

# CABINET MEETING

DATE: 23 June 2020

**NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO TAKE AN URGENT KEY DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS) (MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 AND THE FOLLOWING RULE(S) IN THE FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION:-**

**Part 6.4, 'Cabinet Access to Information Procedure Rules' – Rule 13 'Special Urgency'.**

**Part 7.7, 'Overview and Scrutiny Rules and Procedures' – Rule 7, 'Call-in and urgency'**

## **Folkestone & Hythe District Discretionary COVID-19 Business Grant Scheme**

This report sets out revised proposals for how Folkestone & Hythe will use the additional 5% 'top-up' to the funding for Small Business Grant (SBG) and Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant (RLHG) schemes allocated to local authorities for a discretionary COVID-19 business grant scheme

### **NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT:**

1. The decision on the matter outlined above cannot practically be deferred until the publicity requirements for key decisions can be met. Neither can the decision be deferred in order for the publicity requirements to be met under the 'General Exception' Rule (Folkestone and Hythe District Council Constitution, Part 6.4, Rule 12) because:

This is an urgent decision because many businesses in the district are facing dire financial issues due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. It is therefore necessary to be able to award a discretionary grant to eligible businesses as soon as possible.

As per Part 7 of the constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure rules), call-in shall not apply where the decision being taken is urgent and any delay, likely to be caused by the call-in process, would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest.

2. The decision will therefore be taken by the Leader on the date shown above.
3. The Leader has obtained the agreement of the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the taking of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.
4. This decision will be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.



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A Key Decision is any decision:

- (a) Relating to the approval of or variation to the Council's Budget or Policy Framework which is reserved in the Council's Constitution for determination by full Council on a recommendation from Cabinet; or
- (b) Which involves the incurring of expenditure, or the making of savings, by the Council, which are anticipated to be in excess of £300,000 with the exception of items previously included in the relevant approved budget ; or
- (c) Where the Council is entering into a contractual obligation with a value in excess of £500,000; or
- (d) For the acquisition or disposal of land or property with a value of over £500,000; or
- (e) Which is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the Council's area.

A decision will not be a key decision if it relates to expenditure, income or savings that:

- a) Has been approved previously by full Council; or
- b) Has been approved previously, following compliance with the key decision procedure; or
- c) Is in accordance with the current treasury management and investment policy of the Council.