

Officer Decision Statement

Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095

Subject:	Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grants (OHLG) and COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF)
Key Decision	Yes
Notice of the Key Decision	Notice has been given as per Regulation 11 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012
Details of Decision taken	
<p>The endorsement of the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grants (OHLG) and COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF) Schemes providing payments or reliefs to those businesses within the District who meet the eligibility criteria set out within the relevant policies.</p> <p>The new support schemes have been developed in response to an announcement made by Government which sets out circumstances whereby a payment may be made by the Council to a business that has met the criteria in the accompanying guidance and relevant policies.</p>	
Reason for Decision	
<p>With the special circumstances surrounding the impact on businesses as a result of restrictions due to coronavirus (Covid 19), the Council must deliver on the Government direction quickly in line with Government guidance and legislation.</p>	
Reason for Urgency	
<p>In order to have a positive and immediate impact it is not possible to wait until the next meeting of Cabinet and following government advice, prudent to mitigate the impact on local businesses</p> <p>An urgent decision is required on the adoption of these schemes. It is imperative that we are ready to take applications and process payments in the timeframe mandated by Government.</p> <p>Pursuant to Appendix C, paragraph 18 of the Council's Constitution, it is deemed that the decision proposed is reasonable in these circumstances to be treated as a matter of urgency and the call-in procedure does not apply.</p>	
All Documents considered:	
Scheme documents attached	

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Officer when making the Decision: None.

Financial implications

Central government will provide funding of for both the main scheme and for the discretionary element, by way of a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

This decision is taken by the Chief Executive acting in accordance with Paragraph 12 (d) of Part 13 of the Constitution, which authorises him as follows:

(d) In cases of urgency, after consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council [and, where possible, the Leader(s) of the Opposition], to take any decision which could be taken by the Cabinet or by a Committee and to report such actions to Cabinet or Committee as appropriate.

Furthermore, this being an urgent Key Decision, Notice has been duly given and the agreement of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee has been sought to enable the decision to proceed as per Regulation 11(1)(a) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012.

Furthermore, this being an urgent Key Decision, the agreement of the Chairman of the Council has been sought to disapply the call-in procedure set out in Paragraph 18 of Appendix C of the Constitution, for the reasons set out in Paragraphs 18.13 - 18.18.

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Local Member(s), Portfolio Holders and/or Chief Officer/Heads of Service Consulted

Councillors Fleming and Dickins
Chief Officer - Customer and Resources

Agreement of Chairman of Scrutiny Committee pursuant to 11 (1)(a) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings

and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012, obtained on: On 18/01/2022

Agreement of the Chairman of the Council pursuant to Appendix C, para.18.16 of the Council's Constitution, obtained on:

On 18/01/2022

Details of any conflicts of interest

a) declared by any member who was consulted or was part of the body giving specific express authorisation

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict

Decision taken by:

The Chief Executive

Signed by Officer



Date of Decision

18/01/22

Record made by:

Charlie Sinclair

Date of record:

19/01/22

This decision takes immediate effect