



Department  
for Education

To whom it may concern,

September 2024

**Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for establishing new agency child and family social worker data collection (2024-2025) [MHCLG ref:31/7446] [DFE ref: GID-001014]**

This Determination is made between:

- (1) **The Secretary of State for Education** and
- (2) **Local authorities listed in Annex A**

### **Purpose of this grant**

On 12 September 2024, the Government published new statutory guidance on local authority use of agency child and family social workers under section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, which requires local authorities to act under the general guidance of the Secretary of State in the exercise of their social services functions. The statutory guidance is available online at: [Child and family social workers: agency rules - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/child-and-family-social-workers-agency-rules)

The guidance includes the establishment of a new statutory quarterly data collection under section 83 of the Children Act 1989 and section 251(1)(b) of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009.

This new statutory guidance outlines a set of rules designed to improve the stability and quality of the child and family social worker workforce to enable social workers to build quality relationships with children and families that support better outcomes for vulnerable children. The rules aim to reduce the overreliance on and costs of agency child and family social workers for local authorities, thus creating a more stable and sustainable workforce.

The rules include a quarterly collection of data to provide a consistent evidence base of agency usage and costs to support local authorities with workforce planning and bolster the development of regional and national workforce strategies. It will allow for greater transparency and collaborative working at a local, regional, and national level and will enable the development and/or adjustment of regional price caps.

Grant recipients should use the funding provided to establish the new agency

child and family social worker data collection. Operational guidance is available online at: [Agency child and family social workers: data return and price caps - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Grant allocations**

Total funding of £172,147.95 i.e. £1,125.15 per LA is available for establishing the collection in 2024-25. Funds will be made available in the form of a Section 31 grant to local authorities as shown in **Annex A**.

### **Payment arrangements**

A single payment will be made in October 2024 in recognition that the costs of establishing the collection are frontloaded.

### **Arrangements for keeping in touch with the Department for Education**

The progress of activities undertaken through the funding will be discussed with the department as part of user research into the new collection and also quarterly regional activity to discuss data outputs and any challenges.

For all enquiries please contact:

[agencysw.dataservice@education.gov.uk](mailto:agencysw.dataservice@education.gov.uk)

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Pearson". The signature is written in black ink and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

**Catherine Pearson and Madeleine Percival**  
**Deputy Directors (jobshare) - social work strategy, practice and evidence**

## **Annex A**

Barking & Dagenham London Borough Council  
Barnet London Borough Council  
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Bath & North East Somerset Council  
Bedford Borough Council  
Bexley London Borough Council  
Birmingham City Council  
Blackburn With Darwen Borough Council  
Blackpool Borough Council  
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council  
Borough Of Telford And Wrekin  
Bournemouth Christchurch And Poole Council  
Bracknell Forest Borough Council  
Bradford City Council  
Brent London Borough Council  
Brighton & Hove City Council  
Bristol City Council  
Bromley London Borough Council  
Buckinghamshire Council  
Bury Metropolitan Borough Council  
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Camden London Borough Council  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Cheshire East Council  
Cheshire West And Chester Council  
City Of York Council  
Common Council Of The City Of London  
Cornwall Council  
Council Of The Isles Of Scilly  
County Durham Council  
Coventry City Council  
Croydon London Borough Council  
Cumberland Council  
Darlington Borough Council  
Derby City Council  
Derbyshire County Council  
Devon County Council  
Doncaster Council  
Dorset Council  
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Ealing London Borough Council  
East Riding Of Yorkshire Council  
East Sussex County Council  
Enfield London Borough Council  
Essex County Council  
Gateshead Council  
Gloucestershire County Council

Hackney London Borough Council  
Halton Borough Council  
Hammersmith And Fulham London Borough Council  
Hampshire County Council  
Haringey London Borough Council  
Harrow London Borough Council  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Havering London Borough Council  
Herefordshire Council  
Hertfordshire County Council  
Hillingdon London Borough Council  
Hounslow London Borough Council  
Isle Of Wight Council  
Islington London Borough Council  
Kent County Council  
Kingston Upon Hull City Council  
Kirklees Metropolitan Council  
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Lambeth London Borough Council  
Lancashire County Council  
Leeds City Council  
Leicester City Council  
Leicestershire County Council  
Lewisham London Borough Council  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Liverpool City Council  
Luton Borough Council  
Manchester City Council  
Medway Council  
Merton Borough Council  
Middlesbrough Council  
Milton Keynes Council  
Newcastle Upon Tyne City Council  
Newham London Borough Council  
Norfolk County Council  
North East Lincolnshire Council  
North Lincolnshire Council  
North Northamptonshire Council  
North Somerset Council  
North Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council  
North Yorkshire County Council  
Nottingham City Council  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Oxfordshire County Council  
Peterborough City Council  
Plymouth City Council  
Portsmouth City Council  
Reading Borough Council  
Redbridge London Borough Council

Redcar And Cleveland Borough Council  
Richmond Upon Thames London Borough Council  
Rochdale Borough Council  
Rotherham Borough Council  
Royal Borough Of Greenwich  
Royal Borough Of Kensington And Chelsea  
Royal Borough Of Kingston Upon Thames  
Royal Borough Of Windsor And Maidenhead  
Rutland County Council  
Salford City Council  
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council  
Sheffield City Council  
Slough Borough Council  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
Somerset County Council  
South Gloucestershire Council  
South Tyneside Council  
Southampton City Council  
Southend-On-Sea Borough Council  
Southwark London Borough Council  
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council  
Staffordshire County Council  
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council  
Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council  
Stoke-On-Trent City Council  
Suffolk County Council  
Sunderland City Metropolitan Borough Council  
Surrey County Council  
Sutton London Borough Council  
Swindon Borough Council  
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council  
The Northumberland Council  
The Shropshire Council  
The Wiltshire Council  
Thurrock Council  
Torbay Council  
Tower Hamlets London Borough Council  
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council  
Wakefield City Council  
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council  
Waltham Forest London Borough Council  
Wandsworth London Borough Council  
Warrington Borough Council  
Warwickshire County Council  
West Berkshire Council  
West Northamptonshire Council  
West Sussex County Council  
Westminster City Council  
Westmorland And Furness Council

Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council  
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council  
Wokingham Council  
Wolverhampton City Council  
Worcestershire County Council