APPENDIX G - DEBT WRITE OFF

Case details- Summary

Name & address of ratepayer	Amount	Period	Reason for write off
Meet In Place	292,849.08	11/02/20 to	Company
Southwark Ltd		22/08/21	dissolved

Statement of account

Amount billed

Period	Amount £
11/02/20-31/03/20	25,770.50
01/04/20-31/03/21	191,520.00
01/04/21-22/08/21	<u>75,558.58</u>
Total amount billed	292,849.08
Payments received	0.00

Balance outstanding £292,849.08

Notices issued

Date	Details
10/02/21	Bill for period 11/02/20-31/03/21
01/03/21	Reminder notice for period 11/02/20-31/03/20
15/03/21	Bill for period 01/04/21-31/03/22
08/04/21	Reminder notice for period 01/04/20-31/03/21
04/05/21	Reminder notice for period 01/04/21-31/03/22
25/05/21	Summons for period 11/02/20-31/03/22
07/12/21	Bill for period 11/02/20-22/08/21 following vacation of property

Details of Case history

The company occupied offices on part of the second floor of the Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street. The business rates team were notified on 25/01/21 of the occupation of the floor by Meet In Place Southwark Ltd and a bill was issued.

On 09/03/21, the ratepayers' agents made an application for Expanded Retail Discount. This was introduced by the government in March 2020 in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Since the property was used for the provision of pre-booked meeting rooms and conference facilities, it did not meet the criteria to be granted the discount and the application was refused.

The ratepayer and their agents disagreed with this decision and following the issue of the summons on 25/05/21, the business rates team received a letter from

solicitors acting on behalf of the ratepayer challenging this. Recovery action was withheld while this was considered.

The information provided was reviewed by the Operations Manager (Income) who upheld the decision to refuse the relief. On 13/08/21, the business rates team received a letter before action from the solicitors acting for the ratepayer. This was sent to the Council's solicitor for his advice, but before any response could be sent the business rates team received notification that the company were going to commence liquidation proceedings.

The company went into liquidation on 23/08/21. Their rate liability was terminated and a proof of debt was lodged with the company dealing with the liquidation. There was no dividend paid to unsecured creditors and the company was dissolved on 14/02/23.