

Report for: Council

Date of Meeting: 26 November 2020

Subject: **Information Report - Decisions taken under the Urgency Procedure - Executive**

Responsible Officer: Hugh Peart – Monitoring Officer

Exempt: No

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out details of decisions taken under the Urgency procedure by the Cabinet, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders since the meeting of the Council on 16 July 2020.

For Information

Report

In accordance with Committee Procedure Rule 47.6 set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, any Executive decisions taken as a matter of urgency are reported to the next available meeting of the Council.

There have been two such decisions taken since the Council meeting on 16 July 2020, the details of which are below:

Subject	Decision Maker	Reason for Urgency
Leisure Contract – Future Options	Leader – 22 July 2020	This decision was urgent as a Force Majeure circumstance (Covid 19) resulted in the closure of the Council's Leisure Centres. The government were

		<p>allowing gyms and swimming pools to re-open subject to social distancing and health and safety measures being put in place. The Force Majeure circumstances still existed, as Covid 19 had not been eradicated and leisure operations could not return to the same way of working as before lockdown. Therefore, Sports and Leisure Management (SLM) Ltd would not be able to re-open the Council's leisure facilities without council funding to meet the projected financial deficit for 2020-21 – the government had confirmed that indoor leisure centres would be able to reopen from the 25th July 2020. Delaying the re-opening of Harrow Leisure Centre would increase this financial deficit. There was a high risk of customers starting to use alternative leisure facilities if the Council's leisure sites proposed for re-opening did not do so as soon as possible. It would be then be difficult to attract these customers back to the Council's facilities. Reopening the leisure centres was consistent with the council's health objectives. A decision on this matter was not possible until the government had stated when gyms and swimming pools could reopen.</p> <p>Given the urgency of the</p>
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		situation a waiver of call in was also requested
Recommendation from the Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel - Harrow Street Spaces Programme – 2020/21	Deputy Leader – 19 August 2020	The funding for this programme of work covered the period up to the end of September 2020 and the delivery of the schemes was required to be completed within this period. The time remaining to mobilise contractors, materials and traffic regulation orders and complete works following September Cabinet would be insufficient to meet this timescale.

Ward Councillors, outside organisations and interested parties were consulted on the report considered the Leader.

As the decisions were deemed urgent, the agreement of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was obtained that the decision would not be subject to the call-in procedure.

Contact Details and Background Papers

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Background Papers:

Council's Constitution

Reports – 22 July 2020 and 19 August 2020