

# **NOTICE OF A CASE OF SPECIAL URGENCY FOR THE MAKING OF A KEY DECISION<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Regulation 11(2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

1. Where a decision maker intends to make a key decision,<sup>2</sup> that decision must not be made until at least 28 clear days public notice has been given<sup>3</sup>.
2. Where the publication of the intention to make a key decision is impracticable, that decision may only be made where the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been informed of the matter about which the decision is to be made, notice to the Chair has been made available for public inspection at the Council offices and published on the Council's website, and after 5 clear days have elapsed following the day on which notice to the Chair was made publicly available<sup>4</sup>.
3. Where the date by which a key decision must be made makes compliance with the requirements of paragraph 2 above impracticable the decision may only be made where the decision maker has obtained agreement from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred<sup>5</sup>.
4. **This notice<sup>6</sup> confirms that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the making of the key decision in relation to the business set out below is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred for the reasons set out below.**

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<sup>2</sup> A Key Decision is defined in legislation as an executive decision, which is likely:

- to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.
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<sup>3</sup> In accordance with Regulation 9(2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

<sup>4</sup> In accordance with Regulation 10(1) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

<sup>5</sup> In accordance with Regulation 11(1) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

<sup>6</sup> In accordance with Regulation 11(2) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Date of decision or period within which the decision is to be made	Matter in respect of which the decision is to be made	Short description	Decision maker	Cabinet Member & Lead Officer	List of documents to be submitted to the decision maker	If all or part of the report is exempt or confidential this will be stated below and reason given. If all the papers are publicly accessible this column will say public	Reasons why decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred
Between 24 March and 1 April 2023	Household Support Fund in Haringey	<p>The Government, through the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) has now announced that the Household Support Fund will be extended for the period 1st April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</p> <p>The objective of the Scheme is to provide support to vulnerable households and families with children struggling with the significant rise in living costs with an emphasis on supporting households with energy, food and water bills. Local authorities are responsible for administering the Scheme and funding has been allocated to each authority. Haringey Council has been allocated £4,813,343.44 for the 12 month period.</p> <p>The funding will enable the Council to provide support to families with children, other vulnerable households, and individuals in financial stress.</p> <p>This decision will approve the first tranche of the funding which is £300,0000 for Free School Meal vouchers during the Easter half term.</p>	Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services, In accordance with Part 3, Section E, paragraph 5.01 (a)	<p>Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services</p> <p>Assistant Director Place Based Commissioning and Partnerships</p>	Assistant Director Place Based Commissioning and Partnerships	Public	<p>The Household Support Fund is expected to families with children, other vulnerable households, and individuals in financial stress between the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The guidance and final allocation from the DWP was issued in late February 2023.</p> <p>The funding period is due to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April and therefore, an urgent decision is required for the administration of the funding to meet the needs of households that require urgent support, including experiencing income and financial insecurity.</p> <p>Given the need to have necessary plans in place before the Easter half term to ensure the effective delivery of the support in the form of vouchers to those eligible for Free School Meals through</p>

		<p>It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves the Household Support Fund Scheme Policy: March 2023 Phase 1, which sets out the Council's arrangement for administering the first part of the funding.</li> <li>• Delegates authority to the Director for Adults, Health and Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services, to amend this policy to give effect to changes in legislation, statutory or non-statutory guidance, or directives or instructions of a similar character issued by Government.</li> <li>• Agrees that this policy is subject to the availability of government funding and will terminate on 31st March 2024 unless terminated earlier.</li> </ul>					<p>Schools in the borough, it is not practicable to comply with the 28-day notice requirement in Part Four, Section D, Rule 13 or the 5-day notice requirement in Part Four, Section D, Rule 4, or the General Exception procedure at Part Four, Section D, or the Call-In Procedure Rules at Part Four, Section H.</p>

*Please be advised that the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny has further agreed that the call-in procedure shall not apply to this urgent decision. This is because the decision is urgent and any delay in implementation caused by the call-in procedure would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests due to the fact that any delay in decision making will impact on the ability to utilise available funding to support households with children, other vulnerable households and individuals in Haringey. The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the decision is both reasonable in all circumstances, and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency. This is in accordance with Part 4, Section H, and Paragraph 18 (a) and (b) of the Council Constitution.*

Fiona Alderman  
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Haringey Council

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