

RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY AN OFFICER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
Gerard Jones, Managing Director, Children & Young People	Administrative Decision	23rd August 2023

INSERT TITLE OF DECISION HERE - DELETE THIS RED SECTION WHEN DONE¹

Exempt/Confidential Report	No
Key Decision ²	No

Decision (s) ³

Exempt Contract Procedure Rules to enable a direct contract award to Triple P UK Limited and to Family Links, each for a term commencing on 31st of August 2023, or as soon as possible, to deliver elements of the Family Hubs Parenting Support strand and to implement activities and services to improve ability of parents to care for their children/young people.

Reasons for the decision(s)⁴

Within the DfE funding conditions, it is included that Oldham Family Hubs should seek evidence-based parenting interventions to provide services directly to families. Evidence based interventions have been proven to be effective in assisting and sustaining behaviour change in parents; therefore, the Family Hub National Framework requires local authorities to use their funding to purchase evidence-based interventions for parents and particularly those which appear in the Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) Guidebook.

Triple P Baby provides one of these programmes and appears in the EIF Guidebook. The other evidence-based programmes that appear in the guidebook do not meet Oldham's needs, as they are either online, for parents with a first child or the cost of the programme is too high. Triple P Baby is a face-to-face programme for all babies and the costing is average. Triple P Baby is also the programme that has been commissioned by DfE to support local authorities in the delivery of provision relating to parent-infant relationships. So, by choosing this provision we would be linking up with outcomes for another service and in doing so we would be utilising additional free training and support offered by the DfE in setting up this programme.

Triple P Discussion groups were identified following consultations with professionals who work in Oldham and directly with families, they identified a need for one off workshops in key topics including sleep, feeding, routines and dealing with difficult behaviours. Triple P are the only provider in the EIF Guidebook that offer one off evidence-based workshops for

¹ A brief title should be inserted here.

² If the decision is Key Please use Key Decision Template.

³ Brief details of the decision should be inserted. This note must set out the substance of the decision, options considered and the reason for deciding on the chosen option, although care must be taken not to disclose any confidential or exempt information. Please include proposed timescales for commencement and / or completion of implementation as appropriate.

⁴ Reasons for the decision must be given.



parents of children under 5 years. So Triple P was identified by the Parenting Support Manager as the provider for Discussion Groups.

Family Links was identified as the provider of choice as they offer a programme that is already evidenced as having a positive impact in neighbouring GM areas with similar demographic populations. The Nurture Programme model places an emphasis on building emotional resilience. Skills learnt as part of the programme can be applied outside of the family and throughout life to help adults to cope with challenges. It creates inter-generational patterns of relating to others which benefits families and communities. So, it supports the Oldham Strategy for improving mental wellbeing following the pandemic and supporting families to develop skills to support them to access training and work. The programme was also identified as it is a targeted approach which is delivered over a shorter time period (10 weeks) which better supports delivery and retention as compared to longer targeted 12-14 week programmes. The Nurture Programme also fits in with the ethos of existing universal programmes of support for parents in that it focuses on self-efficacy, understanding emotions and empathy which all forms part of the Solihull Approach which is already being delivered online in Oldham.

Options/Alternatives considered ⁵

Option 2: ignore the Family Hubs consultations communities, families and targeted consultations with parents online and in person at family events; consultations with experts -staff from the Right Start Service, Early Help Service, Early Years' Service and Social Care -; DfE requirements. If a different provider was commissioned to provide the activities, there is a risk that parents, families and staff would not receive the right wrap around support that Family Hubs is aiming at. In addition, there may be insufficient time for a full procurement and commissioning exercise to be undertaken within the timeframes set by the DfE.

Option 3: not commission the specific services/activities, failing in the commitments agreed with the DfE and losing the opportunity to reach out more parents and families living in Oldham.

Conflict of Interest declared⁶ None

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Matt Bulmer

(Signature of Director Education Early Years and Skills)

Decision made pursuant to:

- a) General delegation under the Council's officer scheme of delegation. Non-contract decisions up to £250k.**

⁵ Options must be given.

⁶ If none, please state none. No Member having a disclosable pecuniary interest or officer having an interest in any matter (whether pecuniary or otherwise required to be declared) should take a decision in relation to that matter. Other interests of a non-disqualifying nature should be recorded here. Any dispensation in place in relation to the matter should also be recorded here. This may include other elected Members, officers, stakeholders and the local community.

⁷ The signatory must be duly authorised by Executive Director to make a decision in accordance with the relevant sub-delegation scheme. It is not acceptable for the signature to be 'pp' for the authorised signatory.