## **URGENT DECISION FORM**



# TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 06.04.2020		Ref No:	
Type of Decision:			
<b>Cabinet Decision</b>	X	<b>Council Decision</b>	
Key	Х	Non-Key	

## **Subject matter:**

Contractual flexibilities and relief available to contracted suppliers providing services to Bury Council in response to Procurement Policy Note 02/2020 issued by UK government

## **Reason for Urgency:**

Decisions relating to social distancing, the closure of schools and changes to working practices implemented in response to the Covid-19 crisis have an impact on many contracts between the council and third party providers.

This has been recognised by the publication of PPN 02/20 which advises contracting authorities to introduce flexibilities and relief in order to ensure that providers are able to survive the financial difficulties during this period and be available to restart services promptly when required to do so.

Requests for relief have already been received in relation to home to school transport provision, the car parking service, the dog warden service and a number of other Children's Services contracts such as alternative education and care provision.

Our position will be outlined to contractors (see attached letter) and contract managers will review any requests for relief. Decisions on the form of relief granted will be signed off by Executive Directors and reported to the Head of Strategic Procurement who will maintain a corporate register. This will be kept under review by the Section 151 Officer to ensure financial risk is appropriately managed.

This action is urgently required in order to reduce the risk of market failure and to ensure future continuity of key services.



Freedom of Information Status

For Publication

# **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]

Changes policy in relation to payments to contractors but is intended to have a positive rather than negative impact.

### **Decision taken:**

To inform contracted providers of services of the Council's position in relation to PPN 02/20 and advise them of the action they need to take in order to access relief. To delegate responsibility for agreeing appropriate relief to Executive Directors. For decisions regarding relief to be reported to the Head of Strategic Procurement and monitored by the S151 Officer.

Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair	GPL:He.	9.4.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)	Whin	9.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor R Caserta consulted	9.4.2020

Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor N Jones consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

<sup>\*\*</sup>Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.

# **Background**

This provides the context that the reader may need to have in order to consider the paper in full. This could include background on the current position, the drivers for change or the decision being required

### MAIN BODY OF REPORT

This sets out the options that are available and the different ways in which the objective can be achieved.

This should include an appropriate options appraisal of the potential approach to be taken to deliver the objective.

## **Financial implications**

The cost of the proposal are difficult to quantify and more likely to affect cash flow than create any additional cost. Clearly supporting cash flow for the suppliers is essential and any impact on the council's cash flow is manageable and will be monitored as part of the council's treasury/money management processes.

Payment in advance of goods received carries a financial risk in the event that goods that have been paid for are not received. The overall financial risk will be dependent upon the quantity and the value of goods for which payment in advance is agreed and will need to be monitored on an ongoing basis.

#### Legal implications

Any legal implications associated with the report should be detailed in this part – seeking advice from legal colleagues as appropriate.

#### **Associated Risks**

Any risks or issues associated with the proposal should be presented at this part of the report. This can include risks associated with addressing proposal or risks of not taking any action

#### Conclusion

Summarise key issues and decisions/actions required.

Report Author Job Title Date