

Report of the Chief Executive

USE OF URGENCY POWERS1. Purpose of report

To update Committee on approvals made by the Chief Executive using urgency powers, in respect of conditions relating to Pavement Licences under the provisions of the Business and Planning Act 2020, and refunds in respect of licence fees where businesses have been unable to trade as a result of lockdown measures. Additional information regarding decisions made on replacement of boilers at Bramcote Leisure Centre, expenditure on plans for Durban House and Local Government Reorganisation is included in appendix 4.

2. Detail

As the country emerges from lockdown, various measures have been introduced to assist businesses going forward. One such measure is contained in the Business and Planning Act 2020 (the Act) which came into force on 22nd July 2020. This provides a more streamlined approach to the application for a "Pavement Licence" which allows the siting, by a food business, of furniture on a highway for the use of customers. Prior to the introduction of the Act, this was the responsibility of the County Council.

In order for the Authority to be in a position to deal with any licence applications, it was necessary to have in place a set of approved conditions. These were agreed by General Management Team and approved by the Chief Executive using urgency powers. Details are in appendix 1 and the conditions are shown in appendix 2.

Following representations from some businesses and the local MP, consideration was given to refunds of licence fees in respect of businesses which had been prevented from trading. General Management Team considered a four-month refund in respect of businesses licensed for massage and special treatment, and animal welfare (pet shops, animal boarding, horse riding) these were approved by the Chief Executive using urgency powers in consultation with the Leader of the Council. Details of the numbers and costs are shown in appendix 3.

Recommendation**The Committee is asked to NOTE the decisions made by the Chief Executive**Background papers

Nil