

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to Award the Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Continued Professional Development Contract to Earl Mortimer College
Date of decision:	26 October 2021
Decision maker:	Darryl Freeman Interim Director of Children and Families
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Decision taken by Cabinet to approve the COVID 19 Recovery Plan on 24 June 2021: That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy and Place, Director Adults and Communities, Director Children and Families and Director of Public Health be authorised to take all operational decisions to implement recommendation including, but not limited to, the procurement and commissioning of the identified projects (as set out in the detailed action plan)</p> <p>http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?IId=50037702&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI58109</p> <p>This procurement exercise has been undertaken in line with Herefordshire Councils Contract Procedure Rules for low value contracts in order to evidence Best Value.</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	<p>The COVID Recovery Plan was approved by Cabinet on 24 June 2021 which provides funding of £6m to support the economy, community wellbeing and organisation with recovery. The plan provided an overview of the schemes for delivery, which included 'Educational Catch up' and all appropriate consultation was undertaken at this time.</p> <p>The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and is supportive of the project</p>
Decision made:	The Contract for Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Continued Professional Development be awarded to Earl Mortimer College, at a total cost of £20,000, from 1 st November 2021 to 31 st July 2022.
Reasons for decision:	<p>In line with the Council's Contract Procedure rules for low value contracts (below £25,000), a quotation process was undertaken where 6 schools identified as early adopters of the new RSE curriculum were invited to quote for the delivery of the service.</p> <p>Earl Mortimer college provided a comprehensive project proposal which demonstrated both the expertise and the resources to meet the deliverables of the contract within the given timeframe.</p> <p>The funding for this project will run for the academic year and the following will be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An RSE Conference that is free for delegates to attend for all Herefordshire maintained and academy schools. This can be face to face if covid allows or virtual if more appropriate due to covid conditions. 2. To administer and run separate primary and secondary RSE subject network meetings for RSE leads. There will be 4-5 subject network meetings for each phase organised over the course of the 2021-22 academic year. 3. To organise and facilitate with the help of the school improvement lead at the LA, RSE Triads. A minimum of 6 triads with 3 participating schools in each triad should be completed by July 2022.

Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	Monthly contract monitoring will be in place for the duration of the contract to provide Herefordshire Council with assurance of delivery in line with the contract
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do not award this contract. Earl Mortimer College has demonstrated the necessary knowledge and skills to support professional development in RSE Education and meet the set outcomes as agreed within the 'Educational Catch up' element of the Covid 19 Recovery Plan for Herefordshire, therefore this option is not recommended.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	N/A

Signed

Date: 26 October 2021

Darryl Freeman
Interim Director of Children and Families