

REPORT TO: Employment Learning & Skills and
Community Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 16 November 2020

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community
and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Economic Development

SUBJECT: Covid19 – LCR Hospitality and Leisure
Grant (HLG)

WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The impact of the Coronavirus is being felt in our communities in many different ways, and Halton’s businesses have been severely affected with many losing several months of trade and some are still not fully operational. A presentation will be provided to the PPB which will set out how the HLG provided by Liverpool City Region, and administered by the six Local Authorities, has gone some way to support local businesses.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) **the report be noted; and**
- 2) **the Board considers the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Hospitality Leisure Grant

This is a new grant fund launched by the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Combined Authority in response to the LCR entering a Tier 3 Lockdown. It has identified the businesses most affected by the lockdown and the level of support the LCR combined can offer.

The Business Improvement and Growth Team will be managing the roll out of the grants to Halton businesses and a presentation will be provided at the meeting to bring members up to date on grant allocations and to advise on the number and type of businesses the programme has been able to support.

4.0 Presentation

The presentation will outline the grant criteria and how applications have been assessed.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The HLG was designed to be accessible and inclusive for as many Hospitality and Leisure businesses as possible.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Funding is being provided by the government and the Combined Authority. The Council is also providing resources to administer the programme.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None.

7.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The aim of the grant scheme is primarily to enable businesses retain employees, and reduce the number of people being made redundant.

7.3 A Healthy Halton

None

7.4 A Safer Halton

None

7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks specifically identified in this presentation. A financial risk assessment for the grant scheme as a whole has been undertaken by the Council's Accountancy Division.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

N/A

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

10.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.