Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance Decision-Making Meeting 14/September2021



Minutes of a meeting held remotely of Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance Decision-Making Meeting held on Tuesday, 14 September 2021.

Councillors present:

Mike Evemy

Officers present: Jenny Poole, Mandy Fathers, Democratic Services

3 Community Welfare Grant Arrangements for the Last Two Quarters of 21-22

This report enables the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance to approve the rolling forward of current arrangements for the Community Welfare Grant until year-end, to enable decision and implementation of a new approach.

Decision:

The Cabinet Member:

Acknowledged the representations made by Councillor Andrews, which were received in advance of the meeting. Councillor Andrews would be provided with contact details and an invitation to discuss 'Working for Wellbeing' further.

Agreed to the rolling forward of current arrangements until new arrangements commenced, anticipated to be on 1 April 2022.

Reason for Decision of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance:

The Cabinet Member expressed a view that organisations (including newly formed organisations) who were not currently receiving community grant funding should be afforded the opportunity of receiving support, and that this was a primary reason for the review of this budget. However, the review is necessary to determine where the Council's support should be directed.

The recommendation included in the report would be amended in order to stipulate that the current community grant welfare arrangements would be continued on a prorata basis should it be required beyond April 2022. This would enable existing recipients of community grant funding to continue to receive support so they were not put at a disadvantage between now and when the new arrangements were fully implemented.

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ACTION BY:

Joseph Walker, Community Partnership Officer

Tel: 01285623146

Date of Publication: 16 September 2021

Closing Date for Call-In: 24 September 2021 (5.00pm)

Action Embargoed until: 25 September 2021

(END)

4 Discretionary Council Tax Discount

This report enables the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance to determine an application for Discretionary Council Tax discount submitted under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended.

Decision:

The Cabinet Member:

Considered the application for Discretionary Council Tax discount for the period from 22 June 2021 to 30 September 2021. The application was refused.

Reason for Decision of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance:

The Cabinet Member acknowledged the significance of flooding events and the disruption and distress they can cause to homeowners.

The Cabinet Member further noted that although some elements of this application met the criteria in the Councils 'Council Tax Exceptional Hardship Discretionary Policy'; it was not compliant with all. The property is a 'second home, therefore the owners had not been displaced from their main residence and because of these factors, the Cabinet Member did not agree that a further discount than already received by the property owner should be given.

ACTION BY:

Mandy Fathers, Business Manager, Operational Services Tel: 01285 623 571

Date of Publication: 16 September 2021

Closing Date for Call-In: 24 September 2021 (5.00pm)

Action Embargoed until: 25 September 2021

Chair

(END)