

## Record of Delegated Executive Decision(s)

### 1. Subject of decision

Issuing of the 2024/25 grant agreements for the early years entitlements.

### 2. Name and Title of Decision Maker

Julie Firth, Director of Children's Services

### 3. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest

N/A

### 4. Executive summary (To be taken from written report)

The Authority receives an annual 'early year's' block of funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to fund the early years entitlements. The Authority is statutorily obliged to secure early entitlement places for eligible families.

The Authority issues Grant Agreements to Ofsted registered early years providers in North Tyneside who want to deliver the funded early years entitlements in the forthcoming financial year. The Grant Agreement sets out the responsibilities of providers delivering funded entitlements and the hourly funding rates they will receive for delivering the entitlements. The Grant Agreement enables the Authority to fund the early years entitlements in accordance with statutory guidance issued by the DfE.

This report seeks approval from the Director of Children's Services for issuing the 2024/25 grant agreements to the Authority's early years providers.

## **5. Alternative Options considered**

Not to approve the issuing of the 2024/25 grant agreement and request additional information.

## **6. Decision(s)**

That the Director of Children's Services:

- 1) Exercise her delegated authority and approve the issuing of the early years Grant Agreements to early years providers for the 2024/25 financial year so as to ensure the delivery of free early education in accordance with Authority's statutory duty to provide such education.

## **7. Reasons for the Decision(s)**

The Authority can administer the early years entitlements for the 2024/25 financial year, in accordance with statutory guidance and to meet the Government deadline for sharing information with providers. This will ensure families are able to access funded places from summer term onwards and ensure the Authority fulfils its statutory duties regarding childcare sufficiency.

## **8. Date Decision Made**

4.3.24

***To be completed by Democratic Services***

**9. Is this decision subject to call-in and if so expiry date of call-in period**

5pm on Tuesday 12 March 2024

**10. Date of Publication**

5 March 2024

**11. Implementation Date (if decision not called in)**

After 5pm on Tuesday 12 March 2024