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26 JANUARY 2022

404. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Managing Director declared no interests.

405. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS GRANT (ARG) SCHEME POLICY (TRANCHE 4)

Under the Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme (ARG) provisions, up until December 2021, the Local Authority had received funds totalling £3,198,875 of which only £34,543 remains.

The council has now received further funding of £119,339 from government in January 2022. This gives us a total of £153,882 to help businesses impacted by the Omicron variant as per the details in the policy document.

The council therefore needs a policy to determine eligibility criteria to be met, and hence the need for an urgent decision.

It is proposed that for this fourth round of the ARG scheme, all remaining funding, £153,882, will be available on a first come first served basis, with the scheme set to close for applications on 14 March 2022 (or earlier if the funding has been committed).

Under the emergency powers set out in Rule 26.22 of the Council's Constitution the Managing Director made the following decision in consultation with Councillors Forward, Batsford, Chowney, Rogers, Webb and Hilton.

RESOLVED:

To agree the Additional Restrictions Grant Policy (4th tranche) and the expenditure of £153,882 grant funding from HMG for the purpose of supporting eligible businesses.

Reasons:

The council needs a policy to determine eligibility criteria.

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Minute Annex

Managing Director Decision Notice



In accordance with Rule 26.22 of the Constitution the following decision was made with the emergency powers granted to the Managing Director.

The reasons for the decision are set out in the relevant minutes.

Item: Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Scheme Policy

Assistant Director: Peter Grace, Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues (Chief Finance Officer)

Decision Type: Cabinet

Decision:

To agree the Additional Restrictions Grant Policy (4th tranche) and the expenditure of £153,882 grant funding from HMG for the purpose of supporting eligible businesses.

Decision made in consultation with:

Cabinet	For	Against	Abstain
Councillor Forward	x		
Councillor Barnett			
Councillor Batsford	x		
Councillor Chowney	x		
Councillor Evans			
Councillor Rogers	x		
Councillor Webb	x		
Opposition			
Councillor Patmore			
Councillor Hilton	x		

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Hartnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Jane Hartnell
Managing Director
Hastings Borough Council