

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT

19TH MARCH 2020

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM GRANTS

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION

Author: Louise Blatchford, Deputy 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 recommend the following to the Joint Committee:

- 2.1 Approve the distribution of grants as detailed in section 4 of this report (and Annex A).

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 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.

4.0 METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT

- 4.1 The method of apportionment of each grant will vary depending on its nature, its intended recipients, its purposes and the associated terms and conditions.
- 4.2 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 Consortium Joint Education Service. This will ensure appropriate and effective use of grant funding to target school improvement equitably across each of the five local authority areas.
 - A report detailing the basis and reasons for the method adopted shall be presented to the Joint Committee for approval.
- 4.3 This report presents details of 2019/20 grants to the Joint Committee.

5.0 2019/20 GRANTS

5.1 Grant approval letters have been received detailing grant levels for the Central South Consortium. The Directors have agreed to maintain the local authority dis-aggregation of the funding and to apply a common formula for the delegation of the local authority funding to schools.

5.2 Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant – Revised Award of Grant Funding

5.2.1 The revised award of funding is £136,747 (see Annex A), taking the total award of grant funding for the financial year 2019/20 to £41,891,666.

5.2.2 The aim of the additional funding is to further support the following:

- (i) HEI Accreditation Manager;
- (ii) National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH);
- (iii) PISA;
- (iv) NAEL – Endorsement Funding for management capacity;
- (v) NAEL – Endorsement Funding to support delivery;
- (vi) National Evaluation and Improvement Resource (NEIR) Pilot – regional consortia support;
- (vii) Pilot Project Resources; and
- (viii) Support for curriculum design - CSC.

5.2.3 Members will note that of the revised award of funding (£136,747), £61,147 retained initially for future delegation to schools / business plan priorities and £75,600 retained to manage the programme on behalf of the five local authorities.

Annex A

	Delegated to schools	Retained initially for future delegation to schools / business plan priorities	Retained by CSC for Specific Circumstances	Central Salaries	Total	Areas to include	Apportionment
	£	£	£	£	£		
HEI Accreditation Manager					0	Support the rollout of Coaching and Mentoring across each region.	Not applicable.
NPQH				13,500	13,500	Deliver NPQH to support the new Professional Standards for Teaching and Leadership and "Our National Mission".	Commitments for the delivery of the 2019/20 NPQH programme.
PISA			15,100		15,100	Scrutiny and communication of PISA 2018 outcomes in a way that will have a positive impact on learning.	Funding profiled to commission the work of a school leader to support schools to analyse feedback from the 2018 PISA survey and to begin to coordinate the development of resources in preparation for the 2021 PISA survey.
NAEL – Endorsement Funding for management capacity				40,000	40,000	Work nationally on Leadership programmes and to support the ongoing works streams	Funding profiled to release CSC staff to support NAEL
NAEL – Endorsement Funding to support delivery		47,147			47,147	of planning, implementing and reviewing existing provision.	Funding profiled against endorsed leadership programmes including Aspiring and Experienced Headteacher delivered during financial year 2019/20.

National Evaluation and Improvement Resource (NEIR) Pilot – regional consortia support				4,000	4,000	Support the National Evaluation and Improvement Resource (NEIR) Pilot work in the 2019/20 academic year.	Funding profiled to release CSC staff to undertake the regional coordination role for the NEIR pilot work.
Pilot Project Resources			3,000		3,000	Support for schools causing concern – particularly “wellbeing support” for school leaders.	Funding profiled to in line with Welsh Government approved priorities that includes the deployment of consultancy support where support has been requested.
Support for curriculum design - CSC		14,000			14,000	Quality improvement support for Curriculum Wales guidance (September 2019 to March 2020).	Funding profiled to Curriculum for Wales PL programme.
TOTAL	0	61,147	18,100	57,500	136,747		



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mr Barrie Davies
Section 151 Officer
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
The Pavilions
Clydach Vale
Tonypany
CF40 2XX

February 2020

Dear Mr Davies

**REGIONAL CONSORTIA SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT 2019-20
REVISED GRANT AWARD LETTER – JANUARY 2020:**

This letter details an increase in the Funding awarded to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council in delivering the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2019-20.

This variation also includes revisions to audit arrangements and requirements relating to 14-19 Learning Pathways.

I can confirm that the Welsh Ministers have agreed to increase the Funding awarded by a further £136,747 (One Hundred and Thirty Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Forty Seven pounds) for 2019/20. The additional Funding is over and above that which was originally anticipated as detailed in the original Funding award letter dated 17 May 2019.

This increased funding forms part of the regional school improvement element. Detail on the criteria for and the purpose of the funding is contained within the Schedule to this letter.

The award is made under the authority of the Minister for Education, one of the Welsh Ministers.

This brings the total amount allocated to the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant to £41,891,666 (Forty One Million, Eight Hundred and Ninety One Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty Six Pounds).

The statutory basis for this Funding is made on and subject to the Conditions and under the authority of the Minister for Education, one of the Ministers, acting pursuant to sections 14-17 of the Education Act 2002 and 70 and 71(1) of the Government of Wales Act (GOWA) 2006.



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Parc Cathays • Cathays Park
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

The increased funding is subject to the terms and conditions provided in the original Funding award letter dated 17 May 2019, with the exemption of these clauses within Schedule 1:

- Delegation to schools;
- Local Authority Match funding for each region; and
- Administration and management costs.

The Funding, as awarded in May 2019 and in this variation, relates to the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and must be claimed in full by 31 March 2020 otherwise any unclaimed part of the Funding will cease to be available to you.

14-19 Learning Pathways

The 'Specific conditions of Funding for the period relating to the element which supports the Education Improvement Grant for Schools' under Schedule 1 of the Funding award includes as an addition: "support for schools and local authorities in undertaking certain elements of their statutory duties, including for 14-19 Learning Pathways where:

- You must ensure that all your schools have entered their local curriculum offer data on Careers Wales.com by 30 April 2020.
- You must ensure you schools meet the requirements of the Learning and Skills Measure 2009; that they offer students a minimum of 25 courses, 3 of which are vocational at KS4 and at post 16 schools must offer a minimum of 30 choices of which 5 must be vocational. The vocational courses for post 16 must fall across the 3 domains, one of which must be mathematics, science and technology domain.

Schedule 3 – Payment Profile - this will reflect the increased amount offered and retain quarterly payments (reproduced below) as per the original Funding award letter dated 17 May 2019:

Period	Payment Date
April – June 2019	5 July 2019
July – September 2019	4 October 2019
October – December 2019	6 January 2020
January – March 2020	2 March 2020

Audit.

The process around Wales Audit Office (WAO) audits of local authority grants has changed. This follows a pilot undertaken by the Welsh Government in conjunction with the WAO, WLGA and several Local Authorities to trial new audit arrangements for grants awarded to local authorities.

Following a review of the findings, a decision has been taken to remove the need for Welsh Government to seek external audit scrutiny by WAO in respect of these grants.

From 2019/20 onwards, local authority grants will no longer be audited by WAO. However, an Annual Statement of Expenditure will need to be completed and

submitted to the Welsh Government official identified in the grant award letter dated 17 May 2019.

The Annual Statement of Expenditure at Annex A replaces Schedule 4 of the grant award letter dated 17 May. This should be completed and returned to the Welsh Government official by 30 September 2020.

In order to accept this additional Funding and confirm that you accept the Terms and Conditions in relation to the new Funding and awarded Funding, you must sign a copy of this letter and return it to:

Gordon MacDonald
Education Directorate
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF103NQ
email: Gordon.Macdonald@gov.wales

A scanned PDF of the signed letter is preferred, but it must be returned from the email address of project manager named in the original grant award letter dated 17 May 2019.

Please note that none of the additional Funding will be paid to you until we have received your signed letter. We must receive your signed letter on or before (28 days from date of letter) or this additional Funding will automatically be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. J. Godfrey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Mel Godfrey

Signed by Mel Godfrey
under authority of the Minister for Education
one of the Welsh Ministers.

Schedule of additional support

HEI Accreditation Manager	TBC
NPQH - One full time manager in each region to manage the I4	£13,500
PISA	£15,100
NAEL Endorsement Funding for management capacity	£40,000
NAEL Endorsement Funding to support delivery	£47,147
National Evaluation and Improvement Resource Pilot – regional consortia support	£4,000
Pilot project resources (Betsan)	£3,000
Support for curriculum design - CSC	£14,000
Total	£136,747

Detail on each variation line

HEI Accreditation Manager

One full time manager in each region to manage the C&M rollout. *(Further Discussion required between WG and regional Consortia).*

NPQH One full time manager in each region to manage the 14

Over recruitment to NPQH agreed to be funded by WG.

PISA

The purpose of this funding is to ensure that PISA 2018 outcomes are scrutinised and communicated in a way that will have a positive impact on learning at a regional and school level.

This funding will also help to develop high quality resources to support the skills curriculum in schools across Wales and ensure prominence during the current period of curriculum reform. It will also facilitate links for schools with Pearson as PISA test administrators and will also support regional PISA project leads and administration.

NAEL Endorsement Funding

This funding will provide additional leadership capacity to support the ongoing work streams for planning, implementing and reviewing existing provision, as part of the leadership programme endorsement process led by the NAEL. The funding will also support to development and delivery of new leadership provision.

National Evaluation and Improvement Resource Pilot – Regional consortia support

Purpose of the grant is to support the regional consortia with undertaking the regional co-ordination role for the National Evaluation and Improvement Resource (NEIR) pilot work in this academic year (2019-20).

Pilot Project Resources

This funding is for the schools causing concern specifically, you will recall that we gave the schools' leadership teams an offer of wellbeing/ coaching support due to the pressures of leadership in these types of schools/ and supporting the pilot/ interventions. We are in the process of identifying 'wellbeing support' for those school leaders who have requested it.

Support for Curriculum Design

This funding is for Quality improvement support for Curriculum for Wales guidance (September 2019 to March 2020). Attendance at workshops will be monitored.

REGIONAL CONSORTIA SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT 2019-20:

REVISED GRANT FUNDING January 2020:

GRANT ACCEPTANCE

We hereby accept the additional award of Funding for the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2019-20 and the Conditions relating to the Funding.

Signature
Signatory on behalf of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Name

Title

Date

Signature
Signatory on behalf of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Name

Title

Date

Signature
Signatory on behalf of the Central South Wales Consortium

Name

Title

Date

SCHEDULE 4 – DRAFT LEAD AUTHORITY AUDIT CERTIFICATE
Annual Statement of Grant Expenditure

Funding Description	Allocation	Expenditure
Innovation & QI Schools		
Engaging Non Pioneers		
Core Consortia Support for Design & Development of the new Curriculum		
Assessment for Learning (AfL)		
Welsh Language Use Framework incl. Welsh Language Charter (Welsh-medium Schools)		
Education Improvement Grant for Schools (EIG)		
Modern Foreign Languages (Global Futures)		
National Numeracy Test Support		
Literacy & Numeracy Grant		
Professional Learning - Pioneer Schools		
Learning in a Digital Wales (LiDW) - Phase II CPD		
Coding & Digital Skills		
Primary LNF Oracy Scheme for Wales		
Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA)		
Professional Teaching Standards		
National Network for Excellence in Science & Technology (NNEST)		
Foundation Phase Network (FPEN)		
Welsh - Professional Development - Consortia Funding (some lines combined)		
Digital Competence - Professional Learning Offer (PLO)		
A Level Improvement		
Teacher/Workforce Supply (ITET) incl. ITE partnership pilots		
Part time and Work Based ITE		
Modern Foreign Languages – building capacity for MFL in the primary sector		
Digital Competence Framework		
All Age Schools - Support for Research and Collaborative Projects		
Professional Teaching Awards Cymru (PTAC)		
Cluster Funding PL Pioneers		
Cluster Funding Non Pioneers		

Future Leadership (Aspiring, middle leaders including Coaching & Mentoring support)		
New & Acting Heads (Pre MNSH)		
National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)		
National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)		
Extend the impact and depth of collaborative working, including through federation		
Collaborative Research & Evaluation , supporting evidence-based practice across regions		
Develop schools as learning organisations - Criteria 3 Funding		

a) Total grant received for 2019-20 £.....

b) Actual Expenditure £.....

c) Grant to be reclaimed by the Welsh Ministers (a-b) £.....

I confirm that the agreed aims and objectives have been met.

I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that:

- the Information given above is correct and that all expenditure correctly records actual amounts incurred by the authority in relation to the Purposes and costs approved by the Welsh Government as being eligible under the grant;
- Activity was carried out against the agreed aims and objectives in accordance with the Award letter and associated Terms and Conditions of the grant;
- Systems and Controls were in place to ensure that the grant was used solely for the Purposes for which it was given, whether spent directly or passed to other organisations;
- No claims have been made for other funding from the Welsh Government or any other body in respect of the expenditure shown on this statement; and
- Monitoring arrangements were in place to ensure that implementation progressed as recorded on any agreed Delivery plan.

(Or - I have attached a qualification report outlining why I am unable to certify the above.)

Signature:

Date:

Position: Chief Finance Officer / Director of Finance (please delete as appropriate)