

**CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM**  
**REPORT FOR JOINT COMMITTEE**  
**19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**  
**JOINT EDUCATION SERVICE**

**REPORT OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR: Progress Update - 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement Recommendations**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Central South Consortium Joint Education Service Joint Committee (from hereon Joint Committee) with a progress update on the proposals for improvement made within the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members review the information contained within the report and:

- 2.1 Seek clarity and explanation where there are areas of concern.
- 2.2 Form an opinion on the extent of progress that has been made to date in implementing the proposals for improvement reported (**Appendix 1**).

**3. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2017/18**

- 3.1 The Central South Consortium's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) relating to the 2017/18 financial year was reported to and approved by the Joint Committee at its meeting held on [14th June 2018](#). The document described the governance arrangements in place, challenged their effectiveness and set out proposals for improvement.
- 3.2 The Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 made eight proposals for improvement and noted that the Consortium's Senior Management Team had

accepted these and was committed to their implementation during 2018/19. At this time, the Senior Management Team also confirmed that an update on progress would be reported to the Joint Committee during the year to enable elected Members to review and scrutinise the extent of progress being made.

- 3.3 In line with the above, the Joint Committee is requested to review the progress up date set out at Appendix 1 and form a view on the extent of progress that has been made to date in implementing the proposals for improvement reported

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 A progress update on the eight proposals for improvement made within the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement is set out at Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The provision of this information will assist the Joint Committee is assessing the adequacy of the governance arrangements in place for the Central South Consortium.

## PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT – PROGRESS UPDATE

<b>Core Principle</b>	<b>Paragraph No.</b>	<b>Issue Identified</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Timescale for Implementation</b>	<b>Resp Officer</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Ensuring our Policies and Strategies are up to date and relevant	5.2.5	The HR Charter was last up dated in 2016.	The HR Charter and other CSC specific documentation requires reviewing in order to ensure they include references to the Whistle-blowing Policy, Anti-fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy, Gifts and Hospitality Policy and induction arrangements.	September 2018	Senior Lead – Business & Operations	The consultation exercise has been completed with staff (ended Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December). The results will be analysed and an update reported to RCT Council's Audit Committee. Any changes approved to policies will be subsequently adopted by the CSC.
Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement	5.3.11	There is a need to increase the level of headteacher engagement in the governance of the organisation.	The Governance structure requires review to ensure increased engagement in the decision making process from headteachers across the region in line with the requirements of the revised National Model for Regional Working when this is published.	September 2018	Senior Lead – Business & Operations	Work in respect of developing the National Model has not yet been finalised and published by Welsh Government.  In the meantime CSC have now appointed a new Delegate Head Group which meet regularly to discuss the Central South Wales Challenge Priorities and develop proposals on future professional learning delivery strategies.

		The need to include Freedom of information (FOI) updates on the agenda to Joint Committee.	Develop a systematic process whereby FOI requests are reported to Joint Committee.	September 2018	Managing Director	One FOI request has been received in the financial year to date; therefore an annual summary will be reported to Joint committee at year end.
Medium Term Financial Plan	5.4.7	The need to further develop the medium term financial plan.	Further develop the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) during 2018/19, to ensure resources are allocated / categorised over Business Plan priorities to demonstrate or otherwise the prioritisation of resources. Proposals for revisions to service delivery will be discussed with Chief Executives and Directors in light of any published revisions to the National Model for Regional Working.	December 2018	Senior Lead – Business & Operations	Proposed revisions to the National Model for Regional Working have not been agreed and published. However CSC have been working closely with Welsh Government to agree success criteria for the enabling objectives within the National Mission and the subsequent alignment of funding streams to the specific objectives. In parallel, the CSC's MTFP has been updated and reported to Joint Committee on <a href="#">13/9/18</a> and a further update on <a href="#">8/11/18</a> .
Elected Members Training Programme	5.7.4	Newly Elected members may require further training on the work of the CSC.	Design and contribute to a national training programme for newly elected members in relation to their role overseeing the CSC.	June 2018	Senior Lead – Strategy, Leadership & Workforce Reform	Due to a turnover of staff the programme has not yet been designed. To be addressed in Summer Term 2019.

Risk Management	5.8.3	During 2017/18, the CSC up dated its Risk Policy and presented this to the senior leadership team for approval in readiness for the new academic year. However, the majority of risks are owned by the Managing Director.	The CSC's risk policy will need to be improved with respect to the ownership of risks for the CSC. At present the majority of risks are owned by the managing Director. Where risks are associated with drive team priorities these will need to be aligned with the respective leads to ensure strategic alignment with priority plans.	December 2018	Managing Director	The Risk register has been realigned to the Business Plan leads. The revised version will be reported to joint committee in the spring term based on the need for director's consideration; prior to reporting to joint committee.
Information Management	5.8.9	Information Management – no update is reported setting out the CSC's work and performance in this area.	The CSC should report on a periodic basis, for example annually, its work and performance around Information Management and provide opportunity for review and scrutiny by the Joint Education Committee.	December 2018	Senior Lead – Business & Operations	The Information Management Policy will be reviewed in the Spring Term and recommendation presented to Joint Committee in March 2019.
			A calendar and programme of work should be agreed for future SIRO meetings.			
Implementing good practice in transparency and reporting	5.9.3	The Annual Governance Statement is incorporated within the Statement of Accounts but is not a stand-alone	To increase the prominence / awareness of the Annual Governance Statement, this should be a standalone document on the CSC's website.	Autumn 2018	Senior Lead – Business & Operations	Published on CSC website

		document e.g. on the CSC's website.				
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