



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Officer Decision/Mayoral Decision No.:	ODN109-2019
DECISION TITLE: Award to Grant Providers for Adult Education Budget 2019/20	
NAME OF OFFICER/MAYOR EXERCISING DELEGATED POWERS: Director of Business & Skills	
DATE OF OFFICER/MAYORAL DECISION: 30/04/2019	

Responsible Director/Mayor:	<i>John T Hill, Director of Business & Skills</i>
Report Author and contact details:	<i>Neil Cuttell, Programme Manager (Skills)</i>
Is it a key decision?	No
All reports will be published on the CA website. Does your report include exempt or confidential information?	No

Decision taken	<p>The Director of Business & Skills has awarded grant contracts for the delivery of Adult Education in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough in 2019/20 academic year (which could potentially be extended to include the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 academic years) to the Grant Providers listed below:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grant Providers</th> <th>Grant Allocation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cambridge Regional College</td> <td>£2,535,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridgeshire County Council</td> <td>£2,115,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peterborough Regional College</td> <td>£1,782,967</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peterborough City College</td> <td>£1,351,088</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The College of West Anglia</td> <td>£415,339</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New College Stamford</td> <td>£316,398</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bedford College</td> <td>£191,318</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Suffolk College</td> <td>£118,889</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Hertfordshire College</td> <td>£39,717</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hill Road Sixth Form College</td> <td>£20,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Beds Council</td> <td>£11,760</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rutland County Council</td> <td>£2,186</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grant Providers	Grant Allocation	Cambridge Regional College	£2,535,600	Cambridgeshire County Council	£2,115,500	Peterborough Regional College	£1,782,967	Peterborough City College	£1,351,088	The College of West Anglia	£415,339	New College Stamford	£316,398	Bedford College	£191,318	West Suffolk College	£118,889	North Hertfordshire College	£39,717	Hill Road Sixth Form College	£20,000	Central Beds Council	£11,760	Rutland County Council	£2,186
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Authorisation (<i>delete as appropriate</i>)	This decision was made in March 2019 by the Director of Business & Skills under delegated authority of the CPCA Board. This is cited as Minute 333 of the CPCA Board on the 27 th March																										



	2019.
Background Information	<p>The report follows the Executive Report of November 2018 and March 2019. The November 2018 Report outlined that the</p> <p><i>“The Combined Authority Board authorised officers to enter into a negotiated grant commissioning process to develop and work with the indigenous and contiguous Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Colleges and Local Authority providers currently grant funded by the Education Skills Funding Agency.”</i></p> <p>The March 2019 Report outlined and approved;</p> <p><i>“To provide delegated authority to the Director of Business and Skills, in consultation with the Chair of the Skills Committee, to award Grants to the 12 Grant Funded Providers of AEB upon successful completion of Delivery Plans including a variance of up to a 25% on the condition that a new learning aim or approach is demonstrated in line with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) Strategic Priorities.”</i></p> <p>In early January 2019 the AEB Team wrote to the twelve (12) Grant Providers to inform them of the indicative allocation (which was based on data from the 2016/17 academic year) that the CPCA might provide based on an equation developed with the DfE to ensure stability of provision. As part of the devolution process all Mayoral Combined Authorities had to agree not to destabilise Grant funded providers.</p> <p>In February 2019 and March 2019 the AEB Team worked with the Grant Providers to complete individual Delivery Plans for a three (3) year period. This time period will be reviewed annually thereby allowing the CPCA to amend the grant terms on an annual basis should it be necessary to do so. The Delivery Plans required the Grant Providers to explain how they would utilise an AEB Grant from the CPCA to (a) achieve the priorities and ambitions outlined within the Local Industrial Strategy and Skills Strategy; and (b) deliver the Statutory Entitlements.</p> <p>Furthermore, the AEB Team sought to utilise a Financial Risk & Resilience Toolkit in order to ascertain (a) which Grant Providers might be most at risk of insolvency and failure in efforts; and (b) how contracts with such Grant Providers should be managed. In addition to utilising the aforementioned toolkit, the AEB Team also studied recent OFSTED inspections to review the quality of the provision.</p> <p>In April 2019, the AEB Team arranged strategic priorities meetings with all twelve (12) Grant Providers to (a) review the</p>



individual delivery plans; and (b) explain to the Grant Providers what would be required of both the CPCA and the Grant Providers when moving to a Grant Allocation for the 2019-20 academic year.

Following the Grant funding process, the AEB Team proposes to award Grants, as detailed below, to the following institutions for 2019/20 academic year;

Grant Providers	Grant Allocation
Cambridge Regional College	£2,535,600
Cambridgeshire County council	£2,115,500
Peterborough Regional College	£1,782,967
Peterborough City College	£1,351,088
The College of West Anglia	£415,339
New College Stamford	£316,398
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Rutland County Council	£2,186

This represents an increase of £100,000 to Cambridge Regional College, Peterborough City College, and Peterborough Regional College, and an increase of £10,000 to West Suffolk College and The College of West Anglia. The purpose of this additional funding is to enable the aforementioned Colleges to undertake new and innovative courses as outlined within their individual Delivery Plans. The specifics of each will be outlined within the individual Grant Agreements.

Officers noted the following variances and strategic approaches:

- Central Bedfordshire Council; sought a smaller amount of grant funding than the original allocation, citing that they were keen to deliver more AEB Skills than Community Learning.
- Hills Road Sixth Form College; were keen to work with the CPCA to deliver AEB, therefore the offer of grant provided will be contingent to delivering to our priorities rather than



	<p>past provision.</p> <p>With the exception of Central Bedfordshire Council, none of the twelve aforementioned Grant Providers will receive less than they did in 2016/17. The AEB Team have reviewed the overall allocation of £11.53m. If the Director of Business & Skills approves the procured supplier OKN of £2,045,556, and the proposed Grant Provision of £8,900,762, coupled with the AEB administrative budget of 4.9% there is a residual budget let of under £3,000. It is however anticipated that both Grant Providers and Procured Providers will underspend, and the Skills Committee Report in April 2019 identified mechanisms for officers to employ should this risk be realised.</p>	
Alternative options considered.	Do Nothing – This is not a viable option, as the devolution of the AEB will commence in April 2019 and become operational with providers in August 2019.	
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications relating to this decision – payments will be made to Grant Providers paid on Profile. Providers will be monitored, and random spot checks will be carried out at visits. Any underspend will be carried forward to the following year and allocation reduced accordingly.	
Consultation	<i>List any relevant consultation undertaken in relation to the decision. For example; portfolio holders, other Chief Officers.</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
	<i>Chief Executive</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
	<i>Responsible Director/Chief Officer</i>	<i>John T Hill, Director of Business & Skills</i>
	<i>Monitoring Officer</i>	<i>Howard Norris, Monitoring Officer</i>
	<i>S73</i>	<i>Gail Busher, AEB Finance Manager</i>
	<i>Portfolio Holder</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>
	<i>Other</i>	<i>Tony Lewis, Solicitor</i>
Declarations / Conflicts of Interests (only if the decision falls under the 'Express Authorisation' category)	<i>None</i>	
Supporting documentation	<i>None</i>	

Officer/Mayor signature		Date 30th April 2019
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***Once signed please file in the electronic file Documents/Governance/ office decision notice
and enter details in the register.***

If a public report, pass to Democratic Services and we will arrange publication.