## This report is PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON C O U N C I L Cabinet 24 May 2023

Report title Urgent decision relating to City West

Relaunch Grant Scheme

Wards affected St Peters

**Cabinet Member with lead** 

responsibility

Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy

Accountable director Richard Lawrence, Director of Regeneration

Originating service Enterprise

Accountable employee Isobel Woods Head of Enterprise

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Report to be/has been

considered by

Scrutiny Board 14 March 2023

## Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet is asked to:

1. Note the decision made under Urgent Decisions for Cabinet.

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### 1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet of an urgent decision made under Urgent Decision Provisions.

## 2.0 Background

2.1 Under the Council's Constitution, Part 2, Article 12, section 12.9:

The Leader (or in their absence the Deputy Leader) in consultation with the Chair of Scrutiny Board, Vice-Chair of Scrutiny Board and Chief Executive, shall be able to exercise the powers of the Cabinet in any matter of immediate urgency making the prompt exercise of the powers of the Cabinet desirable and which cannot await the next meeting of the Cabinet. Decisions made under this provision will be reported to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

## 3.0 Urgent Decision Provisions

3.1 The table below details the decision taken under Urgent Decision Provisions:

Decision maker	Date Approved	Contact Officer
Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy in consultation with the Chair of Scrutiny Board, Vice-Chair of Scrutiny Board and Chief Executive.	31 March 2023	Isobel Woods 01902 551848

#### Title and summary of decision

Urgent decision relating to City West Relaunch Grant Scheme

- 1. Approved the City West Relaunch grant scheme, to support businesses in the Victoria Street area to relaunch their business and payments to eligible businesses as per the criteria set out in appendix 1.
- 2. Approved the use of the Our City, Our Plan reserve up to £350,000 to support the City West Relaunch grant and the establishment of supplementary budgets.
- 3. Delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Inclusive City Economy and Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City in consultation with the Director of Regeneration and the Director of Finance to allocate any balances from the £350,000 to provide additional further necessary business support once all payments have been made to eliqible businesses.
- 4. Noted that given the 'go-live' date for this scheme is within the designated pre-election period of heightened political sensitivity where public communications activity is restricted, ahead of the all-out elections in the city on 4 May 2023, it is proposed that information regarding the scheme is limited specifically to the businesses affected and that any such communication is marked as private and confidential with further communication provided after the end of the pre-election period.
- 5. Noted that businesses may be able to receive Business Rate relief through established processes such as hardship relief and have been encouraged to contact the Business Rates team if they find themselves in financial difficulty.