

## **CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM**

### **JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

## **CENTRAL SOUTH EDUCATION CONSORTIUM GRANTS**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION**

**Author: Esther Thomas, Temporary Acting Managing Director**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the grants to be received by the Consortium in 2019/20, for which notifications have been received, and the methods of allocation of each.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Directors to recommend the following to the Joint Committee;

- 2.1 Approve the distribution of grants as detailed in section 4 of this report.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 2.2 As host authority Rhondda Cynon Taf will 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.

### **3. METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT**

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

3.2 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 Executive Board 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.

3.3 This report presents details of 2019/20 grants to the Joint Committee.

### **4. 2019/20 GRANTS**

Grant approval letter has been received detailing the grants coming into the Consortium. The Directors have agreed to maintain the LA disaggregation of the funding and to apply a common formula for the delegation of the LA funding to schools.

#### **5.1 Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2019/20 – award dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The total of this award of funding is £41,170,015 over the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

The Purpose of this funding is to support the regional consortium and the related authorities within the consortium in delivering Welsh Government aspirations and priorities for schools and education outlined within Ambitious and Learning from the national strategy, Prosperity for All, and the plan of action for education, Education in Wales:

Funding will support the CSC to deliver against Welsh Government national priorities for education, at the centre of which is a transformational curriculum and a focus on four key enabling objectives which will support;

- Developing and delivering a high quality education profession;
- Inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards;
- Strong and inclusive schools committed to excellence, equity and well-being;

- Robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements supporting a self-improving system.

The outcomes will be supported by a range of measures and key performance indicators, as outlined in the consortium business plan (the Application).

The Funding will be organised around the following pre-requisites and requirements:

### **Policy requirements and expectations**

The expectations for each policy area will be agreed at the first regular meeting with Welsh Government and will be subject to review on a regular cycle thereafter on a mutually agreed reporting format with frequency of the cycle to be agreed.

### **Sustainability and citizen-focused**

Initiatives supported by the grant must be sustainable, learner focused, and in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

### **National Model for Regional Working**

The expectations set out in the National Model for Regional Working guidance remain the same and should continue to be followed. The national model governance structures will also be used to monitor progress, including wherever appropriate to evidence the Funding requirements.

### **Joint consortia working**

In line with the expectations set out in the National Model for Regional Working there is a requirement to work with regional consortia across Wales to maximise opportunities for sharing good practice and learning across all Education in Wales objectives, and especially those newer in development, such as wellbeing.

### **Supporting a self-improving system**

Where appropriate, Consortia will facilitate, schools, Foundation Phase providers and PRUs' consideration of cluster models, and collaboration across the four consortia regions when determining the most effective use of the Funding to support the delivery of improved outcomes for learners

### **Equity of approach**

Consortia must be able to demonstrate equity of approach across the consortium and its related authorities in delegating the Funding to schools.

### **Cluster working**

Where appropriate consideration should be given to the facilitation of cluster models for schools, Foundation Phase providers and PRUs when determining the most effective use of funding in the support and delivery of improved outcomes for learners.

### **Challenge Advisers and School Development Plans**

Consortia challenge advisers will provide support and challenge to schools to ensure their school development plans appropriately reflect their improvement journey and local priorities.

### **Grant Distribution**

A detailed breakdown of the apportionment of the funding will be reported at a later date subject to Welsh Government acceptance and approval of the CSC Business Plan. The proposals for the core element of the EIG contained within the Business Plan 2019/20 are detailed in the table below.

<b>Education Improvement Grant</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2019 - 2020 £</b>
Centrally retained funding including literacy and numeracy support, Welsh in Education and Foundation Phase provision	2,321,804
Funding held to support vulnerable schools	136,306
School Improvement Groups	320,000
Funding for specific school improvement initiatives (according to need)	1,260,228
Delegated to local authorities for non-maintained settings	323,964
Delegated to local authorities for administration of grant	67,021
Delegated to schools	34,176,517
<b>TOTAL FUNDING (inc. LA MATCH FUNDING)</b>	<b>38,605,840</b>
<b>LA MATCH FUNDING</b>	<b>(2,989,022)</b>
<b>NET GRANT FUNDING</b>	<b>35,616,818</b>