

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 11 November 2020

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

PORTFOLIO: Leader

SUBJECT: Urgent Decisions

WARDS: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To bring to the attention of Council urgent decisions taken since the last meeting of Council.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That the report is noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Council's Constitution gives authority to the Chief Executive to take urgent decisions which are required before the next formal meeting of Executive Board/Council.

These must be made in consultation with the Leader of the Council where practicable, and with the Operational Director – Finance and/or Operational Director – Legal and Democratic Services where necessary. They must also be reported for information to the next practically available meeting of the Board.

3.2 The absence of meetings of full Council during the COVID-19 crisis has meant that a number of urgent decisions have been necessary. More information on each can be found on the Council's website here:

<http://councillors.halton.gov.uk/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?bcr=1>

3.3 The urgent decisions taken since the last meeting of Council:

Date Decision taken	Decision details
7 April 2020	Amendment to the Scheme of Delegation to Officers – number 83 be amended to include the service of prohibition orders under Sections 20 and 21 of the Housing Act 2004.
22 April 2020	Cancellation of Meeting of Annual Council on 22 May 2020.
22 April 2020	Appointments to Various Positions at HBC – including Mayor and Deputy, Leader and Deputy, Committees,

	Boards, Outside Bodies, Independent Persons and Co-optees and Scrutiny Coordinator for 2020/21.
22 April 2020	Update of Constitution for 2020 - as recommended by Executive Board report of 19 March 2020.
22 April 2020	ERDF Renewable Energy Scheme – variation of Capital Programme to enable the Solar Farm at St Michael’s Golf Course to be extended from 1MW to 1.25MW as recommended by Executive Board report of 19 March 2020.
28 April 2020	Dispensation to an Elected Member for attendance at Council meetings – to bring into line with all other Elected Members of Halton Borough Council, the date on which Councillor McDermott would be required to attend a formal meeting of the local authority. This would ensure he complies with the ‘six month’ rule on Member’s attendance. This dispensation would expire on 4 September 2020 unless otherwise extended.
29 April 2020	Capital Scheme – Bridgeway and Lockgate Flood Defence, Windmill Hill, Runcorn – addition of Capital Scheme for flood defence works at Windmill Hill.
14 May 2020	Liverpool City Region Transport Committee – confirmation of Opposition Member representative for Halton Borough Council.
28 August 2020	To grant dispensations to elected Members in respect of non-attendance at formal Council meetings since 4 March 2020 and to approve the reasons for non-attendance for the purposes of S85 Local Government Act 1972, as set out below :- The Mayor Councillor Margaret Horabin – there have been no Council meetings held since 4 March 2020. Dispensation granted to 31 May 2021. Councillor Angela Teeling – health reasons. Dispensation granted to 1 October 2020.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are none other than the constitutional requirement to report urgent decisions for information.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The report is for information, and there are no risk issues arising from it.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 None.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report. Further information on the decisions taken is available from the link in Paragraph 3.2.