

This report will be made public on 15 February 2022



Report Number **A/21/23**

**To:** Council  
**Date:** 23 February 2022  
**Status:** Non- Executive Decision  
**Head of Paid Service:** Susan Priest  
**Responsible Officer:** Amandeep Khroud, Assistant Director – Governance, Law and Regulatory Services

**SUBJECT: REPORT TO COUNCIL ON A DECISION MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION'S CALL-IN AND URGENCY' RULE**

**SUMMARY:** The constitution provides that, when an urgent decision is made by the Cabinet or Cabinet Member, for which any delay in implementation, likely to be caused by the call-in process, would seriously prejudice the Council's or public interest, then the 'Call-in Rules of Procedure', Part 6.3, rules 1-6 do not apply. Decisions, taken as a matter of urgency, must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

This report is recommended to Council, to note for information, in accordance with the constitution, Part 6.3, rule 7.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. To receive and note report A/21/23.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The constitution (paragraph 7, part 7.3, Call-In Rules of Procedure) provides that, when an urgent decision is made, for which any delay in implementation, likely to be caused by the call-in process, would seriously prejudice the Council's or public interest, then the call-in rules of procedure, Part 6.3, rules 1 to 6, do not apply. Decisions, taken as a matter of urgency, must be reported to the next available meeting of the council, together with the reasons for urgency.
- 1.2 On 21 January 2021, the Leader of the Council considered Report C/21/73, which set out proposals for how Folkestone & Hythe district council will use recent government funding awarded to the Additional Restrictions Grant scheme to support local businesses severely affected by the COVID Omicron variant from December 2021. The Leader made the following resolution:
1. **To adopt the criteria and approach outlined in this report for the Folkestone & Hythe COVID Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) scheme following the recent financial award made by Government in response to the impact of the COVID Omicron variant.**
  2. **To agree that the final decision to award Additional Restrictions Grants and any subsequent changes required to the eligibility criteria is delegated to the Director of Place in consultation with the Leader.**
- 1.3 It was necessary to take the decision under the constitution's 'Call in and Urgency' rule (Part 6.3, rule 7) for the reasons shown below:

Decisions on awarding all of these ARG funds are required by 31 March 2022. There are application and technical assessment processes that are required before any decisions can be made. This is time consuming, particularly given the limited resources within the Economic Development team to undertake this work. In order to ensure that the deadline is met we need to promote the grants and seek applications as a matter of urgency.

## 2 LEGAL, FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

### 2.1 Legal Officer's comments (AK)

There are no legal issues arising from this report.

### 2.2 Finance Officer's comments (LW)

The financial implications of this report were addressed in cabinet report C/21/73 to which this relates.

### 2.3 Diversity and Equalities Implications (ST)

There are no diversity and equality implications arising from this report.

## 3 CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting:

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The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

None