SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL VARIATION OF SCHEME OF EXECUTIVE DELEGATION

To:

Chief Executive - Mike Hill

From: Leader of the Council - Councillor Bridget Smith

Dated: 15 The 2019

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Part 3, Responsibility for Executive Functions, I am writing to inform you of the change I wish to make to refine the allocation of functions and responsibilities as set out in Table 2B within the Constitution. The change to take immediate effect upon subsequent written notification to all Members is detailed below.

Delegated authority to be given to: Authorised Officers up to Level 2 and relevant Lead Member up to Level 4.

Delegation: To approve non-statutory grants or guarantees or loans in accordance with approved policies.

Reasons for Delegation

1. The current process within the Constitution for approvals of non-statutory grants is overly bureaucratic, with the requirement on the Leader to approve all non-statutory grants or guarantees or loans up to and including Level 4 (in consultation with Finance Portfolio Holder) [page 53, item 16 of the Constitution], this would appear to be contrary to the Officer Scheme of Delegation which gives authorisation to chief officers up to level 2 (£25,000).

Background

- 2. Following the approval of the Adaptations & Repairs Policy at Cabinet in April 2019, this gives greater flexibility to use the Disabled Facilities Grants capital funding towards non-statutory grants, such as the discretionary special purpose assistance to help with repairs or the discretionary disabled persons' relocation assistance.
- 3. In implementing the policy, it has been identified that there is an anomaly in the Constitution which could be interpreted to infer that the Leader would have to approve these non statutory grants as a matter of course, even though a policy has been approved by Cabinet setting out qualifying criteria. In this instance, the maximum grant available would be £15,000.
- 4. As the policy has been agreed, the allocation of grants is operational and as such should be delegated appropriately.