



Record of Delegated Decision

Decision made by	Cllr Helen Harrison, Executive Member - Adults, Health & Wellbeing in consultation with Jane Bethea, Director of Public Health & Wellbeing
Decision Title	Household Support Fund - Additional Winter Support Funding
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	14 November 2023
Key Decision	Yes – as additional support to Wider Essentials & Living Costs will be significant in terms of its effects on those children in receipt of free school meals in North Northamptonshire.
Decision	The decision that was agreed was to accept the officer's recommendations in approving additional winter funding of £30 per child to those families where there are children eligible for free school meals.
Reason/s for Decision	By approving the recommendation, council officers will be able to: a. Provide an additional £30 per child eligible for free school meals for the Festive Period. This funding will be for winter clothing and to help towards the increase cost of living over the Festive Period. b. Instruct the Free School Meals Team to process the voucher distribution. c. Inform schools of the additional funding for those eligible for free school meals.
Alternative options considered and rejected	To continue with only the holiday school vouchers for the Festive Period.
Legal implications	No legal implications as the DWP funding guidance provides the details as to how the programme needs to be covered and the areas of support needed to be provided by local authorities.

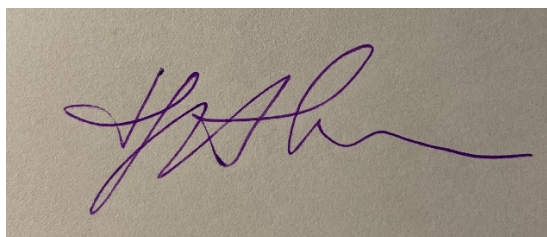
Financial implications	<p>The funding is drawn down from the DWP in arrears, therefore it is vital that accurate records are kept as to the spend. This means the correct funding amounts can be claimed from the DWP.</p> <p>A midway review of the programme has been undertaken and an underspend of this element of the work programme has been forecasted. This underspend is being utilised to provide up to £438K additional support to vulnerable households towards the cost of living.</p>
Other implications	<p>The distribution of funds will be underpinned by a principle of providing longer term financial stability to households by offering financial hardship support, financial assessments, and future planning for individuals.</p>
Background papers considered	<p>Household Support Fund (HSF) 4 Executive Report dated 20 April 2023</p> <p>DWP – Household Support Fund: Guidance for County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024)</p>
Declarations/conflict of interest?	No declarations made.
Consultation	None required.
Exempt Decision?	No
Officer/ Executive member	Executive Member for Adults, Health & Wellbeing decision in consultation with the Director of Public Health & Wellbeing



Signature – Jane Bethea, Director of Public Health & Wellbeing

14 November 2023

Date



Signature – Cllr Helen Harrison, Executive Member - Adults, Health & Wellbeing

14 November 2023

Date

Annex 1

Key Decisions

- 1.1. The definition of a Key Decision is set out in The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2000 and is defined as;
- 1.2. An executive decision, which is likely
 - i. to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant; or
 - ii. to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions
- 1.3. The council has decided that significant expenditure or savings are those amounting to above £500,000.
- 1.4. All Key Decisions must be published on the website 28 days in advance of them being made unless they are urgent in which case there are processes to follow which include seeking the notification/approval of the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee. The Forward Plan enables the public and all members to understand the key decisions that are going to be taken and make representations in advance.
- 1.5. Key Decisions must be published within 2 clear working days of being made and will be published on the website.
- 1.6. Scrutiny Committees have the ability to call in Key Decisions and any other decisions which have been included on the Forward Plan and have 5 clear working days to call in the decision following their publication on the website (in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules).

Annex 2

Descriptions of Exempt Information

Exempt information means information falling within the following categories (subject to any qualification):

- 1) Information relating to any individual.
- 2) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
- 3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 4) Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
- 5) Information in respect of which a claim of legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- 6) Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
- 7) Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Qualifications

Information falling within the above descriptions is not exempt information if it is required to be registered under:

- (a) the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006);
- (b) the Friendly Societies Act 1974;
- (c) the Friendly Societies Act 1992;
- (d) the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014;
- (e) the Building Societies Act 1986; or
- (f) the Charities Act 2011

Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission or permission in principle pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992.

Information which falls within any of the descriptions above; and is not prevented from being exempt by the previous two qualifications is exempt information if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.