

DECISION NOTICE

(RECORDING OF DECISIONS MADE BY INDIVIDUALS)

1. Decision Summary:

Decision Maker	Date of Decision
GMCA Treasurer in Consultation with the Education Work & Skills Portfolio Lead	25.04.2024
Date Decision Published	Date Decision will come into force
10.05.24	17.05.24
Subject:	
Award Report for Greater Manchester Skills Bootcamps Wave 5: Cross Sector	
Reason for urgent decision:	
N/A	

Type of Decision: Non Mayoral or Mayoral Decision Made by Officers
Non Mayoral; GMCA Treasurer and Education Work and Skills Portfolio Lead

2. Details of the Decision:

The decision is that:
<p>Following a competitive procurement process using GMCA’s Education Work and Skills Flexible Procurement System, GMCA wishes to award four contracts with a value of £375,000 each (£1,500,000 in total) to the following providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bright Direction Training Limited - Realise Learning and Employment Limited - Woodspeen Training - Reform Radio CIC <p>The primary aim of Skills Bootcamps in the region is to ensure that residents are supported to fulfil their potential by entering into or progressing within those good quality job roles most needed in our local labour market, supporting a thriving productive economy. Funding is available to deliver short courses of up to 16 weeks co-designed with employers for residents aged 19+ with alignment to other GM wide activities for Education, Skills and Work and wider policy areas such as digital and green.</p> <p>Skills Bootcamps are funded by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of the National Skills</p>

Fund, which aims to help business find and hire the workers they need as well as supporting adults to flourish and fulfil their potential through high quality training. In 24/25, GMCA will receive £7m of grant funding from DfE to support c2100 residents to undertake Skills Bootcamps in key sectors with a focus on addressing local priorities.

Between June and November 2023, GMCA commissioned 12 lead providers, partnering with employers to deliver Bootcamps in key growth and high employment sectors to residents aged 19+ in the region. These 2-year Skills Bootcamps projects are delivering across a range of sectors including; Digital & Tech, Construction & Green Skills, Manufacturing & Engineering, Hospitality, Events & Security, Education, and Social Care and the majority of this delivery will continue into 2024/25. Using the remaining funding, GMCA is now looking to procure lead organisations partnering with employers to deliver Skills Bootcamps targeting specific skills gaps across sectors to residents aged 19+ in the region.

GMCA requires that:

- Providers are highly engaged with employers from start to finish and work with them to co-design programmes ensuring every participant has a guaranteed interview.
- Residents progress into a positive outcome such as: a new job, upskilling within their current employer/role and increasing work in the case of the self-employed.
- Providers support unemployed residents, the low-skilled workforce and residents requiring higher level skills (Level 3+) for progression.

The reasons for the decisions are:

GMCA have run a competitive process in which 8 bids were received in total.

Each bid was sent to a full evaluation panel. Individual evaluations were undertaken on each organisations Financial and Economic Standing, Information Governance and Safeguarding policies and procedures. Each of these was undertaken by a specialist from the relevant GMCA department and conducted in line with the processes published within the procurement documentation.

Bidders were also required to meet minimum requirements for Ofsted or, where no recent Ofsted inspect was available, produce a good internal Self-Assessment Report.

The Mini-Competition comprised of 2 parts, the first being Quality questions which accounted for 85% of the total score. The Quality selection process involved evaluating the bidders' responses on a number of criteria including:

- Evidence of Need (5%)
- Programme, Content, Design & Delivery (20%)
- Employer Engagement (20%)
- Learner Engagement (15%)
- Track Record (5%)
- Quality & Performance Management (10%)
- Financial Value for Money (10%)

Social Value was weighted as 15% of the overall score (7.5% Qualitative and 7.5% Quantitative) and was evaluated via the Social Value Portal.

<p>Following a rigorous evaluation process, the bidders were ranked based on their total score. Any bidders who failed any of the key due diligence evaluations, as described above, were excluded from the process.</p> <p>Contracts will be awarded to the bidders listed above.</p>
<p>Alternative options considered and rejected when making the decision:</p>
<p>List Non-confidential reports Reports to be considered that can be made available to the public</p>
<p>It was proposed in this paper that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer in consultation with the Portfolio lead for the Education, Skills, Work Apprenticeships and Digital to agree the commissioning route for Skills Bootcamps between 2023 and 2025 alongside delegating the authority to approve individual contract awards and any subsequent extensions.</p> <p>The decision was that delegated authority was approved, as can be seen here.</p>
<p>List Confidential reports Reports to be considered which contain confidential or exempt information</p> <p>N/A</p>

3. Conflict of Interest:

<p>Record of any conflict of interest declared by any Member who is consulted by the member or officer which related to the decision:</p>
<p>As part of the procurement process, GMCA ensured that all members of the evaluation panel and project team communicated any conflict of interests and signed declaration forms confirming that there were no conflicts of interest.</p>
<p>Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any conflict of interest declared:</p>
<p>No conflicts of interests were declared.</p>

4. Register of Key Decisions:

Register of Key Decisions Reference	Item 13 - https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=192&RP=136
Or if not published in the Register of Key Decisions - Reasons for general or special urgency such that it was not published in the Register of Key Decisions	

5. Scrutiny Call In:

Call-in deadline	4pm on 17 May 2024
Or if Exempt from Call-in explain how any delay would seriously prejudice the legal or financial position of the GMCA or the Constituent Councils, or the interests of the residents of Greater Manchester	
Scrutiny Chair who agreed the urgency	


6. Signature of Decision Maker/s:

GMCA Treasurer

Signed: 

Date: 29/04/2024

7. For delegated decisions which are to be made in consultation with others please include:

Name/s of politician/s or Officer/s who must be consulted (if any)	Consultee signature: by signing this decision notice you confirm that you have been consulted on this decision
Councillor Eammon O'Brien	

NOTE:

Both Mayoral and Non Mayoral Decisions made by Officers will be available for public inspection at the GMCA's offices and on the GMCA's website.