



Minutes of the Meeting of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Committee held at the Ty Dysgu, Nantgarw on Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 2.00pm

PRESENT

Members of the Committee

Councillor H. David (Bridgend County Borough Council)
Councillor S. Merry (Cardiff City Council)
Councillor E. Hanagan (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)
Councillor L. Burnett (Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council)

Council Officers in Attendance

Mr D. R. Thomas – Managing Director (Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council)
Mr C. Smith – Director of Learning & Skills (Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council)
Mr N. Batchelar – Director of Education (Cardiff City Council)
Ms. D. Haines – Chief Education Officer (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council)
Mr. P. Griffiths – Service Director, Performance & Improvement (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)
Mrs E. Thomas – Director of Education & Lifelong Learning (Rhondda County Borough Council)
Ms N. Echaris – (Bridgend County Borough Council)

Also in Attendance

Ms. H. Woodhouse – Managing Director (Central South Consortium)
Mr. M. Glavin – Assistant Director (Central South Consortium)
Ms. L. Blatchford – Business Manager (Central South Consortium)

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M. Maragakis, Welsh Government

51. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

52. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record, the minutes of the meeting of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service held on 8th December 2016.

53. CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Committee agreed that the agenda would be considered out of sequence and as detailed in the minutes set out hereunder.

54. MANAGING DIRECTOR UPDATE

The Managing Director, Central South Consortium provided the Committee with handouts which summarised the National and Regional priorities.

The Managing Director Central South Consortium explained to Members the National and Regional priorities as of March 2017.

Members were provided with the PISA Result for 2016 where students in Wales have been ranked at the bottom of the UK. Members put their views forward in relation to attainment v equality, poverty not being your destiny, issues of higher ability performance with many students in Wales not reaching baseline levels.

Members were informed of the progress of the Welsh Education reform journey which has been a five year process. Progress has been made in selected areas:

- Measures to support professional learning of teacher;
- Increase in school to school collaboration ;
- Rationalisation of school grants;
- Development of national school categorisation system; and
- Steps to develop 21st century curriculum.

However further attention is required to release the vision and implementation of Curriculum: in developing a high quality teaching profession; making leadership for learning a key driver of reform, ensuring equity in learning opportunities and student well being.

The Director Central South Consortium explained to Members the National priorities.

After in depth discussion Members **RESOLVED** to note the information put before them.

55 CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM BUISNESS PLAN 2017 - 2020

The Managing Director Central South Consortium presented to the Committee the Central South Consortium Business Plan for 2017 – 2020.

It was explained to Members that the aim of the plan is to improve outcomes for vulnerable learners, develop school to school working to deliver curriculum reform, develop leadership, governance and workforce reform along with delivering a rapid and sustainable intervention. Finally develop effectiveness and efficiency in Central South Consortium

Members were informed of ways in which Consortium achieve their aims by providing teams of challenge advisers working with all schools in the region (with more time allocated to the schools most in need).

The Consortium provides timely data analyses to support schools' self evaluation and improvement planning (including school categorisation judgements) , along with supports and funds school to school improvement partnerships and brokers support between schools. The Consortium allocates grant funding to schools in the region along with guidance and advise on how grant funding can be used to drive improvements and works with Welsh Government to deliver its priorities in the region.

Members were informed that the success of the plan is measured through progress towards targets. These are based on schools' own targets incorporating benchmark measures and informed by additional challenge from the region's challenge adviser workforce. Members felt that there needed to be a link in terms of Priority One 'Improve Outcomes of venerable learners and Priority Two.

After in depth discussion Member RESOLVED to:

- Approve the Business Plan
- Receive updates at each Joint Committee
- Receive updated information in respect of School Improvement Hubs.

56. PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE 2016-2017 CENTRAL SOUTH CONSOTRIUM BUSINESS PLAN

The Managing Director Central South Consortium presented to the Committee an update in respect of the progress made against the 2016-17 Business Plan.

Members put their questions forward and after in depth consideration it was **RESOLVED** to note the progress made against the 2016 -2017 Central South Consortium Business Plan

57. 2016/17 BUDGET MONITORING UPDATE

The Committee received an updating report of the Treasurer which informed them of the projected revenue outturn position for 2016/17 and a summary of 2016/17 grant funding.

Following consideration of the Report it was **RESOLVED** –

- (1) To note the projected revenue outturn position for 2016/17
- (2) To note the current grant position for 2016/17

58. CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM EDUCATION GRANTS

The Business Manager for the Central South Consortium presented the report of the Directors of Education in respect of the grants to be received by the Consortium for 2016/17 for which notification have been received, and the methods of allocation of each.

Following consideration of the report, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the distribution of grants as detailed in Section 4 of the Report.

59. CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM VALUE FOR MONEY REPORT 2015/16

Members of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service joint Committee were provided with an update on the progress made in capturing Value for Money. Members were informed that the report is the update in respect of 2015-16.

After in depth discussion and consideration it was **RESOLVED** to -

1. Agree the recommendation of the report
2. Note the information contained in the report

Before presenting his report Mr M Glavin Assistant Director (CSC) was congratulated Chair and Members of the Committee on his appointment as the new Director of the Central South Consortium.

60. PROGRESS AGAINST ESTYN RECOMMENDATIONS

In his report the Assistant Director Central South Consortium informed Members that the Estyn Inspection of the CSC in February/ March 2016 identified a number of strengths and a number of areas for improvement.

The Assistant Director explained that the report of the inspection makes four recommendations:

- R1 – Ensure that school improvement services address the variability of performance across schools and local authorities, particularly at KS4
- R2 – Improve the accuracy of the evaluations of schools by challenge advisers in order to ensure a greater focus on improving teaching and leadership

- R3 – Strengthens the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the impact of school improvement work
- R4 – Evaluate progress against the regional consortium operation plans more effectively.

The Assistant Director Central South explained that there had been three changes since the last meeting and additional progress had been made in recommendations 1, 2 and 4.

In respect of Recommendation 1 there has been continued improvement in all phases and less variance in key stage four performances. Outcomes in both categorisation and inspections have improved for secondary schools.

Members were given an overview of progress since the inspection in relation to Recommendation 2. It was explained that progress against this recommendation is considered to be strong, as more direct and focussed action is being taken where challenge adviser performance is less than good.

Recommendation 3 has also made good progress and nearly all processes are in place but need time to embed and impact on standards/ provision and that many of the actions identified in 'Next Steps' have been completed.

The progress in respect of Recommendation 4 has the potential to be very good by the time Estyn Visit. Members were pleased to see further improvements have been made to both the development of improvement planning and to monitoring progress against the planning.

After consideration of the report Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Note and monitor the progress made in addressing each of the recommendation.

61 RISK REGISTER

The committee considered the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Risk Register as at February 2017.

The Managing Director Central South highlighted various points for the Committee to consider.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** to note the information.

Before concluding the Meeting the Chair thanked Hannah Woodhouse Managing Director Central South Consortium for all her hard work and wished her well in her new role.

**HUW DAVID
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting terminated at 3.15pm