

### Record of operational decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Decision to approve spending of the extended Covid 19 Winter Grant, renamed Covid 19 Local Support Grant
<b>Date of decision:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Chief Finance Officer, Interim Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	Chief Executive's Scheme of Delegation dated 29/09/2020 SA92 – Finance Services
<b>Ward:</b>	Countywide
<b>Consultation:</b>	None
<b>Decision made:</b>	To allocate funding received towards costs covering the school summer holidays
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>The Covid Winter Grant scheme was announced to help support vulnerable children and families during the winter months.</p> <p>The scheme supported those most in need across England with the cost of food, energy and water bills and other associated costs.</p> <p>The council administers the scheme and provides direct assistance to vulnerable households and families with children particularly affected by the pandemic.</p> <p>This scheme was initially extended to 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021, then renamed Covid 19 Local Support Grant and extended to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021 with a further final extension to 30 September 2021 increasing the grant award by £506,335 to a total since inception of £1,357,926.</p> <p>The increase in funding will be used to purchase local supermarket vouchers for households in England where residents include:-  Pupils in receipt of free of school meals  Pre-school children in receipt of pupil premium  Disadvantage students in college settings  To cover the cost of the school summer holidays at £130 supermarket voucher per household. This decision will also enable household funds to be redirected to pay utility bills.</p>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	<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 3,800 households.</p>
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	None

<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None
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Signed

Date 26 November 2021