



Minutes of the special meeting of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Committee held at Ty Dysgu, Parc Nantgarw on Friday, 12 February 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT:

In the Chair:

Councillor C. Elmore (Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council)

Members of the Committee

Councillor H.David (Bridgend County Borough Council)

Councillor S. Merry (Cardiff City Council)

Councillor (Mrs) E. Hanagan (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Council Officers in Attendance

Ms. J. Hill – Director of Learning & Skills (Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council)

Mrs C.Jones – Assistant Director of Education (Cardiff City Council)

Ms D.Haines – Chief Education Officer (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council)

Ms.D.McMillan – Director of Education & Transformation (Bridgend County Borough Council)

Mrs. E.Thomas - Temporary Director of Education & Lifelong Learning (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Ms.A.Kent – Head of School Improvement (Cardiff City Council)

Also in Attendance

Ms.H.Woodhouse - Managing Director (Central South Consortium)

Ms.L.Blatchford – Business Manager (Central South Consortium)

Mr. R. Hopkins – Head of School Improvement (Central South Consortium)

Mr.K. Napieralla (Welsh Government)

39 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from County Borough Councillor H.Jones (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council).

40 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members had no personal interests to declare in matters pertaining to the agenda.

41 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record, the minutes of the meeting of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Committee held on 9 December 2015.

42 SCHOOLS CHALLENGE CYMRU – PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

The Committee received Andrew Morley and Stuart Tucker (School Challenge Advisors) along with Angela Kent (Head of School Improvement - Cardiff City Council) who presented an update on the Schools Challenge Cymru programme.

There was progress recognised in many of the SCC schools in the region. A discussion ensued on the effectiveness of Accelerated Improvement Boards (AIBs) and suggestions were put forward on ways of improving their quality and impact consistently across the region. It was the general viewpoint of the Joint Committee Members that AIBs could follow a National Model and standard Terms of Reference should be adopted. Also, that whilst relationships have clearly improved there can be yet closer working relationships between Advisors, CSC/LA Officers and Head Teachers to continue improvement in the future.

During the presentation, Members noted that in the short term the poor quality of senior leadership and classroom practice in a small number of schools had slowed the pace of change and there was evidence across the region that in Year 2, as a result of a number of intervention processes in place into leadership and governance, there was likely to be better outcomes achieved in these schools.

Following further discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that in future, a standard item is included on Joint Committee agenda to receive progress updates on each of the schools assisted under the Schools Challenge Cymru programme and that relevant Challenge Advisors be invited along the meetings to respond to questions.

43 SELF EVALUATION AND BUSINESS PLANNING FOR 2016-17

The Managing Director, Hannah Woodhouse, presented her report in respect of the draft Business Plan for 2016 and outlined the key headlines arising from the Self Evaluation exercise.

Following consideration of the Director's comments on the way forward, it was **RESOLVED** to accept the report as presented and to note that the finalised detailed Business Plan for 2016-17 will be submitted to the next meeting of the Joint Committee on 24 March 2015 for approval.

44 PROGRESS AGAINST THE 2015-16 BUSINESS PLAN

The Managing Director, Hannah Woodhouse, presented the Joint Committee with information on progress made to date in respect of the 2015-16 Business Plan. The Director also outlined the action taken following the last Estyn inspection and its recommendations.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information.

45 2015/16 BUDGET MONITORING UPDATE

The Committee considered the report of the Treasurer providing an update of the projected outturn for the Consortium for 2015/16 and a summary of the grant funding received in 2015/16

Following consideration of the report and recommendations, it was **RESOLVED** –

(1) To note the current outturn position for 2015/6.

(2) To note the current grant position for 2015/16.

46 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

47 REGIONAL WORKING

Deborah McMillan, Director of Education & Transformation at Bridgend County Borough Council provided the Committee with a brief insight into an initiative being led by the Chief Executives and Directors of five local authorities to establish the possibility of working collaboratively in respect of certain further service areas. Scoping was currently being undertaken and the outcome would be reported back to Chief Executives during May 2016. A further update would be provided to the Joint Committee in due course.

48 RISK REGISTER

The Committee considered the Central South Consortium Risk Register as at February 2016 and following consideration of the Managing Director's comments, it was **RESOLVED** –

(1) To note the information.

- (2) To add to the Register the risks associated with leadership capacity.

49 ESTYN INSPECTION – PROGRAMME AND PREPARATION

The Joint Committee received an update from the Managing Director on the forthcoming Estyn Inspection of the Central South Consortium and provided a timetable of meeting dates during the inspection period.

**C.ELMORE
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting terminated at 12.10 p.m.