**Budget Forum**

**Grants updates for 2024/25 Financial year**

**General**

Due to the grant changes from 2024/25, there is no longer a link on the Central South Consortium website, schools continue to be notified quarterly by finance of the project money received.

Welsh Government have been reviewing the number of grant streams and the funding formulas relating to these. This has resulted in an amalgamation of some grants and a national formula. The following 4 new elements under the LAEG show the amalgamations:

**School Standards - £8,020,037 (this includes schools and centrally retained, includes LA Match funding)**

* Accelerated Learning Grant (Recruit, Raise Standards and Recover)
* RCSIG Grant
* Foundation phase non-maintained nursery funding

Schools allocations have been set by WG using a national formula, these have already been given to schools for the new year budgets. A decision regarding how the LA will use of the centrally retained funding has not yet been made by Senior Management.

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| **Funding stream within School Standards** | **Allocation** | **Where**  |
| Schools | £7,204,27 | Schools |
| Early Education | £286,097 | Central |
| Standards in Education | £213,299 | CSC |
| LA Match funding | £315,814 | Central/CSC |

**Equity - £5,528,892 (this includes schools and centrally retained funding)**

* PDG Grant
* PDG LAC
* Minority ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Learners
* Education Welfare officer
* Elective Home Education
* Family Engagement Officers
* Community Focused Schools Manager

PDG is based on PLASC 23, which also includes an element called PDG Smoothing (only for 24/25) this is to help reduce the impact for schools where there has been a decrease in PDG allocations between 23/24 & 24/25. PDG Smoothing has been determined by the LA and has been given to the disadvantaged schools based on 83.76% of the allocation available as the funding was not enough to fully cover all decreases.

PDG LAC allocations have now been revised and reissued to schools. A new funding formula and evaluation process will be in place from 24/25 with schools will be given termly funding updates in April, September and January each year. The PDG CLA team will advise finance of pupil numbers and collate the evaluation of the PEP’s before funding will be released to schools.

Family Engagement Officers and Community Focused Schools Managers funding is for schools and cluster-based staff. There are already a number of FEO’s in schools and some funding remains unallocated, a decision on this will be made by Senior Management in due course.

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| **Funding stream within Equity** | **Allocation** | **Where** |
| Elective Home Education | £67,696 | Central |
| Family Engagement Officers | £284,674 | Schools |
| Community Focused Schools Manager | £31,500 | Schools |
| Education Welfare Officers | £108,954 | Central |
| MEGRT | £355,179 | Central |
| PDG  | £4,222,800 | Schools |
| PDG Smoothing | £187,840 | Schools |
| PDG LAC | £270,250 | Schools/central |

**Reform - £2,765,822 (includes schools, centrally retained and CSC approved funding)**

* Professional Learning Grant
* Whole School Approach to Emotional & Mental Wellbeing inc. interventions
* ALN – schools & centrally held.
* Curriculum schools
* Curriculum reform programmes
* Professional Learning and Leadership

Allocations for schools have been provided by WG and these have been given to schools, with exception of Curriculum schools, this is for the LA to determine the allocations. A decision has not yet been made by Senior Management on the distribution methodology.

The funding to CSC has been approved and agreed by the LA’s and is in line with expectations given by WG in the Award letters regarding current regional consortia arrangements.

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| **Funding stream within Reform** | **Allocation** | **Where** |
| ALN Schools | £479,520 | Schools |
| ALN LA’s | £112,000 | Central |
| ALN Provision | £393,953 | Central |
| Wellbeing Counselling | £167,027 | Central |
| Wellbeing PRU/EOTAS | £8,329 | EOTAS |
| Wellbeing interventions | £52,943 | Central |
| Curriculum schools | £261,901 | Schools |
| Curriculum reform programme - regional and local capacity | £130,951 | CSC |
| Curriculum reform programme - international languages | £31,996 | CSC |
| Curriculum reform programme - cross curricular support | £51,202 | CSC |
| Professional Learning schools | £642,538 | Schools |
| Prof. learning and leadership - school led prof learning, enquiry and research | £130,951 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - Curriculum reform | £122,727 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - practice and reflection | £40,909 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - teaching asst. learning pathways | £43,182 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - A level and Welsh Bacc | £45,694 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - induction/early career | £11,364 | CSC |
| Prof. learning and leadership - future leadership | £38,636 | CSC |

**Cymraeg 2050 - £498,523 (includes schools, centrally retained and LA match funding)**

* Welsh in Education
* Welsh Professional learning
* Siarter Iaith
* Late Immersion funding

A decision has not yet been made by Senior Management regarding the Welsh in Education funding. The late Immersion funding is the final instalment of a 3 year agreement with WG that’s already in place and to be used centrally, this is ringfenced under the original terms of the bid.

The funding to CSC has been approved and agreed by the LA’s and is in line with expectations given by WG in the Award letters regarding current regional consortia arrangements.

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| **Funding stream within Cymraeg 2050** | **Allocation** | **Where** |
| Cymraeg 2050 Welsh in Education | £167,530 | Central |
| Cymraeg 2050 Welsh Professional Learning | £109,126 | CSC |
| Cymraeg 2050 Siarter Iaith | £19,875 | Central |
| Cymraeg 2050 Late Immersion | £105,000 | Central |
| LA Match funding  | £96,992 | Central/CSC |

When building budgets, SFS Officers will have automatically moved any staffing on the old grants from your 23/24 budgets into the new grant elements. Budgets will have been built with salaried staff to fully utilise your grants due to the change with the funding streams.

**Other grants**

**Post 16 Grant - £7,921,595**

The post 16 grant will be delegated within the schools funding formula, with 3% retained centrally for administration.

**Post 16 transition grant - £42,000**

Five months of funding from April 2024 – August 2024 to assist pupils in the transition to their next phase of education. This has now been allocated to schools.

**Post 16 Learner Progression funding - £200,394**

This has now allocated and given to schools.

**Free Exam Appeals for Disadvantaged Leaners - £tbc (based on claims made)**

This is available to Secondary school pupils who are economically disadvantaged who have taken general and vocational qualifications in the summer of 2024 to allow them to access the appeals system free of charge.

**Big Fresh Catering Company projects funding - £100,000**

BFCC have available funding for projects that will have an impact on pupil wellbeing and/or the new curriculum which schools need to bid for. The funding does not cover any staffing or furniture costs but can be used to set up the new provision/project.

**Welsh Medium Capacity Building funding - £23,332**

This funding has been allocated to Bro Morgannwg as part of a previous successful bid via CSC, for the final year of the project, the Local Authority will receive the funding direct from WG.

**Centrally allocated revenue grant funding for learners 24/25**

In addition to the grants delegated to schools, the Local Authority has received notification of the following grants which will be centrally managed. Some of these grants below may be delegated to schools for allocation within the individual grant terms and conditions where applicable.

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| **Grant name** | **Awarded** |
| Universal free school meals (demand Led) | £4,772,305 |
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| Schools Essentials (demand Led) | £492,500 |
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| Period dignity | £118,529 |
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| Post 16 Specialist Placements (demand Led) | £50,000 |