

# Decision Record – Write-off of Irrecoverable Debt – Nursery School

**Note – This public decision notice relates to an exempt report**

<b>Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision</b>	Cllr Colin Hayfield Education and Learning
<b>Date of Decision</b>	25 JUNE 2015

### Decision Taken

The Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning approves the write-off of an outstanding debt relating to funding awarded to a children's nursery school.

### Reasons for Decisions

The Warwickshire County Council Constitution requires that where debts above a certain amount are to be written-off a formal decision is required of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

### Background Information

The debt arose as a result of nursery education funding (NEF) being given to the nursery school named in the exempt report. Warwickshire County Council had paid this funding in accordance with government legislation and statutory guidance.

The payments were made in two stages. The initial payment was based on the estimated number of children that would have been starting the nursery eligible for NEF. The second payment was then made following the nursery provider's actual claim confirming the number of children attending.

In the case of the nursery in question funding was awarded on the basis that they had a certain number of children in attendance. However when the actual claim for Spring 2011 was submitted by the nursery, the number of children on the roll able to claim NEF was considerably less. Therefore this created an overpayment.

Despite debt recovery action being taken the invoice went unpaid, and the business subsequently went in to liquidation.

### Financial Implications

As set out in the exempt report.

<b>Report Author</b>	Phil McGaffin
<b>Head of Service</b>	John Betts
<b>Strategic Director</b>	David Carter
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Councillor Colin Hayfield



### Checklist

<b>Urgent matter?</b>	No
<b>Confidential or Exempt?</b> (State the category of exempt information)	Yes. Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the

	Local Government Act 1972
<b>Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?</b>	No

**List of Reports considered**

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/3343/Committee/555/Default.aspx>

**List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers**

None

**Members and officers consulted or informed**

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Colin Hayfield

All Strategic Directors

Legal – Victoria Gould, Fay Ford, Barry Jukes, Peter Endall, Jane Pollard

Finance – Simon Smith, Chris Norton

Equality – Minakshee Patel

Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Children & Young People OSC – party spokes:

Councillors Dave Parsons, Julie Jackson, Clive Rickhards, Chris Williams

