

RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION

APPROVAL FOR THE INCREASE OF AUTHORITY DAILY PROCESSING LIMITS FOR BACS

Decision made

To approve the increase of authority daily processing monetary limits in the BACS electronic payment system (PayGate).

Made by: ANDY BROWN, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT

Background

1. As the Director for Finance and Procurement, I am responsible for any matters relating to Finance and Procurement in the County of Wiltshire on behalf of Wiltshire Council. The power to make a decision in respect of this matter is delegated to me pursuant to Wiltshire Council's Constitution.

Reason for decision

2. MHCLG has provided funding to support the Covid-19 Business Grants scheme. This funding will be paid to all Local Authorities responsible for administering the scheme on 1 April 2020. The value of this funding for Wiltshire Council is £106m with payments likely to start to be processed the week beginning 6 April. The payment of these grants to businesses is over and above the normal business of the council and will increase the value of daily payments that are processed through the BACS process. The daily values are likely to be significantly in excess of normal BACS processing monetary values.
3. As a result of these additional payments that will be made it is necessary to approve the increase of the authority daily processing monetary limits in the BACS electronic payment system (PayGate) from £25m to £40m.
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	Not applicable

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	Not applicable
Range of options available	Yes
Staffing, financial and legal implications	Yes
Risk assessment and equality implications	Yes
Involvement of statutory officers and/or directors	Yes
Regional or national guidance from other bodies	Yes
The council's constitution	Yes
This contract is suitable for execution under the e-signature process.	Not applicable

Conflict of Interest

5. Not applicable

Other options considered

6. The only other option would be to schedule payments up to the value of the daily processing limit. This is not acceptable as it will delay paying grants across to businesses where these payments need to be made as quickly as possible.



Made by:

Andy Brown, Director of Finance and Procurement

Date: 1 April 2020

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RECORD OF OFFICER DECISION

APPROVAL FOR THE INCREASE OF AUTHORISATION LIMITS IN THE COUNCIL'S ELECTRONIC BANKING SYSTEM, HSBCnet

Decision made

To approve the increase of authorisation limits in the electronic banking system (HSBCnet) to align with the changes to the Treasury Management Counterparty monetary limits approved under emergency arrangements by the CEOs on 31 March 2020.

Made by: ANDY BROWN, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT

Background

1. As the Director for Finance and Procurement, I am responsible for any matters relating to Finance and Procurement in the County of Wiltshire on behalf of Wiltshire Council. The power to make a decision in respect of this matter is delegated to me pursuant to Wiltshire Council's Constitution.

Reason for decision

2. MHCLG has provided funding to support the Covid-19 Business Grants scheme. This funding will be paid to all Local Authorities responsible for administering the scheme on 1 April 2020. The value of this funding for Wiltshire Council is £106m with payments likely to start to be processed the week beginning 6 April. Holding this value of cash is in excess of any normal business cash holdings values the council would expect to hold.
3. A decision has been made under emergency arrangements by the Chief Executive Officers to increase the value of Treasury Management Counterparty monetary limits that were approved by Council on 25 February 2020 as part of the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/2021. This limits have been increased from £15m per counterparty to £30m As a result of this decision it is necessary to approve the increase of the monetary limits of authorised officers within the council's electronic banking system, HSBCnet to £30m.
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	Not applicable

on the issue of when and how to involve local councillors and area boards in 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	Not applicable
Range of options available	Yes
Staffing, financial and legal implications	Yes
Risk assessment and equality implications	Yes
Involvement of statutory officers and/or directors	Yes
Regional or national guidance from other bodies	Yes
The council's constitution	Yes
This contract is suitable for execution under the e-signature process.	Not applicable

Conflict of Interest

5. Not applicable

Other options considered

6. The only other option would be to set up more 'authoriser' users within the HSNCnet electronic banking system, however the lead in time is longer than the time available. This option is therefore not acceptable as it would result cash being left in the council's bank account which would be a breach of counterparty limits.



Made by:

Andy Brown, Director of Finance and Procurement

Date: 1 April 2020

