

Date written: 8th March 2018

Report author: Alison Winter/Carl Webber

Date of meeting where the report is being considered: 15th March 2018

Issue: Grant Award of Funding Approval

SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to provide Members with an update with regards to the award of funding from Welsh Government for 2017/18 financial year and the use thereof.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members;

- Consider and note the award of grant funding
- Approve the use and distribution of grant funding in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award
- Recommend that the Lead Chief Executive and S151 Officer approves the receipt of grant funding.

BACKGROUND

As host authority Rhondda Cynon Taf act as 'banker authority', and under the terms of the grant agreements will be responsible for accepting the terms and conditions of grant and putting in place arrangements to distribute the funding, as determined by the Joint Committee, within the Consortium.

The method of apportionment of each grant will vary depending on its nature, its intended recipients, its purposes and the associated terms and conditions.

For each grant the following process shall be adopted:

- The Consortium shall prepare a proposed method of distribution taking into account all relevant criteria.
- The Director of Education (or equivalent) of each authority shall approve the basis of apportionment at the Directors Group of the Central South Joint Education Service. This will ensure appropriate and effective use of grant funding to target school improvement equitably across each of the five authorities areas
- A report detailing the basis and reasons for the method adopted shall be presented to the Joint Committee for approval.

At the Joint Committee meeting on the 18th February 2014 it was agreed to devolve responsibility for the approval of grants to the Directors Group where the Joint Committee meeting cycle does not align with the grant timetables.

AWARD OF GRANT FUNDING

There are 3 awards of grant funding that requires Directors approval prior to the next Joint Committee meeting being held in March 2018 and therefore Directors are requested to seek

approval of these awards of funding from the Lead Chief Executive and S151 Officer for the consortium.

This decision will be reported to the next Joint Committee as required by the legal agreement.

This report presents details of 2017/18 revised award of funding letters for:

Learning in Digital Wales Continuing Professional Development Programme Phase 2

The total of this award of funding is £437,477 over the period 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2019, of which £150,462 has been awarded for the financial year 2017/18. This is a variation to the letter dated 24th July 2017 and variation refers to award of funding for financial year 2018/19.

The purpose of the funding is to support CSC to deliver against:-

- Support practitioners in schools to develop their confidence and competence in using the range of digital resources and tools available through the LiDW programme;
- To provide capacity for expert “Digital Leader” support
- To actively promote Digital Citizenship in relation to the safe and responsible use of the tools and resources available through LiDW and in relation to digital technology more widely
- To support practitioners in developing their own leadership and digital literacy skills in line with the development and implementation of Digital Competency Framework and the new curriculum for Wales
- To support the on-going development of the LiDW programme by supporting Digital Learning Units in gathering feedback from education practitioners to inform the future direction of the programme.

Funding to Support the Pioneer Schools Network, Professional Learning & Curriculum Design and Development 2017-2018 – revised grant funding.

The total of this award of funding is up to £70,000 over the period 1st January 2018 – 31st March 2018 taking the total grant awarded to £2,061,250 for 2017/18. This is specific to Criteria 1 and is ring-fenced for partnership schools as identified in Annex A of the terms and conditions.

The Purpose of the Funding awarded is to enable the CSC to:-

- Support the work of the Pioneer Schools Network, providing expertise, organisational support and advice to Pioneer Schools and Welsh Government, relating to the development of the new Curriculum, Professional Learning and implementation of the Digital Competence Framework.
- Support the release of lead practitioners from Pioneer Schools to contribute to the development of the new Curriculum, Professional Learning and implementation of the Digital Competence Framework
- Ensure the timely release of the necessary funds to Pioneer Schools in line with the new Curriculum, Professional Learning and Digital Pioneers specifications and Realising Successful Futures – Core Brief
- Support and contribute to the national curriculum design and development process - including the co-facilitation of the AoLE groups with Welsh Government

- Work at a national level across consortia regions, in partnership with pioneers and the wider school network to design, develop and deliver a National Approach to Professional Learning in preparation for the New Curriculum.
- Develop an E&E plan setting out proposed activity.

The table below identifies the apportionment of the additional funding for 2017/18.

	Delegated £	Retained £	Total £	
Criteria 1 – Pioneer Network Funding Digital	20,000		20,000	Each school to receive £5,000, please refer to Annex A
Criteria 1 – Pioneer Network Funding Curriculum	50,000		50,000	
Total	70,000		70,000	

Revised award of funding in relation to Raising School Standards 2017/18

The total of this award of funding is £82,500, taking the total grant in 2017/18 to £2,961,911.

The increase in funding forms part of the regional school improvement element and is to support (i) The Associates Programme (£56,000) (ii) Ferndale Community School – initial teacher education primary sector expert (£26,500), via regional education consortia.

The purpose of the funding is to enable CSC to:-

- Associate Programme - £12,000 for each successful Associate as listed in the award of funding Annex B, plus £20,000 for CSC for involvement and support for the Associates programme and administration.
- Fern Federation – to support the developing approach to research in ITE and wider education research strategy following the publication of the OECD report. Support the development of the developing Estyn inspection framework in relation to ITE. Be a member of the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Advisory Board. Supporting the development of arrangements for assessment and standardisation of QTS in ITE.

Background papers

1. Joint Committee meeting on the 18th February 2014.
2. Welsh Government Award of Grant funding letter dated 18th January 2018.
3. Welsh Government revised grant funding letter dated 8th February 2018.
4. Welsh Government revised grant funding letter dated 13th February 2018.

Funding Schedule: Annex A:

Funding Stream	Total	Funding Targets	Payment Release Date	Evidence required to support the claim
<p>Criteria 1: Pioneer Schools Network – curriculum and digital partnerships</p> <p>(January to March 2018)</p> <p>Digital Pioneer Partnership Schools</p> <p>Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg</p> <p>Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Edern</p> <p>Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr</p> <p>Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Rhydywaun</p> <p>Curriculum Partnership Schools</p> <p>Ysgol Gynradd Cynwyd Sant</p> <p>Ysgol Llanhari</p> <p>Cadoxton Primary School</p> <p>Romilly Primary School</p> <p>Ysgol Gyfun Bro Edern</p>	<p>£5,000 for each curriculum and digital partnership school for the spring term 2018</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pioneer Schools releasing lead practitioners in line with the Curriculum and Digital Pioneers specifications 2. Funds distributed to Pioneer Schools in line with the Curriculum and Digital Pioneers specifications. 3. Consortia continuing to support Pioneer Schools in their design and development work streams 4. Consortia supporting Welsh Government by providing expertise, organisational support and advice. 5. Complete specific workload projects. 	<p>March 2018</p>	<p>Engagement by lead practitioners in Working Groups. Evidence of engagement with clusters</p> <p>Evidence of payments having been made in line with Payment Schedule. Completion of grant claim form.</p> <p>Evidence of collaboration between Pioneer Schools and wider networks.</p> <p>Evidence of regional meetings between Pioneer Schools.</p> <p>Attendance and leading at regular meetings with Welsh Government.</p> <p>Evidence of advice and assistance in line with specific needs of each work stream.</p>

	Ysgol Gyfun Plasmawr Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg Ysgol Gyfun Garth Olwg The Hollies School Heronsbridge School			Evidence of projects undertaken and their results.
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Funding Schedule: Annex B:

Region	Associate	School	
CSC – Vale of Glamorgan	Janet Hayward	Cadaxton Primary	HaywardJ@hwbmail.net
CSC - RCT	Emma Coates	Llanhari Primary	emmacoates@aol.com
CSC - Cardiff	Huw Powell	Mary Immaculate High School	Huw.Powell@cardiff.gov.uk

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