

LEP - Sub Committee

LEP - Lancashire Skills and Employment Board

Private and Confidential: NO

Date: Wednesday, 21 November 2018

European Social Funds

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Report Author: Dr M Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub,

Tel: 07825996446, michele.lawty-jones@lancashirelep.co.uk

Sean McGrath, External Investment/Funding, Tel: 01772 531053,

sean.mcgrath@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

DWP have confirmed the uprated the funding allocations and revised outputs for the ESF England 2014-2020 programme.

DWP are now looking for LEP areas to confirm ability and plans to commit funds for the remainder of the programme.

In the latter half of 2019 DWP will bring together any uncommitted funds to form a National Reserve Fund. Currently there is no further information on the design and operation of the National Reserve Fund other than it will support national priorities and address any performance issues in relation to ESF Outputs.

In order to maximise resources the Lancashire ESIF Committee requested officers to draft proposals for ESF commitments to December 2023. When approved the proposals can then be shared with DWP, with a view to agreeing an approach that retains the maximum amount of ESF resources for Lancashire.

The report provides an overview of Lancashire's currently unallocated funds (with and without the performance reserve) and proposals regarding their future use to December 2023. This is provided in a table, for committee members to review.

Recommendation

The Lancashire Skills and Employment Board are asked to recommend to the Lancashire ESIF Committee the proposals detailed in Table 1 for submission to DWP.



Background and Advice

N/A

List of Background Papers

Paper Date Contact/Tel

None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A