Rates | MR % | MR Value | DR% | DR Value | Cost of Award to RBC | Expiry Date |
|----------------|---|---|----------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|-----|------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| | Scouts/Guides | | | | | | | | | |
| 9000743 | 6th Farnborough Scout Group | 123 Cheyne Way, Farnborough | 2,900 | 1,385.45 | 80 | 1,108.36 | 20 | 277.09 | 110.84 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9110756 | 3rd Farnborough Scout Group | Scout Hut, Sand Hill, Farnborough | 5,700 | 2,730.30 | 80 | 2,184.24 | 20 | 546.06 | 218.42 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9000745 | 2nd Aldershot Scouts | Church Hill, Aldershot | 5,400 | 2,586.60 | 80 | 2,069.28 | 20 | 517.32 | 206.93 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9001013 | 1st Aldershot Scouts | Eastern Road, Aldershot | 4,650 | 2,227.35 | 80 | 1,781.88 | 20 | 445.47 | 178.19 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9001549 | 1st Cove Scouts | 11 Fleet Road, Farnborough | 4,650 | 2,227.35 | 80 | 1,781.88 | 20 | 445.47 | 178.19 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9001905 | 5th Farnborough Scouts | 9 High Street, Farnborough | 4,100 | 1,963.90 | 80 | 1,571.12 | 20 | 392.78 | 157.11 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9002718 | 14th Aldershot Scouts | 72 North Lane, Aldershot | 3,750 | 1,796.25 | 80 | 1,437.00 | 20 | 359.25 | 143.70 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9002994 | 8th Farnborough Air Scouts | Rectory Road Scout Hut, Priory Street, Farnborough | 2,500 | 1,334.91 | 80 | 1,067.93 | 20 | 266.98 | 106.79 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9003179 | 2nd Farnborough Scout Group | Curly Bridge Close | 3,650 | 1,421.11 | 80 | 1,136.89 | 20 | 284.22 | 113.69 | 31/03/2022 |
| | | | | 17,673.22 | | 14,138.58 | | 3,534.64 | 1,413.86 | |
| | Charity Shops | | | | | | | | | |
| 9110401 | Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice | 9 Union Street, Aldershot | 10,500 | 5,665.72 | 80 | 4,532.58 | 15 | 849.86 | 339.94 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9207795 | Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice | 52 Kingsmead, Farnborough | 15,500 | 4,192.90 | 80 | 3,354.32 | 15 | 628.94 | 251.57 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9207635 | Parity for Disabled | 92-94 Whetstone Road, Farnborough | 3,300 | 1,416.56 | 80 | 1,133.25 | 20 | 283.31 | 113.32 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9201455 | Parity for Disabled | 69 Camp Road, Farnborough | 9,900 | 4,742.10 | 80 | 3,793.68 | 15 | 711.32 | 284.53 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9202688 | British Heart Foundation | 107 Victoria Road, Aldershot | 66,000 | 34,488.00 | 80 | 27,590.40 | 15 | 5,173.20 | 2,069.28 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9204789 | British Heart Foundation | 30 Union Street, Aldershot | 16,750 | 9,400.20 | 80 | 7,520.16 | 15 | 1,410.03 | 564.01 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9200446 | British Heart Foundation | 96b Queensmead, Farnborough | 29,000 | 12,456.73 | 80 | 9,965.38 | 15 | 1,868.51 | 747.40 | 31/03/2022 |
| | | | | 72,362.21 | | 57,889.77 | | 10,925.16 | 4,370.06 | |
| | Local Charities | | | | | | | | | |
| 9000007 | Farnborough Cove War Memorial | Albert Road, Farnborough | 15,750 | 7,544.25 | 80 | 6,035.40 | 20 | 1,508.85 | 603.54 | 31/03/2018 |
| 9208392 | The Source Young Peoples Charity | Suite 3, Wesley Chambers, Queens Road, Aldershot | 18,500 | 8,861.50 | 80 | 7,089.20 | 20 | 1,772.30 | 708.92 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9206468 | Farnborough Community Centre | Elles Hall, Meudon Avenue, Farnborough | 27,500 | 13,172.50 | 80 | 10,538.00 | 20 | 2,634.50 | 1,053.80 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9000006 | Bevan Lodge Community Pre-School | Ground Floor, 67 Albert Road, Farnborough | 4,450 | 2,703.97 | 80 | 2,163.18 | 20 | 540.79 | 216.32 | 31/03/2018 |
| 9206536 | The Gurkha Welfare Trust | First Floor East, 35-39 High Street, Aldershot | 7,100 | 2,943.30 | 80 | 2,354.64 | 20 | 588.66 | 235.46 | 31/03/2018 |
| 9000981 | Rowhill Nature Reserve | 95 Cranmore Lane, Aldershot | 1,575 | 707.31 | 80 | 565.85 | 20 | 141.46 | 56.58 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9206467 | Rushmoor Voluntary Services | Community Centre, Farnborough | 12,750 | 6,107.25 | 80 | 4,885.80 | 20 | 1,221.45 | 488.58 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9205534 | Soldiers and Airmens Scripture Readers Association | Havelock House, Barrack Road, Aldershot | 2,375 | 1,285.06 | 80 | 1,028.05 | 20 | 257.01 | 102.80 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9110359 | Rushmoor Gymnastics Academy | Pool Road, Aldershot | 11,500 | 5,508.50 | 80 | 4,406.80 | 20 | 1,101.70 | 440.68 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9111133 | Farnborough Christian Outreach (The Triangle) | 64 Kingsmead, Farnborough | 13,500 | 3,648.54 | 80 | 2,918.83 | 20 | 729.71 | 291.88 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9205672 | Step by Step Partnership Ltd | 36 Crimea Road, Aldershot | 70,500 | 33,769.50 | 80 | 27,015.60 | 20 | 6,753.90 | 2,701.56 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9208665 | Parkside (Fab Café) | Farnborough Library, Pinehurst Avenue | 9,300 | 4,454.70 | 80 | 3,563.76 | 20 | 890.94 | 356.38 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9205023 | Rushmoor Healthy Living | Suite 17 Second Floor The Meads Business Centre, Kingsmead, F | 4,250 | 2,035.75 | 80 | 1,628.60 | 20 | 407.15 | 162.86 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9206386 | The Vine Drop in Centre | The Institute, 33 Station Road, Aldershot | 7,900 | 3,784.10 | 80 | 3,027.28 | 20 | 756.82 | 302.73 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9111721 | Farnborough Air Sciences Trust | 85 Farnborough Road, Farnborough | 55,000 | 23,763.69 | 80 | 19,010.95 | 20 | 4,752.74 | 1,901.10 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9208682 | The Well of Life | Ground Floor Rear, 57 Lynchford Road, Farnborough | 4,750 | 2,275.25 | 80 | 1,820.20 | 20 | 455.05 | 182.02 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9208962 | Limbicare Ltd | Kingsmead Car Park | 6,900 | 3,305.10 | 80 | 2,644.08 | 20 | 661.02 | 264.41 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9209059 | Aldershot Town And District Football In The Community Trust | Unit 3, 48 Camp Road, Farnborough | 2,550 | 1,221.45 | 80 | 977.16 | 20 | 244.29 | 97.72 | 31/03/2022 |
| | | | | 127,091.72 | | 101,673.38 | | 25,418.34 | 10,167.34 | |
| | Large Charitable Organisations with Specific Local Focus | | | | | | | | | |
| 9204865 | Breakthrough Deaf-Hearing Integration | Part Second Floor, 35-39 High Street, Aldershot | 2,350 | 834.01 | 80 | 667.21 | 10 | 83.40 | 33.36 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9002985 | Farnborough CAB | Citizens Advice Bureau, Meudon Avenue, Farnborough | 18,500 | 8,861.50 | 80 | 7,089.20 | 20 | 1,772.30 | 708.92 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9204526 | Aldershot CAB | Ground Floor, 35-39 High Street, Aldershot | 23,500 | 7,942.11 | 80 | 6,353.69 | 20 | 1,588.42 | 635.37 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9204863 | Aldershot CAB | Citizens Advice Bureau Part Second Floor, 35-39 High Street | 9,400 | 3,854.42 | 80 | 3,083.54 | 20 | 770.88 | 308.35 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9007274 | First Wessex | 232 North Lane, Aldershot | 11,000 | 5,015.62 | 80 | 4,012.50 | 10 | 501.56 | 200.62 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9203788 | Royal Aeronautical Society | The Secret Factory Grd Flr Q134 The Hub, Fowler Avenue, Farnborough | 17,500 | 7,355.01 | 80 | 5,884.01 | 10 | 735.50 | 294.20 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9202889 | Royal Aeronautical Society | East Wing Ground Floor The Hub Q134, Fowler Avenue, Farnborough | 37,000 | 17,723.00 | 80 | 14,178.40 | 10 | 1,772.30 | 708.92 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9207735 | Tamba - Twins & Multiple Birth Assoc | Second Floor Manor House, Church Hill, Aldershot | 16,500 | 6,823.64 | 80 | 5,458.91 | 10 | 682.36 | 272.95 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9202477 | Active Nation Uk Limited | Alpine Ski Centre, Galwey Road, Aldershot | 39,000 | 19,767.93 | 80 | 15,814.34 | 15 | 2,965.19 | 1,186.08 | 31/03/2022 |
| | | | | 78,177.24 | | 62,541.79 | | 10,871.92 | 4,348.77 | |
| | Community Amateur Sports Clubs | | | | | | | | | |
| 9001491 | Cove Bowling Club | 53 Horn Road, Farnborough | 6,800 | 3,257.20 | 80 | 2,605.76 | 20 | 651.44 | 260.58 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9000246 | Cove Cricket Club | Grasmere Road, Farnborough | 4,750 | 2,275.25 | 80 | 1,820.20 | 20 | 455.05 | 182.02 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9207269 | Farnborough Gate Bowling Club | Ringwood Road, Farnborough | 5,900 | 2,826.10 | 80 | 2,260.88 | 20 | 565.22 | 226.09 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9205885 | Aldershot And Fleet Rugby Union Football Club Limited | Guildford Road, Aldershot | 11,250 | 5,388.75 | 80 | 4,311.00 | 20 | 1,077.75 | 431.10 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9001837 | Aldershot Cricket Club | Guildford Road, Aldershot | 11,000 | 5,269.00 | 80 | 4,215.20 | 20 | 1,053.80 | 421.52 | 31/03/2022 |
| | | | | 19,016.30 | | 15,213.04 | | 3,803.26 | 1,521.30 | |
| | Sports and Non-Profit Organisations | | | | | | | | | |
| 9001252 | Aldershot Underwood Bowling | Eggars Hill, Aldershot | 4,600 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9203837 | Rushmoor Community Football Club | The Pavilion, Grasmere Road, Farnborough | 13,500 | 3,145.50 | - | - | 50 | 3,145.50 | 1,258.20 | 31/03/2022 |
| 9203884 | Southwood Management Organisation Ltd | Kennels Lane, Farnborough | 6,800 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9003522 | Farnborough Lawn Tennis Club | Tile-Barn Close, Farnborough | 9,000 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9004371 | Enterprise First (Southern) Ltd | 11 Wellington Street, Aldershot | 11,250 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9001895 | Aldershot Dolphins Club | 103 Hawley Lane | 465 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9004435 | Aldershot Traction Co. Athletic Club | The Traction Club, Weybourne Road, Aldershot | 10,750 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9001253 | Aldershot Methodist Tennis Club | Tennis Courts, Eggars Hill, Aldershot | 2,650 | - | - | - | 0 | - | - | *100% SBRE |
| 9206753 | Places For People Leisure Limited | Farnborough Leisure Centre, Westmead, Farnborough | 352,500 | 172,653.39 | - | - | 100 | 172,653.39 | 69,061.36 | Feb-19 |
| 9206754 | Places For People Leisure Limited | Aldershot Pools Complex, Guildford Road, Aldershot | 208,000 | 99,632.00 | - | - | 100 | 99,632.00 | 39,852.80 | Feb-19 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| 9207023 | Boro FC Limited | The Aimita Stadium, Cherrywood Road, Farnborough | 29,500 | 13,747.00 | - | - | 80 | 10,997.60 | 4,399.04 | 31/03/2021 |
| 9207025 | Love Of The Game Ltd T/A Aldershot Town Fc | Recreation Ground, High Street, Aldershot | 41,500 | 19,339.00 | - | - | 80 | 15,471.20 | 6,188.48 | 31/03/2021 |
| | | | | 308,517 | | | | 301,899.69 | 120,759.88 | |
| Discretionary Rate Relief - New Applications | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Billing Number | Name | Address | Rateable Value | Yearly Rates | MR % | MR Value | DR% | DR Value | Cost of Award to RBC | |
| 9209776 | Andover Mind | 121-123 Victoria Road, Aldershot | 15,500 | 4,256.84 | 80 | 3,405.47 | 20 | 851.37 | 340.55 | |
| 9209783 | The Lisa May Foundation | Office 2, Fifth Floor, Arena Business Centre, Farnborough Road | 5,100 | 1,586.21 | 80 | 1,268.97 | 20 | 317.24 | 126.90 | |
| | | | | 5,843.05 | | 4,674.44 | | 1,168.61 | 467.44 | |
| Total Yearly Rates | | | 622,837.58 | | | | | | | |
| Total Mandatory Relief | | | 251,456.55 | | | | | | | |
| Total 20% Top Up Relief | | | 50,750.07 | | | | | | | |
| Total 20% CASC Relief | | | 3,803.26 | | | | | | | |
| Total Sports and Non-Profit | | | 301,899.69 | | | | | | | |
| Total Discretionary Rate Relief | | | 356,453.02 | | | | | | | |
| Total Hardship Relief | | | 2,803.66 | | | | | | | |
| Total Relief Awarded | | | 359,256.68 | | | | | | | |
| Total Cost to RBC | | | 143,702.67 | | | | | | | |

□

New Application for Discretionary Rate Relief

**The Lisa May Foundation
Office 2, Fifth Floor
Arena Business Centre, 282 Farnborough Road
Farnborough, GU14 7NA**

Billing No. 92097834



The Lisa May Foundation is a local charity that supports other selected local charities in Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire, at the same time raising funds for victims of natural disaster across the world.

The charity was founded after Surrey Heath Councillor John May lost his daughter, Lisa to the tsunami that devastated Thailand in 2004.

The Lisa May Foundation were previously based in Surrey Heath but have recently moved their operations to Farnborough, in one of the suites at the recently refurbished Abbey House, now known as Arena Business Centre.

Initially The Lisa May Foundation focused on raising money for victims of natural disasters but in 2011 the foundation was relaunched as an “umbrella charity”, supporting various local charities each year, in addition to helping rebuild the lives of those who have been effected by natural disasters.

The chosen charities work on rotation so as many people are helped as possible, the current causes being supported are: Surrey Young Carers, The Prostate Project, and Parity for Disability.

They also support smaller projects who require minimal cash injections which are Care Uk, Kennel Lane’s Forest School and Farnborough Befrienders.

More information about The Lisa May Foundation can be found at <http://lisamayfoundation.org/>

As a registered charity, The Lisa May Foundation our entitled to 80% mandatory and this application is for 20% discretionary rate relief.

The Lisa May Foundation have been responsible for rates at the Arena Business Centre, since 01 Sep 2017 and their liability for the year 2017-18 = £317.24

If 20% discretionary rate relief were to be awarded the financial effect on Rushmoor BC would be:-

2017/18 = £126.90

If 10% discretionary rate relief were to be awarded the financial effect on Rushmoor BC would be:-

2017/18 = £63.45

The Lisa May Foundation were entitled to 20% Discretionary Rate Relief when they were based in Surrey Heath Council

In their application, The Lisa May Foundation advise the following:-

What are the main objects of the charity?

The relief of financial need and suffering among victims of natural or other kinds of disaster in the form of money (or other means deemed suitable) for persons, bodies, organisations and/or countries affected including the UK.

In what ways is organisation involved at local, regional or national level?

We support many local initiatives of a charitable nature including Parity for Disability, Prostate Project at Frimley Park Hospital and Royal Surrey, The Vine Centre in Aldershot. We have held events in Sainsbury's Farnborough (their charity of the year twice), Princes Mead, The Aldershot Bowl and many others.

What purpose does the organisation use the premises and facilities?

Office Functions

Does the organisation actively encourage membership from under represented members of the community?

We are approached by many needing help. Recently we have helped in particular the Nepalese community with aid to Nepal following the earthquake. We worked with the local branch in Aldershot of BCC UK in particular.

What training or educational facilities are provided for members?

We train our volunteers and take in work experience people including Salesian College, Farnborough 6th Form College and Farnborough Hill.

How would an award of relief to your organisation benefit the local community?

All that we do by raising funds goes to relief aid both locally and further afield on occasions. The lower costs we have, the more we are able to do.

Supporting Information for Discretionary Relief

The Lisa May Foundation have sent a letter to support their application for discretionary rate.



LISA MAY
FOUNDATION

Charity No: 1108763

Supporting Information for Discretionary Relief.

In 2011, we extended our remit to support local charities after our Founder finished his term as Mayor of Surrey Heath. He wanted to help worthy local charities suffering their own waves of disaster as budgets continue to be cut.

As natural disasters do not happen every day, we reached out to organisations locally that need help to continue their great work in our communities, Since then we have taken several local charities under our wing.

The charities we help include; **Parity for Disability** which has centres in Farnborough, Mytchett and Camberley, **The Prostate Project** which supports and treats prostate patients and their families at both **Frimley Park Hospital** and **The Royal Surrey County Hospital** in Guildford. As well as, our **Surrey Young Carers** whom we provide with much needed activity days out.

We also help other one off projects from time to time when funds allow. Most recently we have helped out the **Vine Centre** in Aldershot by donating new warm clothing at Christmas. We have also made hampers for the elderly living on their own to provide them with a few festive treats.

The more we save on overheads and outlay the more we can do for those who really need it.

Please help us do more.

Thank You

Lisa May Foundation

Lisa May Foundation, Abbey House, 282 Farnborough Road, Farnborough, GU14 7NA
Tel: 01276 472000 Email: info@lisamayfoundation.org

New Application for Discretionary Rate Relief

Andover Mind
121 -123 Victoria Road, Aldershot, GU11 1JN

Billing No. 92097763



Andover Mind is a local charity that is a major provider of mental health support services, offering counselling and support.

Andover Mind is affiliated to the national “Mind” network. They have offices in Andover and have recently expanded their operations and opened an office in Aldershot to provide a well-being centre for Hart and Rushmoor.

They are entitled to 20% Discretionary Rate Relief for their offices in Andover.

On their website they advise the following:

One in four of us will experience mental health problems at some time and it's a tough thing to face alone. If you have a mental health problem, or a loved one has, you'll want experienced and compassionate people in your corner offering advice

and information and supporting your journey to recovery.

“We have been working in the local community since 1984 and from very small beginnings. We have grown into a well-respected, major provider of mental health services across North Hampshire. We don’t just help people suffering mental health distress; we are here for anyone who is interested in maintaining or improving their mental well-being”.

Andover Mind mission statement is as follows:

“Andover Mind is a local charity for people who experience, or are affected by, mental health distress. We provide a range of services designed to enable people to achieve their individual potential and to participate in society. We also engage with the local community to promote mental well-being and to challenge stigma and discrimination”.

More information about Andover Mind can be found at <http://www.andovermind.org.uk/>

As a registered charity, Andover Mind our entitled to 80% mandatory and this application is for 20% discretionary rate relief.

Andover Mind have been responsible for rates at 121-123 Victoria Road, Aldershot, since 01 Sep 2017 and their liability for the year 2017-18 = £851.37.

If 20% discretionary rate relief were to be awarded the financial effect on Rushmoor BC would be:-

2017/18 = £340.55

If 10% discretionary rate relief were to be awarded the financial effect on Rushmoor BC would be:-

2017/18 = £170.27

In their application, Andover Mind advise the following:-

What are the main objects of the charity?

Andover Mind is a local charity that is a major provider of mental health support services. We offer counselling, youth counselling, dementia advice and support services. We also run well-being centres across Hampshire. Andover Mind also engages with the local community to promote mental well-being and to challenge stigma and discrimination.

In what ways is organisation involved at local, regional or national level?

Andover Mind is affiliated to the national "Mind network. We work together to provide advice and support to empower those experiencing a mental health problem. We attend local events to promote our work and fundraise. We also promote what we do at local health partnership level.

What purpose does the organisation use the premises and facilities?

As a well-being centre for Hart and Rushmoor. From the centre we run a variety of activities and courses to improve well-being. We also offer counselling and peer support for a whole range of mental health issues. There are two small offices for the administration of the centre.

Are the premises and facilities made available to anyone else

Yes – The safe haven service is run from the building during the evenings and weekends to give support to individuals in mental health crisis to avoid them attending inappropriately at A&E departments.

Does the organisation actively encourage membership from under represented members of the community?

As a mental health charity, we strive to combat and challenge stigma and discrimination, which is part of our organisation values and mission statement. We deliver services following our equal opportunities and equality and diversity policies, which are regularly reviewed. We will specifically be targeting our outreach work in the Ghurkha community

What specific facilities are there for underrepresented members of the community?

We create a welcoming environment in our well-being centres to encourage attendance by all sections of the community no matter how under-represented they may be.

We have a disabled toilet on the ground floor. We have trained support workers who help those with dementia and learning difficulties.

What training or educational facilities are provided for members?

We run mental health awareness training courses both in the well-being centre and in local business, schools and colleges.

We offer adult and youth counselling.

How would an award of relief to your organisation benefit the local community?

We operate a very lean organisation so that the majority of income can be used

directly to deliver the aims and objectives of the organisation. At Andover Mind we believe no one should have to face a mental health problem alone, so we are here for local people whether they are stressed, depressed or in a crisis or just want some ideas about how to look after their mental health.

If we are granted an award of relief that would enable us to deliver increased support to the people of Rushmoor. This could equate to more confidence building and other well-being courses, more peer support, more adult and youth counselling and could pave the way for more outreach work in the Nepali and other minority communities.