

Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



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

Summary

To pay Stables Nursery £10,200 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.

Stables are a strategically important provider in an area 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 their original request of £24,000 was revised to £10,200 with further interrogation of their financial assumptions.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

A total payment of £10,200 be made to Stables Nursery

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:	18 th May 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 Stables Nursery 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 £10,200.
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 st March 2020 setting out the council's response to Covid-19.	
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