

Cllr Mark Stephenson
Chairman of Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

24 September 2020

Dear Councillor Stephenson

Request for Consent to gain Exemption from Call-in Procedure and for a decision under the special urgency rule relating to publication in the forward plan for a period of at least 28 days before a decision can be made.

I propose to make the following executive decision:-

In consultation with the Chief Executive, the Portfolio Holder for Housing agrees to introduce a new grant level of £5,739 to replace the existing £5,000 grant level within the Council's Discretionary Business Grants Policy.

I enclose a report from Richard Barrett in relation to this matter for your assistance.

Any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest for the following reasons:-

To be able to pay money out to local businesses as quickly as possible and to meet the Government's expectation of making all payments under the Discretionary grant scheme by the end of September 2020.

I therefore propose that the decision is not published in the Forward Plan (Special Urgency Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 5.8 of the Council's Constitution) and be exempt from call-in by virtue of Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 5.30 of the Council's Constitution. I would be grateful if you would email the attached Consent Form back to Richard Barrett indicating whether you agree with this course of action.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Paul Honeywood
PFH for Housing

Richard Barrett
Assistant Director Finance and IT
Town Hall
Station Road
Clacton-on-sea
Essex
CO15 1SE

Dear Richard Barrett

Request for Consent to gain Exemption from Call-in Procedure and for a decision under the special urgency rule relating to publication in the forward plan for a period of at least 28 days before a decision can be made.

I refer to the letter from Cllr P Honeywood dated 24 September 2020 concerning exercising delegated powers to make changes to the Council's Discretionary Business Grants Policy.

In view of the urgency of this decision, I note that you wish to apply the special urgency rule relating to its inclusion in the Forward Plan and the associated 28 day notice period (Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 5.8 of the Council's Constitution) and to gain an exemption from the call-in process by virtue of Rule 18(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 5.30 of the Council's Constitution.

I agree / do not agree* that the decision is reasonable in all the circumstances and that an exemption from the call-in procedure should be applied in this case along with applying the special urgency rule relating to the Forward Plan and 28 notice period.

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Cllr Mark Stephenson
Chairman of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee
Dated

* *Please delete as appropriate.*

Additional comments (if any):
