

REPORT TO:		Cabinet	
DATE:		26 March 2025	
PORTFOLIO:		Councillor Noordad Aziz	
REPORT AUTHOR:		Martin Dyson – Executive Director (Resources)	
TITLE OF REPORT:		Weight Management Services	
EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)	Options	Not applicable	
KEY DECISION:	Options	If yes, date of publication:	

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 For Cabinet to make a decision on the future provision of Weight Management Services in Hyndburn.

2. **Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Cabinet agrees to waive the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules to appoint Hyndburn Leisure to deliver Weight Management Services on behalf of the Council for 1 year from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 for a fee of £66,770; and
- 2.4 That Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director (Resources) to negotiate and agree all terms relating to the above in consultation with the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services).

3. **Reasons for Recommendations and Background**

- 3.1 The levels of obese and overweight adults and children in Lancashire continues to increase and working collaboratively provides the opportunity to reshape and redesign the service in Hyndburn. In Hyndburn, 71.7% of adults are overweight or obese. In children, the figure is 24.6% for reception year and 42.4% for Year 6. All of these are significantly higher than the Lancashire and National averages.
- 3.2 Since the transfer of public health services from NHS to Local Authority, Councils in Lancashire have provided Tier 2 weight management services, tackling obesity with community-based support. These programs typically run for around 12 weeks and often operate in group settings. Participants receive expert guidance on diet, nutrition, and

lifestyle changes, with a strong focus on behaviour change generally centred around exercise.

- 3.3 These programmes empower individuals to manage their weight, improve their well-being, and reduce their risk of weight-related health issues. Though limited in duration, they act as a crucial springboard for lasting change, helping individuals find their footing on the path to a healthier life.
- 3.4 Hyndburn Borough Council entered into a collaboration agreement with Lancashire County Council for the provision of Weight Management Services in Hyndburn from 1st April 2024 until 31st March 2029.
- 3.5 The Council does not have the resources or expertise to deliver the service in house, and therefore we must appoint a provider to deliver the service on our behalf.
- 3.6 Hyndburn Leisure have a proven track record of delivering weight management services, and with over 200 adults completing their 12-week programme and have the staff resource and expertise required to deliver the new service going forward.
- 3.7 The report recommends that the Council waives its Contract Procedure rules to appoint Hyndburn Leisure to deliver the new service from 1st April 2025 for one year for the following reasons:
 - Proven track record of weight management service delivery since 2016 and PASTA service delivery since 2023
 - Time and resources required for the Council to go to full tender for this service would not allow for the service to be up and running by 1st April
 - Potential TUPE implications involving Hyndburn Leisure staff currently delivering the service
- 3.8 The Council will be required to tender these services for the remaining 3 years of the collaboration agreement period from 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2029.

4. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 Cabinet does not agree to waive Contract Procedure rules to appoint Hyndburn Leisure to deliver the service on our behalf from 1st April 2025 for one year – This course is not recommended for the reasons mentioned in paragraph 3.7.
- 4.2 Cabinet decides to deliver the service in house – this course is not recommended due to lack of resource and expertise to deliver the service directly.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Numerous consultations have been held with LCC.
- 5.2 The Executive Director (Resources) and Portfolio Holders for Resources and Leisure have been consulted.

6. **Implications**

<p>Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)</p>	<p>The Council will receive £66,770 for 2025/2026 from Lancashire County Council. The Council pay £66,770 to deliver the service on our behalf for 1 year. For subsequent years it is likely that the Council will pay the full amount of £66,770 to the service provider each year.</p>
<p>Legal and human rights implications</p>	<p>The Council will enter into a written agreement with Hyndburn Leisure for the provision of these services and this will pass on the funder's conditions and requirements to Hyndburn Leisure.</p> <p>This is the second year that procurement requirements have been waived for this project, and it is intended that procurement will occur for the remaining 3 years of the project in accordance with good procurement practice.</p>
<p>Assessment of risk</p>	<p>The Council intends to appoint Hyndburn Leisure for one year at present to reduce any risk to the Council. A reciprocal agreement between the Council and Hyndburn Leisure will pass on all relevant conditions of the collaboration agreement between the Council and LCC to the appointed service provider.</p>
<p>Equality and diversity implications <i>A Customer First Analysis should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.</i></p>	<p>Martin – presumably a EIA was drawn up last year and this can be appended again</p> <p>The Council is subject to the public sector equality duty introduced by the Equality Act 2010. When making a decision in respect of the recommendations in this report Cabinet must have regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and • advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who don't; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who don't. <p>For these purposes the relevant protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. To assist the Cabinet in this regard a Customer First Analysis has been carried out as part of the review process and is attached an Appendix to this report. Cabinet is advised to consider the Customer First Analysis and its obligations in respect of the public sector equality duty when making a decision in respect of the recommendations contained in this report.</p>
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**7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985:
List of Background Papers**

7.1 *None*

8. Freedom of Information

8.1 The report does not contain exempt information under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A and all information can be disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.