

## Appendix 1 – Multiply Year 1 Update

### Context

- 2.1 Multiply is an adult numeracy programme, led by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of the £2.6bn UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). West Yorkshire Combined Authority has been given an allocation of £12.4m for Multiply across 3 financial years. The funding is to engage more adults with numeracy levels below level 2 (GCSE C/4 pass) in informal learning to boost their maths skills for life and work.
- 2.2 The Investment Plan was approved in June 2022 and has been accepted by the Department for Education. The Investment Plan outlines 3 key streams of activity:

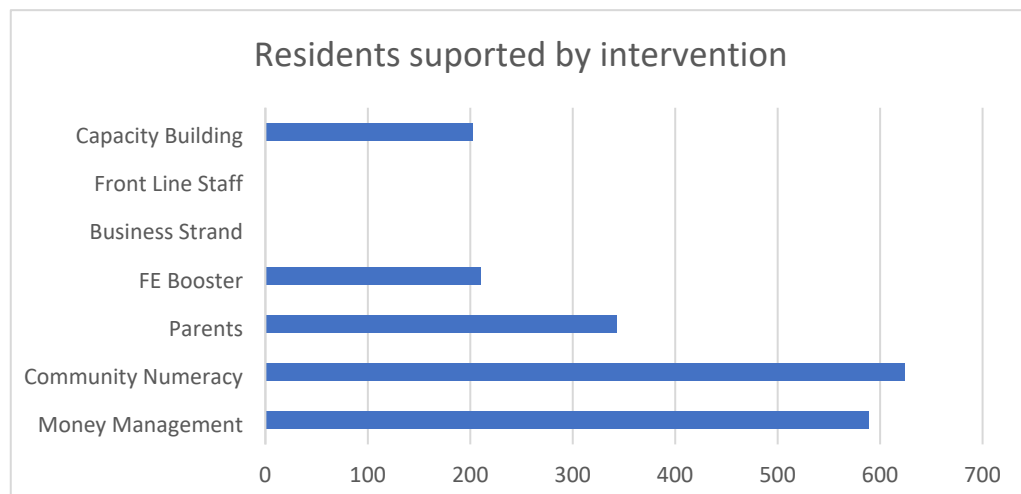
**Strand 1** - Individual engagement - £4.7 million

**Strand 2** - Business focussed activity - £3 million

**Strand 3** - Capacity building for the sector - £3.6 million

### Summary of Year 1 delivery against profile

- 2.3 In year 1, 82% of the DfE target was met in terms of engaging with individuals and providing numeracy support. This equates to 58% of the financial profile being met.
- 2.4 As part of commissioning, delivery partners planned to deliver more outputs than the DfE contracted to Combined Authority, hence there is a variance between partner profiles and the DfE target. This demonstrates value for money in commissioning and will be positive in terms of the number of residents supported for overall project value, but has impacted on the proportion of funds we have been able to retain in Year 1.
- 2.5 The table below shows the success rates of each individual strand against partner profile and DfE profile. The data is subject to change when final reconciliation takes place at R10 by end of June, giving delivery partners



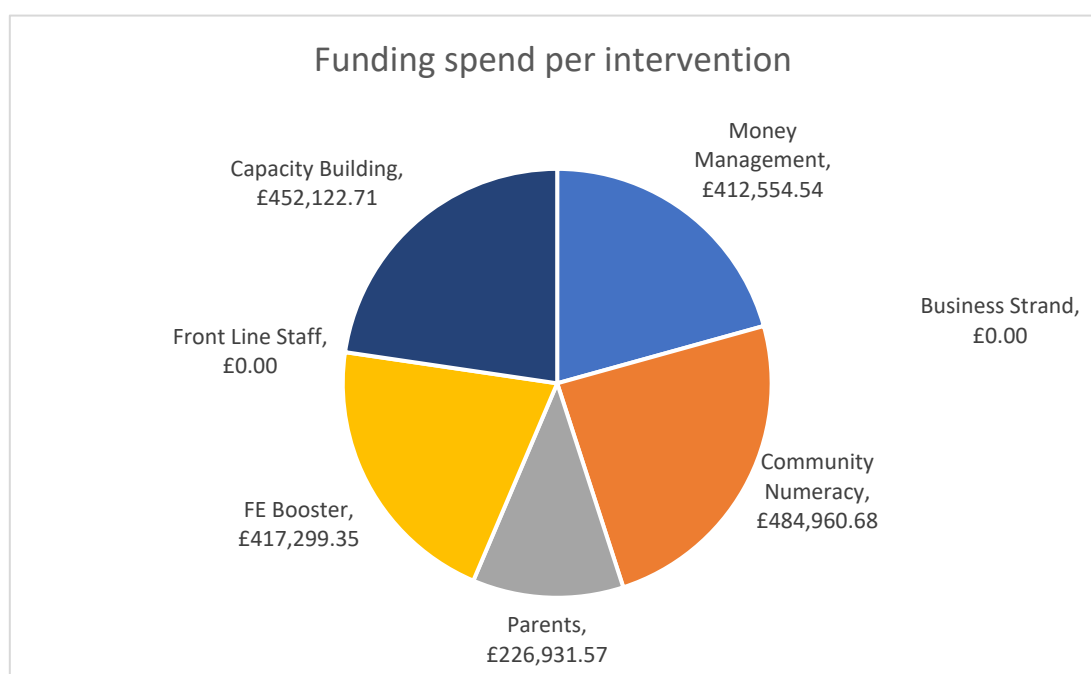
sufficient time to finalise the claim.

Year 1 Progress	Profiles			Actual Performance (ILR data) <sup>1</sup>				
	DFE Profiled Learners	Partners Profiled Targets	Profiled Budget	Learners on ILR	% To DfE target	% to Partners Profile	Cash Value per ILR	% to DFE investment plan profile
Money Management	607	782	£546,586	589	97%	75%	£412,554.54	75%
Community Numeracy	808	863	£559,687	624	77%	72%	£484,960.68	87%
Parents	546	588	£383,431	343	63%	58%	£226,931.57	59%
FE Booster	100	205	£401,574	210	210%	102%	£417,299.35	104%
Business Strand	100	0	£550,000	0	0%	N/A	£0.00	0%
Front Line Staff	200	0	£500,000	0	0%	N/A	£0.00	0%
Capacity Building	50	203	£470,000	203	406%	100%	£452,122.71	96%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2411</b>	<b>2641</b>	<b>£3,411,278.00</b>	<b>1969</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>£1,993,868.86</b>	<b>58%</b>

2.6 As detailed in earlier reports, the Business Focussed strand and the Frontline staff capacity building work will be commissioned for delivery in Year 2, hence are not reporting engagement or funding usage at this point.

2.7 More detail regarding participation, including area breakdown and demographic of participants, is provided in Appendix 1 and 2

### Progress to date on individual strands



### **Strand 1**

<sup>1</sup> The **Individualised Learner Record (ILR)** is the primary data collection for further education and work-based learning in England. It is requested from learning providers and the data is used to monitor policy implementation and the performance of the organisations that are allocated funding.

- 2.8 Local Authorities are leading on the **Community Focused** strand (£3.7 million). Delivery is complete for year 1 (as above), with plans now focused on year 2 delivery with delivery profiles being reviewed. Community Numeracy programmes that provide support with household budgeting, cooking on a budget, or embedding numeracy within employability or vocational study to the most disadvantaged residents have proved the most successful in terms of engagement. Parent focussed interventions have proved the most challenging to recruit to.
- 2.9 The **FE Booster programmes** have exceeded both the DfE and partner profiled targets for Year 1 in terms of participation. Learner quotes and case studies are being collected to demonstrate some of the impact of the programmes.

## **Strand 2**

- 2.10 The **Business Training** (£2 million) package was endorsed by the LPG at the meeting in November 2022. The tender specification was re-published on 10<sup>th</sup> March and closed on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023. The tender was split into two lots with delivery partners being able to apply for both lots:
- Business Training (£1,450,000 million) – Lot 1 received 12 responses
  - Numeracy Champions (£1 million) – Lot 2 received 9 responses
- 2.11 Applications have been assessed, moderated and the outcome has been approved in line with delegations. The top scoring providers will be contracted:
- Calderdale College (Business Training and Numeracy Champions)
  - National Numeracy (Numeracy Champions)
  - Realise Learning and Employment (Business Training and Numeracy Champions)
- 2.12 Both Calderdale College and Realise Training applied to deliver with a partnership model, therefore widening the opportunity of delivery with a range of training providers and partners who can deliver at a hyper-local level, enabling targeting of the right learners to engage with Multiply

## **Strand 3**

- 2.13 **Capacity building for vocational and community tutors** (£1,150 million) has been successfully delivered for year 1 with overall success being 406% engagement against DfE profile and a cash spend of 96% against profile.
- 2.14 **Capacity Building vocational and community tutors** (£650,000) is planned for years 2 and 3, and therefore yet to be commissioned. Consultation will take place with the Local Authorities and their delivery partners, and with the FE

Colleges to gather information on how to best utilise this fund to further enhance delivery.

- 2.15 **Capacity Building for front line staff** (£1.8 million) specification is currently being developed following consultation with potential delivery partners and key stakeholders. It is expected that the specification will be published via open and competitive tender 19<sup>th</sup> June with 'go live' date early September.

### **Department for Education (DfE) Updates**

- 2.16 The Annual Assurance letter and financial report for year 1 have been returned to the DfE as per deadline (10<sup>th</sup> May 2023). Defrayed monies have been reported through the annual financial report however it has been explained and agreed with DfE that reconciliation of year 1 actual spend cannot take place until end of quarter 1 (June 2023) due the lag between providers uploading data, DfE sharing with the CA , and our compliance checks to verify accuracy
- 2.17 The DfE have confirmed that there will be no rollover of year 1 funds however there will be growth opportunities in year 2. The process of applying for growth has not yet been published by the DfE. DfE are permitting some flexibility in the financial and engagement profiles for year 2 , which should support our delivery in being responsive to resident and business need. Any significant changes to the West Yorkshire delivery plans will be brought to the LPG for recommendation.
- 2.18 The Multiply national digital platform has been 'paused' by the DfE with no confirmation as to the future plans or next steps for the digital platform. It has not been confirmed if the platform is no longer to be developed, and if so, how the money top-sliced from local allocations for the platform will be reallocated.
- 2.19 Random Control Trials (RCTs) for Multiply are being implemented by DfE. The opportunity to take part in the RCT's has been explored, but concerns have been raised on the additional burden to providers. The current priority is establishing the support across the region and to ensure that all learners who engage in Multiply have fair and equitable access to numeracy training to support them in life and work.
- 2.20 An MCA best practice roundtable is being facilitated by DfE in July to consolidate lessons learnt to date and to discuss the sustainability of the Multiply programme.

### **Comms and Marketing**

- 2.21 The Multiply webpage is now live with the ability for individuals or business to complete an expression of interest (EOI) form to access Multiply training. These EOI's are then directed to delivery partners based on training needs and delivery partner offer.

## 2.22 Further marketing has included:

- Bus side advertising deployed on 65 buses in West Yorkshire with buses in Bradford, Calderdale, Leeds, Kirklees and Wakefield districts. Advertising targeting both businesses and individuals, with the campaign lasting throughout May 2023.
- Radio advertising launched on 29 May 2023 for 3 weeks with two 30 second adverts targeting businesses and individuals on Pulse 1 (average of 138,000 daily listeners across West Yorkshire).
- Animations are currently in development to be used in online and social media marketing
- Future Marketing plans include use of the big screens in Bradford and Leeds as well as other digital display screens across West Yorkshire, targeted social media advertising and use of the Combined Authority's social media channels.