



Agenda Item No: 2.5

Expansion of the Careers Hub

To:	Skills Committee
Meeting Date:	4 July 2022
Public report:	Yes
Lead Member:	Councillor Lucy Nethsingha, Chair of the Skills Committee
From:	Fliss Miller, Interim Associate Director, Skills
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	N/A
Recommendations:	The Skills Committee is recommended to:

Note, subject to the approval of the Combined Authority Board on 27th June 2022, the Careers and Enterprise Company grant funding for an extended Careers Hub in 2022-23 and the recruitment for two new positions, employed by the Combined Authority.

Voting arrangements:	No vote required.
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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Combined Authority have been successful in its bid to the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) to expand the Careers Hub model so that all schools and colleges across the Combined Authority will be in a Careers Hub and is subject to approval of the Combined Authority Board on 27th June 2022.
- 1.2 This paper outlines the key details for taking this forward for the Skills Committee to note.

2. Background

- 2.1 The CPCA have held a contract with the Careers and Enterprise Company for the delivery of the Enterprise Advisor Network since 2018. The Enterprise Advisor Network links schools and businesses to support careers education, benefitting young people with their future learning and career path.
- 2.2 In 2021, The Combined Authority was successful in its bid to the CEC for its first Careers Hub. 30 institutions, including mainstream schools, colleges and SEND and Alternate Provision from across the region have moved to the Careers Hub in the academic year of 2021/22 and to date these schools are performing ahead of their contractual targets with schools achieving an average of 5.5 Gatsby Benchmarks, against a target on 5.
- 2.3 A proposal to extend the Careers Hub model to all Schools and colleges was submitted to CEC on 15 March 2022 and we were informed on the 29 April 2022 that the bid was successful. The additional grant award will fund two additional posts: a fully funded Operations Manager and a match funded part time Project Officer.
- 2.4 All schools will transition to the Hub model in the next academic year (2022-23). This will include an additional 42 schools made up of mainstream, SEND and Alternate Provision, including sixth form colleges.
- 2.5 Growth Works with Skills currently deliver the CEC contract and employ all the Enterprise Coordinators. This partnership model will continue, and the additional resource will remain in the Combined Authority as a requirement of the funding. As a part funded role, the Project Officer will support the administrative duties of the Careers Hub as well as the wider skills work within the CPCA. The Operations Manager will be responsible for ensuring the operational performance of the Growth Works with Skills Careers Hub delivery through matrix line management of the Enterprise Coordinators.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 A budget line and MTFP is established for the CEC contract.
- 3.2 The additional funding for the 2022/23 academic year is £69,200 subject to Combined Authority Board approval, taking the contract value for staffing to £246,600. The total value of the contract, including the local hub fund is £289,800.

- 3.3 Both the role of the Operations Manager and the Project Officer will be on a 12-month fixed term contract with the potential to extend the roles in line with the year-on-year funding model of the CEC. The additional funding required for the Project Officer role will be via Bootcamps grant funding.
- 3.4 The original careers Hub funding was approved by the CA Board on 30 June 2021 and the additional funding was included within the 2021/22 medium term financial plan (MTFP). However, the funding for the remainder of the academic year was not included in the 2022/23 MTFP, and therefore the table below reflects the change from the original funding and the new funding outlined in this paper.

Financial change summary (£'000)			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Change Requested	Careers & Enterprise Company	Approved	25	101	52	
		STA	-	-	-	-
	Growth Co Services	Approved	50	25	-	-
		STA	-	-	-	-
Revised MTFP	Careers & Enterprise Company	Approved	75	126	52	-
		STA	-	-	-	-
	Growth Co Services	Approved	3,918	941	-	-
		STA	-	-	-	-

- 3.5 The match funding required for the new Project Officer is already budgeted for within the Skills Bootcamps Project as the Officer will support both contracts.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications

5. Public Health implications

- 5.1 There are no public health implications.

6. Environmental and Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no environmental or climate change implications.

7. Other Significant Implications

- 7.1 There are no other significant implications

8. Appendices

- 8.1 There are no appendices

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 [CA Board Report 30 June 2021](#)