

OFFICER DECISION RECORD

General guidance note: *Please complete using Plain English, avoiding acronyms and use of jargon; this will be a published document so please be mindful of a public audience in completing this decision record.*

Decision Title: West of England Business Support Service – Full Business Case
Decision reference number: 03.03.23
Decision date: 08/03/2023
<p>Background / reason for decision:</p> <p>Delegated authority has been granted to the Combined Authority’s Chief Executive to take decisions on the award of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), West of England Regional Recovery Fund and West of England Combined Authority Investment Fund in consultation with the Chief Executives of the West of England Local Authorities.</p>
<p>Options considered:</p> <p>Both the value for money of the service and the intended impact of the programme in relation to the balance of supporting the cost of living crisis and the need to address the ‘long tail’ of productivity was considered. A satisfactory rationale was provided to demonstrate strong value for money and the ability of the service to engage a broad range of residents and businesses, including social enterprises, would address both the issues in productivity and the cost of living crisis.</p>
<p>Decision:</p> <p>To approve the West of England Business Support Service Full Business Case and the associated cost of £2,700,000 of UK Shared Prosperity Fund Supporting Local Business Investment Priority, £1,000,000 Regional Recovery Fund and £4,834,000 of West of England Combined Authority Investment Fund, within the business case.</p>
<p>Consultation:</p> <p>Local Authority Economic Development Managers/ Director of Business & Skills and Combined Authority Corporate Leadership Team, were consulted on these proposals.</p> <p>The Chief Executives of the West of England councils were also consulted on this proposal.</p>
<p>Officer making decision:</p> <p>Richard Ennis Position: Acting interim, Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority</p>

Report / appendices / background documents: 25th Jan 2023 – CEOs meeting briefing paper,
West of England Business Support Service