

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM JOINT EDUCATION SERVICE.

Minutes of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service. Joint Committee meeting held on Thursday, 19 December 2019 at 10.00am at the Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon

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

Councillor C. Smith (Bridgend County Borough Council)
Councillor J. Rosser (Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council)
Councillor L. Burnett (Vale of Glamorgan Council)
Councillor L. Mytton (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council)

Council Officers in attendance:-

Mr M. Tate (Assistant Director of Education, Cardiff Council)
Ms P. Ham (Director of Learning & Skills, Vale of Glamorgan)
Ms N Echaris (Bridgend County Borough 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)
Ms S Walker - (Chief Education Office Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council)

Others in attendance:-

Ms L. Blatchford (Acting Managing Director Central South Consortium)
Ms E Thomas (Temporary Assistant Managing Director Central South Consortium)
Mr C Flynn – Central South Consortium Senior Accountant

39 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillor S. Merry and Lead Chief Executive Mr P. Orders.

40 Declaration of Interest

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

41 Minutes

RESOLVED to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee meetings held on the 25th September 2019 and the 19th November 2019.

42 2020/21 Budget Setting Report

The Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services provided Members with a verbal update on the 2020/21 budget setting process, noting that the Lead Chief Executive had, prior to this meeting, sought and obtained approval from Joint Committee members for the budget setting report to be presented to the January 2020 meeting instead of the December 2019 meeting. The Service Director added that this was to allow for Welsh Government's provisional local government settlement for 2020/21 to be taken account of as part of developing a draft budget for the Consortium for the forthcoming financial year.

After considering the information Members **RESOLVED** to note the verbal update.

43 Central South Consortium Grants

The Central South Consortium Senior Accountant presented Members of the Joint Committee with an update on the grants to be received by the Consortium for the 2019/20 financial year, for which notifications have been received, and also noted the methods of allocation of each.

The Central South Consortium Senior Accountant went on to advise the Committee of the revised award of funding for the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant, the aim of the funding and the disaggregation of the funding.

Following discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to approve the distribution of the grants as detailed in the report.

44 Pupil Development Grant 2019- 20

The Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee were provided with an update report regarding the Pupil Development Grant award of funding from the Welsh Government for 2019/20.

Members were informed of the total award of funding for the Pupil Development Grant (previously known as the Pupil Deprivation Grant) for the financial year 2019/20 of £31,734,150, the areas where the grant funding has been allocated and how Welsh Government has calculated the award of funding.

Members were also informed that subject to the Joint Committee's consideration of the use and allocation of the grant funding, this will be released to local authorities for distribution to respective schools.

Members scrutinised the report and **RESOLVED** to:

- Note the award of grant funding;
- Approve the distribution of grant funding in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award; and
- Recommend that the Lead Chief Executive and Lead S151 Officer approve the receipt of grant funding.

45 ISOS Review

The Lead Director for Central South Consortium presented an update report on the current position following the ISOS review of the Central South Consortium

and the progress to date which was included within the implementation plan. Members were informed of the progress to date and included:

- Managing Director appointed in November 2019;
- Consultation on senior challenge advisers is underway;
- Acting Managing Director and / or members of the senior leadership team attend all Local Authority headteacher meetings;
- Revised Central South Wales Challenge model communicated to schools; and
- Initial review of governance models undertaken.

Members were also updated on the next steps which include:

- Consult and agree a revised governance model;
- Establish a senior leadership structure;
- Review and consult on revised senior challenge adviser & challenge adviser models;
- Publish the revised communications strategy; and
- Review and amend presentation of funding models and monitoring reports.

Members discussed the report and **RESLOVED** to :

- Accept the detailed implementation plan to remodel the current Consortium approach;
- Agree that the ISOS report attached at Appendix B is shared with the Cabinets of the five Local Authorities to the Consortium before the end of February 2020, and the five councils consider and restate their commitment to a joint approach to school improvement through the Consortium; and
- Agree that a report is presented to the next Joint Committee meeting that sets out an indicative three-year budget for the Consortium to make longer term planning easier.

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 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.

47 Central South Consortium Risk Register

Members of the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee were presented with Central South Consortium Risk Register as at December 2019.

Following discussion Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations within the report.

This meeting closed at 11.20 am

**CLLR C. SMITH
CHAIR.**

