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| **REPORT TO** | **ON** | |
| **Council** | **27 January 2021** | |
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| **TITLE** | | **REPORT OF** | |
| **Urgent Decisions 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 Council on the urgent decisions taken in accordance with the Council’s constitution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Council is asked to note the report.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To ensure the Council is made aware of the urgent decisions 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 reports 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 in accordance with the Council’s Constitution. Whilst hybrid meetings were taking place some urgent decisions have been required primarily linked with the pandemic.
2. The constitution allows for urgent decisions to be taken. 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).
3. 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.
4. In order to provide full transparency the decision reports and notices were published on the Council’s website.

**PROPOSALS**

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

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| 19 November 2020 | Test and Trace Support Payment of £500 |
| 24 November 2020 | Holiday Hunger Scheme – Christmas 2020 |
| 3 December 2020 | Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Grant Bid  Application |
| 4 December 2020 | COVID19 Additional Restrictions Grant and LRSG Open Grant |
| 17 December 2020 | Christmas COVID-19 Support Payments |

A copy of the reports and decision notices were published when the urgent decisions were 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 reports considered.

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

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

**AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

**COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER**

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

**COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

1. We are satisfied that the decisions that have been made are 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**

Individual urgent decisions reports listed above are available by following this weblink:

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

**APPENDICES**

There are no appendices to this report.

Darren Cranshaw

Shared Services Lead – Democratic, Scrutiny & Electoral Services

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