



Agenda Item No: 3.2

Skills Bootcamps

To:	Skills Committee
Meeting Date:	5 September 2022
Public report:	Yes
Lead Member:	Councillor Lucy Nethsingha, Chair of the Skills Committee
From:	Fliss Miller – Interim Associate Skills Director
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	N/A
Recommendations:	<p>The Skills Committee are recommended to:</p> <p>Note the update of contracts awarded to Training Providers following a competitive Procurement exercise.</p>
Voting arrangements:	No vote required.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to inform the Skills Committee of the contracts awarded to Training Providers for the delivery of the Wave Three Skills Bootcamp project following a competitive procurement exercise since grant funding was secured for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area funded by the Department for Education (DfE) through the National Skills Fund. This paper outlines the Skills Bootcamps which will be delivered.
- 1.2 The Skills Committee are asked to note the paper approved by the Combined Authority Board on 30 March 2022 to accept the grant funding in accordance with the Grant Funding Agreement, to create a new budget line and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to be able to enter in to, sign and award grant agreements and awards to training providers to delivery on Wave Three Skills Bootcamps following an appropriate procurement exercise.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Department for Education via the National Skills Fund has invested in the delivery of Skills Bootcamps across the country to meet the skills needs of local areas. Skills Bootcamps form part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee announced by the Prime Minister in September 2020.
- 2.2 The Combined Authority have been delivering Digital Skills Bootcamps since September 2021 following a successful competitive bid to the DfE for delivery across the East of England. This Wave 2 funding concluded for new starts on 31 March 2022.
- 2.3 Skills Bootcamps are intensive, Level 2-5 or equivalent flexible training courses up to 16 weeks, with a guaranteed job interview (in the case of a new job), which equip adults with technical skills that enable them to access in demand jobs, apprenticeships, new opportunities and an increased level of income over time (including for the self-employed).
- 2.4 Skills Bootcamps rely on local knowledge of skills shortages and employer needs, and the ability to attract and train local learners and to help them achieve better job outcomes.
- 2.5 Following a proposal submitted by the Combined Authority to DfE on the 28 January 2022, the Combined Authority received notification on the 8 March 2022 of award for the full amount proposed; £4,891,985 in grant funding to deliver Wave 3 Skills Bootcamps to 1,780 learners, for the first year period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. Within the grant award £342,439 has been allocated to management costs.
- 2.6 The Combined Authority has been approved to deliver Skills Bootcamps in the following sectors; Digital, Technical (including engineering and advanced manufacturing) Construction, Green and a number of Pathways to Accelerated Apprenticeships. Furthermore, up to 10% of the value of the Funding is being allowed to test the value and effectiveness of Skills Bootcamps in the sectors defined by the Combined Authority in addition to the sectors outlined above.
- 2.7 The DfE may extend the funding period of this agreement for 12 months, by giving written notice to The Combined Authority no later than 31 March 2023 and a further 12 months, by giving written notice to The Combined Authority no later than 31 March 2024.

2.8 Following a competitive tender and evaluation process whereby Training Providers were required to submit a full tender response by the 27 May 2022, a total of 7 Training Providers were successful and have now been issued with contracts. This includes the following:

Training Provider	Bootcamp Title	Price Per Learner	Number of Learners	Contract Value
Capita PLC	Level 3 Software Developer	£4,100.00	100	£410,000.00
Duplex Business Services Ltd	IMI Level 2 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle Hazard Management for Emergency and Recovery Personnel	£2,600.00	100	£260,000.00
Duplex Business Services Ltd	IMI Level 3 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle System Repair and Replacement / IMI Level 4 Award in Diagnosis Testing and Repair of Electric Hybrid Vehicles and Components	£2,700.00	100	£270,000.00
Imeta Training and Solutions Ltd	Level 3 Digital Marketing	£1,600.00	40	£64,000.00
Imeta Training and Solutions Ltd	Level 3 Cyber Security	£2,500.00	40	£100,000.00
Inspire Education Group	Level 2 Bricklaying	£1,700.00	120	£204,000.00
Purple Beard	Level 3 Front End Web Development	2,400.00	30	£72,000.00
The Construction Skills People Ltd	Level 3 Construction Supervisory	£2,500.00	120	£300,000.00
The Skills Network	Level 3 Data Analysis	£2,250.00	100	£225,000.00
The Skills Network	Level 3 Digital Marketing	£1,440.00	120	£172,800.00

2.8 The procurement exercise contained 5 main Lots and a total of 21 sub-lots for Training Providers to submit a tender response to. Of these, 12 sub-lots did not receive any bids, therefore in addition to the completed competitive tender exercise, CPCA is exploring Direct Award contracts for further Skills Bootcamps provision with Training Providers to enable funds to be maximised, whilst continuing to link this to local skills needs and employer demand.

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.

"This project is not currently reflected in the 2022-23 budget, so the Board are recommended to approve the addition of £4,891,985 expenditure, fully funded by the DfE grant, to the 2022-23 budget. All CPCA resourcing costs incurred by this project will be covered by the £342,439 management fee, resulting in a net zero impact on current budgets."

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no significant legal implications.

5. Public Health implications

- 5.1 The recommendation of this report is for members to note, therefore the recommendation is neutral for public health implications.

6. Environmental and Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 The report recommendation has a neutral implication for the environment and climate change as it is for members to note.

7. Other Significant Implications

- 7.1 The recommendations in this report have due regard to the Combined Authority's Equalities duties under the Equality Act 2010 in implementing funding policies which seek to widen participation and make learning opportunities more accessible for all citizens including all protected characteristics.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 None

9. Background Papers

[Skills Bootcamps Wave 3 Combined Authority Board Report 30 March 2022](#)