

Operational Decision Record

Publication Date 01.03.2022	Decision Reference Number 4541
Decision Title	
Distribution of Special Educational Needs (SEN) Inclusion Fund under-spend from 2020/21	
Decision Value	
£147,830	
Revenue or Capital Spend?	
Revenue	
Department	
Children and Adults	
Contact Officer (Name, job title, and contact details)	
Kathryn Stevenson Senior Commercial Business Partner (Schools) ☎ 0115 87 63731 ✉ kathryn.stevenson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Decision Taken	
To draw down £0.148m SEND Inclusion Fund underspend from 2020/21 and distribute this to providers of 3 & 4 year old early education to help support children with speech, language and communication needs.	
Reasons for Decision and Background Information	
<p>Full consultation has taken place with the early years sector on both revised eligibility criteria for the SEN Inclusion Fund and the proposed distribution methodology for the underspend arising in 2020/21.</p> <p>The £147,830 SEN Inclusion Fund underspend from 2020/21 is currently ring-fenced in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserve. The proposal is to distribute this to early years settings delivering the 3 & 4 year entitlement based on a £200 lump sum per setting and approximately £18 per part-time equivalent 3 & 4 year old as at January 2021 census.</p> <p>This funding is intended to help support settings to respond to the impact of the impact of the pandemic on early speech, language and communication.</p>	

Proposals were shared at Portfolio Holder briefing attended by Councillor Campbell-Clark and Councillor Kandola on 7 December 2021 prior to going out to full consultation with early years providers.

Other Options Considered and why these were rejected

None, as the initial proposal received support at all stages of consultation.

Reasons why this decision is classified as operational

Value under £150,000

Additional Information

The Schools Forum report which covered the SEND Inclusion Fund proposals is available at this link: [Agenda for Schools Forum on Tuesday, 25th January, 2022, 1.45 pm - Nottingham City Council](#)

This incorporated advice from legal, finance and HR colleagues and an EIA was completed and published associated with this report.

Schools Forum were supportive of the proposals outlined in this report, which includes the planned distribution of the £147,830 under-spend which is the subject of this decision.

Decision Maker (Name and Job Title)

Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director for People

Scheme of Delegation Reference Number

1

Date Decision Taken

11/02/2022