

## Members' Library Service Request Form

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Originator	Alison Wishart
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	TEMPORARY CHINESE ASSISTANT X 2 POSTS

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Additional information:

Authorised By	Jim Lamond
Designation	Head of Council Resources
Date	05/07/16

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**SERVICE REVIEW REPORT**

**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**BY:** Depute Chief Executive – Resources & People Services

**DATE:**

**SUBJECT:** Temporary Chinese Assistant X 2 Posts

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**1 PURPOSE**

To seek Head of Council Resources approval under delegated powers for the establishment change detailed in the body of the report to enable East Lothian Council to implement the Scottish Government's manifesto commitment to introduce the 1 + 2 model in Primary Schools.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

To agree the temporary new posts (12 hours per week) as outlined in the report.

**3 BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Scottish Government manifesto commitment, 2011 is to introduce a norm for language learning in schools based on the European Union 1 + 2 model – “that is we will create the conditions in which every child will learn two languages in addition to their own mother tongue. This will be rolled out over two Parliaments, and will create a new model for language acquisition in Scotland.”

3.2 These temporary posts will commence on 12 September 2016 (subject also to PVG clearance in respect of Children) and end on 24 June 2017.

They are new posts created as part of the Modern Languages Assistant programme being run by the British Council to assist authorities in Scotland with the implementation of 1+2. The Chinese Assistants will be working alongside Primary teachers in North Berwick and Musselburgh cluster primary schools to assist with the implementation of 1+2. The Chinese Assistants will work 12 hours a week. This time will be divided between a maximum of three schools for each assistant on a pro rata basis according to the number of children in each school.

3.3 The Chinese Assistants will be expected to:

- plan activities and prepare resources for First Level Language learning.
- support the teaching of Mandarin in their schools.
- introduce pupils to Chinese culture.
- liaise with staff in each school.

3.4 The report has been passed to the relevant Trades Union under the terms of the Protocol for the Conduct of Service Reviews and UNISON and the EIS are supportive of the proposal outlined.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policy implications.

#### **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

#### **6 DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND REQUIREMENT**

6.1 A PVG online assessment has been carried out and this post is considered as regulated work with Children, as specified in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.

#### **7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Finance - The salary stipulated by the British Council is £3,742.00.

This is calculated as follows:-

- £3,542 for a 41 week contract x £7.20 per hour x 12 hours per week.
- A one-off payment of £200 to be made by the Local Authority to the Chinese Assistants to cover the cost of the Immigration Health Surcharge, charged to all Chinese Assistants by the UK Government.

In addition, a monthly personal allowance of \$1000 will be paid by Hanban.

This cost will be met from funding within the 1+2 budget allocated by the Scottish Government for the implementation of 1+2.

- 7.2 Personnel – HR, the EIS and UNISON have been consulted and support this proposal. The post holders will require PVG clearance (Children) before commencing work.

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