



Combined Authority Board	Agenda Item
20 March 2024	16b
Title:	Recommendations from Skills and Employment Committee
Committee Date:	4 March 2024
Meeting Link:	Skills & Employment Committee 4 March 2024

Agenda Item	Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness (Adult Education Budget) KD2024/012
Recommendations:	<p>The Combined Authority is recommended to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The in-year amendments for existing providers which include growth requests for high-performing providers and reprofiling of funding where providers have underperformed• The establishment of a flexible Innovation Fund, allowing us to respond to regional activities that underpin the priorities identified within the Employment and Skills strategy.
Voting Arrangements:	A simple majority of voting members
Strategic Objectives:	Achieving ambitious skills and employment opportunities Achieving good growth Enabling resilient communities
Purpose:	<p>To proposes a number of actions that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of how we utilise our devolved Adult Education Budget funding. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A more agile and simplified approach to commissioning decisions and funding allocation; enabling us to be more responsive to changing market conditions and learner/ employer needs• A new approach to managing our Innovation Fund which provides us with greater flexibility to test new ideas at pace• An outline of how we plan to review Community Learning provision in order to improve its effectiveness in supporting the most disadvantaged communities and individuals. – and pilot how we improve impact assessment• An update on ESFA funding rate changes to the Adult Education Budget and the likely impact on the AEB performance.
Report and Appendices:	<p>Skills & Employment Committee 4 March 2024 - Item 5 - Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness (Adult Education Budget)</p> <p>Appendix A – AEB Impact Evaluation</p> <p>Appendix B. Skills Committee 9 Jan 2023 - Alignment of Procurement and Contracting</p> <p>Appendix C. FE funding and accountability system consultation summary of responses</p>
Background Papers:	<p>Employment and Skills Strategy 2022</p>