

**Oldham Borough Council
Record of Decision**



1. **TITLE:** Speech and Language support for education settings across the Early Years Sector

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Children and Young People's Services

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

A decision is being sought to request approval for an exemption under Rule 21 of the Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) to waive the requirement under Rule 4 of the CPRs to obtain 3 quotes. Subject to approval of the exemption, authority is then needed for the required budget and for a direct contract award to the Kingfisher Learning Trust to deliver training, support and coaching for the Better Communication Team.

4. **DECISION MADE BY:** Managing Director Children and Young People (DCS)

5. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED - That:

1. This report seeks firstly seeks an approval under Rule 21 of the CPRs for an exemption to the requirement under Rule 4 to obtain 3 quotes for the required specialist coaching and training to improve outcomes for children in Oldham in speech, language and communication ("Services"). Subject to the approval of the exemption, approval is then needed for the budget and for from the Contract Procedure Rules to enable a direct contract award to be made to the Kingfisher Learning Trust for their specialist expertise to support the Better Communication Team in Oldham by providing the Services specialist coaching and training to improve outcomes for children in Oldham in speech, language and communication at a cost for 1 year.

6. **REASON FOR DECISION**

A decision is being sought to request approval for an exemption under Rule 21 of the Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) to waive the requirement under Rule 4 of the CPRs to obtain 3 quotes.

7. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Option 1 - Approval for an exemption from Rule 4 of the Contract Procedure Rules and for the required budget and for a direct contract award to be made to the Kingfisher Learning Trust for the Services. This is the preferred Option.

Option 2 - To go out to the North West Portal.

Officers are not aware of any additional providers of the required service.

This option poses a risk to the council as the specialist expertise is specific and delaying the process with implications on timeframes and establishing strong relationships, causing delay to the needs of Oldham children's speech and language when there are already long waiting lists with the core speech and language service

Option 3 - Not to provide specialist support within the Better Communication Team. This poses a risk to the Council places pressure on an already stretched service with implications on Oldham children having increased delay in seeking support for their speech and



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language needs.

8. INTERESTS AND NATURE OF INTERESTS DECLARED

None

9. PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED: Not applicable

10. DOCUMENT CONSIDERED: Speech and Language support for education settings across the Early Years Sector
Speech and Language support for education settings across the Early Years Sector