

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Council – 2 February 2022

**Subject:** Urgent Key Decisions

**Report of:** The City Solicitor

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**Purpose of report**

To report those key decisions that have been taken in accordance with the urgency provisions in the Council's Constitution.

**Recommendation**

To note the report.

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**Wards affected:** All

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**Financial consequences for the Revenue budget:** None

**Financial consequences for the Capital Budget:** None

**Implications for:**

**Antipoverty**

No

**Equal Opportunities**

No

**Environment**

No

**Employment**

No

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**Background documents:**

None.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) establishes a procedure for dealing with key decisions where action needs to be taken immediately for reasons of urgency and is therefore not subject to the normal call in arrangements.
  - 1.2 The procedures states that the chair of the appropriate scrutiny committee must agree that both the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.
- 2.** Such decisions are to be reported to the Council.

### 3. Urgent Key Decisions taken since the last meeting of Council

3.1 A list of key decisions requiring exemption from the call-in procedure that have been taken since the last meeting of Council is listed below.

Date	Subject	Reason for urgency	Decision Taken by	Approved by
	Acquire the freehold interest in Phase 2, Siemens/Princess Road Campus, Princess Road	This decision pertains to actioning an MCC option to acquire Phase 2 land at Didsbury Technology Park. Deadline to serve notice is 26 January 2022. Legal have advised there is a high risk of missing this date if the allotted week for call in is allowed for	Strategic Director (Growth and Development)	Cllr Russell (Chair: Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)
	Approval of capital expenditure of £861,000 to acquire land at Didsbury Technology Park	The key decision pertains to actioning an MCC option to acquire Phase 2 land at Didsbury Technology Park. Deadline to serve notice is 26 January 2022. Legal have advised there is a high risk of missing this date if the allotted week for call in is allowed for.	Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer	Cllr Russell (Chair: Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)
	Determine the Council Tax element of the estimated Collection Fund 2021/22 year-end surplus or deficit	The calculation of the estimated surplus or deficit uses the most up to date information (i.e. end of December 2021) which is not available until the end of the first week in January. Due to the statutory requirement to notify precepting authorities by 15 January 2022 it is requested the decision is exempt from call in. Following a report to Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee on 7 December 2021 the Chair of the committee has agreed to exempt this decision from call in.	Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer	Cllr Russell (Chair: Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)

	<p>Delegation to develop (in consultation with the Leader) and implement the administration of new grants to hospitality and leisure business in the city in response to the Omicron variant and the extension of the Additional Restrictions Grant to support a discretionary element of the above scheme</p>	<p>Any delay will compromise the Council's position by not meeting the expectations in the grant conditions. It will also have a significant impact on the financial support available to businesses who are now expecting the council to deliver a scheme promptly, including making payments before the end of the financial year.</p>	<p>Executive Leader</p>	<p>Cllr Russell (Chair: Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee)</p>
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