

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY
STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Colin Smith, has made the following urgent executive decision:

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS GRANT SCHEME (ARG SCHEME)

Report: Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme

Decision:

(1) Payments be authorised to be made based on the proposed eligibility criteria as detailed in section 4 of the report, which has been developed in line with the guidance from MHCLG noting that subsequent phases will be subject to future reports as they are developed.

(2) It is agreed that the Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing, has delegated authority to make changes to grant distribution approach as may be required for compliancy, ensuring government guidance is followed; and to exercise limited discretion during the award process.

(3) It is noted that this report is marked as Urgent, to allow officers to implement the decision as soon as possible to support businesses.

Reasons:

The Council received payment of £6,646,720 in November 2020 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on behalf of Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ('BEIS'). This sum was to form the Council's Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) which will be used to provide financial support to local businesses through grants and business support functions. In February 2021 a further ARG Top Up of £2,952,158 was granted. The total received to date is therefore £9,598,878.

The report outlines our proposed ARG Scheme which will be delivered in phases. There is a Government requirement that all monies be allocated by 21 March 2022. The report also includes an update on the scheme, payments made, and recommendations for Phase 3.

The report was circulated to members of the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee for their comments before the decision was made.



Councillor Colin Smith
Leader of the Council

Mark Bowen
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Date of Decision: 19 March 2021
Implementation Date: 19 March 2021 (Urgent)
Decision Reference: Exec 21002