



Department
for Education

24 July 2025

Dear Local Authority

Re: S31 Grant Determination Letter for the Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Capital (2025-26)

This Determination is made between:

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

We are issuing this Capital Grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The Senior Responsible Officer for this Grant, Susie Owen, will require your responsible officer to confirm at the end of the financial year (FY) that the funding has been properly expended.

Purpose of the grant

The Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme is a joint programme overseen by the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). DfE will be administering the grant funding on behalf of both departments.

The funding for FY 2025–26 allows the opportunity for local authorities to consolidate, embed and enhance their family hub network and start for life services offer.

Full details of the programme aims and objectives and the expectations that local authorities are expected to deliver with this funding are set out in the updated Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Guide:

[Family Hubs and Start for Life programme: local authority guide 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

For FY 2025-26, we expect funds to be made available to local authorities in

the form of a non-ringfenced Grant paid in two instalments. Payment will be made pursuant to clause 5 of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Programme, made between the Secretary of State and each of the 75 local authorities participating in the Programme (the “MOU”).

Please ensure that this letter is copied to your Chief Finance Officer for information. You should also note that this letter has also been copied to His Majesty’s Treasury and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Hollom and Laura Street (Acting Deputy Directors), Early Years, Childcare, Families and Analysis Directorate, DfE

CAPITAL grant determination (non-ringfenced)

FAMILY HUBS AND START FOR LIFE PROGRAMME CAPITAL GRANT DETERMINATION 2025-26

The Secretary of State for Education (Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP), (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 Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Capital Grant Determination (2025-26)

Purpose of the Grant

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide financial assistance to the eligible English local authorities specified in Annex A, to support them in meeting expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them to deliver the expectations set out in the Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Guide.

Determination

3) The Secretary of State determines that the local authorities who are eligible to receive grant funding for FY 2025-26, and the **maximum amounts** of grant funding those local authorities could receive, is specified in Annex A.

Grant conditions

4) Pursuant to section 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

5) Before making this determination specified in paragraph 3, the Secretary of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Education

Charlotte Hollom and Laura Street (Acting Deputy Directors), Early Years, Childcare, Families and Analysis Directorate, DfE

24 July 2025

ANNEX A – FAMILY HUBS AND START FOR LIFE PROGRAMME CAPITAL GRANT DETERMINATION 2025-26

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	£43,018	£43,018	£86,036
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	£38,914	£38,913	£77,827
Bedford Borough	£36,331	£36,331	£72,662
Birmingham City Council	£117,265	£117,264	£234,529
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	£35,623	£35,622	£71,245
Blackpool Borough Council	£31,940	£31,939	£63,879
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council	£46,131	£46,130	£92,261
Bradford Metropolitan District Council	£67,855	£67,855	£135,710
London Borough of Brent	£46,613	£46,613	£93,226

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
Bristol City Council	£53,429	£53,428	£106,857
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council	£37,071	£37,071	£74,142
London Borough of Camden	£35,680	£35,679	£71,359
Cornwall Council	£56,714	£56,713	£113,427
Coventry City Council	£49,550	£49,549	£99,099
London Borough of Croydon	£51,593	£51,593	£103,186
Derby City Council	£42,154	£42,154	£84,308
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	£43,620	£43,619	£87,239
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	£44,911	£44,911	£89,822
Durham County Council	£55,629	£55,629	£111,258
East Sussex County Council	£55,686	£55,685	£111,371

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
London Borough of Enfield	£48,339	£48,338	£96,677
Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council	£35,596	£35,595	£71,191
Royal Borough of Greenwich	£43,400	£43,400	£86,800
London Borough of Hackney	£40,170	£40,170	£80,340
Halton Borough Council	£31,518	£31,517	£63,035
London Borough of Haringey	£39,897	£39,897	£79,794
Hartlepool Borough Council	£29,306	£29,305	£58,611
London Borough of Hounslow	£44,225	£44,225	£88,450
Isle of Wight Council	£30,243	£30,243	£60,486
London Borough of Islington	£34,647	£34,647	£69,294
Kent County Council	£132,861	£132,861	£265,722

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Total maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
Kingston-upon-Hull City Council	£42,419	£42,418	£84,837
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council	£33,947	£33,946	£67,893
London Borough of Lambeth	£39,697	£39,696	£79,393
Leicester City Council	£52,098	£52,098	£104,196
London Borough of Lewisham	£42,466	£42,465	£84,931
Lincolnshire County Council	£70,040	£70,040	£140,080
Liverpool City Council	£55,770	£55,770	£111,540
Luton Borough Council	£41,845	£41,845	£83,690
Manchester City Council	£67,157	£67,157	£134,314
Medway Council	£43,820	£43,820	£87,640
Middlesbrough Borough Council	£33,886	£33,885	£67,771

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Total maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council	£43,687	£43,686	£87,373
London Borough of Newham	£49,538	£49,538	£99,076
Norfolk County Council	£77,358	£77,357	£154,715
North East Lincolnshire Council	£33,324	£33,324	£66,648
North Lincolnshire Council	£33,671	£33,671	£67,342
North Northamptonshire	£48,310	£48,309	£96,619
Northumberland Council	£41,409	£41,408	£82,817
Nottingham City Council	£47,634	£47,633	£95,267
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council	£42,815	£42,814	£85,629
Peterborough City Council	£40,337	£40,336	£80,673
Plymouth City Council	£40,036	£40,035	£80,071

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Total maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
Portsmouth City Council	£36,906	£36,906	£73,812
Redcar and Cleveland Council	£31,493	£31,493	£62,986
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council	£40,603	£40,602	£81,205
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	£41,136	£41,136	£82,272
Salford City Council	£42,525	£42,525	£85,050
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	£50,330	£50,329	£100,659
Sheffield City Council	£61,150	£61,149	£122,299
South Tyneside Council	£32,329	£32,328	£64,657
Southampton City Council	£39,971	£39,971	£79,942
London Borough of Southwark	£41,404	£41,404	£82,808
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council	£34,570	£34,569	£69,139

Local authorities to which the grant is to be paid	Maximum payment 1 <i>Anticipate payment in Q1 / Q2 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Maximum payment 2 <i>Anticipate payment in Q3 / Q4 of 2025-26 subject to satisfactory delivery</i>	Total maximum payment for financial year 2025-26
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	£41,963	£41,963	£83,926
Sunderland City Council	£40,562	£40,561	£81,123
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council	£39,170	£39,169	£78,339
Telford & Wrekin Council	£36,511	£36,511	£73,022
Thurrock Council	£37,037	£37,037	£74,074
Torbay Council	£30,735	£30,735	£61,470
London Borough of Tower Hamlets	£43,544	£43,544	£87,088
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council	£46,727	£46,726	£93,453
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council	£44,924	£44,924	£89,848
London Borough of Waltham Forest	£42,362	£42,361	£84,723
Wolverhampton City Council	£43,436	£43,436	£86,872

ANNEX B – FAMILY HUBS AND START FOR LIFE PROGRAMME CAPITAL GRANT DETERMINATION 2025-26

GRANT CONDITIONS

1. Grant paid to a local authority under this determination may be used only for the purposes that a capital receipt may be used for in accordance with regulations made under section 11 of the Local Government Act 2003.

2. The Chief Executive, or S151 / S73 Officer, or an equivalent with an appropriate level of delegated authority of the recipient authority is required to sign and return to the Department for Education (“DfE”) a declaration, as part of the Statement of Grant Usage to be received no later than the date communicated by the DfE, in the following terms:

“To the best of our knowledge and belief, and having carried out appropriate investigations and checks, in our opinion, in all significant respects, the conditions attached to Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme capital grant determination have been complied with”.

This declaration is part of the Certificate of Grant Usage.

3. If an authority fails to comply with any of the conditions and requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Secretary of State may

- a) reduce, suspend or withhold the Grant; or
- b) by notification in writing to the authority, require the repayment of the whole or any part of the Grant.

4. Any sum notified by the Secretary of State under paragraph 3(b) will immediately become repayable to the Secretary of State.