

Decision Under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting the Decision

Melinda Capewell – Business Support Manager

Officer Making the Decision

Justin Henry – Strategic Director, Commercial Services, Assets and Leisure

Recommendation

To approve the provision of support for the re-opening of facilities and businesses in the borough of Charnwood as part of the government's roadmap, using the Covid Contain Fund. The support will include:

High Street Ambassador, 37 hours a week, 1st July to 30th September 2021 (extension of existing temporary post via Matrix). Approximate cost is £8k.

High Street and Open Spaces Helpers on Grade A (Fixed Term post to be established via DD). Contracts based on 100 or 50 hours over a 12-week period from mid-June to early Sept 2021, with 400 total hours available. Dates to be confirmed via recruitment request. Approximate cost is £5k.

Provision of professional stewards to support Covid-19 safety compliance in the hospitality industry and public spaces as required during the period 1st July to 30th September 2021. Cost of Supervisor £16 per hour, Steward £14.50 per hour. Minimum of 6 hours per shift. Number of shifts to be confirmed but anticipated to be Fridays and Saturdays, plus event days. Approximate total cost is £17k.

The estimated total cost of this provision is £30k. Management of these resources will be via the Business Support Manager, post no. H589, in liaison with the Covid Safety Group.

Reason

As businesses open and shoppers return to our towns and villages, in accordance with the Government's Covid-19 Roadmap for lifting restrictions, support to maintain public safety and business recovery through advice and monitoring will be needed.

Authority for Decision

Under Section 8 of Constitution the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) has delegated authority to agree changes to the establishment, within budget and without major operational disruption or interruption or services or involving a change from direct to indirect provision or vice versa or other policy implications. This has been further sub-delegated by the Chief Executive to Strategic Directors/Heads of Service in certain circumstances (DD 002 021 refers)). These proposals fall within the limit of the authority of the relevant Strategic Director.

Decision

Approved on 28 May 2021



Justin Henry

Strategic Director – Commercial Development, Assets and Leisure

Background Information

The Coronavirus pandemic has brought with it the introduction of a significant amount of regulation affecting businesses across all sectors within the borough. Businesses have been required to either close, restrict their trading hours and change the way customers can access their services. As part of the Government's COVID-19 RESPONSE - SPRING 2021 (Road Map), it is anticipated that the re-opening of some business sectors associated with the easing of lockdown restrictions will significantly increase the need to monitor and support public safety, as well as assist businesses to reopen successfully.

The activities and spend against this allocation of the fund will be reported to and monitored by the Council's Covid 19 Monitoring Group.

Further allocation of the funding will be subject to additional separate Delegated Decisions.

Comments from HR

HR Adviser: Anna Cairns (21/5/21)

Comments: Please ensure any posts have been Job Evaluated if new posts, that the relevant recruitment process has been followed and that eforms are completed as appropriate.

Financial Implications

This support will be funded by the Covid Contain Fund. Approximate total spend is £30k.

Charge Code:

Cost Centre: X464

Subjective Code: T0100

Project Code: BG509

The activities and spend against this allocation of the fund will be reported to and monitored by the Council's Covid 19 Monitoring Group.

Risk Management

| Risk Identified | Likelihood | Impact | Risk Management Actions Planned |
|---|-------------------|---------------|--|
| Financial cost to the Council | High | Low | The government will ensure that local authorities are funded for the new requirements as quickly as possible, in line with the New Burdens doctrine |
| COVID 19 infection rates and local lockdown | Med | High | Plan is in place to undertake Compliance checks supported by this deployment of stewards and other staff to try and ensure controls remain in place. |

Key Decision: No

Date included on Forward Plan: N/A

Background Papers: None