

OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM – BY EXCEPTION

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions in Excess of £100k (but below the key decision threshold), or where required by Financial, Contract or other Procedure Rules or following formal delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member or a Council Committee.

Decision Reference No: e.g. Directorate/Ref No/Year - 19200023

BOX 1**DIRECTORATE: LO:CYP****DATE: 14/08/2019****Contact Name: Claire Hughes****Tel. No.: 01302 737 627****Subject Matter: Opportunity Area Grant Funding****BOX 2****DECISION TAKEN**

To award £190,000 to Doncaster Chamber of Commerce for activities relating to the sustainability of the Middle Tier Organisation (MTO) 'Opportunities Doncaster'.

To award £117,315 to Partners in Learning for an extension of their bespoke personal development programme for leaders

To go out to tender as per the Opportunity Area Partnership Board approval process for the services set out below.

Up to £300k on activities relating to teacher recruitment and retention.

BOX 3**REASON FOR THE DECISION**

The OA Partnership Board has approved the grants and tenders to the amounts set out above.

The services have been approved as they align with the ambitions set out in the Doncaster Opportunity Area delivery plan and the decision to go to market has been taken to ensure the VfM and quality of the procured services, and to test the market.

The grant is to be awarded based on business cases submitted to the Opportunity Area Partnership Board. A decision to directly award the grants is based on the organisation's track record of delivery, the bespoke nature of the programme, an evidence based approach and opportunity to facilitate market development in these areas.

Cabinet have explicitly agreed that decisions around future grants from the Opportunity Area fund be delegated to the Director of People in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and the portfolio holder for Children, Young People and Schools.

Rationale for awarding Doncaster Chamber of Commerce for the sustainability of the MTO 'Opportunities Doncaster':

- The Chamber of Commerce have a positive track record of delivery and have established links with both the education and employment sectors within the borough
- The MTO 'Opportunities Doncaster' has been jointly funded by Doncaster Council and the Chamber and this additional funding will enable it to be sustainable.
- Opportunities Doncaster will undertake key engagement activity to raise awareness and aspiration in the borough and, working in partnership with the Careers and Enterprise Company, fundamentally support all Careers Hub activity through raising the quality of Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance in Doncaster.
- The initial investment will fund the development cost so in the future this practice can be delivered at a lower cost.

Opportunities Doncaster will deliver the following:

- Doncaster Promise – This is a compact between business and education, aiming to ensure that businesses engage with schools, learning and the Opportunities Doncaster offer, with the ultimate aim of improving the quality of encounters with business, CIAG and
- A clear commitment between the education and business sectors, including identification and promotion of Doncaster Alumni – to include the creation of a digital 'alumni wall' for Doncaster, available to all pupils with inspirational stories of Doncaster residents who have gone on to achieve great things. Will be targeted and available free of charge to primary pupils.
- Doncaster Careers Week – which will be significantly greater than its predecessor.
- SEN Support – This includes a major expansion in the number of disability confident employers locally and an increase in the number of supported internships, as well as a coordination function to ensure that SEND learners transition effectively from learning into the workforce, mitigating the risk of SEND underemployment in Doncaster.
- Raising careers awareness with parents, carers and communities
- Supporting young people at risk of becoming NEET through a targeted scheme of work.

Going out to tender for activities relating to teacher recruitment and retention including support for schools to help them comply with the mandatory Early Career Framework, which comes into Doncaster in September 2019.

BOX 4**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

The Opportunity Area Programme was developed based on detailed analysis of the available performance data, extensive consultation with professionals and engagement with Doncaster children and young people.

The proposals in this note align explicitly with the commitments in the published Doncaster Opportunity Area Plan. The delivery approach was determined based on analysis of the available organisations strengths and weaknesses.

Due to the breadth of activity we need to deliver around improving careers information, advice and guidance, and the need for pace and sustainability, only the Chamber could deliver this locally given their networks.

BOX 5**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Section One of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do.

The provision of grant funding will need to comply with the requirements of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules E15 to E18 and will need to be subject to funding agreements with the Chamber of Commerce and Partners in Learning setting out their obligations and any restrictions on the use of the money.

Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council the power to purchase goods and services.

The procurement of services relating to teacher recruitment and retention must be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and where applicable, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Legal Services should be consulted at the earliest opportunity to provide the contractual documentation.

Name: Paula Coleman

Signature: 

Date: 15.08.19

Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

BOX 6**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The purpose of this report is to approve grants detailed within the main body of the report totalling up to £607,315 from the Opportunity Area Grant and the Essential Life Skills Grant.

The funding for these grants will be met in full from the DfE's Opportunity Area (OA) Programme and the Essential Life Skills (ELS) Programme. Funding of up to £8.7m is being received from the DfE in the form of a Section 31 non-ring fenced grant, £5.9m for the (OA) Programme and £2.76m for the (ELS) Programme. Spend to date against the grant is currently £2.5m for the OA Programme and £2.5m for the ELS Programme and as such sufficient grant remains to pay for this decision.

A cabinet report was approved on the 31st July 2018 to agree that decisions around future grants from this fund be delegated to the Director of People in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and the portfolio holder for Children, Young People and Schools.

Name: Stephen Boldry/Aaron Bathgate **Signature:**  **Date:** 19/08/2019

Signature of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance (or representative)

BOX 7

OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS

(Procurement Implications)

Name: ___ **Signature:** ___ **Date:** _____

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

ANY IMPLICATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE THESE CAN BE GIVEN THE RELEVANT CONSIDERATION.

BOX 8

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS: (To be completed by the author).

In taking this decision, the decision maker must be aware of their obligations under section 149 Equality Act 2010. This section contains the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). It obliges public authorities, when exercising their functions to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimization and other conduct which the Act prohibits
- b) Advance equality of opportunity; and
- c) Foster good relations between people who share relevant protected characteristics and those who do not.

BOX 9

RISK IMPLICATIONS: (To be completed by the author)

There is a risk that without taking this decision the local authority will not be able to meet requirements of the Delivery Plan in that we will fail to deliver on the ambition of the Education & Skills Commission, and the intent of the Social Mobility Opportunity Area.

**BOX 10
CONSULTATION**

**BOX 11
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

It is in the public's interest to be aware of this decision record under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, therefore this decision will be published in full redacting signature only.

Name: **CLAIRE HUGHES** Signature  Date: **14.08.2019**

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 12
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Please confirm if any Background Papers are included with this ODR **NO**

(If YES please list and submit these with this form)

**BOX 13
AUTHORISATION**

Name: Riana Nelson

Signature: 

Date: 29/08/2019

Director of Learning, Opportunities and Skills

Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer

NO

If yes please authorise below:

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Chief Executive/Director/Assistant Director of _____

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Designation _____

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair/Vice-Chair)

Declaration of Interest NO

If YES please give details below:

PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

Once completed a PDF copy of this form and any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk who will arrange publication.

It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.