

DECISION NOTICE - CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY RELATED

Key Executive Decision taken by an OFFICER

KEY DECISION Subject: Approval of scheme for the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund

DECISION TAKER:

Name: Clare Fletcher

Job Title: Clare Fletcher Strategic Director (151)

Signature:

Date: 28 May 2020

REASON WHY THIS DECISION DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THE URGENCY PROVISIONS WERE NOT FOLLOWED:

This key decision was taken as part of the Council's emergency response to the national Coronavirus Emergency. Due to the necessary speed of decision taking at this time it was not possible to comply with the Council's Constitution that includes the requirement to give 28 days' notice of the decision to be taken; publish details 5 clear days before the decision was taken; publish the decision within 2 days of it being taken; and provide the 5 day call-in period before implementation. Nor was it possible to comply with the Urgency provisions in the Constitution

DECISION TAKEN:

The decision taken was to implement a scheme for discretionary grants in line with the government guidance. It is time limited and funded by the government based on 5% of the SBRR and Retail scheme announced in March 2020.

The scheme is limited to the funding available and when the £573.8K has been awarded the scheme will lapse.

Applicants have until 11 June 2020 (Midnight) to apply and grants will be awarded thereafter. The government is funding the scheme.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

The council required a policy to administer the scheme and this has been written in line with the government guidance

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The scheme is funded by the government and unused Retail and SBRR grant allocation can be used up to 5% of the original award or the government will fund the scheme up to the maximum of £573,800.

The scheme is designed to use all, but not exceed the funding by not fixing the minimum amount of grant. The funding will be distributed amongst applying businesses and the maximum grant will be £10,000 and the level of funding will depend on demand.

KEY DECISION Subject: Approval of scheme for the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The scheme is discretionary but guidance has been published by the government and the only local part of the scheme is set out in the report. As there are discretionary elements within the scheme it is prudent to have the policy approved.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

EIA screening identified no differential adverse impact as follows:

Characteristic	Differential Impact
Age	None
Disability	None
Gender	None
Gender re-assignment	None
Marriage or civil partnership	None
Pregnancy or maternity	None
Race	None
Religion	None
Sexual orientation	None

CONSULTATIONS:

SBC internal COVID Resources cell - concur

Strategic Leadership Team - concur

Council Leader (Sharon Taylor) and Portfolio Holder (Joan Lloyd) - concur

Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I agree that this decision was reasonable in all the circumstances, was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred

I further agree that any delay likely to be caused by the call -in process would prejudice the Council's or the public interest and that the decision should not therefore be subject to call-in.

Signed:

Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date:

DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION: 28 May 2020