

EE64. Anytime Anywhere Employees Returning to Work: Update

The Emergency Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which provided an update on the work being done to support the return of employees to their workplace. The report also focused on the longer term office working arrangements to support the Strategic Property Review.

National guidance enabled some workplaces to open subject to safety requirements being met. Some examples were outside spaces, construction sites and schools. Working from home continued as the default throughout all phases of the Scottish Government's recovery roadmap and was encouraged in phase 4.

Prior to the full opening of an office building, a range of building checks must be completed. The Facilities team were managing statutory building checks, and premises managers for each building were also required to undertake a range of other checks. Opening public facing buildings had been prioritised over offices. Consideration had also been given to the Strategic Property Review, with buildings highlighted as 'under review' being delayed to enable others to be assessed in the first instance.

Increased working from home supported the ambitions of the Council's Anytime Anywhere project. The Scottish Government's route map suggested that homeworking would remain in place in Phase 4. Therefore it was important to properly support employees working in this way. Consideration had been given to the equipment employees required to support an effective and safe home working environment. A specification for the appropriate equipment had been developed and employees asked to indicate their individual needs to ensure an effective and safe home workplace.

Decision

The Emergency Executive noted:-

- (1) the work being done to support employees returning to the workplace in line with national guidance, and**
- (2) the future plans for working arrangements for desk based employees who are able to work from home.**