

# Public Document Pack

## Officer Decisions

Friday, 3rd April, 2020  
10.00 am

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### AGENDA

1. **Coronavirus Emergency - Strategic Food Supplies for Lancashire (LRF) Local Resilience Forum**  
**PART 1 LRF. Officer decision \_ FoodPackages V2** 2 - 7  
**PART 2 LRF. Officer decision \_ FoodPackages V2**
  
2. **Appletrees Building Work**  
**RDP-Delegated-powers Appletrees Building work** 8 - 9

Date Published: Date Not Specified  
Denise Park, Chief Executive

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN THE CONSTITUTION – Part 3 Section 16



DELEGATED  
OFFICER DECISION Chief Executive  
TAKEN BY:  
PORTFOLIO  
AREA: ALL

**SUBJECT: Coronavirus Emergency – Strategic Food Supplies for Lancashire (LRF) Local Resilience Forum**

### 1. DECISION

The Chief Executive in accordance with the Blackburn with Darwen Constitution Section 16, under powers delegated to her, to take any action , including incurring expenditure, in connection with an emergency or disaster to the district agrees:

- the purchase of food for food packages for future distribution to vulnerable persons across Lancashire in accordance with arrangements as agreed by the Lancashire Resilience Forum to respond to the current national coronavirus pandemic as set out in this report, and including the option for delivery to local areas.

### 2. REASON FOR DECISION

The Coronavirus pandemic has resulted in the implementation of the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) Gold Command and report through to Central Government. As part of the urgent action required to plan for the continuation of essential social care and other support to the most vulnerable across Lancashire communities it has been agreed that the three Upper tier Councils with social care responsibilities urgently access and store food for food parcels; these being Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council on behalf of the LRF.

### 3. BACKGROUND

As part of the plan to provide emergency food to vulnerable people across Lancashire a supplier has been identified who can provide food for packages which will be warehoused pending distribution, to those in need in the coming weeks.

The food will be warehoused for collection and there is an option for delivery costs to agreed points across Lancashire.

#### **Monitoring Officer & Legal Implications and Comments**

The Chief Executive (who also undertakes the statutory Head of Paid Service role) has delegated powers under the Officer Scheme of Delegation “To take any action, including incurring expenditure, in connection with an emergency or disaster in a district”. In addition, all local authority chief executive officers are responsible for ensuring their local authority complies with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and that the local authority continues to perform its functions. In relation to the current situation,

the Council must also have regard to Article 2 of the ECHR, as the ultimate aim of expenditure is to protect individual's right to life.

The contract has been awarded pursuant to a negotiated procedure without prior publication, as permitted by Regulation 32 (2c) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

#### **Section 151 Officer & Finance Implications and Comments**

The cost has been negotiated by the LRF with the identified supplier and payment arrangements agreed to secure the order urgently. Should delivery be required this will be subject of additional costs to be agreed.

#### **4. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

In the current climate the LRF have considered all options to secure food parcels and this option is the only one currently considered viable to be delivered in the extreme circumstances and shortage of time to secure the number of food parcels required across Lancashire to avoid severe potential hardship and adverse health implications to Lancashire residents.

Further information is available via the Lancashire LRF

#### **5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and that of any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below.

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Denise Park, Chief Executive</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	27 March 2020
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<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	LRF – Request for Urgent and Immediate Action dated 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2020
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Signed:



**Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Monitoring Officer to confirm decision in  
accordance with Council Constitution  
Delegated Powers**


**Date: 27.03.2020**

Signed:



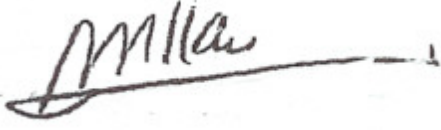
<b>Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Section 151 Officer to confirm decision in accordance with Council Financial Regulations</b>	<b>Date: 27.03.2020</b>
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I am making the decision as set out above in this report:

Signed: 

<b>Chief Executive, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council</b>	<b>Date: 27.03.2020</b>
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I have noted the decision as set out above in this report. I acknowledge and support the decision made in these extreme circumstances.

Signed: 

<b>Leader, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council</b>	<b>Date: 27.03.2020</b>
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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OUTLINED IN THE CONSTITUTION – Part 3 Section 16



DELEGATED  
OFFICER DECISION JAYNE IVORY  
TAKEN BY:  
PORTFOLIO  
AREA: Children's Services

**SUBJECT:**  
**Appletrees Building work**

### 1. DECISION

To approve the finance for work to be undertaken at Appletrees short breaks unit for children with disabilities. This is to ensure adequate provision during the Covid 19 crisis. A detailed plan with estimated costs of £37k has been drawn up and agreed.

### 2. REASON FOR DECISION

To build additional capacity at Appletrees to provide a short term / full time emergency placement for one child with complex health needs / autism alongside children attending for short breaks. It is critical that the short breaks (respite) offer can continue for the children identified as most vulnerable to family breakdown in the current crisis but it is often very difficult to care for profoundly disabled children alongside autistic children, hence the need for a self contained placement within the building.

### 3. BACKGROUND

A survey has been undertaken at Appletrees with a view to undertaking work to convert the current extension into a self contained flat where a single child can be cared for apart from the main group. The survey indicates that the work is feasible and can be completed in a short timescale as long as materials are ordered very quickly.

The plan of works and costs are attached to this document. To summarise, the current sensory room will be converted to an en-suite bedroom and a lounge / kitchen created in the remaining space. A new internal wall will separate the unit off from the rest of the building though it will remain intrinsic to the building.

Approval is given for the works to commence. A decision is required urgently as the majority of suppliers are closed and those remaining are getting very low on stock.

Completion of the work will enable Appletrees to care for children who present challenges in terms of matching. For example, it is difficult to care for children with autism alongside those with very complex health needs and severe disabilities. If we need to provide a full time placement it can disrupt what the service needs to offer other children and families. We have in recent times needed to provide full time emergency short term placements at Appletrees and the matching concerns have compromised the packages of care offered to other children.

Once the Covid 19 crisis has ended, the facility will also allow Appletrees to deliver training to young people to develop their independent living skills – shopping, cleaning, cooking, using a washing machine.

A discussion has taken place with OFSTED who agree that as long as the bed number is not increased from 5 to 6 beds this change can be dealt with by way of a straightforward amendment of the Statement of Purpose. The bed number will remain at 5 because the sensory room will occupy another bedroom. However, the new arrangement will allow the service to operate more efficiently , ensuring that all 5 beds are filled . If capacity increases OFSTED will require the manager to apply for a full variation which will take longer and may not be achieved in time to provide a contingency as the Covid crisis deepens. However, a variation can be considered later if felt to be appropriate. Increasing to 6 beds will have implications for staffing levels.

#### 4. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

To provide a placement in an alternative building. Rejected because these children need specialist equipment, beds, hoists, etc in a building fully accessible to wheelchairs and staff trained in specialist feeding, administration of medication and personal care.

*Further information is available from the report author*

#### 5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of the officer with delegation and the any Member who has been consulted, and note of any dispensation granted should be recorded below:

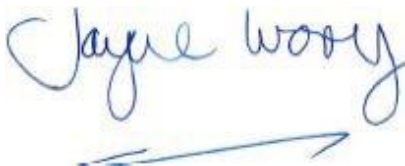
<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
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<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>ALYSON HANSON</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	03 APRIL 2020
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<b>BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:</b>	
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Signed:



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jayne Ivory". Below the signature is a blue arrow pointing to the right.

<b>Director Jayne Ivory</b>	<b>Date: 03 April 2020</b>
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