

Appendix C - Decisions taken under emergency response / urgent payments

1. Business Support Grants

1.1. The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) announced two grant schemes to support businesses vulnerable from impact of the pandemic, a small business grant fund and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure grant fund. The Council's allocation for supporting eligible businesses has been uplifted from the original £88.838 million to £ 94.560 million. The fund remains open and as at week ending 5 July 2020 the total value of grants paid to eligible businesses is £ 89.945 million.

1.2. To provide additional support for some small and micro businesses previously outside the scope of the business grant funds above, the government has set up a small discretionary fund to be administered by local authorities and for Bristol this equates to £4.728 million. The fund is intended to focus predominantly on charities and community organisations, small businesses in shared offices or other flexible workspaces, regular market / street traders, bed & breakfasts and guest houses and some limited discretion is provided to consider other small business subject to the availability of funding.

1.3. The West of England (WOE) unitary authorities (Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council and South Gloucestershire Council) developed regional policies for each cohort (attached at Appendix C (i) & (ii) to provide some consistency in the additional support available to businesses across the wider region. The volume of eligible businesses indicated that this grant scheme could be oversubscribed and as such smaller values have been assigned to increase the number of businesses that can be supported and a cohort approach adopted.

1.4. Bristol has received 825 applications to date and as at 5 July 2020, 514 businesses have been awarded grants via 4 tranches of payments to the value of £1.420 million. The associated Officer Executive decision can be found by using the following [Link](#).

2. Education Vouchers

2.1. (Decision 002) Education vouchers – this payment was attribute to the temporary term-time voucher scheme, set up following the closure of Schools, to provide free school meals during the coronavirus and replace the distribution model that was previously in place. The value of the scheme was £0.440 million as set out in Appendix C (iii) and this amount is expected to be fully reimbursed by the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE have subsequently launched their own voucher scheme and schools were able to move across to the new system at the end of April and order directly from the DfE.

3. Adult Social Care Payments

3.1. Adult Social Care - £9.2 million COVID-19 funding has been earmarked to sustain local care providers during the crisis and in addition to the £1.359 million previously reported to Cabinet in April 2020, a further £4.756 million has been allocated as follows:

- (Decision 003) To implement a second temporary increase to adult social care provider fees for a further period of seven weeks from 18 May to 5 July 2020 at a costs of £2.240 million as set out in Appendix C (iv).
- (Decision 004) Infection Prevention Control Grant (IPC) - The allocation of the first tranche

of the IPC grant to adult social care providers to reduce the rate of transmission in and between care homes and to support workforce resilience. 75% of the fund will be passed to all Care Homes (those with whom the authority has a contract and those which it does not) based on a rate per 'registered bed'. Payment of the first tranche of the IPC grant totalled £1.510 million as set out in Appendix C (v).

- (Decision 005) Infection Prevention Control Grant (IPC) - Allocation of the 25% of IPC monies amounting to £1.006 million, to be distributed in two tranches, and allocated for; PPE for micro providers , whole setting testing (supported accommodation); infection control monies for domiciliary / supported accommodation providers, relative to hours commissioned as set out in Appendix C (vi).