



REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

22 SEPTEMBER 2021

Report by: Arwyn Thomas, GwE Managing Director

Subject: GwE Regional Business Plan 2021-2022 - Quarter 1 Monitoring Report

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present the Quarter 1 Monitoring Report - GwE Regional Business Plan 2021-2022 to the Joint Committee.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Business Plan sets out our vision, values and behaviours and the priority areas for improvement across the region.

2.2 Our strategic priorities recognise the present regional and national priorities. The main areas for development were identified through a process of service self-evaluation. The overarching priorities for 2021-2022 were agreed with the Joint Committee on 24 February 2021. This business plan was formally agreed by the Chief Education Officers of each Local Authority, the Joint Committee and the Lead Chief Executive in the Joint Committee meeting on 26 May 2021.

2.3 Progress against the Regional Business Plan is reported on a quarterly basis to the Joint Committee. Attached is the monitoring report for quarter 1.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 The Managing Director and Chair of the Management Board have responsibility for delivering the Regional Plan, as accountable officers. The Joint Committee is ultimately accountable for delivering the plan.

3.2 The GwE Business Planning Framework ensures clarity and strategic harmony in achieving priorities locally, regionally and nationally. Throughout the year, our governance groups inform reports pertaining to our priority streams in the Business Plan.

3.3 Detailed service plans underpin these priorities, which note the support and provision available to all schools in the region. How and when each priority will be achieved is outlined, and expectations set in terms of next steps in realising the reform journey.

3.4 In relation to how GwE will respond to the impacts of post-Covid in the context of Education, detailed service plans address this, along with the Regional Strategy 'Renew and reform: supporting learners' wellbeing and progression'. Through working with partners and key stakeholders and listening to them, we have identified specific themes to support our aim of ensuring that every pupil in north Wales benefits from provision of the highest possible standard. Their mental health and emotional well-being, their relationships and physical health are all essential enablers of good learning. We will support schools to focus on these areas as well as developing the key enabling skills, which include oracy, literacy, numeracy, planning, organising and critical thinking. In addition, the Supporting Improvement Advisers' initial visit to schools at the beginning of the year will focus on the needs of schools, taking into consideration the impact of Covid. Compound information arising from these visits will inform schools' support plans, and we will refine our business plans to reflect this.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to approve and accept the monitoring report for quarter 1.

4.2 To decide whether there are any aspects they wish to discuss further in future meetings.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. GwE will operate within 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 Consultation with GwE Management Board and Joint Committee.

9.0 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - Quarter 1 monitoring report

Appendix 2 - Regional Data

OPINION OF STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from the propriety perspective.

Statutory Finance Officer:

I appreciate the Business Plan, which sets out a clear responsibility for the proper operation of business, risk, and value for money, inter alia. Paragraph 5 of the covering report states that GwE will fund any financial implications arising from the Business Plan within its current budget.