



Subject:	Correspondence received – Department of Education – Removal of Ring-fenced Protection for Youth Service Funding
Date:	21st August, 2026
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance Co-ordinator

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

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Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider the correspondence received from the Department of Education in relation to the removal of ring-fenced protection for youth service funding within the Education Authority.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: • note the correspondence as set out in the report.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 24th April, 2026, the Committee agreed to write to the Minister of Education in relation to the removal of ring-fenced protection for youth service funding within the Education Authority to request that the Minister reconsiders this decision and engages with the Education Authority to ensure that youth services were properly resourced.
3.2	Subsequently, Democratic Services wrote to the Department of Education on the issues which had been raised, and a response has been received for consideration at Appendix 1.
3.3	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None associated with this report.
3.4	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Response from the Department of Education