

COUNCIL – 5TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Report of the Chief Executive

ITEM 12 URGENT EXECUTIVE DECISIONS EXEMPTED FROM CALL-IN:

- i. MEMBER GRANTS SCHEME
- ii. CHARNWOOD DISCRETIONARY COUNCIL TAX ENERGY REBATE SCHEME

Purpose of Report

To note decisions which were exempted from call-in in accordance with Scrutiny Committee Procedure 11.9.

Action Requested

In accordance with Full Council Procedure 9.11(d) questions may be asked of the Leader in relation to the urgent decisions that were taken. The Leader may ask the relevant Lead Member to respond.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The call-in procedure provides for a period of five clear working days during which councillors can ask for decisions taken by the Cabinet and individual Cabinet members, and key decisions taken by officers to be reviewed. With the agreement of the Chair of the Scrutiny Commission or in his/her absence the Mayor or Deputy Mayor) a decision can be exempted from call-in if the decision to be taken is both urgent and reasonable and would not be in the interests of the Council or the public to delay the decision. Scrutiny Committee Procedure 11.9 requires that decisions that are exempted from call-in are reported to Council.

(i) Member Grants Scheme

On 2nd October 2018, Councillor Morgan, as Leader of the Council, took a decision to allocate Executive functions relating to the determination of applications under the Member Grants Scheme where the ward councillor concerned had a conflict of interest to the Cabinet Lead Member for Communities, Safety and Wellbeing. This was later amended on 6th July 2020 and 23rd May 2022 to reflect changes to the membership of the Cabinet and allocation of responsibilities to members of the Cabinet.

In exercising that Executive function, the Cabinet Lead Member for Community Support took a decision to award the following grant: -

- That £500 be awarded to Thorpe Acre community Association for its Queen's Initiative to plant a tree for the Jubilee project.

The Chair of the Scrutiny Commission was consulted and agreed that the decisions be exempted from call-in, given their nature and low financial value.

The report considered can be found in the Annex to this report.

(ii) Charnwood Discretionary Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme

On 1st July 2022, the Head of Customer Service took an urgent Executive decision relating to the policy for the operation of the Charnwood Discretionary Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme which would otherwise have been submitted to Cabinet for approval.

The Chair of the Scrutiny Commission was consulted and gave her consent to the matter being dealt with under Special Urgency provisions and exempted from call-in as there was a need to get the funds out while the Council still had the additional staffing resources in place to deliver the scheme.

The report considered can be found in the Annex to this report.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

As detailed within the Annex to this report.

Report Implications

As detailed within the annexes to this report.

Background Papers: None

Officer to Contact: Karen Widdowson
Democratic Services Manager
(01509) 634785
karen.widdowson@charnwood.gov.uk

Annex

Reports considered by the Cabinet Lead Member and relevant officers.