

## URGENT DECISION FORM


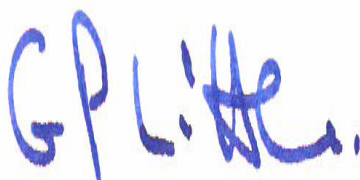



**TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

<b>Date:</b> <b>16.4.2020</b>	<b>Ref No:</b>						
<b>Type of Decision:</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; padding: 5px;"><b>Cabinet Decision</b></td> <td style="width: 10%; border: none;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; padding: 5px;"><b>Council Decision</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none; padding: 5px;"><b>Key</b></td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="border: none; padding: 5px;"><b>Non-Key</b></td> </tr> </table>		<b>Cabinet Decision</b>		<b>Council Decision</b>	<b>Key</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Non-Key</b>
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<b>Key</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Non-Key</b>					
<b>Subject matter:</b>  Bury Response – Hardship Support for Individuals and Businesses							
<b>Reason for Urgency:</b>  Provides details of support required for individuals and businesses during the pandemic  <b>Freedom of Information Status    In public domain</b>							
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>  [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? <b>If yes</b> – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]							

**Decision taken:**

- To note the allocation of £1.888m hardship monies to the council and the criteria on which is to be allocated.
- Note the forecast expenditure of £1.545m on the funds and the remaining unallocated amount of £0.343m
- Agree the proposals to allocate the remaining £0.343k as follows:
  - £100k to the councils existing hardship fund so that is used to provide emergency support to those in crisis;
  - £50k match funding to support the council's proposals to maximise access to the welfare system and take-up of benefits through partnership working with the citizen's advice bureau;
  - £193k to support those in need of additional welfare support – to be allocated throughout the year based subject to the availability of funding.
- To develop a Service Level Agreement with the Citizens Advice Bureau to work in partnership with the council to support those trying to access the welfare systems and to maximise their benefits and that the solution utilises the one-off monies made available as part of the 2020/21 budget resolution.
- To note the potential impact on the council tax income of increased eligibility for the Council Tax Support Scheme and that this is currently a financial risk that will need to be managed and monitored throughout the year.
- To note the existing flexibilities regarding the payment of council tax to support those who are experiencing financial problems;
- To approve the creation of an 'In Work Poverty Hardship Fund' by utilising a balance of £42,000 carried forward from the 2019/20 financial year from members allowances. Note that subject to approval that details on the criteria of the scheme and access arrangements to come forward.
- Note the support to businesses that is currently available and the mechanisms in which Bury businesses are able to access advice and support

<b>Decision taken by:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		16.4.2020
		16.4.2020
<b>After consultation with:</b>		

Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		16.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor R Caserta consulted	16.4.2020
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	16.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	16.4.2020

Although not a requirement of the constitution, Councillor J Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.