

# Decision taken

Made by an Executive Member or Chief Officer



MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

## Notice of Decision Made

Decision maker	Richard Paver
Date of decision	12 May 2016
What is the decision?	That £1.5M of the Looked After Children Reserve carried forward into 2016/17 is used to support the immediate recruitment of extra team managers and extra senior social workers.
Reasons for the decision (but excluding any exempt or confidential information)	Due to the imperative to move quickly in the context of the pending Ofsted inspection and to improve performance and outcomes. This decision will enable the performance issues to be robustly tackled and resources will be prioritised in parts of the city where the most issues are being experienced.
Alternatives considered and rejected	n/a
Interests Declared	None
Officer contact details For any further information	Paul Marshall

## Register of Key Decisions

Register of Key Decisions Reference	
<b>OR – if not published in the Register of Key Decisions</b>	
Reasons for <b>special urgency</b> such that this was not published in a Register of Key Decisions	Yes, The decision appears on the Register as part of the Looked After Children Investment Fund to approve the continued drawdown of investment funding through 2016/17.

## Scrutiny Call In

Call-in deadline	
<b>OR – if Exempt from Call-in</b>	
Advice as to how any delay would seriously prejudice the legal or financial position of the Council	<p>From a financial perspective the Prime Minister's announcement in December 2015 indicates potentially significant financial implications for Local Authorities that fail their Ofsted multiple times.</p> <p>Manchester is due for re-inspection in June 2016. The single most influential factor that will determine our success in the re-inspection is the quality of frontline</p>

	social work and the early help practice along with evidence of good leadership and governance. Success in this is dependent on securing the right capacity for the Service and to continue to reduce caseloads. The additional capacity requested will therefore support the Service, currently judged to be inadequate, to be fully prepared for re-inspection.
<b>Scrutiny Chair</b> who agreed the urgency	Councillor Ollerhead

Date this notice was published	16 <sup>th</sup> May 2016
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# Key Decision



**MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL**

## Urgent Key Decision

Request to a Scrutiny Chair that an Urgent Key Decision be made without being published in the Forward Plan, and/or that the Key Decision be exempt from Call-In for Scrutiny

Decision maker	City Treasurer	
Nature of the decision	<p>It is recommended that the £1.5m of the LAC investment reserve that has been carried forward into 2016/17 is used to support the immediate recruitment of extra team managers and extra senior social workers.</p> <p>In February 2015 the Executive approved investment from reserves of £14.094 to support the improvements in Children's Safeguarding Services.</p> <p>Due to the imperative to move quickly in the context of the pending Ofsted Inspection and to improve performance and outcomes. This decision will enable the performance issues to be robustly tackled and resources will be prioritised in parts city where the most issues are being experienced.</p>	
Non-confidential reports Can be made available to the public	N/A	
Confidential reports Containing confidential or exempt information	'Demand and Capacity Briefing note'	
Reason for confidentiality		
Intended date of decision	28 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	
Officer contact details For any further information	Name:	Paul Marshall
	Tel:	0161 234 3804
	Email:	p.marshall1@manchester.gov.uk
Has the decision been published in a Forward Plan?	Yes. The decision appears on the forward plan as part of the Looked After Children Investment Fund to approve the continued draw down of investment funding as required through 2016/17.	
Reasons for <b>special urgency</b> such that this cannot be published in a Forward Plan	The decision is already published within the forward plan as part of the Looked After Children Investment Fund.	
Is exemption from call-in for scrutiny needed?	Yes	

<p>Advice as to how any delay will seriously prejudice the legal or financial position of the Council</p>	<p>From a financial perspective, the Prime Minister's announcement in December 2015 indicates potentially significant financial implications for Local Authorities that fail their Ofsted multiple times. Failing Local Authorities could have their budgets controlled by a Commissioner.</p> <p>Manchester is due for re-inspection from June 2016. The single most influential factor that will determine our success in the re-inspection is the quality of frontline social work and early help practice along with evidence of good leadership and governance. Success in this is dependent on securing the right capacity for the Service and to continue to reduce caseloads. The additional capacity requested will therefore support the Service, currently judged to be inadequate, to be fully prepared for the re-inspection.</p>	
<p><b>Scrutiny Chair</b> who has agreed the decision is reasonable and urgent</p>	<p>Name</p>	<p><i>Carly Otterbein</i></p>
	<p>Signed</p>	<p></p>
	<p>Date</p>	<p>12/5/16.</p>

<p>Request prepared by:</p>	<p></p>
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