COUNCIL – 4TH JULY 2022

Report of the Chief Executive

ITEM 12 URGENT COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTION DECISIONS

Purpose of Report

To note the decision which was exempted from call-in in accordance with Scrutiny Committee Procedure 11.9.

To note the action taken by the Chief Executive in respect of an urgent Council function decision which was made under urgency provisions.

Action Requested

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 the delay caused by the call-in process would not be in the interests of the Council or the public. Scrutiny Committee Procedure 11.9 requires that decisions that are exempted from call-in are reported to Council.

Under section 8.2 of the constitution which relates to the delegation of Council functions there is provision for the Chief Executive, Strategic Directors and Heads of Service to take such action as is required in the case of an emergency or urgency subject to: (i) consultation with the Mayor, the Chair of the relevant committee, or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice-chair; (ii) consultation with the Chief Executive and relevant Strategic Directors in each case; and (iii) report on the action taken being made to the next [Ordinary] meeting of the Council or relevant committee, as appropriate.

(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 the later amended on 6th July 2020 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 and Equalities took a decision to award the following grant: -

 That £991.36 be awarded to Birstall Business Co-operative for its Sibson Road High Street project.

The Chair of the Scrutiny Commission has been consulted and agreed that the decisions relating to member grants 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) Senior Leadership Review

The urgent Council function decision taken by the Chief Executive is reported within agenda item 6.1.

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

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Annex

Report considered by the Cabinet Lead Member.