

Report to Chief Officer Sport and Culture

Date: 16.4.15

Subject: Leeds Let's Get Active – Research Partner Contract

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report summarises the need to enter a new contract for twelve months (with an option to extend for a further twelve months) with Leeds Beckett University (LBU) as the Research Partner for Leeds Let's Get Active (LLGA) under the current terms and conditions of the existing contract (due to finish July 2015).
2. This work is integral to supporting LLGA, future sustainability and is a requirement of the funding awarded by Public Health.

Recommendations

3. The Chief Officer, Culture and Sport is asked to approve the wavering of CPR 8.1. This is to enter a new contract with Leeds Beckett University to the value of £24,650 for twelve months, to continue to analyse LLGA data and answer identified research questions. The new contract is due to begin 1.8.15 and finish on 31.7.16.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report outlines the reasons for the Chief Officer, Culture and Sport to waive CPR 8.1 to enter a new contract with LBU, our current supplier, to continue to act as the Research Partner for LLGA.

2 Background information

- 2.1 LLGA went live on 30th September 2013 and currently has over 57,000 live members, all with baseline physical activity data sets shared with LBU.
- 2.2 LLGA is now funded by Public Health to increase physical activity levels of people in Leeds and to build robust evidence base to show that physical activity can engage inactive people. A condition of the Service Level Agreement is that part of the funding pays for the services of an academic research partner (LBU are specified) who will provide expertise and assurances that methodology, analysis and evaluation is robust and valid.
- 2.3 LLGA have been working with LBU since early development stages of the project. Leeds Beckett University were contracted and delivered on analysis of the project from 1.9.13 until 31.8.15.
- 2.4 LBU have supported in the development of the new research framework which has been designed to demonstrate impact locally.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 LLGA requires involvement from an academic research partner at all stages of the project development and implementation. The project development phase has already taken place (1.4.13 – 30.9.13) and the first eighteen months of the project has now been delivered (30.9.13 – present). LBU have already been working to ensure the following requirements for the project are achieved within required timescales:
- Evaluation plans are submitted to Sport England (previous funders) and Public Health, as part of the terms and conditions of the award agreement. These are comprehensive and deliver robust and valid results for Sport England and Public Health.
 - Knowledge and experience are contributed on topics such as marketing, training and data collection processes.
 - Data is analysed for project and S&AL service development to ensure work progresses to meet funder agreement targets.
- 3.2 Leeds City Council (LLGA) and LBU have a signed data sharing agreement and a number of data sharing processes in place for effective data analysis.
- 3.3 LBU have been contracted for two years already analysing data, advising on processes and developing systems to answer identified research questions. Work to date has been received positively by both Sport England and Public Health. In

addition working with a new supplier would mean much of the development work already undertaken being re-undertaken by a new supplier, taking time and with potential additional costs. The submission of data analysis and research question reports to Sport England and Public Health which is part of the award agreement would be severely delayed. This would mean the terms and conditions of the service level agreement are not being met.

- 3.4 Not entering into the contract with LBU would mean the LLGA project team would miss the opportunity to benefit from the knowledge and experience that a research partner, and more specifically LBU (ISPAL) with its specialist research focus, is currently bringing to the project. This would directly impact on the quality of the service provision as it would relate to the ability of the project to effectively engage the target market for LLGA and to maintain this markets participation in the programme. This is vital to the successful continuation and sustainability of the scheme.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Elected members, the LLGA project board and health partners were consulted and informed about the LLGA recruitment of a research partner.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 A screening form as part of LLGA registration concludes that the project should help reduce health inequalities in Leeds, particularly as extra support measures and additional free access were being aimed at areas of high deprivation. The choice of a research partner does not significantly change the implications.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 This procurement assists the priority to reduce health inequalities

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 This procurement is regarded as good value for money and highly effective in achieving the aims of LLGA.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 This matter is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 There are risks of delay and not delivering on an internal SLA to not award this contract.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The extension appears reasonable and necessary.

6 Recommendations

- 7 The Chief Officer, Culture and Sport is asked to approve the wavering of CPR 8.1. This is to enter a new contract with Leeds Beckett University to the value of £24,650 for twelve months, to continue to analyse LLGA data and answer identified research questions. The new contract is due to begin 1.8.15 and finish on 31.7.16.

8 Background documents¹

- 8.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.