



Reference: RFI 1804080

Request:

Request For Information: Council Spending of Department for Education Special Educational Needs & Disability Implementation Grant, 2017-18

In 2014, the government made changes to the Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) framework through the Children & Families Act. Subsequently, the Department for Education (DfE) has provided a financial grant each year to help local authorities implement these reforms, known as the SEND Implementation Grant.

Details of funds allocated to each local authority via the SEND Implementation Grant for the 2017-18 financial year can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-reform-funding-for-local-authorities/send-implementation-grant-allocations-for-2017-to-2018>

I would be grateful if you could provide me with a **breakdown of council spending that has been funded using the DfE 2017-18 SEND Implementation Grant.**

- Where the council has used this grant to procure goods or services from external suppliers, please provide this information in spreadsheet form, using the same columns & criteria that your council normally uses to publish its monthly or quarterly spending online, as part of its regular publication of transparency data.
- Where the council has used this grant for internal resourcing (rather than for external procurement), then please provide a breakdown of the functional purpose of this internal spending, and the quantity of the grant money allocated to each functional purpose.

Response:

The full 17/18 SEND Implementation Grant has been allocated to Internal Resources – staffing.

The 17/18 SEND Grant allocation has enabled the Statutory Assessment and review Service and the Educational Psychological Service to maintain a larger staffing establishment to ensure compliance with the Children and Families Act.

The functional purposes that the staffing establishment provided were to;

- ensure that all Statements of SEN were converted to Education Health and Care Plans (EHCO) by 31 March 2018,
- ensure that up to date assessed needs were provided in order to support Preparation for Adulthood and the extension of Plans from 0-25,
- ensure that the Local Authority continued to review Statements of SEN on an annual basis, whilst the transition from Statements to EHCPs took place.

The grant of £128,520 was not set against any specific posts or allocated between the functional purposes listed above.