



REPORT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

27 November 2024

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

Subject: Half year progress report on the 'Reform' element of the Local Authority Education Grant (LAEG).

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To present a progress report to Joint Committee members on the 'Reform' element of the Local Authority Education Grant (LAEG), specifically:
- Curriculum for Wales
 - Professional Learning and Leadership.

2.0 Background

- 2.1. Following the decision of Welsh Government to combine the main education grants under one heading, namely the Local Authority Education Grant (LAEG) from 2024-25 onwards, the grant is now paid directly to Local Authorities/schools, rather than to the regional consortia. The requirements and risks associated with the Terms and Conditions of the grant are now the responsibility of the individual Local Authority.
- 2.2. In order to ensure continuity of support for schools during the middle tier review of the Welsh education system, Welsh Government noted the expectation for any current regional working arrangements to continue during this period and be facilitated through the specific grant funding to support curriculum and professional learning in schools.
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2.3. The 'Curriculum for Wales' and 'Professional Learning and Leadership' elements of the 'Reform' LAEG were fully transferred to GwE by all 6 regional Authorities to deliver support on these aspects whilst meeting the terms and conditions of the grant.

3.0 Considerations

3.1. As agreed in GwE and Local Authority business plans for 2024-25, GwE will report to the Joint Committee on the Reform element:

- Curriculum for Wales - Supporting understanding and approaches by schools and PRUs to deliver the Curriculum for Wales, enabling practitioners to undertake a range of activities to realise the curriculum, to develop their skills, knowledge and practice.
- Professional Learning and Leadership - developing and delivering professional learning to enable schools and PRUs to develop reflective, enquiring and collaborative education professionals.

3.2. Moreover, and in accordance with LAEG monitoring requirements, GwE is required to report biannually on these elements in order for Local Authorities to present monitoring reports against set aims and objectives to Welsh Government.

3.3. Attached is the progress report for the period 01/04/2024 - 30/09/2024 (Appendix 1) along with engagement data for this period (Appendix 2), which meets the requirements noted in 3.1 and 3.2.

3.4. GwE Business Plans embrace the Terms and Conditions of the Reform grant. The plans outline how and when each priority will be met and set expectations in terms of the next steps. The plans note the support and provision available to all regional schools in terms of the 'Curriculum for Wales' and 'Professional Learning and Leadership' elements.

3.5. The GwE Professional Learning Offer responds specifically to the terms and conditions of the grant, and offers a provision to support these aspects. The Offer is free to all practitioners in north Wales in the form of a regularly updated catalogue. The Professional Learning Offer can be accessed from our website: [GwE Professional Offer](#).

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 The Joint Committee is asked to approve and accept the progress report.

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.

9.0 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - Progress Report

Appendix 2 - Regional Data

VIEW OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS

Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

Statutory Finance Officer:

The recommendation does not create a new financial commitment; as noted in that part 5 of the report, GwE is expected to operate within their existing resources. Therefore, I have nothing to add to the report from the perspective of financial propriety.