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| **REPORT TO** | **ON** | |
| **Cabinet** | **20 January 2021** | |
|  | | |
| **TITLE** | | **REPORT OF** | |
| **Urgent Decision Taken Due to COVID-19 Pandemic** | | **Shared Services Lead - Democratic, Scrutiny and Electoral Services** | |

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| Is this report confidential? | **No** |

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To formally report to Cabinet on the urgent decision taken in accordance with the Council’s constitution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Cabinet is asked to note the report.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To ensure Cabinet is made aware of the urgent decision taken in accordance with the Council’s constitution.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

1. Not applicable to this report. Alternative options were included in the individual urgent decision report considered.

**CORPORATE OUTCOMES**

1. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| An exemplary council | 🗸 | Thriving communities |  |
| A fair local economy that works for everyone |  | Good homes, green spaces, healthy places |  |

**BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Council was required to cancel all Member meetings. It was therefore necessary to use the urgent decision procedure. Whilst hybrid meetings commenced some urgent decisions have been required primarily linked with the pandemic.
2. The constitution allows for urgent decisions to be taken by the relevant Cabinet Member.
3. Additionally it was decided that the Scrutiny Chair should confirm that he was satisfied that there was genuine urgency before any urgent decision was taken (rather than just where decisions might be outside the budget or policy framework as required in the constitution).
4. Urgent decisions were only taken where this was absolutely necessary and where possible advance notice was provided that the decision was to be taken in the weekly update sent to all Members.
5. In order to provide full transparency the decision reports and notices are published on the Council’s website and again made available to all Members.

**PROPOSALS**

1. Cabinet is asked to note the following urgent decision, which was taken in accordance with the Council’s constitution:

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| 17 December 2020 | Christmas Support Payments |

A copy of the report and decision notice were published when the urgent decision was taken and are available by following this weblink:

<https://southribble.moderngov.co.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13240>

**RISK**

1. None as a result of this report. Risk issues were included in the individual urgent decision report considered.

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

1. None as a result of this report. Equality and diversity impact was included in the individual urgent decision report considered.

**AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

1. None as a result of this report. Implications were included in the individual urgent decision report considered.

**COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER**

1. This report informs Cabinet of the urgent decisions taken. Statutory Finance Officer comments were provided on the urgent decision taken.

**COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

1. We are satisfied that the decision that has been made is in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution. Clearly the exceptional circumstances we were confronted with required a more extensive use of urgency powers than would normally be the case.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS (or There are no background papers to this report)**

The individual urgent decision report mentioned above is available by following this weblink:

<https://southribble.moderngov.co.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13240>

**APPENDICES**

None.

Darren Cranshaw

Shared Services Lead – Democratic, Scrutiny and Electoral Services

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