

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on 27 November 2017 by the Leader of the Council.

Date notified to all members: Monday 27 November 2017

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on Friday 1 December 2017

Unless called-in, the decision can be implemented from Saturday 2 December 2017

1. **TITLE**

Transfer of E-Learning and the Governors Improvement Service, from Sheffield City Council to Learn Sheffield

2. **DECISION TAKEN**

That the Executive Leader:-

(i) notes that the transfer is now unlikely to be able to take place prior to the 1 December;

(ii) approves the inclusion in the concession contract with Learn Sheffield of an option for the Governance Improvement Service and/or the E-Learning Service to be transferred to Learn Sheffield on a permanent basis at the end of the initial term of the contract on the basis set out in the report; and

(iii) delegates authority, to the extent not already delegated within the Leader's Scheme of Delegations, to the Director of Business Strategy, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Commercial Services and the Director of Legal and Governance, to make any decision to extend the contract.

3. **Reasons For Decision**

Transfer to Learn Sheffield on a concession basis with the option for a business transfer at the end of the initial period is the option most likely to secure the continued delivery and improvement of these services.

- During the initial term the Council will retain some control of the services being managed by Learn Sheffield.
- Expertise from the Council can help shape the service as it evolves, sharing knowledge and best practice.
- Service performance will be monitored and there will be an annual review between both organisations to manage any issues effectively.
- E-Learning and the Governance Improvement Service will build on the ethos of School Improvement already being delivered successfully by Learn Sheffield.
- Learn Sheffield continues to develop and maintain strong relationships with

schools in Sheffield, given the Local Authority's role in education delivery is reducing; this ensures a centralised city approach and builds on the good work already undertaken.

- The Council is not able to invest further into E-Learning and Governance Improvement Service however Learn Sheffield has identified enhancements that could be made to make both services more competitive in the market and to improve overall delivery.
- The services will only transfer on a permanent basis if they are successful and if Learn Sheffield actively wants to continue to deliver them.

4. **Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

The alternative options to the proposal above that have been considered are:

No change to the previously approved arrangements - This option is not recommended as it is likely to mean that either Learn Sheffield will feel unable to enter into the concession contract or will enter into the contract but will then be disincentivised from investing in the services leading to minimal growth.

A longer concession period – This option is not recommended as Learn Sheffield have indicated that this would not be of interest to them due to the risk of services not being successful coupled with a longer period of obligation to deliver the services and limited ability to change the specification.

5. **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None

6. **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Executive Director, People Services

7. **Relevant Scrutiny Committee If Decision Called In**

Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee