

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

Reference Number:	3247
Author:	Karen Kilner
Department:	Children and Adults
Contact:	Karen Kilner (Job Title: Support Services Manager, Email: karen.kilner@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764702)
Subject:	Accredited provider procurement process
Total Value:	Nil value to the local authority (Type: Nil)
Decision Being Taken:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To enter into a new accredited provider procurement process from September 2018 for a duration of 4 years;</li><li>2) To create and publish a Nottingham City directory of alternative education providers and associated quality assurance process for use by Nottingham City schools / Academies and Local Authority services.</li></ol>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	In 2016 approval was given to enter into a collaborative procurement process and create a joint directory of alternative provision with Nottinghamshire County Council - this collaborative process was in place from 2017 and will cease from August 2018. Following a recent review of the Nottingham City fair access process and the subsequent approval to bring all functions back under the Council's control, as opposed to the continuation of commissioning to the Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership and the associated transfer of staff and resources from Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership into the Local Authority that has enabled an overarching City approach to inclusion of which alternative education provision is a big part. It is therefore deemed that a single Nottingham City procurement process and directory would be more effective than a collaborative process going forward.
Other Options Considered:	To continue with the collaborative arrangement with Nottinghamshire County council from September 2018; this was deemed not to be a viable option due to the transfer of staff and resource from Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership into the Local Authority following the review of fair access and the current inclusion reviews being undertaken within Nottingham City.
Background Papers:	None.

**Published Works:** **None.**

**Affected Wards:** **Citywide**

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:** **None.**

**Consultations:** **Discussions were ongoing with Nottinghamshire County Council. Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.**

**Crime and Disorder Implications:** **Nottingham City Council have a statutory duty to ensure we have processes in place to ensure that pupils have access to education, this may be at alternative education provisions and these have to be registered via a formal procurement process and quality assured effectively. High percentages of the pupils in alternative provision are eligible for free school meals and/or have special educational needs. The majority of these pupils may have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. If there is no formal and appropriate means of education provision in place for this vulnerable group of young people the risks relating to safeguarding, crime and disorder and poor outcomes will inevitable increase.**

**Equality:** **EIA not required. Reasons: Not required as this is a procurement process only**

**Decision Type:** **Officer**

**Executive Decision?** **Yes**

**Scheme of Delegation Reference Number or Other Source of Delegation:** **1**

**Subject to Call In:** **No**  
**The call-in procedure does not apply to the decision because the value of the decision is below the call in threshold.**

**Advice Sought:** **Legal, Finance, Procurement**

**Legal Advice:**

**This report does not raise any significant legal issues. The purpose of the accreditation list is to enable the City Council to comply with DfE requirements to provide schools and academies with access to alternative education providers which the schools can be satisfied have met minimum levels of financial standing and Ofsted quality standards. To enable the City Council to provide an effective and up to date list of providers the City Council needs to put in place and document the arrangements with the providers to maintain their accreditation over the 4 year term.**

**Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 24/08/2018.**

**Finance Advice:**

**No additional costs have been identified associated with this decision. The proposal is about implementing a revised process which is more fit for purpose for the Council and schools in the City.**

**Advice provided by Kathryn Mair Stevenson (Finance Analyst) on 24/08/2018.**

**Procurement Advice:**

**There are no significant procurement implications arising from this decision. There will be a compliant process in line with Procurement Regulations 2015 to ensure that all new providers meet adequate quality standards in order to be listed in the directory of Alternative Education Provision. Therefore, the proposal to create and publish a directory of Alternative Education Provision is supported from a procurement perspective.**

**Advice provided by Julie Herrod (Procurement Officer) on 13/08/2018.**

**Signatures:**

**Alison Michalska (Corporate Director, Children and Adults)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 30/08/2018**