

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: O23241047 - Creation of Virtual Reality Programme

BOX 1.**DIRECTORATE:** CYPF**DATE:** 09/01/23**Contact Name:** Andy Hood**Tel. No.:**

Subject Matter: Creation of Virtual Reality programme to support young people to live independently.

BOX 2**DECISION TAKEN:**

Decision to commission Reality Check studios, a Doncaster based company to create a virtual reality programme that will bring elements of the Key's Project into the virtual reality space. This is based on feedback from young people that was received as part of the quarterly question who wanted a change in approach to how they learn the skills to live independently.

Listening to our young people is important for us as corporate parents and listening to them is part of the promise we made as corporate parents for young people living in care who then go on to live independently. This project is a creative way to support our young people to live independently and by ensuring they are co-creators of this will mean that it best suits the needs of our young people.

Total Value of this project is 45k+VAT to be invoiced in 2 stages.

This is being funded through the staying close money as we will have a large underspend in the first year and we must declare the underspend the entirety of all funding ends by 31st March 2025. We have spoken to the DFE, and they are happy for us to use the underspent funding to enhance young people's lives that are in and leaving care as long as we have young people helping us in the development of this which we will be doing.

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

This decision has been taken in response to feedback that we received from young people who are being supported to live independently or those who currently live independently after leaving care. Young people told us that they wanted a change to how they receive some of the support and information of learning the skills needed to live independently. Having previously worked with this company on other projects we are pleased with the products they have delivered. They are a local company which is particularly important for this project as we would like young people to be involved in the design of this which will require them to attend the offices of the company so being local helps with the logistics of this.

The ground-breaking approach with the project is to revolutionise the engagement method for young people in and leaving care.

Virtual and Mixed reality delivery offers significantly higher rates of engagement, retention, and consistency of approach, it also allows us to hotspot areas of further support our young people need to enable their development.

We are also going to have a young person working group who will advise on the programme and help develop it going forward.

**BOX 4
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

No

**BOX 5
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION: This is not an exempt report**

Name: Andy Hood Date 09/01/23

Name of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 6
AUTHORISATION:**

Name: Rebecca Wall

signature: 

Date: 7/2/24

Assistant Director CSC _____

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 along with any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Ladem@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.