

Reference Number: CEO Emergency Powers 27/20 (CYP41/20)

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DECISION RECORD

Re: Covid winter grant – free school meal provision

This record is produced in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

This form should be used to record:

- **EXECUTIVE decisions (key or otherwise) taken by an individual Executive MEMBER; and**
- **EXECUTIVE decisions (key or otherwise) taken by an OFFICER (either alone or in consultation with an Executive Member)**
- **A non-Executive decision taken by an OFFICER which falls into one of the following descriptions:-**
 - (i) under a specific express authorisation; or**
 - (ii) under a general authorisation to officers to take such decisions and, the effect of the decision is to**
 - **grant a permission or licence;**
 - **affect the rights of an individual; or**
 - **award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects that relevant local government body's financial position.**

(One form per decision)

The following decision has been taken: -

That the Covid Winter Grant Scheme local eligibility framework and approach including the disbursement of grant payments and administration fees to schools, colleges, academies and early years' providers is approved. In addition, the disbursement of vouchers to eligible care leavers is approved. Payment will initially be made for the two-week non-term time Christmas period.

The Chief Executive delegates authority to the Corporate Director –Children & Young People's Service in consultation with the Assistant Director – Strategic Resources to make reasonable changes to the local eligibility framework and approach following evaluation of the scheme in January 2021.

By whom: Richard Flinton, Chief Executive Officer, under his emergency delegated powers, in consultation with the Executive Member for Education and Skills and the Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service

On: 26 November 2020

Was this an executive decision?

YES

If an executive decision, was it also a key decision?

YES

Please note that this decision was treated under the Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 Special Urgency procedure and that call-in has been exempted from this decision by the Chairman of the County Council under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16(h), via the blanket exemptions' notice dated 27 April 2020.

Reasons for decision: -

The Government have established a £170m Covid Winter Grant Scheme to support children, families and the most vulnerable over winter (covers November 2020 - March 2021; effectively 2 weeks at Christmas, 1 week at February half-term and 3 days at Easter). The funding will be ring-fenced, with at least 80% earmarked to support with food and bills, and will cover the period to the end of March 2021.

North Yorkshire's allocation is £1.43m. Local Authorities will receive the funding at the beginning of December 2020.

Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee.

The Chairmen of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Chairman of the Council have given their respective consents to emergency decisions by the Chief Executive Officer in response to the Covid-19 pandemic being treated under the Special Urgency Procedure and being exempt from call in where timescales do not permit observance of the usual access to information timescales. Such consents were published in the blanket exemptions' notice dated 27 April 2020.

This matter was treated under that blanket consent notice due to the urgency in confirming arrangements for the Christmas/New Year period for families experiencing financial hardship across the County.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected: -

None

Conflicts of Interest

Please record below details of any conflict of interest declared by a Member or Officer regarding the decision and any dispensation granted by the Standards Committee or Monitoring Officer in respect of that conflict.

Conflict	Dispensation?

Background Papers

Please attach to this decision notice, for publication, the background papers that disclose any facts or matters on which this decision, or an important part of the decision, was based and which were relied on to a material extent in making the decision, but this does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in Rule 10).

Signed
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Publication Date: 7 December 2020

Chief Executive

Directorate: Children and Young People's
Service

***Note 1 regarding Executive decisions only:
This decision will come into force, and may
then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 clear
working days after publication, unless any 6
members of the Council object to it and call it
in by notice in writing (including e-mail) to The
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and
Democratic Services).***

***Note 2: non-executive and non-key executive
decisions by Officers are not subject to call in.***

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To: The Senior Legal and Democratic Technical Support Officer, Legal and Democratic
Services - for onward circulation to:

All Members of the Council; All Management Board; All Management Board Secretaries;
All Senior Managers; All Democratic Services Officers; All Corporate Development
Officers; Senior Press Officer; Communications Officer