

URGENT DECISIONS

Head of Service: Rod Brown, Head of Housing & Community
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Wards affected: (All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Appendices (attached):

Summary

To report to the committee two decisions taken by one of the Directors and / or Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the urgent decisions taken and the reasons for that decision.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To report to the Council decisions taken by one of the Directors and / or the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

2 Background

- 2.1 The scheme of delegation sets out that the Chief Executive and Directors are authorised to take decisions on grounds of urgency regarding matters which would otherwise be reserved for determination by a Committee or Council. A matter can be deemed urgent if, in the reasonable opinion of the officer concerned, a delay would seriously prejudice the interest of the Council or of the public and it is not practicable to convene a quorate meeting of the relevant decision-making body in sufficient time to take the decision.

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- 2.2 Since the last ordinary meeting of the Community and Wellbeing Committee two urgent decisions have been taken by one of the Directors or the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair, Cllr Clive Woodbridge (in the case of decision 154, the Chair of Strategy and Resources committee, Cllr Neil Dallen was consulted on the decision as well) and published in Member News in line with the Council's Constitution, Appendix 2, Paragraph 3.1. iii. The decisions are set out below:

2.2.1 **Decision 149** – Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) consultation

2.2.2 **Urgency reason for decision 149** – The consultation response deadline is 11th March, which is before the next scheduled meeting of C&W committee.

2.2.3 **Decision 154** – Postponement of committee decision relating to a charitable organisation operating in the borough, to consider further information which has been supplied, and act accordingly.

2.2.4 **Urgency reason for decision 154** – To minimise unnecessary hardship and uncertainty to a voluntary organisation – decision needed by 14th May 2025. Due to human error, there was a delay in publishing this to all members by one month. We have now clarified the process to those involved to ensure this does not happen again.

2.2.5 The decision affects both committees as the 25/26 budget for S&R assumed an income budget for the property affected whereas in the past this income has been met from expenditure budgets in C&W committee. The issue has been further discussed at the special meeting of the C&W committee on the 17th June.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None arising directly from this report

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None arise from this report

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None arise from this report

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None arise from this report

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3.5 Other

3.5.1 none

4 Financial Implications

4.1 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** Finance are consulted as part of the urgent decision-making process.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 **Legal Officer's comments:** Legal are consulted as part of the urgent decision-making process.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- N/A

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** None.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** None.

6.5 **Partnerships:** N/A

6.6 **Local government reorganisation (LGR) implications:** There are no implications from LGR for this report.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- None.

Other papers:

- None.