

## Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

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

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

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### Purpose of Report

To provide members with an update on:

- the achievements and performance of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2022/2023 academic year,
- the developments and progress of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year,
- set out priorities and plans for the 2024/2025 academic year, and
- note the approach to the transition to a single settlement for adult skills.

### Recommendations:

#### 1. The GMCA is requested to consider and note:

- the achievements and performance of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2022/2023 academic year, set out in Section 2.
- the developments and progress of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year, set out in Section 3.

#### 2. GMCA are asked (as set out in Section 4):

- To approve the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations and 'Level 3 Single Pot' for grant funded and indicative devolved AEB allocations for procured providers for skills provision and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to agree

any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA.

- To note the Level 3 Single Pot commissioning approach 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 this commissioning, to contract award.
- To grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Leader and CEX portfolio holder for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to make decisions relating to the procurement of skills & work delivery utilising any devolved AEB underspend.
- To continue to support the administration and management costs for the 2024/2025 academic year.

### **3. The Mayor is asked to approve (as set out in Section 4):**

- 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, including varying where necessary levels of funding per local authority.

### **Contact Officers**

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

# Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Recommendation - Key points for decision-makers		
Not applicable		
Impacts Questionnaire		
Impact Indicator	Result	Justification/Mitigation
Equality and Inclusion	G	The devolved Adult Education Budget supports all residents regardless of their characteristics, and subject to eligibility (residential eligibility set by the Home Office) It does aim to target support towards residents with low level or no skills, and those earning below the real living wage, by ensuring they can access fully-funded skills provision. The aim of adult education funding is to support residents to progress in learning and to move towards / into productive and sustained employment, as well as supporting those who may have different and complex barriers to accessing skills. Through this priority it will promote community cohesion.
Health	G	One priority with adult skills which this proposal fits within, is to encourage residents to reengage with education and training at any point in their lives through funding skills provision which aims to improve health, well-being and resilience for learning and work. Through this priority it will promote better physical and mental health for residents. A part of the devolved AEB is to support residents with digital inclusion, and the aim is to ensure more residents are able to obtain the necessary skills to access online services, including using health services.
Resilience and Adaptation	G	One priority with adult skills which this proposal fits within, is to encourage residents to reengage with education and training at any point in their lives through funding skills provision which aims to improve health, well-being and resilience for learning and work. Through this priority it will promote better physical and mental health for residents. The Adult Skills & Free Courses for Jobs funding will include prioritisation of some courses in subject sectors that promote the development of green and blue infrastructure such as energy efficiency, environmental conservation, renewable technologies and low carbon transportation operations.
Housing	G	As part of the devolved AEB, certain groups of residents will be targeted for support, and this may enable residents to be better informed and to access further support and assistance by engaging with local stakeholders linked to skills provision.
Economy	G	The devolved AEB and Free Courses For Jobs Level 3 offer will support employers to improve the skills base of existing employees including: - help residents develop the skills and occupational competence needed to progress in work and careers on courses aligned with local employer needs. - will support the retention and attraction of good jobs by prioritising courses that that support the GM Growth and Foundation sectors. - support residents to access adult skills and Level 3 offer and provide them with the skills needed for entering and sustaining work, an apprenticeship / traineeship, or other further learning.
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
Overall	G	Positive impacts overall, whether long or short term.
	A	Mix of positive and negative impacts. Trade-offs to consider.
	R	Mostly negative, with at least one positive aspect. Trade-offs to consider.
	RR	Negative impacts overall.

## **Risk Management**

GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Team 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 Team 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**

Not applicable

## **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://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) - Devolved Adult Education Budget - Proposed Priorities and Approach for 2022/2023 onwards
- [Economic Development \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.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 \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](#) - Devolution of the Adult Education Budget (AEB): Update on Commissioning approach for 2023/24
- [GMCA Part A Report Template \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](#) - GM Devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) Update and Key Decisions

## **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

## **Executive Summary**

### **Context & Background**

The report outlines key aspects for the devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB), and which is a key part of the wider education, skills and employment system for Greater Manchester. Its primary aim is to ensure all Greater Manchester (GM) residents are equipped for life and work, with good job opportunities to progress and develop within a thriving and productive city region economy. It is available to fund skills provision and associated support to GM residents aged 19 or over and is aligned to other GM wide activities for education, skills and work, and other policy areas.

### **Achievements of GM's devolved AEB for the 2022/2023 academic year**

Through devolution, GMCA has been able to bring about changes, which would not have been possible without devolved powers, including how GMCA and stakeholders have utilised and flexed the AEB, so its works better for Greater Manchester residents and the city-region. Some key highlights include, although not limited to (Annex 1 within the full report provides quotes and case studies from residents engaging in adult skills provision during 22/23):

- Flexed Offers for Greater Manchester – Expansion of the essential digital skills entitlement so that GM residents can study fully funded digital qualifications up to and including Level 2, which takes GM residents to a higher level of digital skills compared to the national offer, which is only up to and including a Level 1. Enabling more residents who's first language is not English to access ESOL courses.
- Devolved v National – combining a local GM Level 3 offer with the national funding, to create a single approach to funding Level 3 qualifications for GM residents and simplifying the offer for skills providers to promote and manage.
- Flexed Offers for Greater Manchester - Providing an annual allocation of £1.5 million of funding to the 10 Greater Manchester local authorities, to support local work and skills priorities. Outreach activities delivered under this programme are focused on engagement and addressing the barriers and constraints for residents around accessing adult skills, not focussed on delivery of provision, with an emphasis on engaging key groups of residents, digital inclusion and ESOL.
- Achievements for 2022/2023 - 56,000 GM residents were supported, and they accessed over 127,250 devolved AEB funded courses during 2022/2023. This has been a positive increase of 2.47% of residents and 1.51% increase of enrolments

on the previous year 21/22. Over 106,000 of the courses enrolled on were completed and achieved.

### **Developments and progress of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year**

Devolved AEB has now been part of GM's skills landscape for four and half years. In this fifth year GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Team, with key stakeholders, partners and skills providers has continued to carry out a number of projects and undertakings to ensure we are preparing for a stronger Adult Skills offer for GM. These include some of the following, with more detail outlined in the main report:

- Implementation of an interim funding rate.
- Adult Skills Evaluation.
- Testing approaches to bring different funding streams together.

To highlight spend in year related to under-performance and to enable the GMCA's Education, Skills and Work team to continue to ensure this funding is reinvested back in to skills and work activity which addresses gaps highlighted through GM intelligence.

### **Financial Priorities and plans for the 2024/2025 academic year**

For each year the GMCA's Education, Skills and Work team, set out plans on how funding is allocated to the range of skills providers, both grant funded and procured for the next academic year. Funding is also allocated to all GM local authorities to support residents to access the wider adult skills offer, e.g. alleviating barriers to adult skills, digital inclusion and ESOL. GMCA will receive £96.9m devolved AEB and £6.8m of Free Courses for Jobs funding for 2024/2025 academic year. This report outlines how GM will allocate funding and steps to be taken in preparation: Key points to note within the main report are:

#### Funding allocations & funding rates 2024/2025:

- Continue with existing dual approach, with a combination of grant funded agreements & procured contracts for services, across a range of skills providers.
- Continue with an interim methodology for supporting the increasing cost of delivery, through a flat rate increase to individual adult skills funding rates (costs per course) of 6.5%, as opposed to implementing the ESFA's new national funding rates from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

- Continue to apply a performance ceiling of 10% above the approved allocation per grant funded provider. This does not apply to procured as this is already built into the contracts process. The financial impact of applying this ceiling will be absorbed through reserves.
- Increase grant funded allocations by 2.2%, to take in to account stagnant levels of funding since the start of devolution. This increase has been realised from the ability to rebalance the Level 3 Single Pot for 2024/2025. Indicative allocations for both the core devolved AEB and Level 3 Single Pot are outlined in Annexes 2 & 3.
- Continue allocations for the procured as per 2023/2024. GMCA set aside a value of funding from within the overall GM allocation aside for procurement purposes, and this was applied for the next 3 years, with changes subject to provider performance and ensuring providers continue to meet minimum procurement standards. Indicative allocations are outlined in Annex 4.

### GM's Level 3 Single Pot

In preparation for 2024/2025, GMCA's Education, Skills and Work team is taking forward a further commissioning for the Level 3 Single Pot, to ensure GM maximises the full value of the Free Courses for Jobs funding in line with the measures set out in the Trailblazer deeper Devolution Deal. This procurement process is being launched mid-March 2024, with completion and contract award to be completed early/mid June 2024.

### AEB LA Grant Programme Continuation & Management & Administration Costs

GMCA will continue to invest funding directly to individual LAs to support overcoming barriers to accessing adult skills and continue to support the management and administration of the overall programme.

### **Transition to a Single Settlement for adult skills: Next Spending Review**

GMCA's Education, Skills and Work team has set out a range of the key steps required to plan and prepare and to move GM into the most solid position to deliver on the Single Settlement Skills Pillar. Key aspects, with more detailed outlined in the full report include:

- **Cost Benefit and Evaluation** on AEB to understand the true value of the 'skills pound'
- Maximising all current funding to support LA priorities & able to be made, but delivery costs more and there are currently more residents needing access to provision.
- GMCA is working with all Local Authorities to **set clear priorities for Place**



- **Ensure performance** on Bootcamps & Free Courses for Jobs meet the conditions set to trigger into the Single Settlement.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Context & Background

1.2 The Adult Education Budget (AEB) was devolved to GMCA in 2019 and is a key part of the wider education, skills and employment system for Greater Manchester. Its primary aim is to ensure all Greater Manchester (GM) residents are equipped for life and work, with good job opportunities to progress and develop within a thriving and productive city region economy. It is available to fund skills provision and associated support to GM residents aged 19 or over and is aligned to other GM wide activities for education, skills and work, and other policy areas.

### 1.3 AEB Strategy

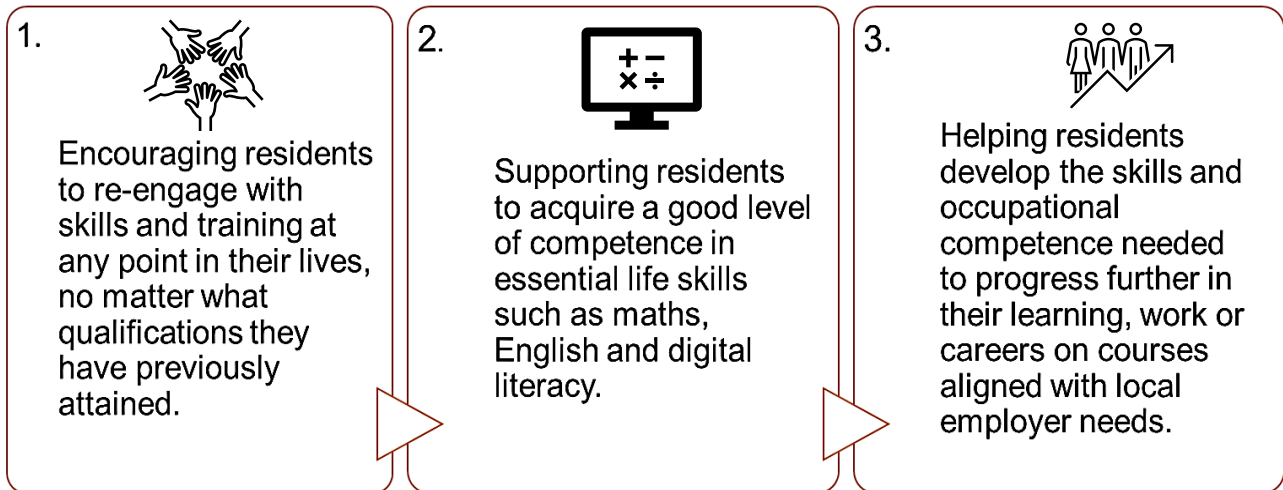
1.4 GMCA wants an integrated education, skills and employment support system that works for everyone as set out in the priorities within the [Greater Manchester Strategy \(GMS\) 2021-2031 good lives for all:](#)

- A greener Greater Manchester: responding to climate emergency.
- A fairer Greater Manchester: addressing inequalities and improving wellbeing for all.
- A more prosperous Greater Manchester: driving local and UK growth.

1.5 The GMS informs the AEB approach alongside the frontier and foundation sectors as identified in the [GM Local Industrial Strategy](#), the recommendations from the GM Independent Inequalities Commission: [The Next Level – Good Lives for all in Greater Manchester](#) report, as well as the in depth analysis provided in the [Local Skills Report & Labour Market Plan](#) and [Skills Intelligence Reports](#)

### 1.6 Devolved AEB Priorities

1.7 GMCA previously approved in December 2021, a clear approach to Adult Skills, with refreshed core priorities set out, aimed to refine the way that GM uses the devolved Adult Skills funding to tackle inequalities, equip people for life and work, and help our residents to progress in learning and into/within employment:



1.8 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 January prior to the start of the next academic year.

1.9 Devolution of Adult Skills funding allows 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 and training 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. Achievements of GM's devolved AEB for the 2022/2023 academic year

### 2.1 Key delivery elements

2.2 GM has now seen its fourth full year of devolved AEB funding, with some changes to policy, flexibility and ways of working introduced and reflects a diverse, single budget stream bringing together different strands of 19+ adult further education (excluding apprenticeships and traineeships) and discretionary support. The budget supports a wide range of regulated and non-regulated provision from pre-entry level up to and including level 3:

- all adults aged 19+ for English, maths and ICT user qualifications up to and including level 2

- a first full level 2 qualification for all individuals aged 19+
- a first full level 3 qualification for individuals aged 19 to 23
- a first or second level 3 qualification to all adults aged 19+
- ESOL: full funding is available up to and including level 2 ESOL provision for individuals prevented from looking for employment and / or unemployed and not claiming benefits.
- Sector-based Work Academy Programmes (SWAPs): designed to support Jobcentre Plus claimants build confidence to improve their job prospects and enhance their CV, whilst helping employers in sectors with current local vacancies.
- Local flexibility: a range of courses for adults aged 19+ incorporating qualifications, components of qualifications and non-regulated learning up to and including level 2.
- Community Learning: to widen participation in education and training to prepare adults for a range of next steps.
- Prince's Trust Team Programme: a 12-week course designed to improve confidence, motivation and skills for eligible residents aged 19 – 25 years old.
- Learning Support: available to meet the cost of putting in place reasonable adjustments for residents who have an identified learning difficulty or disability, to achieve their learning goal.
- Free Courses For Jobs Offer: a targeted level 3 adult offer to support adults without an existing full level 3 qualification. From 1 April 2022, adults who meet the definition of the GM low wage threshold (22/23 was £20,888) or who are unemployed and already hold an existing level 3 qualification will be able to enrol on this targeted offer.

### 2.3 Highlights from 22/23

- **Targeted Level 3:** In August 2022, GMCA introduced its groundbreaking 'single pot' funding approach to level 3 qualifications as the first and currently only devolved area in the country to adopt this simplified approach to make accessing level 3 qualifications easier for residents and employers, as well as skills providers. The single pot amalgamates different funding streams,

eligibility criteria and defined lists of qualifications into one funding pot. The approach means that:

- It simplifies a complex system for AEB skills providers and offers greater flexibility.
- It maximises the range of level 3 qualifications available for employers and GM residents to access with a greater emphasis on GMs Foundation and Growth sectors of the local economy.
- **Local Authority Grant Programme:** GMCA maintained its commitment to a place-based approach in the year 2022/2023 by continuing with the Local Authority Grants Programme, making up to £150,000 available from its devolved AEB allocation available to each of the 10 local authority areas in Greater Manchester to support local work and skills priorities. Outreach activities delivered under this programme focused on engagement and addressing the barriers and constraints for residents around accessing adult skills. Up to £50,000 was made available to each local authority for each of the following strands:
  - **Alleviating barriers** to adult education, skills or training within a local authority area - engaged with 4,645 residents, providing them with support on how to access adult education programmes as well as increasing their prospects of entering the workforce; 2,372 residents progressed into skills provision as a result of this support. Work continues to measure the outcomes for these residents, e.g. enrolment, completion, and progression into further learning or into employment.
  - **Digital inclusion** to alleviate digital barriers within a local authority area to increase access to essential digital skills for residents engaged over 6,000 residents, giving them increased confidence and skills to competently use digital equipment and feel digitally included; more than 290 local volunteers were recruited and trained as digital skills champions, to provide digital support to local digitally excluded residents; 6,164 residents were able to access a digital device or access the internet who otherwise would not have been able to do so; nearly 600 residents progressed onto essential digital skills provision as a result of this support.
  - Supporting the **GM ESOL Advice Service** to ensure a single gateway within each local authority area, for adults with English language needs to

access learning that is right for them - at the centre of this approach is a local, centralised assessment process and referral service into ESOL provision in each area; a key focus is to establish and manage one waiting list in each area that serves all local ESOL skills providers to reduce duplication, and; this service engaged with and assessed more than 10,800 residents with 6,794 residents enrolling onto ESOL skills provision across GM.

2.4 GMCA has implemented over the past four years a range of policy changes and flexibilities to extend the provision that was available at national level to benefit more residents across GM and benefit the local economy, such as:

<p>First Full Level 2 Expansion / Level 2 pathway</p>	<p>At a national level, only learners aged 19-23 were entitled to a fully funded first full Level 2 qualification. In GM this entitlement was made available to residents aged 24 and over who are either unemployed or employed, irrespective of their income.</p> <p>Supporting young people to access additional Level 2 provision which provides progression to further learning or employment not included on the national entitlement list.</p>
<p>British Sign Language</p>	<p>GM extended the legal entitlement to include British Sign Language as well as English. This is fully funded up to and including Level 2 for any GM resident whose preferred language is BSL or who cannot access spoken language due to a hearing impairment.</p>
<p>Low Wage Threshold</p>	<p>At a national level only residents who were earning below the national minimum wage, (£20,319), could have access to fully funded courses. In GM this was increased to reflect the national real living wage as per the Living Wage Foundation (£20,888), enabling more residents would be eligible to access certain skills courses and provision.</p>
<p>Digital Skills</p>	<p>All GM residents can access a range of free Digital Skills / ICT qualifications up to and including Level 2 irrespective of employment status or income. At a national level this only applies up to and including a Level 1 qualification in Essential Digital Skills.</p> <p>412 GM residents obtained a Level 2 qualification during 2022/2023 under this policy.</p>
<p>CSCS licence to practise for construction</p>	<p>In GM the CSCS licence requirements can be funded and incorporated into a programme of learning that supports progression into the construction industry. The funding available covers the costs relating to the delivery of a Level 1 Award in Health and Safety as well as the CITB Health, Safety &amp; Environment CSCS test and the CSCS blue card.</p>

	491 GM residents accessed the opportunity to obtain a CSCS card alongside obtaining a construction qualification.
Free learning for residents with English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) needs	At a national level only active benefit claimants looking for work can access fully funded ESOL provision. In GM all economically inactive residents with ESOL needs, irrespective of benefit status, have access to free ESOL provision up to and including level 2. This includes residents who are prevented from looking for employment and / or unemployed residents who are not claiming benefits, of which 1,219 residents benefited from this policy change.
Workplace delivery	GM will fund any learning at an employee's workplace that supports in-work progression and / or job sustainability and it is not a statutory employer requirement. Nationally only legal entitlements are permitted to be delivered in the workplace.
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) costs	Sometimes DBS checks are required for residents to participate in AEB-funded learning. In GM these costs can be funded through the Adult Education Budget where it is a requirement of the resident's course. Nationally the training provider usually meets these costs.
Additional course designs to support residents	Skills providers offered specific courses and qualifications in response to emerging need and included - Care Certificate for adult social care; relevant HGV and bus driver training; Hospitality, Catering and Retail Infection Prevention; Mental Health Awareness
Co-design of courses to meet employer needs	Development of a specific course for the food manufacturing sector to improve manufacturing plant repair time, linked to specific occupational roles and to improve productivity.

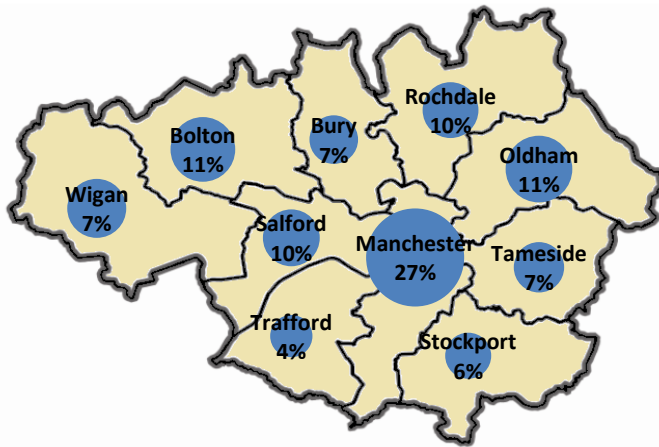
## 2.5 Outputs & Impact

2.6 56,000 GM residents accessed over 127,250 devolved AEB funded courses during 2022/2023. This has been a positive increase of 2.47% of residents and 1.51% increase of enrolments on the previous year 21/22. Over 106,000 of the courses enrolled on were completed and achieved.

2.7 Some key statistics as a result of the activities undertaken in the year include:

<i>Learners by Gender</i>		<i>Learners by Ethnicity</i>	
Female	61%	White	44%
Male	39%	Asian	24%
<i>Learners by Age Group</i>		Black/African/Caribbean	15%
19-23	14%	Mixed	5%
24-30	19%	Arab	4%
31-40	32%	Other / not recorded	8%
41-49	19%	<i>Learners by Employment Status</i>	
50+	16%	Employed / self-employed	29%
<i>Learners with a disability, difficulty or health problem</i>		Not in work (available/looking)	48%
With a disability, difficulty or health problem	18%	Economically inactive	23%
None or not known	83%		

Learners by home LA Area as a percentage of the volume of residents accessing devolved AEB funded provision.



Percentage of enrolments by Sector Skills Area (Top 5)

Sector Skills Area	Percentage of enrolments/courses
Preparation for Life and Work* of which, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essential Life Skills (English, maths, digital &amp; ESOL)</li> <li>Employability and preparation for work related skills</li> <li>Life &amp; Personal Development skills</li> </ul>	60.64% (66%) (21%) (13%)
Health, Public Services and Care of which, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry Level &amp; Level 1</li> <li>Level 2</li> <li>Level 3</li> </ul>	8.45% (35.4%) (48.6%) (16%)
Information and Communication Technology of which, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry Level &amp; Level 1</li> <li>Level 2</li> <li>Level 3</li> </ul>	6.06% (63.4%) (32.4%) (4.2%)
Retail and Commercial Enterprise of which, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry Level &amp; Level 1</li> <li>Level 2</li> <li>Level 3</li> </ul>	5.52% (53.2%) (45%) (1.8%)
Business, Administration and Law of which, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entry Level &amp; Level 1</li> <li>Level 2</li> <li>Level 3</li> </ul>	4.98% (50.2%) (41.5%) (8.3%)



\* Of the provision supporting essential life skills (English, maths, digital & ESOL), two thirds of these courses led to a qualification ranging from entry level to a Level 2, i.e. GCSEs.

- 2.8 Of those courses which were completed during 2022/2023 95.7% of them resulted in achievements. Courses which resulted in a qualification, 80% of these were completed and achieved during 2022/2023.
- 2.9 Overall provision is mainly focussed towards the sector skills areas below, with preparation for life and work, reflecting a continued need to support residents with the core essential life skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL).
- 2.10 These have not changed over the past four year, however outside of these top 5 sectors, two other areas, both essential to growth in GM are seeing a growth in take up by residents. Construction as a sector, has seen a marked increase since 2019/2020 accounting for 2.1% of enrolments, compared to 2022/2023 this has increased to 4.5%. A similar increase has taken place for the engineering and manufacturing sector, 1.4% of enrolments in 2019/2020 increased to 3.9% in 2022/2023.

### **3. Developments and progress of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year**

- 3.1 In the current academic year, 2023/2024 the Education, Skills and Work Team along with key stakeholders, partners and skills providers is carrying out a number of projects and undertakings to ensure we are preparing for a stronger Adult Skills offer for GM, this is including:

Implementation of an interim funding rate	The ESFA's changes to the national funding rates from the 2024/2025 academic year onwards will impact on funding paid to providers and consideration is being undertaken as to whether GM will apply the same rate changes or make appropriate changes to meet GMs own economic growth needs. For 2023/2024, it was approved that a 6.5% funding rate uplift would be applied to all Adult Skills activity (not including Community Learning or Learner/Learning Support Funding) for the following reasons:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatic distribution of the funds via a business-as-usual process.</li> <li>• It addresses provider concerns of static funding rates and follows a process GMCA implemented in 2022/2023,</li> <li>• The core AEB allocation to GMCA has been static since 2019/2020 and is therefore limited.</li> </ul>
Adult Skills Evaluation	<b>A full evaluation</b> is currently taking place of the devolved AEB and Skills Bootcamps programmes under an Adult Skills evaluation, taking into consideration whether and how the programmes are achieving their ambitions. It should play a primary role in generating learning from the programmes and evidencing both the successes and shortfalls of their design and delivery models.
In depth reviews of key areas of adult skills	Community Learning, and destinations and outcomes for learners and how these areas are relevant for GM, which will then lead to influencing funding structures and the development of a <b>destination tracking approach to support progression &amp; job outcomes.</b>
Supporting key groups of residents across GM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Supporting offenders</b> to engage in additional skills alongside accessing assistance to remove barriers to progressing into employment, linked to a GM Integrated Rehabilitation Service contract for education, training and employment.</li> <li>• Working alongside GMCA's Public Service Reform team, to provide an enhanced ESOL skills offer for <b>asylum seekers</b> and refugees.</li> </ul>
Testing approaches to bring different funding streams together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and implementation of a cross team Community Grants <b>offer for the voluntary and community sector</b>, to engage with our hardest to reach residents, using devolved AEB; UKSPF People &amp; Skills funding &amp; UKSPF Multiply funding.</li> <li>• Developing and implementing a single approach to providing <b>essential life and work skills for employed residents</b>, using devolved AEB and UKSPF Multiply funding.</li> </ul>
Preparing for Single Settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building a single approach to adult skills</li> <li>• Focussing delivery of skills towards a more place based targeted approach.</li> </ul>

- 3.2 In each academic year, GMCA undertakes to utilise the full allocation of the devolved AEB funding. However, during the year and in previous years, skills providers (grant and contract for services) have under-performed and funding is reclaimed or not utilised. GMCA has previously re-invested any underspend in year where possible, however, where the under-performance is not clear until after the year end reconciliation, funding is invested in the next period possible (financial or academic year). GMCA has invested in key activities / projects such as:
- In year growth – pre pandemic.
  - Response to Covid measures e.g. supporting furloughed workers, upskilling residents for key worker roles.

- Implementation of the 'Level 3 Single Pot'.
- Supporting the cost of delivery of provision during 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.
- Supporting the Education, Skills & Work Community Grants offer for the VCSE sector.
- Full Adult Skills Evaluation.

3.3 During 2023/2024 and in future years, GMCA will continue to reinvest funds, where possible in year, which addresses skills and work gaps, highlighted through GM intelligence e.g. LSIP, and support key areas of activity and specific needs identified by GM/LA priority groups i.e. care leavers, offenders, asylum seekers, refugees, over 50's etc.

#### **4. Financial Priorities and plans for the 2024/2025 academic year**

4.1 GM AEB will continue to deliver changes which will support delivery of the LIS, GM Strategy, local skills improvement plan and linked to the career pathways as part of the Integrated Technical Education. 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 January 2024 DfE confirmed the 2024/2025 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.

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 nationally set list of Level 3 qualifications, amounting to £6.8m for GM. Through the trailblazer deeper devolution deal, GM has greater flexibility of this funding to spend up to 50% on any Level 3 adult qualifications deemed necessary by GMCA to meet local skills needs.

#### **4.4 Funding allocations & funding rates 2024/2025**

4.5 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Team, 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.

- 4.6 When considering allocations and methodology it is important to note the funding GM inherited had no simple national formula or allocation methodology basis, for example, a per capita unit cost by district, as the nature of adult education provision does not lend itself to such an approach. When the funding was devolved, for the start of the 2019/2020 academic year, the allocation and hence resulting funding envelope to Greater Manchester, was based purely upon the volume of GM residents accessing adult education funded activity across England (based on 2017/2018 delivery data, the last full academic year for which data was available prior to DfE confirming MCA allocations) and the resulting value associated to this volume. For Greater Manchester this equated to a share of the national funding pot of 7.21% for adult skills. This funding share has not changed since 2019/2020 and does not reflect an allocation of funding based upon population or any other split of demographic data.
- 4.7 In recent years GMCA recognised 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. During 2022/2023 GMCA approved interim methodologies to support the cost of delivery through the devolved AEB, for both the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 academic years. Work continues to both understand and consult with GMs grant funded and procured skills providers, on the ESFA's changes to the national funding rates from the 2024/2025 academic year onwards and whether GM will apply the same rate changes or make appropriate adaptations to meet GMs own economic growth needs as GM approaches the Single Settlement in the next SR.
- 4.8 For 23/24 taking into consideration approaches both nationally and from other devolved area for an interim transition, GMCA applied a straight increase to the individual current adult skills funding rates of 6.5% and included an increased performance ceiling of up to 110%, recognising that providers may reach their full allocation earlier, and which could result in potentially decreasing the number of residents being supported through learning.

- 4.9 For 24/25 considering that this is a transition year towards the single settlement and that the funding envelope for adult skills has not increased, GMCA is proposing that the 6.5% increase to the individual current adult skills funding rates remains, as does the ability to reach 110%. This commitment will come from adult skills reserves as per previous years as outlined in paragraphs 3.2 & 3.3 above. However, this approach is not sustainable, due to the overall funding envelope received by GM remaining static.
- 4.10 GMCA is not proposing to implement the new national funding rates for 2024/2025 at this time, as the funding rates are complex, and do not take into consideration GM's skills landscape and the work proposed moving forward to single settlement, focussing on placed based priorities, as set out in paragraph 5.8. Additionally, if GM were to apply the new national funding rates for 2024/2025, this would result in a 22% reduction in the volume of GM residents accessing funded adult education, in comparison to 2022/2023, which is too bigger impact in this transition year.
- 4.11 Community Learning provision has been excluded from this approach (4.9), as grant-funded skills providers who deliver this activity set their own funding values for community learning, (i.e. based on the actual cost of the learning being delivered, divided by the number of learners attending) and consider the increases in the cost of delivery for this provision within the funding allocation available. GMCA will also ensure it is clear within the funding rules what can be funded through adult skills rather than community learning to ensure these funds are utilised in the best way possible.
- 4.12 An allocation change of 2.2% across all grant funded providers (including community learning grant funded) is proposed for 24/25 to take into account the stagnant level of funding received over the last five years. This has been made possible, even though only small by some rebalancing from the Level 3 Single Pot allocations- this at present is the maximum % change that ensures the funding stays within the current envelope of £96.9m. This coupled with the above individual funding rate and increased performance ceiling contributes to stabilising levels of learners and cost of delivery as GM moves towards a single settlement.

- 4.13 As stated previously there is no funding allocation formula for AEB so any change to allocations per year must be from within the existing funding envelope and applied across GM.
- 4.14 For providers funded through the procured contract for services, the funding rate uplifts where already taken into consideration as part of the procurement process and within their awarded allocation. GMCA set aside a value, within its funding envelope for procured for purposes and this value has already been committed to and hence additional resources are not available to increase the procurement funding allocation. GMCA will continue to support procured providers who over deliver in 2024/2025, based upon the end of year reconciliation by 3% above their approved devolved AEB allocation.
- 4.15 Allocations for all providers are set out in Annexes 2, 3 & 4 for the 2024/2025, and include core AEB allocations for grant funded and procured providers.
- 4.16 Where grant funded providers under deliver against their overall allocation GMCA will continue to reconcile at the end of the academic year and will recoup any underutilised funding.
- 4.17 The Education, Skills and Work team will develop a process for 2024/2025, where this supports local stakeholders and skills providers where they may have exceptional circumstances and / or can show their delivery meets local needs; supports the GM economy (e.g. support key areas of activity and GM/LA priority groups such as care leavers, offenders, asylum seekers, refugees, over 50's etc.) and they are performing against their overall contract, in year. This will only be available if there is in year underutilised funding.
- 4.18 GM's Level 3 Single Pot
- 4.19 GMCA approved in July 2022, a unique approach to funding Level 3 qualifications for GM, a 'Level 3 Single Pot'. This approach incorporates funding from both the core devolved AEB and from the national Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) offer. GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Team applies the same approach to the 'Level 3 Single Pot' as it does with the core devolved AEB funding, i.e. a combination of grant funding agreements and procured contracts for services from a wider pool of providers. Indicative allocations, with some proposed increased allocation, for the

grant funded providers are outlined in Annexes 2 & 3. The increases in allocations reflect grant funded providers who are performing in 2023/2024 and which contributes to ensuring GM meets its Adult Skills Single Settlement target for FCFJ, i.e. spend of 80% or more of the FCFJ allocation.

- 4.20 The remaining L3 funding, taking into account the efficiencies realised through bringing the funding streams together have allowed for the increase in allocation of core AEB funding, as per paragraph 4.11
- 4.21 GMCAs Education, Skills and Work Team are now progressing the remaining L3 funding through a targeted procurement process. The aim is to ensure GM maximises the full value of the FCFJ funding in line with the measures set out in the Trailblazer deeper Devolution Deal. This procurement process is being launched mid-March 2024, with completion and contract award to be completed early/mid June 2024.
- 4.22 AEB LA Grant Programme Continuation
- 4.23 Since 2020/2021 GMCA has approved an investment of approximately £1.5m per year to the ten local authorities subject to some change and value, to support overcoming barriers to accessing Adult Learning. This has been shared evenly across all GM Local Authorities and split into three areas of activity:
- Alleviating Barriers to Adult Education;
  - Supporting Digital Inclusion, and;
  - ESOL.
- 4.24 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.
- 4.25 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 2024/2025.

#### 4.26 Management and Administration Costs

4.27 GMCA continues to support the management and administration of the overall programme each academic year. 1.8% of the devolved AEB supports the management and administration. This is below the average 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 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.

### 5. **Transition to a Single Settlement for adult skills: Next Spending Review**

5.1 The following section sets out some initial thinking as GM moves towards the Single Settlement.

5.2 Devolution offers a number of opportunities and challenges, with growing agency to develop and shape place-based policy rather than operating within parameters determined nationally. But policy development is not the only area of focus. Looking to the 'Department style' single funding settlement, GM must lay groundwork for significant elements of adult skills functions / funding moving into a single pot covering a range of CA functions in the next spending review.

5.3 The previous sections in the paper set out the impacts that have already been implemented via Devolution, but the Trailblazer gives GM wider opportunities to bring together a number of funding streams that are aiming to support Adults with their skills. This includes Free Courses for Jobs and Skills Bootcamps (and potentially UKSPF & Multiply). This will be a step change for GM as it means alignment of numerous eligibility criteria and unnecessary complexity that the system over many years has caused.

5.4 It must be noted that the Single Settlement funding can give GM a great opportunity, **but it cannot solve all the issues in the current Skills & Work**



**system.** With this in mind for any funding decision the approach will be characterised by a number of guiding principles:

- **Person-centred; proactively advancing equality** by taking an evidence-based approach to identifying and tackling barriers to participation in learning and work.
- **Informed decision-making** that uses our solid understanding of GM ten local authority areas (similarities and differences) to make evidenced choices that drive positive outcomes.
- **Building and learning from existing activity**, recognising that we are not going from a standing start, either in terms of our understanding of the issues, the activity, infrastructure and partnerships already operating, or the decades of collaboration and learning that have brought Greater Manchester to this point.
- **Exploring all opportunities to make our collective but resources work smarter and harder**, using insight to shape policy and commissioning decisions that add real value where it is most needed.
- **Maximising all available opportunities of devolution** to add value to the technical education, skills and employment landscape in a truly integrated way, pooling levers with those of local and national partners and joining the dots on the ground in ways that national policy cannot but which still offer sufficient scale to effect change.
- **Providing vital stewardship to support system improvements** and develop robust policy, strategy and programmes.
- **Building partnerships and collaborating** to achieve our goals in ways that recognise the responsiveness that comes from agile, autonomous institutions but harnessing the opportunities and system cohesion that can only arise from working together.
- **Embracing two-way accountability**, rather than a commissioner/provider relationship – key stakeholders have more voice but at the same time are more accountable for playing an active part in delivering on the shared commitments of the Greater Manchester Strategy.
- **Actively innovating and forging new ways of working**, being bold in testing new approaches, sharing our learning - both within GM and more broadly - and scaling up what works.

- **Focusing on outcomes, not outputs;** bringing all parts of the system together to achieve effective, integrated solutions to both long-standing and more recent challenges facing our people, our businesses and our place.

#### 5.5 Moving towards a GM Skills for Life & Work Fund

5.6 Taking all the work and knowledge from the past four years, GMCA are in a solid position to embark on the next phase of devolution to ensure provision is targeted to GM residents need, considers Place and responds to employers. The proposed objectives of this combined fund will be the same as previously stated, however a much more evidence-based approach will be developed to look at the mix and balance of provision across each local authority.

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. Enable residents to acquire a good level of competence in essential life skills particularly maths, English, essential digital literacy and for those whose first language is not English.
3. Help residents develop the skills and occupational competences at all levels of attainment, they need to progress in learning, work or careers on courses aligned with local employer needs.

## GM SKILLS FOR LIFE & WORK

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

Enable residents to acquire a good level of competence in essential life skills particularly maths, English, essential digital literacy and for those whose first language is not English.

Help residents develop the skills and occupational competences at all levels of attainment, they need to progress in learning, work or careers on courses aligned with local employer needs.

COMMUNITY  
LEARNING

MULTIPLY

AEB

FCFJ L3

BOOTCAMPS

UKSPF

**Under the Single Settlement GM has a unique opportunity to bring together an adult skills fund that focuses on outcomes and not individual programmes.**

**It will work with local areas to define need across the 3 main objectives and ensure current barriers to funding and eligibility are reduced; therefore, helping more adults to gain the skills they need for life & work.**

**By reducing the complexity of funding together will also support employers to understand where they can access skills for their talent pipeline and will have clarity on where their investment is needed to enhance provision.**

5.7 Although the Single Settlement will have an Outcome Framework that GM is developing currently with Government, it has been agreed that a wider set of

outcomes linked to GMS are equally as important- these will include for Skills: links to residents into a job, progression, targeted equalities, Place differences, sector specific and cohort specific. The outcomes will also support wider than the 'skills' landscape and reach into family learning therefore having an impact on school readiness, supporting engagement for residents with multiple disadvantage and sector specific learning for retrofit as an example. These will be developed using the Principles set out in section 5.4.

5.8 In order to make the step change required there are many elements that need considering, to move GM into the most solid position to deliver on the Single Settlement Skills Pillar. This list is not exhaustive:

- \* Over the next year GMCA will be conducting a **Cost Benefit and Evaluation** on AEB to understand the true value of the 'skills pound'- this is critical as GM is clear that wider outcomes should be maximised.
- \* **Cost of delivery impact-** AEB has remained static over the past few years and the allocation will not significantly change as GM enters the Spending Review- the same methodology will be used even though this was based on learner numbers accessing funding in 2017. GMCA continue to work with DfE to make an increase business case to HMT but currently the allocations will remain the same.
- \* **It is not envisaged that allocations will change (above the 2.2% outlined above) to places at this early stage as the funding envelope won't change-** the focus is on maximising all current funding to support LA priorities.
- \* There will be an increase only made up by the other funding streams entering the GM Skills for Life & Work so efficiencies should be able to be made, but delivery costs more and there are currently more residents needing access to provision.
- \* GMCA is working with all Local Authorities to **set clear priorities for Place**, so they are at the heart of the direction of funding not the change in allocation.
- \* GMCA is also considering how it can maximise the funding within the envelope so that there is **not a significant drop in learners**.
- \* **Ensure performance** on Bootcamps & Free Courses for Jobs meet the conditions set to trigger into the Single Settlement.
- \* **Work with providers & stakeholders** to develop outcomes to meet the agreed objectives and move away from individual programmes.

- \* **Work with Local Authorities** to look at the mix and balance of how & who delivers funding to ensure it reaches the residents set out in the priorities as well as meeting business growth needs.
- \* **Work with DWP through the Trailblazer** to ensure funding aligns with employment programmes and support claimants to access specific skills for jobs.

**Annex 1 – 2022/2023 Examples of how residents have benefitted from the policies and flexibilities implemented.**

Essential Digital Skills	<p>I had been caring for my elderly mother with Alzheimer's Disease and decided to do a Level 2 Digital Skills after several years away from work. My confidence was knocked after being out of work for such a long time, and the course was so helpful! Not only did it bring me up to speed with digital skills, but also improved my confidence at the prospect of looking for work.</p>
Essential Digital Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I started the Digital Skills course as part of a package with Functional Skills Level 2 English and Maths. This led to me having the opportunity to join an access course for University. Passing the equivalent of 3 A Levels in 8 months was no mean feat! I would not have been able to do this without the skills developed on the Level 2 courses. I'm now studying at Manchester Met.</li></ul>
Essential Digital Skills	<p>I gained IT skills to support my job as a teacher, completing the ICDL Level 2. I now have confidence using Microsoft Powerpoint, Excel and Word to help me make materials for the classroom and has reduced the amount of time spent on preparation.</p>
HGV (LGV) Driver Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This course has really helped me getting into the driving of LGVs, as I didn't know too much about them before. It also taught me so much about the industry and I'm now a lot more confident. I gained employment shortly after passing my test. I currently work for a company which helps in the repairing of roads, where I'm responsible for driving a rigid vehicle to help pick materials up.</li></ul>

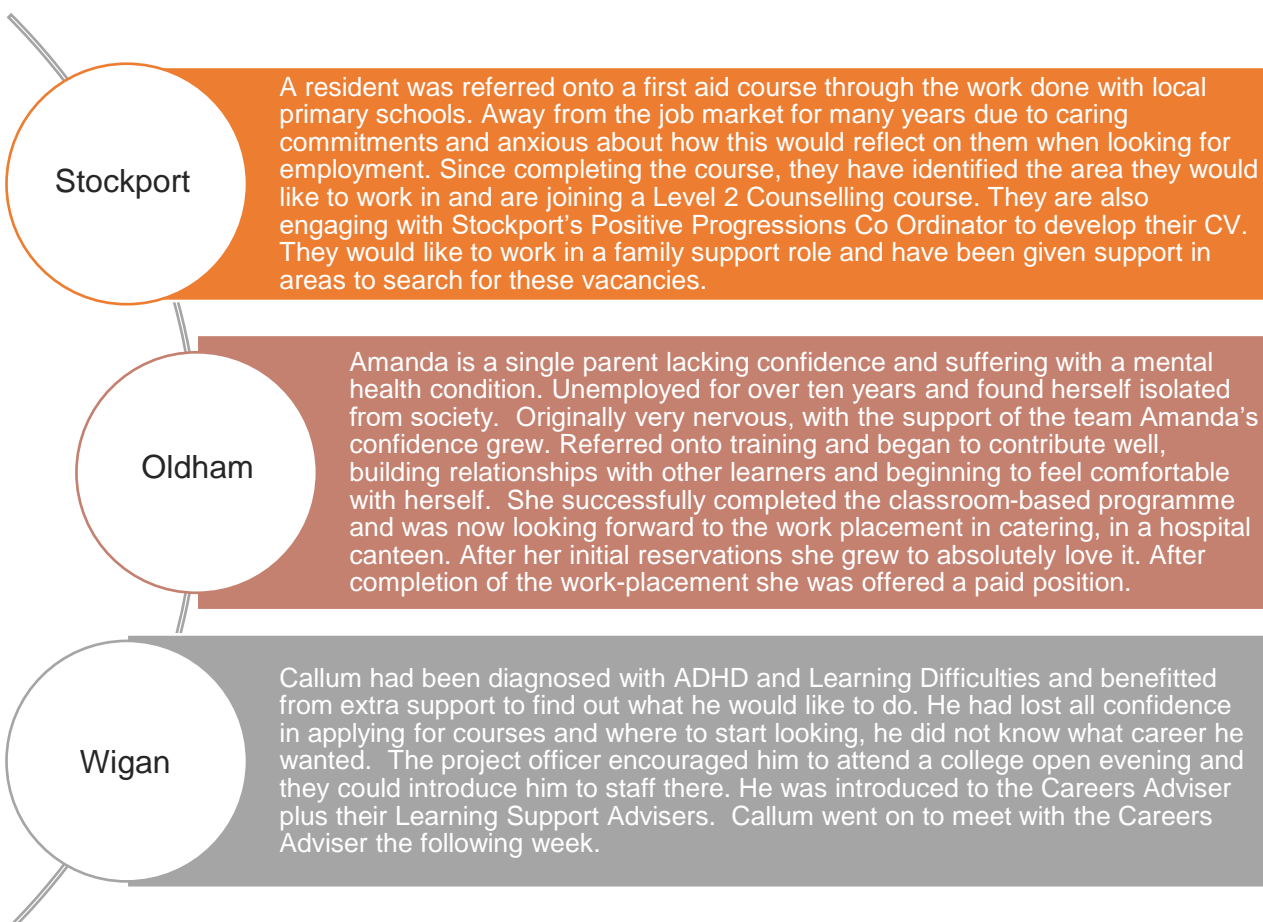
Recent news article promoting Level 3 skills in GM.



“ I love my job and have a massive sense of pride that I am doing so much good and making a difference to vulnerable children’s lives in my school as Head of Pastoral which also includes elements of Safeguarding when required. I have worked hard with the help and support of some lovely people around me who have been nothing but encouraging. ”

**GREATER MANCHESTER**  
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR OUR WORKFORCE

### Local Authority Grant Programme Alleviating Barriers to Adult Education, Skills or Training:



## ESOL Advice Service

I got a text message to the assessment at the Job Centre. I was nervous and I didn't know what to expect. When I got there, the lady was very nice and I felt comfortable and welcome. I work in the mornings, so I need a morning class. I got a morning class. I am very happy that I can work and study.

I was very happy with my assessment at the Oldham Civic centre. I felt comfortable and then started my course at Oldham Lifelong Learning. It is very good and I have really improved. I am really enjoying learning and it is my exam today.

I felt excited to joining the class and I had learned much English of oral, writing and listening in the class. It can help me to find a job, have more confidence to communicate with people in English.

I got a class in one week. The teacher is perfect, and the class is perfect. I learned how to use emails and write letters to universities because I want to do a course in the future biological sciences.

I enjoy my course. One of the main reasons for this is because the teachers here are very kind and understanding. They go the extra mile to help and support their students.

I learned a lot in my class like grammar, speaking and listening. I felt my English language has improved. ESOL classes are very good because we come from other countries and we learn a new language and get more confident.

## Annex 2 – Grant Funded Allocations: Indicative FE allocations, 2024/2025

Table 1: Indicative FE allocations, 2024/2025 (This is not based on £ per population but an allocation set by DfE from 2017 from the number of learners accessing AEB at that time)

INSTITUTION	Current allocation 2023/2024	Updated Provisional allocation 2024/2025	Current Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 23/24	Indicative Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 2024/2025
AQUINAS COLLEGE	£68,194	<b>£69,694</b>	£50,000	<b>£50,000</b>
ASHTON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	£125,182	<b>£127,936</b>	£30,000	<b>£55,000</b>
BOLTON COLLEGE	£5,847,365	<b>£5,976,007</b>	£150,000	<b>£175,000</b>
BURY COLLEGE	£2,061,164	<b>£2,106,509.61</b>	£200,000	<b>£200,000</b>
HOPWOOD HALL COLLEGE	£4,644,156	<b>£4,746,327.43</b>	£220,000	<b>£450,000</b>
LTE GROUP (The Manchester College)	£17,409,543	<b>£17,792,552.95</b>	£1,100,000	<b>£1,100,000</b>
SALFORD CITY COLLEGE	£6,127,216	<b>£6,262,014.75</b>	£100,000	<b>£165,000</b>
TAMESIDE COLLEGE	£3,475,290	<b>£3,551,746.38</b>	£300,000	<b>£300,000</b>
THE OLDHAM COLLEGE	£3,092,701	<b>£3,160,740.42</b>	£270,000	<b>£325,000</b>
THE TRAFFORD COLLEGE GROUP*	£5,751,142	<b>£5,877,667.12</b>	£150,000	<b>£350,000</b>
WIGAN AND LEIGH COLLEGE	£3,518,930	<b>£3,596,346.46</b>	£250,000	<b>£300,000</b>

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



### Annex 3 - Grant Funded Allocations: Indicative LA allocations, 2024/2025

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, 2024/2025

INSTITUTION	Current allocation 2023/2024	Updated Provisional allocation 2024/2025	Current Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 23/24	Indicative Level 3 Single Pot Allocation 2024/2025
BURY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£1,422,905	<b>£1,454,209</b>	£30,000	<b>£30,000</b>
MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL	£7,624,356	<b>£7,792,092</b>	£220,000	<b>£300,000</b>
OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£2,804,233	<b>£2,865,926</b>	£50,000	<b>£50,000</b>
STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£1,210,294	<b>£1,236,920</b>	£30,000	<b>£50,000</b>
WIGAN METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL	£716,985	<b>£732,759</b>	£130,000	<b>£150,000</b>

## Annex 4 – Procured, Contract for Services: Independent Training Providers allocations, 2024/2025

Table 3 shows the indicative allocations for the skills providers who have contracts for services, through the procurement process during 2022/2023. Contracts are split over two distinctive areas: Lot 1 – Targeted to engage economically inactive and unemployed residents in GM; and Lot 2 – Targeted to engage employed residents in GM.

Table 3: Contract for Services allocations, 2024/2025

ORGANISATION	Lot 1 - Targeted to engage economically inactive and unemployed residents in GM		Lot 2 – Targeted to engage employed residents in GM	
	Current allocation 2023/2024	Provisional allocation 2024/2025*	Current allocation 2023/2024	Provisional allocation 2024/2025*
ACORN TRAINING	-	-	£541,810	£541,810
BACK 2 WORK COMPLETE TRAINING	£1,979,980	£1,979,980	-	-
BRIGHT DIRECTION TRAINING	£991,847	£991,847	-	-
DMR TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY LIMITED	-	-	£254,227	£254,227
GET SET ACADEMY	£521,690	£0 (failed Ofsted minimum requirements)	-	-
GLOUCESTERSHIRE COLLEGE	£745,998	£745,998	-	-
MANTRA LEARNING LIMITED	£3,148,194	£3,148,194	£1,655,378	£1,655,378
REALISE LEARNING & EMPLOYMENT LIMITED	£1,040,232	£1,040,232	-	-
ROCHDALE TRAINING	£412,163	£412,163	£279,724	£279,724
SEETEC BUSINESS COLLEGE	£1,262,007	£1,262,007	-	-
STANDGUIDE LIMITED	£1,149,951	£1,149,951	-	-
THE CONSTRUCTION SKILLS PEOPLE LIMITED	£771,686	£771,686	-	-
THE GROWTH COMPANY	£3,014,977	£3,014,977	£477,810	£477,810
TOTAL PEOPLE LIMITED	£893,323	£893,323	-	-
WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION	£1,416,909	£1,416,909	-	-

\* Subject to the organisations continuing to meet procurement requirements prior to the start of the academic year