

APPENDIX A

TIMELINE OF COVID-19 EVENTS AFFECTING WEST SUFFOLK COUNCIL FINANCIAL POSITION

Key:

	Announcements of Government support
	Events affecting West Suffolk Council's financial position

Date:	Announcement impacting on West Suffolk's financial position:
11 March	Budget 2020: £5bn support package for public sector. Measures announced for communities and businesses to be administered by councils.
16 March	West Suffolk Council activates its Business Continuity Plan – majority of staff to work from home and many staff redeployed to priority areas of supporting vulnerable people and distributing grants to businesses
17 March	£3.2m Emergency housing funding to local authorities to help rough sleepers self isolate
19 March	£1.6bn funding package for local authorities announced. West Suffolk's allocation was £79,671
23 March	Government announces UK-wide lockdown
23 March	Government closes: cafes, restaurants, retail, markets, accommodation, churches, community centres, museums and galleries, gyms, concert halls, outdoor recreation venues.
23 March	Government announces protection for commercial tenants from eviction if they can't pay rent due to coronavirus
3 April	NHS and care workers to get free parking in council car parks
7 April	Councils asked to continue waste collections as far as possible
16 April	Councils allowed to defer Central Share business rates payments to central government for 3 months
18 April	Second £1.6bn funding package announced. West Suffolk's allocation as yet unconfirmed
28 April	West Suffolk's allocation confirmed – £1,784,078
5 May	Councils asked to reopen Household Waste Recycling Centres
13 May	Guidance issued to councils on managing parks and open spaces safely with social distancing etc
23 May	£50m for Reopening High Streets Safely
28 May	Guidance to councils on accommodating rough sleepers and planning to move them on from emergency accommodation

11 June	£63 million for local authorities to assist those struggling to afford food and other essentials
23 June	Announcement of reopening of businesses and venues from 4 July
24 June	Announcement of additional £105 million to be used to support rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness into tenancies of their own, including through help with deposits for accommodation, and securing thousands of alternative rooms already available and ready for use, such as student accommodation.
28 June	Guidance to councils on reopening of public toilets and tips
2 July	<p>Announcement of additional support for local authorities, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A further £500 million of funding to cover local authority spending pressures • A co-payment mechanism for irrecoverable Sales, Fees and Charges income, with the Government covering 75% of losses beyond 5% of planned income • Phased repayment of Collection Fund deficits over the next 3 years • A commitment to determine what support is needed to help councils meet the pressures of irrecoverable tax income at the Spending Review