

20 MARCH 2020

REPORT SUMMARY SHEET

ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET (AEB) – APPROACH AND DRAFT ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2020/21 ACADEMIC YEAR

Purpose

To set out the proposed approach for the management and administration of the devolved AEB for the 2020/21 academic year; and to propose draft provider allocations for the 2020/21 academic year.

Summary

This report includes the following key information:

- A summary of the AEB powers and related funding devolved to the Combined Authority. The Department for Education has confirmed that the authority's AEB budget for 2020/21 is £15.3m. This is an increase of £583,682 compared to the 2019/20 allocation.
- The proposed approach for 2020/21 is to start to deliver changes to support the delivery of the Local Industrial Strategy and Employment and Skills Plan, whilst also continuing the focus on provider stability and working positively with the provider base.
- The full detail of the proposed approach is set out at Appendix 1.
- The proposed 2020/21 allocations are set out at Appendix 2.

Recommendations

Members of the Combined Authority Committee are asked to approve:

1. The proposed approach for the management and administration of devolved AEB for the 2020/21 academic year.
2. The proposed draft provider AEB allocations for the 2020/21 academic year.
3. The request to provide delegated authority to the WECA Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officers of WECA's constituent authorities to:
 - a. Confirm final provider allocations once agreed provider curriculum delivery plans are in place.
 - b. Make in-year exceptions funding decisions.
 - c. Make in-year growth funding decisions.

- d. Make decisions on provider re-allocations at mid-year and end-of-year points.
- e. Make decisions relating to distribution of funding for continuing learners.
- f. Make decisions relating to procurement of WECA's devolved provision.

Contact officer: Stephen Bashford

Position: Head of Business & Skills

Email: Stephen.Bashford@westofengland-ca.gov.uk