

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL	DATE 13 May 2020	ITEM NO 11
TITLE Meeting scheduling 2020/21	WARDS All	
CHIEF OFFICER Director of Communities and Environment	CABINET MEMBER(S) Leader of the Council	
DECISION CLASSIFICATION Non exempt report	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING? Yes	

1. **Decision Required**

The Council is requested to:

- 1.1 Note the Regulations that have been issued in relation to local authority meetings in response to Coronavirus.
- 1.2 Note the remotely held meetings which have been scheduled, or which are intended to be scheduled, listed at Appendix I of the report
- 1.3 Note that a full outline calendar of meetings of the Council and other Member-Level Bodies for the Municipal Year 2020/21 will be submitted to the next meeting of Council.

2. **Coronavirus and affect on meetings**

- 2.1 Coronavirus has impacted on the ability to hold meetings. The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 restricts gatherings in a public place.
- 2.2 The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 make provision for meetings to be held remotely where they are required to be held, or held, before 7 May 2021. The authority is permitted under Part 2 Section 4(1) to “alter the frequency, move or cancel” meetings “without requirement for further notice”.

2.3 The Royal Borough of Greenwich has now started to hold meetings remotely. The meetings will be recorded and displayed on the Council's YouTube channel for the press and public. The process will be kept under review as the Coronavirus and lockdown situation develops over the coming months.

3. **Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications**

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Meetings of the local authority are subject to the Coronavirus Act 2020 and related regulations.	John Scarborough, Director of Legal Services, 4 May 2020
Finance and other resources including procurement implications	There are no financial implications arising from this report.	Damon Cook, Director of Finance 1 May 2020
Equalities	The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Veronica Johnson, Head of Corporate Governance and Democratic Services 4 May 2020

Background Papers:

None.

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