

**Executive Decision
Individual Decision Notice
General Exception Notification**



Decision Maker: Mayor's Executive Decision Making, not before 6 Apr 2020

Classification:
Unrestricted

The Council's financial response to the Corona virus (COVID-19)

Under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 – notice is hereby given that an Executive Key Decision is required to be taken under Special Urgency provisions as it is not possible to provide at least 5 clear days' notice of the decision.

As required under the above regulations, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has **agreed** to the above decision being taken under the Special Urgency Provision.

Notice is also hereby given that, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 64, the decision shall be treated as a matter of urgency and not subject to the Council's Call In procedure. As required under the above rule, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has **agreed** that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.

This notification will be published as soon as possible before the decision is taken.

Reason why it is impractical to provide 28 clear days' notice of the decision:

The Council's plans to provide a financial response to Coronavirus have been drafted urgently and could not have been anticipated in advance.

Reason why it is recommended that this decision be treated as a matter of urgency:

Any delay to the implementation of the Council's response would be unacceptable during time of an international emergency and would seriously undermine the social and financial recovery of the Borough and its residents.

Signature:

Kevin Bartle

Date:

3 April 2020

Comments of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee relating to the impracticality of providing 28 clear days' notice of the decision:

No comments.

Comments of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee relating to his/her agreement to this decision being treated as a matter of urgency:

No comments.

Signature:

Date:



3 April 2020

**Councillor James King,
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Further details of the decision to be taken:

Key Decision? No	Ward(s) All Wards
Summary of Decision	<p>This report sets out the first of a number of actions that are being carried out or are being planned by Tower Hamlets Council to support the borough through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the creation of a Service Investment Fund to pay for additional pressures caused by the Council's response to COVID-19; • ensuring all new reliefs, discounts, grants and reductions are applied to all accounts for both residents and businesses throughout the borough; • introducing a more flexible approach to income collection and enforcement to residents, businesses and other customers and users of council services; • use existing processes to inform and update residents and businesses about new and existing reliefs, discounts, grants and reductions available to them; • setting up Community Mobilisation arrangements; and, • changes to cash flow options to ensure current providers have funds in place to deliver key services.

Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector (Councillor Candida Ronald)
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this	N/A

consultation take place	
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A
Contact details for comments or additional information	Kevin Bartle Interim Divisional Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit Kevin.Bartle@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Officers report.
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why (Paragraph number – see notes section)?	No, Unrestricted

NOTES

Advance notice of Key Decisions

Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions are taken by the Mayor, or the Mayor in Cabinet.

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known, whilst a Forward Plan collating these decisions will be published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Forward Plan will be published on the Council's website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required. [The Committee pages](#) on the Council website include copies of the Forward Plan, Cabinet and other meeting dates and the publication dates of the Forward Plan.

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days' notice have not been given. Notice will be published (including on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution will have to be followed.

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about the issues listed in the Forward Plan is to examine the consultation column of the Forward Plan, and/or contact the report author or Cabinet Lead Member as soon as possible, and no later than 10 working days before the decision is expected to be taken.

Reports, appendices and background papers will be available on the Council's website 5 clear working days before the Cabinet meeting. For all other information or to submit documents in relation to any issue, please contact the relevant officer.

Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

The Council is also required to give at least 28 days' notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to an item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed below. Note that this applies to Cabinet but not to Individual Mayoral Decisions outside of Cabinet.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Democratic Services Contact Details:

Contact Matthew Mannion
Officer: Democratic Services
Email: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 7364 4651