

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People
Date:	22 June 2021
Title:	Childcare Sustainability Grant Awards
Report From:	Suzanne Smith, Assistant Director, Children's Services

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1. The decision:

That the Director of Children's Services approves the award of grants to:

1.1 **Bushy Leaze Nursery School, the sum of £4,727**

Bushy Leaze Nursery School recommended for an award of £4,727 from the Childcare Sustainability Grant to contribute towards covering additional staffing costs incurred while some staff were shielding during COVID lockdowns. Bushy Leaze Nursery School have requested this additional funding to help them ensure continued service delivery for local families in the Alton area and for children with complex needs. This provider is an SEN Hub and receives funding accordingly. They are currently nearing 100% occupancy and have recently opened additional childcare spaces for 2 year olds indicating future demand for the service. The setting will be required to continue to access business support.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1 The Childcare Sustainability Grant forms part of Hampshire County Council's COVID response. A grant fund of up to £365,000 has been made available to childcare providers who require support with short term financial sustainability. On 24/02/2021, the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member, was given the authority to approve awards to providers where it is evidenced there is sufficiency of need and where, without financial support, the provider may be unable to operate.

[\(Agenda Document for Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People Decision Day, 24/02/2021 13:00 \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

2.2 Other options considered and rejected:

Alternative option is not to support the grant funding which could jeopardise childcare sufficiency in the area(s).

2. Conflicts of interest:

2.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

2.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

3. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel:

4. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent:

5.1 Childcare sustainability grant is time sensitive to ensure the provider is financially viable to continue the provision of childcare services.

5.2 Confirming the grant before the end of February will assist the provider with financial planning.

5. Statement from the decision maker:

Approved by:

Date:

[Insert name of Decision Maker]

[Insert title of Decision Maker]

[Insert date]