



Dear Colleague,

**Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for the 30 hours free Childcare Early Implementer Innovator Grant in 2015-16. [DfE Ref: CSDSD65/2015]
[DCLG Ref: 31/2749]**

This Determination is made between:

- (1) The Secretary of State for Education and**
- (2) The local authorities listed at Annex A**

Background

From September 2017 the government will deliver on its commitment to double the amount of free childcare available to the working parents of three- and four-year-olds. In advance of full implementation, the government is providing early implementer innovator grant funding (for the period of April 2016 - August 2017) to some local authorities during early implementation to create, test and share innovative models for delivering this extended entitlement which will amount to 30 hours free childcare.

In order for parents to access high-quality childcare provision which meets their needs, the Department would like local authorities to focus this grant on the following priorities: flexibility, sufficiency, SEND and work incentives.

Examples of possible activity include:

- Engaging and/or working with parents, providers and VCS partners to develop and test different approaches to delivering the extended entitlement
- Exploring ways to grow the market – including encouraging providers to build partnerships with each other
- Providing quantitative and qualitative data to the Department about the sufficiency challenges in their area Exploring non-funded options to support families with children who have special educational needs
- Becoming a regional champion and gathering information/ learning from other LAs in the region
- Working with the Department to disseminate learning in preparation for early and national roll-out.

More information on early implementation objectives can be found at **Annex B**.

Grant allocations

Total funding of £4 million is available for this programme in 2015-16. Funds will be made available in the form of a non-ring fenced grant.

Local authorities may wish to consider maximising value for money by pooling funding to coordinate regional activity.

The details of allocations to be made to each local authority are set out in **Annex A**.

Payment arrangements

Payment will be made in one instalment in March 2016.

Arrangements for keeping in touch with the Department for Education

The Department for Education will ask local authorities to provide a 6 monthly update in preparation for roll-out of the 30 hours free childcare entitlement.

The Department for Education would also be happy to receive any information about effective practice, approaches and activities LAs develop on early implementation innovation.

This letter has been copied to the Early Years officials and Director of Children's Services from the local authorities listed at **Annex A** and to Her Majesty's Treasury and Department for Communities and Local Government.

Enquires

For all enquiries about the 30 hours free childcare Early Implementer Innovator Grant, please contact Early.IMPLEMENTERS@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Education,



Helen Stephenson

Director of Early Years, Child Poverty and Children's Services Strategy
Department for Education

S31 Grant Determination Letter for the 30 hours free Childcare Early Implementer Innovator Grant in 2015-16. [DfE Ref: CSDSD65/2015] [DCLG Ref: 31/2749]

The Minister of State for Education ("the Minister of State"), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, makes the following determination:

Citation

1. This determination may be cited as the 30 hours free Childcare Early Implementer Innovator Grant in 2015-16. [DfE Ref: CSDSD65/2015] [DCLG Ref: 31/2749]

Purpose of the grant

2. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them for early implementer innovator activities.

Determination

3. The Minister of State for Education determines as the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid, the authorities and the amounts set out in Annex A.

Payment arrangements

4. The grant will be paid in one instalment to local authorities set out in Annex A on, or by, 31 March 2016.

Treasury consent

5. Before making this determination in relation to local authorities, the Minister of State for Education obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed on behalf of the Minister of State for Education by Helen Stephenson, Director, Department for Education,



Director of Early Years, Child Poverty and Children's Services Strategy
Department for Education

17 March 2016

Annex A

Local Authority	Allocation
Kingston (Achieving for Children)	£75,000
Richmond (Achieving for Children)	£75,000
Barking & Dagenham	£122,800
Bolton	£120,000
Bradford	£150,000
Brighton and Hove	£120,480
Bury	£120,000
Cheshire West and Chester	£115,000
City of York Council	£150,000
Cornwall	£120,000
Ealing	£131,000
East Sussex	£128,800
East Riding of Yorkshire	£124,500
Gateshead	£115,970
Hampshire	£78,050
Hertfordshire	£120,000
Hillingdon	£92,150
Islington	£135,000
Newham	£149,175
North Yorkshire	£120,000
Northumberland	£120,000
Nottingham City	£114,704
Nottinghamshire	£131,887
Portsmouth	£105,000
Sheffield	£150,000
Staffordshire	£150,000
Stockport	£125,000
Swindon	£150,000
Trafford Council	£120,634
Wakefield	£72,000
Walsall	£125,000
West Sussex	£150,000
Wigan	£120,284
TOTAL	£3,997,434

Annex B: Early Implementation objectives

Aim

To enable some local authorities, from September 2016, to test how best to deliver the additional entitlement to all eligible children and increase the level of parental demand for places, overcoming the range of challenges around supply and quality.

Delivery objectives

To fund some LA areas to deliver the 30 hours offer from September 2016 for eligible three- and four-year-olds. More specifically we want early implementers to deliver the following objectives:

1. Test a reformed LA led delivery model to drive market innovation and efficiency, trialling different ways of supporting providers to achieve economies of scale and reduce costs.
2. Generate models of flexible provision which match parental working patterns and meet different child needs including those with SEND, in homeless families and from BME and rural communities.
3. Increase market capacity to secure sufficient places in a range of different geographical areas and local markets, including bringing in new providers.
4. Work with Government to maximise parental take-up and employment, using behavioural insights techniques to trial 'nudge' messaging to parents to act as a work incentive.
5. Work with Government to test technical delivery systems, including eligibility checking and interactions with Universal Credit, to ensure a smooth journey for all customers; and,
6. Positively promote the 30 hours childcare offer, to help build momentum and maximise parental take-up on national roll-out.

