



Council

Decisions taken under General Urgency – Rule 19

Date: 27 September 2023

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Contributors: Head of Governance and Committee Services

Outline and recommendations

Council is asked to note the decisions detailed in the report that were taken under Rule 19 – General Urgency.

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

1. Summary

- 1.1. The Constitution requires that the Mayor must report to Council any executive decisions taken under Rule 19 – Special Urgency.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Council is asked to note the information contained in this report.

3. Background

- 3.1. On 15 May 2023, following a funding announcement by the Mayor of London regarding universal Key Stage 2 Free School Meals, the Mayor agreed to:
 - 3.1.1. formally accept the one academic year funding (2023/24) and instructed officers to write back stipulating the financial implications for the council and schools as outlined above; and
 - 3.1.2. approve capital funding of up to £620k and instruct officers to commence procurement of the necessary kitchen equipment to enable the delivery of these meals from September 2023.
- 3.2. Timing requirements imposed by the Mayor of London meant that the normal council decision making processes could not be followed.
- 3.3. Rule 19 – Special Urgency provides that urgent executive decisions can be taken without providing 28 days notice in the forward plan of key decisions, and that the decision can be exempted from call-in with the agreement of the Chair of the Council’s Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Speaker of Council.
- 3.4. This decision was taken by the Mayor on 15 May 2023 having obtained agreement from the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny and the Speaker to apply Rule 19 – Special Urgency.

4. Report author and contact

- 4.1. Emma Campbell Smith, Head of Governance and Committee Services.
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5. Appendices

- 5.1. **Appendix A** – report Mayor of London Grant for Key Stage 2 Universal Free School

Meals

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s109485/MC%20Decision%20Report%20-%20Mayor%20of%20London%20Grant%20for%20Key%20Stage%202%20Universal%20Free%20School%20Meals%2015.5.23.pdf>

- 5.2. **Appendix B** - Universal Free School Meals – information on grant allocations, funding flows, grant conditions and principles

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s109486/Appendix%201%20-%20UFSM%20Grant%20Conditions%20and%20Principles.pdf>

- 5.3. **Appendix C** –Notice of Key Decision for which it has not been possible to provide notice

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s109487/Notice%20Rule%2019%20FSM%20decision%2015%20May%2023.pdf>