

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM JOINT EDUCATION SERVICE JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 10.00 am at the Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon.

County Borough Councillors - Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee. Members in attendance:-

Councillor C. Smith (Bridgend County Borough Council)

Councillor J. Rosser (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Councillor S. Merry (Cardiff Council)

Councillor L. Burnett (Vale of Glamorgan)

Councillor L. Mytton (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council)

Council Officers in attendance:-

Mr P. Orders (Lead Chief Executive Cardiff City Council)

Mr C. Bradshaw (Chief Executive, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Mr M Tate (Assistant Director of Education, Cardiff Council)

Ms P. Ham (Director of Learning & Skills, Vale of Glamorgan)

Mr L. Harvey (Director of Education, Bridgend Council)

Ms G. Davies (Director of Education & Inclusion Services, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Mr P. Griffiths (Service Director, Finance and Improvement Services Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Mr R. Evans (Director of Human Resources Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)

Others in attendance:-

Ms L. Blatchford (Acting Managing Director, Central South Consortium)

Ms N. Gould – Senior Lead Curriculum Reform

Mr. A. Williams – Central South Consortium

Ms S. Cocoran – Senior Challenge Adviser Central South Consortium

Dr C. Stokes – Data, Quality and Intelligence Unit Manager Central South Consortium

Mr H. Crisp – Head Teacher Pontypridd High School

Ms R. Best- Strategic Adviser for Foundation Phase and Primary Literacy

29 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

30 Minutes

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee meeting held on 15th July 2019.

31 Agenda

With agreement of the Chair the Agenda will be considered out of sequence.

32 Summary of Performance and the use of Interim Performance Measures

The Senior Challenge Adviser Central South Consortium in conjunction with the Data, Quality and Intelligence Unit Manager Central South Consortium presented Members of the Joint Committee with an overview of the changes to performance measures for 2019 and going forward.

It was explained that the changes to publication of data below National Level by Welsh Government over the last two years for foundation phase, key stage 2 and key stage 3 has resulted in changes to the information reported by the Central South Consortium and by local authorities to scrutiny committees and other public groups.

It was also explained that changes to key stage 4 performance measures in 2019 means that comparisons are no longer available with data from previous years. The officers went on to indicate that this has resulted in a change in the information that is available to be made public by the Central South Consortium and local authorities for this key stage.

The Senior Challenge Adviser Central South Consortium presented Members with information under the following headings:

- Our National Mission and CSC Business Plan 2019-20;
- Changes for Teacher Assessment Reporting at foundation phase, key stage 2 and key stage 3;
- Interim Performance Measures at key stage 4; and
- Future national developments.

The Senior Challenge Adviser added that the CSC Business Plan priorities 1 – 4 align directly with objectives in Welsh Government's (WG) National Mission and also explained that the Education (amendments relating to teacher assessment information) (Wales) Regulation 2018 highlighted some key changes including:

- Teacher assessment can be used for information purposes only and to develop school improvements but should not be used for school accountability purposes below national level.
- There is no change to the collection process or to the information that WG will hold;
- Teaching assessment data below National level will be removed for all publicly available data sources:
 - StatsWales website
 - My Local School
 - Statistical Releases
- Comparative data for local authorities and regional consortia will not be available.

Members were informed that the implications for schools with regards to Foundation phase, key stage 2 and key stage 3 are that the following information will no longer be available:

- DEWi Comparative Reports;

- All Wales Core Data sets (AWCDS);
- National Benchmarking Data (FP, KS2 and KS3); and
- Family average comparisons (as previously included in AWCDS).

Members raised concerns with regards to data sharing at teacher assessment level and asked how schools will adjust to the change. It was explained that for 2018/19 the CSC will provide an interim evaluation of a school – “CSC School on a page” which will assist and support, where needed, school self-evaluation activities.

Another Member asked how Estyn would use the data going forward within schools. Officers explained that Estyn would align with the changes going forward.

In respect of Key Stage 4 Performance Measures, Members were presented with an overview of the way in which these measures will be reported going forward. It was explained historical performance measures will no longer be published by WG and includes: % Level 1 Threshold, % Level 2 Threshold, % Level 2+ Threshold and % 5A* - A. It was also explained that the interim measures will be point based rather than focused on the percentage of pupils attaining a particular threshold grade / level and that the measures published will be:

- The capped 9 measures (3+6);
- Literacy measure (best Language /Literature);
- Numeracy measure (best of mathematics / numeracy);
- Science measure (best of science); and
- Welsh Baccaalaureate Skill Challenge Certificate measure.

Members thanked the Officers for the report and put forward further questions and observations. The Officers then introduced the Head Teacher of Pontypridd High School who presented Members with an example of how the school is working with the new measures.

The Head Teacher thanked the Joint Committee for the opportunity to present the way in which Pontypridd High School has adapted to the new performance measures. The Headteacher went on to inform Members of the staffing structure for 2019/20 and the way in which the school is monitoring and tracking students’ progress and achievements.

Members thanked the Headteacher for a very informative presentation and **RESOLVED** to acknowledge the information.

33 National Approach to Professional Learning

Members of the Joint Committee received a presentation from the Senior Lead for Curriculum Reform updating Members on the National Approach to Professional Learning.

The Senior Lead informed Members of the National Mission and provided an overview of the key elements of the National Approach to Professional Learning (NAPL).

Members of the Joint Committee thanked the officer for the report and

RESOLVED to acknowledge the presentation and its content.

34 CSC Approach to Developing Oracy

The Strategic Adviser for Foundation Phase and Primary Literacy provided Members of the Joint Committee with a presentation on the Voice 21 Oracy Project.

It was highlighted in the presentation that oracy underpins other areas of learning linking it with the social and emotional wellbeing of children. It was explained that there are children coming into nursery settings with lower levels of language capability and that improving pupil's oracy is currently a national priority.

The Strategic Adviser for Foundation Phase and Primary Literacy advised Members of Cohort 1 2018/19 of the Voice 21 Oracy Project::

- 116 schools were invited to take part
- All secondary schools and one primary school from each cluster & literacy hub schools participated:
 - Bridgend – 9 Secondary & 10 Primary;
 - Cardiff – 18 Secondary & 18 Primary;
 - Merthyr – 4 Secondary & 7 Primary;
 - RCT – 18 Secondary & 17 Primary;
 - Vale – 8 Secondary & 7 Primary; and
 - 6 Special Schools.

The Strategic Adviser went on to provide more detail around the programme and indicated that Cohort 2: 2019-20 has been taken forward with a further 124 schools being invited. The Strategic Advisor also highlighted that 19 schools from across the region are involved in the development of a regional oracy toolkit and the progress of this will be reported back at a later date.

Members of the Joint Committee thanked the officer for a very informative presentation and put forward their questions and observations.

35 Budget Report 2019-20

The Service Director - Finance and Improvement Services presented the report of the Treasurer in respect of the 2019-20 revenue budget for the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee.

Members of the Joint Committee were presented with a summary of the 2019/20 budget and projected outturn together with a summary of 2019 – 20 grant funding.

The Service Director highlighted to Members that the projected revenue budget outturn position for the full year is a £155k underspend (projected as at August

2019). The Service Director added that the Consortium's revenue budget and grant funding allocations will continue to be closely monitor and manage and further updates reported to the Joint Committee throughout the year.

Following consideration of the report it was **RESOLVED** to:-

1. Note the projected outturn position for 2019/20; and
2. Note the current grant position for 2019/20.

36 Managing Director Appointment

The Director of Human Resources explained that a formal review of the Consortium's operational model has taken place over the last few months, in line with updates provided to the Joint Committee in previous meetings. The Director of Human Resources also explained that the previous Managing Director relinquished the role in December 2018 and due to the formal review being undertaken of the operational model, interim senior management arrangements have been in place since January 2019.

The Director of Human Resources added that the formal review supported the need for a Managing Director position and Members of the Joint Committee were asked to consider formally recruiting to this position.

After consideration of the report, it was **RESOLVED** to:

- Agree that the post of Managing Director be advertised; and
- Agree the advert, job description and recruitment pack for the role.

37 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 item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act

38 Teach First Report

Members of the Joint Committee received an overview of the Teach First Cymru Annual Report 2018/19.

Following the update, Members of the Joint Committee made a number of observations which were acknowledged by the officers.

The Joint Committee **RESOLVED** to note the Annual Report 2018-19 and to receive a further update in due course.

This meeting closed at 11.25am

**CLLR C. SMITH
CHAIR.**