

Delegated Officer Report (Grant 24,500)

Decision Maker and Portfolio area: Helen Lockwood, Economy and Skills

Date of Decision:

Subject: Making it REAL Local Project Support

Report Author: Paula Healey

Ward(s) Affected: Is Ward Member consultation required? No

Reason for the decision:	<p>The National Children's Bureau is to be commissioned to strategically lead and coordinate the Making it REAL home learning project funded through the Opportunity Area.</p> <p>Achieving the ambition of the Making it REAL project will require local partnership and support opportunities to enable sharing of practice, peer support.</p> <p>To sustain the focus on Making it REAL and build local capacity Oldham has worked in partnership with Oasis Academy Limeside to develop an experienced practitioner to be a Making it REAL trainer. This enables the practitioner to deliver Making it REAL training and allows the practitioner to take on an expanded role in the delivery of local projects.</p> <p>This methodology of system leadership and using capacity within the local system is reflected in Oldham's Education Strategy and <i>Is supported by the Department for Education, Regional Schools Commissioner, and National College for Teaching and School Leadership. It is also consistent with <u>Local Authority Statutory Obligations</u>¹,</i></p>
Summary:	This report seeks exemption from Contract Procedure Rules under 21.3e in order to utilize expertise within

¹ 2006 Education and Inspections Act, amended by the Education Act of 2011 and the Education and Adoption Act 2016

	<p>Oasis Academy Limeside Teaching School and to create a suitable commissioning route for the Council to commission teaching schools and school leaders to deliver improvement activity. Due to rapidly changing school landscape no current / specific commissioning process is in place.</p> <p>We are requesting this exception on a fixed term basis until December 2019. Oldham Council is working with national partners to set up an accessible framework for school improvement support.</p>
<p>What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):</p>	<p>Seek quotes via the chest. - This Option would pose a significant risk in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May not result in the commissioning of a school with expert knowledge of the Making it REAL approach, successful project delivery within an early years setting or delivery of a local Making it REAL project. Resulting in reduced fidelity and consistency of project delivery, additional pressure on the LA and increased risk of unsuitable local support to early years settings. • Will not build improvement and leadership capacity within Oldham.
<p>Consultation: including any conflict of interest declared by relevant Cabinet Member consulted.</p>	<p>Consultation has taken place as the programme of work is covered in the Opportunity Area programme of work reported in the Report to Cabinet dated Monday 27 June 2016.</p>
<p>Recommendation(s):</p>	<p>That an exemption from the requirement to use the CHEST to seek 3 quotes is granted for commissioning Oasis Academy Limeside Teaching School (up to maximum value of £24,500).</p> <p>Plans are in place to increase expertise within Oldham's early years system. This will enable a competitive process to take place in future delivery with 3 quotes being sought from Oldham's teaching schools.</p>
<p>Implications:</p>	

<p>What are the <i>financial</i> implications?</p>	<p>The £25k costs associated with the Making it REAL Strategic Leadership and Coordination grant will be revenue expenditure and will be funded from the Opportunity Area grant. This commission is expected to run from January 2018 to July 2019. The Council has to date received £650k in main Opportunity Area grant funding, in 2017/18. The total allocation is expected to be £6m over the next 2-3 years. In addition the Council has received £907k of Essential Life Skills Programme funding relating to the Council being an opportunity area. Total Opportunity area fund is expected to be in the region of £10m over the next 2-3 years.</p> <p>(James Postle)</p>
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What are the *procurement* implications?

As the service is seeking authorisation to make a direct award to a single provider, this does not comply with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and therefore an exemption from Contract Procedure Rules is required.
Neil Clough, Sourcing & Contracts Consultant
8th February 2018

What are the *legal* implications?

There is provision in the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to seek an exemption from the Rules in the circumstances outlined in the report under Rule 21 (3) "where the goods or services which are proposed to be purchased are of a specialist or unique nature." Elizabeth Cunningham -Doyle

What are the *Human Resources* implications? None

Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment attached or not required because (please give reason) None

What are the *property* implications None

Risks:**Risk****Mitigation**

There is insufficient local and regional capacity to complete the work

We will work with teaching schools to build capacity to ensure a competitive process can take place in the future.

Benefit of commissioning schools is to build and enhance local capacity.

Commissioning does not represent value for money

We will utilise a robust commissioning methodology and will specify output and outcomes desired from the grant

We will work with procurement, finance and legal services to develop robust monitoring and evaluation arrangements.

Co-operative agenda

“As a Co-operative Council, Oldham is committed to providing the very best opportunities for learning to every child and young person in Oldham.

The recommendations in this report reflect this ambition, providing consistency of approach and supporting the Oldham Plan’s ambition to shift stubborn inequalities and build capacity through effective, targeted and proven programmes. (Jonathan Downs, SPP Team)”

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

Reason(s) for exemption from publication:

Reason for exemption from call in

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

Title	Available from
Opportunity Area 2017-2020 Plan	

or

Report Author Sign-off:	
Paula Healey	
Date: 05.03 2018	

Please list any appendices:-

Appendix number or letter	Description

Background:

Proposals:

Conclusions:

In consultation with

(Relevant Executive Director/Director Hockwood Date: 05/03/18)