

Exercise of emergency functions – Approval of the amendment and restatement agreement in relation to a collaboration agreement for the procurement of temporary morgue facilities services.

1. Part 2M of the constitution of the City Council provides for the Scheme of Functions delegated to Employees including to the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service.
2. Paragraph 3.8 of Part 2M of the Constitution enables the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader to make decisions required in an emergency.
3. On the 26 March 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic local authorities across the West Midlands and Warwickshire entered into an agreement to enable a temporary provision of morgue facilities with the creation and establishment of a fully functioning temporary mortuary facility at the Birmingham International Airport.
4. This agreement now needs to be varied to support amendments agreed by the authorities to “mothball” the facility whilst ensuring it is maintained at a level that would enable it to be stood back up in the event it would be required to again become fully functioning.
5. Due to the impending expiry of the current contractual arrangement, execution of the Agreement is required as a matter of urgency and needs to be returned to the leading authority today.
6. On the basis set out above I am satisfied that the decision being taken pursuant to this emergency provision is critical to the Council’s ability to continue deal with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the decision is required to be made today.

I have consulted with the Leader of the City Council to confirm his agreement to this course of action.

A report will be taken to Council at the next appropriate meeting that will include information about this emergency decision.

Signed:

Chief Executive of Coventry City Council

Dated: 7 September 2020