

Executive Emergency Provision

This decision is to be made by the Chief Executive pursuant to the following provisions in Part 3 Paragraph 9.3.2.:

“Exceptionally,..... notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, the Chief Executive shall be authorised to exercise either executive or non-executive functions where the matter is urgent unless this is prohibited by law.”

The current situation in respect of the Coronavirus: COVID 19 is an exceptional circumstance.

National Non Domestic Rates: To approve discretionary rate relief schemes for 2020/21

Approval is being sought:

- (1) To approve the NNDR Discretionary Scheme – Covid-19 Response Scheme for 2020/21 as detailed in section 3 and in Appendix 1 of the accompanying report pursuant to the Council's powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended.
- (2) To delegate authority to the Director of Finance to implement the scheme as detailed in Appendix 1 and any such further changes brought forward by government in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic and NNDR.
- (3) To note that a further report will be presented to Cabinet on the operation of the scheme after 6 months, i.e. for the period April to September 2020 in the autumn of 2020 and that the council will be reimbursed by government in due course.

The decision proposed in this report is urgent in current circumstances for the following reasons:

- The creation of the schemes in this report is urgent in providing rate reduction and grants to businesses in the borough. The response to the Covid-19 pandemic requires urgent support is provided to businesses.
- This decision is a key decision and any delay in implementing it would seriously prejudice the Council's or the Public Interest within the meaning of Standing Order 14. The provision for call-in of key decisions under Standing Order 14 shall therefore not apply to this decision.

Approved by: Chief Executive

Signed: *C. Downs*

Date: 30th March 2020

Date Leader or Deputy Leader, relevant Lead Member and Leader of the Opposition notified of decision made: