

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM

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 - 2122049

### BOX 1

DIRECTORATE: L&O:CYP

DATE: 12/08/2021

Contact Name: Robin MacNeill

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Subject Matter: OA Y5 Programme: Priority 1 – Intensive School-to-school Support Programme

### BOX 2

#### DECISION TAKEN

To grant award a total of £125,000 to the supporting schools to provide school-to-school support to a total of 8 schools. This also includes an allocation of £5,000 to Doncaster Research School who will be providing additional CPD/ network opportunities to system leaders, with a particular focus on the implementation process and up to date research guidance.

### BOX 3

#### REASON FOR THE DECISION

To grant award £125,000 to the schools/ trusts of NLEs assigned to a total of 8 Doncaster schools, to provide intensive school to school support - collaboratively raising standards, adding capacity/ expertise and driving school improvement. This amount also includes a £5,000 award to the Doncaster Research School, **see below for further information.**

The project aims to provide a programme of intensive wrap-around school-to-school support that addresses the specific issues of each targeted school. The programme aims to ensure that the target schools play an integral part in the process and aims to employ a “done with” model of support to effect buy-in from the school. It aims to build on the lessons learned from other Opportunity Areas where school-to-school support has been put in place to support the improvement of schools with the most entrenched issues and those that are in need of additional leadership capacity/ system leadership in specific identified areas.

During the development of this offer, the OA team has liaised closely with RSC’s team to ensure join up and additionality for any schools targeted by this offer who also receive support from the DfE school improvement 21/22 offer. In this way, we aim to provide an integrated and comprehensive one-year programme to schools for those eligible for both offers and thus reduce multiple offers to schools. The OA team will continue to liaise with the RSC’s team to ensure consistency across the joint programme.

A budget of £15k will be provided for each school to support a bespoke programme of activities and training to address their specific issues as outlined in the action plan. The NLE will facilitate and/or provide support and be responsible for the deployment of resources allocated for the school.

As action plans will be bespoke to each school it is not possible at this time to identify the specifics but this support may involve drawing in capacity from national school improvement providers, targeting activity from the LA and Research school as well as deploying expertise from the school system.

As collaboration underpins this initiative, the matching of schools is key. It is vital that the relationship between the schools is one of genuine partnership and collaboration. The target school will be consulted on the selection of NLE and where existing relationships exist, we aim to build on these if viable. The OA team will facilitate the initial matching conversations with final selection following consultation with the supported school and liaising with the RSC's team and other local stakeholders.

To ensure currency and to assist in planning and delivery, all schools receiving support will, with their matched NLE be offered additional support from the Research School on the Education Endowment Foundation's guide to effective implementation of school improvement. This will be grant awarded to the Doncaster Research School, totalling £5,000. This allocation forms part of the £125,000 allocation to the project.

#### **BOX 4**

##### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

The decision to grant award was considered to be the most sensible course of action for all parties to ensure the successful delivery of the programme. This approach will enable schools to effectively support schools in raising standards and driving school improvement.

#### **BOX 5**

##### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the local authority the power to do anything that individuals may generally do.

S111 Local Government Act 1972 states that a local authority shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 requires the Council to exercise its functions as a local education authority with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Grants must be made in accordance with paragraph E15 to E18 of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules to ensure that the Council's interests are protected at all times.

When providing the funding the Council should enter into a funding agreement with funding recipients and the agreement should be monitored to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the approved action plan.

The schools should sign the funding agreement to confirm the acceptance of the terms and conditions of funding and confirm that any overspend will not be the responsibility of the Council.

**Name: Paula Coleman Signature** XXXXXXXXXX **Date: 18.08.21**

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

**BOX 6****FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The total cost of this decision is £125,000 (8 schools x £15k plus £5 to the Doncaster research School) and is to be funded in full from the Social Mobility Opportunity Area Grant.

The Doncaster Opportunity Social Mobility Area is set to receive £1,351m for the 2021-22 academic year in the form of a Section 31 non-ring fenced grant and as such sufficient grant remains to pay for this decision.

A cabinet report was approved on the 31st July 2018 to agree to the delegation of decision making on this area to the Director of Learning Opportunities & Skills and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the portfolio holder for Children, Young People and Schools.

**Name:** Stephen Boldry

**Signature:** 

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

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

**BOX 7****OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

**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.

I can confirm that we have taken this decision with due regard to those with Protected characteristics under the 2010 Equalities Act. This project will intrinsically support s149(b) through offering opportunities to young people from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds and without prejudice to those with protected characteristics in order to assist them with accessing work experience and eventually, employment.

**BOX 9****RISK IMPLICATIONS:** (To be completed by the author)

Though the total allocation to grant award is £125,000, this amount will be broken down and distributed to support a total of 8 schools. Each school will therefore be entitled to an allocation of £15k from this total amount. An additional £5k allocation will be awarded to the Research School. The supporting school (assigned to NLE) will be the responsible school for any expenditure and will report all costs to the OA.

**BOX 10****CONSULTATION**

N/A

**BOX 11****INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

Signatures to be redacted as personal information.

**Name: Robin MacNeill**

**Signature:** [REDACTED]

**Date: 13/08/2021**

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 – YES

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

OA Year 5 Priority One Business Case

**BOX 13  
AUTHORISATION**

**Name:** Riana Nelson

**Signature:** 

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Director of Learning, Opportunities, Skills and Culture

**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 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 and 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.**