
**DECISION MADE UNDER THE URGENT
SCHEME OF DELEGATION****31st March 2020**

Report of the Head of Corporate Finance & Commercial Procurement

Emergency Loans for Businesses**Summary including Reason for this Decision**

The decision in this paper is to provide short term loans to our suppliers and partners where appropriate. The decision as to whether or not to provide a loan will be assessed and decided by officers, in consultation with the Leader and the Executive Member for Finance & Performance, and reported to Executive in due course.

Reason: To support our suppliers through the Covid-19 outbreak.

Background

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, government has announced a range of financial measures to support business. This, with the addition of the emergency hardship funds proposed by the council, should ensure that most businesses are able to remain solvent. However, there may be some instances where the support made available is not enough.

It is proposed that the Venture Fund is used to facilitate the making of small loans. These loans will only be available to organisations that have an existing contractual relationship with the council and justification will be needed from the relevant organisation to demonstrate why this additional support is needed. Repayment terms will be agreed and interest will be charged in line with current legislative requirements.

Implications**Financial**

There is currently £1.4m unallocated in the Venture Fund.

Human Resources (HR)

No implications

Equalities

No implications.

Legal

A formal loan agreement will be entered into with each organisation to protect the council and ensure clarity of the agreement.

Crime and Disorder, Information Technology and Property

No implications.

Risk Management

There is a risk that, despite all the funding offered, the organisations who receive a loan may not be able to repay it. This will be mitigated as far as possible by having a formal loan agreement in place.

Author responsible for the report:

Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Debbie Mitchell

Ian Floyd

Interim Head of Paid Service

**Report
Approved**



Date 31/03/2020

Specialist Implications Officer(s):

Wards Affected: *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None