

## Background Information for Emergency Expenditure Request

Emergency: Coronavirus 2020  
Subject: Discretionary Business Grant Scheme  
Date: 28 May 2020  
Chief Officer: Jim Carrington-West

### Council Constitution

#### Appendix D - Financial Procedure Rules

#### 2d. Emergency Expenditure

##### Why is this important?

The Council needs to have in place a procedure for meeting immediate needs in the case of an emergency situation arising in the District.

##### General

**2.32** The Chief Executive and s.151 Officer/Chief Finance Officer shall have the authority to approve expenditure on any item which is essential to meet any immediate needs created by an emergency or which is referable to Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1972, subject to a subsequent report to Cabinet and/or Full Council depending on whether or not the expenditure can be met from within the current budget framework.

**2.33** The Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council together with the Leader or Deputy Leader of Council, having received a report from the Chief Executive and the Chief Executive and s.151 Officer/Chief Finance Officer, shall have power to incur expenditure which is essential to meet any immediate needs created by an emergency or which is referable to Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1972 (or other subsequent legislation) which is not otherwise authorised or where it is necessary in the Council's interest to settle legal proceedings which have been commenced against the Council. A subsequent report shall be submitted to Cabinet and/or the full Council depending on whether or not the expenditure can be met from within the current budget framework.

### Detail

In response to the Coronavirus, COVID-19, the government announced there would be support for small businesses, and businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors, delivered through the Small Business Grant Fund and the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant Fund.

This additional fund is aimed at small and micro businesses who were not eligible for the Small Business Grant Fund or the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Fund.

It is for individual authorities to adopt a local scheme and to determine in each individual case when, having regard to the guidance issued on 23 May 2020, to provide grants under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

It is imperative that we deliver much needed support to the business community in the form of grants to preserve the local economy

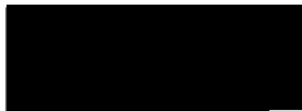
### **Financial Impact**

Central government will provide a finite amount of funding, approximately £1.2m for the provision of grants that fall within the guidance and local scheme set out in Appendices A and B. The funding will be by way of a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Requesting Chief Officer: Jim Carrington-West - Customer and Resources

Approval

Chief Executive:



Chief Officer - Finance and Trading:

