

<b>Committee:</b> Finance Committee	<b>Date:</b> 15 November 2016
<b>Subject:</b> Decisions taken under Delegated Authority or Urgency since the last meeting of the Committee	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Chris Braithwaite, Town Clerk's Department	

### Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order Nos. 41(a) and 41(b). This action was:

- Donation of £30,000 to the British Red Cross's Hurricane Matthew Emergency Appeal

### Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

### Main report

#### **Donation to the British Red Cross Hurricane Matthew Emergency Appeal**

##### Background

1. On 7 October 2016 the British Red Cross launched an urgent appeal in relation to Hurricane Matthew, which struck Haiti on 4 October 2016.
2. At least 1,000 people have been reported dead and the figure was expected to rise in the coming days. More than one million people had been affected in Haiti and hundreds of thousands were in need of help. Many water and electricity supplies had been cut, while many medical services were no longer functions. Roads, bridges and communications lines had been destroyed, which had made access to affected communities very difficult. In addition, widespread flooding meant that there was an increased risk of waterborne diseases and life-threatening mudslides.
3. The Disaster Emergencies Committee (DEC) had indicated that it had not yet launched an appeal, but was continuing to monitor the situation and may launch an appeal in the near future. The DEC did not eventually launch an appeal.
4. The Finance Committee's City Cash Contingency Fund for National and International Disasters currently had a balance of £130,000 for the 2016/17 financial year. No donations had been made during this financial year.

Action Taken

5. The Town Clerk, following consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, agreed that a donation of £30,000 be made to the Red Cross's Hurricane Matthew Appeal, funded from the Finance Committee's City Cash Contingency Fund for National and International Disasters.

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