



Agenda

Meeting: Executive

Members: Councillors Carl Les (Chair), Gareth Dadd, Derek Bastiman, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Janet Sanderson, David Chance, Keane Duncan, Greg White and Annabel Wilkinson.

Date: Tuesday, 7th November, 2023

Time: 11.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Selby Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT

Business

11. **Any Other Items** (Pages 3 - 12)
Any other items which the Leader agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances

- Department for Education Grant – Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

Wednesday, 1 November 2023

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North Yorkshire Council

Executive

7 November 2023

Department for Education Grant - Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26

Report of the Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides details of the grant funding for Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 that was announced by the Department for Education (DfE) on the 27 October 2023. The Executive are requested to provide approval for the acceptance of the grant by the local authority.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In March 2023, in the Spring Budget, the Government announced £289 million in funding for the financial years 2023-24 to 2025-26, for a national wraparound childcare programme to ensure that all parents of primary school children who need it, are able to access wraparound childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm. The DfE expect that parents should see an expansion in the availability of wraparound care from September 2024.

3.0 WRAPAROUND CHILDCARE PROGRAMME COSTS GRANT

- 3.1 The DfE have confirmed that grant funding will be paid to North Yorkshire Council for the purposes of supporting the local authority to increase the supply of wraparound childcare places, to ensure or guarantee provision for all parents who may need it, meeting current demand and building further demand. Local authorities are expected to use the grant to work with and fund primary schools and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers, including childminders, to introduce or expand before- and after-school childcare provision in their area where there is a gap in availability. As part of this programme the government wants local authorities, schools and providers to test flexible approaches and gather evidence of what works. The grant funding allocations for North Yorkshire are as follows:

Financial Year	Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant
2023/24	£38,507
2024/25	£2,935,184
2025/26 (Provisional Allocation)	£1,354,724
Total Grant Allocation (Provisional)	£4,328,415

- 3.2 The grant funding for each financial year will be made available in the form of a non-ringfenced grant, contingent on the terms set out in the Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU) for the programme and with reference to the programme handbook which includes the grant payment schedule. The terms in the MoU include:

- i. the Recipient must agree to the terms of the MoU before receipt of the first payment
- ii. the Recipient must submit, of sufficient quality for DfE approval, a costed capacity delivery plan before receipt of the second payment, a costed programme delivery plan before receipt of the third payment, and a delivery plan update for DfE approval before each subsequent payment
- iii. the Recipient must complete all required programme reporting and evaluation activity
- iv. the Recipient must complete a Statement of Grant Usage at the end of each financial year, by the required deadlines
- v. the Recipient must have and make available as required, a transparent process for allocating funding to suppliers and/or childcare providers
- vi. the Recipient must ensure they have sufficient capacity to deliver the programme requirements, using a reasonable proportion of the grant to cover the costs incurred
- vii. the Recipient must ensure that where funding is dispersed to private, voluntary or independent childcare providers, including childminders, all such childcare providers are registered with Ofsted to provide school-age childcare before childcare provision commences
- viii. the Recipient must have in place a process to monitor and mitigate the risk of childcare providers receiving double funding for the same activities.

4.0 WRAPAROUND CHILDCARE PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – ROLE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

4.1 Local authorities are responsible, under the Childcare Act 2006 childcare sufficiency duty, for delivering on the primary objective of the wraparound programme in their local area. That is, to increase parent/carer access to the labour market by increasing the number of wraparound childcare places for primary-aged children available and taken up between 8am and 6pm (or equivalent, depending on local labour market patterns). The DfE consider that local authorities should use the funding available to them to create additional places and ensure existing places are available for the hours that are required, to:

- meet current demand – both in terms of number of places and hours available
- ensure supply to build further demand; and
- where required, as traditional models of wraparound may not support sustainable provision, test new approaches to identify what works in their local area and identify the level of risk.

The DfE expect local authorities to work collaboratively and in partnership with wraparound providers to deliver the programme.

4.2 In order for parents to be able to access the provision from September 2024, or sooner, the DfE require local authorities to undertake the following key steps to deliver the programme:

1. Ensure strong local leadership through a robust governance structure
2. Allocate a designated wraparound lead and ensure appropriate resourcing
3. Plan for delivery – undertake supply and demand mapping, and identify delivery models for wraparound provision
4. Complete and submit costed delivery plans – local authority capacity and programme delivery plans
5. Allocate funding to providers
6. Work with providers to set up provision
7. Promote the National Wraparound Childcare programme to providers and parents

4.3 Subject to approval for the acceptance of the Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant, over the forthcoming period the local authority will be developing a delivery plan and implementing the identified actions.

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No alternative actions have been considered. The grant funding is an essential requirement in supporting the local authority to deliver its responsibilities associated with the DfE wraparound childcare programme.

6.0 IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS

6.1 The receipt of the grant funding will enable the local authority to support childcare providers in the setting up and expanding of childcare provision and testing new models of operation.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The costs and expenditure associated with the Wraparound Childcare Programme will be contained within the grant funding allocation. There is no direct impact on the Council's budget.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 No specific legal implications are identified as a result of the recommendations contained within this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment process has been undertaken in relation to the grant acceptance decision. No specific equalities implications have been identified with the proposed acceptance.

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Climate Change Impact Assessments (CCIA) have been completed in respect of the grant acceptance decision. No specific climate change implications identified with the proposed acceptance of the grant.

11.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 The report recommendations are made:

- To comply with grant acceptance requirements of the North Yorkshire Council Financial Procedure Rules
- To support the local authority to deliver its responsibilities associated with the DfE wraparound childcare programme.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Executive is asked to:

- i. Note the DfE Wraparound Childcare Programme and the required role of the local authority in the delivery of the programme.
- ii. Provide approval for the acceptance of the Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant which covers the financial years 2023/24 to 2024/25, with the provisional total grant funding allocation for the three years being £4.33m

APPENDICES:

None

Stuart Carlton
Corporate Director –Children and Young People’s Service
County Hall
Northallerton

31 October 2023

Report Author – Howard Emmett, Assistant Director - Resources
Presenter of Report – Howard Emmett, Assistant Director - Resources

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	Central Services		
Service area	Resources – Finance		
Proposal being screened	Grant Acceptance – DfE Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Sally Dunn		
What are you proposing to do?	Local authority acceptance of the DfE Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	The DfE grant funding is an essential requirement is supporting the local authority to deliver its responsibilities associated with the DfE wraparound childcare programme to be implemented by September 2024. The delivery of the programme will enable the further development and expansion of childcare provision within North Yorkshire		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	The grant will provide additional funding of £4.33m to support the local authority in further developing and expanding the wraparound childcare provision with North Yorkshire over the financial years 2023/24 to 2025/26.		
Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC’s additional agreed characteristics			
As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked ‘Don’t know/no info available’, then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don’t know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Are from the Armed Forces Community		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (for example, disabled people’s	The grant funding will provide the opportunity to review and potentially further develop wraparound childcare provision for children with additional needs e.g. attending		

access to public transport)? Please give details.	a Special School, and children living in deeply rural areas.			
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (for example, partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	One of the objectives of the grant is to support childcare providers to develop financially sustainable wraparound provision; this will potentially enhance the operations of schools and the private, voluntary and independent childcare sector within North Yorkshire.			
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:	
Reason for decision	The initial equality impact assessment screening identified no adverse impacts with the acceptance of the DfE Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)				
Date	31/10/2023			

Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Title of proposal	Department for Education Grant - Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26
Brief description of proposal	The proposal relates to the acceptance of the DfE Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs Grant to support the development of wraparound childcare provision in North Yorkshire for the financial years 2023/24 to 2025/26.
Directorate	Central Services
Service area	Strategic Resources – Finance
Lead officer	Howard Emmett
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Sally Dunn – Head of Finance – Schools, Early Years & High Needs

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following;

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

Environmental factor to consider	For the county council	For the county	Overall
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste
Water use	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	No effect on resilience	No effect on resilience	No effect on resilience
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology
Heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

Decision (Please tick one option)	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full CCIA: <input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for decision	No environmental factor effects have been identified with the proposals associated with the payment of the Early Years Supplementary Grant.	
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)		
Date		

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