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Head of Employment and Skills
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Greater Manchester Combined Authority
Broadhurst House
56 Oxford Street
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21st May 2020

GMCA funded Adult Education Budget - indicative allocation for 2020 to 2021

Dear David,

The purpose of this letter is to share your indicative GMCA funded Adult Education Budget (AEB) allocation for the 2020-2021 funding year.

All values and references in this letter relate to your AEB allocation for delivery to residents in Greater Manchester for the 2020-2021 funding year, unless otherwise stated.

Indicative 2020-2021 GMCA AEB allocation

Ministers agreed that the methodology for calculating ESFA and Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) and the Greater London Authority (GLA) budgets should be based on delivery and learner residences in 2017 to 2018. They also agreed that this budget baseline would not be renewed with delivery data from 2018 to 2019. The rationale for this was to give a level of certainty to ESFA and MCAs/GLA over their budgets and there are no plans to change this approach.

Your indicative AEB allocation for 2020-2021 is **£818,418**, which is subject to GMCA approval in May 2020.

This is the total of all 3 elements of AEB (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, non-formula funded community learning). You will be required prior to the start of the 2020/2021 to submit a delivery and financial plan, which will need to include a breakdown of these elements.

Your allocation is indicative until approval is reached at the GMCA meeting on the 29th May 2020. We are sharing it with you to assist your planning, however please note it may change. It is indicative because it is taking into account illustrative allocations from the ESFA budget, it excludes any funding you may have been allocated for non-

devolved AEB areas and/or 19-24 Traineeships; and we are still quality assuring 2019 to 2020 data.

The aim is to provide stability to GM Grant Providers for a third year and this will be the intention over the next two years to maintain this on an annual basis, subject to the devolved AEB allocation for GM from HM Treasury not changing.

We have removed the tolerance both for under and over allocation; this will allow a positive relationship to be formed to manage flex and growth in year. GMCA is also committed to have a positive conversation with individual and groups of grant providers to manage underspends for the benefit of 'place' first and then opened up to other GM providers.

GMCA funded AEB

The GMCA AEB Funding and Performance Rules 2020 to 2021 will set out how you can continue to fund adult skills, learner support and where applicable, non-formula funded community learning from your GMCA AEB allocation, subject to the terms of your grant funding agreement.

You can spend your GMCA funded AEB as follows:

- GMCA funded AEB (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, non-formula funded community learning) – on learners resident in Greater Manchester only.

We have attached for your information the Draft GMCA Adult Education Budget: Funding and Performance Management Rules 2020 to 2021.

Traineeships

GMCA AEB funding cannot be used to support other nationally funded programmes or activity for which other specific funding is available, including Traineeships for 16-18 year olds or 19-23 year olds.

ESFA will manage 19-24 Traineeships as a national programme in 2020-2021 (i.e. the funding is not being devolved). If you have an allocation from ESFA for 19-24 Traineeships you will be able to use it to fund learners that reside anywhere in England, whether inside or outside devolved areas.

Funding for continuing learners in 2020-2021

Within this indicative allocation is £0 for continuing learners. This allocation will continue to be recalculated on a month by month basis within the remainder of 2019-2020 academic year.

Appeals Process

GMCA are developing an appeals process, which will apply to key aspects of AEB delivery, including funding allocations, growth cases etc. This will be communicated to all AEB grant and procured providers and will be incorporated within the GMCA Adult Education Budget: Funding and Performance Management Rules 2020 to 2021.

On receipt of this letter, meetings will be organised, if desired, with GMCA and appropriate colleagues to discuss its contents.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E Boylan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eamonn Boylan
Chief Executive