

To Chief Executive Officers of:

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Cumbria County Council
London Borough of Enfield
Gloucestershire County Council
London Borough of Haringey
Kirklees Council
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Somerset County Council
St Helen's Council
London Borough of Wandsworth
Wiltshire Council
City of York Council

31 March 2020

Dear Chief Executive Officer,

Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for National Assessment and Accreditation System early adopters [GRx130 - GRx141] [MHCLG 31/4020]

This Determination is made between:

- (1) The **Secretary of State for Education** 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 that are early adopters of the National Assessment and Accreditation System. They may however, choose how to spend the money in order to best meet local need.

In such extraordinary and difficult times, we recognise that child and family social workers will be experiencing unforeseen challenges and will be making decisions under exceptional circumstances. With the rapidly changing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the need for high quality social work to deal with these pressures is more apparent than ever. The introduction of the National Assessment and Accreditation System 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 which aims to put practice excellence and achieving more for the children we serve, at its heart. Local authorities who have volunteered to take part in the National Assessment and Accreditation System (NAAS) are undertaking a range of activities to prepare both their social workers and their systems.

We recognise that the COVID-19 outbreak will affect the delivery of NAAS in your area. We will work with you to agree any necessary adjustments to the standard expectations the Department has of participating local authorities, including the expectations that:

- each new site will support the wider aims of NAAS including: assisting the whole workforce to become more familiar with the Post-Qualifying Standards / Knowledge and Skills Statements (PQS / KSS) and give consideration to career progression of which NAAS would form a part.
- senior leaders from within each new site will support this initiative.
- each new site will participate in the independent research which is tracking how well NAAS is working.

Included in this grant is an additional £10,000 per site to champion the ongoing research and evaluation of the programme, which is being used to inform and develop the NAAS as it rolls out.

Annex A includes the total amount of funding awarded to each new site for 2019/20.

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

Signed by authority of the Minister of State for Children and Families.



Felicity Allen

Deputy Director, Children's Social Care, Workforce

Department for Education

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION SYSTEM EARLY ADOPTERS GRANT DETERMINATION 2019-20 [GRx130 - GRx141] [No 31/4020]

The Minister 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 2019 [No 31/4020]

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 Minister 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

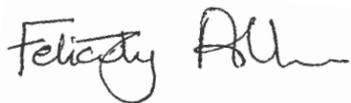
4) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Minister of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

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 April 2020 and will be for the sum attributed to the 2019/20 financial year.

Signed by authority of the

Minister of State for Children and Families



Felicity Allen

Deputy Director

Department for Education

31 March 2020

ANNEX A – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION SYSTEM EARLY ADOPTERS GRANT DETERMINATION 2019-20: [GRx130 - GRx141] [No 31/4020]

Authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Grant Reference Number	Amount of grant to be paid
Blackburn with Darwen	GRx130	£138,600
Cumbria	GRx131	£188,600
Enfield	GRx132	£153,800
Gloucestershire	GRx133	£203,400
Haringey	GRx134	£142,200
Kirklees	GRx135	£200,600
Knowsley	GRx136	£129,400
Somerset	GRx137	£186,200
St Helen's	GRx138	£145,400
Wandsworth	GRx139	£147,800
Wiltshire	GRx140	£175,400
York	GRx141	£125,000
Total		£1,936,400