



**REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

**27 November 2019**

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**Report by:** GwE Managing Director

**Subject:** Pupil Development Grant for looked after/ former looked after learners

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**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To present an update to the Joint Committee on the Pupil Development Grant for looked after/ former looked after learners.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 The purpose of the Pupil Development Grant funding is to make a lasting impact on outcomes for looked after children or formally looked after children. Overall administration and coordination of the grant resides with GwE.

2.2 The document enclosed outlines the grant guidance for the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) for children who are / who have been looked after across the region. The document is circulated to senior officers, LACE coordinators within the 6 local authorities, schools and senior officers within GwE as well as members of the Regional Strategic group.

**3.0 Considerations**

3.1 In 2019/20 the grant will continue to be held centrally via the regional education consortia with the support of the regional LAC coordinator. Most of the funding will be implemented

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via the cluster model to build capacity and to provide bespoke interventions, both of which need to be based on evidence and impact. A small proportion of the grant can also be used to provide individual bursary's for bespoke education needs of the learners. The grant application form will need to be completed for both elements of funding and clear guidance is provided for schools.

3.2 There is an expectation that clusters and schools will monitor and evaluate the impact of the grant on the educational attainment / wellbeing of the pupils it is supporting. The needs of the cluster / school / individual pupil must be at the centre of any bid and consideration needs to be given as to how the impact can be measured, shared and presented.

3.3 All cluster applications are assessed against clear criteria. The regional group, with LA input, reviews and approves all applications.

#### **4.0 Recommendations**

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to note and approve the content of the report.

#### **5.0 Financial Implications**

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. GwE will operate within the current financial resources.

#### **6.0 Equalities Impact**

6.1 There are no new equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 Personnel Implications**

7.1 There are no new personnel implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Consultation Undertaken**

8.1 Welsh Government, Local Authorities (Children's Services and Education) and GwE Management Board.

#### **9.0 Appendices**

9.1 Appendix 1 - Pupil Development Grant for looked after/ former looked after learners guidelines.

**OPINION OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS**

**Monitoring Officer:**

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

**Statutory Finance Officer:**

Part 5.1 confirms that there are no financial implications arising from this report as GwE will operate within the resources of the grant, which is £970,600 in 2019/20.