

**Standing Order 19.2 Decisions
Report by Chief Executive**

Report for Noting

1 Recommendations

Council is invited to note the terms of this report.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the decision taken at the meeting of the Leaders' Group of 11 January 2021 in terms of Standing Order 19.2.

Date: 1 February 2021

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3 Background

3.1 Standing Order 19.2 states that:

“The Chief Executive, after discussion with the Leader of the Council, whom failing the Depute Leader of the Council, will have authority to take decisions where urgent or immediate action is required. Where such decision(s) is required, the Chief Executive will provide a report to the next available full Council meeting to inform the Council of such decision(s).”

3.2 At their meeting on 11 January 2021, the 3 Group Leaders agreed to cancel the committee meetings scheduled during January and February. The agreement reached at the meeting was in the following terms:

“Schedule of Meetings January and February – raised by DM. The 3 Group Leaders agreed with the suggestion made by DM to cancel the committee meetings scheduled during January and February. This will allow senior officers to concentrate on dealing with matters arising from the pandemic. It was further agreed that exceptions to this will be the Seminar scheduled for 11 January regarding the Easter Bush, A701 and A702 Project (due to the economic benefit to the district of this proceeding); the Planning Committee on 12 January (the agenda having been issued and sufficient business to transact) and the Council meeting on 23 February. Meetings of BTSG specific to the budget setting process will also proceed although the dates currently fixed may require to be changed due to the expected later announcement from the Scottish Government regarding grant allocation for 2021-22. A review of the position will be carried out mid-February. The CE agreed to use her power in terms of Standing Order 19.2 to action this decision and cancel such meetings where it was not already within the remit of the CE and Executive Director Place to make changes to internal corporate meetings and cancel meetings due to insufficient business. The CE further agreed, in terms of her power under Standing Order 19.2 that any issue too urgent to wait until the Council meeting on 23 February would be referred to the Group Leaders for a decision.”

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

None

4.2 Digital

None

4.3 Risk

Failure to report this decision would lead to a lack of governance.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

This report does not recommend any change to policy or practice and therefore does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment.

4.4 Additional Report Implications

See Appendix A

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – Background information/Links

Redacted note of Meeting of Group Leaders on 11.01.2021

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Not applicable

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- ☐ Holistic Working
- ☐ Hub and Spoke
- ☐ Modern
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☐ Transformational
- ☐ Preventative
- ☐ Asset-based
- ☐ Continuous Improvement
- ☐ One size fits one
- ☒ None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- ☐ One Council Working with you, for you
- ☐ Preventative and Sustainable
- ☐ Efficient and Modern
- ☐ Innovative and Ambitious
- ☒ None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

The report does not directly impact on Delivering Best Value

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The report does not directly relate to involving communities

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The report does not directly impact on Midlothian Council's performance and outcomes

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable

APPENDIX B

Background Papers/Resource Links (if applicable)

Redacted note of Meeting of Group Leaders on 11.01.2021