

**LTC17D162**

**Title:** Peer Assisted Learning Update  
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**Issue**

As the funding of the previous Peer Assisted learning (PAL) scheme is ending, this is an update for LTC on the next steps.

**Recommendation**

1. PAL scheme continues to be run by the Learning Enhancement Team (LET) as outlined below.
2. The AD LTE will work with LET to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of PAL with the aim of reporting to LTC in AY 2019/20

**Resource Implications**

There are no additional resource implications associated with these proposals.

**Risk Implications**

No specific implications from these recommendations.

**Equality and Diversity**

There are no specific E&D implications of continuing this scheme as laid out.

**Timing of decisions**

The scheme needs to continue into academic year 2018/19, so decisions need to be made in summer 2018.

**Further Information**

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**Background**

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) is common practice in many UK universities to promote student to student learning.

## Discussion

In January 2016 LTC resolved to continue with the Peer Assisted Learning scheme which had been funded since 2013. Despite many efforts to evaluate the programme it proved difficult to separate this from other pedagogical features as the cause of improved student outcomes. Therefore while the committee approved the continuation of the scheme, funding was scaled back.

Specifically the recommendation was:

*To continue the scheme for the five Schools which expressed an interest for a further year ie for 2016/7, start recruitment of mentors and officers now, with the delivery of the scheme in the Autumn (mainly) and Spring semesters 2016/7. The admin support, which currently comes from the Learning and Teaching Service, would move to the Learning Enhancement team, with effect from 1 August 2016.*

The funding for the PAL in this form runs out in July 18. The training in the Learning Enhancement Team will continue, but student mentors and officers will not be paid. This means there will be no inequalities between this scheme and PAL run by the schools themselves.

Last year 87 mentors and officers were recruited in 11 schools, this year so far 77 applications have been received from students in 7 schools.

The Academic Director of Learning and Teaching Enhancement will work with the PAL Tutor and schools of study in the Learning Enhancement Team to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of PAL with the aim of reporting to LTC in academic year 2019/20.