

CABINET

Urgent Business Report 7 July 2025

Report of Chief Officer Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT				
To advise Members of actions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.				
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Referral from Officers
				X
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision		n/a		
This report is public				

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the actions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, in respect of the following, be noted:

To authorise the procurement of a contractor to carry out urgent works on Bridge House, Lancaster

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Defects discovered to the cladding on Bridge House presented a serious health and safety risk and urgent intervention was required.
- 1.1 The Chief Executive is empowered to authorise any action reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety or welfare of individuals or the safety of property and in this capacity took this Urgent Decision.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 Emergency works had been completed to create an exclusion zone and protect the public from any falling debris. Prominent safety signage was in place warning of the danger and to divert pedestrian and traffic and to prevent parking in the immediate dangerous area. A more permanent remediation was required and given the urgency there were only the following 2 realistic options:

Option 1 – Structural scaffold & cladding removal

Option 2 – Telehandler cladding removal

- 2.2 Option 2 was the most cost-effective solution for these urgent works which were estimated at (£135k) and would come from the Council's HRA Responsive Repairs budget.

3.0 Details of Consultation

The Chief Executive consulted with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee prior to taking this urgent decision and they were in agreement with this approach. The decision was taken on 5th June 2025.

4.0 Conclusion

Approval was given to the above actions, which are reported to this meeting in accordance with the City Council's Constitution, Delegation to the Chief Executive – Matters of Urgency.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK	
As set out in the Urgent Decision Notice UB138	
CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)	
As set out in the Urgent Decision Notice UB138	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
As set out in the Urgent Decision Notice UB138	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	
As set out in the Urgent Decision Notice UB138	
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
In accordance with the Council's Constitutional requirements the s151 Officer has been consulted and agrees with the approach outlined in the report .	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
This report is in the name of the Monitoring Officer.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Liz Bateson Telephone: 01524 582047 E-mail: ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk