

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 Croydon Renewal in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources & Financial Governance and Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety & Business Recovery on or after Not before 18th January, 2022

Purpose of decision:	Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund
Documents to be submitted:	Report of the Interim Corporate Director
	Resources (Richard Ennis)
Key Decision number:	0522CRenewal

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:

On 16th December 2021 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities issued guidance to Local Authorities confirming The COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF), along with funding allocation. Croydon's share of the funding is £7.4m. This funding is to support those businesses affected by the pandemic but that are ineligible for existing support linked to business rates.

On 22nd December 2021 the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP wrote to all LA Chief Executives and Leaders in England with the following statement:

"Being close to those impacted by COVID-19, you will know how important it is that the support reaches ratepayers as quickly as possible. Therefore, I would welcome your support in ensuring that this funding reaches those that need support swiftly. In the case of the Additional Relief Fund, I know that local authorities must devise and approve their own local relief schemes. In normal times this is a process which can take weeks but for some businesses that may be too late. I would like councils to consider what steps you can take to streamline the approval and delivery process for this relief urgently."

The making of this decision is urgent to allow the council to offer businesses the support they require with their business costs and loss of income during these unprecedented times that have arisen due to COVID 19 pandemic.

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 victoria.lower@croydong.gov.uk or Anoushka Clayton-Walshe ext. 62537 Anoushka.clayton-walshe@croydon.gov.uk