

## **Public Notice**

Pursuant to Regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, notice is hereby given for a key decision which is not able to be included in the Forward Plan 28 days before the decision is taken. The following decision has been taken under the urgent action procedure by the Director of Law and Assurance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Fire & Rescue and Communities, and with the agreement of the Chairman of the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee (Standing Order 5.23(b) Part 4, Section 5, of the County Council's constitution).

### **Emergency Assistance Grant**

The Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has announced a Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies to support people who are struggling with food and essential supplies. The County Council's share of the grant is £737,319. The accompanying guidance states the receiving authority can use its discretion to support those most in need. It is proposed to introduce a simple countywide approach to ensure the funding supports those in need quickly. This decision is urgent due to the need for the County Council to respond quickly to the continuing Covid-19 situation.

The Director of Law & Assurance, with the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Fire & Rescue and Communities and the Chairman of the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee, has used his delegated powers under Standing Order 5.23 for approval to be given that:

- 1) the allocations from the Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies to the voluntary sector organisations set out in paragraph 2.1;
- 2) the remaining funds from the grant be allocated to customers known to the County Council as set out in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3;
- 3) West Sussex County Council works in line with government guidance and applies the agreed criteria to support residents in hardship as a result of Covid-19 in partnership with District and Boroughs and the voluntary sector; and
- 4) the Acting Director of Communities, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Support Services, is authorised to rebalance the allocation according to greatest need in the event that the funds allocated under 2.1 prove insufficient.

Urgent decisions are not subject to a call-in period and come into effect immediately (copy of letters available).

Details available from Erica Keegan – Tel: 0330 22 26050

Tony Kershaw  
Director of Law & Assurance  
7 September 2020