

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4275
Author:	Jennifer Hardy
Department:	People
Contact:	Jennifer Hardy (Job Title: Project Manager, Email: jennifer.hardy@nottinghamcity.gov.uk , Phone: 01158765629)
Subject:	Allocation of Covid Local Support Grant
Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Key Decision (decision affects 2 or more wards):	Yes
Total Value:	£1,331,082.00 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>1) To accept the Government's COVID Local Support Grant allocation to the Council. 2) To allocate £1,275,000 of the grant to provide FSM Food Vouchers to Nottingham children for the summer holidays. 3) To delegate authority to the Director for Education to release the remaining grant funds as required in accordance with the grant conditions4) To approve the call off through Crown Commercial Framework RM 6255, to EdenRed for the supply of food vouchers.</p>

Reasons for the Decision(s) The Government have extended COVID grant support for vulnerable families to continue until 30 September 2021, with a further £160 million of support. The CLSG has the same eligibility criteria, and uses the same reporting template (incorporating the Statement of Grant Usage Management Information (MI) Return), as the previous schemes. Nottingham has been awarded £1,331,082 as part of this new grant, which launched after 20 June 2021 and runs until 30th September 2021. 1) at least 80% of the total funding will be ring-fenced to support families with children, with up to 20% of the total funding to other types of households, including individuals2) at least 80% of the total funding will be ring-fenced to provide support with food, energy and water bills (including sewerage), with up to 20% on other items. A direct award through Crown Commercial RN6255 Eden Red is required to procure the food vouchers in time to support this scheme. The intended supplier is already set up with the council to provide vouchers and there is insufficient time to go through a full tendering process prior to the summer holidays.

Other Options Considered: 1) To not accept the grant: this option is rejected, as the grant is needed to support those most in need in the city. 2) To carry out a full tender process to procure the food vouchers: due to the short timescale, it is not possible to undertake a full tender process for the purchase of these vouchers, therefore a call off will be made to the current council supplier EdenRed, who are listed on the Crown Commercial Framework RM6255.

Background Papers: June 2021 EIA for previous paper

Published Works: None

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Dispensation from Financial Regulations: Yes

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: None

Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: Covered by EIA submitted at the end of May.
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	<p>No</p> <p>The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.</p>
	<p>Person Consulted: Councillor Anne Peach, Chair - O&S Committee</p> <p>Consultation Date: 08/07/2021</p> <p>The contract needs to be in place by 19 July (prior to schools closing for the summer holiday) to enable schools to inform parents of the availability of the vouchers and, as the decision will not be signed by the Leader before 12 July at the earliest, it cannot be subject to call-in.</p>
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Procurement
Legal Advice:	<p>The proposed use of a CCS framework agreement to call off the supply of food vouchers is in compliance with public procurement rules and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.</p> <p>The Council must ensure that all grant funding conditions are adhered to in order to avoid the risk of clawback of funding.</p> <p>Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 07/07/2021.</p>
Finance Advice:	<p>This decision is to approve the acceptance and spend associated with the COVID Local Support Grant (Summer) of £1.331m for the period of 21 June to 30 September 2021. This is an extension of the previous 'Spring' grant (17 April to 20 June 21) approved by DDM 4219.</p> <p>£1.275m will be used to support FSM during the Summer holidays providing additional support to vulnerable families of Nottingham City. The remaining £0.056m of the grant is unconfirmed and will be approved via delegated authority.</p> <p>The grant conditions are unchanged from the previous grant and, therefore spend should be in accordance with the grant conditions to prevent risk of clawback.</p> <p>The use of the framework for the procurement of food vouchers negates any legal and contract risk.</p> <p>Advice provided by Christine Green (Strategic Finance Business Partner) on 12/07/2021.</p>

Procurement Advice:

The use of the CCS framework named in the options is compliant with the Council's contract procedure rules and the PCR.
Advice provided by Holly Fisher (Lead Procurement Officer (Products)) on 12/07/2021.

Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration Communications)
SIGNED and Dated: 15/07/2021
Mel Barrett (Chief Executive)
SIGNED and Dated: 15/07/2021
Clive Heaphy as Chief Finance Officer (Chief Finance Officer) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 14/07/2021
Chief Finance Officer's Comments: