

CABINET

21 April 2020

Title: Urgent Action: Sport and Leisure Management Support Package	
Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Core Services	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: None	Key Decision: No
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Accountable Director: Mark Tyson, Director of Policy and Participation	
Accountable Strategic Leadership Director: Claire Symonds, Chief Operating Officer	
Summary: <p>Following a Government order in the face of the Covid-19 public health emergency, all leisure centres in the Borough run by Sport and Leisure Management Limited (SLM), under the Service Agreement between SLM and the Council of 2017, have been required to temporarily close to the public.</p> <p>In order to protect the employment of the staff and to ensure the continued maintenance of the leisure centre buildings, the Council has been approached by SLM to provide a financial support package.</p> <p>The package of financial measures includes the temporary suspension of the management fee payments due from SLM to the Council, a 50% contribution to essential building maintenance costs while facilities are closed to the public and a loan of £241,000 to cover staff salary costs pending reimbursement from the Government under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.</p> <p>In the circumstances and with particular regard to the April 2020 payroll arrangements, the Chief Executive agreed that it would be appropriate to approve the financial support package under the Urgent Action provisions of Part 2, Chapter 16, paragraph 4 of the Constitution. It was also necessary to apply the Special Urgency arrangements as set out in Part 2, Chapter 17, paragraph 15 of the Constitution as the matter qualified as a 'key decision' but had not been publicised in advance on the Council's Forward Plan in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The detailed report which formed the basis of the Chief Executive's decision is set out at Appendix 1 to this report.</p> <p>In line with the Urgent Action and Special Urgency provisions, the Chair of the Cabinet and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were consulted prior to the Chief Executive taking the action on 9 April 2020.</p>	

Recommendation(s)

The Cabinet is asked to note the action taken by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the Urgent Action procedures set out in Part 2, Chapter 16, paragraph 4 and the Special Urgency provision under Part 2, Chapter 17, paragraph 15 of the Council Constitution, in relation to approving a financial support package for SLM in the light of the enforced closure of the Borough's leisure centres due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Reasons

To accord with the requirements of the urgency procedures contained within the Council Constitution.

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

- Letter signed by the Chief Executive dated 9 April 2020 entitled "Urgent Action under Paragraph 4, Chapter 16, Part 2 of the Constitution – Sport and Leisure Management Support Package"
(<https://modgov.lbbd.gov.uk/Internet/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=180&MId=10423&Ver=4>)

List of appendices:

- **Appendix 1** - Report entitled "Sport and Leisure Management Support Package"