



# URGENT DELEGATED DECISION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

## PRESENT

**OFFICERS** Chris Gay - Governance Manger

<b>7. LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY BUSINESS GRANT SCHEME - SCHEME AMENDMENT</b>
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**Purpose** The purpose of the report is to seek approval to amend the Local Authority Discretionary Business Grant Scheme published on 21<sup>st</sup> May, following updated guidance from Government, using the Chief Executive's urgency powers under Part 3 of the Constitution (Executive Functions).

**Reason For Decision**

1. On 2nd May the Government announced additional funding – the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Scheme - to support small businesses that fell outside of the criteria of the Small Business Grant and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant funding announced in March. Burnley Council agreed and published its scheme on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020. The eligibility criteria were based on guidance from government which stated clearly that "businesses that had applied for the HMRC Self Employment Income Support Scheme would not be eligible for a grant under this scheme".
2. On Friday 22nd at 19.28hrs the Government issued revised guidance stating that businesses eligible for a grant from the Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will be eligible for the Discretionary Grants. The result is that some businesses that we had previously assumed would be out of scope will now be eligible
3. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May the Government issued further guidance in the form of a FAQ. This FAQ has provided some clarity with regard to the eligibility of B&B's and this has been reflected in the revised eligibility criteria.


Decision

That the Chief Executive exercise his urgency powers under Part 3 of the Constitution (Executive Functions):

- a) Approves the amended eligibility criteria and grant rates as set out in Appendix 1 of the report

The decision is an urgent key decision, and in order to implement the amendment to the scheme from 1st June 2020 is not subject to call-in, as agreed by the Chair of Scrutiny, in accordance with Part 4.5 of the constitution.

Decision made by: Chief Executive



Date: 1st June 2020

Decision Published on: 1st June 2020