



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 Leader of the Council, 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 - Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant and Additional Restrictions Grant
Documents to be submitted:	Report of the Interim Corporate Director Resources (Richard Ennis)
Key Decision number:	0622CRenewal

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:

ust before Christmas the government announced further support to assist businesses affected by the omicron strain of Covid-19. This form of support comes through an Omicron Business Grant of £1.6m where payments of up to £6000 and be paid to a businesses for each premises they occupy. Further financial support was also announced with additional funding added to the Additional Restrictions

Grant (ARG), of £644k. The ARG can be used at the local authorities discretion to support businesses identified who require further assistance or are not eligible for an Omicron Business Grant.

Government announced local authorities are to make payments to businesses as soon as possible and was referenced in the guidance made public, and there is an expectation from businesses for this to happen.

The Omicron Business Grant is to be made available from 30th December 2021 with payments due to be made as quickly as possible soon after this date. All applications are to be received by 28th Feb 2022 with all payments being made by 31 March 2022.

If this report is subject to a call in period of 28 days, we reduce the window for businesses to make a claim and increases the risk of businesses not receiving urgent grant payments to support them during an incredibly difficult time is increased.

Businesses are continually affected by the impact of COVID and are in need of financial assistance as quickly as possible and not being able to make payments for 28 days after approval will reflect negatively on Croydon.

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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