



SKILLS COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No: 3.1
27 APRIL 2020	PUBLIC REPORT Appendix 1 and 2 to this report is exempt from publication because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information.

ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET TOP SLICE REVIEW

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To outline a reduction in the top slice percentage of the Adult Education Budget to reinvest into delivery of learning for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough residents.

<u>DECISION REQUIRED</u>	
Lead Member:	Councillor John Holdich
Lead Officer:	Neil Cuttall, AEB Programme Manager
Forward Plan Ref: N/A	Key Decision: No
The Skills Committee is recommended to: (a) Note the reduction in the top slice of the Adult Education Budget from 4.9% to 3.4%.	Voting arrangements Simple majority of all Members

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In November 2018 the CPCA Board approved a top slice of 4.9% of the Adult Education Budget provided to the CPCA by the Department for Education (DfE) for the implementation, management, administration, systems and process for the authority to effectively deliver Adult Education locally.

- 2.2 In comparison the 4.9% represented one of the highest percentage slices of all the Mayoral Combined Authorities devolving and delivering AEB. However the CPCA grant was the lowest allocation in the UK at £11.53m in 2019/20.

FUTURE TOP SLICE 2020+

- 2.3 This paper details the reduction to the top slice take by the CPCA in 2020/21 and onwards. That reduction is from 4.9% to 3.4%, allowing £170k to be utilised for the provision of AEB locally.
- 2.4 Appendix 1(Exempt from Publication): informs of the future costs of delivering the AEB service for 2021. This shows a marked reduction from the 4.9% allocated to 3.4%. The costs include 4.2 full time equivalent posts, management costs, data contracts, marketing, administration, training and travel expenses.
- 2.4 Appendix 2(Exempt from Publication): provides information on the absolute costs of administration and the related percentages. This reduction puts the CPCA amongst those Mayoral Combined Authorities with the lowest absolute cost of administration and with a similar percentage cost to the North of Tyne and West of England Combined Authorities.
- 2.5 The CPCA's AEB administration team is the smallest of all the Mayoral Combined Authorities. However, the Director has restructured the 4.2 FTE roles, reducing what was a top-heavy structure with one that is flatter and lower cost.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The £175,493 saved will be a reduction of the spend charged to the devolved AEB funding, thus will not result in a reduction in the net staffing cost funded by the CPCA's Revenue Gainshare.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None

5.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no significant implications identified for this report that have not already been addressed.

6.0 APPENDICES

- 6.1. Appendix 1 – Exempt from publication - AEB Budget for 2020/21
- 6.2. Appendix 2 – Exempt from publication - Comparable information from other MCAs AEB Delivery

<u>Source Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>
<p>List background papers (Hyperlinks attached):</p> <p>Skills Committee Papers November 2018</p> <p>Skills Committee Papers April 2019</p>	<p>The Incubator 2, First Floor, Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon, PE28 4WX</p>