

### **Skills Committee Decision Summary**

Meeting: Wednesday 10 November 2021

Published: Friday 12 November 2021

Decision Review deadline: Wednesday 17 November 2021

Part 1 - Governance Items

1.1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest and Announcements

No apologies received.

Councillor Chris Seaton declared an interest as his wife worked at the College for West Anglia in the Apprenticeships Division.

1.2 Minutes of the Skills Committee meeting on 13th September 2021 and Actions

The minutes of the meeting on 13th September 2021 were approved as an accurate record.

The action log was noted.

1.3 Public Questions

Questions received from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1.4 Skills Committee Agenda Plan

It was resolved to note the agenda plan.

1.5 Combined Authority Forward Plan

It was resolved to note the Forward Plan.

### Part 2 - Recommendations to the Combined Authority Board

## 2.1 Adult Education Budget - Commissioning Statement and Approach for 2022/23

It was resolved by unanimously to:

- a) Approval of the proposed commissioning approach for the devolved Adult Education Budget from 2022-23 academic year onwards, to procure Independent Training Providers under contracts for services for up to £3m per year, subject to Department for Education (DfE) awarding the funding.
- b) Approval of the implementation of three-year Plan-Led Funding, for the commissioning of Further Education Colleges and Local Authorities, operating under grant funding, from 2022-23 academic year onwards, subject to DfE funding awards.
- c) Delegation to the Director of Business and Skills in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into multi-year grant funding agreements with providers on behalf of the Combined Authority, following approval of three-year Plans
- d) Delegation to the Director of Business and Skills in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into contracts for services with Independent Training Providers on behalf of the Combined Authority, following conclusion of the commissioning process outlined in this report.
- Part 3 Programme Delivery
- 3.1 Employment and Skills Strategy

It was resolved unanimously to:

a) Note the Employment and Skills Strategy.

# 3.2 Adult Education Budget: English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Local Planning

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the new approach to ESOL Local Planning, which aims to improve the co-ordination, delivery, and impact of ESOL in local communities.
- b) To note the local approach taken with regards to recent Government schemes for different refugee communities, asylum seekers, and migrants.

c) To note the learner participation data on ESOL courses in the region, following devolution of the Adult Education Budget in 2019/20 and the implementation of fully funded ESOL in 2020/21.

### 3.3 Budget & Performance Report

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the update and financial position relating to the revenue funding lines within the Skills Committee remit.
- Part 4 Date of the next meeting
- 4.1 It was resolved to:

Note the date of the next meeting as Monday 17 January 2022.

Key: Changes/additions in Bold