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**Multiply – Warwickshire Call for Projects Round 3 (October 2023)**

**Introduction**

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is looking for new projects to deliver under the UK Government Multiply Programme.

Further details about Multiply can be found at: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiply-funding-available-to-improve-numeracy-skills](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiply-funding-available-to-improve-numeracy-skills)

Please note that this Warwickshire call for projects MUST be read in conjunction with the Government’s Multiply Investment Prospectus, which can be found at:  
<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1068822/Multiply_Investment_Prospectus.pdf>

It must also be read alongside the scoring criteria. Applications will only be accepted on WCC’s application form.

**What is Multiply?**

Multiply is the Government’s new programme in support of the Levelling Up agenda, to help transform the lives of adults across the UK. It is part of the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

The aim is to improve adult numeracy leading to better labour market outcomes, e.g., fewer skills gaps, higher employment. All local areas across the UK are receiving funding to deliver adult numeracy programmes.

Interventions delivered with Multiply funding need to be additional and differentiated from that which is already fully funded through the Adult Education Budget.

**Who is it for?**

All adults (19 years and over) without a GCSE grade C/4 or equivalent in maths will be able to access new free flexible courses.

Employers who could benefit from boosting their workforce’s skills.

**When and where?**

Activities will run during the current spending review period (2023/24 to 2024/ 2025). This Round 3 call for projects is for projects starting from January 2024.

Projects in Warwickshire can be run over a short period of time or over a number of months up to March 2025. Projects can start at the applicant organisation’s own risk from the date an application is submitted to WCC. All projects must end by 31st March 2025.

Support can be offered in person or on-line, at work or at home, in the community, either part-time or on an intensive basis.

**Funding Available**

The Department for Education (DfE) invited WCC (along with the Greater London Authority, Mayoral Combined Authorities and other upper tier or unitary authorities) to develop and submit an investment plan for the Multiply Fund.

It is expected that the funding allocations in the table below will be available to support new projects, according to current performance as of September 2023.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Funding Allocation** | **Funding Allocation** | | |
|  | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **Total** |
|  | £143,579 | £160,432 | £304,011 |

WCC reserves the right to allocate more or less funding (in total and by year).

**Minimum Project Size and Match Funding**

The minimum project size for this call is £20,000. This has been reduced from previous calls in order to allow smaller projects to come forward. Warwickshire County Council (WCC) reserves the right to change this in any future call for projects.

There is no requirement for match funding in Multiply, but projects providing match funding are welcome where it adds value.

**Warwickshire Call for Projects**

This third call for projects will fund any of the menu of interventions detailed in the Government prospectus with a specific focus on identified local priorities for Warwickshire.

In particular this call is to ensure Multiply access across all areas of the county is achieved. Projects can be profiled to run in just one local area or across the whole county. We are particularly looking to support projects designed to upskill employees and support in-work progression in the Rugby, Warwick and Stratford District and Borough Council areas.

We are looking for strategic projects which provide scale/ impact and more targeted interventions for specific groups which could operate at a local level. It is possible that participants on the projects could be from one or more of the local priority areas which need support. Innovative projects are also welcome including short-term pilots that test new approaches to delivery.

Partnership working is encouraged including consortium projects from organisations currently working within the Warwickshire business network.

Interventions must complement the projects funded so far <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/multiply>.

They also must not displace/replace, or duplicate existing Adult Education Budget funded adult numeracy provision. All interventions must also complement activities to be funded by the core UKSPF funding (via the District and Borough Councils).

**Local Priorities**

The following priorities have been identified for Warwickshire:

* Upskilling employees and in-work progression.
* Support for parents.
* Support for the economically inactive over 50s.
* Support for adults with learning difficulties and disabilities.
* Support for adults with no or only low-level qualifications.
* Support for care leavers.
* Support for prisoners, those recently released from prison or on temporary licence.

**Success Measures**

The outputs and outcomes which mirror the Government’s requirements for Multiply are outlined below:

Outputs

* Number of courses delivered in local area through Multiply.
* Numbers participating in Multiply funded courses broken down by ethnicity, gender/sex, age, and disability.
* Numbers achieving a qualification broken down with criteria as above.
* Number of courses developed in collaboration with employers.
* Number of people referred from partners onto upskill courses.
* Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses.

Outcomes

* Increased number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to and including Level 2.
* Increased number of adults participating in maths qualifications up to and including Level 2.
* Improved labour market outcomes – fewer numeracy skills gaps.
* Increased adult numeracy across the population (and increased confidence).

All projects must identify the outputs to be delivered in Annex A of the application form and the outcomes as part a quarterly deliverables profile. The realism and accuracy of all outputs will be tested as part of the application process.

**Assessment**

Please see the scoring criteria for further details on how project applications will be assessed. Please note that the scoring criteria have changed from previous rounds.

Warwickshire County Council will involve partners/ stakeholders in the technical assessment and selection process whilst recognising and managing conflicts of interest. The Multiply Programme Board will also provide advice to WCC on the strategic fit of all applications.

**Indicative Timeline**

The timetable for the call for projects is in the table below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Milestone** | **Date** |
| Publish call for projects | 6th October 2023 |
| Deadline for applications | **Monday 6th November at 13.00pm** |
| Gateway assessment (eligibility, financial standing, etc) and technical assessment | November 2023 |
| Funding decisions | Early December 2023 |
| Issue grant offer letters to projects\* | Mid-December 2023 for start of projects January 2024 |

Projects in Warwickshire can be run over a short period of time or over a number of months up to March 2025. Projects can start at the applicant organisation’s own risk from the date an application is submitted to WCC. All projects must end by 31st March 2025.

**Further Information**

For more information on the Multiply Fund and application process, please visit our web page: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/multiply](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/multiply)

The email address for submissions is [multiply@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:multiply@warwickshire.gov.uk) which can also be used if you have any questions regarding the call for projects.

**\* Please note that the grant terms and conditions for Multiply funding will be passed down to all projects in full. A copy of the grant funding agreement is available on request.**