

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

This is a record of a decision taken by the officers under delegated powers and where necessary taken in consultation with members and officers.

Delegated Power

Cabinet: 17 November 2020

Para 13:

That authority be delegated to the Revenues and Benefits Manager, in consultation with the s151 Officer and Council Leader, to decide the discretionary criteria for government Covid-19 support schemes and discounts where they:

- Are part of a central government Covid-19 support initiative,
- Are funded by central government, and
- Will be administered by the Revenues and Benefits section

Decision Taken

Creation of the policy for Phase 4 of the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) announced by government as part of the Nation Lockdown response in November 2020.

Phase 4 includes provision to provide wider business support initiatives including allocation of;

- £500,000 minimum towards a 'Refresh & Reopen' Grant scheme for eligible businesses.
- Go Digital programme with Norfolk County Council
- Top up to the intervention rate for West Norfolk businesses to the New Anglia LEP Small Business Grants programme.

Updated guidance from government on 22 March 2021 advised that existing allocation must be spent by 30 June 2021 before Local Authorities can access a top-up allocation. Therefore any remaining spend of the current allocation once the ARG Restart grants have been awarded will go towards the above wider business support schemes to enable spend of the current allocation.

This phase of the ARG will be administered under the direction of the Regeneration Programmes Manager rather than by Revenues and Benefits section.

Reasons for the Decision

To agree the policy for wider business support from the existing ARG allocation to support businesses from the impacts of Covid-19.

To ensure that the existing ARG allocation is spent by 30 June 2021 so that BCKLWN can access a top-up allocation.

Options considered

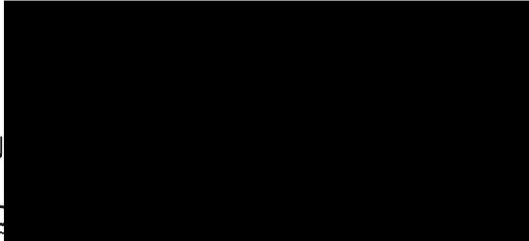
This policy sits alongside the other funding support provided to businesses and provides for wider business support.

Any declarations of interest and details of any dispensations granted in respect of interests.

Not applicable

Recommended by

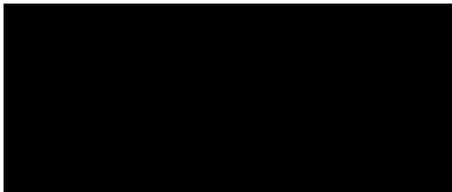
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Authorisation

Signature



Michelle Drewery, s151 Officer

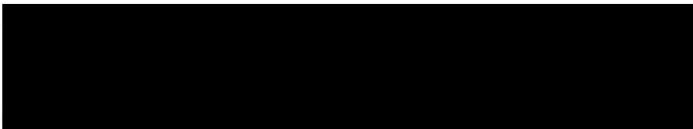
Date 16 April 2021

Consultation with members/officers

If the decision is taken following consultation with the members/officers, please give details:

Consultation with the Council Leader, Councillor Brian Long

Signed by Member as consulted:



Date 16/4/21

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



Name of policy/service/function	Covid-19 Additional Restrictions Grant Policy Phase 1 – November 2020				
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?	New				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	The policy specifies the criteria for the categories of business and trader to be paid a discretionary grant as their businesses has been affected by Covid-19.				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			√	
	Disability			√	
	Gender			√	
	Gender Re-assignment			√	
	Marriage/civil partnership			√	
	Pregnancy & maternity			√	
	Race			√	
	Religion or belief			√	
	Sexual orientation			√	
Other (eg low income)			√		
Question	Answer	Comments			
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	No				
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	No				
4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	No				
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	N/A	Actions:			
		Actions agreed by EWG member:Jo Stanton.....			
Assessment completed by: Name Joanne Stanton					
Job title Revenues and Benefits Manager	Date 23 November 2020				