

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member




REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – L23 24/25

Decision			
1	Title of decision: Early Years Capital Expansion Programme		
2	Decision maker: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of The Council		
3	Report author and contact details: Lisa Linscott, Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills		
4	Decision to be taken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the Business Case; 2. Allocates £434,787.80 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by the Childcare Expansion Grant; 3. Authorises the procurement process; 4. Delegates the award of the contract to Director for Children's Services. 		
5	Reasons for decision: <p>The Early Years Capital Expansion grant has been made available to enable providers of Early Years and Wrap Around childcare to expand their existing offer. In order to meet Government targets to provide 30 hours a week childcare to all families by September 2025 Plymouth childcare providers and schools need to double their current offer. The capital fund is to be distributed as soon as possible to schools, Early Years childcare providers and Child Minders to enable them to adapt their premises to offer places to more children. The Government have asked that Councils prioritise children with SEND.</p> <p>A small grants scheme has been launched so providers can apply for funds up to £20,000. The bids are evaluated by a small team of professionals to carry out due diligence checks to ensure that the funds are made available across the whole of the city giving priority to those wards where it has been identified there is the greatest need.</p>		
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: <p>Options considered and rejected should be clearly set out here and listed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No action – Rejected. The grant has been made available to enable nurseries and schools to make adaptations to their premises using the capital grant. 		
7	Financial implications and risks: This is a Section 31 grant from the Department for Education. All funds to be distributed to schools and Early Years Child care providers will be from the committed grant funding.		
8	Is the decision a Key Decision?	Yes	No
			Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:

	(please contact Democratic Support for further advice)		x	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			x	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million annually
			x	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions			
9	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	<p>This links to the Council's Corporate Plan to keeping children, adults and communities safe as it is improving the childcare offer across the city. This will have apposite impact on all families who can access the improved and expanded services.</p> <p>This links to the Council's Corporate Plan priorities of Green investment, jobs, skills, and better education; Providing quality public services; and Spending money wisely.</p>		
10	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	A Climate Impact Assessment is attached.		
Urgent decisions				
11	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	x	(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency:			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	Are any other Cabinet members'	Yes	x	

	portfolios affected by the decision?	No		(If no go to section 14)
13b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Cresswell, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships		
13c	Date Cabinet member consulted	16 October 2024		
14	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	x	
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	David Haley	
		Job title	Director of Children's Services	
		Date consulted	23 September 2024	
Sign-off				
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS12 24.25	
		Finance (mandatory)	DJN.24.25.106	
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00003610/4/LB/1/10/24	
		Procurement (if applicable)		
		Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable)		
		Human Resources (if applicable)		
Appendices				
17	Ref.	Title of appendix		
	A	Briefing report for publication		
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment		
	C	Climate Impact Assessment		
	D	Business Case		
Confidential/exempt information				
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for

		No	x	publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
Signature			Date of decision	30 October 2024				
Print Name	Cllr Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of Plymouth City Council							