

## DECISION NOTICE

### Cabinet Meeting - 20 May 2020

Present: Philip Atkins, OBE (Chairman), Mark Deaville, Helen Fisher, Gill Heath, Mike Sutherland, Mark Sutton, Alan White, Philip White and Mark Winnington,

Cabinet Support Members in attendance - Gill Burnett, Bryan Jones, Jonathan Price and Conor Wileman

Also in attendance - Charlotte Atkins

#### PART ONE

##### 134. Decision notice of the meeting held on 15 April 2020

**Decision** – That the notes of the meeting held on 15 April 2020 be approved.

##### 135. Leader's Update

**Decision** – That the oral report of the Leader of the Council giving an update on a range of issues including the immense amount of work that the council and its staff, partners and volunteers were doing to keep Staffordshire people safe and well; that, this week, the 2,000th county council food parcel was delivered to vulnerable residents who had no family locally or a support network to call on; the launch of mental health awareness week; the support being given to schools so that they can reopen their doors to a number of pupils next month; the re-opening of the household waste and recycling centres and country parks; and the sad news of proposed redundancies at JCB; be noted.

##### 136. Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 May 2020

**Decision** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 May 2020 be received.

##### 137. Staffordshire County Council's Response to Coronavirus COVID-19



“Our response to coronavirus COVID-19 is ongoing with an ever-growing focus on how we help Staffordshire, our economy and our communities to recover from the unprecedented disruption to our lives.

This report provides an update on our leadership role and action, and how we are working with partners to protect the most vulnerable, ease the pressure on the NHS, support the county’s care sector, promote public health, and reignite our economy

The Prime Minister has now set out plans for reopening our society. As a county council, we have recognised the

	<p>need to restart our economy with the launch of our Back to Business campaign and we have been planning for how this council will support the county to recover for several weeks, including reopening some of our own services.</p> <p>It is hugely important for businesses to open their doors, people to get back to work and education and communities and services to rebuild, but this has to be when it is safe to do so and at the right pace.</p> <p>Over the coming weeks and months, we will all be treading a very fine line as we gradually reopen this county and this country. This is absolutely not a green light for everyone and everything to go back to as we were before the pandemic.”</p> <p>Philip Atkins OBE, Leader of the Council</p> <p>“I continue to hear about the incredible work of our staff, care workers, volunteers, friends and neighbours who are stepping up and doing their bit for people across the county. So many people are working round the clock to meet this once-in-a generation challenge and I continue to thank each and every one of them. My thoughts also go out to the many families and friends who have lost loved ones to this terrible disease often in heart-breaking circumstances.”</p> <p>Alan White, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing</p>
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**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider the progress made to date on assessing the current Coronavirus pandemic’s impact on the Council services and finances.

**(Note by Clerk:** The Chairman of the Corporate Review Committee agreed to the decision below being exempt from call-in as any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council’s or the public’s interests or the interests of any persons to whom the decision relates.)

**Decision** – (a) That the progress of Staffordshire County Council’s response to coronavirus COVID-19 be noted.

(b) That the Council’s Thanks be formally extended to its staff, care workers and volunteers for their efforts to support the response.

(c) That it be agreed that the additional government grant of £15.4m be allocated to the 2020/21 revenue budget.

(d) That further extra funding of £4.3m from the additional grant to support care providers, as set out in Table 1 to the report, be approved.

(e) That authority be given to individual members of the Senior Leadership Team (in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader where practicable) to incur further expenditure from the £15.4m budget up to a maximum of £2m per item of expenditure where it is considered necessary by the Council's Incident Management Team or the Senior Leadership Team to address the implications arising from the COVID-19 emergency. Any items of expenditure in excess of £2m will continue to require authorisation by Cabinet in the usual way.

**138. Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

	<p>“We know there is a global shortage of PPE and that’s why we have stepped into make sure no care provider in Staffordshire goes without the PPE it needs if it runs out.</p> <p>Our army of carer workers are doing an amazing job in extremely difficult times and we are determined to make sure they have what they need to protect themselves. We have supplied more than 700,000 pieces of equipment to Staffordshire’s care frontline already, and we are making sure that we have sufficient stock to maintain supplies. We are planning ahead to ensure we have sufficient supplies in stock until the current emergency is over.”</p> <p>Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial</p>
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**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider proposals to procure supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) which is a vital resource in Staffordshire’s response to the impacts and effective infection control management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Decision** – That officers be authorised to continue to procure supplies of PPE with a view to maintaining a rolling supply sufficient to last 12 weeks based on usage.

**139. Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers**

**Decision** – That the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers be noted:

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Decision</b>
Cabinet Member for Economic Growth	In approving the making of an allocation of £500,000 from the Corporate Priorities Programme to establish a Staffordshire COVID-19 Small Business Emergency Grant Scheme to provide an immediate emergency, grant based, financial support of up to £1,000 to help the smallest and most vulnerable businesses, including micro business and sole traders, across Staffordshire in the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic crisis. The Programme to act as a fund of last resort.

#### 140. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 17 June to 21 October 2020, which detailed the following issues, was approved:

<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Mitigation Plans for Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation	Name: Janene Cox Tel: (01785) 278368
Staffordshire County Council COVID-19 Planning and Recovery	Name: Janene Cox / Andrew Donaldson Tel: (01785) 278368/ 278399
Final Financial Outturn Report for 2019/20	Name: Rachel Spain Tel: (01785) 854455
South Staffordshire Growth Agreement - Project Update	Name: Anthony Hodge Tel: (01785) 277204
Recommissioning of Home Care Services	Name: Helen Trousdale Tel: (01785) 277008
Treasury Management report for the year ended 31 March 2020	Name: Rob Salmon Tel: (01785) 276354
North Staffordshire Ministerial Direction for Nitrogen Dioxide - Project Update	Name: Clive Thomson Tel: (01785) 276522
Refurbishment of Council Owned Older People Nursing Home	Name: Andrew Jepps Tel: (01785) 278557
Children's and Families (including SEND) System Transformation	Name: Janene Cox Tel: (01785) 278368
Waste Disposal Arrangements in the North of Staffordshire from 2025	Name: Clive Thomson Tel: (01785) 276522
Nexus Trading Services Limited - Annual Report 2019/2020	Name: Dr Richard Harling Tel: (01785) 278700

**Philip Atkins OBE**  
**Leader of the County Council**