

Department for Education
20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Director of Children's Services for:
Cambridgeshire County Council
Suffolk County Council

29 January 2019

Dear Director of Children's Services,

Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for the Essential Life Skills programme Y2 Grant second payment (2018-19 [DfE GR1000361] DCLG Ref: 31/3529)

This Determination is made between:

- (1) **The Secretary of State for Education** and
- (2) **The local authorities listed at Annex A.**

I am pleased to be writing to you to confirm further details of the Government's offer to your local authority following the Essential Life Skills (ELS) Grant payment in June 2018 for 2018-19 (and first payment made in January 2018 for 2017-18).

We will devolve the Grant payment (second instalment for 2018-19) under a Section 31 non-ring fenced transfer (Local Government Finance Act 2003). Our expectation is that the named local authorities will use the funds to support the aims of the Essential Life Skills programme.

The total funding available for the ELS programme is £22m, over two financial years, 2017-18 to 2018-19. As set out in our letters in January and June 2018, a substantial proportion of that money is being channelled through the relevant top tier local authorities. The evaluation of the ELS programme will be procured centrally, using a portion of the overall ELS budget. This financial year, we have already distributed funding totalling £6.9 million in June 2018 to all 12 local authorities through a non-ring-fenced grant and paid a second non-ring-fenced grant in December 2018 of £6.1 million to 10 local authorities. A total of £837,662.42 will now be paid in January 2019 to the final 2 local

authorities concerned, to continue the delivery of the ELS. Details of the January 2019 payment can be found in Annex A.

Purpose of the Grant

The named local authorities can spend this grant to continue to promote extra-curricular activities that will develop essential life skills in children and young people living in their area. Whilst local authorities may choose how to spend the money in order to best meet local need, we anticipate that all decisions will be informed by the recommendations of the local Opportunity Area ELS delivery plans and in consultation with their delivery boards.

The Department's aspiration is that local authorities should use the funding provided to:

- Offer new or significantly extended access to relevant activities for disadvantaged children beyond what could reasonably be expected as part of the standard school day and not duplicate or substitute core curriculum teaching.
- Provide activities targeted towards helping children and young people to develop essential life skills such as resilience, leadership, teamwork and communication.
- Provide regular activities that are part of a broad offer across the OA with sufficient variety and appeal to children and young people of both genders, all ethnic backgrounds and across a range of abilities including those with SEND.
- Not fund any activity which is already being funded whether directly or indirectly by HM Government or its agencies.

The local authority may also use the grant to cover its reasonable expenses in helping to administer the OA programme and assisting with the DfE evaluation of the programme

Payment arrangements

Payment will be made in January 2019.

Arrangements for keeping in touch with the Department for Education and the Head of Delivery

Formal reporting to the Department for Education on progress is not a condition of this grant. The Senior Responsible Owner for this Grant, Richard Vaughan, will require your local authority Responsible Officer to confirm at the end of each financial year that the funding has been properly expended. The Department of Education received reports on activities funded through Essential Life Skills programme in September 2018, with follow up meetings during October and November 2018 to discuss progress.

The Department for Education would also be happy to receive any information about effective practice and activity that substantively addresses social mobility across all life stages of children and young people.

This letter has been copied to the Chief Finance Officer of all participating local authorities, Directors of Children's Services, Opportunity Areas Heads of Delivery, Her Majesty's Treasury and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Enquiries

For all enquiries about the Essential Life Skills programme,
Muniza.rafiq@education.gov.uk.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Vaughan', written in a cursive style.

Richard Vaughan
Deputy Director, Life Skills Division, Department for Education

Annex A

REVENUE grant determination (non-ringfenced)

Essential Life Skills programme Y2 GRANT DETERMINATION 2018-19: DCLG Ref: 31/3529.

The Minister of State for Education (Damian Hinds), 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 Essential Life Skills Grant Determination (2018-19) [DCLG Ref: 31/3529].

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; the authorities and the amounts 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.

Signed by authority of the Minister of State for Education



Richard Vaughan, Deputy Director, Essential Life Skills, Department for Education, 29 January 2019.

Authorities to which grant is to be paid	Opportunity Area	Amount of grant to be paid
Cambridgeshire County Council	Fenland & E Cambs	454,244.49
Suffolk County Council	Ipswich	383,417.93
Total		837,662.42