



UK Shared Prosperity Fund : Multiply in West Yorkshire

Stakeholder consultation event

24th May 2022

Agenda and Content

Multiply

**LEVELLING
— UP —**

- Background and Purpose
- Options for consideration in West Yorkshire
- Summary of Next Steps

Introduction to UKSPF

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The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will support the UK Government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the four parts of Levelling Up:

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards, especially in those places where they are lagging.
- Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.
- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

The primary goal of UKSPF is building pride in place and increasing life chances across the UK, while recognising the acute challenges town centres and communities have faced during the Covid pandemic.

This will be achieved across three Investment Priorities:

- Communities and Place
- Local Business; and
- People and Skills **includes Multiply**

UKSPF investments will also need to demonstrate their contribution to net zero and nature recovery objectives.

The UKSPF will be split between a core allocation/main fund, and the Multiply Adult Numeracy Programme.

- It is one of the first skills and employment programmes under **Pillar 3 (People and Skills)**.
- Multiply is an adult numeracy programme, led by the Department for Education (DfE)
- £460m will be available across the four nations over the three 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.
- In addition to locally delivered programmes there will also be a national website launched later in the year so that people can learn at their own pace, with personalised on-line tutor support.
- Government have published a 'menu of interventions' against which activity should be planned. There is an opportunity to go 'off menu', however, this will require a clear evidence-based case for each proposal with measurable outcomes proposed

Target audience:

- **Adults (over 19)** who have not previously attained a GCSE Grade 4/C or higher maths qualification— whether in employment or unemployed
- Can either be working towards a maths GCSE or Functional Skills Qualification, need specific numeracy skills for their work or progression, or just want to brush up on the skills to help them get on in life and work.

MULTIPLY – West Yorkshire Allocation				
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	ALL YEARS
Overall Allocation	3,774,135	4,354,772	4,354,772	12,483,679

- West Yorkshire Combined Authority will act as the Lead Authority
- Investment plan needs to be developed and submitted by 30 June
- HMG have confirmed Lead Authorities will be asked to return any underspends at the end of each financial year.

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Proposal for Multiply in West Yorkshire

Multiply – Evidence Base

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- 746,000 adults (52%) in WY are estimated to be at entry level and below in terms of numeracy
 - A quarter of organisations in WY with skills gaps indicate that they need to improve proficiency of staff in basic numeracy
 - Pupils in WY are less likely than nationally to achieve a Level 2 in Maths by age 19 (77% vs 79% but only 74% in Bradford)
 - At national level, a third of people (36%) say they would like to improve their maths and numeracy skills, mostly or personal development reasons
 - There were round 5,500 numeracy enrolments (starts) attracting £4.3m of Adult Skills funding in 2020/21 academic year.

Multiply – DfE Menu of Interventions

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1. Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal qualifications.
2. Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money.
3. Innovative programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace.
4. Courses aimed at people who can't apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in order to access a certain job/career.
5. New intensive and flexible courses targeted at people without Level 2 maths, leading to a Functional Skills Qualification.
6. Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression.
7. Courses aimed at prisoners, those recently released from prison or on temporary licence.
8. Courses aimed at those 19 or over that are leaving, or have just left, the care system.
9. Activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners
10. Additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses.
- 11. Possible other bespoke activity... evidence based**

Multiply – *Some* Challenges

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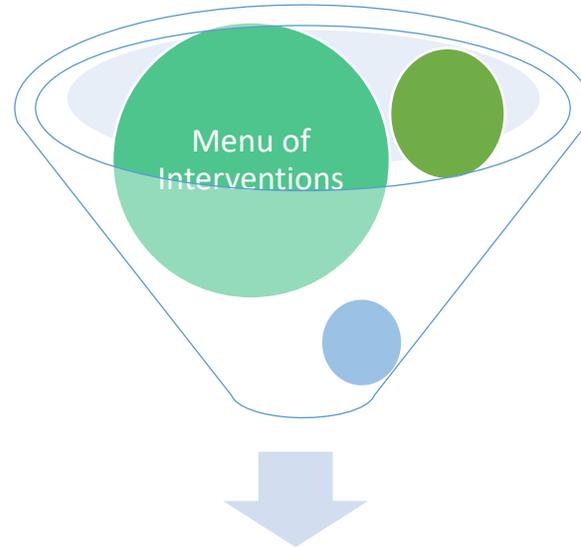


Given that AEB is a devolved fund within West Yorkshire, which can be flexibly applied and to meet residents and economic needs as determined by the Combined Authority, there is considerable potential for Multiply to duplicate current provision

- Multiply funds must focus on different target groups and activity
- Commissioned Multiply activity must 'wrap around' and add value to existing provision, particularly AEB
- Devolution affords us the ability to design out duplication

- Year 1 uptake is likely to be low for new markets
- New funding streams need considerable awareness raising activity upfront to support engagement
- Funding streams that provide free education to individuals can be undervalued with a high dropout rate.

Multiply – What could multiply **Multiply**



Business Focused Activity
Individual Focused Activity
Capacity Building for sector

Individual Focused Activity

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- Flexible activity and courses delivered through community organisations which provide money management and budgeting support to tackle numeracy and cost of living concerns
- Flexible activity and courses delivered to families to support children with numeracy: aspiration raising and myth-busting
- Additional numeracy modules to be embedded into vocational programmes



Business Focused Activity

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- Innovative programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace
- Provide incentives: e.g. pay for employee time spent on course, based on hourly rate?
- Numeracy champions embedded within workplaces to identify and support staff needs: triage skills needs, signpost to (new &) existing programmes, provide mentoring/buddy support. To include training package and coordination of mentors

Capacity Building for Sector

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- Consultation / qualitative work with the adult education sector to explore and unpack key issues around numeracy and to map / assess existing provision
 - Training subject specialists in maths to embed numeracy into vocational curriculum (FE and Training provider programmes)
 - Sector training for front line staff (e.g. employment hub advisors, student services, PAs for Care leavers, careers teams, community tutors) to be numeracy ambassadors and/or numeracy mentors
 - Activity which specifically links multiply providers to AEB and UKSPF provision
 - Awareness raising campaign and collateral to support all streams with engagement

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- Considering DfE's 'list of interventions' and the existing activity already delivered in West Yorkshire – are the proposed activities sound?
 - What are the main priorities on these proposed activities?
 - If an incentive is provided to support employer/employee focussed interventions – what is the best mechanism for this?
 - What else do feel multiply could support in West Yorkshire?

Next Steps

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- Consultation with Stakeholders and Sector - w/c 23rd May
- Discussion WY Political Leaders (headline) - 26th May
- Draft Plan for consideration - End of May
- CA Approval – 23rd June
- Multiply Investment plan submitted to government – 30th June