

# OFFICER DECISION NOTICE



**Reading**  
Borough Council  
Working better with you

This notice is to be used for the following types of officer decisions. (Select one option).

**A.** Decisions taken by officers under a specific express delegation from Council or a Committee.

**B.** Decisions taken by officers under a general delegation from Council or a Committee, which relates to (i) a permission or a licence, or (ii) the rights of an individual, or (iii) a contract or expenditure **over £100,000**.

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>1. Title of decision:</b>    | Crisis & Resilience Fund - Crisis Payments     |
| <b>2. Date of the decision:</b> | 08 April 2026                                  |
| <b>3. The decision maker:</b>   | Director Policy, Performance Customer Services |

#### 4. Decision details:

It is the decision of the Director of Policy, Change & Customer Services, that £225,000 of the £2,335,271 budget for the Crisis & Resilience Fund allocation to Reading from the Department for Work & Pensions be utilised to enable the provision of Crisis Payments from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.

#### 5. Reasons for the decision:

The Council is required to provide Crisis Payments to residents from 1 April 2026 in line with the guidance issued by the Department of Works & Pensions for the provision of Crisis & Resilience Fund support.

A report on the full range of Crisis & Resilience Fund support for residents is due to be considered by Policy Committee in June 2026.

The Council is required to submit a Crisis & Resilience Fund delivery plan to the Department of Works & Pensions by 1 July 2026.

#### 6. Alternative options considered (if any) and rejected:

None – the provision of Crisis Payments is a requirement of the Crisis & Resilience Fund grant allocation to Reading Borough Council.

#### 7. List of open Background Papers:

None

#### 8. List of confidential or exempt Background Papers:

None

**9. Equality Considerations:**

Crisis payments are available to all low-income residents of the Borough. Additional support for completing an application for a crisis payment is available from Council Officers and local VCS organisations.

**10. Any other matters taken into consideration:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legitimate expectation of consultation | <input type="checkbox"/> Procedural requirements         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health implications             | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental or Climate Change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Management implications    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transparency of Information (FOI etc)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Privacy Impact Assessments      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights Act Duties                | <input type="checkbox"/> Armed Forces Covenant           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Parenting                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory duties                      | <input type="checkbox"/> EU withdrawal                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                  |  |

**Details of the matters taken into account:**

None

**11. Legal considerations**

The provision of Crisis Payments is a requirement of the Crisis & Resilience Fund grant allocation to Reading Borough Council.

**12. Financial considerations**

Reading Borough Council has been allocated £2,335,271 for the provision of Crisis & Resilience Fund support within the borough.

**13. Internal consultations**

Crisis Payments eligibility criteria and indicative budget allocation have been presented to Leadership Briefing and Corporate Management Team.

Sections 13-18: To be completed only for Decision A (express delegation from a Committee)

|                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>14. The name of the Committee:</b> |                               |
| <b>15. Date of the meeting:</b>       | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| <b>16. Minute number:</b>             |                               |

|   |      |
|---|------|
| <b>17. The delegation given by the Committee:</b>   |      |
| <b>18. The name of any member of the committee who declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision:</b>                   |      |
| <b>19. Any councillor or officer required to be consulted prior to the exercise of this delegation and details of their response.</b> | None |