

<b>REPORT TO:</b>		Cabinet	
<b>DATE:</b>		18 March 2026	
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>		<b>Cllr Melissa Fisher – Deputy Leader of the Council Housing and Regeneration</b>	
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>		Steve Riley, Executive Director (Environment)	
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>		Healthy Weight Management Services	
<b>EXEMPT REPORT (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A)</b>	<b>No</b>	Not applicable	
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	<b>No</b>	If yes, date of publication:	

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update Cabinet on the outcome of the recent tender exercise for the delivery of Healthy Weight Management Services on behalf of the Council for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 Cabinet note the outcome of the tender exercise recently undertaken and the successful tender was submitted by Hyndburn Leisure.

2.2 That Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director (Environment) to negotiate and agree all terms relating to the Healthy Weight Management Services contract in consultation with the Executive Director (Legal & Democratic Services) and Portfolio Holder.

**3. Background**

3.1 In 2024 Lancashire County Council took the decision to collaborate directly with District Councils for the delivery of a new healthy weight management service. As such, Hyndburn Borough Council entered into a 5-year collaboration agreement with Lancashire County Council for the provision of Weight Management Services in Hyndburn from 1 April 2024 until 31 March 2029. Within the agreement, District Councils have the ability to deliver services in house or appoint a provider to deliver the service on its behalf.

3.2 Reports presented to Cabinet in February 2024 and March 2025, highlighted levels of obese and overweight adults and children in Lancashire continued to increase and where were also significantly higher than the Lancashire and National averages. Working collaboratively has provided the opportunity to reshape and redesign services in Hyndburn. Healthy weight management programs typically run for around 12 weeks and often operate in group settings, either; in-person, on-line or web-based applications, (or a combination). Participants receive expert guidance on diet, nutrition,

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

- 3.4 The services look to combine healthy weight management with PASTA, (Play and Skills at Teatime Activity) which was a programme previously commissioned by LCC which aims to encourage and empower families to make choices to lead a healthier lifestyle through participation in an active play and cooking session. Participants prepare and eat/or take home a nutritious and budget conscious family meal each week and the opportunity to understand the importance of good nutrition and physical activity.
- 3.3 These programmes aim to 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 and more active lifestyle.
- 3.4 The Council does not have the resources or expertise to deliver the healthy weight management service in-house and needed to appoint a provider to deliver the service on its behalf. At the meeting in January 2024 and again in March 2025, Cabinet agreed to waive the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules to allow funding to be passported to an external provider (Hyndburn Leisure) but at the latter meeting, it noted the Council would be required to openly tender these services for the remaining 3 years of the collaboration agreement period from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029.

**4.0 Procurement of an External Provider**

4.1 In line with the open and transparent tender process, the Council published an Invitation to Tender through the Governments recommended ‘Find a Tender’ portal on 9 December 2025 seeking a partner to deliver the Healthy Weight Programme for Hyndburn (see Appendix). The key dates for the tender were as follows:

- Tender Published – 9 December 2025
- Deadline for receipt of queries – 18 December 2025
- Final response to queries – 5 January 2026
- Tender submission deadline – 22 January 2026
- Tender decision announced – 13 February 2026
- Contract decision notice published – 1 March 2026

4.3 Five submissions were received by the required closing date. All submissions were independently assessed and scored by officers on the necessary skills and experience within the following areas highlighted.

1	Overview of how the organisation will deliver the healthy weight outcomes	30%
2	Evidence of successful delivery of a similar project and lessons learned	30%
3	Overview of how the organisation will improve the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of Hyndburn, in line with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012	20%
4	Overview of how the organisation will sustain the project beyond initial delivery	15%
5	Submission of last year’s accounts	5%

4.4 The range of scores was from 39 to 89, with the highest scoring and winning tender being submitted by Hyndburn Leisure (Tender 1).

	Marks	Tender 1	Tender 2	Tender 3	Tender 4	Tender 5
1	30	28	25	26	13	24
2	30	27	28	25	10	25
3	20	18	16	17	6	16
4	15	11	12	11	5	11
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	<b>89</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>81</b>

NB Tenders scored in the order they were received

**5. Alternative Options considered and Reasons for Rejection**

5.1 The Council could decide to deliver the service in-house. This is not recommended as the Council does not have resource or in-house expertise to deliver the service directly.

**6. Consultations**

6.1 With LCC and Portfolio Holder

**7. Implications**

<p><b>Financial implications (including any future financial commitments for the Council)</b></p>	<p>Hyndburn Council will receive £70,000 for the financial year 2026/27 from Lancashire County Council and the Council will pay Hyndburn Leisure £70,000 to deliver the services on behalf of the Council for 2026/27.</p> <p>For the remaining subsequent financial years, the Council will receive the same funding from Lancashire County Council and the Council will pay Hyndburn Leisure the full amount each year.</p>
<p><b>Legal and human rights implications</b></p>	<p>The Council will enter into a written agreement with Hyndburn Leisure for the provision of these services which will pass on the funder's conditions and requirements to Hyndburn Leisure.</p>
<p><b>Assessment of risk</b></p>	<p>The Council intends to appoint Hyndburn Leisure for the remaining three years of the collaboration agreement with Lancashire County Council. The reciprocal contract between the Council and Hyndburn Leisure will pass on all relevant conditions of the collaboration agreement between the Council and Lancashire County Council to Hyndburn Leisure.</p>

<p><b>Equality and diversity implications</b>  A <a href="#">Customer First Analysis</a> should be completed in relation to policy decisions and should be attached as an appendix to the report.</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"> <li>• eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and</li> <li>• advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not; and</li> <li>• foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.</li> </ul> <p>For these purposes, the relevant protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.</p> <p>In this case there are no direct equality or diversity issues arising from this report.</p>
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**8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985:  
List of Background Papers**

Cabinet Report March 2025 – Weight Management Services March 2025  
<https://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MIId=2900&Ver=4>

Cabinet Report January 2024 – Weight Management Services  
<https://democracy.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MIId=2800&Ver=4>

**9. Freedom of Information**

9.1 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.