

OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions in Excess of £100k (but below the key decision threshold), or where required by Financial, Contract or other Procedure Rules or following formal delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member or a Council Committee.

Decision Reference No: O23241046

BOX 1

DIRECTORATE:

Learning and Opportunities: Children and Young People

Contact Name: Jessica Whitworth

DATE: 5/12/2023

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Subject Matter: Providers fee uplift request

BOX 2

DECISION TAKEN

To agree price increase requests which have been received for individual placements for children and young people.

BOX 3

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Please see below table detailing requests for price increases from several Providers who deliver provision for out of authority day education placements or residential school placements. This request is for one financial year from the 1st of September 2023.

The increase request relates to cost of off framework placements. The current contract for these placements permits inflationary increases subject to a consideration of the actual costs incurred by the Provider and the need for value for money justification.

The provider has demonstrated to the Council justification for such increases citing various reasons which generally relate to unavoidable cost pressures of inflation, National Living Wage increase, National Insurance increase and pension costs. Should these increases not be agreed there is a risk that the placements will no longer be sustainable and new provision would need to be sourced.

Provider	Provision	Additional Information																																
Keys Group	Denby Grange School The Grange School South Park Enterprise College	<p>Request for an increase of [REDACTED] for all current packages from the 1st September 2023. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>This increase is being requested due to significant staffing pressures affecting the ability for the providers ability to deliver and maintain packages. The provider has stated this in partly due to the increase of National Living wages which increased by 9.7% in April 2023. In addition to this the provider has advised they are expecting a further increase of [REDACTED] in April 2024. There has been an increase of Real Living Wage of 10.1% since September 2022.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="600 696 1461 1111"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="600 696 879 770">Provision</th> <th data-bbox="879 696 967 770"></th> <th data-bbox="967 696 1203 770">Current cost per week</th> <th data-bbox="1203 696 1461 770">New cost per week</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 770 879 815">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 770 967 815">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 770 1203 815">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 770 1461 815">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 815 879 860"></td> <td data-bbox="879 815 967 860">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 815 1203 860">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 815 1461 860">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 860 879 904">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 860 967 904">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 860 1203 904">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 860 1461 904">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 904 879 949">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 904 967 949">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 904 1203 949">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 904 1461 949">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 949 879 994">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 949 967 994">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 949 1203 994">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 949 1461 994">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 994 879 1039">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 994 967 1039">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 994 1203 1039">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 994 1461 1039">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 1039 879 1084">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="879 1039 967 1084">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="967 1039 1203 1084">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1039 1461 1084">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This request is supported by L Golze (Assistant Director: Partnerships, Early Intervention & Localities)</p>	Provision		Current cost per week	New cost per week	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Provision		Current cost per week	New cost per week																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																															
SENAD Group	Pegasus Residential School	<p>Request for a [REDACTED] increase for current placements from the 1st September 2023 until the young people move into their post 19 placements. These placements are 52 week care and education placements.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="600 1442 1461 1666"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="600 1442 887 1518"></th> <th data-bbox="887 1442 1174 1518">Current cost per week</th> <th data-bbox="1174 1442 1461 1518">New total cost per week</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 1518 887 1594">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="887 1518 1174 1594">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1174 1518 1461 1594">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="600 1594 887 1666">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="887 1594 1174 1666">[REDACTED]</td> <td data-bbox="1174 1594 1461 1666">[REDACTED]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This request is also supported by Doncaster ICB who fund elements of these packages. This request is supported by L Golze (Assistant Director: Partnerships, Early Intervention & Localities)</p>		Current cost per week	New total cost per week	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																							
	Current cost per week	New total cost per week																																
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																																
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]																																

<p>More Than Education Independent School</p>	<p>More than Ed</p>	<p>Request for an increase of [REDACTED] for all current packages from the 1st September 2023.</p> <p>This increase does not include the transport element of these packages.</p> <p>This increase will be used so the provider can extend their therapy offer enabling them to provide extra psychotherapist hours, a therapy dog and handler, a therapeutic drama teacher, and more advanced mental health training for all our staff.</p> <p>The provider has noted the students being admitted are increasingly more complex with regards to their mental health needs, and we realise we need to offer them greater support. There is very little mental health support for children externally due to less funding and higher numbers unfortunately.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="600 647 1461 822"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Current costs</th> <th>New costs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> <td>[REDACTED]</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This request is supported by L Golze (Assistant Director: Partnerships, Early Intervention & Localities)</p>		Current costs	New costs	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Current costs	New costs												
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]												
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]												
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]												

BOX 4
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do Nothing

There is a risk of places being withdrawn if providers do not cover their costs and are not able to deliver the provision, especially to meet the specific needs of our children and young people. This would lead to the authority not meeting its statutory duties. New placements would need to be sourced for the children and young people being affected in a difficult and challenging market with high demand and low availability of placements.

BOX 5**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

1. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do.
2. The Council as an education authority has a duty to plan for the provision of suitable education at school or otherwise for each child of school age whom for reasons of illness, exclusion or otherwise would not receive it unless such arrangements were made.
3. The report author has confirmed in the body of the report that the contract for these placements permits increases subject to a consideration of the actual costs incurred by the Provider and the need for value for money justification.
4. Legal Services to assist with documenting revised rates between the contracting parties.

Name: Phil Crawley **Signature:** [REDACTED] **Date:** 08/01/24

Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

BOX 6**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The annual cost of the proposal to approve the provider uplift requests ranging from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] for the provision of out of authority education placements, based on the full financial year, is as follows:

PROVIDER	TOTAL
Keys – Denby Grange	[REDACTED]
Keys – Park House	[REDACTED]
Keys – South Park	*[REDACTED]
Pegasus DA JF	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
More Than	[REDACTED]
Total	£135,482

The inflation costs of [REDACTED] in the table above will be funded from DSG (Dedicated Schools Grant) High Needs Block.

The inflation cost of [REDACTED] in the table above will be fully funded from Health due to DA no longer being in education

The inflation cost of [REDACTED] in the table above will be funded 1/3rd DSG and 2/3^{rds} Health.

The overall cost to DSG is £78,147 and Health is £57,335.

*This amount is based on the school improving their OFSTED score

The Dedicated Schools grant is projected to be overspent £24.648m by the 31st March 2024. Included in 31st March 2024 figure is a budgeted price inflation increase of [REDACTED] from 1st April 2023 therefore the More Than request is within this financial envelope.

Name: Laura Sudbury **Signature:** [REDACTED] **Date:** 11/01/2024

Signature of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance (or representative)

BOX 7

OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

ANY IMPLICATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE THESE CAN BE GIVEN THE RELEVANT CONSIDERATION.

BOX 8

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS: (To be completed by the author).

There are no significant equality implications associated with this report. Within its program of work Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

BOX 9

RISK IMPLICATIONS: (To be completed by the author)

There is a financial risk to the council of increasing the costs of already high value OOA placements.

There is a risk of places being withdrawn if providers do not cover their costs and are not able to deliver the provision to meet specific need of a high number of young people.

BOX 10

CONSULTATION

N/A.

BOX 11
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION

It is in the public's interest to be aware of this decision record under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, The decision will be published with the following redactions:

Box 3 column labelled 'additional information' to be excluded as contains commercially sensitive information under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Box 6 Financial Implications: Any reference to the percentage (%) increase being requested by the providers or the percentage (%) allocated for the financial budget as this is commercially sensitive information.

Signatures will also be redacted, as this is personal information.

Name: J Whitworth

Signature: 

Date: 20/11/2022

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

BOX 12
BACKGROUND PAPERS

Please confirm if any Background Papers are included with this ODR - **No**

(If YES please list and submit these with this form)

**BOX 13
AUTHORISATION**

Name: Lee Golze **Signature:**  **Date:** 11/01/2023

Assistant Director of Partnerships, Early Help & Localities

Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer

YES/NO

If yes, please authorise below:

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Chief Executive/Director/Assistant Director of _____

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Designation _____

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair/Vice-Chair)

Declaration of Interest YES/NO

If YES please give details below:

PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

Once completed a PDF copy of this form and any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk who will arrange publication.

It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.