



ARTICLE NO: 2A

**CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERS UPDATE 2014/15
Issue: 2**

Article of: Assistant Director Housing & Regeneration

Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (Transformation)

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**SUBJECT: EXEMPTION FROM CONTRACT PROCUREMENT RULES – WEST
LANCASHIRE CHALLENGE**

Wards affected: All Skelmersdale Wards

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To inform Members that an Exemption from Contract Procurement Rules has been granted by the Managing Director (Transformation) for activities relating to the West Lancashire Challenge Project.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council has secured external funding from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to undertake activities that will support 50 unemployed individuals into training, work experience and/or employment via the West Lancashire Challenge project.

2.2 The Council has been one of the key partners in the delivery of the West Lancashire Challenge project over the past three years, with West Lancashire Council for Voluntary Services (WLCVS) delivering one-one support to help individuals back into training and/or volunteering. Unfortunately as funding reduced, this element of the project ceased in April 2014.

2.3 The funding secured by the Council from DWP is a continuation of the one-one support to individuals via the West Lancashire Challenge project and as stated in the funding application, is to be delivered by WLCVS.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The Council was notified of the outcome of the funding bid on the 4th September 2014, the project is time-limited with DWP indicating that the project will commence on the 1st October and will run until the 31st March 2015, a total of 6 months.
- 3.2 Given WLCVS have been delivering this activity through the West Lancashire Challenge project, and given the timescale available to deliver the project it was not practicable to approach Cabinet to request an exemption to the above Contracts Procedure Rule, therefore an Exemption from the Council's Contract Procurement Rules was granted by the Managing Director Transformation.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 4.1 The West Lancashire Challenge project is all about supporting individuals into employment, training, work experience and volunteering opportunities, which are key to creating good quality jobs as identified within the Community Strategy

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are some financial/ resource implications arising from this article in respect of delivering the activity outlined within this report however these have been met from external funding.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 This item is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to risk registers as a result of this article.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

Equality Impact Assessment

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

None.