

## Delegated Decision Notice

This form is the written record of a key, significant operational or administrative decision taken by an officer.

<b>Decision type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Significant Operational Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Decision
<b>Approximate value</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Below £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £500,000 to £1,000,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> over £1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £100,000 to £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000
<b>Director<sup>1</sup></b>	Director of Children and Families		
<b>Contact person:</b>	Chris Sutton	Telephone number: 0113 3783579	
<b>Subject<sup>2</sup>:</b>	Determination of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) rates		
<b>Decision details<sup>3</sup>:</b>	<p>What decision has been taken?</p> <p>The Director of Children and Families approved the breakdown of the Funded Early Education Entitlement for eligible children aged 9 – 23 months (from September 2024):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">£10.67 base rate paid to all providers (new for 2024/25)            £ 0.32 centrally retained services (new for 2024/25)            £ 0.10 deprivation supplement (new for 2024/25)  <u>£ 0.09</u> SENDIF (new for 2024/25)  <u>£11.18</u> funding allocated to the local authority from the DfE</p> <p>The Director of Children &amp; Families approved the breakdown of the Funded Early Education Entitlement for eligible children aged 2 years old (from April 2024):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">£ 7.78 base rate paid to all providers (up £1.91 from April 2023)            £ 0.24 centrally retained services (new for 2024/25)            £ 0.10 deprivation supplement (new for 2024/25)  <u>£ 0.09</u> SENDIF (new for 2024/25)  <u>£ 8.21</u> funding allocated to the local authority from the DfE</p> <p>The Director of Children &amp; Families approved the breakdown of the Funded Early Education Entitlement for 3 and 4-year-olds (from April 2024):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">£ 5.20 base rate paid to all providers (up £0.28 from April 2023)            £ 0.22 centrally retained services (increase of 2p from 2023/24)            £ 0.19 deprivation supplement (no change from 2023/24)            £ 0.09 SENDIF (increase of 4p from 2023/24)            +£ 0 08 uplift from LA to providers  <u>£ 5.62</u> funding allocated to the local authority from the DfE</p>		

<sup>1</sup> Give title of Director with delegated responsibility for function to which decision relates.


<sup>2</sup> If the decision is key and has appeared on the list of forthcoming key decisions, the title of the decision should be the same as that used in the list

<sup>3</sup> Simply refer to supporting report where used as these matters have been set out in detail.

	<p>a) The Director of Children and Families approved the increase of the SENDIF supplement from a maximum of £1,800 per year to £2,088 for a child attending 15 hours and from £3,600 to £4,176 for a child attending 30 hours.</p>
	<p><b>A brief statement of the reasons for the decision</b></p> <p>Please see attached report.</p>
	<p>The decision was taken in consideration of views from providers who responded to the FEEE consultation which ran from 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</p> <p>On the whole, respondents were positive about the funding formula proposed in the consultation. Several providers expressed that they felt the DfE’s rates for all age ranges should be more consistent to prevent providers opting to offer certain age ranges only, and to prevent parents from having a significant increase in fees as their child gets older. The consultation responses also raised concerns about closures of settings due to financial difficulties impacted by NI contribution increases, minimum wage and national living wage increases, increases in utility and food bills, reintroduction of business rates and increases in agency costs.</p>
<b>Affected wards:</b>	All
<b>Details of consultation undertaken<sup>4</sup>:</b>	<p>Executive Member: Councillor Venner</p> <p>Ward Councillors</p> <p>Others: All Early Years Childcare providers, School Forum</p>
<b>Implementation</b>	<p>Officer accountable, and proposed timescales for implementation</p> <p>The Accountable Officer is the Lead for Admissions and FIS.</p> <p>The first payments to be made to providers will be made on 1 April 2024.</p>
<b>List of Forthcoming Key Decisions<sup>5</sup></b>	<p>Date Added to List:- 14/11/23</p> <p><b>If Special Urgency or General Exception</b> a brief statement of the reason why it is impracticable to delay the decision</p> <p><b>If Special Urgency</b> Relevant Scrutiny Chair(s) approval</p>

<sup>4</sup> Include details of any interest disclosed by an elected Member on consultation and the date of any relevant dispensation given.

<sup>5</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 2.4 - 2.6. Complete this section for key decisions only

	Signature	Date
<b>Publication of report<sup>6</sup></b>	If not published for 5 clear working days prior to decision being taken the reason why not possible:	
	If published late relevant Executive member's approval	
	Signature	Date
<b>Call In</b>	Is the decision available <sup>7</sup> for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	If exempt from call-in, the reason why call-in would prejudice the interests of the council or the public:	
<b>Approval Decision</b>	Authorised decision maker <sup>8</sup>	
	Julie Longworth - Director of Children and Families	
	Signature	Date
		23/2/24

<sup>6</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 3.1. Complete this section for key decisions only

<sup>7</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1. Significant operational decisions taken by officers are never available for call in. Key decisions are always available for call in unless they have been exempted from call in under rule 5.1.3.

<sup>8</sup> Give the post title and name of the officer with appropriate delegated authority to take the decision.

