



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Agenda Item No: 3.6

Multiply Local Investment Plan

To:	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board
Meeting Date:	8 June 2022
Public report:	Yes
Lead Member:	Councillor Lucy Nethsingha, Lead Member for Skills
From:	Fliss Miller, Interim Associate Director for Skills
Key decision:	Yes
Forward Plan ref:	KD2022/024
Recommendations:	<p>The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Note the draft Local Investment Plan for the Multiply Programme and its submission to the Department for Education.b) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to approve the final version of the Local Investment Plan for the Multiply Programme for submission to the Department of Education
Voting arrangements:	<p>A simple majority of all Members present and voting.</p> <p>To be carried, the vote must include the vote of the Mayor, or the Deputy Mayor when acting in place of the Mayor.</p>

1. Purpose

- 1.1 As part of the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) the Combined Authority is required to submit two Investment Plans, Core SPF and Multiply to Central Government. This paper includes the draft Investment Plan for Multiply which must be approved before submission to the Department for Education (DfE) by 30th June 2022.
- 1.2 The Investment Plan sets out what interventions will be funded and is the key mechanism to draw down the funds allocated to the Combined Authority.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 13 April 2022 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities announced details of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The fund includes an allocation for Multiply, an adult numeracy programme. The Combined Authority is the Lead Authority for Multiply.
- 2.2 The overall objective of Multiply is to increase the levels of functional numeracy in the adult population across the UK. The DfE have identified three key measures of success for the whole programme at a national level:
- I. More adults achieving maths qualifications courses (up to, and including, Level 2 – with GCSEs and Functional Skills Qualifications as the qualifications of choice in England – or equivalent) and an increase in participation in numeracy courses.
 - II. Improved labour market outcomes - fewer numeracy skills gaps reported by employers, and an increase in the proportion of adults that progress into sustained employment and / or education.
 - III. Increased adult numeracy across the population
- 2.3 As part of the Multiply Programme a new national digital platform will be funded centrally which will give access to numeracy training on demand. It is anticipated that this platform will be available towards the end of this calendar year.
- 2.4 The Combined Authority's allocation to deliver Multiply over a three-year programme is:

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
£1,209,056	£1,395,065	£1,395,065	£3,999,186

- 2.5 Interventions delivered with Multiply funding need to be additional and differentiated from that which is already fully funded through the Adult Education Budget (AEB) legal entitlement and should not displace that provision.

3.0 The Investment Plan

- 3.1 The Investment Plan template has ten sections which focus on strategic fit, evidence of demand and the proposed interventions to be funded.
- 3.2 A menu of options are provided to steer Lead Authorities when developing the Plan.

Examples of the types of interventions proposed include;

- I. Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal numeracy qualifications,
- II. Innovative numeracy programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace,
- III. Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression

3.3 Lead Authorities can include 'off menu' interventions where there is a robust analysis to support the inclusions of such activities. The Combined Authority, through engagement with key stakeholders have nominated three 'off menu' interventions:

- I. A Combined Authority wide awareness and aspiration raising engagement campaign
- II. A collaborative approach to recruiting, upskilling and reskilling numeric tutors to deliver the new programmes - building capacity within the region.
- III. The creation of Maths Champions to provide mentoring support

3.4 The Combined Authority has engaged with a number of stakeholders and providers to develop the investment plan, further refinement will continue before the Investment Plan is submitted to DfE as new evidence is sourced to ensure all decisions are evidence based. The draft Local Investment Plan is at Appendix 1.

3.5 It is therefore requested that authority is delegated to the CEO of the Combined Authority to approve the Multiply Investment Plan for submission to the Department for Education.

Significant Implications

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The Combined Authority has been allocated £3,999,186 over the three-year programme, subject to Government acceptance of the Combined Authority's Multiply Investment Plan. This funding is expected to be ringfenced for the project and thus not have a wider impact on the Combined Authority's budget.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no significant legal implications.

6. Public Health Implications

6.1 The report recommendations have positive implications for public health. Participation in adult learning improves the health and wellbeing of participants and wider society.

7. Environmental and Climate Change Implications

7.1 The report recommendations have positive implications for the environment. One of the courses proposed in the Investment Plan is based on numeracy to understand energy efficiency in the home.

8. Other Significant Implications

8.1 No other implications.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 Draft Multiply Investment Plan

10. Background Papers

10.1 [Multiply Investment Plan Template \(May 2022\)](#)