

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to approve spending of the extended Covid 19 Winter Grant
Date of decision:	6 May 2021
Decision maker:	Chief Finance Officer, Interim Deputy Chief Executive
Authority for delegated decision:	Chief Executive's Scheme of Delegation dated 29/09/2020 SA92 – Chief Finance Officer
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	None
Decision made:	To delegate an extended award of winter grant funding to fund May half term costs.
Reasons for decision:	<p>The Covid Winter Grant scheme was announced to help support vulnerable children and families during the winter months.</p> <p>The scheme will support those most in need across England with the cost of food, energy and water bills and other associated costs.</p> <p>The council is to administer the scheme and provide direct assistance to vulnerable households and families with children particularly affected by the pandemic.</p> <p>This scheme was initially extended to 16 April 2021 and has been extended again to 20 June 2021 and the grant award has been increased by £126,584 to a total since inception of £851,591.</p> <p>The increase in funding will be used to purchase local supermarket vouchers for households in England where residents include:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pupils in receipt of free of school meals b. Pre-school children in receipt of pupil premium c. Disadvantage students in college settings <p>To cover the cost of the May half term at £40 supermarket voucher per household. This decision will also enable household funds to be redirected to pay utility bills.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>The cost of the scheme will be funded by the Winter Grant allocation</p> <p>The exact details of spend depends on the number of households meeting the eligibility criteria, this is currently approximately 3,600 households.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	None

Details of any declarations of interest made:	None
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Signed:
Andrew Lovegrove, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Executive

Date: 6 May 2021