

## **GREATER MANCHESTER ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND SKILLS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Friday, 10th December, 2021

**TIME:** 10.30 am

**VENUE:** Boardroom, GMCA, Broadhurst, 56 Oxford Street,  
Manchester. M1 6EU

### **SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

**13. DEVOLVED ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET - PROPOSED 1 - 18  
PRIORITIES AND APPROACH FOR 2022/2023 ONWARDS**

To receive a report that will inform the Committee of the proposed priorities for the Devolved Adult education Budget and the approach for 2022/2023 onwards.

For copies of papers and further information on this meeting please refer to the website [www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk). Alternatively, contact the following Governance & Scrutiny Officer: [paul.harris@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:paul.harris@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

This supplemental agenda was issued on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

<b>BOLTON</b>	<b>MANCHESTER</b>	<b>ROCHDALE</b>	<b>STOCKPORT</b>	<b>TRAFFORD</b>
<b>BURY</b>	<b>OLDHAM</b>	<b>SALFORD</b>	<b>TAMESIDE</b>	<b>WIGAN</b>

Please note that this meeting will be livestreamed via [www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk), please speak to a Governance Officer before the meeting should you not wish to consent to being included in this recording.

## Membership of the Committee 2021/22

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Political Party</b>
Councillor Barry Brotherton	Trafford	Labour
Councillor Kate Butler	Stockport	Labour
Councillor Ray Dutton	Rochdale	Labour
Councillor Susan Haworth	Bolton	Labour
Councillor Michael Holly	Rochdale	Conservative
Councillor Stephen Homer	Tameside	Labour
Councillor George Hulme	Oldham	Labour
Councillor Jim King	Salford	Labour
Councillor Charles Rigby	Wigan	Labour
Councillor Samuel Rimmer	Bolton Council	Conservative
Councillor Becky Senior	Stockport Council	Liberal Democrats
Councillor Greg Stanton	Manchester	Labour
Councillor Mary Whitby	Bury	Labour
Councillor Michael Winstanley	Wigan	Conservative

## Economy Business Growth & Skills Overview & Scrutiny

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Subject: Devolved Adult Education Budget - Proposed Priorities and Approach for 2022/2023 onwards

Report of: Councillor Western, Portfolio Lead for Digital, Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships and Tom Stannard, Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships

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### PURPOSE OF NOTE:

The purpose of the attached presentation is to provide Members with an overview of:

- Progress against the planned priorities since the inception of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) programme since August 2019.
- Outline the proposed process for continuing plan-led grant funding agreements and extensions to the procured contracts for 2022/2023 (academic year).
- Outline the proposed refreshed objectives for the Adult Education Programme, in preparation for implementation from 2022/2023 (academic year).

Any final recommendations will be published at the GMCA December meeting.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are asked to:

- Consider and note the information contained within the presentation, including progress and impact of the devolved AEB, arrangements for 2022/2023 (academic year) onwards and refresh of the AEB objectives.

### CONTACT OFFICERS:

Gemma Marsh, Director of Education, Skills and Work, GMCA; Email address: [Gemma.marsh@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Gemma.marsh@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

Sharon Kelly, Senior Principal Skills Manager, GMCA; Email address: [Sharon.kelly@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Sharon.kelly@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

Report authors must identify which paragraph relating to the following issues:

## **Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:**



GMCA Co-Benefits  
Decision Support To

### **Risk Management**

GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate will continue to work with the selected providers to ensure comprehensive processes are in place to identify and mitigate risks, including managing the performance of the delivery, linked to the Devolved AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules, which includes audit and compliance procedures and risk ratings applied to individual providers during the year.

### **Legal Considerations**

GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate will continue to work with the legal support from MCC, to ensure all contractual documents are appropriate and in place for the academic year.

### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

Revenue funding is taken from the Adult Education Budget, which is received on an annual basis each financial year. There are no financial decisions to be taken within this report.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

**Not applicable.**

### **Number of attachments to the report: 1**



AEB Progress and  
Planned Approach L

### **Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**Not applicable at this stage**

### **Background Papers**

**Not applicable**

## **Tracking/ Process**

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

Yes / ~~Ne~~ [Delete as appropriate]

## **Exemption from call in**

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? No

**GM Transport Committee**

**Not applicable**

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

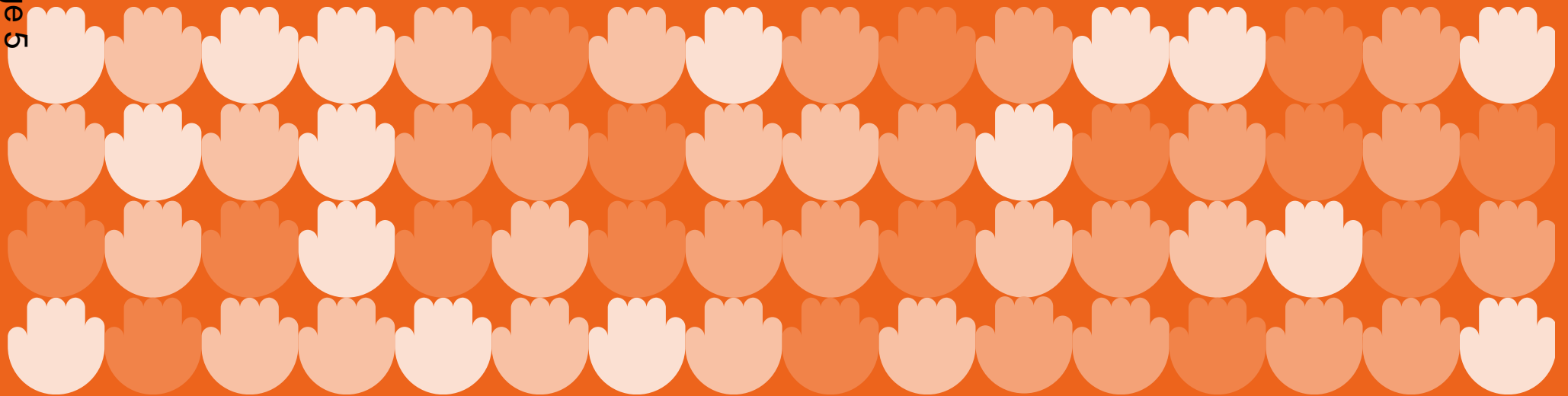
**10<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

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# GM Devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) Progress and Planned Approach Update

Economy Business Growth & Skills Overview & Scrutiny – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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# Progress and Planned Approach Update

## Progress against original priorities

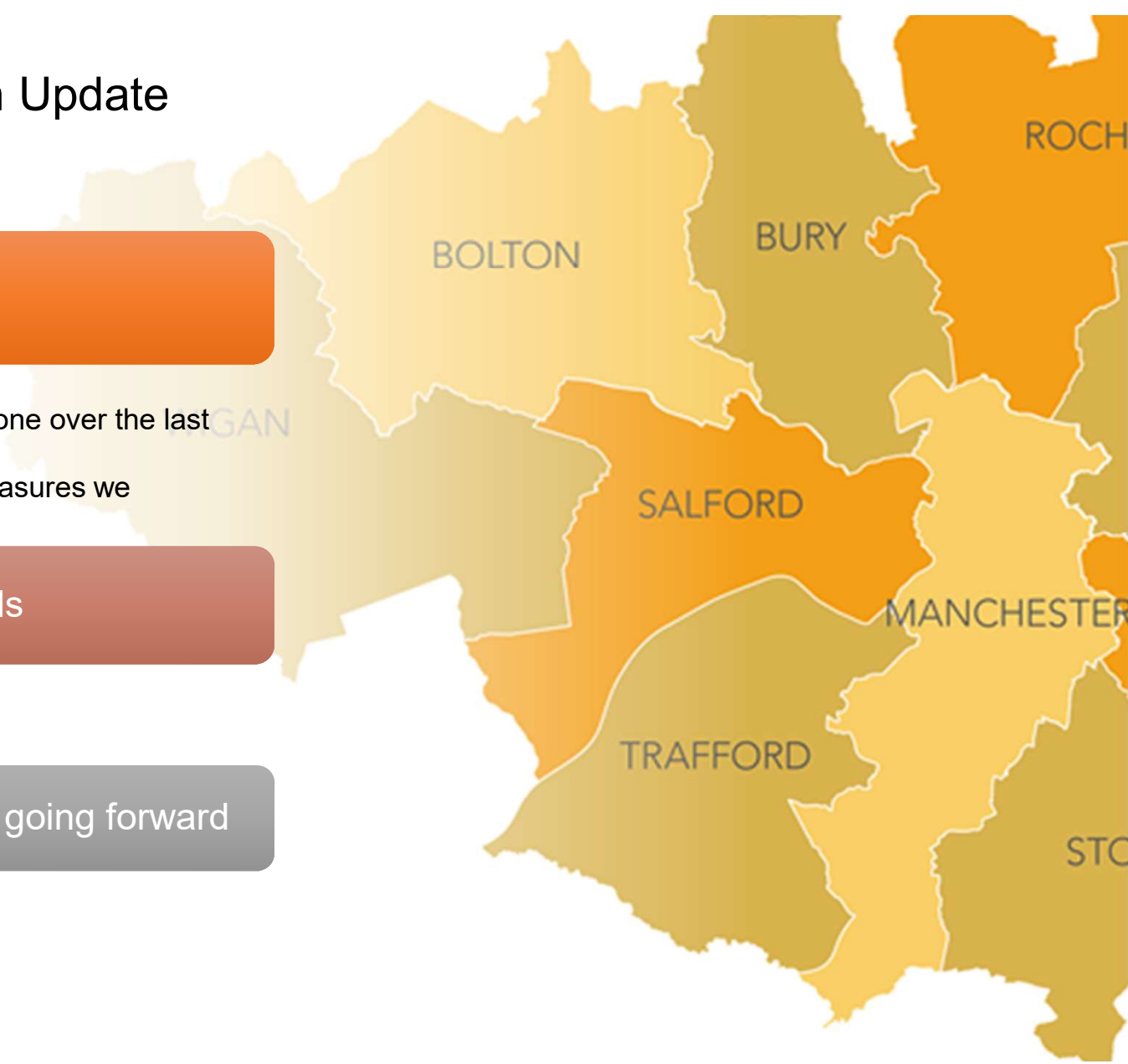
- Why are we looking at the original priorities?
- What impact COVID has had on what we have done over the last two years?
- What was not progressed due to the support, measures we implemented during covid?

## Planned approach for 2022/2023 onwards

- Options for the way forward
- Points for consideration

## Focus and objectives for GM Adult Skills going forward

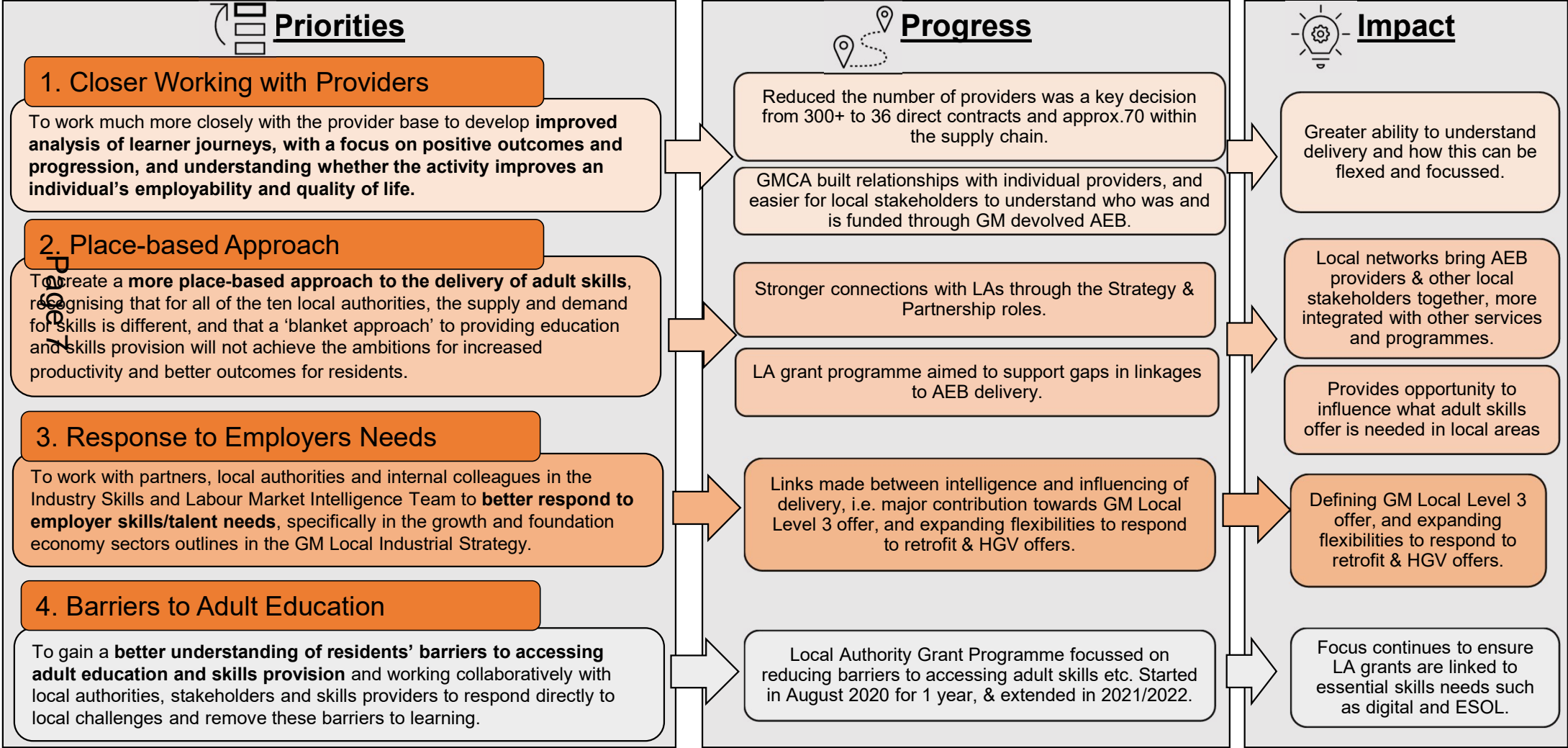
- What should AEB funding focus on.





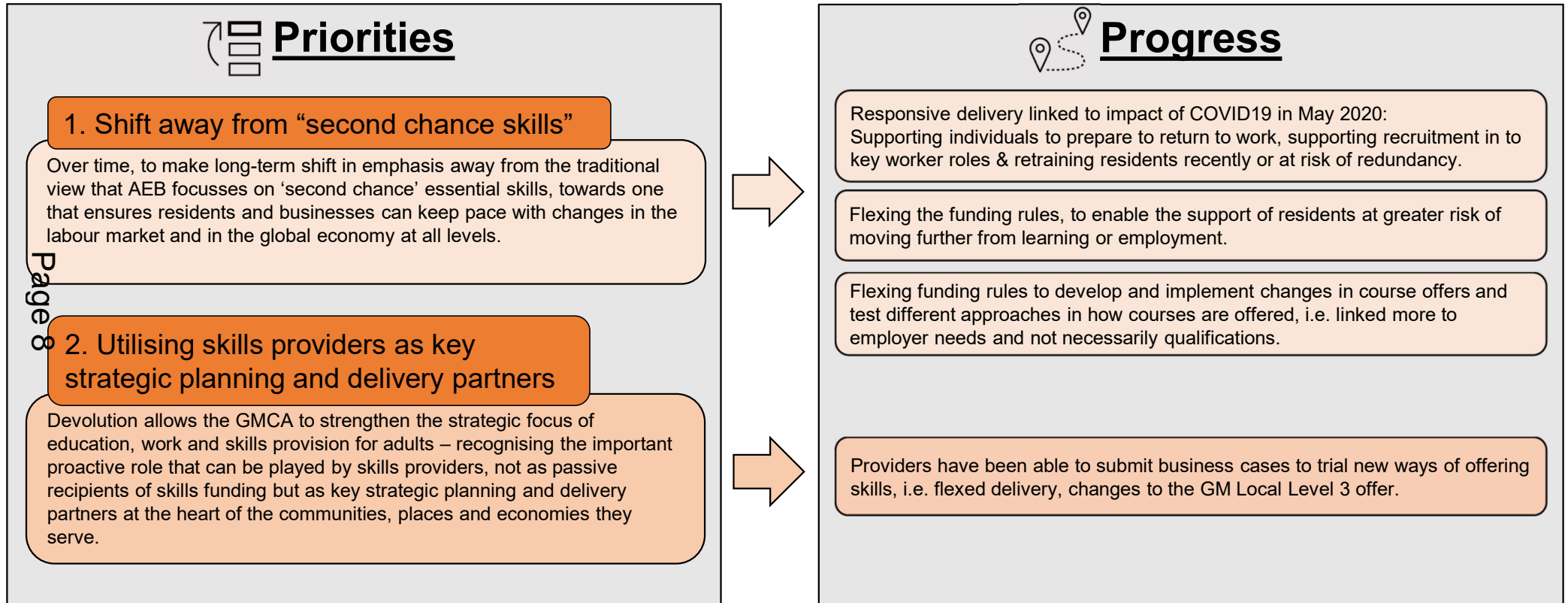
# Progress against original priorities:

## Short-term Priorities 2019-2021

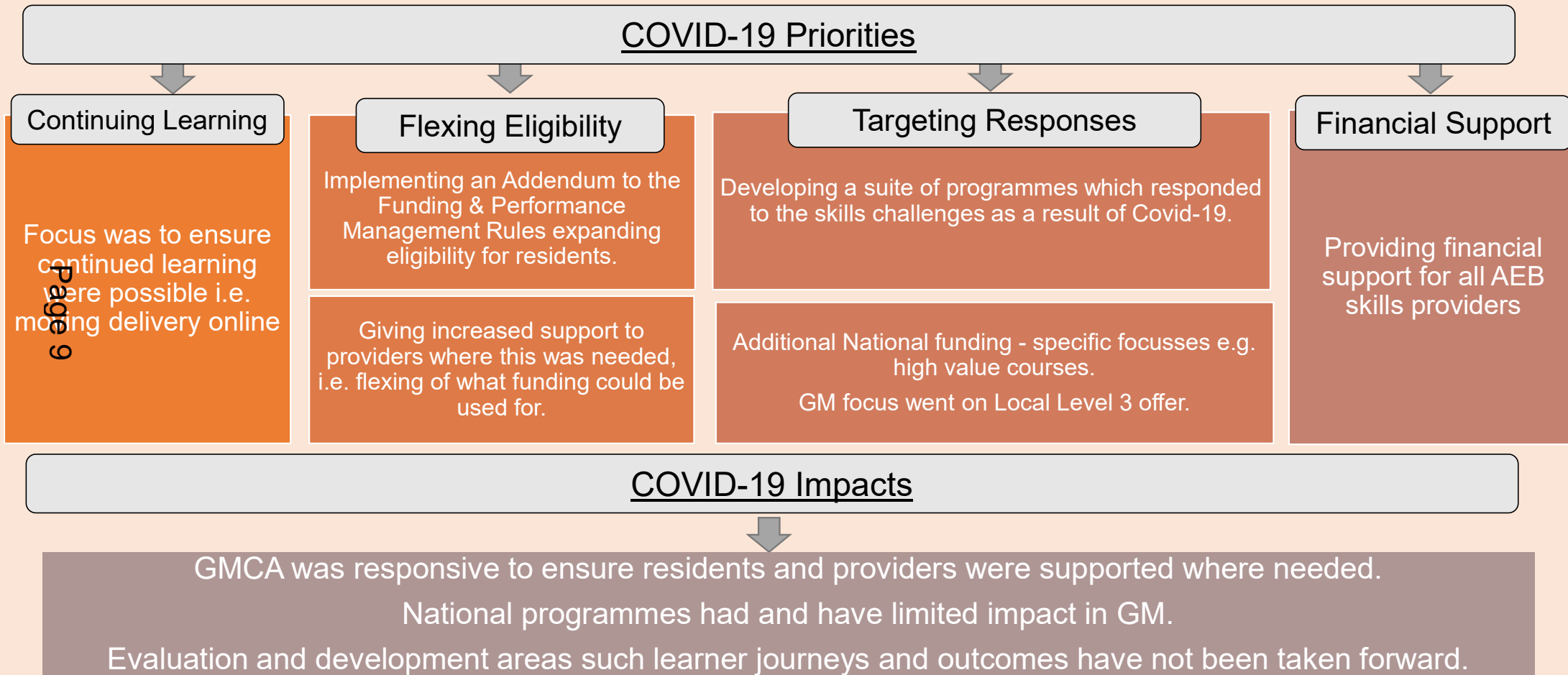


# Progress against original priorities:

## Long-term Priorities 2019-2021



# Impact of Covid-19 on delivering AEB priorities



# Progress against original priorities – Examples of what has worked

- **Supporting safer returns to work** – focussed on health & safety, infection control etc.
- **Rise of the Key worker** – recruit in to key sectors supporting the impact of COVID19.
- **Short Retraining programme** – focussed on retraining into Adult Social Care, warehousing, customer services

Expression of Interest: Labour Market Challenges Programme



- Updated rules to enable those who are **economically inactive** to be supported.
- In 2020/21 providers supported learners to enrol on **950+ courses**.
- Key activity focussed on:  
**ESOL, Digital Skills**, Supply Chain & Logistics, Security & customer service.

Economically Inactive



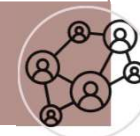
- Specific flexibilities requested in relation to delivery since February 2021 an example of these are:
- Mantra Learning's **Mental Resilience** offer supported individuals to recognise mental health and wellbeing, guiding learners to help themselves and others.

Other Flexibilities



- **£1.5m allocated** to LAs to support non-learning activity to engage residents.
- Implemented initial **GM ESOL Advice Service** across 7 LAs
- Supported 1900+ residents to access digital support.
- **New** local initiatives developed to engage adults in to skills and training.

LA Grants Programme



- Implemented a **GM Level 3 qualification** list which focussed on LIS sectors (growth and foundation).
- Eligibility includes funding **second level 3** qualifications.
- Individual providers are able to request additional qualifications to be added to the list.

GM Local Level 3 Qualification Offer



# Areas where further progress is needed



## 1. Closer Working with Providers

### Learner Journeys

Improved analysis of learner journeys, and a focus on positive outcomes and progression



## 2. Place-based Approach

Take forward a **stronger place-based approach**, initial groundwork continues to be developed, what is needed next?



## 3. Response to Employer Needs

Groundwork and initial steps started in relation to **responding to employer skills/talent needs across GM**. Now need to consider other areas which can be developed.



## 4. Barriers to Adult Education

### Understanding Barriers

Gain a better understanding of residents' barriers to accessing adult education and skills provision

# Planned approach for 2022/2023 onwards



**Options appraisal carried out for 2022/2023 onwards**



**Took in to account legal and procurement rules  
Considered variable periods  
Skills Bill Impact**



**Focus going forward will take in to account quality & performance**



**Review allocations**



**Final decision December GMCA meeting**



# Focus and objectives for GM Adult Skills going forward

- Aim is to have Adult Skills understood more clearly across GM.
  - A confusing landscape has led to reduced take up locally and nationally than previous years.
  - We want to be clear on who it is for, and what it is funding and why.
  - Address GM & local needs in the right way, not based upon a national format.
-

# Adult Skills Programme: Objectives, Themes and Goals

Adult skills as a key element in Education, Skills and Work priorities for GM

## Young People



- Young people leave education and training ready to succeed in the labour market, with a balance of academic, technical and 'life ready' skills

## Adults

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- Adults can acquire the skills, mindset and support they need to fulfil their career potential and adapt to changing employer needs throughout their lives, from entering employment for the first time through to highly skilled careers and retraining.

## Employers



- Employers have access to a system that is flexible, resilient and adaptable, and which meets their needs in the rapidly changing 21<sup>st</sup> century world of work driving a sustainable economic future for GM in which companies compete on the basis of high productivity, good quality work, and excellent employment practices

## Support



- Residents are supported by a welfare system, under Universal Credit, that provides access to good work for those who can, support for those who could, and care for those who can't



# Adult Skills Programme: Objectives, Themes and Goals

Adult Skills Programme will underpin these priorities with three key objectives. These are to ensure that all residents over the age of 19 will have the opportunity to:

1.



Encourage residents to re-engage with skills and training at any point in their lives, no matter what qualifications they have previously attained.

2.



Acquire a good level of competence in essential life skills such as maths, English and digital literacy.




3.



Develop the skills and occupational competence needed to progress further in their learning, work or careers on courses aligned with local employer needs.

# Adult Skills Programme: Objectives, Themes and Goals

Adult Skills Programme and funding will work towards these three key objectives through activity prioritising the following themes for adult skills from 2022/23 onwards:

 <p><b>1. Encouraging residents to re-engage with skills and training at any point in their lives, no matter what qualifications they have previously attained</b></p>	Engaging residents through first steps learning and skills.	 <p><b>2. Supporting residents to acquire a good level of competence in essential skills</b></p>	Supporting residents with high needs or disabilities to lead independent lives.	 <p><b>3. Helping residents develop the skills and occupational competence needed to progress in learning, work and careers on courses aligned with local employer needs</b></p>	Supporting progression to skills courses that focus on labour market needs.
	Improving health, well-being and resilience for learning and work.		Improving ESOL and helping new arrivals understand UK life.		Supporting national legal entitlement at Level 2 and / or level 3.
	Equipping parents and carers to better support children with learning at school or college.		Improving English and literacy.		Providing training and qualifications leading to employment, self-employment, or apprenticeships.
	Teaching residents about ways to improve the local environment and reduce their carbon footprint.		Improving maths and financial literacy.		Supporting residents in work to improve skills and be more productive or retrain to find better jobs.
	Supporting residents to get involved in volunteering and other civic engagement.		Improving digital skills and inclusion.		

# Adult Skills Programme: Objectives, Themes and Goals

When developing future funding for adult skills provision across Greater Manchester, GMCA will especially focus on the following cross cutting areas:

## Increasing Prosperity

- Increasing the overall prosperity of Greater Manchester by supporting skills training in the growth and foundation sectors of the economy highlighted in the Local Industrial Strategy as well as any other sectors impacted by the Covid pandemic. Adult skills funding will be flexible and responsive to future impacts and changes to the labour market driven by changes in the global economy and events such as Brexit.



## Reducing Inequalities

- Addressing inequalities and improving the overall wellbeing of Greater Manchester residents by targeting those who have experienced the greatest inequality and have the lowest level of previous educational attainment. We need Greater Manchester to be more equitable, with more opportunities for all our people, and this means levelling up, so that even the most disadvantaged residents in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods are supported and able to access high skills training.



## Focussing on Local Needs

- Developing a place-based approach to the planning of course delivery which benefits all localities in Greater Manchester. A wide range of stakeholder feedback as well as industrial intelligence will be used to determine community and employer needs at the local level. This will help ensure that providers respond to local needs in the best possible way in order to raise the aspirations of all residents and have a transformational impact on communities.



## Achieving a Carbon Neutral GM

- Supporting Greater Manchester to become carbon neutral by 2038 through the delivery of skills training relating to the green economy and showing GM residents how they can reduce their carbon footprint and/or improve their local environment. We will also prioritise the allocation of funding to providers or supply chains that demonstrate a strong organizational commitment to this goal.



# Adult Skills Programme: Objectives, Themes and Goals

## Key questions:

- Do you agree with the proposed approach / option for 2022/2023?
- Do think that the objectives we are proposing for adults skills going forward are appropriate?
- Key change in language used – is this clear?