

# Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Title:	<b>Surrey County Council Response to Covid: Payment to Totterdown Pre School</b>
Divisions Affected:	All divisions
Key Decision:	Yes
Reason Key:	Affects two or more Divisions
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	<b>Cabinet decision 31 March 2020 Min ref: 41/20</b>

## Summary

To pay Little Angels £8,085 to support their financial sustainability due to loss of private income and inefficiency of continuing to operate for 2/3 children due to a lack of alternatives in the area.

Totterdown are a strategically important provider in Deepcut where there are limited alternative providers.

They have provided a detailed cashflow including their DSG funding and Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme allocations which will leave them in a deficit position by the end of the summer term.

Working with Early Years commissioners they have identified that up to September they require £8,085 of additional support. We have agreed to pay £4,000 now, and the balance as part of a review at the end of April. The figure of £4,000 will support their project deficit for June. If further government guidance or changes have not been actioned by then the balance of £4,085 will be paid subject to a review to support the provider up to the autumn term.

## Decision made

### Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

A total payment of £8,085 be made to Totterdown Pre School in two instalments of £4,000 and £4,085. The second payment at the end of July 2020 will be subject to no further government announcements of funding becoming available which will be assessed by commissioning and finance officers.

Reasons for Decision:

To ensure capacity remains in the Early Years sector when the current restrictions in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are lifted.

Decision taken by:	Dave Hill
Decision taken on:	05/05/2020
To be implemented on:	Payment to be made following CLT and Cabinet Member Decision. This has now happened and payment will be processed.

**Alternative options considered**

The alternative is to not reimburse Totterdown Pre School for the additional costs and leave the provider to find alternative means for funding them. This could put the long term sustainability of the provider at risk which would then impact on the available provision for children in Surrey.

**Summary of any financial implications**

The cost to SCC will be £8,085.  
It is anticipated that this will be funded out of the COVID-19 funding SCC is receiving from central government as this is separate to the provision of childcare which would come from Early Years DSG.

**Declarations of conflicts of interest**

None

**Consultation/Process Followed**

A panel has been created consisting of Commissioning, procurement and finance staff to consider applications from CFLC providers.

This application has been reviewed and following further engagement with the provider was approved. This has since been approved by the Executive Director of CFLC.

**Background Documents**

Exempt:

Cabinet report 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 setting out the council's response to Covid-19.