

OFFICER DECISION RECORD

Decision Title: Recovery Fund - additional allocation

Decision reference number: 02.08.21

Decision date: 20 August 2021

Background / reason for decision:

Delegated authority was granted (through a decision taken by the West of England Combined Authority Committee on 25 June 2021) to the Combined Authority's Chief Executive to take decisions on further recovery funding of up to £1m in consultation with the Chief Executives of the Combined Authority's constituent councils.

A proposal was subsequently developed for the allocation of the £1m to develop work, and business cases where appropriate, in the following areas:

1. Climate and environment - work to develop the evidence to support the increased regional ambition on climate emergency, a green recovery plan, support for pollinators and work to accelerate retrofit across the region. The Combined Authority will continue to work with the sustainability officers group including representatives from all the unitary authorities to develop this.
2. Jobs and skills - development of a streamlined jobs and skills offer including access to support, signposting and identification of gaps in provision. This will work alongside and complement local arrangements and will recognise the geographical area within which residents and business operate. Skills officers across the unitary authorities will be involved in the development of this work.
3. Recovery and reopening - support for the region's businesses, including promoting and celebrating the region's economy and environment as the region reopens, to include championing and supporting regional culture, tourism, hospitality, leisure, high streets and green spaces.

Options considered:

Not applicable in relation to this specific decision, i.e. this was the option considered.

Decision:

To allocate the £1m of further recovery funding to develop work, and business cases where appropriate, in the following areas:

1. Climate and environment - work to develop the regional evidence to support the increased ambition on climate emergency, a green recovery plan, support for pollinators and work to accelerate retrofit across the region.
2. Jobs and skills - development of a streamlined jobs and skills offer including access to support, signposting and identification of gaps in provision.
3. Recovery and reopening - support for the region's businesses, including promoting and celebrating the region's economy and environment as the region reopens, to include championing and supporting regional culture, tourism, hospitality, leisure, high streets and green spaces.

Consultation:

The Chief Executives of the West of England constituent councils were consulted.

Officer making decision: Patricia Greer

Position: Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority

Report / appendices / background documents:

None