

To Chief Executive Officers of:
Bexley
Bradford
Calderdale
Essex
Hackney
Lewisham
Waltham Forest

20 March 2018

Dear Chief Executive Officer,

Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for National Assessment and Accreditation System (NAAS) Phase 2 early adopters. [GR1000414] [DLG 31/3258]

This Determination is made between:

(1) The **Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families** and

(2) **The local authorities listed at Annex A**

Purpose of the Grant

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

This grant is intended to support the activity of the local authorities named in Annex A as part of Phase 2 of the National Assessment and Accreditation of System. They may however, choose how to spend the money in order to best meet local need. This is the second tranche of funding being paid following grants being issued in December 2017 to the first wave of early adopter sites.

The introduction of the National Assessment and Accreditation System – NAAS - will provide a consistent way of assuring that child and family social workers, supervisors and leaders have the knowledge and skills for effective practice. It will help individuals and their managers gain a better understanding of their practice and provide a clear benchmark of expertise and quality of practice.

The National Assessment and Accreditation System forms part of the social work reform programme set out in *Putting children first: Delivering our vision for excellent children's social care*. This policy paper (published in July 2016)

sets out the Department for Education's vision for this Parliament to radically reform the children's social care system, putting practice excellence and achieving more for the children we serve at its heart.

Reforms are structured around three areas:

1. People and leadership – bringing the best people into the profession, and giving them the right knowledge and skills for the incredibly challenging but hugely rewarding work we expect them to do, and developing leaders equipped to nurture practice excellence;
2. Practice and systems – creating the right environment for excellent practice and innovation to flourish; and
3. Governance and accountability – making sure that what we are doing is working, using data to show us strengths and weaknesses in the system, and developing innovative new organisational models with the potential to radically improve services.

The National Assessment and Accreditation System will play a key role in delivering the Government's vision, in particular delivering against the people and leadership objective at point 1 above.

Local authorities who have volunteered to take part in Phases 1 and 2 of NAAS are undertaking a range of activities to raise practice standards and prepare both their social workers and their systems for the new National Assessment and Accreditation System.

Annex A includes the total amount of funding awarded to each Phase 2 site for 2017/18.

This letter has been copied for information, to Her Majesty's Treasury and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Signed by authority of the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families



Samantha Olsen,
Deputy Director
Department for Education

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION SYSTEM
EARLY ADOPTERS GRANT DETERMINATION 2017-18
[GR1000414] [No 31/3258]**

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families 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 National Assessment and Accreditation System early adopters Determination 2017-18 [No 31/3258].

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.

Determination

3) The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State determines the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid; these are set out in Annex A.

Treasury consent

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

Payment arrangements

5) The total grant to be paid to each authority is set out at Annex A. The grant will be paid in one instalment in March 2018 and will be for the sum attributed to the 2017-18 financial year.

Signed by authority of the
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families



Samantha Olsen,
Deputy Director
Department for Education

20 March 2018

**ANNEX A – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION
SYSTEM PHASE 2 EARLY ADOPTERS GRANT
DETERMINATION 2017-18: [GR1000414] [No 31/3258]**

Authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Amount of grant to be paid
Hackney (Phase 2)	£143,000
Bexley (Phase 2)	£146,600
Waltham Forest (Phase 2)	£130,600
Lewisham (Phase 2)	£144,200
Calderdale (Phase 2)	£135,000
Essex (Phase 2)	£395,400
Bradford (Phase 2)	£221,400