

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	25 th November 2022
Title:	Childcare Sustainability Grant Awards
Report From:	Suzanne Smith, Assistant Director, Children's Services

Contact name: Tracey Messer

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1. The decision:

That the Director of Children's Services approves the award of £3000 to:

a. Fairlands Nursery

1.2 **Fairlands Nursery** is recommended for an award of £3,000 from the Childcare Sustainability Grant to contribute towards marketing and staffing costs. Fairlands Nursery has extended opening hours and made changes to the setting. This setting is needed to provide sufficient places and support continued early years education and childcare for local families and those from Wickham and Botley. This provider will be required to continue to review their business planning and undertake regular business reviews.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1 The Childcare Sustainability Grant is part of Hampshire County Council's COVID response. A grant fund of up to £209,000 has been made available to childcare providers who require support with short term financial sustainability. On 24 February 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).

3. Conflicts of interest:

3.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

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

4. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel:

5. 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 January will assist the provider with financial planning.

6. Statement from the decision maker:

Approved by:

Date:

[Insert date]

Steve Crocker
Director for Children's Services