

Public Document Pack



Friday, 19 June 2020

To: Members of the SCR - Skills & Employment Board and Appropriate Officers

You are hereby invited to a meeting of the Sheffield City Regional Mayoral Combined Authority to be held at **Virtual Meeting**, on: **Monday, 29 June 2020** at **11.00 am** for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Smith".

Dr Dave Smith
Chief Executive



You can view the agenda and papers at www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk or use a smart phone camera and scan the QR code

Member Distribution

Councillor Julie Dore (Co-Chair)
Nigel Brewster
Councillor Denise Lelliott
Councillor Bill Mordue
Councillor Tim Cheetham
Councillor Tricia Gilby
Dr Ruth Adams

Sheffield City Council
Private Sector
Rotherham MBC
Doncaster MBC
Barnsley MBC
Chesterfield MBC
SCR Executive Team

SCR - Skills & Employment Board

Monday, 29 June 2020 at 11.00 am

Venue: Virtual Meeting

Agenda

Agenda Ref No	Subject	Lead	Page
1.	Welcome and Apologies	Cllr Julie Dore	
2.	Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda.	Cllr Julie Dore	
3.	Urgent items / Announcements	Cllr Julie Dore	
4.	Public Questions of Key Decisions	Cllr Julie Dore	
5.	Matters Arising	Cllr Julie Dore	
6.	Minutes of the meeting	Cllr Julie Dore	5 - 8
7.	Economic Recovery	Mr Felix Kumi-Ampofo	
8.	Adult Education Budget	Chambers	9 - 30
9.	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">Skills Advisory Network	Cllr Julie Dore	
Date of next meeting: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 at 11.00 am At: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield, S1 2BQ			

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SCR - SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 2 MARCH 2020 AT 1.00 PM

11 BRAOD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



Present:

Nigel Brewster	Private Sector
Councillor Denise Lelliott	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield MBC
Dr Ruth Adams	SCR Executive Team
Councillor Bill Mordue (Reserve)	Doncaster MBC

In Attendance:

Tom Smith		Barnsley MBC
Felix Kumi-Ampofo	Assistant Director Policy and Assurance	SCR Executive Team
Sue Sykes	Assistant Director - Programme and Performance Unit	SCR Executive Team
Councillor Chris Furness		Derbyshire Dales DC
Gillian Richards (Minute Taker)		

Apologies:

Councillor Julie Dore	Sheffield City Council
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1 Welcome and Apologies

N Brewster the interim Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda

Cllr B Mordue declared an interest in the item on LGF Investment Approval for Doncaster University Technical College as he was a member of Doncaster MBC.

3 Urgent items / Announcements

None.

4 Public Questions of Key Decisions

None.

5 **Minutes of the meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2020 be agreed as a true record.

6 **Matters Arising**

The Board noted that, as requested, Skills and Employment Future Priorities was the substantive item on today's agenda.

The role of Cllr Furness on the Board had also been clarified.

7 **Skills and Employment - Future Priorities**

The Board considered a discussion paper on the high-level priorities that the Board may wish to pursue in support of the economic strategy.

At a previous meeting Members had received an overview of the current evidence base for skills and employment which formed part of the Strategic Economic Plan base.

The Board had agreed to consider four broad areas for further analysis and discussion. These were:

1. World Class Technical Education
2. Young People
3. Support into Work
4. In-work Support

The paper presented provided an in-depth discussion paper on a World Class Technical Education and what it could mean for SCR residents and businesses.

Members were reminded of the SEP policy objectives which were growth, inclusion and sustainability.

SCR had committed to pursue growth which spread prosperity and contributed to achieving the net zero carbon target.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on what their priorities should be, the best ways of achieving them and how to overcome barriers to achievement. The discussion included:

- How to improve SCR's occupational profile which has weighted more towards lower skilled occupations
- How to achieve supply and demand within a functioning skills system that worked with businesses
- The need to align the work of the Board with the work of the Business Growth Board
- Investments should only be made to companies who provided good employment prospects e.g. paid the real living wage, provided

- apprenticeships and flexible working
- Ways to support early years intervention
- Ways to combine education with employment
- Access to affordable learner loans
- Access to good quality adult education
- Work needed around in-work health and wellbeing
- Investigate why SCR are good at starting businesses but not growing them.

Officers were asked to provide for the next meeting further information around:

- Skills support programmes
- Health and wellbeing interventions
- Business Growth Board decision-making process to ensure investment only goes to companies demonstrating good employer behaviours
- Providing a high quality all-age careers service
- Systems and models for learner loans

Members of the Board felt that discussions had been positive and that their priorities were beginning to take shape.

8 **LGF Investment Approval - Doncaster University Technical College (UTC)**

Cllr Mordue had declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussions.

A report was considered which requested approval for Doncaster UTC's scheme with an LGF grant value of £0.150m.

Doncaster UTC had requested the grant to support a £0.750m scheme to purchase and install specialist equipment focused on robotics, physics and computing and virtual reality at a new site which would open in September 2020.

The full investment would allow the UTC to enhance their core curriculum based around STEM and allow the college to place further emphasis on digital technologies.

Over a period of 10 years the project was estimated to support 589 learners with an estimated 191 of the net additional learners subsequently moving into employment. This indicated a potential cost equivalent of £787 per job to the SCR and was estimated to generate benefits of £6,737,779 of GVA. The project therefore offered good value for money for the SCR.

Appendix A provided a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of the award.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Approve the progression of the Doncaster UTC project to full approval and award up to \$£0.15m grant to Doncaster UTC subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table attached at Appendix A to the report.

(ii) Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service, in conjunction with the S73 and the Monitoring Officer, to enter into the contractual arrangements required as a result of the above approval.

9 Performance Dashboards

S Sykes presented a report and performance dashboards to provide the Board with an update on performance information on all skills and employment programmes delivered on behalf of the LEP and the MCA. It was noted that there were no issues with projects to report.

It was reported that it had been confirmed that the full amount of Skills Bank funding had been awarded for 2020/21.

With regard to the Local Growth Fund, the Board were informed that when contracting for projects, the standard LGF template was used which didn't include information of quality. S Sykes queried whether the Board thought this information would be useful.

Then Board felt that this should be included where relevant.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the report be noted.

That when contracting for projects, quality should be included in the template where relevant.

10 Any Other Business

None.

In accordance with Combined Authority's Constitution/Terms of Reference for the Board, Board decisions need to be ratified by the Head of Paid Services (or their nominee) in consultation with the Chair of the Board. Accordingly, the undersigned has consulted with the Chair and hereby ratifies the decisions set out in the above minutes.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT BOARD

29th June 2020

Adult Education Budget Update and Proposed Timeline

Purpose of Report

The paper provides a detailed update to Board members of the Adult Education Budget (AEB) evidence as to how the budget is currently spent within the region. The report also seeks clarification from Members as to the approach to establishing the priorities for the city region ensuring cross regional and local place-based activity is captured and also how Members wish to engage locally in their places.

Thematic Priority

Develop the SCR skills base, labour mobility and education performance

Freedom of Information

This paper will be made available under the MCA publication scheme. Appendix 1 is exempt from publication under the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1 Paragraph 3.

Recommendations

That Board Members:

1. Consider and debate the contents of the report and the accompanying presentation with regard to the emerging priorities and additional work they would wish to be undertaken;
2. Consider how they wish engagement to take place regionally with the MCA and locally back in individual authorities and the role they would wish to play in this;
3. Consider and discuss the stakeholder engagement activity required;
4. Agree next steps for their engagement in view of the milestones to take responsibility for delivery of AEB in August 2021.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Adult Education Budget (AEB) is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Education and administered by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Devolution of AEB is an integral element of the South Yorkshire devolution deal agreed with Government.
- 1.2 Mayoral Combined Authorities need to demonstrate that they are able to appropriately manage the Adult Education Budget by completing documentation and submitting to the Department for Education (DfE) for review. The MCA Executive Team submitted evidence outlining how the Authority met all of the *Readiness Conditions* in March 2020. Last month the Head of Paid Service received formal confirmation from DfE that they were satisfied with

the planning and preparation that has been undertaken to date and is proposed in the run up to AEB being devolved in 2021.

- 1.3** The AEB function will be devolved to the MCA from the 2021/22 academic year, starting on the 1st August 2021. A final allocation will not be formally confirmed until closer to 21/22. It is anticipated that the budget for Adult Education for South Yorkshire residents will be approximately £36m per annum.

2. Proposal and justification

- 2.1** The table presented below – table 1 provides an indicative timetable for the key activities that are required to be undertaken in the run up to the devolution of AEB. The timetable above should provide contingency time for unanticipated issues arising during the course of the next 14 months.
- 2.2** The presentation, attached as Appendix 1 will form the substantive debate at the Board, this includes detail on the evidence arising from the programme. A supplementary data pack will be made available in the coming weeks. Following agreement at the meeting on engaging with Members and their officers, this pack will include greater place based detail of AEB.

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

- 3.1** n/a

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

There are no direct implications for the MCA as a consequence of this paper.

4.2 Legal

There are no direct implications for the MCA as a consequence of this paper.

4.3 Risk Management

Currently AEB is the responsibility of the ESFA, acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education. There are therefore no direct risk management responsibilities for the MCA to consider. Should the MCA assume responsibility for the management of AEB in the future a full risk assessment would be commissioned and undertaken.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

AEB supports those who are either currently unemployed or who have not achieved basic qualification levels to achieve these thus promoting social inclusion, diversity and equality.

5. Communications

- 5.1** The MCA is developing a comprehensive communications strategy. The MCAs communication approach with AEB providers will need to be both timely (noting the significance of planning in advance) and comprehensive.

6. Appendices/Annexes

- 6.1** Appendix 1 – Detailed AEB presentation - Exempt from publication under the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1 Paragraph 3.

Table 1: Key Activities and Proposed Timings leading up to the devolution of AEB

	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21
Establishing SCRCAs management budget required to operate AEB															
Grant Allocations to SCR Based Grant Holders															
Market Engagement Event															
Contract for Services Procurement															
Award of Contracts															
Provider On-boarding															
Delivery Begins															

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Background papers used in the preparation of this report are available for inspection at: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield S1 2BQ

Other sources and references:

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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