



Publicity in connection with key decisions – General exception – Regulation 10(1)

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 ("The regulations")

When twenty-eight clear days' notice cannot be given of the intention to take a decision which meets the Council Constitution definition of a Key Decision, the Proper Officer is required to give notice in writing to the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny or, if there is no such person, each member of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny committee, of the matter about which the decision is to be made.

In accordance with Regulation 10(1), notice is hereby given that the following key decision is intended to be taken on behalf of the London Borough of Croydon by Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Business Recovery on or after Not before 12th May, 2021

Purpose of decision:	Additional Restrictions Grant - Croydon Economic Recovery Programme
Documents to be submitted:	Report from Sarah Hayward, Interim Executive Director Place
Key Decision number:	2021CSBR

Copies of those documents, once they become available in accordance with Regulation 7 and provided they are not subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure will be available at Access Croydon, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, CR0 1EA, and on the Council's website.

This decision cannot reasonably be deferred because:

In November 2020 the Government confirmed that Croydon would receive an Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) of £7,734,200. Following the 3rd lockdown this amount was increased by £3,435,165 bringing the total of the Additional Restrictions Grant Funding to £11,169,365, to be spent by March 2022 (an indicative top up grant of £2,674,867 was announced for Croydon in March 2021).

It was decided that Croydon Council would have a three phased approach to this funding, the third phase would be based on providing a combination of business support and grants that would be focused on the recovery of Croydon businesses providing a £5 million business recovery programme this would be agreed at the cabinet on the 4th May (subsequently delayed until the 22nd May)

On the 15th April 2021, Councils across the UK received new guidance that highlighted that government had changed initial guidance. It stressed that the indicative ARG top up grant of £2,674,867 would only be received by Croydon Council if the current allocation of £11,169,365 has been spent or had a commitment to spend by the 30th June - it also confirmed that all business support needed to have been commissioned by the 15th April and all external business support that had been commissioned needed to have been spent by the 30th June 2021.

This has meant that a new programme has had to be scoped that aligned with Croydon Council's outputs and avoided any financial risk for the Council. The new programme ensures that Croydon businesses receive the correct support that has the maximum impact for the social and economic recovery of the borough.

As the programme needs to be implemented as quickly as possible to ensure that the additional restrictions grant allocation of £11,169,365 is spent by the 30th June 2021. It is requested that decision is made under rule 31 general exception to allow grant activity to commence as quickly as possible.

Failure to do this will mean that the indicative ARG top up grant of £2,674,867 will not be received by Croydon Council to deliver to Croydon businesses.

Other documents may be submitted to the decision maker and to request details of these documents contact Victoria Lower on 020 8760 5700 ext. 14773
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