

URGENT DECISION FORM





TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 26.3.2020	Ref No: 26.3 003		
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter: Support for the Business Community			
Reason for Urgency: Decision cannot be reasonably be deferred to the next schedule meeting of Cabinet.			
Equality Impact Assessment [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]			

Decision taken:

The Leader, **agreed** following consideration by Members of his Cabinet and the Chief Executive and following **consultation** with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny and the Group Leaders to;

- Note the national support announced by the government to support business affected by the COVID-19 crisis;
- Note the progress the council has made in administering the reliefs and grants announced by the government and which the council is responsible for administering;
- Note the current routes available to individuals experiencing financial problems that is affecting their ability to pay council tax;
- Note the position on the hardship fund and that the majority of this funding will be utilised to support households already eligible for the council tax support scheme and new claimants;
- Approve the option to provide a 2 month rent holiday to business in the council's commercial properties who are able to evidence financial hardship at a maximum cost £480k;
- Approve the option of providing a 2 month rent holiday to traders in Bury market at a cost of £440k, commencing 16th March 2020.
- Note that any decisions made in offering rent reliefs are not funded by the government and will need to be met by the council;
- Agree that reminders for debt should not be issued in April and that a review will be carried out before the end of April to inform future arrangements;

Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:
Chief/Senior Officer/Chair of the body making the decision		26.3.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		26.3.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Cllr Caserta consulted	26.3.2020
Nominated Opposition or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) or Opposition Spokesperson	Cllr N Jones consulted	26.3.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group	Cllr T Pickstone consulted	26.3.2020

Nb Although not required by the constitution consultation was also undertaken with the Leader of Radcliffe First Councillor Mason.