

Delegated Cabinet Member Decision (Grant Value up to £50K) Report

Decision Maker and Portfolio area:	Helen Lockwood – Deputy Chief Executive.
Date of Decision:	18th June 2019
Subject:	Commission for the Oldham Research School to deliver a range of EEF training to leaders and educators across the borough.
Report Author:	Clare Cheetham
Ward(s) Affected:	Is Ward Member consultation required? No

Reason for the decision:

This report seeks exemption from contract procedure rules in order to create a suitable commissioning route for the Council to commission the Oldham Research School to deliver a programme of EEF training, coaching and mentoring support in order to promote an evidence-based approach to improving educational practice across the borough. The Oldham Research School has been delegated by the DfE as the sole provider of EEF evidence based research and training within the Oldham borough.

The programme will support leaders and educators to develop a consistent, evidence-based approach to teaching and learning. The intention is to deliver activity across the borough and may include the following EEF programmes;

- EEF Implementation Training – “Putting Evidence to Work”
- EEF Preparing for Literacy Training – EYS; KS1; KS2; KS3
- EEF Metacognition Training
- EEF Effective Deployment of TAs Training
- EEF Maximising the Impact of TAs Training

- EEF Leading Learning Training
- EEF Effective use of Pupil Premium Training

This request is made in the context of the investment (c£6m) provided to Oldham, as an Opportunity Area (OA), by the Department for Education (DfE). Formal approval for the receipt of the section 31 grant funding to resource the Opportunity Area programme was granted through a Cabinet Report on the 6 June 2016. The OA is committed to funding the programme by providing access to funds of up to £50K for the academic year 2019-20.

Summary:

This report seeks exemption from Contract Procedure Rules under 21.3e in order to utilize expertise from the Oldham Research School and create a suitable and consistent commissioning route for the Council.

We are requesting this exception on a fixed term basis until the end of August 2020.

What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):

Option1: Commission the Oldham Research School to deliver the programme (as outlined above).

Option2: To not commission the training. - This Option would pose a significant risk in the following areas:

- Breakdown in relationships with Oldham Primary Schools who are keen to engage in the programme.
- Potential reputational risk to the Council due to:
 - Lack of strategy to improve the consistency and quality of teaching and learning across the borough.
 - Lack of availability of universal, targeted and bespoke training to schools in using an evidence based approach
 - Lack of cohesive approach and consistency of support and messages affecting quality of support to children and education settings

Recommendation(s):

That permission is given to commission the Oldham Research School to deliver the programme outlined.

Implications:

What are the **financial** implications?

The value of commissioning Oldham Research School to deliver this programme will be up to £50k, this will be financed from within the Council's existing Opportunity Area grant funding allocation.

(Vicki Hayes)

What are the **procurement** implications?

OMBC CPR's 21.3 (e) enable flexibility to award a contract and waive CPR's in exceptional circumstances, where Procurement is of a specialist or unique nature. The procurement supports this requirement due to the specialist nature of this service to Oldham's young children population and early years skills development. that can only be carried out by the Oldham Research School. Mohammad Sharif 05/06/2019 Interim Sourcing.

What are the **legal** implications?

There is provision under Rule 21.3 (e) of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to grant an exemption from the Rules in exceptional circumstances where the services proposed to be purchased are of a specialist or unique nature. The narrative in the body of the report explains that Oldham Research School has been designated as the sole provider within the Borough by the DfE. This explanation would support the use of the exemption to the Rules. (Elizabeth Doyle)

What are the **Human Resources** implications?

None

Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment attached or not required because (please give reason)

Not required

What are the **property** implications

None

Risks:

Risk

Mitigation

Schools do not take up the offer of

We will work with the Research school and schools to ensure a clear rationale and transparent

CPD as directed.

process for selection is communicated.

We will ensure that schools are well supported to implement change as a result of the training through follow up activity and monitoring.

Co-operative agenda

As a Co-operative Council, Oldham is committed to delivering high quality outcomes for Oldham's young people. The proposed approach will continue to support Oldham's *Opportunity Area Delivery Plan*. (Jonathan Downs, SPP)

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution? Yes

Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget? Yes

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? No

List of Background Papers under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:

Title	Available from
Opportunity Area 2017-2020 Plan	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/675046/Social_Mobility_Delivery_Plan-Oldham.PDF

Report Author Sign-off:	
Clare Cheetham	
Date: 17th June 2019	

Please list any appendices:-

Appendix number or letter	Description
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1	Service Specification
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Background:

Proposals:

Conclusions:

In consultation with

Deputy Chief Executive

Hockwood.

Date: July 2019