

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD 2 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions which have a financial impact (income/expenditure) between £25k - £100k.

Decision Reference No:

## BOX 1

**DIRECTORATE: LOCYP**

**DATE: 18/03/2021**

**Contact Name: Graham Batty**

**Tel. No.: 01302 736237**

**Subject Matter:** Increasing the level of resource supporting the re-engagement of children and young people who are missing education or whose parents have opted to electively home educate them.

## BOX 2

**DECISION TAKEN:**

The current pandemic has created or exacerbated a growth in mental health and wellbeing needs across children and young people in the borough. The wider return to school marked a clear growth in anxiety amongst young people. And has resulted in an increase in attendances at A&E. National data from Young Minds corroborates this picture, with a similar rise in cases nationally. This highlights a clear need to support the most vulnerable children and young people in our community, providing focus around Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs.

The pandemic has also seen a significant rise in the numbers of children and young people missing education and being electively home educated. Local data shows a 220% increase on the same period in 2020. We know that in both these instances on average the life chances of the CYP is impacted. The absence of these children from the schools system limits our collective ability to support them, both from an educational perspective, obviously but also from a health and wellbeing perspective as warning signs are not picked u.

Wellbeing sits at the heart of our services and ambitions to become the most child friendly borough, therefore we need to address the current gap in service to support the growth in mental health and wellbeing needs across children and young people our communities.

This ODR seeks to establish the following posts:

Roll and grade	Cost per FTE	Total cost
9 trainee Education Welfare Officers (Grades 6 recruited through the kickstart programme) to support the 4 locality teams	£3,000	£27,000
Release 1 experienced EWO to become Operations Manager (Grade 10) to provide casework supervision	£6000	£3000

Temporary appointment of 0.5 experienced EWO (Grade 9) to mentor trainees, and cover leave	£44,400	£22,200
Appoint an experienced admissions officer to support the work of Attendance and Pupil Welfare Service on a full-time basis (officer to remain within the admissions team).	£28,800	£14,400
		£66,600

Funding for these posts would come from the Opportunity Area Programme.

The Doncaster Opportunity Area Funding is time limited and has to be spent by the 31st August 2021.

**BOX 3  
REASON FOR DECISION AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:**

***Do Nothing***

This option would put the provider and in turn, the council at risk of failure of being able to fulfil their obligations under the Mental Health Act 1983, Children and Families Act 2014, and Children's Act 1989, to meet the needs of CYP who have been assessed as requiring these services. We would also be morally failing our children and young people in need of these services, and would not be taking on board the government's plans for expansion on mental health services through the ***Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision: a Green Paper (DoH and DfE, December 2017).***

**BOX 4  
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**YES (If YES please list and submit copies with this form)**



Children and Young People's Plan

Children and Young people's Plan (Doncaster Council, 2017-2020).



Transforming\_child ren\_and\_young\_pec

Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision: a Green Paper (DoH and DfE, December 2017).



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Doncaster OA Business Case for Partnership Board approval.

**BOX 5  
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION:**

This ODR is to be published in full redacting signatures only.

**Name:** Graham Batty


**Signature:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** 18/03/2021

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 6**

**AUTHORISATION:**

**Name: Lee Golze Signature:**  **Date: 08/06/21**

Assistant Director: Partnerships, Early Intervention & Localities

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

YES/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 YES/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 along with any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at [Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto: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.