

## EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: COUNCILLOR TONY SMITH

KEY DECISION YES

PORTFOLIO AREA:

OTHER PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: -

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

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**SUBJECT:** DFE GRANT TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW SYSTEM FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS FROM SEPTEMBER 2014 AND CONTINUING FUNDING FOR ADOPTION REFORM

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**1. RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1.1. Spending proposals in relation to the implementation of Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and Adoption Reform Grant 2014-15.


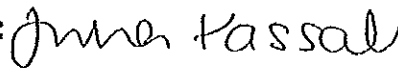
**2. REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

- 2.1. All local authorities are required to continue to complete their arrangements, as defined by regulations, to have in place new education and health care plans and the publication of the local offer by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. It is also imperative that through the Adoption Reform Grant we further improve our adoption performance by recruiting more adopters, have a sharp focus on the child's permanence plan once looked after and timely family finding and matching resulting in a reduction in the length of time it takes for a child to be placed for adoption.

**3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

**4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

<p>Signed:</p> <p>Executive Member: Cllr Tony Smith</p> <p>Date: 3 July 2014</p> <p>Also present: </p>	<p>Signed: </p> <p>Chief Officer: Julia Hassall</p> <p>Date: 3 July 2014</p>
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