

Cabinet - 30 January 2024

Public Questions

1. Question from Councillor B Heatley

Will you be bringing forward before 31 March 2024 a proposal for the Council to charge double council tax on second homes from 2025-26 under section 11C of the Local Government Finance Act 1992?

Response from the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development and Transformation

Thank you for your question, Cllr Brian Heatley. I can confirm that yes, a paper is being brought before Full Council on 13 February that will now progress Cabinets recommendations. Following the enactment of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill we are now able to bring before Full Council the recommendation that Dorset Council sets the resolution to charge a 100% Council Tax premium on second homes from 1 April 2025. The paper will also provide awareness of expected exceptions.

Following the awaited changes in law, the paper will also bring forward Cabinets recommendation that Dorset Council adopt the now permitted change to the commencement point when applying a 100% premium on Long Term Empty and Unoccupied properties. Currently this starts after 2yrs and the recommendation contained with the paper will be that this is changed to commence after 1 year of being Long Term Empty and Unoccupied.