



## Decisions taken under the Chief Executive's delegated powers (Section 5, paragraph 1.1.13 of the Authority's Scheme of Delegation)

Microsoft Teams meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2020 at  
9.30 am

Present: Alison Barnes (Chief Executive)  
Nigel Stone (Chief Financial Officer)  
Rosalind Alderman (Solicitor/Monitoring Officer)  
David Stone (Corporate Services Manager)

1. Alison Barnes referred to the e-mail sent to members on 19 March 2020 advising that, in view of the situation created by the coronavirus pandemic and the cancellation of all Authority meetings for the time being, any urgent or necessary decision would, for this period, take place under the Chief Executive's delegation for urgent matters.
2. Two such matters included in the e-mail were the approval of the revenue budget for the financial year 2020/21, which must take place by the end of the current financial year, and the setting of the Work Programme 2020-2021, which is necessary to direct the Authority's work over the coming months. Both items had been discussed at the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee on 16 March 2020 and recommended for approval.
3. Members had been invited to comment on the reports on these two issues which had been attached to the e-mail. Four replies had been received by David Stone from members by the deadline for replies – Friday 27 March 2020; all of these supported the RAPC's recommendations.
4. It was also noted that a workshop with members had been held on 2 March 2020 to consider the core issues to be included in the new work programme and these had been supported by those members present. The draft work programme presented to the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee on 16 March 2020 had been based on these discussions.
5. Alison Barnes mentioned that the Executive Leadership Team would carefully review the potential impact(s) of the coronavirus on the work programme over the coming weeks and keep Members updated accordingly.

6. Rosalind Alderman confirmed that in her view both the approval of the budget and work programme were appropriate matters for consideration and decision under the Chief Executive's delegated powers for urgent matters.

Alison Barnes, Chief Executive, agreed that, taking into account the above information, her decision was to approve under the Chief Executive's delegated powers (Section 5, paragraph 1.1.13 of the Authority's Scheme of Delegation) both the revenue budget for the financial year 2020/21 and Work Programme 2020/2021 as circulated to members in the e-mail from the Corporate Services Manager dated 19 March 2020.

7. Alison noted that the Authority Chairman, Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre, had been involved in the detailed discussions and recommendations at and following the Resources, Audit and Performance Committee meeting, but asked that David Stone e-mail him during course of the day to obtain his confirmation of the above decision. She also asked that David e-mail all members to advise them of this decision.
8. Rosalind undertook to review the meetings webpages to create a page setting out those decisions taken under delegated powers and place the minute of the above decision on the Authority's website for interested members of the public.
9. It was also noted that the urgent delegation could only be used where a particular decision was considered necessary to protect the NPA's interests. Officers noted that Regulations were expected to be made by the end of the week under section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020, to allow decisions to take place by way of remote meetings.

Drafted by David Stone, Manager of Corporate Services, New Forest National Park Authority on Tuesday 31 March 2020