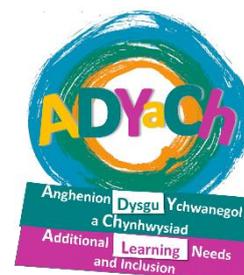


Meeting	Schools Finance Forum
Date	June 2021
Officer	Ffion E Ellis
Title	ALN Finance Working Group Update

## ALN Finance Working Group Update

**In September 2019** The Integration Funding Expenditure Inquiry Report was presented to the Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Management Board. It was proposed that work continued through the establishing of a working group. Representation was to be identified through the Headteachers Strategic Groups in Gwynedd and Anglesey and finance departments from both LAs.



**In January and February 2020** An External review of the ALN and I Service was carried out during this period. The findings of the review confirmed that what had been proposed in terms of the Management Board's further actions was appropriate.

**In March 2020** Membership for the group was identified by seeking representation through the strategic groups:

- 1 Head of Gwynedd Primary Strategic Group
- 1 from Gwynedd Secondary Strategic Group
- 1 Anglesey Secondary Headteachers Strategic Group
- 1 of Anglesey Primary Headteachers Strategic Group
- Senior Manager of ALN and I
- Representation of Gwynedd and Anglesey Finance Departments
- ALN and I Project Manager

The groups most recent meeting was **during February 2021** where 7 possible models for allocation of funding were discussed. All models made use of PLASC data (please see Appendix 1).

The working group's preferred model was Model 7. The following was considered and discussed:

- Model 7 is the fairest in meeting the needs of our pupils
- Model 7 which reflects the actual needs of the pupils; a number of other models assume a position, rather than what reflects the actual needs of the pupils
- Could a longer model be looked at; rolling 2 or three years for schools to embed provisions and invest in upskilling staff
- The need for a suitable contingency fund
- The importance of PLASC / PLASC data accuracy
- Consider weighting of factors within the formula
- Consideration of transition periods e.g. nursery-primary; post-compulsory primary-secondary and secondary-educational.

### Next steps

The Working Group's decision is to undertake further work on model 7 - including:

- Duration of funding period.
- Turnover of need within the model
- Consider the minimum amount required by schools to provide
- How to identify the pupils with high levels of need- criteria for access to the contingency.
- Further consultation with stakeholders in carrying out this work.

**It is hoped that further work on the model will enable proposing a final model in the October / November 2021 Finance Forum Meeting, to be proposed for implementation in September 2022 or April 2023.**