

Chief Officer List of Decisions: 1 November 2020 to the end of March 2021

Director of Resources (S151)

TITLE / DECISION	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION TAKER	REASON
Creation of a secondment post within HR/OD team	4 March 2021	Director of Resources	To create an additional role within the OD team in Resources . This post is required to lead on the considerable programme of work supporting the Councils EDI agenda. The post will in the first instance be a year secondment. I have checked with our finance partner and Jon Bell AD for HR and they have confirmed that there is the finance within our budget to secure the role.
Additional Restrictions Grant Addendum – 5 January 2021 to 15 February 2021	25 February 2021	Director of Resources	<p>Following the latest government announcement, the Business Support Package has been extended to 31 March 2021.</p> <p>The Business Support Package previously covered a 42-day grant award period for Local Restriction Support Grant (Closed) Addendum awards, between 5 January and 15 February 2021, replacing the previous 14-day cycle. This has now been extended to 31st March 2021.</p> <p>It is our intention as with the initial package to mirror the date period within our Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) and uplift our 14-day award value to the 86-day award value.</p> <p>The one-off Closed Business Lockdown Payment (CBLP) is unaffected and one CBLP for the entire period is payable.</p> <p>The CBLP values in the LRSG (Closed) Addendum remain as follows: RV 15k and under - £9,000 RV £15,001 - £50,999 - £6,000 RV >51k - £4,000.</p> <p>On the 19th November 2020 the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee took the following decisions under Delegated Powers:</p> <p>To Approve the Discretionary Local Restrictions Support and Additional Restrictions Grant Policy.</p> <p>To delegate authority to the Director of Finance (S151) to review and alter the policy and administration of the scheme as necessary to meet local requirements.</p> <p>In response to the changes from 16 February 2021 I have approved the following amendments to our Policy:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extension to Covid-19 Discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant Addendum policy. This policy includes the same eligibility criteria, exclusions and guidance as the main policy but contains the changes outlined below. • Awards will be for an 86-day period not 14 between 5 January. – 31 March 2021. These awards will be the 86-day equivalent of the existing ARG values and not the LRSG (Open) Addendum. (42-days for initial period + 44 days for the extended period). • Payments will include a CBLP in line with that received in the LRSG (Closed) addendum. This will be calculated against the mortgage/rent payments. • 14-day award values have been increased as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,050 payment increased to £15,450. This includes £9,000 CBLP. • £700 payment increased to £10,300. This includes £6,000 CBLP. • £467 payment increased to £6,869. This includes £4,000 CBLP. • £250 payment increased to £3,536. This payment includes £2,000 CBLP. <p>Any businesses who have already been awarded an ARG for the period 5 January 2021 to 15 February will receive an additional payment to bring their total award in line with the above figures. Values - 14-day award / 14 x 86 and then combined with CBLP.</p>
Kickstart Programme	24 February 2021	Director of Resources	<p>The creation of 30 placements for Kickstart programme funded by DWP. Placement arrangements and the necessary processes are in place and there are no associated costs to Barnet. The full costs of the programme are met by the DWP. Further as a Gateway organisation we receive £300 per placement. The Councils role in this programme is to act as an intermediary and facilitate salary payments to kickstart employers. All employers will be set up as suppliers to enable payments and the salaries are paid in arrears. All employers sign a DWP agreement which governs the scheme.</p> <p>Benefits of the scheme</p> <p>The income generated from the scheme circa £600 per placement will be reinvested in apprenticeship opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of job experience opportunities for young Barnet residents • Progression route into apprenticeships • Career and job support throughout placement to maximise employability. • Supporting local businesses with affordable additional resource

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			<p>The benefits of this scheme are additional resources for departments and the supporting Barnet residents with skills and experience to secure full time employment opportunities</p> <p>. Rather we are hoping to generate income from scheme to be invested in social outcomes for young residents in Barnet.</p> <p>In January 2021 DWP changed the eligibility for employers wanting to participate in Kickstart scheme by removing the mandated need to create 30 placements or use an intermediary service. Intermediary's will still be able to support employers and be compensated for the service.</p> <p>This scheme will be managed by the council's Organisational Development Team</p>
Discretionary LRSG (Open) and ARG Grants	15 February 2021	Director of Resources	<p>Government have announced an extension to the National Test and Trace Self-Isolation payment scheme. The end date has been extended to 31 March 2021.</p> <p>The scheme was approved via DPR in October 2020 with an end date of 31 January 2021.</p> <p>There have been no other changes to the policy.</p>
Creation of 2 x Recruitment Assistant Posts in HR	10/2/2021	Director of Resources	<p>To create 2 additional posts within HR to support recruitment activity. One post is temporary (6 months) and is specifically to support (and is funded by) Adults Services. The other is a more general role, particularly focussed on post-Brexit requirements for certification of new employees. This is funded from within the main HR budget</p>
CORPORATE GRANTS PROGRAMME, 2020/21 – GRANT APPLICATION	26 January 2021	Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer	<p>(1) That, subject to the council's Standard Conditions of Grant and, in the case of Finchley Victoria Bowling & Croquet Club, the special conditions shown in that assessment:</p> <p>(i) a one-off grant of £9,500 be awarded to Finchley Victoria Bowling & Croquet Club</p> <p>(ii) a one-off grant of £5,000 be awarded to North London Hospice</p> <p>(2) That, for the reason set out in the relevant assessment, the application by Barnet Borough Arts Council is not supported.</p>
CORPORATE GRANTS PROGRAMME, 2020/21 – GRANT APPLICATION	10 December 2020	Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer	<p>That, subject to the council's Standard Conditions of Grant, a one-off grant of £5,000 be awarded to Tzivos Hashem UK – Chabad Golders Green in support of the erection and lighting of the giant Menorah in Golders Green in celebration of the 2020 Chanukah Festival.</p>

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Discretionary LRSG (Open) and ARG Grants	7 December 2020	Director of Resources	<p>In response to Local and National Restriction rules the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced five separate business grants, triggered depending on whether an area is in Local Covid Alert Level High, Very High or National Restrictions.</p> <p>On the 19th November 2020 the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee took the following decisions under Delegated Powers:</p> <p>To Approve the Discretionary Local Restrictions Support and Additional Restrictions Grant Policy.</p> <p>To delegate authority to the Director of Finance (S151) to review and alter the policy and administration of the scheme as necessary to meet local requirements.</p> <p>Following Governments announcement of the new tiered system operating from 2nd December 2020 the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy amended the underlying payment term principle for grant awards. This amendment sees a change to the payment frequency from 28 days to 14.</p> <p>In response to this change I have approved the following amendments to our Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards will be for 14-day periods not 28 • Award values have been reduced as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o £2,100 payment reduced to £1,050 o £1,400 payment reduced to £700 o £934 payment reduced to £467 o £500 payment reduced to £250 • Added an exclusion that means businesses that have ceased trading since the relevant date are not eligible for further 14-day payment awards. This does not include those who have been legally required to close and intend to re-open when restrictions are lifted.
LBB Pension Scheme & Woodhouse College – Agreement to transfer of assets and liabilities	18 November 2020	Director of Finance (S151)	Approving the sealing of a legal agreement to transfer LGPS assets, liabilities and membership from Woodhouse College to Frontier Learning Trust

I have the required powers to make the decisions documented above or have delegated authority to the recorded Officer. I am satisfied that all relevant advice has been sought in taking the above decision in order to ensure that the decision making framework of the organisation including the Constitution, Scheme of Delegation, Budget and Policy Framework and Legal issues including Equalities obligations are applied. I also confirm that a full audit trail will be retained on file and available on request by the relevant authority.

Signed



Anisa Darr, Director of Resources (S151)

Date

30 March 2021
