

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer (Introduced by Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform))	Council	Wednesday, 25 January 2023

## Urgent Decisions

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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## Purpose of the Report

- This report informs Council of a number of urgent decisions taken since 23 September 2022 in accordance with the urgency procedures, as outlined in the Council's constitution.
- These urgent decisions include:
  - "key" decisions taken by the Executive and decisions which contained confidential or exempt information where 28 day notice had not been given on the Cabinet Forward Plan/ Notice of Executive Decisions;
  - Urgent reports taken to Cabinet;
  - Urgent decisions taken outside the budget and policy framework;
  - Urgent decisions for which the Mayor agreed to waive Scrutiny call-in and
  - Urgent decisions taken under Section 35 of the Council's Constitution

## Recommendations to Council

- Council are asked to note the report.

## Reasons for recommendations

- In accordance with the Council's Constitution, this report informs Council of any decisions which have been taken under the following urgency procedures:

#### **Part 4C - Reports on Special Urgency Decisions to Council & General Exceptions**

- **19.1** The Leader must submit a report to the next available Council meeting setting out the details of any executive decision taken as a matter of special urgency under the procedure set out in Rule 18 (Key Decision - Special Urgency).
- **19.2** The Cabinet must prepare a report to the next available Council meeting setting out the details of any executive decision taken without giving 28 days' notice under the procedure set out in Rule 17 (Key Decision – General Exception).

#### **Part 4F – Scrutiny Procedure Rules - Call In and Urgency**

- **11.14.** All decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency. The next available meeting of the Scrutiny Committee will review the process for agreeing the urgent decision and make appropriate recommendations.

#### **Part 4A Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders)**

- **Delegation of Urgent Decisions between Meetings of the Cabinet or a Committee**

Where a need for urgent action arises between meetings of a committee, but it is not considered to be sufficient justification for calling a special meeting or calling such a meeting would not be possible for any reason, such decisions may be taken by the Chief Executive (or other designated officer). The Chief Executive (or other designated officer) shall first consult the chairman or vice chairman of the concerned committee and, if the concerned committee could not itself decide the matter under delegated powers, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council.

In circumstances where the offices of the chairman and vice-chairman of the concerned committee, or the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council are unfilled, the Chief Executive (or other designated officer) shall first consult the Mayor before taking an urgent decision. Such consultation shall be in written form and the decision shall be reported to the next scheduled meeting of the Cabinet or committee as appropriate.

#### **Other options considered and rejected**

5. None, for the reasons given above.

#### **Corporate priorities**

6. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

<b>An exemplary council</b>	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

## Background to the report

7. Following the meeting of Council on 22 September 2022, the following decisions were taken under the Council's urgency procedures, as detailed below.

## Details of urgent decisions taken in accordance with the Constitution

Decision	Date and Decision Maker	Reasons for urgency
Modern Polling (General Exception Procedure)	December 2022  Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform)	It was impracticable for the decision to be on the Cabinet Forward Plan for at least 28 days as a decision to commit a contract was required within seven days in order to acquire the system for May 2024 elections.

## Climate change and air quality

9. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

## Equality and diversity

10. There are no Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and Equality Act implications arising from this report.

## Risk

11. None.

## Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

12. The Chief Finance Officer (s151) comments have been included on all the urgent decisions referenced in this report.

## Comments of the Monitoring Officer

13. No comments.

## Background documents

Council Constitution – [Mod.Gov link to Decisions page](#)

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
Coral Astbury (Democratic and Member Services Officer)	coral.astbury@southribble.gov.uk	01772 625308	9 January 2023