



Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership

Lancashire Skills Board

Private and Confidential: No

Thursday 10th September 2015

Growth Deal Skills Capital

(Appendix A refers)

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Executive Summary

The Growth Deal Skills Capital Round 2 is due to be launched. A revised timetable has been agreed with the Skills Funding Agency which will enable some successful projects to commence in April 2016, to meet the need to allocate and spend funding by the end of the 2016/17 financial year (as per the Growth Deal programme agreed with Government).

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

1. Approve the revised timetable for the Growth Deal Skills Capital Round 2 as set out in the attached appendix.
2. Agree to the change in date of the December Skills Board meeting to enable the endorsement of recommendations, ready for submission to the Lancashire LEP Board for final approval.

1 Background

- 1.1 Further to the paper presented at the June Skills Board, the timescales for the launch and completion of the Growth Deal Skills Capital Round 2 have been revised and agreed with the Skills Funding Agency.
- 1.2 The timetable enables some successful projects to commence in April 2016 (subject to LCC Programme Office issuing the GFAs), so that projects are

able to spend in the financial year 2016/17 as per the Growth Deal spend profile agreed with Government.

- 1.3 Subject to approval of the revised timetable by members of the Board the call for project applications will launch on Monday 14th September 2015.

2 Approval Process

- 2.1 The EOIs will be reviewed by the Lancashire Skills Hub and LEP staff, with advice from the SFA, to agree a shortlist of projects which will advance to full business case.
- 2.2 The recommended shortlist will be endorsed by the Lancashire Skills Board and issued to the Lancashire LEP Board for final approval.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Board approve the revised timetable as set out at Appendix A to this report which will enable Growth Deal Skills Capital Round 2 funds to be allocated and spent in accordance with the Growth Deal expenditure profile.
- 3.2 That the Lancashire Skills Board meet on Thursday 10th December (rather than Thursday 3rd December) to meet the revised timetable. This will enable the SFA to provide feedback and the Lancashire Skills Board to endorse the EOI recommendations before they are submitted to the LEP Board for approval.