

This report will be made public on 20 September 2022



Report Number **A/22/16**

To: Council
Date: 28 September 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/22/16.

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 20 July 2022, Cabinet considered report C/22/18, which presented the policy of allocating and managing the Household Support Fund funding received from Kent County Council (KCC).. The Cabinet resolved:
1. That report C/22/18 be received and noted.
 2. That the Council's Household Support Fund Policy be approved and adopted.

This decision was taken using General Exception urgency provisions (Part 6.4, Rule 12). It was necessary to take the decision under the constitution's 'Call in and Urgency' rule (Part 6.3, rule 7) because the council was notified of its specific allocation of HSF on 9 June, and the allocation is above the threshold for a key decision. The policy framework cannot be delayed as the grant conditions require the sum to be allocated by 30 September, so in order to get the funds to those vulnerable within our community, the policy framework needed to be considered as a matter of urgency in July.

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