

## **Sustainability grants for providers of services for children.**

### **Who may apply:**

- Commissioned playgroups who deliver nursery education.
- 2's groups and other playgroups providing a community service.
- Mother and toddler groups not regulated by the care commission.
- Out of School Care groups providing after school care.
- Breakfast Clubs providing Pre-School snacks / meals.

### **You may apply towards (qualifying expenditure):**

- Rent, water rates, fuel charges.
- Adaptations to building or external facilities if recommended by the Care Commission / identified through EL&L's Quality Improvement Processes.
- Larger equipment: indoor or outdoor if recommended by the Care Commission / identified through EL&L's Quality Improvement Processes.

### **What we cannot help with:**

- It is extremely rare to provide a grant to cover (or part cover) staff wages.
- Contribution to the cost of training (help for this comes through the Childcare Partnership 01467 894021).
- Groups with a net bank balance / savings in excess of their redundancy provision\* (£1,000 per member of staff) plus 3 months qualifying expenditure and 3 months wages as per their previous year's audited accounts.
- No grant should be made if the group would still be unsustainable after receiving the funds.

\* Redundancy Provision - Please note that where a statutory redundancy provision has been calculated in line with the guidance on the Directgov website and a provision for this amount is present in the audited accounts, this figure will be used instead of £1,000 per employee.

### **Information Required:**

- Completion of grant application form.
- Most recent audited accounts.
- Most recent bank statements for all bank accounts held by organisation, including the redundancy savings account.
- Estimate for cost of any building project.
- Letter award from other agencies.
- Projected income and expenditure to 30 June (end of academic year).

**You may apply if all of the following criteria are met:**

1. Organisation must have less than 3 months qualifying expenditure and 3 months wages in the bank (excluding the redundancy provision) as per the previous year's audited accounts (annual qualifying expenditure and wages per accounts divided by 12 and multiplied by 3).
2. Organisation must be forecasting a loss to 30 June.
3. The forecast must appear reasonable when compared with the prior year audited accounts.

**Core Award** = forecast deficit (resulting from qualifying expenditure)

**Optional Additional Award**

Any optional additional award should be made with the following considerations in mind.

The weighting for assistance should be based as follows:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. Commissioned Group                                      | 0-1      |
| 2. Cost effective to maintain pre-school places            | 0-1      |
| 3. Rent: over £500 and fewer than 10 commissioned children | 0-1      |
| 4. Rates/water rates: over £150 and fewer than 10 children | 0-1      |
| 5. Fuel: over £300 and fewer than 10 children              | 0-1      |
| 6. Few other under 5's resources in the area               | 0-1      |
| 7. Area of greater deprivation.                            | 0-1      |
| <b>Maximum</b>   | <b>7</b> |

1. Commissioned Group = 1
2. Cost effective = 1
3. Rent high and few commissioned children = 0
4. Rates high and few commissioned children = 0
5. Fuel charges high and few commissioned children = 0
6. Few other under 5's resources in the area = 1
7. Area of deprivation = 1

**Optional Additional Award** = score / 7 x (remaining qualifying grant requests)

*Please note that for Out of School Care groups the commissioned group element will be removed and the score is divided by 6.*

No grant should be made if the group would still be unsustainable after receiving the funds requested.

As the annual budget to sustain groups is variable, it is impossible to give a maximum grant. The available funds need to be distributed proportionally with regard to the above criteria and the annual budget.