

**LTC15D175**

**Title:** Update on the evaluation of UEA's Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) scheme and other peer learning initiatives  
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**Issue**

Update on the evaluation of UEA's Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) scheme and other peer learning initiatives. This follows LTC's decision in January 2016 to support the scheme for a further two years, with oversight of the scheme being undertaken by the Learning Enhancement Team (LET) from 01 August 2016.

**Recommendation**

This is for report only.

**Resource Implications**

N/A

**Risk Implications**

N/A

**Equality and Diversity**

N/A

**Timing of decisions**

Further information on the development of a framework for evaluating the PAL scheme and other, School based, peer learning initiatives will be reported to LTC by the Head of LET in Autumn 2016.

**Further Information**

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**Background**

Following discussion of the future of UEA's Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) scheme at LTC in January 2016 it was determined that "a set of metrics for evaluating whether the scheme offered value for money should be devised and these metrics should also be applied when reviewing School based schemes. A group comprising the Head of LET, the former PAL

champion, the ADTP and the Head of LTS (Systems) should develop a set of metrics and a framework for reviewing the operation of PAL. These metrics and framework would be reported to a future meeting of LTC in 2015/16.”

## **Discussion**

This group met in March and April 2016 to consider the evaluation undertaken to date and possible criteria and methodologies for the future.

We identified two potentially useful resources for developing an evaluation framework at UEA:

- Primary data gathered through the *Mapping peer-led academic learning UK* survey published by the HEA in 2014, which identified a number of social and academic benefits for students and institutions<sup>1</sup>
- ‘Academic peer led learning network’ – the network’s Research and Impact group has developed an evaluation toolkit which is ready for piloting.

Jeremy Schildt is in contact with Chris Keenan at Bournemouth University about access to these resources.

A Learning Enhancement Tutor (Peer-led learning) will be recruited to undertake the review of PAL and other, School based, initiatives at UEA. Interviews for this post are on 29 June with an anticipated start date of 01 August 2016. One of the main duties of this post is to develop an appropriate evaluation framework. Progress on this work will be reported to LTC in Autumn 2016 by the Head of LET.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Peer\\_led\\_learning\\_Keenan\\_Nov\\_14-final.pdf](https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Peer_led_learning_Keenan_Nov_14-final.pdf)