

Record of decisions taken by an officer under Standing Order 54 – urgent decision making



Title:	COVID-19 Surrey County Council Response to Covid
Divisions Affected:	All
Key Decision:	Yes
Reason Key:	Affects two or more Divisions
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Standing order 54 – urgent decision making

Meeting date/time	19 March 2020 14:30-16:30
Meeting title	Cabinet/CLT COVID-19 teleconference

Summary

The Council is responding to the Covid-19 major incident and therefore needs to make urgent decisions to ensure that residents are protected. Urgent decisions taken at the above named meeting are listed below with reasons.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

1. Libraries are to be closed by Sunday 22 March 2020

Reasons for Decision:

1. On 18 March 2020, the [Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus](#) advised that all "unnecessary gatherings" should be avoided. In line with government guidance to [reduce the risks of exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace](#) and [social distancing for everyone in the UK](#), it was decided to close Surrey County Council's libraries to help prevent the spread of the virus and reduce the risks to vulnerable people. This decision is consistent with how other county councils such as West Sussex and Hertfordshire are responding to the pandemic. The timing of the closure is designed to provide notice to

residents while still adhering to government guidance. Other measures such as promoting access to e-books are being developed as potential mitigations to the temporary loss of the library service.

Decisions taken by:	Joanna Killian Chief Executive
Decisions taken on:	19 March 2020
To be implemented on:	19 March 2020

Decision taken in consultation with

List those in attendance

Cllr Tim Oliver
Joanna Killian
Cllr Colin Kemp
Cllr Mary Lewis
Cllr Natalie Bramhall
Cllr Mike Goodman
Cllr Allison Griffiths
Cllr Mel Few
Cllr Matthew Furniss
Cllr Julie Iles
Cllr Zully Grant Duff
Cllr Mark Nuti
Cllr Denise Turner Stewart
Cllr Sinead Mooney
Leigh Whitehouse
Katie Stewart
Rachel Crossley
Simon White
Jacquie Burke
Patricia Denney
Hannah Futter
Piali Das Gupta