

# Leadership Advisory Panel

10:00am, Thursday, 23 April 2020

## Decisions taken under emergency powers

Executive/routine  
Wards  
Council Commitments

### 1. Recommendations

---

1.1 To note the report.

**Andrew Kerr**

Chief Executive

Contact: Gavin King, Democracy, Governance and Resilience Senior Manager

E-mail: [gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk) | Tel: 0131 529 4239

# Report

## Decisions taken under emergency powers

### 2. Executive Summary

---

- 2.1 This report highlights the decisions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader, under emergency provisions in response to the Covid-19 emergency.

### 3. Background

---

- 3.1 The Scheme of Delegation to Officers has the following provisions delegating powers to the Council's Chief Executive:
- 3.1.1 take action to ensure that the Council's responsibilities and duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and other emergency planning, business continuity and resilience legislation are discharged;
  - 3.1.2 take any urgent action necessary in the event of a civil emergency, business continuity or resilience incident.

### 4. Main report

---

- 4.1 The Chief Executive has had to exercise his emergency powers detailed in the Scheme of Delegation in response to the Covid-19 emergency. This is the second report detailed the decisions taken under emergency provisions. The Chief Executive has taken the following decisions, in consultation with the Leader and Depute Leader.

| Decision  | Date     |
|---|----------|
| Newkirkgate will stay as the venue in Leith for the CRC. No other alternatives were suitable.   | 26/03/20 |
| Community Centres: To agree that management committees could open for essential charitable purposes in line with Government guidance e.g. foodbanks.                            | 26/03/20 |
| We have agreed we will purchase in advance 96 beds at hotel as an urgent resource for homelessness. <b>See further approved decision as this arrangement had to be changed.</b> | 26/03/20 |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Queensferry High School - To not accept a partially completed building.  | 30/03/20 |
| To open PPP Hub Schools for Easter, including Good Friday and Easter Monday, to provide key worker child support.                          | 30/03/20 |
| To provide funding of approximately £24k to Volunteering Edinburgh ahead of grants approval from Scottish Government.                      | 01/04/20 |
| School meals payment to be approved every fortnight.   | 02/04/20 |
| Paper on Supplier Relief due to Covid-19 was approved.   | 02/04/20 |
| Death registration to 7 days a week  | 04/04/20 |
| 44 Rooms in hotel block booked for three months for temporary housing. Ability to on spot purchase provided.                               | 08/04/20 |
| Food Distribution – EVOC - plan in principle approved.   | 09/04/20 |
| Parks - Gardens on the Southside to be closed due to social distancing not being carried out and Police having to attend due to incidents. | 14/04/20 |

- 4.2 In addition, the External Audit Annual Plan was agreed by the Chief Executive, under urgency provisions detailed in the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions, Paragraph A4.1 and in consultation with the Convener of Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 14 April 2020. This was necessary to ensure the Council met its compliance requirements.

## 5. Next Steps

---

- 5.1 Not applicable.

## 6. Financial impact

---

- 6.1 The financial impacts of decisions in response to Covid-19 are being tracked and monitored by the Head of Finance and are the subject of another report on this agenda.

## 7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

---

- 7.1 All decisions taken under emergency powers are being reported to the next available committee.

## 8. Background reading/external references

---

- 8.1 [Scheme of Delegation to Officers](#)

**9. Appendices**

---

None