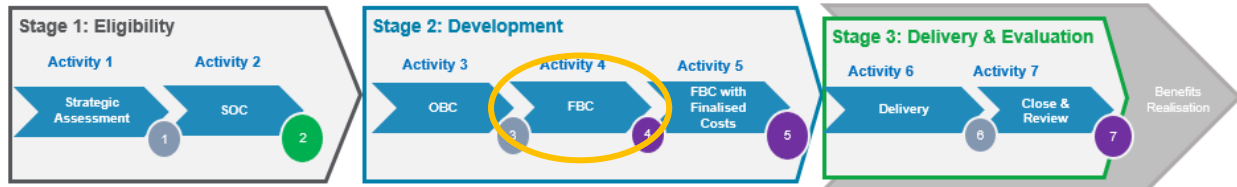


Section A: Scheme Summary

Name of scheme:	Digital Skills Programme - Adult Digital and Technical Skills project
PMA scheme code:	WYCA-E&S-005
Lead organisation:	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Senior responsible officer:	Catherine Lunn, West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Lead promoter contact:	Michelle Hunter, West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Case officer:	Helen Feltrup, West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Applicable funding stream(s) – Grant or Loan:	Department for Education – Grant
Growth Fund Priority Area (if applicable):	Not applicable
Approvals to date:	No previous approvals
Forecasted full approval date (decision point 5):	4 March 2021
Forecasted completion date (decision point 6):	31 July 2022.
Total scheme cost (£):	£10.3 million
Combined Authority funding (£):	Department for Education
Total other public sector investment (£):	£0
Total other private sector investment (£):	£0
Is this a standalone project?	Yes
Is this a programme?	No
Is this project part of an agreed programme?	No

Current Assurance Process Activity:



Scheme Description:

The programme will support the economic recovery of businesses and individuals across Yorkshire and Humber by developing and delivering employer-led training initiatives and courses. The programme will link directly to local digital skills needs and builds on a £1.3 million Department for Education (DfE) funded pilot which the Combined Authority is currently delivering.

The programme will upskill and retrain adults looking to progress in their current role or enter digital or technical careers and will consist of interventions lasting eight to 16 weeks. Individuals will gain specific technical and employability skills through activities including studying, peer mentoring, confidence building and problem solving.

The Combined Authority is leading a joint Yorkshire and Humber bid for up to £9 million of additional funding from DfE, bringing the total programme costs to £10.3 million.

Business Case Summary:

<p>Strategic Case</p>	<p>The programme will be delivered using funding DfE has made available, for the delivery of adult digital and / or technical skills “bootcamps” in England.</p> <p>The programme supports the Strategic Economic Framework priorities of boosting productivity and enabling inclusive growth and will complement the Combined Authority’s existing [re] boot programme. [re] boot is being extended to support people who are recently unemployed or at risk of redundancy or on furlough, as part of the West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Plan in response to COVID-19.</p> <p>The programme will also support individuals from disadvantaged or marginalised groups such as BAME, women, under employed graduates and those unemployed due to COVID-19.</p>
<p>Commercial Case</p>	<p>The Combined Authority is proposing to create a procurement framework which will include lead suppliers working as a consortium or in partnership to deliver flexible and responsive adult skills training. Lead Suppliers will be expected to subcontract work to named partners that would offer a range of specialisms linked to the digital and technical sectors.</p> <p>Sub-contractors will be expected to have robust localised knowledge, established partnerships with employers and an understanding of how to engage with and attract people from their Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.</p> <p>Suppliers will include a mix of further education colleges, independent and specialist training providers plus partners offering supporting Careers Information, Advice and Guidance (CIAG) services.</p>
<p>Economic Case</p>	<p>The Local Enterprise Partnerships hold current and accurate labour market information (LMI) that informs spending priorities around business</p>

	<p>growth and support and training needs. The training will be designed to respond to local need based upon current LMI, skills need analysis and sub-regional recovery plans post COVID-19.</p> <p>This approach means the programme will support the region's economic recovery, by increasing digital skills in the local population. Training will be designed and developed with employers so individuals who are unemployed, under-employed, at risk of redundancy or in a sector undergoing structural change and career changers, gain the skills they need to progress in their current role or enter careers in the digital / technical sectors. Businesses will also be supported as more individuals with the right skills to help businesses grow, fill vacancies and solve economic recovery challenges, will be available.</p>
Financial Case	<p>The Combined Authority is leading a joint Yorkshire and Humber bid for up to £9 million, from the Department for Education. This will build on a £1.3 million DfE funded pilot which the Combined Authority is currently delivering.</p> <p>On 4 February 2021, the Combined Authority delegated to the Investment Committee, the retrospective approval to accept and spend £1.3 million for the pilot and approval to accept and spend up to an additional £9 million, subject to the successful outcome of the DfE funding bid, bringing the total programme costs to £10.3 million.</p> <p>If the bid is successful, the specific amount of funding awarded will be confirmed when the programme returns to the Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team for approval to proceed.</p>
Management Case	<p>The Combined Authority agreed to lead a joint Yorkshire and Humber funding bid to DfE, after being approached by York and North Yorkshire, Sheffield City Region and Humber Local Enterprise Partnerships because of its success in securing £1.3 million from DfE for the pilot currently in delivery.</p> <p>The Combined Authority's Employment and Skills team will manage the procurement and a dedicated team will be recruited to manage the day-to-day operation and management of the programme.</p> <p>DfE is expected to award funding in April 2021, programme delivery will start in June 2021 and run for one year.</p> <p>A digital marketing campaign will be delivered across Yorkshire and Humber to recruit a diverse cohort of learners that reflects and represents the local and regional population.</p> <p>The Combined Authority will also work closely with delivery partners including the National Careers Service and employment hubs to engage individuals from a range of backgrounds.</p> <p>The DfE funding bid outlines the monitoring and evaluation plan, which will be developed further, subject to funding being secured.</p>