

OFFICER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, FAMILY AND EDUCATION

KEY DECISION: YES

DIRECTORATE: CHILDREN, FAMILY AND EDUCATION

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

SUBJECT: CONTINUED EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

1.0 DECISION:

- 1.1 The Director of Children, Family and Education has decided to approve the recommendation to undertake a mini competition with tuition agencies to source a 5-year contract to provide school staff/ tuition/ mentoring for Wirral Looked After Children at a value of £600,000.

2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 2.1 This contract is needed to allow Wirral Virtual School to use Government Grants to support the education of Wirral Looked After Children. They need to access teachers, tutors, mentors and Teaching Assistants quickly so that they can support this extremely vulnerable cohort. This support can take place in school or in other locations depending on the needs of the individual child.
- 2.2 This support is often needed very quickly so Wirral Virtual School are looking for permission to source a 5-year contract with a supply/tuition agency who can provide all of the above at short notice. They would also like the agency to offer ESOL support for Wirral's Unaccompanied asylum seeker Children (UASC) and work with Wirral Virtual School to offer programmes to schools which would help them to fully support and care for Wirral's Looked After cohort.
- 2.3 All progress has to be tracked, monitored and analysed with pre and post assessment with clear outcomes for the cohort. Wirral Virtual School would closely monitor expenditure against impact. This is a condition of the governments grants which would be used to fund this contract.

3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

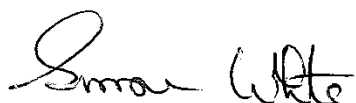
- 3.1 The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact

assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

4.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

Signed:



Officer: Simone White

Title: Director of Children, Families and Education

Date:

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

Contact Officer: Sarah Dacey

Date: 25 May 2023

Date of Publication:

Date of Expiry of Call-In Period: