

Decision Maker: Executive

Date: 18th October 2016

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **DRAWDOWN OF GOVERNMENT GRANT FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY IN THEIR CONTINUED ROLE AS A LONDON REGIONAL LEAD OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY (SEND) REFORMS FROM APRIL 2016 TO MARCH 17**

Contact Officer: Mary Cava, SEND Implementation Lead
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Helen Norris, Head of Specialist Support & Disability Service
Tel: 0208 315 4740 E-mail: Helen.norris@phoenixsch.org.uk

Chief Officer: Director: Education (ECHS)

Ward: (All Wards);

1.0 REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 This report is seeking approval for the release of grant funds, held in the 2016/17 central contingency, of £27,521.93 allocated by the DfE for the London Regional SEND programme. The funding is allocated to the London Borough of Bromley to continue work in partnership with the London Borough of Enfield to coordinate the programme across 33 London boroughs. This has been made up of £16,666.67 base funding with a top-up amount based on the number of authorities in the London region of £10,855.26, making £27,521.93.

1.2 Bromley, in partnership with Enfield, has been a Regional Lead since April 2015. This has facilitated a peer SEND learning approach, to share best practice to support statutory compliance and the London-wide implementation of the Special Educational Needs & Disability reforms 2015/16.

1.3 At the end of March 2016, further funding was granted by the DfE to continue the London Regional Lead work. This is a reduced rate to last year in order to build sustainability of the programme and workforce development on key issues.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 The Executive is asked to:

(i) consider the contents of the report;

(ii) approve the release of £27,521.93 of non-ring fenced funding for the continued role of the London Borough of Bromley as SEN & Disability (SEND) Regional Lead for London in partnership with London Borough of Enfield 16/17.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: New Policy
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £27,521.93
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable: Payment will be made in two instalments on the last Fridays in May 2016 and November 2016
 3. Budget head/performance centre: 136355
 4. Total current budget for this head: £27,521.93
 5. Source of funding: DfE Grants
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: The Children and Families Act 2014
 2. Call-in: Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected):
Children and young people with SEN & disabilities and their families across 33 London boroughs, including 2,000 children and young people together with their parents/carers in Bromley.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3.0 COMMENTARY

3.1 2015/16 SEND Regional Lead for London Programme

During the 2015/16 Programme 18 London-wide events were held for the 33 London boroughs also supporting Bromley colleagues across Education, Care and Health and parent carer forums who have greatly benefited from this training. Regional events were well attended and highly evaluated. Key national partners supported these events to ensure implementation of the new reforms and statutory compliance to the new SEN Code of Practice. These events have supported workforce development in Bromley, funded through the London regional grant programme. Please see Appendix 1 for the list of events. Further events are planned

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the funding 16/17 is used to further support the development of integrated services in line with the SEN Code of Practice and will include key staff integrated services from Bromley with a number of planned events 16/17 including a specific focus for health and care working with key delivery partners.

The funding allocation from the Department for Education for the London Region for 2016/17 is £27,521.93. This amount is to be shared with our partner Enfield. The activities to be funded by this amount include:

Proposed and planned events 16/17:

	ACTIVITY	COST
1.	SEN Support Events x 2 – autumn 2016 and spring 2017 <i>Including venues, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£5,000
2.	Accountability and addressing the requirements of the Local Area Inspection process including education, health and care, particularly the Self Evaluation Form <i>Including venue, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£2,500
3.	Developing an Early Years Network across London <i>Including venue, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time, speaker / facilitator and administrative support</i>	£2,500
4.	Improving the quality, accessibility and effectiveness of an integrated Local Offer – Peer moderation <i>Including venue, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£2,500
5.	Further targeted support for EHC Plan writers – in conjunction with Preparing for Adulthood <i>Including venues, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£2,000
6.	Joint Commissioning and Social Care (1 or 2 events)	£1,000

	<i>Including venues, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	
7.	A practical approach to developing and agreeing statutory compliant, person centred and outcome focused plans across education, health and care <i>Including venues, refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£2,500
8.	SEND Update Briefing to the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) <i>Including refreshments, Enfield and Bromley regional time and administrative support</i>	£500
9.	Termly meetings for Principal Educational Psychologists – 3 x one day meetings / Support to the London Strategic Manager's Network and aligned delivery partner activity	£2,000
10.	Regional co-ordination / administration / evaluation and preparation of events The main administration for the SEND London Regional Lead Programme to sit with Bromley	£3,500
11.	Contingency of c.15% of regional funding to be agreed for the development of key SEND themes following evaluation and development of new SEND policy initiatives	£3,521
	TOTAL	£27,521*
	*£6k to reflect Enfield's share of the organisation, presentations, leading and delivery of events.	

The above table includes Bromley staff time, in respect of Head of Specialist Support & Disability Services, Parent Participation Officer, Officer and administrative support to deliver and coordinate the London Regional SEND Programme grant activity across London. This will ensure that all Bromley staff supporting the Programme are funded through the grant. £6,000 will be allocated to Enfield for staffing and support towards the 2016/17 programme. The sum also reflects some venue hire and expenses to deliver activity across London.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Compliance with the Children & Families Act 2014.

7.0 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

Non-Applicable Sections:	4.0 Policy Implications 7.0 Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Appendix 1 List of SEND Regional Lead for London events held 2015-16 Appendix 2 Letter on behalf of Secretary of State for Education dated 6 th May 2016.

List of SEND Regional Lead for London events held 2015-16

- Ofsted Framework Workshops x 2 7th July 2015 - am
- pm
- Social Care Workshop “Training the Trainers” 10th July 2015
- London Regional Transitional Workshop 4th September 2015
- High Quality EHC Plans and Processes within Statutory Timelines, Lessons Learnt and Defining Quality Workshop 30th September 2015
- Health & Local Authority Commissioning and Advice Workshop 6th November 2015
- Social Care Workshop “Training the Trainers” (2nd workshop) 13th November 2015
- A Practical Approach to Personalisation and Personal Budgets 7th December 2015
- EHC Plan Writers Focus Group 22nd January 2016
- Accountability / Ofsted/CQC Framework Workshop x 2 29th January 2016
- am
- pm
- Sustaining Children, Young People and Parental engagement beyond March 2016 5th February 2016
- Health and Local Authority Commissioning and Advice Workshop 12th February 2016
- Early Years Conference 1st March 2016
- 2nd Quality, Statutory and Compliant EHC Plans 4th March 2016
- Local Offer Peer Review Workshop 7th March 2016
- Social Care & Safeguarding in the EHC Planning Process 11th March 2016
- SEND Briefing to the Association of London Directors of Children’s Services 14th March 2016



Helen Norris
Head of Specialist Support & Disability Services
Pathfinder Champion Lead for London Region 1 (Bromley)
London Borough of Bromley
c/o The Phoenix Children's Resource Centre
40 Masons Hill
Bromley
BR2 9JG

6 May 2016

Dear Helen

Grant to act as Regional Lead in the London region for implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disability reforms.

During 2015-16, the London Borough of Bromley acted as the Regional Lead for implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disability reforms in London (working in partnership with the London Borough of Enfield).

I am writing to let you know that I, as authorised by the Secretary of State, would like you to continue in this role during 2016-17.

A copy of the Grant Determination Letter is attached. Any queries which you have about the Determination should be sent to me at the following address:

angela.overington@education.gsi.gov.uk:

The Department for Education
0-25 SEN and Disability Unit
1st Floor, Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT

A colleague from Mott MacDonald will be in contact shortly on behalf of the Delivery Support consortium to offer their support in developing your work plan.

Yours sincerely,

ANGELA OVERINGTON
For the Secretary of State for Education

S31 Grant Determination Letter for the Role of Regional Lead for the Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms in 2016-17: [DfE ref CSEC4/2016] [DCLG ref 31/2780].

This Determination is made between:

(1) **The Secretary of State for Education** and

(2) The London Borough of Bromley of Stockwell Close, BROMLEY, Kent
BR1 3UH.

Purpose of this grant

Local authorities can use this grant funding to support them in their role as regional lead for the implementation of the Special Educational Needs reforms from April 2016. They may, however, choose how to spend the money in order to best meet local need.

The aspiration of the Department for Education, in agreement with the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children's Services, is that Regional Leads should use the funding provided to:

- develop a clear and sustainable strategy for partnership working with local authorities and with the main stakeholder groups across the region; including education settings for ages 0-25; health services; parent carers; Parent Carer Forums and children and young people across the 0-25 age range;
- share good practice and offer targeted support on specific reform themes, according to regional needs; and
- co-ordinate peer support activities which might include action learning sets, workshops, regional events and local working groups.

Some success measures which Regional Leads may wish to employ are provided at Annex A.

Grant allocations

Total funding of £200,000 is available for this programme in 2016-17, with funding to be split between the Regional Leads.

Funds will be made available in the form of an unringfenced grant. Details of allocations to be made to each Regional Lead are set out in Annex B.

Payment arrangements

Payment will be made in two instalments on the last Fridays in May 2016 and November 2016.

Arrangements for keeping in touch with the Department for Education and the Delivery Support Contractor.

Formal reporting to the Department for Education on progress is not a condition of this grant. However, successful applicants for this award in 2015-16 described in their original expressions of interest how they intended to use the funds to drive improvement in their region and they are invited to continue working with the Delivery Support Contractor on a voluntary basis on delivery planning and systems for measuring and sharing progress. The Department for Education would also be happy to continue receiving any information about effective practice that is gathered by the Regional

Leads during 2016-17.

This letter will be copied for information to the Chief Finance Officer and Director of Children's Services for the London Borough of Bromley and to Her Majesty's Treasury and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

If you have any questions about the contents of this letter, please contact the SEN and Disability implementation mailbox at SEN.IMPLEMENTATION@education.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Gross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Director of Special Needs, Children in Care and Adoption
Department for Education

REGIONAL LEAD FOR THE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY REFORMS: GRANT DETERMINATION 2016-17: [DfE ref CSEC4/2016] [DCLG ref 31/2780]

The Minister of State for Education (“the Minister 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 Regional Lead for the Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms Determination 2016-2017 [DfE ref CSEC4/2016] [DCLG ref 31/2780].

Purpose of the grant

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them.

Determination

3) The Minister of State determines the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid; these are set out in Annex B.

Treasury consent

4) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Minister of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed on behalf of the Minister of State for Education by Ann Gross,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Gross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small horizontal line underneath the name.

Director of Special Needs, Children in Care and Adoption
Department for Education

ANNEX A: SUCCESS MEASURES

Funding under Section 31 Grant reference [DfE ref CSEC4/2016] [DCLG ref 31/2780] is intended to facilitate a peer learning approach to support implementation of the Special Educational Needs reforms during 2016-17. Local authorities may, however, choose how to spend the money in order to best meet local need.

Success measures which Regional Leads may wish to employ when assessing the impact of this grant might include:

- evidence of progress across key areas of the SEN and disability reforms such as:
 - the transition from statements of SEN and Learning Difficulty Assessments to Education, Healthy and Care plans,
 - the quality and accessibility of the Local Offer,
 - awareness of personal budgets,
 - development multi-agency working and joint commissioning,
 - preparing for adulthood,
 - participation of children, young people and parent carers,
 - organisational change, and
 - workforce development;
- a clear and sustainable strategy for partnership working with local authorities across the region;
- development of a clear and achievable delivery plan for regional activities and peer support in 2016-17;
- a strategy for assessing the impact their work has had in the region;
- evidence of effective partnership working with the main stakeholder groups in the region to shape approaches;
- a strong working partnership with their own local parent carer forum that can help to influence and encourage participation and co-production within the region;
- evidence of effective partnership working with national partners and support agencies to meet regional needs and share information;
- a strategy for sharing of effective approaches from the region, including with neighbouring areas; and
- evidence of an improved experience for children and young people and their families.