



## **REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

**11 NOVEMBER 2020**

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**Report by:** Arwyn Thomas, GwE Managing Director

**Subject:** Additional Learning Needs transformation programme

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### **1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To present the self-assessment tool to members of the Joint Committee which will assist Local Authorities in assessing their readiness for implementing the reforms as outlined in the Draft Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Code for Wales.

### **2.0 Background**

2.1 Education authorities and appropriate agencies have a duty to consider the Code (final version available late Spring 2021) when carrying out their functions. Education authorities and appropriate agencies must ensure that their policies, practices and information and advice services take full account of the legal requirements of the Act.

2.2 The attached self-assessment tool (Appendix 1) has been produced by the Regional ALN Transformation Team to support Local Authorities to assess their readiness to implement the Draft Code. Using the tool will enable Local Authorities to:

- Assess current effectiveness
  - Evaluate the progress already made
  - Better understand areas for improvement
  - Enable senior leaders to understand strengths and areas for improvement
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It will also provide a regional overview of local authorities' readiness to implement the Additional Learning Needs reforms.

### **3.0 Considerations**

3.1 The self-assessment tool was designed to be read and used on-screen. Throughout the tool, there are statements against which Local Authorities can evaluate their practice in relation to the expectations of the Draft Code using a specific scoring method.

3.2 To ensure compliance with the regulations, it is proposed that the following tasks should be undertaken:

- Create an 'actions table'
- These actions can then to be incorporated within a risk register

3.3 Local Authorities will be required to complete the self-assessment tool by 4 December 2020 to enable the region to report on the current position to Welsh Government.

3.4 Also attached is a copy of the ALN Professional Offer (Appendix 2) which will support schools in preparing for the new Additional Learning Needs (ALN) system.

### **4.0 Recommendation**

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to approve the ALN self-assessment tool and Professional Offer which will support Local Authorities and schools to implement the reforms as outlined in the Draft Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Code for Wales.

### **5.0 Financial Implications**

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **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 Consultation undertaken with the GwE Management Board.

## **9.0 Appendices**

9.1 Appendix 1 – ALN Transformation Self Assessment

9.2 Appendix 2 – ALN Professional Offer

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## **OPINION OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS**

### **Monitoring Officer:**

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

### **Statutory Finance Officer:**

Nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective.