

Individual Member Decision Record



This form records an individual Member decision and is published in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

Decision Maker:	Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Lead Officers:	Karen Iveson, Chief Finance Officer, (SDC) / Stuart Robinson, Head of Business Development and Improvement
Title of Decision:	Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Scheme (Omicron) phase of funding
Ward(s) Affected:	All
Type of Decision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Key decision <input type="checkbox"/> Non key decision discharging (or connected to the discharge of) an Executive function <input type="checkbox"/> Specific delegation from Council or Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Grant of permission / licence <input type="checkbox"/> Affecting the rights of an individual <input type="checkbox"/> Awarding a contract or incurring expenditure which materially affects the financial position of the Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision under urgency
Details of decision:	<p>Various tranches of funding have been received for the Additional Restrictions Grants (ARG) since the scheme began in November 2020 and the Council's total allocation has been £2.6m. There is £167,000.00 of this amount remaining in the fund.</p> <p>On 21 December 2021, the Government announced that a further £102 million would be made available nationally for Local Authorities, through a top-up to the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG). The guidance for the ARG funding scheme aims to support businesses severely impacted by coronavirus restrictions and the rise of the Omicron variant who</p>

	<p>do not qualify for the ‘Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant’ (OHLG). The authority has been issued with a further £165,853.00 to support these businesses, all funding must be spent by 31 March 2022.</p> <p>An amendment to the authorities ARG scheme is proposed for the total funding available of £332,853.00, this would be phase 4 of the authorities scheme. The scheme would support the business types directed for support in the latest ARG guidance of hospitality, leisure of accommodation and those identified as severely impacted by the rise of the Omicron variant and travel restrictions of travel agents and associated travel/tourism suppliers.</p> <p>As the decision is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny has been consulted and agreed that the decision cannot be reasonably deferred, and that the decision is genuinely urgent.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That as the matter is urgent, and the decision cannot await a full meeting of the Executive due to the need to put in place arrangements as part of the Covid-19 response, the Leader agrees that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the amended Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) scheme, attached at Appendix A to the Report is approved; and (ii) that delegated authority be given to the Head of Business Development and Improvement to administer the scheme, and the Chief Finance Officer is authorised to make technical scheme amendments.
<p>Reason for decision:</p>	<p>To administer the government’s Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme to assist businesses severely affected by the rise in Omicron variant.</p>
<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>Member Interests: <i>(Name of any Member who has declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision and details of any dispensation)</i></p>	<p>None declared.</p>

granted by the Head of Paid Service if appropriate)	
Legal, Financial or other implications:	<p>The ARG scheme is being fully funded by the Government through Section 31 grant payments and will be administered by local authorities.</p> <p>Fully documented decisions by officers of the grants applied to accounts will be made to ensure all requirements are fulfilled. Local authorities are required to report weekly to central government the numbers and value of grants that have been issued. This report will be submitted using the DELTA system.</p> <p>The decision is within the Budget and Policy Framework therefore there is no requirement to consult the Chair of Policy on this occasion.</p> <p>As the decision is made under urgency powers it is not subject to call-in. The Chief Executive confirms that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and is to be treated as urgent.</p>
Background papers:	None.
Contact details for further information:	<p>Karen Iveson, Chief Finance Officer (SDC) Stuart Robinson srobinson@selby.gov.uk kiveson@selby.gov.uk</p>
Signed:	<p><i>Signature redacted</i></p> <p>Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council</p>
Date of Decision:	11 February 2022