



Special Urgent Decision Taken by Chief Executive

Published on 17 March 2022

Decision: Additional Restrictions Grants Policy – grant payment levels

Decision taker: Chief Executive

Decision Date: 8 March 2022

Is decision subject to Call-in? No (urgent decision, call-in waived)

Deadline for Call-in: N/A

Is decision exempt? No

Is decision urgent? Yes

Summary

The Chief Executive took an urgent decision in January 2022 (reported to 7 March Executive) to adopt an Additional Restrictions Grants (ARG) Policy in response to the Omicron variant in line with Government guidance. The policy did not include the level of grant payments that would be made to businesses as the council needed to know how many applications there were in advance so as not to have a bill that exceeded the level of grant remaining.

Based on the number of applications received, it is now possible to set the grant levels for this element of the council's ARG scheme on a basis that mirrors the mandatory omicron grants, which is consistent with the approach the council has taken throughout with ARG rounds.

An urgent decision needs to be taken by the Chief Executive because the grants must be paid by 31 March 2022 or the money must be returned to the Government. A report notifying Executive of the urgent decision will be submitted to the 4 April meeting.

Decision

Resolved

- (1) That the following grant levels for the Additional Restrictions Grants Policy be agreed:

Rateable Value	ARG Omicron Grant
No RV	£2,667
Up to £15,000	£2,667

>£15,000 - <£51,000	£4,000
£51,000 or over	£6,000

Reasons for Decision

Following adoption of an Additional Restrictions Grants Policy in January 2022, as the total number of applications is now known, a decision on grant levels can be taken. The proposed levels are in line with the mandatory scheme.

Alternative Options Considered

The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: Not to agree the grant payment levels. This is not recommended as the proposed grants are in line with the mandatory scheme.

Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service

None

Attachments

None

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive