

Notice of the Making of an Urgent Decision

Para 1 of the second sub-section of section 3 in Part 3 of Chichester District Council's *Constitution* provides for any senior officer to make urgent decisions following consultation with the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on any matters where it is not practicable to refer these to a meeting of the Council, the Cabinet or other committee provided that a full report on any decisions taken shall subsequently be made. A decision of this nature has been made as set out below:

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| Decision title | Welcome Back Fund |
| Decision taker | Tania Murphy |
| Decision consultees | Eileen Lintill – Leader Adrian Moss - Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee |
| Decision date | 9 April 2021 |
| Decision details | <p>That in the absence of a Cabinet and Full Council meeting the following be approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Chichester District Council signs the grant funding agreement with HM Government's European Regional Development Fund, which enables CDC to reclaim up to £173,161 grant in relation to the Welcome Back Fund. 2. The fund is Phase 2 of the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund and is required to be spent on projects and schemes to assist with the safe reopening of high streets at this current time, along with publicity campaigns, marketing activity improving green spaces and seating areas to encourage people back into town centres and potential beautification of areas to support the visitor economy and to help overcome the long-term impacts of Covid-19. Any activities must be linked to a local strategy for reopening in response to the impact of Covid-19. 3. Whilst there is some local discretion in relation to the type of projects which can be funded, the criteria as set out by the ERDF must be met. The action plan will be closely monitored and reported on and parishes and other partners across the district are in the process of being consulted with to determine potential appropriate activities. 4. Expenditure and reclaim of the fund must be undertaken by March 2022 and projects must be additional to what is already in place, cannot replace other funding and must be short term deliverables. <p>These decisions will assist the continuation of expenditure on actions and schemes to assist with the safe reopening of high streets at this time, and will enable reclaim of expenditure. The grant funding</p> |



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| | agreement is in the process of being negotiated with government. |
| Reason for urgency | Coronavirus pandemic. |
| Name and date of the meeting to receive a full report | To be noted at the next Cabinet and Council meetings. |

Jane Hotchkiss
Director of Growth and Place
9 April 2021