

Report to: **Leader and Lead Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development**

Date: **2 April 2020**

By: **Assistant Chief Executive**

Title: **Coronavirus (Covid-19) contingency arrangements**

Purpose: **To consider proposed temporary measures to be put in place in response to Covid-19.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Leader is recommended to:

Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to take any executive decision which she considers appropriate in response to the outbreak of Covid-19

1. Background

1.1 The current incidence of the Covid-19 virus both nationally and internationally is beginning to cause disruption to a range of business and social activity. There may be a need for additional preventative measures to be introduced nationally to help contain or delay the spread of the virus. This includes potential advice to individuals or groups to self-isolate for periods of time, and/or for more general restrictions on travel or gatherings. It is also likely that more people will become unwell as a result of the virus.

1.2 The current situation is moving at pace and requires decisions to be taken at short notice. Although measures are being put in place for Lead Member decisions to be taken virtually it may in certain situations not be possible or prudent to wait for the Lead Member to take the decisions meeting.

1.3 It is therefore recommended that the Leader delegates authority to the Chief Executive to take any executive decision which she considers appropriate in response to the Covid-19 to help safeguard the residents of East Sussex.

1.4 It is recognised that this is a significant step and unprecedented. Where the Chief Executive exercises this delegation and the power exercised is not one currently set out in the scheme of delegation to officers then she will report this decision to the Group Leaders as soon as practicable.

PHILIP BAKER
Assistant Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Andy Cottell
Tel: 01273 481955
Email: andy.cottell@eastsussex.gov.uk

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None