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REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

2 OCTOBER 2024

Report by: Rhys Williams - Head of Service - Professional Learning

Subject: GwE Risk Register

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present GwE's latest Risk Register to the Joint Committee.

2.0 Background

2.1 The purpose of the risk register is to formalise the process of identifying risks and take subsequent mitigating actions.

2.2. Effective risk management will enable GwE to support strategic objectives and strategic priorities, make effective use of resources and attain the outcomes as intended.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 GwE's risk register is a working document and is regularly reviewed. It is presented to the Joint Committee annually, and when new risks are identified of which the Joint Committee needs to be aware.

3.2 All risks have been reviewed and updated. Risks have been reviewed in the context of the proposed changes to the middle tier of the education system in Wales and the transitional period of the regional service to the Local Authorities.

3.3 Amendments to the Register are highlighted in red. It is suggested that risk 1 be removed.

3.4 The following matrix was followed in determining the status of the risk.

Risk Matrix						
		4	3	2	1	
Likelihood	Almost certain	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	A
	Likely	Low (3)	Medium (6)	Medium (9)	High (12)	B
	Possible	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	C
	Unlikely	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	D
		Low	Medium	High	Extremely high	
		Impact				

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to review and approve the content of the register.

4.2 To decide whether there are any risks the Joint Committee wishes to present to the relevant Cabinet etc.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1. It is unclear how much the substantial change in Welsh Government policy will cost in a financially difficult period.

6.0 Equalities Impact

6.1 No assessment has been completed by Welsh Government to assess the potential impact of these changes.

7.0 Personnel Implications

- 7.1 The morale and motivation of GwE staff are extremely low.
- 7.2 There is no clarity yet in terms of alternative posts for school improvement staff post-March 2025.
- 7.3 Fewer secondments and resignations will affect the pattern of the team and cause an imbalance in the support for the different sectors.

8.0 Consultation undertaken

- 8.1 In terms of the risk register, GwE Senior Leadership Team and GwE Management Board were consulted.
- 8.2 No formal consultation by Welsh Government in terms of the change in policy.

9.0 Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 - GwE Risk Register.

VIEW OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

A risk review system is a fundamental element in effective governance. It is essential that the Joint Committee gives detailed consideration to the assessment and responses. We will continue to provide assistance and advice as required when addressing the issues identified.

Statutory Finance Officer:

GwE's risk register is in a standard format and includes the main risks. I am satisfied that the contents of the register are a fair reflection of situation and I will support GwE in managing the risks that it faces. As has been noted in Section 5 of the report, there is significant uncertainty at the moment on what will happen during the upcoming months and having a current Risk Register which is constantly updated is essential in order to prioritise actions.