



Agenda Item No: 3.3

Careers Hub

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| To: | Skills Committee |
| Meeting Date: | 13 September 2021 |
| Public report: | Yes |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Lucy Nethsingha, Chair of the Skills Committee |
| From: | Fliiss Miller, Senior Responsible Officer – Workforce Skills |
| Key decision: | No |
| Forward Plan ref: | N/A |
| Recommendations: | The Skills Committee is recommended to: a) Note the report approved by the Combined Authority Board on 3 June 2021. |
| Voting arrangements: | A simple majority of all Members |

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper to inform the Skills Committee of the proposed Careers Hub for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area funded by the Department for Education (DfE) through the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC). This paper outlines the key considerations for taking this forward.
- 1.2 The Skills Committee are asked to note the paper approved by the Combined Authority Board on 30th June 2021 to accept the funding and to vary the contract between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Business Growth Company (Growth Co) and Gateley Economic Growth Services Limited (“Gateleys”) in accordance with the new Grant Funding Agreement.

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 guidance, benefitting young people with their future learning and career path.
- 2.2 A Careers Hub offers a more focused service with a greater level of funding. Hubs work with a group of between 20 and 40 secondary schools and colleges in a dedicated area. Collectively they together to deliver the Gatsby Benchmarks collaborating with business partners, the public, education, and voluntary sectors.
- 2.3 Careers Hubs exist in 32 LEP areas and it is the ambition of the Careers and Enterprise Company to roll out hubs nationally.
- 2.4 A competitive bid was submitted in February 2021 by the CPCA for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area to form a Careers Hub.
- 2.5 30 schools, colleges and SEND schools from across the region have been identified to join the Careers Hub in the academic year of 2021/22. All eligible secondary schools in the region were asked to complete an expression of interest as a part of the application process.
- 2.6 It is the intention that the Combined Authority will apply for a second Careers Hub in the next academic year, so that all schools in the CPCA will be able to join a Careers Hub. The CEC advised the Combined Authority to take a staged approach implementing the lessons learned from year one.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications as this is reporting a decision already taken by the Combined Authority. For the Committee's reference the implications of the decision taken by the Board are set out below.
- 3.2 The Grant Funding from the CEC for the academic year of 2021/22 is £172,100. This is an increase from the funding received in 2020/21 by £47,100.
- 3.3 The funding allocated is to support the following job roles:
- 3x Enterprise Coordinators
 - 1x Senior Enterprise Coordinator
 - 1x Strategic Hub Lead

The Strategic Hub Lead is fully funded by the CEC. The four other roles require a 50% match.

- 3.4 In previous years the Senior Enterprise Coordinator was fully funding by the CEC, as the role was attached to the Opportunity Area. This enhanced funding has now stopped and therefore additional funds from the Combined Authority are required to fund 50% of this role.
- 3.5 Currently the Senior Enterprise Coordinator is employed by the Combined Authority.
- 3.6 The Enterprise Coordinator roles are currently employed or contracted by Gareth Preece Consulting, part of the Gately Consortium delivering Growth Works with Skills.
- 3.7 The Strategic Hub Lead is a new role and will be employed by the CPCA as per the conditions of funding.
- 3.8 It has been identified that an additional £22.5k this year is required this financial year This will be resourced from existing B&S budgets until March 2022. Approval will be sought for the additional budget requirements to be funded via MTFP from April 2022.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Currently the Senior Enterprise Advisor is employed by The Combined Authority as a condition of the funding; this post is 100% funded to cover the Opportunity Area. This funding will be reduced to 50% upon commencement of the Careers Hub.
- 4.2 All other Enterprise Advisors are employed or contracted by Gareth Preece Consulting, part of the Gately Consortium who deliver Growth Works with Skills.
- 4.3 It is proposed that the identified post is TUPE to Gareth Preece Consulting in line with other Enterprise Advisor roles.

- 4.4 It is proposed that the TUPE process will conclude by September 2021.
- 4.5 The Current CEC contract forms a part of the wider Growth Works With Skills contract. To allow for delivery of the Careers Hub, the contract (Business Growth Service Agreement) between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Growth Company and GEG Services Limited will need to be varied to reflect the changes.

5. Appendices

- 5.1 None

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 [Combined Authority Board Report 30th June 2021 – Careers Hub \(Item 4.6 refers\)](#)