

Urgent Key Delegated Decision

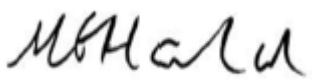
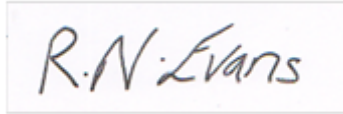
This form is the written record of an urgent key decision taken by an officer.

Lead director:	Director of Resources & Housing	
Contact person:	Victoria Bradshaw	Telephone number:
		0113 3788540
Subject¹:	Implementation of Expanded Business Rates Retail Discount 2020/21	
Decision details:	<p>What decision has been taken?²</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To adopt a scheme implementing the Government's Expanded Business Rates Retail Discount 2020/21 providing 100% business rates relief to retail, leisure, and hospitality properties. 2. To note that c£160m business rate relief will be claimed from the Government via S31 grant calculated by the completion of an updated NNDR1 return. 3. To reimburse business rates for 2020/21 where business which are eligible for business rates relief under the Expanded Business Rates Relief Discount 2020/21 have already paid business rates in 2020/21. 4. This decision will be exempted from call in. 	
	<p>A brief statement of the reasons for the decision³</p> <p>To implement the Government's COVID-19 response to extend business rate relief to retail, leisure, and hospitality properties.</p>	
	<p>Brief details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time of making the decision</p> <p>There are two alternative options: 1) Provide no relief, or 2) adopt a local scheme whereby the Council determines which businesses receive relief and how much they get.</p> <p>Neither option would comply with the Government's guidance. In addition, option 2 would not be compliant with the European Commissions rules as to the provision of State aid, and would delay the provision of support to businesses in greatest need.</p>	

¹ If the decision is key and has appeared on the list of forthcoming key decisions, the title of the decision should be the same as that used in the list

² Set out all necessary decisions to be taken by the decision taker including decisions in relation to exempt information, exemption from call in etc.

³ Include any significant financial, procurement or legal implications

Affected wards:	All
Details of consultation undertaken⁴:	Executive Member Cllr Lewis
	Ward Councillors All
	Others
Implementation	Officer accountable, and proposed timescales for implementation Victoria Bradshaw - immediate
Special Urgency	A brief statement of the reason why it is impracticable to delay the decision Any delay would mean that relief cannot be provided now to businesses that have been affected by Covid-19.
Approval of Scrutiny Chair:	Relevant Scrutiny Chair(s) Chair of Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) Cllr Harland
	Signature 
Call In	If exempt from call-in, the reason why call-in would prejudice the interests of the council or the public: Call-in would delay the granting of relief to businesses – this would be prejudicial to all businesses eligible for relief under the scheme.
Approval of Decision	Authorised decision maker ⁵ Neil Evans, Director of Resources & Housing
	 Neil Evans, Director of Resources & Housing

⁴ Include details of any interest disclosed by an elected Member on consultation and the date of any relevant dispensation given.

⁵ Name the officer with appropriate delegated authority to take the decision.

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