

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Leader of the Council (Cllr Pat Hackett)

KEY DECISION YES

PORTFOLIO AREA: Leader

PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: Leadership

WARDS AFFECTED: All

SUBJECT: Coronavirus Contingency Planning

1. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

- (a) The executive (Leader and Cabinet) priorities of the Council are amended to simply be:
 - (i) preservation of life;
 - (ii) supporting the vulnerable;
 - (iii) safeguarding children; and
 - (iv) aiding the Borough's businesses and economyduring this period that contingency planning is required to respond to an emergency situation and manage the effects of a covid-19 epidemic.
- (b) Without prejudice to the current Executive Scheme of Delegation, which is noted and endorsed,:
 - (i) the Head of Paid Service is authorised to take any action in furtherance of the priorities set out at (a) above, acting in consultation with the Leader, Cabinet member and/or Group Leaders wherever it is reasonable and practicable in the opinion of the Head of Paid Service to do so; and
 - (ii) the Head of Paid Service and each Director is authorised to take any action that that officer considers is reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety or welfare of individuals.
- (c) That the Council's action to date in response to the covid-19 outbreak are noted and supported.

2. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council is acting of its own volition and in support of the Government and NHS in responding to an emergency situation and manage the effects of a covid-19 epidemic. A severe pandemic could infect up to 80% of the population leading to a reduced workforce, increased pressure on health and social support and various important Council and community services. In these circumstances it is considered important to clarify the

Councils' priorities in undertaking its contingency planning and to enable the Authority to deal with decision making in a lawful and speedy manner in the coming months.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There are none.

<p>Signed: </p> <p>Executive Member: Leader of the Council</p> <p>Date: 24 March, 2020</p> <p>Also present:</p>	<p>Signed: </p> <p>Chief Officer: Paul Satoor</p> <p>Date: 24 March 2020</p>
<p>Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s): n/a</p>	

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

Contact Officer:

Date:

Date of Publication: