

**Covid-19 Decision Log –24<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Item No	Key Decision	Decision Maker	Decision	Reason for decision	Total Value of the decision and Budget Implication (500k revenue or 1 mill capital)	Are 2 or more Wards Impacted?	Date of Decision	Members briefed
1.	Yes	Ian MacLeod, Acting Director, Inclusive Growth	To agree grant funding for allocated £1,016,937 of funding (via ERDF) to Birmingham to assist in the safe recovery of high streets in the city	Although the allocation of funding was announced in June 2020, the Grant Funding Agreement was only issued to the City Council in March 2021. The City Council is ready to submit its first claim to recover the costs already incurred, which have been in line with the report to Strategic Group and to Cabinet. There is now an urgency to recovering this resource and submitting the claim.	£1,016,937 (against which costs incurrent to date can be claimed).	Yes	05.03.21	Councillor Ian Ward, Leader
2.	Yes	Acting Director Neighbourhoods	That should the easing of lockdown take place as indicated in the governments' plan, Strategic Cell states when it would intend for Birmingham City Council to cease the funding of accommodation and subsistence for people with NRPF.  Contingent upon decision relevant to recommendation 'a'. That Strategic Cell agrees to a provision of £200,000 to be made for the ongoing delivery of accommodation and subsistence to individuals with no recourse to public funds for the period April – June 2021, should conditions require this.	Agreement was given to continue provision to those identified and currently accommodated while there is no reasonable alternative and in order to protect from Covid-19; that this provision will not go beyond 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021. No new approaches of people with NRPF will be considered for accommodation and subsistence under 'everyone-in' provision. That up to £200,000 be available for this purpose, that these funds should come from Covid-19 spending.	Up to £200,000 for provision April – June 2021	Yes	08.03.2021	Cabinet Member Neighbourhoods
3.	Yes	Acting Director Inclusive Growth	This report is seeking approval for the City Council to defer the two 2020/21 loan repayments totalling £1.076m due from its wholly owned company; Birmingham City Propco Ltd (Propco) until end of 2021/22 and waive the interest penalty, due to circumstances caused by the Coronavirus pandemic.	To formally address the potential short-term liquidity problems and enable the company Directors to provide their opinion on the Going Concern status as part of the finalisation of the 2019/20 Financial Statements, to comply with external audit requirements.  Propco is the Council's commercial property investment vehicle and penalising the company for the impact of Covid is not consistent with Council's position in relation to the recovery of outstanding rental income under the Coronavirus Act. Propco is not in a position, due to size, to qualify for any other direct Covid assistance.	Cashflow forecasts shows that if Propco were to pay the two 2020/21 loan instalments totalling £1.076m then the cash position would be overdrawn by £0.367m at the 2020/21 financial year-end and would continue to be overdrawn into the 2021/22 financial year until the hotel companies make regular payments in line with the agreed repayment plan. Should the Council agree to the loan deferral of £1.076m into the 2021/22 financial year then the company will be in a position to make the August 2021 and February 2022	Yes	18.03.2021	Leader

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					instalments of £0.537m as they fall due and the full 2020/21 deferred payment of £1.076m by end of March 2022.			
4.	Yes	Acting Director Neighbourhoods	Approval for the council to enter into a licence with the Hippodrome Theatre (Hurst Street, B5 4TB) from 15 February 2021 until 4 July 2021, to be used as the council's new city centre LFD testing and training venue at a total cost of £315,000. This followed a requirement for the council team to vacate the arena by the 18 February 2021 to enable the arena staff to prepare for the next booking. Noting that the council will be making use of a storage unit at the Wholesale Markets (Nobel Way, B6 7EU) to be used as the LFD testing logistics hub. This will also be until 4 July 2021 and at a total internal cost of £40,000.	The other venues were rejected due to being higher cost or having poor layout for testing purposes. For those venues that had suitable layouts the costs quoted were £30,000 per week or more, which is double the weekly cost of the Hippodrome Theatre. 2.2 The team also identified the Wholesale Markets as an alternate location for the LFD logistics operation. The Wholesale Markets is better setup to manage the daily deliveries and collections that are needed to support the expanding LFD testing operation across the city. It is also the location of the current PPE stores and the view is that there are synergies between the two logistics operations that could enable future benefits to be leveraged. 2.3 This will result in a reduction in weekly costs from £130,000 per week to less than £15,000 per week (excluding moving costs).	Licence with the Hippodrome Theatre (Hurst Street, B5 4TB) from 15 February 2021 until 4 July 2021, to be used as the council's new city centre LFD testing and training venue at a total cost of £315,000  The storage unit at the Wholesale Markets (Nobel Way, B6 7EU) to be used as the LFD testing logistics hub. This will also be until 4 July 2021 and at a total internal cost of £40,000	Yes	10.02.2021	Leader
5.	Yes	Acting Director Neighbourhoods	Quarter 3 Supplier Relief Payment to Birmingham Community Leisure Trust Limited.	The cost of fully supporting the Trust's claim, inclusive of central support costs, but excluding a small amount with regards non-cash items is considered to be the most economical and recommend outcome, made to avoid the alternative scenario of interpreting the Government's coronavirus legislation as a contractual change in law. The implications of which would result in all financial liabilities falling back to the Council for the remaining 9½ years of the contract.	£1.145m (revenue) grant payment award, an element of which will be funded from the extra financial support provided by the National Leisure Recovery Fund, subject to confirmation of funding conditions. The claim is for BCC to pay the contractor when they would normally pay BCC, so the budget impact is greater by circa £0.237m, which qualifies for government compensation of 75p for every £1 lost.	Yes	15.03.2021	Leader Councillor Hamilton