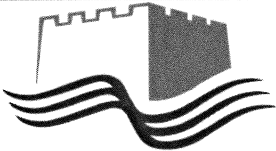


Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma Decision Log No: 197	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Ann Sutcliffe, Director for Place	Classification: Unrestricted
Christmas provision for free school meals eligible children	

Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Decision Notice Publication Date:	25 November 2020
General Exception or Urgency Notice published?	Special urgency notice published 25 November 2020
Reason for seeking an Individual Mayoral Decision:	The council received notification of funding mid November. The project has to be ready to be delivered by 14 December, including liaison with partners, purchase of items and delivery. This leaves insufficient time to pursue the usual decision channels.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The government has provided funding in the form of the covid winter fund which is intended to help households in hardship between December and March.

Members would like to use part of this funding to provide support to children in receipt of free school meals across the Christmas and February half term holidays.

In order to do so, we will need to purchase vouchers from a range of supermarkets to be distributed via the schools.

Full details of the decision sought, including setting out the reasons for the recommendations and/or all the options put forward; other options considered; background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Head of Legal Services; statutory and risk implications; Background Documents; **and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.**

DECISION

Recommendations:

The Mayor is recommended to:

1. Agree that vouchers should be utilised to support eligible families of free school meals and other families with school aged children assessed as being in need over Christmas
2. Authorise the purchase of sufficient vouchers from a range of supermarkets that ensure borough coverage
3. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director Children and Culture to make decisions about how any government funds allocated for the purposes of supporting families during the school holidays are spent over the next 12 months.
4. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director Children and Culture and the Corporate Director Place to execute any agreements necessary to give effect to recommendations 1 and 2.

APPROVALS

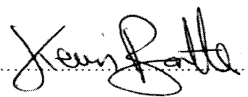
1. Corporate Director proposing the decision or his/her deputy

I approve the attached report and proposed decision above for submission to the Mayor. I confirm that the Mayor and/or Lead Member have agreed to this decision being taken using this process.

Signed  Date 25 November 2020

2. Chief Finance Officer or his/her deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed  Date 25 November 2020

3. Monitoring Officer or his/her deputy

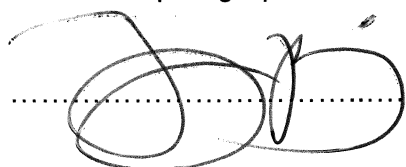
I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

I confirm that this decision is urgent and subject to the 'Special Urgency' provision of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.


Signed Date 25/11/2020

4. Mayor

I agree the decision proposed in the recommendations above for the reasons set out in paragraph 3 in the attached report.

Signed  Date 30/11/20

