

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Reference Number:	5112
Author:	Veronica Fairley
Department:	People
Contact:	Veronica Fairley (Job Title: Supporting Families Ops Lead, Email: veronica.fairley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 65964)

Subject:	Family Hubs Grant and Spend 2022-2025
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Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
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Key Decision (decision affects 2 or more wards):	Yes
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Total Value:	£3,550,197 (Type: Capital and Revenue)
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Decision Being Taken:	To retrospectively approve the acceptance of the Family Hubs Grant 2022-2025 of £3,550,197To retrospectively approve the Spend from 2022-2025 of £3,550,197 to include staff costs, resources, training and operational costs across the 6 strands of the programme as detailed in the Department for Education Delivery Plan.
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Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>This is a retrospective decision as it was not processed through Executive Board in 2022-23. It is not clear from the records why formal approval was not actioned before but there was some time pressure to action this and a number of discussions held at senior level/a number of senior people have signed the Sign Up Form Family Hubs and Start for Life in October 2022. There was a significant time delay whilst the Department for Education and Local Authority completed a Delivery Plan and breakdown of funding against a number of strands of work was finalised. I surmise the failure to take to Executive Board at the time was an oversight. The Family Hubs grant is central to the transformation of Early Help and Start for Life Offer ensuring accessibility to Early Help services for local families. All activities and spend since 2022 have been in line with the Delivery Plan and since November 2023 all spend has been processed through Spend Control. All further spend will be processed through Spend Approval. The Family Hubs provide families with a single access point to integrated family support services, offering the right support at the right time, promoting good practice and best outcomes for families.</p>
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**Briefing notes documents:** Nottingham City Sign-Up Form Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme P11 (1).docx, Family Hubs EIA 270623.docx

**Other Options Considered:** To refuse the Grant.

**Background Papers:**

**Published Works:** Family Hubs and Start for Life programme: local authority guide - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

**Affected Wards:** Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:** None.

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

**Crime and Disorder Implications:** The development of the Family Hubs support the earliest intervention with families, children and young people. Offering support and activities within the community. The Family Hubs can support the impact of crime and disorder through support provided to victims of crime and disorder (adult, children and young people). In addition Family Hubs may support the reduction of crime and disorder through diversionary activities for children and young people at risk of or involved in crime, through support provided by the partners that use the Family Hubs, such as, Youth Service, Youth Justice offer and community groups.

**Equality:** EIA not required. Reasons: An EIA was already completed and approved in 2023 and is attached to this decision.

**Relates to staffing:** Yes

**Decision Type:** Leader's Key Decision

Subject to Call In:

No

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.

Person Consulted: Phil Wye

Consultation Date: 04/04/2024

This decision is not subject to call-in as it is retrospective and the grant funding has already been accepted and partially spent.

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Human Resources

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioners agree with decision

Legal Advice:

This Key Leader's Decision seeks to retrospectively approve the receipt and spend of £3,550,197 of Family Hubs Grant between 2022 - 2025.

In formally approving the receipt and spend of the grant, the Council must ensure it complies with all terms and conditions associated with the grant.

Any contractual arrangements flowing from the project must be in accordance with the Council's constitution and relevant legal requirements.

Subject to resource being available, Legal Services are happy to support this project.

Advice provided by Anthony Health (Senior Solicitor) on 04/04/2024.

Finance Advice:

Family Hubs project funding is a Grant of £3,550,197 covering period from 2022-2025. The council received £488,663K in 22/23 of which £115,000 was spent on the delivery of the program the remaining £373,349 was carried forward to the year 23/24. In 23/24 two tranches were received making a total of £1.97M. A total of 16 employees has been working in supporting the delivery of program which YTD costed around £595,762 with an additional amount of £219,266 that included other resources, training, and operational costs. This will equate to a net position of around £1.1M as the overrun position of 23/24 is yet to be finalised and subject to change. These costs will be fully met via the funding for the Family Hubs project. Finance is continuously assisting management in monitoring against the planned expenditure and spending approval processes are being followed.

Noureen Safdar

Senior Commercial Business Partner, Children's and Commissioning

noureen.safdar@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Advice provided by Noureen Ali Safdar (Senior Commercial Finance Business Partner) on 28/03/2024.

**HR Advice:**

**This decision does not require specific HR comment. Any growth in terms of workforce to the establishment has been considered and signed off via the Staffing Decision process. HR comments have been provided to support implementation.**

**Jenna Knight**

**HR Consultant**

**27/03/24 Advice provided by Jenna Knight (HR Consultant) on 27/03/2024.**

**Signatures:**

**David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration & Communications)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 10/04/2024**

**Catherine Underwood (Corporate Director for People)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 10/04/2024**