

# This document has been withdrawn

## **ADOPTION REFORM GRANT: PART B - GRANT DETERMINATION (2013 - 2014): No 31/2117**

The Secretary of State for Education (“the Secretary of State”), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, makes the following determination:

### **Citation**

1) This determination may be cited as the Adoption Reform Grant: Part B Grant Determination (2013 - 2014) [No31/2117].

### **Purpose of the grant**

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them.

3) Local authorities are required to spend this one-off grant on adoption services.

4) The Government’s current priorities are:

- a) structural reform of adopter recruitment to increase the supply of adopters. This includes the equalisation of the inter-agency and inter-authority fees and other reforms that will increase the use of adopters recruited by the voluntary sector and other local authority adoption agencies;
- b) reducing the backlog of children waiting for adoption, particularly by developing innovative ways of finding adoptive families for children who traditionally wait longer than average to be adopted.

5) The Government will be using existing data collections to understand the impact of this grant alongside its other adoption reforms.

6) In addition, as a condition of this grant, local authorities are required to write to the Department providing details of what the grant was spent on and the impact that this expenditure had. Please see clauses 9 and 15 of Annex B.

### **Determination**

7) The Secretary of State determines as the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid, the authorities and the amounts set out in Annex A.

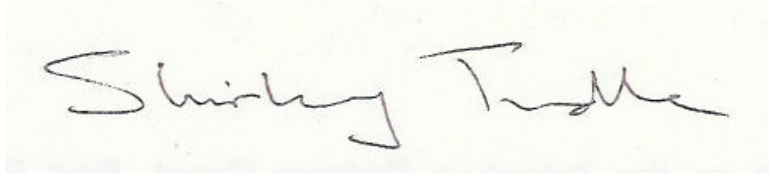
### **Grant conditions**

8) Pursuant to section 31(3) and 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003, the Secretary of State determines that the grant will be paid subject to the conditions in Annex B.

**Treasury consent**

9) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Secretary of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Education

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Shirley Trundle" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Shirley Trundle  
Director, Department for Education

14 February 2013

**ADOPTION REFORM GRANT: PART B – ALLOCATIONS 2013-14**

LA code	LA	Total allocation
201	City of London	£ 25,000
202	Camden	£ 191,310
203	Greenwich	£ 151,030
204	Hackney	£ 34,390
205	Hammersmith and Fulham	£ 175,500
206	Islington	£ 203,580
207	Kensington and Chelsea	£ 54,170
208	Lambeth	£ 251,790
209	Lewisham	£ 213,470
210	Southwark	£ 486,190
211	Tower Hamlets	£ 132,840
212	Wandsworth	£ 178,270
213	Westminster	£ 143,880
301	Barking and Dagenham	£ 302,410
302	Barnet	£ 195,270
303	Bexley	£ 235,210
304	Brent	£ 153,380
305	Bromley	£ 149,840
306	Croydon	£ 232,050
307	Ealing	£ 203,970
308	Enfield	£ 127,680
309	Haringey	£ 236,360
310	Harrow	£ 62,050
311	Havering	£ 104,750
312	Hillingdon	£ 266,410
313	Hounslow	£ 202,390
314	Kingston upon Thames	£ 90,910
315	Merton	£ 84,980
316	Newham	£ 322,570
317	Redbridge	£ 102,370
318	Richmond upon Thames	£ 58,900
319	Sutton	£ 170,770
320	Waltham Forest	£ 171,580
330	Birmingham	£ 1,328,140
331	Coventry	£ 419,860
332	Dudley	£ 470,760
333	Sandwell	£ 385,820
334	Solihull	£ 136,760
335	Walsall	£ 294,140
336	Wolverhampton	£ 582,210
340	Knowsley	£ 128,070
341	Liverpool	£ 394,970
342	St. Helens	£ 274,720
343	Sefton	£ 209,890
344	Wirral	£ 151,420
350	Bolton	£ 620,640
351	Bury	£ 255,360
352	Manchester	£ 781,830
353	Oldham	£ 309,530
354	Rochdale	£ 425,710
355	Salford	£ 329,690

356	Stockport	£	270,410
357	Tameside	£	261,710
358	Trafford	£	132,840
359	Wigan	£	420,590
370	Barnsley	£	220,970
371	Doncaster	£	458,910
372	Rotherham	£	517,000
373	Sheffield	£	588,590
380	Bradford	£	716,280
381	Calderdale	£	260,100
382	Kirklees	£	592,100
383	Leeds	£	1,309,560
384	Wakefield	£	362,890
390	Gateshead	£	186,200
391	Newcastle upon Tyne	£	480,720
392	North Tyneside	£	263,670
393	South Tyneside	£	380,700
394	Sunderland	£	467,640
420	Isles of Scilly	£	-
800	Bath and North East Somers	£	68,400
801	Bristol, City of	£	490,960
802	North Somerset	£	172,730
803	South Gloucestershire	£	127,680
805	Hartlepool	£	166,420
806	Middlesbrough	£	217,010
807	Redcar and Cleveland	£	217,780
808	Stockton-on-Tees	£	272,750
810	Kingston Upon Hull, City of	£	616,250
811	East Riding of Yorkshire	£	266,020
812	North East Lincolnshire	£	214,240
813	North Lincolnshire	£	190,930
815	North Yorkshire	£	257,750
816	York	£	160,880
821	Luton	£	204,350
822	Bedford	£	107,520
823	Central Bedfordshire	£	93,680
825	Buckinghamshire	£	215,430
826	Milton Keynes	£	282,600
830	Derbyshire	£	990,180
831	Derby	£	621,760
835	Dorset	£	205,160
836	Poole	£	185,390
837	Bournemouth	£	241,520
840	Durham	£	578,320
841	Darlington	£	49,820
845	East Sussex	£	513,080
846	Brighton and Hove	£	556,970
850	Hampshire	£	718,240
851	Portsmouth	£	292,490
852	Southampton	£	317,420
855	Leicestershire	£	229,670
856	Leicester	£	290,530
857	Rutland	£	35,580
860	Staffordshire	£	807,530
861	Stoke-on-Trent	£	463,680
865	Wiltshire	£	188,960

866	Swindon	£	149,420
867	Bracknell Forest	£	89,330
868	Windsor and Maidenhead	£	76,290
869	West Berkshire	£	103,560
870	Reading	£	333,610
871	Slough	£	190,120
872	Wokingham	£	32,810
873	Cambridgeshire	£	296,450
874	Peterborough	£	263,640
876	Halton	£	121,760
877	Warrington	£	153,770
878	Devon	£	290,180
879	Plymouth	£	417,050
880	Torbay	£	120,570
881	Essex	£	1,008,760
882	Southend-on-Sea	£	177,500
883	Thurrock	£	102,370
884	Herefordshire	£	160,500
885	Worcestershire	£	552,620
886	Kent	£	1,127,330
887	Medway	£	345,080
888	Lancashire	£	1,088,980
889	Blackburn with Darwen	£	275,100
890	Blackpool	£	452,560
891	Nottinghamshire	£	801,220
892	Nottingham	£	586,590
893	Shropshire	£	156,960
894	Telford and Wrekin	£	218,620
895	Cheshire East	£	349,850
896	Cheshire West & Chester	£	172,730
908	Cornwall	£	441,560
909	Cumbria	£	536,390
916	Gloucestershire	£	266,020
919	Hertfordshire	£	555,780
921	Isle of Wight	£	96,060
925	Lincolnshire	£	484,650
926	Norfolk	£	907,970
928	Northamptonshire	£	677,460
929	Northumberland	£	176,310
931	Oxfordshire	£	416,670
933	Somerset	£	385,820
935	Suffolk	£	778,370
936	Surrey	£	538,000
937	Warwickshire	£	341,150
938	West Sussex	£	447,100
	Total	£	49,999,990

## **ADOPTION REFORM GRANT: PART B – GRANT CONDITIONS**

1. In this Annex:

“the Project” means those outputs and activities undertaken by the authority in furtherance of the purpose set out in paragraphs 2 - 4 of the Grant Determination No 31/2117–;

“the Department” means the Department for Education;

“the authority” means the authorities referred to in Annex A;

“the Secretary of State” means the Secretary of State for Education.

2. Grant will only be paid to the authority to support eligible expenditure.

### **Eligible Expenditure**

3. Eligible expenditure means payments made by the authority or any person acting on behalf of the authority, between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, for the purposes of the Project.

4. If the authority incurs any of the following costs, they must be excluded from eligible expenditure:

- a) contributions in kind
- b) payments for activities of a political or exclusively religious nature
- c) depreciation, amortisation or impairment of fixed assets owned by the authority
- d) input VAT reclaimable by the authority from HM Revenue & Customs
- e) interest payments or service charge payments for finance leases
- f) gifts, other than promotional items with a value of no more than £10 in a year to any one person
- g) entertaining (Entertaining for this purpose means anything that would be a taxable benefit to the person being entertained, according to current UK tax regulations)
- h) statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties

5. The authority must not deliberately incur liabilities for eligible expenditure before there is an operational need for it to do so.

6. For the purpose of defining the time of payments, a payment is made by the authority when money passes out of its control (or out of the control of any person acting on behalf of the authority). Money will be assumed to have passed out of such control at the moment when legal tender is passed to a supplier (or, if wages, to an employee), when a letter is posted to a supplier or employee containing a cheque, or an electronic instruction is sent to a bank to make a payment to a supplier or employee by direct credit or bank transfer.

### **Payment arrangements**

7. Grant will be paid in four instalments of as near equal value as possible on, or by, 31 May 2013, 31 August 2013, 30 November 2013 and 28 February 2014.

8. If at any time the authority becomes aware that the above profile no longer reflects the pattern of eligible expenditure during the year, the authority must inform the Department as soon as possible. The Secretary of State reserves the right to alter the timing or amount of grants payments accordingly.

### **Statement of Grant Usage**

9. The authority must prepare a Statement of Grant Usage for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 to be submitted to the Department on or before 31 May 2014. The Statement of Grant Usage (Annex D) must provide details of eligible expenditure in the period, what has been achieved, highlighting innovative elements of the approaches taken, and a summary of the impact of this expenditure to date. The Statement of Grant Usage must be certified by the authority's chief executive that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the amounts shown on the Statement are all eligible expenditure and that the grant has been used for the purposes intended. Please be aware that the Department might publish part of these summaries with the aim of sharing best practice.

10. The Statement of Grant Usage submitted to the Department must be accompanied by a report from the authority's chief executive or chief finance officer setting out whether he or she has received an audit opinion from the authority's chief internal auditor that he can provide reasonable assurance that the Statement of Grant Usage, in all material respects, fairly presents the

eligible expenditure in the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 in accordance with the definitions and conditions in this Determination.

11. The authority must inform the Department promptly of any significant financial control issues raised by its internal auditors.

12. If the Statement of Grant Usage identifies any overpayment of grant, the authority must repay this amount within 30 days of being asked by the Department.

13. The Secretary of State may at any time require a further external validation to be carried out by an appropriately qualified independent accountant or auditor, on the use of the grant.

### **Progress Report**

14. The authority must prepare a progress report (Annex C) after the first six months to be submitted to the Department by 30 October 2013. The report must provide details of eligible expenditure in the period, what has been achieved, highlighting innovative elements of the approaches taken, and a summary of the impact of this expenditure to date. Please be aware that the Department might publish parts of these progress reports with the aim of sharing best practice.

### **Financial Management**

15. The authority must maintain a sound system of internal financial controls.

16. If the authority has any grounds for suspecting financial irregularity in the use of any grant paid under this funding agreement, it must notify the Department immediately, explain what steps are being taken to investigate the suspicion and keep the Department informed about the progress of the investigation. For these purposes “financial irregularity” includes fraud or other impropriety, mismanagement, and the use of grant for purposes other than those for which it was provided.

### **Records to be kept**



17. The authority must maintain reliable, accessible and up to date accounting records with an adequate audit trail for all expenditure funded by grant monies under this Determination.

18. The authority and any person acting on behalf of the authority must allow:

a) the Comptroller and Auditor General or appointed representatives;  
and

b) the Secretary of State or appointed representatives;

free access at all reasonable times to all documents (including computerised documents and data) and other information as are connected to the grant payable under this Determination, or to the purposes for which grant was used, subject to the provisions in paragraph 19.

19. The documents, data and information referred to in paragraph 19 are such which the Secretary of State or the Comptroller and Auditor General may reasonably require for the purposes of his financial audit or any department or other public body or for carrying out examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which any department or other public body has used its resources. The authority must provide such further explanations as are reasonably required for these purposes.

20. Paragraphs 17 and 18 do not constitute a requirement for the examination, certification or inspection of the accounts of the authority by the Comptroller and Auditor General under section 6(3) of the National Audit Act 1983. The Comptroller and Auditor General will seek access in a measured manner to minimise any burden on the authority and will avoid duplication of effort by seeking and sharing information with the Audit Commission.

### **Breach of Conditions and Recovery of Grant**

25. If the authority fails to comply with any of these conditions, or if any overpayment is made under this grant or any amount is paid in error, or if any of the events set out in paragraph 27 occurs, the Secretary of State may reduce, suspend or withhold grant payments or require the repayment of the whole or any part of the grant monies paid, as may be determined by the Secretary of State and notified in writing to the authority. Such sum as has been notified will immediately become repayable to the Secretary of State who may set off the sum against any future amount due to the authority from central government.

26. The events referred to in paragraph 25 are:

- a) the authority purports to transfer or assign any rights, interests or obligations arising under this Determination without the prior agreement of the Secretary of State;
- b) any information provided in any application for grant monies payable under this Determination, or in any subsequent supporting correspondence is found to be significantly incorrect or incomplete in the opinion of the Secretary of State;
- c) it appears to the Secretary of State that other circumstances have arisen or events have occurred that are likely to significantly affect the authority's ability to achieve the outputs, activities, milestones and targets set out in the bid;
- d) the authority's chief internal auditor is unable to provide reasonable assurance that the Statement of Grant Usage, in all material respects, fairly presents the eligible expenditure in the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 in accordance with the definitions and conditions in this Determination.

**ANNEX C**

Progress Report for Q1 and Q2

<b>Organisation Name:</b>		<b>Grant Ref no:</b>	
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Please provide details of the ways in which the money was spent on adoption in Q1 – Q2:	
Item	Amount spent

Please provide a summary of the approach taken by the local authority in spending this money, highlighting the innovative elements of this approach:

Please provide a summary of the impact this expenditure has had on the local authority's provision of adoption services to date:

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Name	
Position	
Signature	
Date	

**ANNEX D**

Statement of Grant Usage

<b>Organisation Name:</b>		<b>Theme/Grant Ref no:</b>	
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Please provide details of the ways in which the money was spent on adoption in 2013 – 2014:

Item	Amount spent

Please provide a summary of the approach taken by the local authority in spending this money, highlighting the innovative elements of this approach :

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Please provide a summary of the impact this expenditure has had on the local authority's provision of adoption services to date :

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Authorisation required by Chief Executive	
Name	
Signature	
Date	