

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Monday, 13 September 2021

Decision No: (CAB 21/22 32340)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage
SUBJECT:	Solent Get into Employment
AUTHOR:	John Connelly

THE DECISION

- (i) To delegate authority to the Executive Director, Communities, Culture and Homes to take all actions necessary to accept the grant and deliver the project until December 2023.
- (ii) To accept, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, a grant of £529,000 from DWP as match funding towards a total project budget of £1,059,000.
- (iii) To approve, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, a corresponding revenue virement totalling £1,059,000 to the Solent Get into Employment project over 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24, along with the Council's individual financial contribution of £324,000 from existing budgets, of which £215,000 is itself from secured external funding; and
- (iv) To approve the Council to act as Accountable Body for the administration of grant funding and the delivery of the Solent Get into Employment project.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. Under SCC Financial Procedure Rules, the matter requires a Cabinet decision to accept the grant award from the Department for Work & Pensions and to deliver the Solent Get into Employment project.
2. Southampton City Council will lead the project on behalf of a delivery partnership which will support adults living in Southampton and the wider Solent area into learning and work. Council investment will be focussed on service delivery in the City, whilst delivery outside the City will be ensured by The Prince's Trust and Autism Hampshire. Target beneficiaries will be people who face significant challenges in gaining work or training due to learning disabilities, learning difficulties, autism or neuro-diversity (e.g. dyspraxia, dyslexia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder), and associated physical or mental health conditions.
3. The proposed grant funding will contribute to the delivery of the Council's key priorities of creating a City with strong and sustainable economic

growth, and where people can live safe, healthy and independent lives.
The external funding will enable Solent Get into Employment to:

- Help economically inactive people move into employment.
- Assist employers secure the people they need to address labour shortages and improve business performance.
- Widen project reach and impact by encouraging further innovative solutions to tackle unemployment, to maximise integration between local delivery partners and to build on the success of current interventions, including the Young Adults Employment Hub and Solent Apprenticeship Hub.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

To not accept the ESF grant would result in the loss of external funding and cancellation of a proposed project to support economically inactive individuals overcome their barriers to employment, and to become more economically independent.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 13th September 2021

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*