

UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Multiply Invitation to
submit expressions of interest (EOI) *Year 2*



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Introduction

North Lincolnshire Council is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from organisations wishing to deliver activities as part of the Multiply programme.

Please read the [Multiply Investment Prospectus, April 2022](#) (England) and the [Technical Guidance, April 2022](#) (England) before starting work on a bid. They are available to download from this site:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiply-funding-available-to-improve-numeracy-skills>

The Multiply Investment Prospectus provides detailed information on the objectives of the fund and the types of intervention the DFE (Department for Education) expects to see delivered.

Should you wish to submit an expression of interest form for North Lincolnshire's Multiply project, please see [Submitting an Expression of Interest \(EOI\)](#).

Whilst the fund is split over three years, a review took place at in January 2023 and we are now in a position to accept expressions of interest for the 2023/24 financial year. An annual progress report and a revised investment plan for subsequent years of Multiply provision will be required at the end of each financial year, this will enable us to ensure we have the right provision in place for subsequent years.

Background

Multiply is aimed at adults aged nineteen and over, and whilst some interventions suggested are designed to lead to the attainment of a qualification, non-qualification provision should be developed where they are more appropriate. The programme will last for 2 years, and any provision should not de-stabilise or replicate any current Adult Education Budget (AEB) funded provision. The menu of interventions consists of nine areas of investment for North Lincolnshire as set out in the Investment Prospectus. The following success measures have been identified for the whole programme at a national level:

1. More adults achieving maths qualifications (up to and including Level 2 – with GCSEs and Functional Skills Qualifications as the qualifications of choice in England – or equivalent and to increase participation in numeracy courses with the expectation that local areas evidence improvements in functional numeracy, rather than solely participation in Multiply interventions.
2. Improved labour market outcomes e.g., fewer skills gaps reported by employers, and an increase in the proportion of adults that progress into sustained employment and / or education.
3. Increased adult numeracy across the population – this overall impact, which goes beyond achieving certificates or qualifications, will track both the perceived and actual difference taking part in the programme makes in supporting learners to improve their understanding and the use of maths in their daily lives, at home and at work – and to feel more confident when doing so.

We are interested in expressions of interest that build on local insight and knowledge, align with long-term strategic plans for skills, target people most in need, and support the overall objectives of Multiply.

North Lincolnshire Council has been designated a lead authority by the UK Government. As a lead authority, it is responsible for:

- Issuing this invitation
- Receiving expressions of interest
- Assessing expressions of interest
- Paying grants to successful projects and managing their performance

What Type of EOI's are we looking for?

The primary goal of Multiply is to improve people's ability to use numeracy in their daily life, at home and work – and enable adults to achieve formal qualifications up to and including level 2 (both GCSE grade C/4 or above, and Functional Skills qualifications).

The allocations for the final two years of Multiply are as follows, with no facility for rolling over any underspend:

Year 2 – Financial year 23/24	

Every effort should be made to draw complementary projects together with potential partners to provide a programme-based approach, but where this is not possible, it is acceptable to put individual programmes or projects forward.

What are the Target Outcomes?

Indicative outcomes of the fund include:

- a) Increased number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2.
- b) Increased number of adults participating in maths qualifications and courses up to, and including, Level 2.
- c) Increased number of adults participating, acquiring, and evidencing skills through non-qualification provision, or towards a qualification, including online learning.
- d) Improved labour market outcomes.
- e) Increased adult numeracy (by supporting learners to improve their understanding and use of maths in their daily lives, at home and at work).

Indicative outputs of the fund include:

- a) Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply.
- b) Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses, broken down by ethnicity, sex/gender. Age and disability to enable Public Sector Equality Duty monitoring.
- c) Number of people achieving a qualification broken down by ethnicity, sex/gender. Age and disability to enable Public Sector Equality Duty monitoring.
- d) Number of courses developed in collaboration with employers.
- e) Number of people referred from partners onto upskill courses.
- f) Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses (e.g., learners in prison, parents)

Evidencing target outputs

The Department for Education (DfE) have released individual learner records (ILR) codes associated with the provision of Multiply interventions. Prospective applicants should consider the type of intervention and the guided learning hours that align most with their programmes, as this will be recorded in their applications. Applicants will be expected to evidence the guided learning hours of their programmes should they be successful. Further information on the course titles can be found by following the links in the table below.

Title	Reference	Guided learning hours
Any other Multiply (numeracy) provision not covered above, over 30 hours	Z0059814	<30
Any other Multiply (numeracy) provision not covered above,11 to 20 hours	Z0059812	Between 11-20
Any other Multiply (numeracy) provision not covered above,2 to 5 hours	Z0059810	Between 2-5
Any other Multiply (numeracy) provision not covered above,21 to 30 hours	Z0059813	Between 21-30
Any other Multiply (numeracy) provision not covered above,6 to 10 hours	Z0059811	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision aimed at people who cannot apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy in order to access a certain job/career, over 30 hours	Z0059799	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision aimed at people who cannot apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy in order to access a certain job/career,11 to 20 hours	Z0059797	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision aimed at people who cannot apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy in order to access a certain job/career,2 to 5 hours	Z0059795	Between 2-5
Multiply (numeracy) provision aimed at people who cannot apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy in order to access a certain job/career,21 to 30 hours	Z0059798	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision aimed at people who cannot apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy in order to access a certain job/career,6 to 10 hours	Z0059796	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision consisting of additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses, over 30 hours	Z0059804	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision consisting of additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses,11 to 20 hours	Z0059802	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision consisting of additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses,2 to 5 hours	Z0059800	Between 2-5

Multiply (numeracy) provision consisting of additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses,21 to 30 hours	Z0059803	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision consisting of additional relevant maths modules embedded into other vocational courses,6 to 10 hours	Z0059801	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision delivered together with employers, including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace, 2 to 5 hours	Z0059805	Between 2-5
Multiply (numeracy) provision delivered together with employers, including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace, over 30 hours	Z0059809	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision delivered together with employers, including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace,11 to 20 hours	Z0059807	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision delivered together with employers, including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace,21 to 30 hours	Z0059808	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision delivered together with employers, including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace,6 to 10 hours	Z0059806	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money, over 30 hours	Z0059794	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money,11 to 20 hours	Z0059792	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money,2 to 5 hours	Z0059790	Between 2-5
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money,21 to 30 hours	Z0059793	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money,6 to 10 hours	Z0059791	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to increase confidence with numbers, as a first step towards formal numeracy qualifications, over 30 hours	Z0059784	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to increase confidence with numbers, as a first step towards formal numeracy qualifications,11 to 20 hours	Z0059782	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to increase confidence with numbers, as a first step towards formal numeracy qualifications,2 to 5 hours	Z0059780	Between 2-5
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to increase confidence with numbers, as a first step towards formal numeracy qualifications,21 to 30 hours	Z0059783	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision designed to increase confidence with numbers, as a first step towards formal numeracy qualifications,6 to 10 hours	Z0059781	Between 6-10
Multiply (numeracy) provision for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression, over 30 hours	Z0059789	<30
Multiply (numeracy) provision for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression,11 to 20 hours	Z0059787	Between 11-20
Multiply (numeracy) provision for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression,2 to 5 hours	Z0059785	Between 2-5
Multiply (numeracy) provision for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression,21 to 30 hours	Z0059788	Between 21-30
Multiply (numeracy) provision for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression,6 to 10 hours	Z0059786	Between 6-10

Local Priorities

We will prioritise expressions of interest that have the greatest potential to deliver against key national and local skills priorities and achieve the above outputs and outcomes.

Bidders should consider how their proposals align with our Council Plan, UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and Levelling up priorities, namely:

Our ambition is to support local businesses on aspects such as removing barriers to employment and enabling higher level skills by delivering interventions that boost productivity, increase jobs, and improve living standards.

Our UKSPF (United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund) and Levelling up priorities are:

Supporting Local Business

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion
- Promoting networking and collaboration and stimulating innovation and growth
- Targeted support to help businesses grow (e.g., innovation, productivity, energy, efficiency, low carbon, and exporting)
-

People and Skills

- Boosting core skills and support adults to progress in work
- Supporting disadvantaged people to access the skills they need
- Funding local skills needs and supplementing local adult skills provision
- Reducing levels of economic inactivity and supporting those furthest from the labour market

Our priorities enable the Council and our partners to achieve the outcomes for the people and place of North Lincolnshire. Through our Council Plan priorities, the following intentions fit with the proposed Multiply Provision:

Keeping people safe and well

- Ensure the care sector is of high quality and care leavers receive the on-going support they need
- Reduce health inequalities and promote wellbeing

Enabling resilient and flourishing communities

- Support our volunteers and create stronger communities with access to a range of leisure, culture and other facilities

Enabling economic growth and renewal

- Encourage personal ambition through access to life-long, high quality education, guidance, training and opportunities to upskill and gain experience through volunteering
- Regenerate town centres and expand the local economy to secure more highly skilled jobs

Providing value for money for local tax payers

- Get it right for our customers first time

Consideration should be given to how projects respond to key challenges, such as:

- Literacy and numeracy skills in Greater Lincolnshire are below those seen nationally.
- Only 33% of Greater Lincolnshire residents aged 25-39 have a Level4 qualification or above, compared to 53% nationally.
- Elevated levels of deprivation, including benefit dependency within the population, including long-term unemployment affecting some groups.
- High proportions of households falling within low-income socio-demographic groups and the barriers this creates to participation in economic and local growth.
- The number of adults with basic skills (literacy, numeracy, digital) and low proportion of adults with higher level qualifications.
- Increasing participation in skills and employment programmes by those individuals who have additional barriers to employment but have not previously been engaged.

How Expression of Interests will be Assessed

A team of NLC officers will complete an appraisal of all submitted proposals against the criteria below:

Expressions of Interest will be assessed against:

- The extent to which they meet the objectives of Multiply.
- The extent to which they are deliverable within the required timelines.
- The extent to which EOIs (Expression of Interest) would support the delivery of local growth and employment support priorities.
- If applicable, the provider's performance in the first year of Multiply.
- Compliance with policies, procedures and documented listed in the Expression of Interest Form.

Submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI)

Expressions of interest must be submitted using the Multiply Expression of Interest form, which is available in the link below. Expressions of Interest submitted in any other format will not be accepted.

Prospective applicants can submit an Expression of Interest by following the link:

[Multiply Application](#)

Providers will be required to monitor their provision and they will be expected to provide monthly, annual and end of project reports and evaluations and attend any dissemination and evaluation activities. This will include case-studies, data, and other evidence-based activities to show the outputs and outcomes of the project. Providers will also need to comply with GDPR, we will provide more information to successful applicants and also details of enrolment processes. The council will undertake monitoring visits to successful providers.

EOI's can be submitted at any time, and applicants can expect to be informed of the outcome within a month of applying.

Following confirmation of a funding award, NLC will enter into a funding agreement with successful bidders with the intention that delivery of provision, this will include all GDPR requirements.

Please note, Multiply is subject to OFSTED inspections, and your participation will be required in the event of an inspection.

If you have any queries regarding North Lincolnshire council's Multiply project, please email Multiply@northlincs.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Assessment Template

The template below sets out how NLC aims to appraise EOIs:

Programme/Project	
Project Name/Applicant	
Checklist	
1. Does the project/proposal address a need identified in the prospectus?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2. AEB funded local provision will not be duplicated?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Does the project/proposal meet the outputs and outcomes identified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are all legal requirements as per question 9 of the expression of interest form in place?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
All of the above criteria must be met.	

Selection Criteria

Section 1 – Strategic Fit
Please consider the proposal’s overall contribution to the strategic objectives of Multiply
(a) How well does the proposal contribute to local needs set out in relevant local plans?

Section 2 – Deliverability
Deliverability: Please consider the overall deliverability of the project/proposal
a) Does the applicant have relevant experience in delivering projects of this type?
b) Does the applicant have in place the resources necessary to deliver the project?
c) Is the project deliverable within the stated timescales?
d) Has the provider successfully delivered in Year 1 of Multiply? (if applicable)

Section 3– Effectiveness and Efficiency
Effectiveness: Considers the overall effectiveness of the project/proposal including monitoring and reporting, the project budget, and proposed outputs.
a) Do the stated outputs reflect the project activities and are they achievable?

b) Is the budget reasonable in the light of the activities and provide value for money in line with the Investment Plan spreadsheet?

c) How robust are the planned quality assurance and monitoring processes?

d) How effective is risk management in achieving the stated outputs and outcomes?