

## Delegated Cabinet Member Decision (Contract Award £16,650.00 ) Report

**Decision Maker and Portfolio area:** Richard Lynch, Director – Education, Skills and Early Years

**Date of Decision:**

**Subject:** Approval of contract for Key Stage 2 statutory moderation

**Report Author:** Ailsa Burton

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

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### Reason for the decision:

Permission is being sought to approve a 1 year contract to One Education Ltd with the option to extend for a further year, to fulfil the specialist operational lead moderator role for delivery of the Local Authority statutory duties for Key Stage 2 (KS2) moderation.

Invitation to Tender (ITT) was issued on the North West Portal “The Chest” on 8 August 2022 with a return date of the 30 August 2022. ITT submissions were received from 1 organisation:

- One Education Ltd

A comprehensive selection process was undertaken by an evaluation panel and a scoring moderation meeting was held on the 1 September 2022. The outcome of this process was that One Education Ltd have the relevant skills, knowledge and experience to lead the statutory moderation.

This will be a 1-year contract at a cost of £16,650 with an option to extend for 1 year.

### Summary:

Permission is being sought to approve the award of contract to One Education Ltd who have the specialist skills, knowledge and experience to fulfil the operational KS2 lead moderator role at a cost of £16,650.00.

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

Option 1: Approve the award of contract to One Education Ltd for the operational KS2 lead moderator

This option poses limited risk to the Council as a formal ITT process has been completed and quality of the submission agreed by the evaluation panel. Any risks to delivery and implementation of the programme will be identified and mitigation put in place. Emerging risks will be managed through formal contract monitoring processes. There is funding through the Designated Schools Grant for statutory moderation duties for Local Authorities.

Option 2: Not to award the contract to any organisation

This could pose a risk to the Local Authority as there is a lack of capacity and expertise within the LA EYs and Learning Service to undertake the operational lead role. This role has been externally commissioned since 2014 in order to fulfil the LA's statutory duties.

**Recommendation(s):**

To approve Option 1 to award the contract to One Education Ltd

**Implications:**

*What are the **financial** implications?*

This report seeks to approve Option 1 to award the contract to One Education Ltd to fulfil the specialist operational lead moderator role for delivery of the Local Authority statutory duties for Key Stage 2 (KS2) moderation.

This will be a 1-year contract (with the option to extend for a further year) and the total cost will be £16,650, this will be wholly funded from the School Improvement Service cc38101 of which there is a budget provision against professional fees of £84,810.

Vicki Hayes – Senior Accountant

What are the **procurement** implications? An open tender exercise was undertaken to comply with the requirements stated in the OMBC Contract Procedure Rules. This opportunity was advertised on the Chest portal. The Commercial Procurement Unit supports the recommendation to award the contract to the preferred bidder. This was done through a robust evaluation process, which was clearly set out in the Tender documents. (Mohammad Sharif) 05/09/2022

What are the **legal** implications  
 Provided the commissioning process has been undertaken via the Commercial Procurement Unit in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and a suitable form of contract is put in place, there are no known legal implications.  
 Sarah Orrell – Commercial and Procurement Solicitor

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**

Commissioning an organisation and ensuring the role of lead moderator is in place to align with Standards and Testing Agency (STA) timeline and so that they can complete and pass Standardisation Exercise 1 test for KS2

Once approval has been agreed, swift action will be taken to award the contract to ensure that One Education Ltd can complete the standardisation exercise

Commissioning does not represent value for money.

We will utilise a robust commissioning methodology and will specify output and outcomes desired for the contract. We will work with procurement, finance and legal services to

develop robust monitoring and evaluation arrangements.

Capacity within schools to fully engage with the KS2 moderation programme following COVID 19

We will work with One Education Ltd provider to ensure that a blended offer is in place. This could include virtual training or face to face training if appropriate. Also visits in line with risk assessments where appropriate.

**Co-operative agenda**

None

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

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

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?

**Reason(s) for exemption from publication:**

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

Title	Available from

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<b>Report Author Sign-off:</b>	
	Ailsa Burton
<b>Date:</b>	20/9/2022

Please list any appendices:-

<b>Appendix number or letter</b>	<b>Description</b>

In consultation with

Richard Lynch

Director Education Skills and Early Years



Date: 22/9/22