

## Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: 24th March 2023

Subject: GM Devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) Update and Key Decisions

Report of: Councillor Eamon O'Brien, Portfolio Leader for Digital, Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships and Joanne Roney, Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Digital, Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships

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### Purpose of Report

- To provide members with an update on the closure and performance of the academic year (2021/2022) of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB).
- To approve cost of delivery support approaches to devolved AEB Skills Providers for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 academic years.
- Set out plans for the 2023/2024 academic year, including
  - progress of the commissioning processes,
  - allocations for the GM grant-funded skills providers,
  - continuation of the AEB LA Grant Programme, and;
  - funding for administration and management costs, and arrangements for a GM Traineeships offer.

### Recommendations:

The GMCA is requested to:

1. Consider and note the update on the closure and performance of the 2021/2022 academic year, set out in Section 2 of the report.
2. Approve the proposed cost of delivery exceptional payment to devolved AEB Skills Providers for the 2022/2023 academic year, and grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer, in

consultation with the Portfolio Leader and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to take forward the appropriate approach for the 2023/2024 academic year, as set out in Section 3 of the report.

3. GMCA are requested to (as set out in Section 4):

- note the proposed commissioning approach and progress the developments including for the second phase of commissioning, and grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Leader and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital to take forward the AEB commissioning, to contract award
- approve the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded further education institutions, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA
- continue to support the administration and management costs at 1.8% of the overall devolved AEB funding for the 2023/2024 academic year
- allow GMCA Officers and wider stakeholders to agree a GM offer for traineeships which now forms part of the funding under the devolved AEB allocation and grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to take forward any commissioning, including to contract award where relevant.

4. The Mayor is requested to approve (as set out in Section 4):

- proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded local authorities, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to approve any minor changes that arise in the course of discussions between each local authority and GMCA
- approve the continuation of the AEB LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities, supporting alleviating barriers to adult skills, improving digital inclusion through skills, and continue the support of the GM ESOL Advice Service for 2023/2024.





### Contact Officers

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

## Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Impacts Questionnaire			
Impact Indicator	Result	Justification/Mitigation	
Equality and Inclusion	G		
Health	G		
Resilience and Adaptation	G		
Housing			
Economy	G		
Mobility and Connectivity			
Carbon, Nature and Environment			
Consumption and Production			
Contribution to achieving the GM Carbon Neutral 2038 target		This proposal supports 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 organisational commitment to this goal.	
Further Assessment(s):	N/A		
 Positive impacts overall, whether long or short term.	 Mix of positive and negative impacts. Trade-offs to consider.	 Mostly negative, with at least one positive aspect. Trade-offs to consider.	 Negative impacts overall.

Carbon Assessment		
Overall Score	#DIV/0!	
Buildings	Result	Justification/Mitigation

New Build residential	N/A	
Residential building(s) renovation/maintenance	N/A	
New Build Commercial/ Industrial	N/A	
<b>Transport</b>		
Active travel and public transport	N/A	
Roads, Parking and Vehicle Access	N/A	
Access to amenities	N/A	
Vehicle procurement	N/A	
<b>Land Use</b>		
Land use	N/A	

No associated carbon impacts expected.	High standard in terms of practice and awareness on carbon.	Mostly best practice with a good level of awareness on carbon.	Partially meets best practice/ awareness, significant room to improve.	Not best practice and/ or insufficient awareness of carbon impacts.
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## **Risk Management**

GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate will continue to work with 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 devolved Adult Education Budget and Free Courses for Jobs funding, allocated on an academic year basis, and received each relevant financial year.

## **Financial Consequences – Capital**

**Not applicable**

**Number of attachments to the report: 0**

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

### **Background Papers**

The following is a list of the background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100D (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents, which would disclose exempt or confidential information as identified by that Act.

- [GMCA Part A Report Template \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) - Greater Manchester Devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) 2022/2023 Academic Year and National Skills Fund Level 3 Adult Offer
- [Economic Development \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) - GM Adult Education Budget: Single Pot Approach to Level 3 Funding for GM
- [22 GM Adult Education Budget - Update on Commissioning Approach for 2023/24 FINAL.pdf \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) - Devolution of the Adult Education Budget (AEB): Update on Commissioning approach for 2023/24

### **Tracking/ Process**

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

Yes

### **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**

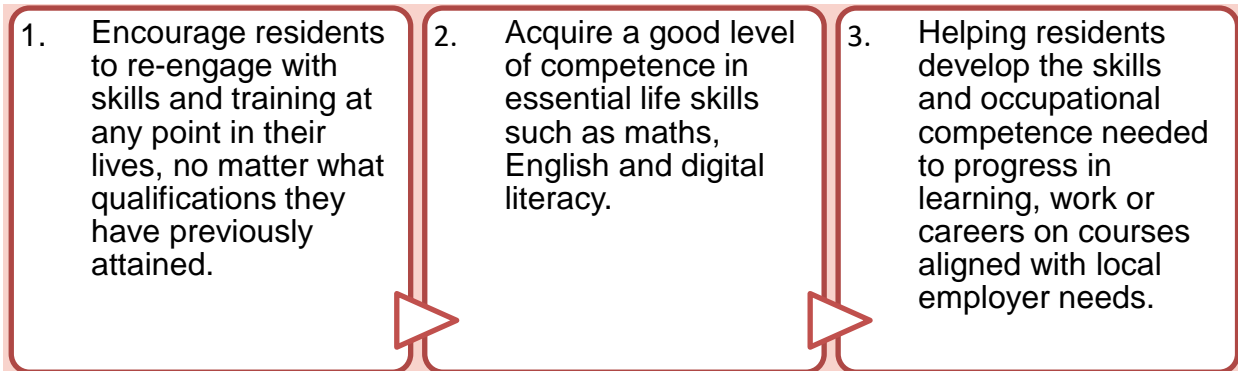
Not applicable

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Adult Education Budget (AEB) is a single budget stream bringing together adult education funding (19yrs+ provision with the exception of apprenticeships/traineeships/bootcamps), community learning, and discretionary learner support. Alongside this GMCA also receives an annual allocation for the National Free Courses for Jobs offer, targeted at supporting adults 19yrs+ to access Level 3 qualifications.
- 1.2 The AEB is intended to fund provision which supports the local labour market and economic development. It focuses on ensuring that adults have the core skills that they need for work, including guaranteeing a number of statutory entitlements relating to English, maths and digital skills, as well as first Level 2 and 3 qualifications and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).
- 1.3 It is one part of the education, skills and work support landscape in Greater Manchester, which brings together large-scale national programmes managed and funded by various central government departments, devolved/co-commissioned activity developed and commissioned at GM level, and smaller scale targeted activity focused on priority cohorts, sectors and geographies (funded variously at national, GM and LA levels).
- 1.4 GM's system in which all stakeholders support the ambition to tackle inequalities and ensure:
- Residents reach their potential and are supported to enter, progress & sustain good work or learning;
  - Businesses are enabled to play their part in connecting & investing in a talent pipeline that is diverse & resilient.
- 1.5 This vision establishes three principles which are central pillars to all the Education, Skills and Work Directorate's work moving forward:
1. Reach your potential
  2. Advance equality in the labour market.
  3. Maximise the business relationship to connect & invest in a talent pipeline.



1.6 Under the Adult Skills refreshed core priorities set out in the funding rules aimed to refine the way that GM uses the devolved AEB to tackle inequalities, equip people for life and work, and help our residents to progress in learning and into/within employment are:



1.7 GMCA receives an annual budget every academic year (August to July) of approximately £96million for the devolved AEB and approximately £6.8million for national Free Courses for Jobs, with the final allocation determined each February prior to the start of the next academic year.

1.8 Devolution of AEB allows the GM to set its own priorities for funding and allows GMCA to align spending on skills to the opportunities and needs in the local economy. While much national reporting focuses on learner numbers and participation, devolution presents an opportunity to focus more on the impact that learning interventions have, and how they support residents to maximise their potential and move forward in life. This is a clear ambition of the GM Skills Strategy, and the GMCA will need to continue to work with providers to improve data collection to support this.

## 2. Closure and Performance of 2021/2022 Academic Year

2.1 GM has now seen its third year of devolved funding with over 56,400 GM residents who have accessed over 127,500 devolved AEB funded courses. This has been a positive increase of 8.4% of residents and 10.4% increase of enrolments on the previous year 20/21. Reflecting an encouraging increase in residents engaging in the adult skills system post pandemic.

2.2 Some of the key highlights to note during 2021/2022, in particular flexibilities implemented either during 20/21 or in 21/22 included:

- GM supported the provision of Driving Goods Vehicle training (LGV / HGV driver training) prior to the implementation of the national programme, since February 2021 and 21/22 saw the first full academic year in which this provision continued to be fully funded, with over 850 GM residents enrolling on relevant driver training courses, of which 420 have fully completed and achieved the qualification and a further 260 due to complete in 22/23.
- First full year of GMs Local Level 3 offer linked to the GM LIS and key foundation and growth sectors, a slow start in 20/21 with approximately 130 learners supported for the final term (April to July 2021) compared to approximately 1200 learners supported on a Level 3 qualification for the whole year. 44% of courses accessed were in relation to education and training (including teaching & learning assistants; 21% in construction (electrical, plumbing or insulation); and 18% in health & social care.
- GMs response to basic digital skills up to and including Level 2 for all residents, was implemented in 20/21 (National entitlement to L1 only), with over 700 residents enrolling on a Level 2 digital skills course in 21/22 compared to over 400 in 20/21. GMCA continues to support all residents to improving their digital skills and supports provision which enables residents to engage in basic digital skills.

2.3 Further details and a more detailed breakdown in statistical data for 2021/2022 is outlined in *Annex 1 – Update on closure and performance of 2021/2022 Academic Year*.

GMCA are asked to note the update on the closure and performance of the 2021/2022 academic year.

### **3. Cost of delivery support approaches**

3.1 GMCA recognises that the cost of delivering adults skills has increased and that in particular the level of funding per course that adult skills providers draw down, has not increased for ten years. The current cost of delivery has resulted in GM AEB providers experiencing further significant financial pressures, relating to costs for

salaries, utility bills, materials and resources, resulting in it becoming increasingly difficult for them to provide the high-quality learning that our residents deserve.

- 3.2 During the first half of 2022/2023 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate have been consulting with a range of providers and their representative groups, to gauge what approach could be taken and what level of support this would need to be and how this could be funded through existing resources.
- 3.3 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate are proposing to make available a one-off cost of delivery exceptional payment amounting to 5% of each provider's existing funding allocation for the 2022/2023 academic year to contribute towards supporting GM's AEB skills provider base. This would amount to £4,442,751 from underutilised funds from 2021/2022 academic year and paid during 2022/2023. As this is based upon the funding allocated and if any organisation does underutilise their funding allocation the exceptional payment will also be reduced in line with underutilised funds.
- 3.4 This approach and payment is unique to GM and recognises that costs have increased across all delivery not in some areas.
- 3.5 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate is currently reviewing the latest information released nationally on funding rate proposed changes for 2024/2025 and what other MCA/GLAs have or are implementing individually. There are significant reasons to enable a rate increase for GM provision, including:
  - The AEB funding rate per course has not increased in ten years;
  - The adult skills budget overall has fallen, and
  - The current economic climate is dramatically increasing operating costs, and this is affecting quality.
- 3.6 Given there are a range of options to be considered, GMCAs Education, Skills and Work directorate are planning apply a transitional approach for 2023/2024 before implementing any changes to the funding rates for GM from 2024/2025.
- 3.7 Any approach applied for 2023/2024, needs to take into consideration the exceptional payment for 2022/2023 and what could be applied from 2024/2025 onwards, without

having a negative impact on AEB funded skills providers for 2023/2024. The Education, Skills and Work directorate, will develop an approach appropriate to enable a suitable level of funding is applied for 2023/2024. This will be similar in line to the exceptional payment approach for 2022/2023, however will take into consideration actual delivery. The level of percentage applied will require additional consultation and consideration before the final level is agreed.

GMCA are asked to consider and approve:

- The proposed cost of delivery exceptional payment to devolved AEB Skills Providers for the 2022/2023 academic year, and
- Grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Leader and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital to take forward the appropriate approach for the 2023/2024 academic year.

#### **4. Plans for the 2023/2024 Academic Year**

- 4.1 GM AEB will continue to deliver changes which will support delivery of the LIS, GM Strategy, local skills improvement plan. GMCA will continue to develop and implement a range of GM and locally focused initiatives, aligned with ongoing policy developments and supporting evidence to target over and above the main statutory entitlements of the national AEB requirements.
- 4.2 In early February 2023 DfE confirmed the 2023/2024 GMCA AEB budget as continuing to remain at £96.9m for the academic year. This figure is calculated using performance data from the 2017/18 academic year and is a portion of the Adult Skills funding allocated nationally. The confirmed budget represents a slight increase of £616,510 on GMCA's 2022/2023 allocation, due an increase in funds for the 'uplift' funding for 19-23 years linked to the Free Courses for Jobs offer L3 funding (£71,107), and funding now distributed previously allocated to traineeships of £545,403 to GM.
- 4.3 GM also receives an allocation for the national Free Courses for Jobs offer, which is ringfenced for the sole purpose of funding a specific list of Level 3 qualifications, amounting to £6.8m for GM.

4.4 Summarised in this section are key aspects and decisions which will enable GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate to take forward the planning, implementation and progress of Adult Skills for 2023/2024, given the confirmation of funding as outlined above. Further details are outlined in *Annex 2 – Plans for the 2023/2024 Academic year*.

#### **4.5 Grant funded allocations and commissioning.**

GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate, outlined in October 2022, its approach to continue with the existing dual approach, with a combination of grant funding agreements with anchor institutions across our place, and procured contracts for services from a wider pool of providers, including some which can offer specialist training and / or support priority cohorts of residents.

4.6 As per the agreed approach outlined in October 2022, grant agreements will be established with 16 organisations across all parts of the city-region to deliver AEB funded provision to GM residents from August 2023. This group of Greater Manchester-based providers comprises those nine FE colleges, five local authorities and two sixth form colleges in Greater Manchester which received devolved AEB funding from the GMCA since August 2019 to deliver AEB-funded provision across GM.

4.7 Following confirmation of Greater Manchester's budget and that this allocation has not changed since the inception of devolved AEB, modelling has been undertaken. This has taken into consideration past and current performance, taking in to account the impact the pandemic has had on delivery, plus how allocations were agreed upon for the previous years. GMCA are working with a small number of providers to understand their previous and current performance and projected end of year position, and as to whether a reduction or increase in their allocation would be applicable for 2023/2024. Provisional GMCA funding allocations have now been calculated for each of these organisations, as set out in Annex 3.

4.8 Procurement of contracts for services is ongoing, with contract award expected to take place in April. There is an expectation that upon final award, procured activity will reflect responsiveness to the needs of place.

- 4.9 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate are now progressing the second phase of commissioning which relates to all Level 3 provision, excluding legal entitlements for young people aged 19-32 years old (this is already embedded in the core devolved AEB commissioning). The aim of the Level 3 offer will be to support a technical city region ensuring more residents have access to upskilling or reskilling at Level 3, which will enable residents to either progress in or into work or progress on to higher level skills.
- 4.10 GMCA approved in July 2022, a unique approach to funding Level 3 qualifications for GM, a Level 3 'single pot'. This approach incorporates funding both via the core devolved AEB and additional funding for GM received through the Free Courses for Jobs offer. GM received an additional allocation each year which is ringfenced for delivering the national Free Courses for Jobs offer, which is a restricted list of Level 3 qualifications. However, GM is able to incorporate a small number of qualifications which meet GM needs for to target foundational and growth sectors.
- 4.11 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Directorate is applying the same approach to the Level 3 Single Pot as it does with the core devolved AEB funding, a dual approach with a combination of grant funding agreements with anchor institutions across our place and procured contracts for services from a wider pool of providers.
- 4.12 Indicative allocations for the grant funded providers are outlined in Annex 3 and any remaining funding for will be progressed through the second commissioning phase as outlined above.

#### **4.13 AEB LA Grant Programme**

During early 2020/2021 GMCA approved an initial £1.5m investment to the ten local authorities, to support overcoming barriers to accessing Adult Learning. This was shared evenly across all GM Local Authorities and split into three areas of activity:

- Alleviating Barriers to Adult Education;
- Supporting Digital Inclusion, and;
- ESOL.

- 4.14 The Education, Skills and Work Team, continue to work with each of the 10 LAs, to utilise funding in ways which support residents and can make an impact as well as

maximising how the funding is used, ensuring that projects are capturing relevant impact and linkages to the wider Adult Skills offer.

- 4.15 GMCA is looking at ways in which impact can be measured and linked to other programmes to capture progress for residents who are engaged through the local projects and support offers.
- 4.16 A key focus is joining up the 3 strands not just within AEB, through to other elements such as the wider adult skills and work offer, broader issues such as supporting refugees and asylum seekers to access appropriate support and linked to the digital inclusion strategy.
- 4.17 The funding for 2022/2023 was re-aligned to encourage this closer working and collaboration, and it is intended that this should continue forward, with funding allocated as follows:
- Individual LAs to access up to £100k in 2023/2024 each.
  - The level of funding to be reviewed for the GM ESOL Advice Service and wider ESOL activity (non-provision support), with a minimum allocation of £500k, subject to funding available, split across the LAs based-on level of need.
- 4.18 GMCA sees the benefit of how the individual and collaborative initiatives work alongside the main Adult Skills provision and propose that GMCA continues to support the LA Grant Programme through the AEB funding for 2022/2023. Funding is however not assured for more than one year, until GMCA receive notification of the devolved AEB funding allocation in early February each year for the following academic year, in line with annual allocations.
- 4.19 Remainder of the funding for 2023/2024**
- GMCA will continue to utilise the full devolved allocation of AEB funding for 2023/2024. In March 2022, GMCA approved an increase to the administration and management costs, from 1.5% to 1.8%, well below the average administration and management costs for a major programme and low in comparison, to other devolved areas for the adult education programme. This level continues to enable the team to continue to take forward audit, compliance, manage, and monitor the whole adult skills offer under core devolved AEB and the Free Courses for Jobs funding. It should be noted that administration and management costs cannot be

taken from the ringfenced Free Courses for Jobs funding. The level remains both appropriate and proportionate to the scale and nature of the activity involved.

4.20 New for 2023/2024 is additional funding distributed across devolved and non-devolved areas which was previously allocated to the Traineeships offer. GMCAs allocation from this is £545,403, and both GMCA colleagues and local partners are yet to confirm how the funding is to be utilised, it is proposed that this will be considered in the wider young people and adult skills offer and linked to existing need and the strategy. If there is the need to commission additional services this will be done through the relevant procurement process which could include the Education, Skills & Work FPS.

GMCA is requested to:

- note the proposed commissioning approach and progress the developments including for the second phase of commissioning, and grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital to take forward the AEB commissioning, to contract award,
- approve the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded further education institutions, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA,
- continue to support the administration and management costs at 1.8% of the overall devolved AEB funding for the 2023/2024 academic year, and
- allow GMCA Officers and wider stakeholders to agree a GM offer for traineeships which now forms part of the funding under the devolved AEB allocation and grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to take forward any commissioning, including to contract award where relevant.

The Mayor is requested to approve:

- The proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded local authorities, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to approve any minor changes that arise in the course of discussions between each local authority and GMCA, and;



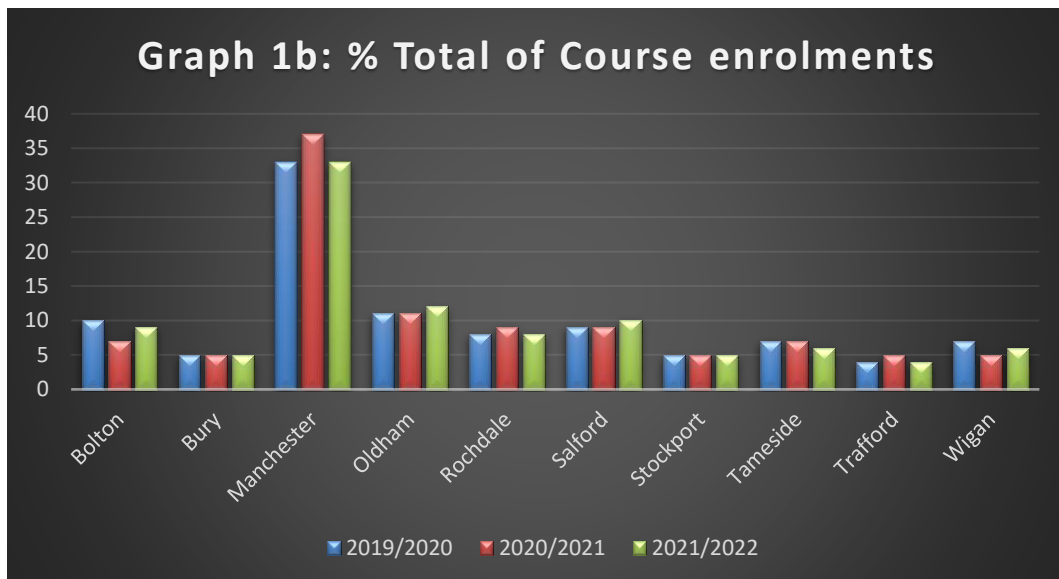
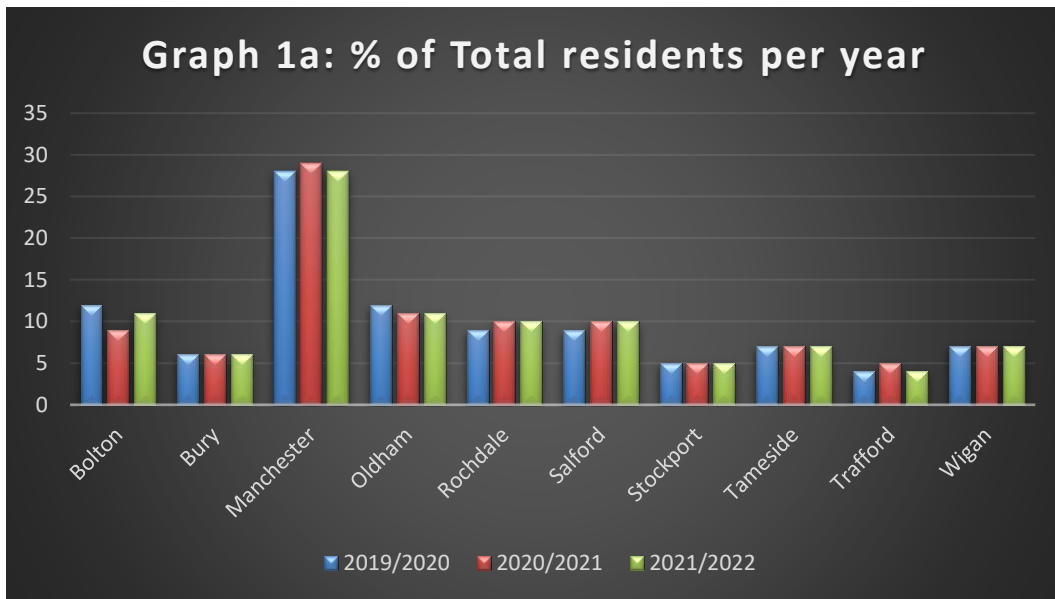
- To approve the continuation of the AEB LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities, supporting alleviating barriers to adult skills, improving digital inclusion through skills, and continue the support of the GM ESOL Advice Service for 2023/2024.

## Annex 1 – Update on closure and performance of 2021/2022 Academic Year

2021/2022 has been the first academic year which has not been significantly impacted by the pandemic, experiencing no lockdowns nor reduced face to face provision.

Graphs 1a & 1b provide a breakdown of the percentage of residents and courses accessed by LA district compared to previous years.

Resident engagement and course enrolments have remained consistent year on year.



Post Covid-19 pandemic the Education, Skills and Work Team has continued to support both GM residents and the provider base during the transition period, to ensure providers

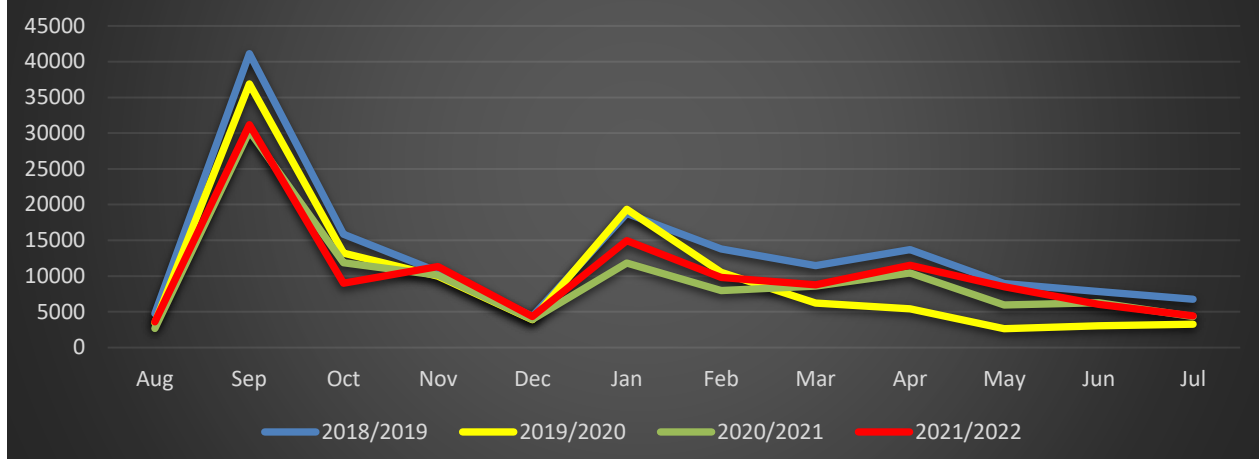
could continue to deliver skills provision. These additional flexibilities and initiatives included:

- Development of a GM-wide ESOL Advisory Service to centralise ESOL waiting lists, engaging with over 6,000 residents of which approx. 3,800 being referred onto ESOL provision. The model and approach is unique to GM and aims to build links between key local stakeholders to streamline the access, assessment and signposting to appropriate provision.
- Continue a suite of programmes aimed to support key groups of residents across GM who had been significantly impacted by the pandemic, including supporting the move to online delivery, extending learner eligibility and address the emerging skills challenges with approx. 2,000 enrolments on to these e.g.:
  - Supporting Safe Returns to Work: supporting businesses to provide health & safety and risk assessment training to staff to enable safe returns to work;
  - Rise of the Keyworker – Skills Pathway Programme: upskilling and reskilling unemployed residents to enable them to enter keyworker roles in critical sectors; and
  - Short Retraining Programme: short, intensive skills provision codesigned with employers to support residents to retrain quickly.
- Work with providers to continue to develop and implement new flexibilities which would benefit residents and businesses, such as continued funding of HGV driver courses.

There remains some impact on the delivery of AEB activity post the pandemic, particularly with a decrease in residents enrolling onto provision. There has, however, been a slow return to engagement throughout the academic year particularly at key points, e.g. September, January and April, which are key enrolment months for FE Colleges resulting in increased recruitment at these points.

*Chart 1* below compares the number of enrolments each month since devolution against the academic year pre-devolution. There has been a significant drop in the number of enrolments compared to the previous years, especially in September and January. For the 2021/2022 academic year certain points in the year showed a marked improvement, i.e. January and April although enrolments are still below the levels pre Covid-19.

**Chart 1: GM AEB Enrolments by Start Month  
(2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 & 2021/22)**



Devolved AEB skills providers delivered 90.2% of their planned funding allocations in 2021/2022, which reflected the increase in both learners supported and the volume of course enrolments. This demonstrates the work and commitment of the GM AEB provider base, ensuring residents were supported and offered the learning they required. A full breakdown of how the full devolved AEB funding was utilised in 2021/2022 is outlined in the table below:

	2021/2022 Planned £m	2021/2022 Actual Spend £m	As a % of Planned
Administration & Management costs	1.5	1.3	86.7%
Core AEB Provision for grant funded	66.7	63.8	95.6%
Core AEB Provision for procured	23.2	19.6	84.5%
GM Local Level 3 offer Provision	3.1	1.6	51.6%
LA Grants Programme	1.5	0.4	26.7%

## **Annex 2 – Plans for the 2023/2024 Academic year.**

The commissioning process is progressing at pace in line with the approach approved. The procurement process for all non-grant funded provision has now moved to the main negotiation stage, after receiving in total 49 submissions across two Lots (Lot 1 focussed on unemployed residents and Lot 2 focussed on employed residents). Contracts will range in value from £250k up to £4m, depending on whether delivery is across a small number of local authority areas or all.

In taking forward the commissioning, GMCA held a number of provider/market engagement events, including networking between providers to enable the development of potential supply chains.

A fundamental feature of the ITT requirements is the need for tenders to have a strong understanding of place and the target groups, in particular to engage with residents who have no or low skills qualifications, with the expectation that, in developing their tenders, bidders will have engaged with relevant local authorities and other stakeholders, in order to ensure that they have a comprehensive understanding of local needs and that their submissions respond to those needs accordingly.

Social value is a significant consideration, reflecting GMCA's commitment to procuring in a way that not only provides the best value for money and highest quality service, which also goes beyond the basic contract terms and secures wider benefits for the community.

The indicative timeline for procurement is:

- Invitation to mini-competition deadline: 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022
- Evaluation and moderation: by 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Negotiation process: to end of March 2023
- Contract award: end of April 2023
- Contract sign-off: May / June 2023
- Provider on-boarding: June / July 2023
- Contracts commence: 1st August 2023

### Annex 3 – Grant Funded Allocations

Table 1: Indicative FE allocations, 2023/2024

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>Current allocation 2022/2023</b>	<b>Provisional GMCA allocation 2023/2024</b>	<b>Indicative Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 2023/2024</b>
AQUINAS COLLEGE	£85,243	TBC	£50,000
ASHTON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	£156,477	TBC	£30,000
BOLTON COLLEGE	£5,847,365	£5,847,365	£150,000
BURY COLLEGE	£2,061,164	£2,061,164	£200,000
HOPWOOD HALL COLLEGE	£4,644,156	£4,644,156	£220,000
LTE GROUP (The Manchester College)	£17,409,543	£17,409,543	£1100000
SALFORD CITY COLLEGE	£6,127,216	£6,127,216	£100,000
TAMESIDE COLLEGE	£3,475,290	£3,475,290	£300,000
THE OLDHAM COLLEGE	£3,092,701	£3,092,701	£270,000
THE TRAFFORD COLLEGE GROUP*	£5,751,142	TBC	£150,000
WIGAN AND LEIGH COLLEGE	£3,518,930	£3,518,930	£250,000

\* (incl. Stockport College & Cheadle & Marple Sixth Form College)

Table 2 shows the indicative allocations for the five GM local authorities that currently deliver AEB funded provision. Whilst some of these councils deliver provision directly, others have established agreements, including transferring their allocations to colleges to deliver learning on their behalf, which has historically been community learning.:

Table 2: Indicative LA allocations, 2023/2024

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>Current allocation 2022/2023</b>	<b>Provisional GMCA allocation 2023/2024</b>	<b>Indicative Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 2023/2024</b>
BURY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£1,422,905	£1,422,905	£30,000
MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL	£7,624,356	£7,624,356	£220,000
OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£2,804,233	£2,804,233	£50,000
STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£1,210,294	TBC	£30,000
WIGAN METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£716,985	£716,985	£130,000