

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	7 March 2025
Title:	Approval to Spend for 2025 - 2026 – Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Sarah Snowdon, Assistant Director, Shared Services (Adults Health and Care Services and Children's Services)

Email: sarah.snowdon@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services gives approval to spend up to £3,599,700 for a Holiday Activities and Food Programme for a total period of one year from April 2025 to March 2026. Payments to external providers will be made through the existing contract framework and payments will be made as and when individual school holiday provision is commissioned.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. On 20 January 2025, the Department for Education (DfE) announced that there would be £200m overall funding for the HAF programme for an additional financial year, from 2025 to 2026. Hampshire County Council's allocation of this has been confirmed as up to £3,599,700.

2.2. The aim of the programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year, covering Easter, summer and Christmas holidays.

2.3. Approval to spend is sought from the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services for spend to be committed under the open framework up to the total value of £3,599,700 over the one year period 2025-2026.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. An alternative option to approving expenditure on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme is to decline the grant from the Department of Education. As the grant is explicitly for use on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme, declining the grant would withdraw this holiday support to

financially-vulnerable families in Hampshire provided since 2021.

4. Conflicts of interest:

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

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

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: N/A

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: N/A

7. Statement from the decision maker: N/A

Approved by:

Date:

7 March 2025

Councillor Roz Chadd
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services