

Combined Authority Board 30 September 2020

Item 5.2: Business Growth Service Full Business Case

Amendment from Councillor Lewis Herbert:

The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:

- (a) Approve and adopt the Full Business Case (FBC) to mobilise the delivery of the Business Growth Service
- (b) Agree that the conditions for FBC approval set at Outline Business Case have been met, specifically:
 - a. Confirmation of EU funding, and the conditions set out in item 4.2 for contracting only upon further correspondence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
 - b. Appointment of a delivery partner
 - c. Submission of 3-year cash flow forecast; monthly for year 1 and annual thereafter.
 - d. Contact / Involvement of HMRC to upskill Growth Hub staff
 - e. Discussions with local authority partners on availability of in-kind support via use of local authority office space, provision of secretariat and officer time
 - f. Submission of an independent state aid report covering:
 - i. ESF and ERDF application and utilisation;
 - ii. allocation of £2.335m of the authority's revenue budget to Growth Service Management Company Ltd;
 - iii. Management of Capital Growth Fund
 - g. Submission of Sustainability and Environmental policy for the Growth Service Management Company Ltd
 - h. Submission of evidence to support the claim of delivering 2.8 new jobs per firm receiving supported in-depth coaching
- (c) Agree that additional conditions, to be considered post-Covid-19, have been met, specifically:

- a. That the Service has been appropriately adapted to support the Local Covid-19 Economic Recovery Strategy
- b. That the impacts of Covid-19 on contributing funding from Enterprise Zone, business rates receipts, have been appropriately considered.
- (d) Delegate authority to the Director of Business and Skills, in consultation with the Lead Member for Economic Growth, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Financial Officer (Section 73), to contract the preferred bidder to commence the Service during October 2020.
- (e) **Ask officers to develop proposals to establish three Area Growth Boards (AGBs) - one of each of the sub-regions identified in the CPIER report (each with business network, council and education sector representatives) to work with the Growth Service in their area and to be engaged by the CA team on wider business growth, economic recovery and Brexit-related initiatives.**

Additions to the published recommendations shown in **bold text**.