

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: O24251014

Independent Reviewer Consulting 12/6/2024

BOX 1.

DIRECTORATE: Children's, Young People and Families Service.

DATE: 12/6/2024

Contact Name: Dean Mangham

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Subject Matter: Independent Reviewer Consultancy

BOX 2

DECISION TAKEN:

To direct award [REDACTED] Review Consulting to complete initially 2 x CSPRs and 1 x SAR, with a potential of 1 additional review therefore it is required to commission an agency to provide quality independent reviewers to complete the reviews within a time sensitive period.

Further details can be found here: <https://www.reviewconsulting.co.uk/praise/>

BOX 3

REASON FOR DECISION AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

The City of Doncaster Council requires a suitably qualified and experienced independent reviewer to carry out initially one Adult Safeguarding Practice Review (SAR) and two Child Safeguarding Practice Review's (CSPR) therefore a decision is required to find a suitably qualified reviewer for consultancy.

SAR and CSPR Overview

A safeguarding adult review (SAR) is a multi-agency process that considers whether or not serious harm experienced by an adult, or group of adults at risk of abuse or neglect, could have been predicted or prevented.

A Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) is an independent review into a case where a child has been seriously harmed or has died and abuse or neglect is known or suspected. Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs) are carried out where local partner organisations identify there may be learning from the case to improve the safeguarding and welfare of children, particularly regarding how organisations work together.

The aim of a LCSPR is to establish any lessons learnt from the case and to identify how these have, or will be, acted upon and lead to sustainable improvements to practice and the prevention of death, serious injury or harm to children and young people.

The Independent Reviewer will be appointed by the City of Doncaster Council and is responsible for managing and co-ordinating the review process and for producing the final Overview Report and Executive Summary.

The Independent Reviewer will oversee and produce the final reports. The report will be based on the multi-agency learning event and chronologies.

The Independent Reviewer will collect specific information required to carry out the review and is responsible for managing and co-ordinating the review process and for producing the final report, executive summary and key learning (including anonymised versions). The report would be based on agency contributions and any other evidence that the review panel and Doncaster Safeguarding Partnership decide is relevant.

Work will be carried out in line with appropriate guidelines and to a specified timeline with identified milestones.

Due to a small pool of identified Independent Reviewers held within Doncaster and the risk of availability and potential unsuitability of these to complete the required reviews the decision was made by the partnership to, on a trial period direct award Review Consulting to utilise a larger pool of Independent Reviewers on a fixed price term.

By utilising Review Consulting to provide the Independent Reviewer, additional due diligence would have also been done by the agency, as all have completed their masters level University Accredited Training Programme, SILP School.

Their accredited reviewers also remain within Review Consulting development space giving access to experiential learning opportunities through live virtual mastermind sessions and have connection with other Independent Reviewers and bonus training offerings from the leading thinkers in their field. Review Consulting will also quality assure all overview reports before being submitted to the partnership.

There is also the benefit of a set price per review which also sits in line with recent reviews:

The fixed fee per review would be £8830 plus VAT for Virtual SILP or £9750 plus VAT for standard SILP, should that be required [plus travelling expenses.] This fee comprises the services of both reviewers.

It has been agreed that the standard SILP would be the most appropriate.

Included within this model is the scoping meeting, authors briefing, the 2 consultation events, 3 drafts of the overview report & sign off meetings.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

To go out to market on an Expression of Interest application to the Independent Reviewers the City of Doncaster are aware of, then through this process appoint the most suitable reviewer.

This has been the process over the past few years, unfortunately the pool of reviewers the City of Doncaster have access too is limited and there is a danger that they would not be available due to the number of reviews that are now required. Furthermore, as there is only a small pool of reviewers and due to the complexity of the CSPR's and

SAR there is a danger that not all the reviewers on file have the experience required to complete the reviews needed. Therefore, on this occasion this option was rejected in favour of a consultancy agency.

**BOX 4
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NO (If YES please list and submit copies with this form)

**BOX 5
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION:**

Name: [REDACTED] **Date** 12.7.24

Name of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 6
AUTHORISATION:**

Name: [REDACTED] **Signature:** [REDACTED] **Date:** 23/07/2024
Service Director of 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/Executive Director/Service 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:
N/A

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.