



Urgent Key Decision

Request to a scrutiny chair that an urgent key decision be made without being published in the Register of Key Decisions, and/or that key decision be exempt from call in for scrutiny.

Decision maker	The Executive
What is the decision?	<p>Manchester has been allocated £2.581m in November a COVID winter grant. A minimum of 80% of this grant must be spent on families with children. The grant covers the period from 1st December to 31st March 2021. This will be used to provide support with food, energy, essential items for c43,000 children and young people over the Christmas holidays and February half term holiday.</p> <p>The allocation of the grant would support the following priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.9m to be allocated to provide supermarket vouchers to be distributed through schools and settings for children and young people eligible for benefit related free school meals and other children in identified groups. • Up to £150k to be allocated as a grant to Colleges in Manchester to enable them to develop a scheme for young people who were previously on FSM. • £24.5k to be allocated for to support care leavers with food. • £264k to be allocated to Early Years/Early Help service • £132k to be allocated to Food Response team for adult only households. <p>To delegate the administration and final allocation of the funds to the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer in consultation with the Director of Children's Services.</p>
<p>List Non-confidential reports</p> <p>Reports to be considered that can be made available to the public</p>	Children's Covid Winter Plan
<p>List Confidential reports</p> <p>Reports to be considered which contain confidential or exempt information</p>	N/A

Reason for confidentiality	N/A	
Intended date of decision	9 December 2020	
Officer contact details For any further information	<p>Amanda Corcoran Director Education amanda.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk</p> <p>Paul Marshall Strategic Director Children and Education Services paul.marshall@manchester.gov.uk</p>	
Has the decision been published in the Register of Key Decisions?	Yes / No	
Reasons for special urgency Explain why it cannot be published in the Register of Key Decisions with 28 days notice.	<p>The Council were only formally notified of the grant allocation on 10/11/20 and full guidance on this was published on 25/11/20. An urgent decision is required due to the tight timescales to meet the ambition of providing support over Christmas break for c41,000 children and young people who would normally access food at school/setting or college during term time. This will involve the commissioning and procurement of a significant number of food vouchers from key supermarkets to provide a reach across the city. The timescale from procurement to distribution which will be via schools is exceptionally tight in order to reach vulnerable families by end of school term (18/12/20).</p>	
Is exemption from call-in for scrutiny needed?	Yes	
Explain how any delay will seriously prejudice the legal or financial position of the Council	A delay will compromise the Council's legal position by not meeting the expectations in the grant conditions and not support vulnerable families. This may lead to a surplus which would be returned to central government.	
Scrutiny Chair who has agreed the decision is reasonable and urgent	Name	Cllr Bernard Stone (Chair of Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Committee)
	Signed	<i>Signature redacted for publication purposes</i>
	Date	2 December 2020
Request prepared by:	Paul Marshall, Strategic Director Children and Education Services	