

Business Case

A/R.6.201 - Cambridgeshire Skills

Project Overview

Project Title	A/R.6.201 - Cambridgeshire Skills		
Project Code	TR001530	Business Planning Reference	A/R.6.201
Business Planning Brief Description	Transforming 'Cambridgeshire Learning & Skills' into 'Cambridgeshire Skills' a new stand-alone, self-financing service to deliver more substantial, direct delivery of adult learning and skills, targeted at those furthest away from learning and work to support their social & economic wellbeing.		
Senior Responsible Officer	Pat Carrington		

Project Approach

Background

Why do we need to undertake this project?

The Cambridgeshire Learning and Skills Service has operated under the Adult Education Budget (AEB). Historically funding for the AEB service has come through the Department for Education (DfE), coupled with CCC core funding (an allocation of 180K).

As part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution deal and through an act of Parliament; from 1st August 2019 the Adult Education Budget will be devolved to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and funding from the DfE redirected. The Combined Authority will, (based on an agreed profile and priority model) fund the service for the delivery of adult learning and skills.

This has offered opportunity to transform the Cambridgeshire Learning and Skills Service. Historically the service has subcontracted out most of its DfE contract for leisure & pleasure learning, and has further been supported by a core fund of £180k allocated from CCC. The comprehensive service review that took place identified that, if the Service were to be operating on national norms, it would also be able to provide additional activity and support services to targeted learners - those furthest away from learning and work - to support their social & economic well-being.

What would happen if we did not complete this project?

The grant funding may be reduced or removed

Approach

Aims / Objectives

Within this new service 'Cambridgeshire Skills', there will no longer be a need to receive the annual £180k grant from CCC. The new service aims to :-

- Transform the Cambridgeshire Learning and Skills Service into 'Cambridgeshire skills'
- Target those furthest away from learning and work to support their social and economic well-being
- Move 'Cambridgeshire skills' into a stand-alone, self-financing service

Project Overview - What are we doing

What assumptions have you made?

The continuation of grant funding from the Combined Authority

What constraints does the project face?

Delivery Options

Has an options and feasibility study been undertaken?

Scope / Interdependencies

Scope

What is within scope?

The Adult Learning & Skills department

What is outside of scope?

Project Dependencies

Title

Cost and Savings

See accompanying financial information in Table 3

Non Financial Benefits

Non Financial Benefits Summary

A more targeted adult learning provision that will support those most in need and farthest away from learning and / or work

Title

Risks

Title

Project Impact

Equality Impact Assessment

Who will be affected by this proposal?

Local residents

What positive impacts are anticipated from this proposal?

There will be targeted intervention of those most in need - Local residents with low skill in the areas of highest need will benefit

What negative impacts are anticipated from this proposal?

The service currently has subsidised learning for leisure & pleasure, but would no longer be able to offer that going forward. That was delivered by sub-contractors who will no longer receive a contract from CCC to do this work (not fundable though the funding guidance). Some of those sub-contracted providers may continue to deliver as usual but with full fees to all customers, and some will not.

Are there other impacts which are more neutral?**Disproportionate impacts on specific groups with protected characteristics****Details of Disproportionate Impacts on protected characteristics and how these will be addressed**

As described above, the change to the funding arrangements may result in some sub-contracted delivery ceasing. Where, as a result of the detailed community impact assessment, it is found that individuals or groups with protected characteristics are adversely affected by this, the service will seek ways to mitigate the impact. For example, this may be via seeking alternative funding sources to re-provide the learning, or to work with local providers or voluntary and community sector organisations who may be able to step in.

