

Record of Officer Decision

Torbay Isolation Payments Discretionary Scheme Additional Funding

Decision Taker and Date Decision Taken:

Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, on 19 November 2020

Summary of Matter or Issue Requiring Decision:

In addition to the statutory scheme for Isolation Payments, the Government had awarded Torbay Council £40,609.60 to support people who were required by law to self-isolate due to Covid-19 from 28 September through a payment of a one of grant of £500 for those who were on a lower income who could not work from home and lost income as a result, but did not meet the criteria for the Government funded payments.

Demand for the Scheme had exceeded the amount of funding provided by the Government, leaving many people who were losing income and experiencing financial hardship as a result of complying with the legal duty to self-isolate when told to do so by NHS Test and Trace in a very difficult position. Therefore it was proposed to allocate an additional £65,000 to continue to support our residents.

Full details of the support available to Torbay residents who are required to self-isolate due to Covid-19 can be found on our website at

<https://www.torbay.gov.uk/council/policies/finance-policies/test-and-trace-support-payments/>

Decision Taken:

That £65,000 be allocated to the Torbay Isolation Discretionary Scheme to enable the Council to continue making payments under the Scheme, to be funded from Lockdown Grant.

Summary of Reason(s) for Decision Taken:

To enable the Council to continue to provide grant funding to financially vulnerable people in Torbay who are required to isolate due to Covid-19 and do not meet the Government's criteria for support, in order to minimise the spread of Covid-19.

Summary of Alternatives or Options considered and rejected and Background Papers:

None

Details of any conflict of interest and dispensation granted to the Officer taking the decision or by any Member of the Council in delegating responsibility for any specific express delegation:

None

Implementation:

This decision will come into force immediately.

A copy of this decision and any supporting documentation considered by the Officer taking this decision may also be available for inspection by the public at the Council's offices or posted upon payment of any copying and postage charges. Any member of the public wishing to take up either of these options is asked to please ring (01803) 207087 or email governance.support@torbay.gov.uk

Signed: _____ Date: 19 November 2020
Chief Finance Officer