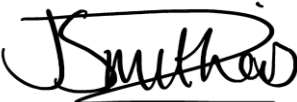




Record of Executive Decision

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)
(Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Decision made by	Cllr Jason Smithers Leader of the Council
Decision Title	Decision to fund Free School Meal (FSM) vouchers for children eligible for benefits related FSM, for the October half-term
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	6 th October 2021
Key Decision	Yes
Decision	That the Leader of the Council: Approves the funding of Free School Meals vouchers for those children eligible for free school meals and who attend school in North Northamptonshire for the October half-term.
Reason for Decision	To support vulnerable families that are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals with the purchase of food during the school holiday periods identified above. This is a limited extension of the decision to fund Free School Meals vouchers in holiday periods during the 20/21 academic year.
Alternative options rejected	To not fund Free School Meals vouchers. This decision was rejected as it would not have provided support to vulnerable families within the North Northamptonshire area for these school holiday periods.
Legal implications	The Leader has authority to make executive decisions on behalf of the authority. The decision is within the budget and policy framework agreed as set out within financial implications. Due to the timeframe to ensure that the vouchers are administered, the decision has not been published as a Key Decision. The Scrutiny Chairs have agreed to the decision being taken under "Special Urgency Rules" contained within the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Constitution.
Financial implications	The number of children and young people eligible for benefits related Free School Meals that reside in North Northants equals 10,000.

	<p>Central government made funding available in the amount of £15 per child, per week in the last academic year and NNC will continue to fund Free School Meals vouchers at this value.</p> <p>Cost of October half-term = £150,000.</p> <p>In the absence of grant funding, the cost of the vouchers will be underwritten from the Council's COVID related reserves acknowledging the challenges placed on people's finances as a result of the pandemic.</p>
Other implications	N/A
Background papers considered	N/A
Declarations/conflict of interest?	None
Consultation	The Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.
Confidential Decision?	No
Officer/ Executive member	 <p style="text-align: right;">Date: 6th October 2021</p>

Governance Procedures (if applicable)		
Date published to all Councillors	6 th October 2021	6 th October 2021
Call In Deadline	N/A	N/A