

**ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY**

Committee: Council

Date: 21 May 2020

Author: John Hill, Chief Executive

[V6]

1.0 **ISSUE**

1.1 To note the action taken by the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the action taken by the Chief Executive on grounds of urgency be noted.

3.0 **BACKGROUND**

**(a) Supplementary Council Procedure Rules**

3.1 S78 of Coronavirus Act 2020 provided that regulations can be made relating to requirements for local authorities in relation to holding meetings, requirements on timings and frequency of meetings, the place at which meetings must be held and the way in which people may attend, speak and vote.

3.2 The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 4<sup>th</sup> April and make provision for remote attendance at, and remote access to, council meetings held on or before 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. These are the regulations flowing from s78.

3.3 The Regulations provide for local authorities standing orders (procedure rules) about remote attendance at meetings and accordingly, the Council's Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer have drafted a new Council Procedure Rule 30 to be added to the Constitution to cover the regulation of proceedings at remote meetings.

3.4 The Council's first remote Planning Committee meeting took place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

3.5 In accordance with Part 3(4) paragraph 4.1, of the Constitution, the Chief Executive consulted the Leader of Council prior to the delegated decisions. The Chairman of Council and the Leaders of the Liberal Democrat and Independent Groups were subsequently notified of the delegated action taken.

3.6 In accordance with paragraph 4.1 of the Constitution, the urgent actions are being reported to Council for information.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 There are no additional financial implications.

4.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required for the purposes of this report.

5.0 APPENDICES

None

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<b><u>Background Documents</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Contact Officer</u></b>
East Cambridgeshire District Council Constitution: Part 3, Page 4, Paragraph 4.1 Urgent Action Memos dated: 16 April 2020	Room 103 The Grange Ely	John Hill Chief Executive (01353) 665555 <a href="mailto:john.hill@eastcambs.gov.uk">john.hill@eastcambs.gov.uk</a>