



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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

6 October 2023

Dear Mr Davies

Variation to the Award letter dated 18 May 2023 - Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2023-24 - Central South Consortium

I can confirm that we are content to increase the Funding awarded to Rhondda Cynon Taff County Council in delivering the above grant award by a further £185,425 for 2023-24. The increased funding is to support:

- i) National support for Curriculum Reform - £39,300
- ii) Welsh-medium capacity building grant - £146,125

Terms defined in the Award of Funding Letter shall have the same meaning when used in this letter.

With effect from 6 October 2023 unless otherwise stated, the Award of Funding Letter shall be varied as follows:

The appended Schedule 2 (Part A & B) wording shall be in addition to the existing Schedule 2 (Part A & B) wording of Award of Funding letter, dated 18 May 2023.

The reporting requirements section of the existing Schedule 2 of Award of Funding letter dated 18 May 2023, shall be replaced with the appended Schedule 2 wording of Part D) Reporting requirements.

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The Schedule 5 certificate of Award of Funding letter dated 18 May 2023, shall be deleted and replaced with the appended Schedule 5 certificate.

In Condition 7 (Your general obligations to us) insert the following:

(h) [notify us of any funding received by you from any source which is procured or utilised in conjunction with the Funding to directly support the Purposes including but not limited to your insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme and any other funders. The intention of this Condition is to avoid any duplication of funding in respect of the Purposes].

In Condition 8 (Declarations) insert the following:

(j) acceptance of this award of Funding will not result in duplicate funding in respect of the activities required to deliver the Purposes. This includes but is not limited to any payments received by you in relation to the effects of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from your insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme and any funders.

In Condition 21 delete (c) and replace with:

(c) Any amendment or variation to the Conditions must be in writing and signed by us and you in the same manner as this letter (or as otherwise agreed by us in writing from time to time).

In Schedule 3 (Notification Events) insert the following:

9. there is a duplication of funding in respect of any part of the Purposes This includes but is not limited to any payments received by you in relation to the effects of the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from your insurance provider (cancellation/business disruption insurance), the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and/or any Welsh Government fund/scheme;

This brings the total amount allocated to Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2023-24 - Central South Consortium to £48,269,414.

Except as expressly varied in this letter, the Award of Funding Letter shall continue in full force and effect and shall be read and construed as one document with this letter. Unless the context requires otherwise, references in the Award of Funding Letter to "the Conditions" or "this award of Funding" shall be to the Conditions or the award of Funding (as the case may be) as amended by this letter.

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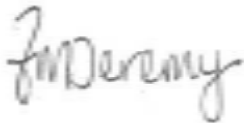
This letter and any disputes or claim (including any non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with it its formation or its subject matter are to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Wales and England as applied in Wales and the parties hereto submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Wales and England.

None of the additional funding will be paid to you until we have received your signed letter. We must receive your signed letter within 10 working days, or the additional funding will automatically be withdrawn.

Please return the signed copy of this letter to us by email to SchoolFundingMailbox@gov.wales.

A scanned PDF of the signed letter is preferred, but it must be returned from the email address of the project manager named in the original grant award letter dated 18 May 2023.

Yours sincerely



Signed by Francesca Jeremy
under authority of the Minister for Education and Welsh Language
one of the Welsh Ministers

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SCHEDULE 2
The Targets
*(additional to Schedule 2 of the original
grant agreement letter dated 18 May 2023)*

A) Curriculum and assessment support

National support for Curriculum Reform

This aspect of the grant variation relates specifically to a funding uplift under the 'Building and ensuring in-school capacity' section of the grant terms and conditions; and the 'schools curriculum and assessment reform, including learning progression' funding line.

Following conversations regarding additional funding needed to meet further school / practitioner costs for engagement in a range of curriculum reform activities, you are being awarded a further £39,300 for 2023-24. This funding is to cover additional costs arising over and above that already provisioned in the 2023-24 offer and relate to the distribution of funding for practitioner:

- engagement in the review of Hwb resources and supporting materials
- participation in the Understanding by Design resource development working group
- engagement in the ALN Curriculum for Wales (CfW) practitioner working group looking at the development of CfW and ALN side by side
- engagement in the National Network Policy Group
- participation in Global Citizenship case studies,

In line with the agreed approach, the associated register of practitioner engagement has been amended to reflect this work and will be shared with grantees monthly to ensure you remain informed about the participation of schools in your area.

B) High quality teaching and leadership

Welsh-medium capacity building grant 2023-24 academic year

Purpose

To support the capacity building of some parts of the Welsh-medium and bilingual education workforce. Schools were invited to submit expressions of interest for the grant and these have been evaluated on a national basis. Schools, consortia and local authorities (where applicable) have been notified of the schools that have been successful.

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Payment

Funding will be split over two financial years to account for a full academic year. Funding will be allocated to regions / LAs as follows:

Consortia / LA	2023-24 Financial Year	2024-25 Financial Year	Total 2023/24 Academic Year
EAS	160,001	79,999	240,000
CSC	146,125	85,557	231,682
Neath Port Talbot	24,908	12,452	37,360
Ceredigion	46,667	23,333	70,000
Partneriaeth	94,666	80,381	166,149
Gwe	141,753	55,871	197,624
Total	605,222	337,593	942,815

Regions / LAs should allocate / passport funding as follows:

Consortia / LA	Payment to	Payment 1 December 2023	Payment 2 March 2024	Payment 3 July 2024
EAS	EAS	68,333	68,334	68,333
	Ysgol Cwm Rhymni	11,667	11,667	11,666
CSC	YG Llangynwyd	11,334	11,334	11,332
	YGG Llwyncelyn	6,667	6,667	6,666
	YG Bro Morgannwg	13,334	13,334	13,332
	Ysgol Garth Olwg	7,894	7,894	7,894
	Ysgol Glantaf	20,000	21,000	33,000
	Ysgol Plasmawr	13,333	13,334	13,333
CNPT	Ystalafera Bro Dur	12,452	12,456	12,452
Cyngor Ceredigion	Clwstwr Plascrug	13,333	13,334	13,333
	Ysgol Penglais	10,000	10,000	10,000
Partneriaeth	Ysgol Bryn Tawe	4,449	4,449	4,448
	Cyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin	45,000	-	60,000
	Bro Myrddin	19,445	19,447	19,444
	Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr	938	938	937
GWE	Ysgol Bodhyfryd	5,989	5,989	5,988
	Ysgol Bro Cinmeirch	5,989	5,989	5,988
	Ysgol Bro Gwydir	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Ysgol Bro Tabor	5,697	5,698	5,697

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	Ysgol Brynrefail	6,667	6,667	6,666
	Ysgol Dyffryn yr Enfys	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Ysgol I D Hooson	5,667	5,667	5,666
	Ysgol Llan y Pwll	4,200	4,200	4,200
	Ysgol Eifionydd	1,667	1,667	1,666
	Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen	35,000	5,000	5,000
	Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy	5,000	5,000	5,000

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SCHEDULE 2
Reporting Requirements
(replacement to Schedule 2 of the original grant agreement letter dated 18 May 2023)

D) Reporting requirements – for funding outlined in part A and B.

The following provides a template for the grantee’s reporting regarding developments in its area, building on the process developed in 2022-23.

These aspects will be reported using the following headings:

- *Intent*: the agreed aims of the activity
- *Implementation*: a narrative and statistical data, if relevant, linked to the delivery requirements
- *Impact*: an analysis of progress and impact.

Each report will build on the previous report and be compiled based on the grantee’s professional judgement regarding schools’ and PRUs’ implementation of the Curriculum for Wales. Termly reports should provide an overarching summary covering the areas set out in the template below, and where possible should not exceed 3 pages of single-spaced narrative.

Termly reports

Section	Focus
Overarching narrative	We expect termly reports to be used to inform the Minister on progress, and include an overarching narrative regarding the grantee’s analysis of schools’ and settings’ assessments of their position regarding their reforms. These should focus on overall school and PRU development of CfW, its implementation, professional learning and wider support arrangements in place, including the range of and the impact of that support. This can further include reporting on key support needs in your areas, including but not exclusive to curriculum reform, professional learning, international languages and cross-curricula skills.
A	Still in early stages, so analysis of Curriculum for Wales roll-out, including school and PRU progress in managing the process of reform and meeting curriculum requirements. For primary settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information on design, and confirmation that curriculum

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	<p>summaries are complete and published</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those receiving universal support for CfW (use quantifiable language) • those receiving bespoke or targeted support for CfW (as above and with examples of what this could be, and why its needed) • information on use of professional learning grant at school level to support CfW roll-out <p>For secondary settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information on design, numbers with curriculum summaries completed • those receiving universal support for CfW (use quantifiable language) • those receiving bespoke or targeted support for CfW (as above and with examples of what this is, and why its needed) • information on use of professional learning grant at school level to support CfW roll-out
B	Reporting on any specific challenges for schools and PRUs in respect of progression and assessment, including reasons for challenges. Also reporting on what is working well and why, both in terms of the support offer and in-school curriculum development.
C	Information on your approach to school and PRU engagement, and reporting levels of school engagement in cluster working and access to support. Information on cluster working to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information on progress to date of working with clusters – different stages • quantifiable language on engagement and representative examples of local practice / common language • specific challenges being faced, including reporting on variances in approach
D	Specific reporting on those schools in receipt of most support, the nature of that support (and whether they are in Estyn categories).

Six-monthly reports

E	<p>Information relating to working on a national basis to support the development of the professional learning offer for practitioners and equity of access to resources and support as part of the National Professional Learning Entitlement.</p> <p>Information about the offer, engagement and feedback in respect of</p>
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	<p>the following professional learning support for schools and PRUs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-led professional learning, enquiry and research • Curriculum reform professional learning programme, including development of national professional learning. • Professional learning for developing practice and reflection • Teaching Assistants Learning Pathway • A Level and Welsh Bacc • Induction / Early Career support package • Future Leadership Programme • National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) • Welsh in education • Coaching and mentoring <p>The second report should evidence outcomes and expected impact (including value for money).</p>
F	<p>Support for Area specific and cross-curricula learning and teaching, comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support provided for International Languages based on the actions set out in the Global Futures Action Plan, as well as challenges and further support needed • updates on support provided for literacy, numeracy and digital, as well as challenges and areas that need further support • how you are ensuring ongoing engagement with Welsh Government’s whole school approach to oracy and reading, including raising awareness of the toolkit with schools and examples of good practice.
G	<p>Reporting on National Network activities undertaken by the grantee, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • activities to promote National Network events and disseminate the outputs from them, including how you are ensuring regional and local work aligns and builds-on this offer, without duplication • reporting analysis of trends in respect of National Network engagement by schools and PRUs in their area • information on planned regional networks including dates, purpose, attendees and outcomes / next steps to ensure ongoing alignment with the national conversations • identification of next steps in response to national and regional conversations.
H	<p>Reporting actual spend for funding being passed to schools, and funding retained by the grantee to manage the programme of activity.</p>

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	This information is necessary for both briefing purposes and reporting in the Curriculum for Wales Annual Report.
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Other reporting:

Professional Learning

In respect of the Professional Learning Grant for schools, all schools will be required to maintain a record of expenditure of the professional learning funding (at school or cluster level). A sample of schools will be required to prepare a more detailed case study for publication on Hwb to exemplify the benefits of the professional learning funding and share innovative practice with other schools.

For the all-age schools, pedagogy research and Welsh in education projects, Welsh Government will work collaboratively with lead officers and relevant schools to monitor activity.

Welsh-medium capacity building grant 2023-24 academic year

Each school has been notified of the monitoring requirements and will be asked to submit reports to Welsh Government who will share with the relevant regional consortia or local authority as required. Reports are to be sent to the following mailbox athrawoncc.wmteachers@gov.wales.

Remote instruction of Language and Literacy (GWE only)

For Remote instruction of Language and Literacy, you will provide six-monthly progress reports and a full report and evaluation for all three projects at the end of the funding period.

More generally, your end of year report will evidence outcomes and expected impact, including value for money, spanning the breadth of the grant award.

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SCHEDULE 5
Audit Certificate

Statement of Expenditure
Regional Consortia Allocation Certificate

End of Year income / expenditure report

- a) Total grant received for 2023-24 £
- b) Actual Expenditure £

Terms and Conditions reference	Funding Description	Allocation 2023-24	Expenditure 2023-24
A - Curriculum & Assessment Support	Regional support for curriculum and assessment reform	£1,052,737	
	Schools curriculum and assessment reform, including learning progression	£2,893,789	
	Regional support for Modern languages - (Modern Foreign Languages (Global Futures))	£115,500	
	Modern Foreign Languages – building capacity for MFL in the primary sector including: Regional Consortia support for primary international languages	£83,909	
	Primary international languages project		
	Literacy & Numeracy Grant/ Support for Curriculum Improvements	£125,000	
	Primary LNF Oracy Scheme for Wales	£123,851	
	Digital Competence Framework	£25,000	

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Terms and Conditions reference	Funding Description	Allocation 2023-24	Expenditure 2023-24
	Coding & Digital Skills	£92,889	
B – Professional Learning and Leadership	Professional Learning funding for schools	£3,883,595	
	School-led professional learning, enquiry and research to realise curriculum	£928,885	
	Curriculum reform professional learning programme	£675,000	
	Professional learning for developing practice and reflection	£225,000	
	Teaching Assistants Learning Pathway	£237,500	
	A Level and Welsh Bacc PL	£240,500	
	Induction / Early Career support package	£62,500	
	Future Leadership Programme (Aspiring, middle leaders including Coaching & Mentoring support)	£212,500	
	Aspiring Headteachers Programme	£61,500	
	National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)	TBC	
	Welsh - Professional Development	£774,071	
	Welsh in education grant (WEG)	£1,147,824	
	Welsh-medium capacity grant	140,799	

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Terms and Conditions reference	Funding Description	Allocation 2023-24	Expenditure 2023-24
C) Other	Education Improvement Grant for Schools (EIG) - Total	£34,916,640	
	Building Capacity in Leadership	£60,000	
	Professional Teaching Awards Cymru (PTAC)	£5,000	
Original Grant Award Total		£48,083,989	
Variation 1	National support for Curriculum Reform	£39,300	
	Welsh-medium capacity building grant	£146,125	
Variation 1 Total		£185,425	
RCG 2023-24 Total		£48,269,414	

**For each variation issued by Welsh Government, you will receive an updated version of this certificate.*

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

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

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Certificate of the Chief Finance Officer

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.

I have attached a qualification report outlining why I am unable to certify the above.

Signature:

Date:

Position: Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

COMPLETE AND RETURN BY 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

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TWO SIGNATORIES ARE REQUIRED

We hereby accept the variation to the award of Funding in relation to Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2023-24 - Central South Consortium and the Conditions relating to the Funding as set out in this letter.

_____ Signature
An authorised signatory of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

_____ Name

_____ Job Title

_____ Date

_____ Signature
An authorised signatory of, or on behalf of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council from within the Central South Consortium

_____ Name

_____ Job Title

_____ Date

Effective date:

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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