

NOTIFICATION OF SPECIAL URGENCY DECISION

(Decision that need to be taken within five clear working days can only be taken if the decision taker obtains the agreement of the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee that the decision cannot be reasonably deferred)

ORIGINATOR'S DETAILS

Name & Contact details –

Ria Shah, Holiday Provision Programme Coordinator, Public Health
07764 658 385

DETAILS OF THE REPORT

Easter of Food and Fun 2024 holiday programme grant recommendations

32 providers and 54 programmes have been recommended for funding for the Easter of Food and Fun 2024 holiday programme which provides enriching activities and healthy food over the school holidays to vulnerable families.


£192,910 has been recommended to go to the 32 providers identified as a base grant and £25,000 has been recommended to support providers to make places available for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

As the financial year end is approaching, if the paper is deferred, the grant payments may not be made ahead of Finance payment deadlines. The organisations receiving grants need to receive funds in early March to appropriately prepare for their programmes (e.g. pay for venue costs, staff training, promotional materials, etc.).

The decision is listed on the February 2024 forward plan and was first published in the October 2023 Forward Plan.

If the decision is not taken now, the majority of the programmes (which are VCS Sector organisations) will not be able to operate over the holidays as they won't be able to prepare adequately or pay upfront costs. This programme supports vulnerable families including low income households, children of asylum seekers and refugees and looked after children. Without going ahead, additional pressure will be placed on families who are already under financial pressure due to the ongoing cost of living crisis. This will likely have an impact on the council's reputation.

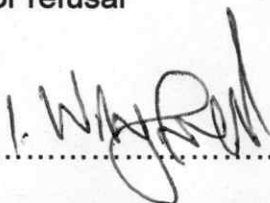
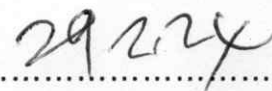
Date decision to be taken on 4 March 2024.

Special Urgency Notice cleared by: Sangeeta Leahy - Director of Public Health	
Director	
Date	29 February 2024

Declaration

I agree/~~disagree~~* with the Chief Officer/Head of Service that the proposed decision is reasonable and that it can be treated as a matter of urgency.

Reason for refusal

Signed.......... Dated..........

Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee/~~Mayor/Deputy Mayor~~*

* delete as appropriate

Please note reasons for refusal, additional points or further action required (as appropriate)

Please return completed form to Chidilim Agada, Proper Constitutional Officer, 2nd Floor, Hub 2, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH – tel: 020 7525 3310. Email: constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk