

**28 May 2020**



**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISIONS NOTICE**

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION MADE UNDER THE SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH – BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The following decision (s) have been taken by Delegation under the grounds of urgency stated in the report and are exempt from call in and will therefore come into effect on 29 May 2020.

**Portfolio Holder Delegated Decision made on 28 May 2020**

**Decision**

1. That option 1 be approved.
2. That a two-phase approach to payment of the government Discretionary Grant Fund be approved.
3. That the grant payment levels as set out in the attached policy be approved in order to ensure that the allocated grant available in each district supports as many businesses as possible.
4. That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Economy and Regeneration, in consultation with the Cabinet members for Economy, to agree details of any second phase of support, provided that it only utilises any funds remaining from the initial phase and provided that any new phase is deliverable within the financial constraints of that remaining allocation.

**Key Decision: Yes**

**Subject to Call In: The decision is exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency due to the Government timeframe and the implication of supporting businesses during the Covid-19 Pandemic.**

**Reason for Decision**

- To enable delivery of the new Government Discretionary grant scheme within

required government timescales and financial allocations.

- To enable an agreed approach with neighbouring authorities that support an equitable experience for businesses in Suffolk
- To deliver a grant scheme which provides assistance to many businesses across the Districts who have been unable to claim support through existing government Covid 19 scheme

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Option 2 – Develop a scheme in isolation which seeks to make payments to the range of businesses who were unable to claim under current government support. Whilst we are aware of businesses who cannot claim current government grants, it has been difficult to establish meaningful groups of business type, outside the ones who are being proposed under this Discretionary Grants scheme and who also have not claimed alternative government support. Therefore, due to the government desire for Councils to launch these grants in a timely manner, it is proposed that the initial round is monitored in terms of spend and a further phase could be established at a later date.

**Any Declarations of Interest Declared:**

None

**Any Dispensation Granted:**

None