

CENTRAL SOUTH CONSORTIUM JOINT EDUCATION SERVICE

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT

7TH NOVEMBER 2023

CENTRAL SOUTH EDUCATION CONSORTIUM GRANTS: REGIONAL CONSORTIA GRANT 2023-2024

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the grants to be received by the Consortium in 2023/24, 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 5 of this report.

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 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.
- 4.3 This report presents details of 2023/24 grants to the Joint Committee.

5.0 2023/24 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 Grant 2023/24 – award dated 18th May 2023

The total of this award of funding is £48,083,989 over the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024 (£48,652,545 in 2022/23).

The purpose of this funding is to support delivery of Welsh Government (WG) aspirations and priorities for schools and education. Regional consortia and partnerships in Wales and their related local authorities have a significant role to play in improving educational outcomes for all learners in Wales and in delivering our substantial educational reform.

The funding letter outlines WG's overarching national priorities. The Funding must support delivery of Curriculum for Wales and its enabling objectives.

In delivering the Curriculum for Wales, WG continue the need to focus on the four enabling objectives around which this grant is structured:

- 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 consortia business plan clearly articulates the contribution towards progress of these measures, including associated outcomes and key performance indicators.

Grant Distribution

A detailed breakdown of the apportionment of the funding, in line with the approved CSC 2023/24 Business Plan, can be found table 1 below.

Table 1 – Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2023/24

Regional Consortia Grant	2023/2024 Budget	
	£	%
Centrally retained funding		
Employee costs	4,836,184	9.5%
Non Employee costs	199,684	0.4%
Centrally Retained Pan Wales project costs	60,000	0.1%
Business Plan Activity	1,957,092	3.8%
National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)	TBC	
	7,052,960	13.8%
Delegated funding to Schools		
Central South Wales Challenge Model	597,300	1.2%
Collaboration Model	3,264,166	6.4%
Support to School Partnerships	163,200	0.3%
Curriculum Reform (Network facilitation)	52,500	0.1%
Welsh-medium Capacity	140,799	0.3%
Professional Learning funding to schools	3,883,594	7.6%
EIG Element for Schools / PRUs (inc WEG)	35,442,360	69.4%
	43,543,919	85.3%
Delegated funding to LAs		
Non Maintained settings - Foundation Phase	311,570	0.6%
Local authorities (LA) - administration of grant	66,562	0.1%
LA Annex	98,000	0.2%
	476,132	0.9%
TOTAL GRANT (INCLUDING LA MATCH FUNDING)	51,073,011	
LA MATCH FUNDING	2,989,022	
TOTAL GRANT (EXCLUDING LA MATCH FUNDING)	48,083,989	

