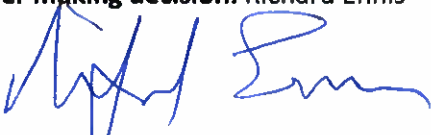


OFFICER DECISION RECORD

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: Year 2, Call 2 Multiply Programme
Decision reference number: (Democratic Services to add) 00N23_0007
Decision date: 23 rd August 2023
<p>Background / reason for decision:</p> <p>Multiply is a three-year, c.4.5m, initiative to upskill residents with low levels of numeracy. The project entered its second of three funding years on April 1, 2023. The funding value of year 2 allocation is £1,395,746. Approval was given from CEO on April 5, 2023, to extend the funding contracts of the 9 existing Multiply providers using the allocation from 22/23 as a baseline and which totalled £953,908. This left a funding allocation of £441,838.</p> <p>A second call was launched for the remaining allocation June 19, 2023. Following assessment and moderation of applications, all 9 projects were recommended for funding, having scored well over the 40% minimum threshold. The decision required from CEO was to approve all 9 Multiply projects.</p>
<p>Options considered:</p> <p>Option 1 - Allocate further funding to 9 projects (£254,982) bringing total funding allocation to £1,208,889 and to re-launch a third funding call to allocate the remaining £186,856, which will be limited to the areas of South Gloucester and B&NES (Bath and Northeast Somerset) or large employers and/or existing providers. .</p> <p>Option 2 – To not approve the 9 projects, leading to further funding calls or return of funds to the DFE.</p>
<p>Decision: The CEO group agreed the funding of all 9 projects for the Multiply programme totalling £254,982. Following this to re-launch a third funding call for the remaining geographical areas of South Gloucester and Bath and Northeast Somerset, to either employers and/or existing providers.</p>
<p>Consultation: The paper was taken to the Skills Officer group on the July 26th and 2nd August 2023, and then to CLT group on August 15th, 2023.</p>
<p>Officer making decision: Richard Ennis</p>  <p>Position: Interim Acting Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority</p>

Report / appendices / background documents:

Appendix 1 – Multiply report presented to CEOs 23rd August 2023