

# Report

## Audit Committee

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### Part 1

**Date:** 5 September 2019

**Item:** 8

**Subject** **Standing Order 24 (Urgent Decisions) or Waiving of Contract Standing Orders Quarter 1: April to June 2019**

**Purpose** To inform Members of the use of Standing Order 24 or the Waiving of Contract Standing Orders in recent decisions taken by Cabinet and Cabinet Members.

**Author** Governance Officer

**Ward** General

**Summary** This report provides details of decisions on the use of Standing Order 24 (decisions taken urgently) or the Waiving of Contract Standing Orders for the above period.

In consideration of this report, Members are reminded that they are not questioning the merits of the decisions taken but are focussing on why decisions were taken as urgent or why contract standing orders needed to be waived.

**Proposal** **The Committee is asked to consider whether the reasons for the urgency/waiving of contract standing orders are properly reflected in the documentation supporting each decision. Members may wish to invite Cabinet Members to attend a meeting of the Committee should they consider this not to be the case.**

**Action by** Audit Committee

**Timetable** Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Head of Law & Regulation
- Head of Finance
- Chief Internal Auditor

## **Background**

Details of the decisions taken by Cabinet/Cabinet Members during the above period are set out in the table below, together with a commentary from the Chief Internal Auditor. Copies of the report giving rise to the decision are attached.

In this section you must set out all necessary information to allow Councillors to take an informed decision. You will need to put forward the case to support your proposals.

## **Financial Summary**

The cost implications of the decisions were set out in the original reports to the Cabinet Members. There are no cost implications of the Committee's consideration of this report.

## **Risks**

Scrutiny of these matters by the Committee is an important means of ensuring that the reasons for the urgency or waiving of Contract Standing Orders were properly addressed in the decision making process and that decisions are transparent.

## **Options Available / Preferred Option and Why**

The Committee is asked to consider whether the reasons for the urgency/waiving of contract standing orders are properly reflected in the documentation supporting each decision. Members may wish to invite Cabinet Members to attend a meeting of the Committee should they consider this not to be the case.

## **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

See original reports attached.

## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

See original reports attached.

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

See original reports attached.

## **Equalities Impact Assessment and the Equalities Act 2010**

See original reports attached.

## **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

See original reports attached.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

See original reports attached.

## **Consultation**

See original reports attached.

Subject	Decision & Date	Reason for Urgency/Reason to waive Contract Standing Orders	Comments of Chief Internal Auditor
<b>Award of additional £1m for Town Centre Repayable Funding</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing</b>  <b>20 March 19</b>	The Repayable Funding awarded by the Welsh Government must be claimed in full by 21 March 2019 and any unclaimed part of the Repayable Funding will cease to be available to Newport City Council after this date.	<p>A timeline has been included within the body of the report which shows that, although the process started in January 2019, Welsh Government did not confirm the award until 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019.</p> <p>Appropriate justification for the urgency of the decision has therefore been confirmed and was included within the report.</p>

## Background Papers

The following documentation is provided as background to the above decisions:

### Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing 20 March 2019

- Decision Schedule attached as **Appendix A**
- Report attached as **Appendix B**

Dated: 21 June 2019