



Surrey Heath Borough Council Scheme of Delegation of Functions to Officers

Urgent Action Form – Executive Function

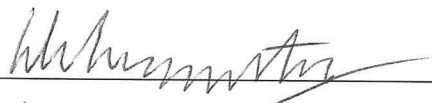
Consultation by Chief Executive or Executive Head of Service or Head of Service involved with relevant Portfolio Holder or Leader of the Council and Chairman (or Vice Chairman) of the relevant Scrutiny Committee

To Councillor	Cllr Colin Dougan						
Portfolio Holder for	Economic Development						
Proposal	<p>To provide a two phased grant scheme to support businesses in Surrey Heath in line with the Additional Restrictions Grant funding scheme announced by HM Government following the decision to go into a second national Lockdown.</p> <p>Provision of this 2 phased approach will allow for businesses to access money straight away, whilst consideration is made for the wider more valuable scheme.</p> <p>The purpose of this Urgent Action is to approve Phase One, so it can be launched w/c 9th November 2020.</p> <p>Phase one, will be available during lockdown to those businesses forced to close who are not able to trade, and like the support of the Discretionary Grant Scheme available after Lockdown 1.</p> <p>This scheme will be available for the duration of the 28-day lockdown.</p> <p>Phase one is estimated to use approximately £150,000 - £200,000 of the available funding</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Eligibility</td><td>Grant per 28 days of lockdown</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fixed costs (Rent or Mortgage, Council tax) above £51,000 per annum</td><td>£3,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fixed costs (Rent or Mortgage, Council tax) above £15,000 but below £51,000 per annum</td><td>£2,000</td></tr> </table>	Eligibility	Grant per 28 days of lockdown	Fixed costs (Rent or Mortgage, Council tax) above £51,000 per annum	£3,000	Fixed costs (Rent or Mortgage, Council tax) above £15,000 but below £51,000 per annum	£2,000
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	<p>Fixed costs (Rent or Mortgage, Council tax) under £15,000</p> <p>£1,334</p>
	<p>Full guidance on eligibility will be in line with that of the discretionary grants –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The business must have been trading from on or before the National Lockdown was announced on the 31st October 2020 • The business must not be in Liquidation, administration or have a strike off notice against the company • The business must have been forced to close and cannot trade (through online delivery & collection etc) therefore have no income due to the lockdown. <p>Phase two, a more detailed scheme whereby any business within Surrey Heath can apply for funding if it has been financially impacted by the Pandemic. This Scheme is to be developed and brought forward for consideration and approval in the coming weeks.</p> <p>This scheme can run throughout the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years.</p> <p>Considerations for the development Scheme will include but not exclusive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on income above a specified percentage • Number of employees • Sector • Viability of the business <p>We will also consult with colleagues across Surrey and EM3 Area to ensure that all aspects of the wider economic impacts have been considered.</p> <p>Both schemes will be available to businesses who received grants in the first round of grants, However phase one will only be available to those who are being forced to close and cannot trade, and cannot access the schemes administered through the Business Rates system.</p>
Background	<p>To provide financial support to businesses during and beyond the second national lockdown for England due to the Covid-19 pandemic, HM Government released guidance on grant funding</p>

	<p>schemes being made available to businesses affected due to both enforced closures and general economic impact.</p> <p>This paper refers to the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) which is appended to this paper which leaves the design of a scheme wholly down to individual local authorities.</p> <p>An allocation for this fund is based on £20 per head of population and estimates based on the current population estimate is £1,786,000 (£20 x 89,300)</p> <p>The Scheme, in short, will allow for grants to be paid to any business within the Borough which has been impacted financially by the pandemic.</p> <p>To enable a full and proper review of what is needed within the Borough it is proposed that we prepare a two-phase approach in allocating this funding as set out above.</p>
Options	<p>To approve the Action, and agree to Delegated Authority for Phase 2 to the PFH for Economic Development and the Executive Head of Transformation</p> <p>To Approve the Action with recommendations</p> <p>To refuse the Action and wait for a full scheme to be developed</p>
Risk of delaying the decision	No immediate access to funding for small businesses outside of the rating system who have been forced to close and cannot trade.
Legal advice	N/A
Resource implication	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>Media and Communications</p> <p>Business Rates</p> <p>Finance</p>
Contact Officer for further information	Teresa Hogsbjerg – Economic Development Manager

Signed



Dated 10/11/2020

Name: officer

Louise Livingston

Executive Head Transformation.

I agree with the above action proposed

Signed *by email*

Dated

Portfolio Holder for *Business + Transformation*

On behalf of the Scrutiny Committee, I agree with the above action proposed. I recognise that if this decision is taken by the appropriate officer as a matter of urgency, there will be no opportunity for the decision to be scrutinised by the Scrutiny Committee before its implementation.

Signed *by email*

Dated

Chairman/~~Vice-Chairman~~ of *Performance + Finance* Committee