

## RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION

### APPROVAL FOR CESSATION OF FOOD HYGEINE RATING INSPECTIONS

#### Decision made

To approve the cessation of all food hygiene rating inspections for all categories of food premises.

**Made by:** Jess Gibbons, Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

#### Background

1. Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Part 3 Section D, the Directors of Wiltshire Council are empowered to take all necessary decisions in cases of emergency. This decision is being taken by Jess Gibbons, Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods using these powers in circumstances where the Director concerned believes that there is a risk of damage to property, a threat to the health or wellbeing of an individual and/or that the interests of the Council may be compromised if this decision is not otherwise taken.

#### Reason for decision

2. This decision would in other circumstances be taken by Cabinet. However, in circumstances where the Cabinet or the relevant Cabinet Member is unable to meet to expedite its functions in a timely manner during the COVID-19 pandemic, this decision is being taken in accordance with the power referred to in paragraph 1 above [in consultation with Chief Executive Officers, other Directors and the relevant Cabinet Member. This decision will be reported to the next meeting of the Cabinet.
3. The background to this decision is the COVID-19 pandemic . Guidance was initially issued by the Food Standards Agency on 13 March 2020 which advised restricting inspections to high risk food premises. This advice has been superseded by advice issued on 20 March which states that until 17 April 2020, all planned food, food hygiene and food standards interventions should be deferred.
4. I confirm that in making this decision I have considered the following in line with Wiltshire Council's Constitution: **(Please insert 'Yes' / 'No' / 'Not Applicable' and any other comments necessary to evidence the issue identified has been addressed)**

Key decision requirements	Yes
Views of relevant cabinet member(s), committee chairman, area board(s)	Yes
Consideration of the area boards and delegated decision checklist for officers on the issue of when and how to involve local councillors and area boards in	N/A

decisions about local services	
Implication of any council policy, initiative, strategy or procedure	Yes
Consultation in accordance with requirements and expectations of consultation with the public	Consultation with the public was not possible in light of the urgency of the decision.
Range of options available	FSA notice to stop food related work
Staffing, financial and legal implications	Yes
Risk assessment	Yes
Involvement of statutory officers and/or directors	To be considered by CEOs
Regional or national guidance from other bodies	FSA letter of 20 March
The council's constitution	Yes
This contract is suitable for execution under the e-signature process.	N/A

**Conflict of Interest**

5. Not applicable.

**Other options considered**

6. There are no other options

Made by: [SIGNATURE]

Jess Gibbons, Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Date: 23 March 2020