



RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

SUBJECT: Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant Application

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To outline the Ministry of Defence Grant requirement for a named Military Sponsor to be identified to support the Grant application

In accordance with the Leaders Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer Decision of the Director, Education & Lifelong Learning.

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

- That Councillor Middle as the Armed Forces Champion for Rhondda Cynon Taf be named as the Military Sponsor to support the RCT application to the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant


Chief Officer Signature

CDBEADMAN
Print Name

18/9/15
Date

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

Jay Losser

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

17/9/15

DATE

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

DATE

Directorate:	Education and Lifelong Learning
Contact Name:	Zoe Lancelott
Designation:	Head of Engagement and Participation
Tel.No.	01443 744386

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT FROM THE EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING DIRECTORATE

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE SERVICE CHILDREN IN EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATION

Author: Zoe Lancelott, Head of Engagement and Participation

Tel: 01443 744386

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To outline the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant requirement for a named Military Sponsor to be identified to support the submission of a Grant application by Rhondda Cynon Taf.

In accordance with the Leaders Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer Decision of the Director, Education & Lifelong Learning.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 The information contained within this report is noted.
- 2.2 A delegated decision is made to nominate the Rhondda Cynon Taf Armed Forces Champion as the named Military Sponsor to support the Grant application.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Grant funding is currently available from the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant to support the educational outcomes of children of Her Majesty's Forces (HMF) personnel.
- 3.2 Rhondda Cynon Taf has long been identified as a key HMF recruitment area and as such has significant numbers of families affected by mobility and deployment or returning from Her Majesty's Service to their home local authority areas.
- 3.3 A previous bid to the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant fund for 2015 was successful and we currently have two HMF Education Support Officers employed to respond to the educational needs of Service children in our schools.
- 3.4 We are seeking continued funding from the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant to continue current support for Service children in Education as well as widening our activity with organisations and establishments outside the County Borough in order to further benefit our efforts to improve educational outcomes for Service children in RCT. We intend to build formal links with the Armed Forces to

explore opportunities to smooth the transition for Service children and their families locating to and from RCT as well as prepare schools for their admission

- 3.5 Approval to apply for this Grant has been given by both the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning and the Group Director of Corporate Services in line with the RCT Project Management Protocol (Appendix 1).

4. **REQUIREMENT OF THE GRANT TO IDENTIFY A NOMINATED MILITARY SPONSOR**

- 4.1 The application process for the Ministry of Defence Service Children in Education Grant requires the identification of a 'Military Sponsor' from the RCT area who could support the bid, including providing a view on it from the perspective of the Armed Forces.
- 4.2 The Military Sponsor needs to be a member of the Armed Forces community (AF personnel or a MoD representative) and be willing to be contacted by the MoD to confirm that the application submitted (Appendix 2) represents the views and needs of the Armed Forces community in RCT.

5. **CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 For the reasons outlined in this report it is recommended that Councillor Middle as a Commissioned Officer in the Reservists and the Armed Forces Champion for Rhondda Cynon Taf is nominated as the Military Sponsor for the Grant application.

Project Initiation Request (B)**1. DIVISION / SERVICE AREA**

Engagement and Participation Service

2. PROJECT OFFICER

Name: Zoe Lancelott

Tel: 01443 744386

3. PROJECT TITLE

Supporting Her Majesty's Forces (HMF) Service Children

4. PROJECT PROPOSAL**Please provide details of your proposed project including aims; outputs; timescale and partners:**

Funding is available via the Ministry of Defence Education Support Fund 2016 to support children of Her Majesty's Forces families.

The successful implementation of our 2015 MoD Education Support Fund project has identified the need for us to broaden our activity outside of RCT. By focusing on reducing the barriers to attendance, engagement and participation in learning, we have recognised that with earlier intervention these barriers can be reduced further prior to a Service child's arrival in RCT. This bid focuses upon building relationships between the local authority and the wider Armed Forces and also improving communication with other neighbouring local authorities in an effort to continue to improve the educational outcomes for Service children in RCT.

Our plan for mitigation intends to broaden the interventions we have established this year by focusing on widening our activity with organisations and establishments outside the County Borough in order to further benefit our efforts to improve educational outcomes for Service children in RCT. We intend to build formal links with the Armed Forces to explore opportunities to smooth the transition for Service children and their families locating to and from RCT as well as prepare schools for their admission. We believe there are a number of 'quick win' opportunities to improve transition periods such as the inclusion of RCT specific information and signposting at the point of posting order issue as a result of unit transfers. Improving the communication between the local authority's education department and the Armed Forces is critical if Service children are to benefit.

Facilitating the establishment of peer support between schools in RCT and neighbouring authorities to share good practice as well as working with our counterparts in local authorities to develop procedural arrangements will benefit Service children in their transition as a result of mobility and/or deployment.

We also intend to link with a range of Service community specific support groups to ensure that all public, private and voluntary sector education providers in RCT are aware of the support available to mitigate the impact of mobility and deployment on Service children's educational outcomes.

The main body of the proposed activity will be undertaken by our currently employed HMF Education Support Officers. Both Officers already have good working relationships with both Service families and schools as well as being members of the Service community themselves, which means they are ideally placed to continue to develop our work in this

area.

The aims of the project are to:

- ensure appropriate identification of Service children by schools continues;
- establish formal partnership working arrangements with the Armed Forces;
- develop communication networks with a range of Service community support groups in order to be able to provide efficient signposting services;
- ensure Service children and their families continue to receive bespoke support as required to engage in formal and informal learning opportunities and activities.

Please explain how your proposed project contributes to your Service Area Business Plan / Single Integrated Plan:

The proposed project contributes to the following strategic priorities:

Single Integrated Plan

Prosperity:

- Rolling out a programme to improve attendance across the whole county borough;
- Reducing gaps in attendance and attainment for vulnerable groups.

Safety:

- Work together to make sure that safeguarding is at the centre of all services for children and young people.

Education and Lifelong Learning Strategic Business Plan

- To work in partnership to overcome the barriers to learning and safeguard the wellbeing of learners

Access, Engagement and Inclusion Strategic Business Plan

1. To ensure that effective strategic approaches are adopted which enhance school effectiveness and the capacity of schools to improve outcomes for all learners, particularly those who have additional learning needs, poor attendance or are at risk of disengagement.
2. Ensure the efficient and effective delivery of central support services and the development of high quality specialist provisions to help overcome barriers to learning and engagement for learners with the greatest need
3. Ensure the delivery of high quality and effective targeted interventions for vulnerable groups of learners with the greatest needs

Engagement and Participation Service Operational Delivery Plan

1. Continue to develop the Engagement and Participation Service to ensure young people are supported to overcome barriers to attendance, engagement and participation in learning
2. Develop the scope of Vulnerability Profiling to facilitate its wider use across the Council and partners as a diagnostic tool to drive improvements in planning, delivery and review of targeted services.
3. Review and evaluate the implementation of key WG policy across the Engagement and Participation Service ensuring that outcomes clearly contribute to Directorate priorities

4. Ensure statutory duties are efficiently and effectively discharged within a graduated response model

Please identify whether any preliminary work has been undertaken:

Two HMF Education Support Officers, one primary and one secondary phase, are working with identified Service children and their families to mitigate against the impact on children's learning as a result of mobility, deployment and resettling in RCT. Working with individual pupils and/or families, the HMF Support Officers undertake initial assessment to determine the level of support required for children to fully engage in education. In addition, we are raising the awareness of schools in relation to these issues and the impact on Service children's attendance, engagement and achievement.

From January 2015, the local authority began requesting that schools identify pupils known to be Service children. This has resulted in the identification of 93 pupils to date, of which 41 are primary aged pupils across 23 schools, and 52 secondary pupils across 9 schools. Further analysis of this data showed that 6 of these were receiving support from statutory education services in relation to significant attendance issues. Whilst we have made good initial progress in identifying service children on roll at schools in RCT we are mindful that not all schools may be effectively identifying pupils from service families and therefore the numbers reported may not be a true reflection of the extent of the cohort. Work to support schools to effectively identify and report is ongoing.

Whilst there are no regular Armed Forces bases located within RCT, there are 8 Headquarters, 27 Army Reserve Units, 2 Royal Navy Reserve units, 2 Royal Air Force bases, 3 Armed Forces Careers Information Offices/Army Career Information Offices within a 30 mile radius and therefore commutable from RCT. Based on this information, our assumption is that we are being significantly affected by re-basing although further work to ascertain the full extent is required.

We have a current estimate that the number of reservists residing in RCT is approximately 51.

The successful implementation of our 2015 MoD Education Support Fund project has identified the need for us to broaden our activity outside of RCT. By focusing on reducing the barriers to attendance, engagement and participation in learning, we have recognised that with earlier intervention these barriers can be reduced further prior to a Service child's arrival in RCT. This bid focuses upon building relationships between the local authority and the wider Armed Forces and also improving communication with other neighbouring local authorities in an effort to continue to improve the educational outcomes for Service children in RCT.

Research suggests that Armed Forces children who experience frequent moving of home, schools and communities may not perform as well in school as non-mobile Armed Forces children (Royal Caledonian Education Trust, 2014). There is also significant anecdotal evidence to support the view that the stresses of an absent parent to a conflict zone for some children causes anxieties that can influence their learning and behaviour (ibid.). There is currently limited research pertaining to the impact on the education of this group of children. Ofsted's 2011 report found that:

"Service children often attend many different schools over the course of their school life. This makes continuity of progression in learning hard to achieve and there is more we should be doing. Information about each child's standards, progress and needs should be passed effectively.....too

often this is not done well enough... (Ofsted, 2011)

The report found that although many Service children, with support, do catch up or exceed the achievement of their civilian peers, some did not achieve the grades they might have achieved if they had not been moving around so much (Ofsted, 2011).

From September 2014 the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate will be rolling out Vulnerability Profiling data to all schools in RCT. Vulnerability profiling was first developed in RCT in 2012 by the Attendance and Wellbeing Service as a means of early identification of those children and young people at risk of disengaging from learning as a result of barriers they face outside of the school environment.

The SIMS Team has provided training for all schools to use the HMF pupil indicator in order to support the accurate identification of children of HMF families across RCT, and a Service Child definition has been agreed working with Welsh Government and Children's Education Advisory Service (MOD)

RCT Cabinet has also agreed for children of HMF families to be identified as exempt from the LA wide approach to not authorising requests for holidays in term time which supports the introduction of Fixed Penalty Notices for non school attendance.

Engaged with newly appointed Welsh Government All Wales Project Officer for Service Children in Education to discuss potential future provision.

Please identify any outline risks and / or barriers:

Timescale – competitive bids must be submitted by 30 September 2015

Response - Having identified 'Service' children RCT is currently not in a position to respond with the skilled support and understanding required if additional funding is not sought.

Numbers – appropriate reporting procedures in place is likely to result in significantly higher numbers than are anecdotally expected - possibility for demand to exceed capacity

Please provide an initial cost summary:

Cost Description	2015 / 2016	2016/2017	20__/__	Total
Revenue per annum (salaries)	34,817	17,583		52,400
(on costs i.e. mileage)	3,333	1,667		5,000
Total Project Cost	38,150	19,250		57,400

Please identify any ongoing revenue implications for the Council:

During the life of the funding there are no ongoing revenue implications however at the end of the funding there are potential implications for the sustainability of the posts in terms of salary costs or redundancy costs should those in post have previous Council service taking them over the 2 year threshold

Please identify any potential sources of funding:

Unknown at this point in time

5. REQUEST TO PROCEED	
Project Officer:	
Name: Zoe Lancelott	
Position: Head of Engagement and Participation	
Signature: <i>Zoe Lancelott</i>	Date: 7-9-15

6. AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED – STAGE 1	
a. Service Director	
Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejected <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred <input type="checkbox"/>	
• Comment:	
Name: Gaynor Davies, Acting Service Director for Access, Engagement and Inclusion	
Signature <i>Gaynor Davies</i>	Date 9-9-15

Following stage 1 authorisation please return completed forms to:

Martine Morgan-Evans
 Regeneration & Planning
 Level 5, Unit 3, Ty Pennant
 Catherine Street, Pontypridd,
 CF37 2TB

Regen@rctcbc.gov.uk

7. AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED – STAGE 2

a. Group Director

Approved Rejected Deferred

Comment:

Name: Chris Bradshaw

Signature Date 14-09-15

b. Group Director Corporate Services

Approved Rejected Deferred

Comment:

Name: Chris Lee

Signature Date 14-09-15

c. Corporate Management Team (if applicable)

Approved Rejected Deferred

Comment:

Name

Signature Date

MOD Education Support Fund 2016
Grant Application Form

Please ensure you have read the covering letter, guidance notes and scoring sheet prior to completion of the form – incomplete forms will not be submitted for review.

ADMINISTRATION			
Is your bid for a collection of maintained schools/Academies/Free Schools?			YES
<i>(If yes, please complete address details for all schools included on a separate sheet – see note 2)</i>			
If your bid is for a collection of maintained schools/Academies/Free Schools, how many:			128
Name of lead school/Academy/Free School:		Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	
Name of Local Authority:		Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	
Address: Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Rhondda Cynon Taf CF45 4UQ		Type of school: n/a - Local Authority	
Contact Name:	Zoe Lancelott		
Tel No.	01443 744298		
Email address:	Zoe.V.Lancelott@rctcbc.gov.uk		
Military Sponsor's Name: <i>(see note 6)</i>	Major Craig Middle		
Contact Details:			
Tel No.	07720 038283		
Email address:	160X-MCI-EE-SO2@mod.uk		
Are you are also included in a joint/cluster bid in the 2016 bidding round?			NO
If yes, please provide details:			
Enter text here			
Grading and Date of your last inspection <i>Ofsted (England), Estyn (Wales), HMIE (Scotland), ETINI (Northern Ireland) or equivalent</i>		Satisfactory 2014	
Total no. of children as at the Autumn Term <i>(both Service and non-Service)</i>	2013 39,073	2014 38,957	2015 38,805
Total no. of Regular Forces/Reserve Forces children in January	2013 unknown	2014 Unknown	2015 93
What is your (Published) Admission Number for all year groups <i>(as at March 2015)</i>	n/a		
How much Service Pupil Premium did you receive for AY 15/16 <i>(England only)</i>	n/a - Wales		
How are you currently using your Service Pupil Premium (England only), including breakdown of spend: (No more than 700 characters, approx. 100 words)			
n/a			
Have you applied for any other MoD funding, eg Community Covenant Grant, LIBOR Funding?			NO
If you were successful how much did you receive? Enter total			
What was this to achieve?			

Enter text here	
Have you made a previous application to the MoD Education Support Fund? <i>(If your bid was successful, please complete the box below)</i>	YES
<p>Value of grant received from 2013 Fund? n/a</p> <p>Value of grant received from 2014 Fund? n/a</p> <p>Value of grant received from 2015 Fund? £68,459</p> <p>How has the school benefited from this funding: <i>(No more than 700 characters, approx. 100 words)</i></p> <p>Two HMF Education Support Officers, one primary and one secondary phase, are working with identified Service children and their families to mitigate against the impact on children's learning as a result of mobility, deployment and resettling in RCT. Working with individual pupils and/or families, the HMF Support Officers undertake initial assessment to determine the level of support required for children to fully engage in education. In addition, we are raising the awareness of schools in relation to these issues and the impact on Service children's attendance, engagement and achievement.</p>	
<p>Summarising paragraph of the 2016 MoD Support Fund bid: <i>(No more than 700 characters, approx. 100 words)</i></p> <p>ADVISORY NOTE: <i>A number of bids received last year were for a continuation of requirement or a duplication of previous bids. Any bid that is submitted to the 2016 round which falls into this category, without exceptional reasons, will automatically be discounted.</i></p> <p>The successful implementation of our 2015 MoD Education Support Fund project has identified the need for us to broaden our activity outside of RCT. By focusing on reducing the barriers to attendance, engagement and participation in learning, we have recognised that with earlier intervention these barriers can be reduced further prior to a Service child's arrival in RCT. This bid focuses upon building relationships between the local authority and the wider Armed Forces and also improving communication with other neighbouring local authorities in an effort to continue to improve the educational outcomes for Service children in RCT.</p>	
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Amount required for 2016: £57,400	
If you have requested several items please cost them out separately as this will enable partial payments to be made; costs need only be estimates but should be added up correctly:	
Salary costs	£52,400
Mileage expenses	£ 5,000
Total amount required	£57,400
Date grant to cover: 1 st August 2016 - 31 st July 2017	
<i>(Note that the award of a grant from the MoD is not a commitment to further funding and should just be regarded as a one off payment for the application round for which it is awarded)</i>	
DETAILS OF THE BID: (please ensure that you have read the covering application pack letter, scoring sheet and notes for completion. Panel members are not required to read any information	

other than that included in this application form and decisions will be based solely on the content of the application form. Panel members are asked not to make assumptions therefore if evidence is not explicit then it will not be assumed).

SECTION 1

How is your school being affected by either exceptional mobility and/or deployment? (No more than 1,400 characters, approx. 200 words)

[IN HERE WE WOULD EXPECT TO SEE EVIDENCE OF HOW YOUR SCHOOL IS BEING AFFECTED BY EXCEPTIONAL MOBILITY OR DEPLOYMENT. THIS COULD, FOR EXAMPLE, BE DETAILS OF KNOWN DEPLOYMENTS AFFECTING YOUR SERVICE COMMUNITY OR EVIDENCE THAT YOUR SCHOOL EXPERIENCES A PARTICULARLY HIGH SERVICE PUPIL MOBILITY OR THAT YOUR SCHOOL IS RECEIVING A SIGNIFICANT INFLUX OF SERVICE CHILDREN DUE TO RE-BASING.]

From January 2015, the local authority began requesting that schools identify pupils known to be Service children. This has resulted in the identification of 93 pupils to date, of which 41 are primary aged pupils across 23 schools, and 52 secondary pupils across 9 schools. Further analysis of this data showed that 6 of these were receiving support from statutory education services in relation to significant attendance issues. Whilst we have made good initial progress in identifying service children on roll at schools in RCT we are mindful that not all schools may be effectively identifying pupils from service families and therefore the numbers reported may not be a true reflection of the extent of the cohort. Work to support schools to effectively identify and report is ongoing.

To what extent are you being affected by re-basing? (No more than 1,050 characters, approx. 150 words)

Whilst there are no regular Armed Forces bases located within RCT, there are 8 Headquarters, 27 Army Reserve Units, 2 Royal Navy Reserve units, 2 Royal Air Force bases, 3 Armed Forces Careers Offices/Army Careers Offices within a 30 mile radius and therefore commutable from RCT. Based on this information, our assumption is that we are being significantly affected by re-basing although further work to ascertain the full extent is required.

We have a current estimate that the number of reservists residing in RCT is approximately 51.

What is your plan for mitigation?

(No more than 2,800 characters, approx. 400 words across the 4 headings)

What you intend to do:

Our plan for mitigation intends to broaden the interventions we have established this year by focusing on widening our activity with organisations and establishments outside the County Borough in order to further benefit our efforts to improve educational outcomes for Service children in RCT. We intend to build formal links with the Armed Forces to explore opportunities to smooth the transition for Service children and their families locating to and from RCT as well as prepare schools for their admission. We believe there are a number of 'quick win' opportunities to improve transition periods such as the inclusion of RCT specific information and signposting at the point of posting order issue as a result of unit transfers. Improving the communication between the local authority's education department and the Armed Forces is critical if Service children are to benefit.

Facilitating the establishment of peer support between schools in RCT and neighbouring authorities to share good practice as well as working with our counterparts in local authorities to develop procedural arrangements will benefit Service children in their transition as a result of mobility and/or deployment.

We also intend to link with a range of Service community specific support groups to ensure that all public, private and voluntary sector education providers in RCT are aware of the support available to mitigate the impact of mobility and deployment on Service children's educational outcomes.

The main body of the proposed activity will be undertaken by our currently employed HMF Education Support Officers. Both Officers already have good working relationships with both Service families and schools as well as being members of the Service community themselves, which means they are ideally placed to continue to develop our work in this area.

The aims of the project are to:

- ensure appropriate identification of Service children by schools continues;
- establish formal partnership working arrangements with the Armed Forces;
- develop communication networks with a range of Service community support groups in order to be able to provide efficient signposting services;
- ensure Service children and their families continue to receive bespoke support as required to engage in formal and informal learning opportunities and activities.

Who are you working with:

(eg Local Authority, other schools, the Service community etc.)

We would seek to further develop effective partnership working arrangements with a range of bodies and organisations in a position to support the educational needs of Service children, including schools, providers of education, employment and training opportunities, neighbouring local authorities, the Welsh Government, the All Wales Project Officer for Service Children in Education, the service community and CEAS.

In particular we would seek to liaise directly with the Armed Forces to formalise communication networks and facilitate mutually beneficial working arrangements.

How would you know you have been successful (what is your success criteria):

- Regular communication with the Armed Forces and Service community groups;
- A consistent approach across RCT schools when dealing with issues of mobility and deployment;
- Schools have a greater understanding of the wider support available to Service children via the service community;
- The service community have a greater understanding of the support available to service children within the local authority and provided by schools in RCT.

How would you measure your success:

- School attendance levels of Service children remain above the threshold for referral to statutory intervention;
- Youth engagement rates of Service children is monitored;
- Number of referrals into the service;
- Consultation and feedback from children, parents and schools.

SECTION 2

Why have you chosen this mitigating action and how will this mitigate exceptional mobility and deployment? *(No more than 1,400 characters, approx. 200 words)*

[IN HERE YOU COULD SAY WHO YOU HAVE BEEN COMMUNICATING WITH TO DETERMINE THIS IS

THE MOST APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION.]

Having begun to address the education support needs of Service children as a result of mobility and deployment we have recognised we need to identify these needs as early as possible in order to secure the best possible long term outcomes. Being in a position to know when school aged children are locating to RCT will give schools the opportunity to prepare effectively to welcome them and put plans in place to identify and respond to their needs. Based on what we have learned so far we believe this mitigating action as the best value option for securing the best outcomes for Service children. As the first local authority in Wales to take a collective approach to addressing the educational needs of Service children we wish to work with the All Wales Project Officer for Service Children in Education to share our progress to date and begin to work collaboratively with other local authorities.

SECTION 3

If you do not achieve full funding would you still be able to undertake the activity, what would be your priorities and what would be the outcomes? (No more than 1,400 characters, approx. 200 words)

[DUE TO THE HIGH DEMAND FOR THE FUND IT IS USEFUL TO HAVE EVIDENCE THAT THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO WHAT, IF ANYTHING, COULD BE ACHIEVED WITH LESS.]

As we are bidding for funding to cover the salary costs of the specialist education staff who are best placed to successfully implement our proposal, if we did not achieve full funding we would not be able to facilitate the developments within the funding period. The knowledge and expertise of the existing HMF Education Support Officers as members of the Service community is fundamental to our success in engaging and building relationships with the Armed Forces and improving communication between the Armed Forces and the local authority within the stipulated timescales.

How have you sought to achieve value for money and what are the long term benefits of your mitigating action? (No more than 1,400 characters, approx. 200 words)

[YOU MAY WISH TO MENTION DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER SCHOOLS/GROUPS TO SUBMIT CONSOLIDATED APPLICATIONS, WHERE APPROPRIATE – OR OTHER WAYS YOU HAVE THOUGHT TO ACHIEVE VALUE FOR MONEY – THESE COULD BE SOLUTIONS THAT HAVE LONG TERM BENEFITS FROM PRIME PUMPING RECEIVED FROM THIS FUND.]

This application is on behalf of all 128 schools in RCT amounting to approximately £497 per school. It is in support of the activity already undertaken using the 2015 MoD Education Support Fund and the investment the Local Authority has already made and will continue to make in relation to identifying and meeting the needs of vulnerable pupils. A successful bid will accelerate our efforts to meet the educational needs of Service children at the earliest opportunity and contribute to work already underway. By working collaboratively with the Armed Forces and schools, we will provide support to ensure that RCT schools respond to Service family needs appropriately and confidently and be better prepared for Service children joining their schools. This will also help the Armed Forces to gain an understanding and appreciation of the support available within RCT to service children to mitigate against the impact of mobility and deployment. This fund will enable us to improve the communication between these key partners providing support to this particular group of learners across our schools in order to secure long term improvement in the outcomes for this vulnerable group.

SECTION 4

The award of a grant for one year should be seen as a one-off grant and not a long term financial commitment from the Ministry of Defence.

EXIT STRATEGY

Where there is a requirement for future funding what evidence is there that the sustainability of this solution has been considered, for example school fund raising, approach to charities: (No more than 700 characters, approx. 100 words)

At the end of this funding period it is envisaged that both key School staff and local authority-based education service staff will be better informed as a result of the interventions undertaken utilising the MoD Education Support Fund and therefore will be in a position to continue elements of the support identified as beneficial to Service children and their families.

What exit strategy plans are you considering to ensure that those requirements that are critical can continue when funding is no longer available: (No more than 700 characters, approx. 100 words)

The status of Service children has been established as a key indicator within the local authority's system for the early identification of children at risk of disengagement from learning. The process of identifying and recording Service children has also been embedded within the existing management information systems of all schools across the County Borough. The Information Sharing Protocols in place ensure that the needs of this cohort are no longer overlooked and their progress and continued engagement in education, employment and training is effectively tracked following their exit from compulsory education at 16.

Notes for completion:

1. Bids will be accepted from all maintained schools/Academies/Free Schools (or groups of schools/Academies/Free Schools) with a Regular Forces/Reserve Forces pupil presence who are being affected by exceptional mobility and/or deployment, where the relevant school is within the UK.
2. If you are submitting a joint bid the following information, as asked for on page 1 of the application, is required from **all schools** included in the bid: *Address details, last inspection grade and date, total number of children, total number of forces children, admission number, Service Pupil Premium allocation and breakdown of SPP spend.*
3. Bids will need to be with the regional panel contact points¹ by **1600hrs on 30th September 2015** via e-mail – there are no exceptions to this.
4. Bids must not be for Capital (building) works or be used as an extension to, or replacement for the Service Premium.
5. Any successful application that requires the hiring of staff should ensure that all parties are aware they are not being employed by the MoD, but by the successful applicant of the fund.
6. It is important that applications support the school but also represent the views of the Armed Forces (AF) community that it supports. The military sponsor will be the person from the AF community (this could be AF personnel or an MoD employee/representative) that you have

¹ Regional Panel contact points are included in the covering letter of this application pack.

had most contact with and this military sponsor will need to agree to be contacted by DCYP for their view on the application.

Banking details:

Once notified of the outcome of your bid, successful applicants will be required to **forward the banking details form, duly completed and signed appropriately along with a signed sheet of headed note paper to:**

Directorate Children and Young People
MoD Education Support Fund
Portacabin 8
Trenchard Lines, Upavon
Wiltshire SN9 6BE

Note: The bank details form has not been included in the application form this year and will be included as an Annex in your result letter.

DCYP cannot process payments without these documents correctly completed.

Terms and conditions:

By submitting the application for a grant the applicant agrees to the terms and conditions associated with the grant – these are:

- This money is not a long term financial commitment from the Ministry of Defence and should be seen as a one off grant.
- The money is to be used for the purpose agreed; if this is no longer the intention the money must be returned, in full, to the Ministry of Defence².
- Funding applied for as an individual school **and** as part of a joint/cluster bid must not be for the same requirements, as this constitutes double funding.
- If an amount of 5% or more of the agreed allocation, (or £1000 or more), remains after the purchase of services then this amount should be returned to the Ministry of Defence.³
- The recipient of the money takes responsibility for it, and its use, upon receipt.
- The recipient agrees to providing the Directorate Children & Young People, upon request, an update on how the funding has been used and whether the success factors indicated on the application have been achieved. This is not meant to be onerous, but we must ensure that we appropriately account for the use of tax payers' money.

² Liaise with Directorate Children & Young People (DCYP) via email DCYP-MOD-ESF-Mailbox@mod.uk

³ As per footnote 2.

Bid number: 2016/x/yyyy

- The applicant agrees that the data included within the application can be shared within the MoD and its partner organisations included within the Regional/Funding Panels.
- Any personnel appointed as a result of a successful application do not speak on behalf of or represent the MoD in any capacity.

Failure to abide to these terms and conditions could result in action being taken by the Ministry of Defence to recoup the full grant and further applications from the Fund being rejected.