Officer Executive Decisions

Additional Restrictions Grant

Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date

On 4 December 2020, the Leader, using urgency powers, agreed

- a) the proposal to use the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) to deliver a Discretionary Lockdown Grant Scheme as set out in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.4 and Appendix 1 to the report and agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to consider and determine applications made under this Scheme (decision no. 153/2020).
- b) to delegate authority to the CFO, in consultation with the Leader and the Portfolio for Business Management, to make minor amendments to this Scheme to enable it to adapt to the economic environment (decision no. 154/2020).
- c) to delegate authority to the CFO in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Business Management and Planning, Economic Development and Regulation to develop proposals for a range of activities and interventions to provide more broad support to Medway's businesses and the economy as set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, and report back to the Cabinet as appropriate to obtain any necessary further approvals (decision no. 155/2020).

The report may be found on the Council's website.

Decision

The decision was taken that the Business and Skills team would assess the eligibility of claims under the original scheme and it continues to do so. No amendments were made to the original scheme (see also <u>COVID Further Business Support Schemes</u>) Proposals for a range of activities and interventions to provide more broad support to Medway's businesses and the economy were consulted upon with the Leader and agreed by the CFO under delegation.

Reasons for Decision

It was decided that, as the restrictions began to be lifted the types of businesses requiring support and the nature of that support changed and new schemes were introduced in response to this changing landscape.

Date of Decision

11/03/2021 consulted and agreed with the Leader and Portfolio Holder a number of fixed term posts to support local businesses.

17/06/2021 consulted and agreed with the Leader and Portfolio Holder a scheme to provide grants to local businesses for the creation of new jobs and apprenticeships. 13/08/2021 consulted and agreed with the Leader and Portfolio Holder a further scheme to provide grants to local businesses within the creative and cultural industries, hospitality and tourism sector and the wedding industry.

Lead Officer

Phil Watts, Chief Finance Officer <u>cfo@medway.gov.uk</u>

Details of any other options considered and rejected

None

Conflicts of Interest

None