

EXECUTIVE MEETING ON 2 JUNE 2020



DECISION SHEET

Record of decisions made by the Executive pursuant to Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Date of publication: 4 June 2020

** Executive decisions will not be implemented until the expiry of 5 working days to take account of the Call-In procedure.*

<u>No.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Reasons for the Decision</u>	<u>Details of alternative options considered and rejected at a meeting</u>	<u>Any declarations of conflict of interest and/or dispensations granted</u>
8	Financial Update	(a) That the potential impacts of Covid 19 on the	So that the Executive is aware of the council's financial position, in order that they may take	The main content of the report is for noting; the second recommendation	

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		<p>budget for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial Plan be noted.</p> <p>(b) That authority be given to Heads of Service to agree the deferment of any business related fees and charges where a business can demonstrate that payment would cause</p>	<p>reasoned and informed decisions.</p>	<p>covers possible deferment of business related fees and charges for which there are various options. The options range from waiving amounts rather than deferral of such amounts, to offering no help. These options were rejected, in favour of a middle path of allowing Heads of Service discretion to defer charges in</p>	

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		immediate financial hardship.		proven cases of financial hardship.	
9	Noting the decision of the Chief Executive to approve a scheme for the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund taken under urgency provisions	(a) That the decision to approve the scheme, taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, is noted. (b) That delegated authority is granted to the Head of Revenues &	In accordance with the Government's response to Covid - 19 supports for Business, the local authority is required to determine a scheme to allocate the funding made available under the discretionary grant fund.	Various alternatives could be explored but the time delay incurred is considered detrimental to the objective of giving financial support to businesses in need. Consequently very little variation from the Governments core scheme was proposed.	Councillor J Wyllie declared a pecuniary interest, as the owner of a small business in the district.

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		Benefit Service, in consultation with the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability, to revise the scheme if all the available funds are not allocated under the proposed scheme criteria.			
10	Loan to SLM - report of decision taken by Chief	(a) To approve a loan to SLM of the sum set out	Without the loan, the company does not have the reserves to pay its	An option was to not provide a loan, this would invoke a	

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	Executive	<p>in the exempt from publication Appendix B to this report, to support the cost of SLM's payroll costs for furloughed staff for April 2020 only.</p> <p>(b)To approve funding for a further loan of £16,171 in April, £12,391 in May and £10,578 in June 2020</p>	<p>staff. In line with its corporate approach to contract management the Council would seek to work in partnership to support SLM's ability to retain staff where practically possible in readiness of the re-opening of facilities. This approach is in line with procurement advice issued by the Government on supporting key contractors.</p>	<p>Force Majeure event as SLM would have no means of trading and therefore delivering the operational management of East Herts Leisure Centres.</p> <p>A further option was to make a loan for the April 2020 payroll costs and not the core staff. This was likely to result in a much longer lead in time for the facilities to</p>	

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		(subject to a monthly review of Government instructions) to support the cost of a core team of staff carrying out essential maintenance of East Herts leisure centres.		re-open and would have impacted SLM's ability to repay the Council in a timely manner.	