

# Agenda – Children, Young People and Education Committee

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Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
<b>Video Conference via Zoom</b>	<b>Llinos Madeley</b>
Meeting date: 21 January 2021	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 09.00	0300 200 6565
	<a href="mailto:SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales">SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales</a>

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In accordance with Standing Order 34.19, the Chair has determined that the public are excluded from the Committee's meeting in order to protect public health. This meeting will be broadcast live on [www.senedd.tv](http://www.senedd.tv)

## 1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(09.00)

## 2 COVID 19: Evidence session with the Welsh Government

(09.00 – 09.30)

(Pages 1 – 2)

Kirsty Williams MS, Minister for Education

Huw Morris, Group Director Skills, Higher Education and Lifelong Learning –  
Welsh Government

Steve Davies, Director Education Directorate – Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Themes for scrutiny

## 3 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021 – 2022

(09.30 – 10.30)

(Pages 3 – 113)

Kirsty Williams MS, Minister for Education

Huw Morris, Group Director Skills, Higher Education and Lifelong Learning –  
Welsh Government

Steve Davies, Director Education Directorate – Welsh Government



Attached Documents:

Research Brief

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper 1

## **Break**

(10.30 – 10.45)

## **4 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021 – 2022**

(10.45 – 12.00)

(Pages 114 – 152)

Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for Health and Social Services

Eluned Morgan MS, Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh

Language

Julie Morgan MS, Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

Albert Heaney, Deputy Director General, Health and Social Services Group –  
Welsh Government

Claire Bennett, Director, Communities & Tackling Poverty – Welsh  
Government

Tracey Breheny, Deputy Director of Mental Health, Substance Misuse and  
Vulnerable Groups – Welsh Government

Dr Heather Payne, Senior Medical Officer for Maternal & Child Health – Welsh  
Government

Steve Elliot, Deputy Director of Finance – Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research Brief

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper 2

## **5 Papers to note**

(12.00)

**5.1 Letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government and the Minister for Education to the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee regarding the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021 – 2022**

(Pages 153 – 154)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper to note 1

**5.2 Letter from the Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language to the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee regarding the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021 – 2022**

(Pages 155 – 156)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper to note 2

**5.3 Letter from the Minister for Education to the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee following the Committee meeting on 26 November 2020**

(Pages 157 – 161)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper to note 3

**5.4 Letter from the Children Commissioner for Wales to the Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee regarding the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill**

(Pages 162 – 166)

Attached Documents:

CYPE(5)-02-21 – Paper to note 4

**6 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(ix) to resolve to exclude the public for the remainder of the meeting**

(12.00)

**7 Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021 – 2022 –  
consideration of the evidence**

(12.00 – 12.30)

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Document is Restricted

**Children, Young People and Education Committee**

**From: Welsh Government**

**Date: 21 January 2021**

**Time: 9:15-10:30am**

**Title: Evidence paper on Draft Budget 2021-22 - Education Main Expenditure Group (MEG)**

This paper provides information to the Children, Young People and Education Committee on the Education Main Expenditure Group (MEG) proposals outlined in the draft Budget 2021-22<sup>1</sup>, published on 21 December 2020. It also provides an update on specific areas of interest to the Committee.

The draft Budget 2021-22 provides a one year plan for revenue and capital investment prepared following the UK Government's one year Spending Review published on 25 November 2020. This is the final Budget published in the current Senedd and the allocations show how, in the fight against the pandemic, we are using the resources available to *Protect* public health and jobs, *Build* a greener future and *Change* for a more equal Wales.

**1. Cross Cutting Areas**

**1.1 Transparency of budget presentation**

1.1.1 The table below provides an overview of indicative plans for the Education MEG published in draft Budget 2021-22:

Education MEG – Summary	£000s			
	2020-21 Final Budget	2020-21 Revised Baseline	2021-22 Changes	2021-22 Draft Budget New Plans
Resource	1,567,175	1,564,326	60,196	1,624,522
Capital	217,516	209,491	41,968	251,459
<b>Total Resource &amp; Capital</b>	<b>1,784,691</b>	<b>1,773,817</b>	<b>102,164</b>	<b>1,875,981</b>
Resource AME <sup>2</sup>	-123,801	-123,801	-24,585	-148,386
Capital AME	863,631	863,631	105,330	968,961
<b>Total AME</b>	<b>739,830</b>	<b>739,830</b>	<b>80,745</b>	<b>820,575</b>
<b>Total – Education MEG<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2,524,521</b>	<b>2,513,647</b>	<b>182,909</b>	<b>2,696,556</b>

**Resource**

1.1.2 For resource, Final Budget 2020-21 represents the baseline figure for draft Budget 2021-22, subject to minor adjustments, as summarised below:

	<b>£000</b>
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<sup>1</sup> Within this paper, '/' refers to an academic year which spans the period from 1 August to 31 July and '-' refers to a financial year which spans the period from 1 April to 31 March.

<sup>2</sup> Annually Managed Expenditure

<sup>3</sup> Main Expenditure Group

<b>Education MEG Resource budget – Final Budget 2020-21</b>	<b>1,567,175</b>
<b>Baseline adjustments:</b>	
Literacy and Numeracy BEL - Invest to Save – online personalised assessments	(2,100)
Student Loans Company / HMRC Administration Costs BEL – Invest to Save – SLC Transformation Programme	620
HEFCW Programme expenditure BEL - EU Transition Funding – Global Wales	(1,369)
<b>Education MEG Resource 2020-21 baseline – Draft Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>1,564,326</b>

1.1.3 The Resource budget for the Education MEG has increased by £60.2m (3.9%) when compared to the 2020-21 baseline. The changes, broken down by revenue (fiscal) and non-cash (non fiscal) resource, are summarised below:

Education: Resource budget	£000s				% change 2020-21 Baseline
	2020-21 Final Budget	2020-21 Revised Baseline	2021-22 Changes	2021-22 Draft Budget New Plans	
Revenue (Fiscal)	1,460,021	1,457,172	56,298	1,513,470	3.9%
Non Cash (Non Fiscal)	107,154	107,154	3,898	111,052	3.6%
<b>Resource Total</b>	<b>1,567,175</b>	<b>1,564,326</b>	<b>60,196</b>	<b>1,624,522</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

1.1.4 The increase of £60.2m is summarised in the table below, which includes a number of allocations associated with the overall increase in funding to the MEG from Welsh Reserves totalling £57.6m, offset by net transfers into the MEG of £2.6m:

Education: Resource budget allocations	BEL	2021-22 £000
Curriculum Reform – School Direct Costs, resources and communication and evaluation	Curriculum Review	7,900
Curriculum Reform – Qualifications Wales	Qualification Wales	369
Additional Qualifications Wales – depreciation (non cash)	Qualification Wales	35
COVID-19 funding - FE Reconstruction funding	Further Education Provision	5,000
Sixth Form and FE Demographics increase	Further Education Provision	21,745
Professional Learning Account	Further Education Provision	5,390
COVID-19 funding - Recruit, Recover, Raise Standards – schools catch up funding (2020/21 academic year)	School Improvement Grant	12,029
Minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Travellers	School Improvement Grant	1,000
PDG-Access	Pupil Development Grant	2,000
School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP)	Food and Nutrition in Schools	2,150
<b>Total transfers from Reserves</b>		<b>57,618</b>
Transfer to CS&A MEG – Invest to Save repayment – personalised assessments	Literacy & Numeracy	(285)
Transfer to HSS MEG – holiday hunger	Food & Nutrition in schools	(1,000)
Transfer in from HSS MEG - Medical and Dental Students (non cash)	Student Loans Resource Budget Provision	3,863
<b>Total MEG to MEG transfers</b>		<b>2,578</b>
<b>Resource DEL – net increase</b>		<b>60,196</b>



## Capital

- 1.1.5 For capital, the 2020-21 baseline reflects the budget presented in Final Budget 2020-21 adjusted to remove funding of £8.220m allocated in last year's budget for Coleg y Cymoedd's Carbon Neutral House.
- 1.1.6 The Education capital budget stands at £251.5m for 2021-22, an increase of £42m compared to the 2020-21 baseline. The changes, which relate to allocations to and from the Welsh Government Reserves, are summarised in the tables below:

Education: Capital Budget	£000				
	2020-21 Final Budget	2020-21 Revised Baseline	2021-22 Changes	2021-22 Draft Budget New Plans	% change 2020-21 Baseline
Traditional capital	217,711	209,491	40,000	249,491	19.1%
Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) <sup>4</sup>	(195)	-	1,968	1,968	-
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>217,516</b>	<b>209,491</b>	<b>41,968</b>	<b>251,459</b>	<b>20%</b>

Education: capital budget Allocations from Reserves	BEL	2021-22 £000
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Education Programme – General capital uplift	Education Infrastructure	35,000
Net Zero Carbon Schools Pilot	Education Infrastructure	5,000
FTC allocation - DBW Mutual Investment Model (MIM)	Education Infrastructure	710
FTC Allocation - MIM Subordinated Debt	Education Infrastructure	1,900
FTC Repayments - Coleg y Cymoedd	Education Infrastructure	(200)
FTC Repayments - Bridgend College	Education Infrastructure	(442)
<b>Capital DEL – net increase</b>		<b>41,968</b>

### Annually Managed Expenditure (AME)

- 1.1.7 The Annually Managed Expenditure (AME) budget is related to student loans which are demand led and sensitive to interest rate and other macro-economic factors and therefore difficult to forecast. This budget is agreed with the Treasury each year and is fully funded. The budget has increased by £80.7m in 2021-22.
- 1.2 Commentary on Actions & Detail of Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) Allocations**
- 1.2.1 As requested by the Committee, a commentary which explains the changes to each Action within the MEG is provided at **Annex A**. A transparent narrative explanation has been provided to explain increases and reductions, where not

<sup>4</sup> Financial transactions capital is part of the capital DEL settlement that can only be used for loans and equity investments to third parties. In the main, the funding must be repaid to HM Treasury. For the Education MEG, repayments relate to funding of £4.5m allocated to Coleg y Cymoedd in 2016-17 for Aberdare campus and £10.6m to Bridgend College in 2019-20 for STEAM Academy.

covered in the evidence paper, and confirmation of where the transfers have been allocated to/from.

- 1.2.2 A breakdown of changes to the Education MEG by BEL for 2021-22 is provided at **Annex B**. The report provides detail on 2020-21 First and Second Supplementary Budget allocations, 2020-21 forecast outturn and 2019-20 final outturns as requested by the Committee.
- 1.2.3 An explanation of the reasons for the re-calculation of the baseline is covered under paragraph 1.1.2 for revenue and 1.1.5 for capital. The Second Supplementary Budget 2020-21 has not been used as a baseline budget for comparative purposes. This Budget included a number of COVID-19 allocations and incorporated the reduction of £47m to the COVID-19 Response Reserve actioned in the First Supplementary Budget, both of which are non-recurrent.

### **1.3 Education Priorities & Other Strategic Priorities**

- 1.3.1 Through our £1.9bn education budget, we are delivering on *Our National Mission*, which makes clear our commitment to raise standards for all, to deliver a fair and inclusive education system, which will be a source of national pride for all. The update to *Our National Mission* action plan, published in October 2020, sets out how we will continue to move forwards towards effective implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales in September 2022.
- 1.3.2 Continued investment to support implementation of the new curriculum is essential if we are genuinely going to deliver on our ambitions. As outlined in paragraph 1.5.1, we are investing an extra £8.3m to support curriculum realisation in all schools in 2021-22. This additional funding will be essential to ensure we can fully support schools in transitioning to curriculum reform in a robust and coordinated way with Professional Learning provision.
- 1.3.3 Our National Approach to Professional Learning will support the realisation of the new curriculum by preparing all our practitioners for the fundamental shift in practice required. We continue to invest in our teaching profession with a record investment of £31m into schools budgets from 2018-19 to 2020-21 to support professional learning, to build strong foundations for the next step of our journey. For 2021-22, we are providing a further £15m to ensure that our teaching profession receives the support it needs to realise our new transformational Curriculum.
- 1.3.4 We are investing over £900m per annum on the most progressive and equitable student support system in the UK and to ensure that we have a sustainable funding settlement for Higher Education. We are the first country in the UK to offer students support for living costs equivalent to the national living wage and the only country in the Europe to offer parity of support to part time and post graduate students.
- 1.3.5 We are implementing the recommendations of the final phase of the Diamond Review, and investing an additional £25m in our universities, via HEFCW. We

are also maintaining HEFCW core funding in recognition of the impact of the pandemic on the Higher Education sector and their role in growing the future economy, through increasing high skills levels, research and innovation and civic mission.

- 1.3.6 As part of preparations for draft budget, I have had a number of discussions with the Minister for Finance and Trefnydd regarding the necessary level of resources to deliver our key priorities and the cross-cutting impacts of our spending plans. Those discussions will continue as we move towards final Budget and the start of next financial year, particularly as we review the impact of the pandemic on the organisations that we fund.
- 1.3.7 Value for money and clarity over how we use our resources effectively is central to delivering our priorities, particularly as we move to recover and reconstruction in 2021-22. Once expenditure is planned in line with priorities, we have well-established processes in place to ensure that resources are used effectively for the purposes intended. The governance and monitoring procedures in place reflect the nature of our relationships with delivery partners. These budget proposals reflect my continuing commitment to protect and prioritise investment that supports preventative measures as far as possible.

#### **1.4 Children's rights and other cross-cutting considerations**

##### ***Impact Assessments***

- 1.4.1 We have over recent years taken an integrated approach to impact assessments, which includes consideration of children's rights, reflecting their protected characteristics under the Equality Act, as well as taking into account the impact of decisions and policies on social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being, as set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, as well as sustainability and the Welsh Language. An integrated approach enables us to understand more clearly the overall impact of decisions on children and young people
- 1.4.2 Under the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011, we have given balanced consideration and due regard to the rights set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The draft Budget 2021-22, published on 21 December 2020, sets out the impacts of our spending decisions as part of the main narratives in chapters four and six, including highlighting spending decisions that directly impact on children and young people. This is complemented by the Strategic Integrated Impact Assessment at Annex C, outlining the contextual evidence that has supported our spending decisions, including the impact of the pandemic on children and young people. Annex C also includes more-detailed case studies on the impacts of specific spending decisions, including one on our support for children and young people's mental health.
- 1.4.3 A specific Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) has not been undertaken for the Education MEG as part of draft budget preparations.

Detailed impact assessments, including Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) are undertaken as part of our ongoing policy development and review. These assessments will continue to be used to inform budget decisions and the wider impact assessment of the budget. This approach, in the context of the budget allocations, ensures that evidence and understanding of impacts are considered from the outset and throughout the course of our budget preparations.

### ***Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015***

- 1.4.4 In this unprecedented context we continue to be guided by the five ways of working in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to improve how we make decisions. We recognise the need to collaborate with our partners and to use our collective resources effectively to plan for the tough choices ahead.
- 1.4.5 We continue to work with the Future Generations Commissioner and a range of experts to assess how we are addressing the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. *Our National Mission* has the well-being of future generations at its heart; and will see implementation of a new curriculum that is broad, balanced, inclusive and challenging. We also recognise that curriculum reform in isolation will not provide sustainable change. The new curriculum is being designed so that it maximises its contribution to each of the well-being goals.

### ***Impact on allocations within the Education MEG***

- 1.4.6 In this draft budget we have made a number of allocations following consideration of impact assessments on children's rights, equalities, Welsh language, and the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. This includes:
- an additional £2.2m to the School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP) almost doubling our investment to £4.9m in 2021-22, to tackle health and educational inequalities;
  - increasing funding for our Minority Ethnic and Gypsy Roma Traveller Grant by £1m, reflecting the increasing need for support to learners and the demand on these services, bringing total funding to £11m for next year; and
  - an additional £5m capital funding to take forward delivery of a Carbon Zero Pilot Project to decarbonise schools and colleges in Wales. The funding will assist delivery partners in transforming the education infrastructure in Wales as we continue our transition towards sustainable school and further education estates.
- 1.4.7 Whilst not allocated to the Education MEG, we are also allocating an additional £23.3m to extend free school meals in the school holidays during 2021-22 to continue to provide support for families who are struggling during these difficult times.

## 1.5 Costs of Legislation

### ***Curriculum reform and the Curriculum and Assessment Bill***

1.5.1 In addition to maintaining our existing Curriculum reform budgets in 2021-22 we are investing an extra £8.3m (£7.9m to the Curriculum Review BEL and £0.4m QW BEL) in 2021-22 to support effective implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales. This funding is fundamental to meeting the overarching objective of *Our National Mission*; the implementation of a transformational curriculum from 2022 and the costs set out in the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill. This includes:

- £1m to support the significant commissioning of bilingual education resources for schools anticipated in support of Curriculum for Wales implementation and is in addition to the existing budget for Welsh language resources for Welsh-medium schools of £3.1m (Welsh in Education BEL).
- £6.4m is provided to support schools directly in implementing the new curriculum. The funding will enable all schools to engage at least one practitioner at least once in the National Network. This complements the significant investment in professional learning more generally, with a further £15m to be allocated in 2021-22 from the Teacher Development and Support BEL to continue to prepare schools for the new curriculum.
- £0.5m to support wider public engagement and evaluation. Significant engagement and communications activity with key stakeholders is essential so that everyone understands what is changing and what the curriculum and assessment reforms mean for them.
- £0.4m additional funding to enable Qualifications Wales to contribute to the reform programme alongside its existing priorities.

1.5.2 We are maintaining the existing curriculum reform budgets totalling £4m (Curriculum Review BEL) to provide continued support for the development of statutory curriculum guidance and materials; research and evaluation work to inform implementation and monitor progress; and continued discussions between national and regional bodies with schools to support curriculum design and implementation. It will also provide continued support to regional educational consortia to support all schools in the process of designing their curriculum and preparing to implement it from 2022 onwards; fund practitioners to work directly with Welsh Government to co-construct additional guidance including curriculum and assessment arrangements for non-maintained nursery settings; fund a network of innovation schools to provide feedback on enacting the new curriculum; and support school engagement with the National Network as we move into curriculum implementation.

### ***Post-Compulsory Education and Training (PCET) reforms and the Tertiary and Education Research (TER) Bill***

1.5.3 Funding to support the implementation of the Post-Compulsory Education and Training reforms will be considered in year during 2021-22.

### ***Legislation passed in the Fourth Assembly and the Fifth Senedd***

- 1.5.4 There are no costs associated with legislation passed in the Fourth Assembly for the Education MEG. This includes: Qualifications Wales Act 2015; Higher Education (Wales) Act 2015; Education (Wales) Act 2014; and the Further and Higher Education (Governance and Information) (Wales) Act 2014, as all provisions within the Acts have now been implemented.
- 1.5.5 The costs associated with implementing the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 within the Fifth Assembly are covered separately below.

### ***Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and the wider ALN Transformation Programme***

- 1.5.6 The costs associated with the ALNET (Wales) Act 2018 and the wider ALN Transformation Programme are £6.9m in 2021-22, to be drawn from both the Additional Learning Needs BEL (£2.5m) and the Raising School Standards BEL (£4.4m). The budget will fund implementation/transition support; workforce development; awareness raising; and supporting policy.

### ***UK Parliament legislation***

- 1.5.7 There is currently no UK Parliament legislation that impacts on the Education MEG for 2021-22.

### ***Subordinate legislation***

- 1.5.8 The budget continues to take account of relevant subordinate legislation in 2021-22. Assessing the costs of implementing legislation and the impact on those it affects is an essential part of ensuring that the principles of “Good Law” are followed. This is why draft regulations are subject to a robust assessment of costs and benefits, achieved through consultation and engagement with our stakeholders, in the development of the regulatory impact assessments (RIAs). This is to ensure our decisions are informed by the people who will be affected by them.

## **1.6 Impact of COVID-19**

### ***Impact of COVID-19 on the Education MEG in both 2020-21 and 2021-22, including movements in and out of budget lines, the gross contribution to - and receipt from - the Welsh Government’s COVID-19 budgetary response, as well as the net effect of this.***

- 1.6.1 **Annex C** provides a summary of the net impact of COVID-19 on the Education MEG in 2020-21 and 2021-22, as a result of contributions to and receipts from the Central Reserve agreed to date. This reflects the return of £46.552m revenue from the Education MEG for release to the centrally held COVID-19 Reserve, as published in the First Supplementary Budget 2020. It also

confirms the additional COVID-19 allocations (£71.4m) and return of capital (£1.5m), published in Second Supplementary Budget 2020-21. Finally, it confirms the further allocations agreed as part of the COVID-19 reconstruction plan published in October, which will be formalised as part of the Third Supplementary Budget. This confirms that the net impact on the Education MEG in 2020-21 is an increase of £100m (£59m resource and £41m capital) from the COVID-19 Reserve. A total of £17m has been allocated in relation to COVID-19 for the Education MEG in 2021-22.

- 1.6.2 Where we have made savings from existing budgets, we have focussed on those areas where activities were unlikely to be delivered as planned because of the pandemic; where they can be delivered differently at lower cost; or where they can be delayed. Where possible we have tried to protect investment money to enable and support reform activities when the time becomes more appropriate.
- 1.6.3 Indirect funding was received from the COVID-19 Reserve via Economy and Transport's Economic Resilience Fund, which made the following transfers into the Education MEG (HEFCW Programme expenditure BEL):
- £3m to continue the delivery of degree apprenticeships in Wales; and
  - £1.5m to develop a scheme of support that runs parallel to, and shares the ambitions of, the ESF funded Go Wales programme, focusing on students who have graduated during the pandemic.
- 1.6.4 We have also sought to repurpose funding within the MEG to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes funding for the Stay Safe, Stay Learning programme and the Hwb EdTech programme (see paragraph 1.6.17 and 1.6.18). We will be continuing to monitor the financial implications of the pandemic and will undertake further re-prioritisations as necessary.

***Details of allocations to the COVID-19 'catch-up' programme in 2020-21 and 2021-22 and the uses of this funding.***

- 1.6.5 Welsh Government recognised that most learners have experienced considerable disruption to their learning in 2019/20 academic year, and many will experience gaps in their learning that will need to be filled during the following academic year.
- 1.6.6 A total of £15.4m was allocated for post-16 catch up funding in 2020-21, with £11.3m allocated to FE colleges and £4.1m to Local Authority sixth forms. This funding was provided to recognise the additional costs of the necessary increased teaching support required by those students who missed face to face learning in 2019/20, plus the additional cost of supporting transition to post-16 learning. The funding will be provided for all full-time learners between 16 and 19 years of age and represents a 5 per cent increase to funding per student. This in turn increases the number of hours we fund from a typical 650 per programme to 682 per programme. Audit guidance in 2020/21 will be reflective of this.

- 1.6.7 In July, we announced an additional £29m funding to recruit, recover and raise standards in Welsh schools in response to the impact created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Of this investment, £16.8m has been provided in 2020-21 and we are allocating a further £12m in draft Budget for 2021-22. Welsh Government's priority has been to ensure those most in need have access to support. The additional funding is being targeted at years 7,11,12,13 as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable learners of all ages. To further support this programme, funding was also allocated to the regional consortia (£0.233m per consortia) to support the coordination and Professional Learning needs arising.
- 1.6.8 We are also committing an extra £7m in 2020-21 to provide further resources to local authorities to enable them to focus on the most acutely impacted learners, especially in the 'exam' years 11, 12 and 13. We are also working with the WJEC, regions and schools to ensure learners have access to higher quality e-learning resources to support their preparations for assessment.

***Details of the allocations in 2020-21 and 2021-22 to further education institutions to support provision for learners whose course completion has been delayed, and the number of unique learners impacted.***

- 1.6.9 Following Ofqual and Qualifications Wales information on 23 May stating which vocational qualifications could not be calculated/estimated in the same way as GCSEs and A Levels, it was determined that for some qualifications, the only option was to delay the assessment. For example, where there is no way of validly calculating a result, or adapting the assessment in a way that does not undermine confidence in the qualifications.
- 1.6.10 Up to £5m is being provided in 2020-21 to support these vocational learners that were unable to receive a calculated result and needed to return to college to achieve their licence to practice qualifications.
- 1.6.11 Colleges have provided data of the learners impacted, which is currently being validated against audited LLWR data held by Welsh Government, with view to making payments to colleges in January 2021. Whilst this data is still being validated, the initial return from college identified 6,917 learners were impacted.

***Education-oriented activity related to COVID-19 outside the Education MEG***

- 1.6.12 We are providing significant resources to local authorities to enable them to deliver the services and support that their local communities require. Over £0.5bn is being provided through the Local Government Emergency Hardship Fund within the Housing and Local Government MEG to cover additional costs for this financial year for all service areas as well as supporting lost income. This has provided over £16.6m for additional costs and £22.3m for loss of income incurred by Education services.
- 1.6.13 To the end of October 2020, £30m had been claimed by local authorities in Wales in 2020-21 to provide free school meals to eligible pupils over the



school holidays and who have been unable to attend school throughout the pandemic.

- 1.6.14 Ensuring the continuation of free school meal provision has been a key priority for the Welsh Government over the course of the pandemic. Wales has led the way in ensuring that during these times of great uncertainty, those who rely on free school meals have still been able to receive them during the school holidays. Building on the funding I announced this financial year, we will provide an additional £23.3m to extend free school meals in the school holidays for the entirety of 2021-22. This investment will not only help to reduce poverty and health inequalities in our society, but will also provide support for families who are struggling to make ends meet during these difficult times.

***Details of any additional funding, or redirection of resources for, remote teaching and learning for school pupils.***

- 1.6.15 The Stay Safe Stay Learning programme was published on 20 April 2020, outlining the priorities of the Welsh Government, and all our partners across the education system, during the COVID-19 pandemic to support:
- the safety of all our learners and our education workforce;
  - the physical and mental health and well-being of all our learners and our education workforce;
  - the ability of all our learners to keep learning; and
  - learners' transition back into school and onto the next phase of their learning.
- 1.6.16 As part of the Stay Safe, Stay Learning programme, £2m from the Teacher Development and Support BEL was repurposed in 2020-21 to support various elements of work, including:
- £0.435m to fund research to understand the implications resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic on specific areas of the Welsh education system, including the provision of initial teacher education;
  - £0.148m to support newly qualified teachers as they transition into a disrupted period of statutory induction;
  - £0.025m to cover any copyright or licencing costs arising from making resources available on Hwb;
  - £0.1m to deliver online distance learning course on the design, creation and delivery of good quality, asynchronous, distance learning (digital e-learning and paper) resources;
  - £0.315m to fund the Welsh Books Council to combine the literacy and health and well-being agendas together to provide a selection of reading books to schools on the theme of health and well-being;
  - £0.5m to regional consortia to deliver professional learning; and
  - £0.526m to work collaboratively with WJEC to develop teaching and learning resources to support A Level learners.
- 1.6.17 As part of the Stay Safe, Stay Learning programme, up to £3m was allocated in 2020-21 for digitally excluded learners. The funding was repurposed from the £30m Hwb EdTech Capital funding and supported local authorities to meet

the costs associated with all licenses, hardware and connectivity up to 31 March 2021.

- 1.6.18 The Welsh Government reacted swiftly to the pandemic by securing a national connectivity deal with major mobile operators for MiFi devices, and established a technical solution that allowed local authorities and schools to repurpose existing devices for use in a learner's home. The ability to purchase replacement devices could also be funded from the wider Hwb EdTech infrastructure programme. The funding helped local authorities to ensure that a lack of access to a laptop or connectivity would not be a barrier to distance learning and enabled learners to continue on their education journey while schools were closed or learners needed to self-isolate.

## **1.7 Impact of Brexit**

### ***Implications for the Education MEG following the end of the EU transition period on 31 December 2020***

- 1.7.1 All the current Research, Development & Innovation (RD&I) operations are funded through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and as such operate under the EU rules. It is not yet clear as to both the process and amount of funds available to Welsh Government, to replace the previous ERDF allocations via the UK Government. Furthermore, with the absence of EU funding will need to be core funded unless alternative UK funding is made available.

### ***EU funding the 2020-21 Education MEG has drawn on and forecast for 2021-22***

- 1.7.2 We have continued to press the UK Government to live up to its manifesto commitments and promises made during the EU referendum campaign that Wales would not be a penny worse off as a result of leaving the EU.
- 1.7.3 Anything short of full replacement funding based on existing EU funding levels will cause disruption at the end of the transition period, have implications for the economic recovery from COVID-19, and risk the ability to support learners across Wales.
- 1.7.4 The education sector and skills providers in Wales, who directly receive EU funding via their participation in a range of competitive programmes, including the Horizon 2020 research programme and Erasmus+ mobility programme were expecting the UK Government to make good on their promises, and will be understandably disappointed that these promises have been broken.
- 1.7.5 We continue to support and work in partnership with the tertiary sector via Higher and Further Education Brexit Working Group, and through regular engagement with individual stakeholders to consider and seek to address the potential impacts of the UK's post transition relationship with the EU. This includes identifying and implementing strategies to maximise the opportunities

available to Wales as we establish new relationships with the EU and other international partners.

- 1.7.6 The ongoing uncertainty regarding future participation in Erasmus+ or a UK-wide domestic alternative is unsatisfactory. If our future participation in Erasmus+ is not secured, the 2020 UK Government Spending Review allocated funding for a UK-wide domestic alternative, although the level and scope of replacement funding is not yet known. Until the position is clear we are unable to confirm what the future requirement for a contribution to the running costs of administering Erasmus+ or a replacement would be (currently £200k for Wales share of National Agency's management fee for operating the Erasmus+ scheme in Wales).
- 1.7.7 The £50m European Transition Fund was to support businesses, the third sector, and public services plan and prepare for Brexit. For 2020-21, £1.369m was made available from the European Transition Fund for Global Wales II (within the Higher Education Action), following an allocation from the Fund of £1.382m in 2019-20 (and £800,000 in 2018-19). Global Wales II is an important initiative in our efforts to mitigate the impacts of Brexit, not only in relation to the HE sector, but also its wider effects on the Welsh economy and society.

## **1.8 Budget monitoring**

- 1.8.1 All budgets continue to be monitored and challenged on a monthly basis during 2020-21, to consider the latest forecasts and budget movements as necessary. This includes the monitoring of additional funding allocated from the COVID-19 Reserve this financial year. I receive regular financial updates on the forecasts for the MEG to ensure that budgets remain on track to deliver my priorities. We maintain very close monitoring to ensure funding is being invested where best needed whilst supporting our priorities – in the right place, at the right time.
- 1.8.2 Governance arrangements and structures are in place around the COVID-19 and the Welsh Government response to the crisis. The Minster for Finance and Trefnydd considers COVID-19 related finance issues on a regular basis, with myself and other Ministers involved where required. Those meetings, enable the Minster for Finance and Trefnydd to get a range of advice and perspectives on these issues ahead of taking decisions or providing advice to Cabinet.
- 1.8.3 There are a number of provisional transfers planned for the Third Supplementary Budget 2020-21 which will impact on the Education MEG and these are summarised in the table below:

Description	BEL	£000
<b>Revenue</b>		
Transfers from COVID-19 Reserves (see Annex C)	Various	37,612
Transfer from Central Reserve - Teachers Pay (pre-16)	Teacher Development and Support	3,981
Transfer from Central Reserve – Teachers pay (Sixth Form)	Further Education Provision	232
Transfer from UK Government – Offender Learning	Offender Learning	3,300
Transfer to the H&LG MEG	Food & Nutrition in Schools	(1,000)
Transfer to the H&LG MEG	Vulnerable Group	(600)
Transfer from H&LG MEG – Youth Homelessness	Youth Engagement & Employment	3,700
Transfer from H&LG MEG - FSM in FE	FE Provision	479
Transfer from E&T MEG – Skills Priority Programme	FE Provision	1,750
Transfer from E&T MEG – Degree Level Apprenticeships	HEFCW Programme Expenditure	4,000
Transfer from E&T MEG – Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation	516
Transfer from HSS MEG – NHS Wales bursary	Student Support Grants	2,800
Transfer from CSA MEG - Invest to Save adjustment – Student finance	SLC/HMRC Administration Costs BEL	74
Transfer from CSA MEG - Invest to Save adjustment- Literacy and Numeracy Tests	Literacy & Numeracy BEL	(2,100)
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>54,744</b>
<b>Capital</b>		
Transfers from COVID-19 Reserves (see Annex C)	Various	39,360
Transfer to Central Reserve - return for additional Financial Transactions Capital in relation to the Mutual Investment Model	Education Infrastructure BEL	(383)
Transfer from Central Reserve - MIM funding – DBW loan funding (FTC)	Education Infrastructure BEL	783
<b>Total Capital</b>		<b>39,760</b>

## 2. Specific areas

This section provides an update on specific areas requested by the Committee.

### 2.1 Funding for school budgets

***An explanation of how the Welsh Government has prioritised funding for schools in the 2021-22 Draft Budget and taken account of the Sibietta review of school spending, which concluded: “There is now a strong evidence base showing significant benefits from higher school spending. Across a range of contexts and countries, a 10% increase in spending has been found to improve educational and later life earnings by about 7-10%.”***

2.1.1 When the review of school spending was commissioned last year nobody could have predicted the unprecedented strain the coronavirus pandemic would have on public sector budgets. I am fully aware of the real pressures that local authorities and schools are facing as a consequence. The Welsh Government is doing everything it can to ensure Wales’ public services have all the resources they need to respond to, and mitigate the impact of, the

crisis. Now, more than ever, we need to understand the funding decisions made across Wales to secure equity and excellence for our learners.

- 2.1.2 The main source of funding the Welsh Government provides for schools is to local authorities through the Local Government Settlement Revenue Support Grant (RSG) within the Housing and Local Government MEG. Providing local government with the best possible settlement has been central to our budget preparations again this year. We are providing local government with an uplift of £176m in 2021-22 to support front line services including schools and social services. This builds on a significantly improved settlement in the current year to enable support and delivery of critical and valued local services focusing on schools and social care.
- 2.1.3 Although the publication of this report was delayed due to COVID-19 and therefore is not impacting directly to allocations in this draft budget, it will now provide evidence to enable policy makers to make informed decisions when considering funding for schools across Wales in the future, continuing our overall aim of improving school standards and reducing inequalities. The findings will be used to aid policymakers to determine whether schools in different circumstances have sufficient funding and how to best target any increases in spending both now and in the future to support our education reforms.

***An explanation of how the Welsh Government has taken account in the 2021-22 Draft Budget of two of Luke Sibieta's other recommendations:***

- ***The Welsh Government should prioritise extra funding for more deprived schools.***
  - ***The Welsh Government should prioritise extra funding for schools with sixth forms.***
- 2.1.4 It is unacceptable that a child's educational success should be affected by their social or economic circumstances. Countering the effects of disadvantage and deprivation on children and young people is central to our flagship Pupil Development Grant (PDG). The PDG delivers additional funding to schools, early years and other settings to enable disadvantaged learners to achieve their best educational outcomes. The majority of the grant is delivered directly to schools and settings, except the Looked After Children PDG which is managed regionally by the consortia.
- 2.1.5 We are continuing to increase our investment in the PDG year on year. Since its introduction in 2012, we have made available more than £585 million through the PDG which has supported the equivalent of over 530,000 children and young people to achieve their best educational outcomes. We recognise that the COVID-19 pandemic is having a huge impact on deprived families and placing additional pressure on deprived schools. Increasing the budget allocation for the PDG will enable more support for these vulnerable schools and work to address the increase of learners whose families have fallen into poverty due to the pandemic. We are continuing to invest record levels of investment in the PDG of more than £100m in 2021-22. On top of this, we are

allocating an additional £2m for the PDG-Access, bringing total funding next year to more than £10m.

- 2.1.6 With regards the school funding review, *Our National Mission* places national importance on school improvement across the system. We have acknowledged the report and discussions are ongoing to consider how the findings will influence the PDG for 2021-22. The PDG allocations are based on the number learners eligible for Free School Meals which is a proxy for deprivation. The Reducing Infant Class Sizes Grant is targeted at schools which meet certain criteria, including those which have high levels of deprivation.
- 2.1.7 It should be noted that any priority given to extra funding for schools with sixth forms should also be considered with equal priority for 16-19 provision in FE colleges. This reflects Welsh Governments statements of parity between like for like post-16 provision in schools and FE colleges, but also parity between academic and vocational pathways.
- 2.1.8 The 2021-22 draft budget recognises the priority for 16-19 provision in both schools sixth forms and colleges noting that demographics of this age cohort are increasing and that funding should increase accordingly. For 2021-22, we are providing circa £21.7m in recognition of increased demographic of 16-19 year olds in sixth forms and further education, together with £7m allocated within the MEG to provide further support to sixth forms and FE commitments.
- 2.1.9 It has been important, not only to recognise the increase in demographics at this age, but also the impacts of COVID-19, and decisions related to COVID-19, are likely to have on the numbers of young people choosing to stay in education. That is, increased GCSE outcomes and a lack of job opportunities indicates that the percentage of this cohort that choose to remain in education will increase.

***An updated assessment from the Minister on the sufficiency of provision for schools budgets in 2021-22, considering the disruption from COVID-19 and the substantial curriculum and ALN reforms schools will be required to prepare for and implement.***

- 2.1.10 Against the challenging backdrop that this Budget is presented, our spending plans for 2021-22 build on the significantly improved settlement in the current year to enable support for schools budgets and delivery of our front line school services. However providing local government with the best possible settlement also means recognising the full range of specific grants supporting schools. For 2021-22, we are maintaining our investment in specific grants to local authorities within the Education MEG that support schools budgets, with increases for MEGRT and PDG-Access.
- 2.1.11 As set out in 1.5.1, we are increasing funding in 2021-22 to support implementation of our curriculum reform ambitions. We are also maintaining the £8m allocated in last year's budget to provide continued support for local authorities and Further Education Institutions (section 2.8 refers).

2.1.12 I will continue to review the impact of the pandemic on the organisations that we fund as we move into the next financial year. In order to ensure that any decisions best meet the evolving challenges presented by the pandemic, it is prudent to retain as much flexibility as possible now and allocate funding as and when necessary.

## 2.2 Funding for school improvement

***A detailed breakdown of how the annual element of the Fifth Senedd commitment to £100 million additional investment in schools standards is to be allocated in 2021-22.***

2.2.1 We have provided £100m over the course of this Senedd term to raise school standards. For 2021-22, we are continuing to provide a further £25.5m from the Raising School Standards BEL to maintain this commitment to raise school standards. I will provide the Committee with an update on the indicative allocations within the Raising School Standards BEL for 2021-22 once finalised.

***A breakdown of how funding under the Fifth Senedd commitment to £100 million additional investment in raising school standards has been allocated and used over the duration of this Senedd.***

2.2.2 The breakdown at **Annex D** provides an update on how the £100m has been allocated and across this Senedd term. The priorities for education and the high level areas for investment of the £100m are aligned to support the successful delivery of *Our National Mission*.

***An update to Table D provided in the annex to the Minister's paper to the Committee on the 2020-21 Draft Budget, listing allocations to BELs supporting the raising of school standards within the Education MEG during this Senedd.***

2.2.3 An updated breakdown of all BELs within the Education MEG that contribute to the raising of school standards for the period 2016-17 to 2021-22 is summarised at **Annex E**.

***Details of the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) allocations in 2020-21 and previous years, as well as any available indicative allocations for 2021-22, broken down by consortium and 'objective' (or other heading, whichever is applicable).***

2.2.4 The table at **Annex F** provides a breakdown of the RCSIG for 2020-21 and previous years. An indicative breakdown for 2021-22 is not available at this stage. In 2020-21, delivery partners were asked to identify areas where savings may arise in light of COVID-19 and £4.2m was identified and returned to the COVID-19 Reserve as published in the First Supplementary Budget 2020-21. Welsh Government and delivery partners continue to work together to ensure effective monitoring of the grants and project delivery.

- 2.2.5 Following Neath Port Talbot's withdrawal from ERW regional consortium in April 2020, Welsh Government provided Neath Port Talbot with a separate grant in 2020-21 to provide support and services to its schools that would previously have come from ERW. ERW and Neath Port Talbot agreed a number of delivery areas (relating to curriculum reform and professional learning) that ERW would continue to provide for Neath Port Talbot schools; in these cases the relevant funding was retained by ERW.

***Information on the Education Improvement Grant element of the RCSIG and an update on how the Welsh Government is ensuring this is strategically used and its impact evaluated.***

- 2.2.6 The Education Improvement Grant (EIG) remains part of RCSIG, which is used to support the regional consortia in delivering our priorities for schools and education outlined within *Our National Mission* and its update in October 2020. At the centre of this is a transformational curriculum, supported by four enabling objectives, which the consortia's work must support.
- 2.2.7 While there is scope for the EIG to be used flexibly by regional consortia to support our national priorities, it remains predominantly focused on the Foundation Phase, support for Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and improving teaching and learning. A minimum delegation rate to schools of 80% must be maintained and assurance on this is sought by Welsh Government.
- 2.2.8 The terms and conditions of the grant are the mechanism for ensuring adherence to staff to pupil ratios in schools. Consortia are required to determine their distribution formula to schools to support them to deliver the recommended ratios to deliver a high quality Foundation Phase. The funding must also be used to support Foundation Phase practitioners in non-maintained settings to deliver high quality education provision.
- 2.2.9 Regional consortia are expected to evidence additionality of the funding and its impact. Delivery of the funding is monitored through milestones and key performance indicators outlined in consortia business plans.

### **2.3 Reducing the impact of deprivation on educational outcomes**

***Information on how resources within the Education MEG are being used to meet the Welsh Government's long-term commitment to tackle the impact of deprivation on educational outcomes.***

- 2.3.1 Every learner, wherever they live, must have the opportunity to reach their potential. Tackling poverty is a key priority for this government and tackling the achievement gap between our most disadvantaged pupils and their peers is fundamental to Our National Mission.
- 2.3.2 The PDG provides funding to mitigate the effects of deprivation on education by delivering £1,150 per learner to schools and early years settings.



Additionally, PDG Access directly supports families by providing funding for the purchase of uniform, sports kit and other extra-curricular activity resources at key points in a learner's education including transition from primary to secondary school.

- 2.3.3 An additional £9.4m was allocated for 2020-21, bringing the PDG to over £100m, and that funding is being maintained for 2021-22. This included £6.6 million additional allocation to the early years PDG (EYPDG). Early intervention has been proven effective at addressing the long-term effects of deprivation on education. Therefore, the EYPDG delivers extra funding to early years at the same rate as PDG funding in schools. Intervening early reduces the chance of a young person requiring costly interventions later in their education journey and leaving secondary education not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- 2.3.4 Furthermore, every child in Wales – including those who are looked after and formerly looked after – has the right to expect an excellent education regardless of their circumstances. We have supported looked after children in education by some £5 million annually through PDG-LAC. The Regional Education Consortia administer this grant in collaboration with local authorities and schools. PDG-LAC funding is based on £1,150 per looked after child; however the funding is not ring-fenced for each child. This approach enables Consortia, working with partners, to determine the most effective, strategic interventions to support care experienced young people regardless of care or school placement changes.
- 2.3.5 In 2020, we introduced consortia led funding to support schools. This funding may support individual schools or fund activity at a regional or local level and we have deliberately made this funding flexible to respond to local circumstances affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

***Details of budget provision for the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) and an updated assessment of its affordability and value for money.***

- 2.3.6 In 2020-21 over £92m of the PDG was delegated directly to schools and educational settings, while the remainder was managed by the consortia for PDG LAC, or local authorities for PDG Access. PDG Access is demand led, and early indication from PLASC data reports an increase in demand which has been reflected in an increase in the PDG baseline.
- 2.3.7 Residual funding is for in year capacity building activities to support disadvantaged learners including the regional consortia Strategic Advisers; retaining the services of the Raising Attainment Advocate (Sir Alasdair MacDonald); and ongoing work for the cost of the school day guides. Due to COVID-19, eFSM numbers have significantly risen and without the increase to the PDG Access budget, we would have to consider lowering the payment per learner.
- 2.3.8 The PDG budget also provides £0.250m to support Service children in Wales in recognition that children of our Armed Forces can face additional challenges

because of their family's lifestyle – that is frequent school moves and/or a parent being absent on deployment. In 2020-21 the funding is supporting Service children in Wales through a package of universal support provided by SSCE Cymru for all schools in Wales and more focused, targeted support where it is most needed. Funding is dependent upon submission of a support plan, regular update meetings and submission of outcomes achieved. The intention is for this to continue in 2021-22.

- 2.3.9 To ensure value for money, we continue to emphasise the importance of best practice in use of the PDG. The terms and conditions of the grant require consortia to write a support plan which sets out how they will use the grant for that financial year, including how they will ensure settings use research and evidence to make decisions about the use of the grant. In 2021, we will publish new PDG guidance and will ensure this guidance is accessible for schools by uploading case studies onto Hwb. In the PDG terms and conditions we also require the use of evidence from educational research charities such as the Education Endowment Fund which means educational settings can spend PDG on interventions that will improve the attainment of disadvantaged learners. Furthermore, by maintaining regular conversations with PDG Advisers from consortia, we ensure funding is adapted to local needs and being used effectively on the ground.
- 2.3.10 The majority of schools now have tracking systems in place and we also have further data sets spanning a number of years which will provide greater rigour, all of which will enable more robust analysis in the future. Consideration will be given as to how we can work with schools to fully utilise the data being collated and strengthen monitoring for future evaluation. Ongoing work to further develop our PDG guidance will consider what more can be done nationally to support this local level monitoring and evaluation. We will also continue the dialogue with experts in the field to determine the feasibility of assessing value for money in this context.
- 2.3.11 We already encourage schools to adopt whole school approaches, which have the scope to benefit all learners but which ensure the needs of disadvantaged learners are supported. We have also brought in a cluster approach for PDG LAC funding which enables economies of scale but also ensures that all schools have had training if care experienced children join their school. This is an effective way of making best use of finite resources and enables schools, parents and carers to better support individual children, and contribute towards education at school and at home.

***Information about the PDG Access fund and how many learner's families have benefitted since it was introduced to replace the School Uniform Grant.***

- 2.3.12 PDG-Access was introduced in 2018/19 to offer families support towards buying uniform and other school and extra-curricular activity equipment. While looked after children have access to the grant for every year they are in school, eFSM learners can access the grant at key transitional points in their education (entering Reception, Year 3, 7 and 10). PDG Access is paid through

local authorities at a rate of £200 for learners starting secondary school, or £125 for all other years.

2.3.13 Since the introduction of this year's PDG Access fund over 23,000 learners have benefitted with further claims due from local authorities in early 2021. PDG Access funding not only helps address the material deficits of poverty, such as inability to afford adequate school uniform, but also supports greater aspiration, cultural enrichment, resilience and wellbeing in disadvantaged learners by encouraging their participation in sport and other extra-curricular activities.

***Any other funding within the Education MEG for initiatives to tackle the deprivation / attainment negative correlation, for example holiday hunger and school holiday enrichment projects.***

2.3.14 For 2021-22 we will increase our investment in the School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP) by £2.15m, following the additional funding of £1.8m invested in last year's Budget. SHEP provides opportunities for children aged 7-11 years to be more active, eat healthily and develop friendships whilst also making the most of local school facilities in disadvantaged areas during the summer holidays. It supports action to tackle health and educational inequalities and supports action to tackle food poverty during the summer holidays. Taking our total investment to £4.85m in 2021-22, the extra funding will enable the potential extension of the programme to up to 14,000 children.

2.3.15 In 2019 we piloted the use of playwork settings to tackle holiday hunger, and the success of these schemes resulted in the allocation of £1m to support this approach in 2020-21. It was always intended that this funding should sit alongside that allocated through the SHEP. We have retained the £1m allocation for playwork settings to tackle holiday hunger in the budget for 2021-22, however the funding is being transferred from the Education MEG to the Health and Social Services MEG in this draft Budget. We are considering how best to target that funding for 2021-22.

2.3.16 For 2021-22 we will also be maintaining funding to support specific areas of deprivation:

- £0.845m to promote period dignity in the Further Education sector and continue funding for 2021-22 to support women and girls in a way which promotes the Welsh Government's commitment to reduce inequalities;
- Financial Contingency Fund budget to support qualifying learners with additional funding for transport, FSM equivalents and childcare costs.

## **2.4 Education workforce**

***Details of budget allocations to finance:***

- ***the Welsh Government's reforms of Initial Teacher Education (ITE); and***

- ***the development of a national professional learning offer for the education workforce.***

2.4.1 There is dedicated funding within the Teacher Development and Support BEL to support reforms of ITE:

- £1.969m to deliver the new 'alternative' ITE routes (Part-time PGCE and Salaried PGCE) to form part of a coherent suite of high quality routes into teaching under our ITE Reforms. The Part-time PGCE and Salaried PGCE are available from 2020/21 academic year onwards. The budget provides a training grant and salary contribution grant for ITE Students on the employment-based scheme, the Salaried PGCE, delivering priority Secondary subject (Science, Maths and Welsh) teachers into the workforce as well as diversifying the workforce more broadly for those where a full-time ITE programme is not suitable. In addition, the budget has provided for the development and initial implementation of the new routes via our contract with the Open University due to end in February 2021.
- £3.14m to continue to deliver the priority subject incentive scheme to support recruitment into the profession.
- £0.160m has been made available in 2020-21 to support costs relating to developing evidence informed policy to continue to support the Welsh Governments ITE reforms. It is proposed that this funding will continue in 2021-22, with a further £0.160m to support the ongoing research exploring how best to support BAME recruitment into the profession, providing routes for FE Qualified Teachers to gain QTS as well as supporting events to mature and support our fledgling ITE Partnerships.
- £0.5m for the Iaith Athrawon Yfory Welsh-medium incentive scheme which commenced in September 2018, targeted at Welsh speaking student teachers to encourage them to undertake an eligible postgraduate secondary ITE programme enabling them to teach through the medium of Welsh.
- Up to £0.2m has been allocated in 2020-21 for a communications and marketing campaign for Teaching in Wales.

2.4.2 The delivery of high quality professional learning is fundamental to meeting the overarching objective of *Our National Mission* and the implementation of a transformational curriculum from 2022. In 2021-22 we will be allocating nearly £37m from the Teacher Development and Support and Raising School Standards BELs to support the development and delivery of professional learning in accordance with our National Approach for Professional Learning. Funding will be allocated via various routes, including a national network of schools, the regional consortia and universities to support a number of priorities. The key elements of this funding are:

- £15m to be allocated directly to schools to enable them to prepare for the new curriculum. This is in addition to the £31 million investment in professional learning, which has been awarded directly to schools since 2018 (£9m in 2018-19, £15m in 2019-20 and £7m in 2020-21). This funding is consistent with the costs outlined in the RIA of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill.
- Approximately £5.5m to be allocated to regions and other stakeholders to continue the Curriculum for Wales Development Programme to equip all schools to realise the new curriculum.
- Approximately £1.3m to continue the National Professional Enquiry Programme to fund universities and a national network of lead enquiry schools to support wider system development.
- £1m to continue to populate the [Professional Learning Journey \(PLJ\) website](#) with a wide range of high quality resources produced in partnership with regions and schools to support the additional professional learning INSET days.
- £2.4m to support the development of the components of the Early Career Support Package, which includes the development and introduction of a national dedicated coaching and mentoring programme and the new Masters programme.
- £6.4m to support Welsh-language and Welsh-medium professional learning.
- £1m to continue to deliver professional learning to those assisting teaching.
- £0.5m to enable our national pedagogy and practice network to continue to facilitate the co-construction of new approaches to teaching and learning that will be required by curriculum reform.
- £0.25m to continue our commitment to develop all schools as learning organisations, to enable them to identify their own strengths and priorities for improvement - including professional learning.
- Approximately £0.8m to develop and implement the National Strategy for Educational Research and Enquiry to support evidence-informed policy, develop a research literate profession, and to develop research capacity within higher education in Wales.
- Approximately £2.7m to fund the National Academy for Educational Leadership and the leadership programmes that have been accredited.

***Information on any funding provided by the Welsh Government to the Education Workforce Council.***

2.4.3 Grant funding of £6.294m has been awarded to the Education Workforce Council (EWC) for 2020-21 to support the following activities:

- Administration and notification of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS);
- Induction appeals and certification;
- Administration of the Induction programme for Newly Qualified Teachers in Wales;
- The maintenance and development of the Professional Learning Passport (PLP);

- Promotion of careers in the registered professions;
- BAME teacher recruitment and retention project;
- Secretariat to Welsh Pay and Conditions Review Body;
- Data provision and analysis;
- Registration contribution;
- Initiatives / events to further embed the new ITE programmes and culture within Wales;
- FE and QTS mapping study;
- FE and WBL professional standards project; and
- School teacher and support staff professional standards project

2.4.4 Welsh Government officials will meet with EWC early in 2021 to discuss their grant award for 2021-22. We expect the grant award to be in the region of funding provided for 2020-21 but will be dependent upon future projects in light of COVID-19.

***Details of funding for local authorities towards meeting the costs of the teachers' pay award for academic year of 2020/21, including a breakdown between the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years and the respective mechanisms used (whether direct grant or incorporated into the local government settlement).***

***Confirmation of what proportion of the costs of the 2020/21 teachers' pay award the Welsh Government is direct funding. (The Minister's statement of 14 October 2020 referred to £5.5 million for the 2020-21 financial year element, whilst the EM to the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions (Wales) Order 2020 stated an annual cost of £41 million.)***

2.4.5 The Explanatory Memorandum to the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions (Wales) Order 2020 projected the cost of the range of increases to teacher pay scales and allowances, totalling an increase of 3.1% of the overall pay bill, would be £41m annually (from the start of the 2020/21 academic year). The equivalent for the seven month period September 2020 to March 2021 is £23.9m, which falls in the 2020-21 financial year.

2.4.6 Whilst the funding provided through the RSG is un-hypothecated and for each local authority to determine its own priorities, a significant factor in the Government's decision to increase funding for the RSG for 2020-21, was to recognise the impact of teachers' pay. It was therefore anticipated that the costs of the 2020/21 pay award would be met through increased funding allocated to local authorities via the RSG and their ability to raise funding through council tax, however we became aware of the exceptional competing pressures on local authority budgets due to COVID-19.

2.4.7 Based on OBR forecasts of inflation of 2.6%, an additional £18.4m was distributed via the schools services spending area, through the RSG, to reflect the 2020/21 teacher pay increases, alongside the equivalent amount for the 2019/20 pay award falling into the 2020-21 financial year. On 14 October, I announced additional funding of £5.5m in support of the cost of the 2020/21 pay award for the 2020-21 financial year (7 months). This included £3.981m

to recognise the difference between the OBR forecast and the agreed 3.1% for years nursery to year 11, and a further £1.556m to recognise the full 3.1% increase in the post-16 sixth form allocation. The additional funding has been allocated via a direct grant from the Education MEG in 2020-21.

- 2.4.8 The Minister for Finance and Trefnydd was clear in the draft budget that one of the hard choices we have faced in setting our spending plans for next year is our approach to public sector pay. The reality is that we did not receive any additional funding through the Barnett formula to provide for public sector wide pay awards next year given the UK Government's decision to pause public sector pay rises, with the exception of the NHS and those on the lowest wages. The implications of pay awards in 2021-22 will therefore need to be accommodated within local authorities' budget planning in the light of the overall Settlement.
- 2.4.9 Whilst we did not receive any additional funding from the UK Government for public sector pay, in determining the distribution of funding across authorities for the local government Settlement, we have recognised the decisions made on the 2020/21 teachers' pay deal, and the commitment made by local government to fund this deal, by directing the necessary funding into the schools part of the formula.

## **2.5 Curriculum Reform**

***Information on funding to support preparations for, and implementation of, the Curriculum for Wales – whether directly related to the Curriculum and Assessment Bill or broader activity.***

- 2.5.1 The funding to support preparations for and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales has been detailed under section 1.5.1 to 1.5.2.

***If not included in the above, details of professional learning for the education workforce to prepare for the new curriculum.***

- 2.5.2 The details of professional learning to help prepare practitioners for the new curriculum has been outlined under section 2.4.2.

## **2.6 Emotional and mental health of children and young people**

***Information on the financial implications for the Education MEG in 2020-21 of the work to embed a whole-school approach to emotional and mental health, including any funding to support the statutory guidance.***

***Detail of how any funding from the Health and Social Services MEG is being used to complement work in schools on this area.***

- 2.6.1 In 2020-21 we made a £5m investment to support the wellbeing of learners as part of our Whole School Approach to emotional and mental health. Funding

has been jointly provided from the Education MEG (£2m) and Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG (£3m) budgets recognising the cross cutting nature of this work and emphasising our commitment to progressing this agenda.

2.6.2 A number of interrelated workstreams have been initiated including:

- Funding to improve and extend the school counselling service. The service sees around 11,500 children and young people each year and in the current year we have invested an additional £1.252m in the service to expand provision and support the service to deliver online counselling as a result of COVID-19. Local authorities inform us this additional investment will enable a further 14,500 counselling sessions in the current year supporting an additional 3,100 children and young people. We have also commissioned Cardiff University to review the efficacy of the existing service and the need to extend age appropriate support below the current Yr6 threshold. The review will report later in 2021. School counselling is also an integral element of the continuum of support available to learners under our whole school approach to wellbeing.
- £0.6m to initiate universal and targeted wellbeing interventions in schools and a further £0.450m to support teacher and other school staff training on wellbeing.
- £0.050m in the current year to support Higher Education Institutions in developing professional learning modules specifically targeted at supporting the COVID-19 response, blended learning and the return to schools from the autumn term.

***Details of funding for any additional or tailored initiatives to support children and young people's mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.***

2.6.3 The pandemic is inevitably causing additional anxiety for people of all ages, not least children and young people. We recognise that the emotional and wellbeing implications of COVID-19 are likely to outlast the physical impact of the pandemic, with children and young people affected by bereavement, the economic impact on their families, worries over the impact on their education and worries over their own health and that of families and friends. As such we view our whole school approach to emotional and mental wellbeing work as integral to tackling the impact of COVID-19 in its totality.

2.6.4 For 2021-22, an additional £4m is being allocated for the whole school approach within the Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG. This additional funding will build on the £5m made available in 2020-21 and will ensure we are able to support all the wellbeing needs, from building resilience to more targeted interventions for learners to ensure their needs can be met outside of specialist services. This provides an overall budget of £9m for the whole school approach to mental health in 2021-22.



- 2.6.5 In 2020-21 we have allocated £2m to support mental health and wellbeing in the FE sector. In developing the funding model and guidance, officials have worked with HEFCW colleagues to learn from their experience in delivering similar initiatives, and to share detailed information on funded projects.
- 2.6.6 Part of the funding allocated to the FE sector is dedicated to collaborative projects and we have encouraged joint working across educational sectors. One partnership is working with a university to evaluate the impact of its mental health and wellbeing initiatives; there is scope to extend cross-sector collaboration in future.
- 2.6.7 A proposed joint project between Welsh Government and HEFCW, to evaluate support for learners' mental health during transition from FE to HE, had to be postponed due to the impact of COVID-19 and the challenges of securing sector staff engagement this year. With mental health funding available in 2021-22, this will be reinstated.
- 2.6.8 Colleges have submitted monitoring reports on their mental health projects in December 2020 with further reports due in March 2021. We are carrying out a learner survey which includes information on mental health and anxiety. In addition, Estyn is carrying out a thematic review on post-16 learners' mental health and wellbeing during the pandemic, due to report in March 2021. The recommendations will inform future work on wellbeing in the FE sector and help to build an evidence base on "what works".

## **2.7 Support for Minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners**

### ***Details of funding for supporting the education of minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners in 2021-22 and how this is being distributed.***

- 2.7.1 The Welsh Government is determined that every child in Wales has the support they need to reach the highest standards of education and to thrive. We are aware of the particular language and cultural barriers children from ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller backgrounds face, which is why it is crucial they receive support to reach their full potential. A total of £11m will be provided to local authorities in 2021-22 via the MEGRT grant to continue to support ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners. This is an increase of £1m in recognition of the increase in numbers of minority ethnic learners with English as an additional language.
- 2.7.2 We have developed a positive working relationship with local authorities and through a working group we have co-constructed a revised funding formula and set of principles for the MEGRT grant from 2021-22 onwards. The revised formula and principles more accurately reflect the purpose of the grant and offer a fairer distribution of funding. From 2021-22 the principles of the grant are agreed as:
- inclusion – both into school and the wider community;
  - equity – remove barriers and improve life chances;

- removal of barriers to accessing the curriculum - including a focus on language acquisition;
- improving attendance;
- engagement with learners, families and communities;
- training and capacity building in the school workforce;
- integration into education - including a focus on transition into school and between phases;
- supporting transition Post 16 into FE, training or employment.

2.7.3 These principles are all underpinned by the understanding that there should be flexibility for Local Authorities to plan and deliver support based on an assessment of local need. With effect from 2021-22 the funding will be distributed using a formula based on numbers of children with English as an Additional Language (EAL) (excluding Gypsy Roma and Traveller (GRT)), plus numbers of GRT from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC). The decision to adopt EAL as a basis for the formula was based on research that language acquisition is a key factor in a child's ability to access education and in their attainment.

***Confirmation of whether ring-fenced funding will continue for this provision or whether the Welsh Government will be revisiting its previous proposal to mainstream this into local authorities' core activities.***

2.7.4 I can confirm we will continue with grant funding on a ring-fenced basis within the Education MEG.

## **2.8 Additional Learning Needs**

***An updated assessment of the pressures facing local authorities, schools, and colleges in delivering current SEN/ALN provision, the impact of the additional £9.4 million in 2020-21 and whether further additional funding will be provided in 2021-22.***

2.8.1 In last year's budget we provided an additional £8m to local authorities and FE colleges to support children and young people with Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Local authorities will be required to provide a final report at the end of 2020-21 detailing how the funding was utilised. For 2021-22, this funding is being maintained to support local authorities and FE Institutions in meeting the additional costs associated with learners with complex needs and disabilities to succeed. The draft budget includes a transfer of £0.845m from the Additional Learning Needs BEL to the FE Provision BEL, which represents the proportion of the £8m for FE institutions.

2.8.2 Specialist FE provision is essential to ensuring those young people with learning difficulties or disabilities whose needs cannot be met in their local college are able to access further education and training suitable to their needs. Last year we invested an extra £1.4m to support students with learning difficulties, bringing total funding to £13.9m per annum. For 2021-22 we are

maintaining that investment to ensure we are able to meet existing demand for those learners up to the age of 25 who require specialist FE provision in order to access further education.

***Information on funding provision for the ALN Transformation Programme and the implementation of the 2018 Act.***

2.8.3 A £20m package of funding was allocated by the Welsh Government in 2017 to support preparation for the implementation of the new ALN system during the current Assembly term. As outlined in 1.5.6, the costs associated with the ALNET (Wales) Act 2018 and the wider ALN Transformation Programme are £6.9m in 2021-22 (ALN BEL and Raising School Standards BEL).

2.8.4 Implementation of the new ALN system will commence, on a phased basis, from September 2021, with the statutory roles created under the Act commencing in January 2021. It is anticipated that the main implementation programme can be completed by re-profiling the remainder of the £20m to reflect the new time period.

***A confirmation of whether the Welsh Government still believes delivery of the new ALN system will be cost-neutral, based on an expectation that savings from fewer disputes and less conflict will offset the costs of enhanced provision.***

2.8.5 Most of the costs relating to the existing systems relate to the making of provision to meet needs. The ALN Act and the ALN Code do not increase need, nor do they require increased provision to be made. The administrative costs associated with the transition from the existing systems to the new one are intended to be covered by the £20m we are investing to facilitate our ALN transformation programme.

***The latest position on funding for the training of educational psychologists in Wales and the grant funding arrangement with Cardiff University.***

2.8.6 The Welsh Government currently awards a grant to Cardiff University which pays fees and bursaries for 10 students per year on their three year Doctorate in Educational Psychology professional training programme. This arrangement was strengthened from 2019-20 by linking a minimum number of bursaries to students who can already, or have the potential to work through the medium of Welsh, and by encouraging students to stay and work in Wales immediately after graduation. The current grant funding arrangement is in place for three academic years, until August 2022, with £0.8m allocated from the ALN BEL in 2021-22 to continue this commitment.

**2.9 Infant class sizes**

***Information on budget provision for reducing infant class sizes in 2021-22, including a breakdown of local authority allocations throughout this Senedd term.***

- 2.9.1 £36m (£16m revenue and £20m capital) has been made available over the current Senedd term to reduce infant classes. A breakdown of local authority allocations is provided at **Annex G**. The revenue element was distributed on a formula basis taking into account a combination of the Nursery and Primary School Teaching and Other Services Indicator Based Assessment element of the Standard Spending Assessment (SSA), and the number of classes of 29 and over in each local authority (using a 4 year average of PLASC data between 2013 and 2016). The grant is weighted 60% for the SSA element and 40% for the class sizes element.
- 2.9.2 The capital element was subject to a bidding process, where reducing infant class sizes in schools that meet the target criteria is dependent on additional classroom space. 17 local authorities successfully bid for the capital element of the grant.
- 2.9.3 For 2021-22, we have allocated £6m revenue to provide continued support for class sizes.

***An update on the numbers of schools, classes and pupils that have benefitted to date.***

- 2.9.4 The revenue element of the grant is funding 116 additional teachers and 45 additional teaching assistants, which are benefitting 11,000 pupils in 461 infant classes in 123 schools. The £20m capital element of the grant is funding 59 additional classrooms along with improved facilities in 33 schools across Wales. Although a number of capital projects have been completed, some have been delayed due to the impact of COVID-19. Builds are able to continue to completion into the next financial year and will be managed as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges budget.
- 2.9.5 A [Reducing Infant Class Sizes Grant progress report 2017-2019](#) was published by Welsh Government in January 2020 and provides an update on progress we are making to reduce infant class sizes since the grant was launched in April 2017.

## **2.10 Small and Rural Schools Grant**

***Information on budget provision for the Small and Rural schools grant in 2021-22, including a breakdown of local authority allocations throughout this Senedd term.***

- 2.10.1 £10m, (£2.5m per annum), has been made available over this Senedd term to support small and rural schools. A breakdown of local authority allocations is provided at **Annex H**. For 2021-22, we have set aside £2.5m to provide continued support for this priority.
- 2.10.2 The grant is distributed to local authorities on a formula basis with 70% by reference to sparsity and 30% by reference to the number of (primary), schools maintained by the local authority with fewer than 90 pupils.

***An update on the number of schools that have benefitted to date and a brief description of the main uses of the grant.***

2.10.3 The aim of the grant is to help to address the particular challenges faced by small and rural schools. The key purposes of the grant are therefore to:

- Encourage innovation – including the use of new digital technology to combat the issue of professional isolation by harnessing the power of IT including virtual classrooms.
- Support greater school to school working
- Provide additional administrative support in schools where the head teacher has a significant timetabled teaching commitment of at least 10% of the timetable.
- Increase the community use of school buildings whether for education or non-education purposes

2.10.4 Around 450 schools have benefitted over the four years of the grant. The funding has been used for a wide range of purposes, with the most common use being to support greater school to school working. Schools have worked together on matters of mutual interest, including the digital inclusion strategy. The funding has also been used to develop joint procedures and policies across a number of schools. Others have taken school to school working further by forming federations under one governing body.

2.10.5 The funding has also been used to appoint joint posts for example Conwy has used its allocation to appoint three Higher Level Business Support Officers across 21 of its primary schools in three clusters focussing on higher level administrative functions. One local authority used its funding to employ a community link worker one day a week to increase the community use of school buildings. This has led to the establishment of community Welsh classes, running a community library open to the public and a community playgroup. Schools have used the funding to improve technology for use both by pupils and the wider community use.

## **2.11 Estyn**

***Details of Estyn's budget allocation for 2021-22 from the Housing and Local Government MEG, including what recent discussions have been held with the inspectorate on its required levels of funding and how this compares with previous years.***

2.11.1 The total budget allocation for Estyn is maintained in 2021-22 at £11.504m, consisting of fiscal resource (£11.023m), non fiscal resource (£0.2m) and capital (£0.281m) within the Estyn BEL of the Housing and Local Government MEG.

2.11.2 Officials have been in discussion with Estyn about the resource implications for them in taking forward the recommendations from 'A Learning

Inspectorate'. Any additional costs to support Estyn will need to be considered during 2021-22.

## 2.12 Qualifications

***Details of the budget allocation to Qualifications Wales in 2021-22, including what recent discussions have been held with the regulator on its required levels of funding and how this compares with previous years.***

2.12.1 In 2020-21 we invested an additional £0.981m within the Qualifications Wales BEL in order for Qualifications Wales to begin its long-term programme of work to scope and develop qualifications for the new curriculum. In 2021-22, we are allocating a further £0.369m, taking total funding for Qualifications Wales to support curriculum reform work to £1.35m for 2021-22. This funding, together with an additional non-cash depreciation funding of £0.035m (total non-cash budget of £0.250m), brings the total resource budget for Qualifications Wales to £9.867m for 2021-22.

***An update on any additional funding Qualifications Wales is receiving to support its work on qualifications reform in the context of the new Curriculum for Wales and its programme of sector reviews of vocational qualifications.***

2.12.2 As outlined above, Qualifications Wales has been allocated an additional £0.369m to support its work on qualifications reform, taking total funding to £1.35m for 2021-22. No additional funding is required for the sector review work which is being more closely aligned with the Curriculum reform work. The funding will support:

- the employment of specialist staff to take forward detailed specific design and assessment work on qualifications for the new curriculum;
- to undertake further consultation on the next phases of curriculum reform (Curriculum Reform work is programmed to continue until 2027-28);
- analysis of consultation exercises;
- survey and research work;
- work on identifying potential costs resulting; as a change in qualifications to awarding bodies and how these may impact on exam centres; and
- professional learning and training of teachers and exam officers in the new range of qualifications.

2.12.3 The latest version of the Qualifications Wales Qualified for the Future consultation on the future range of qualifications at 16 is due to go out to consultation in the New Year. This is the second phase of consultation on Qualifications for the new curriculum but further phases are due to follow on.

2.12.4 The current situation with exams caused by the pandemic continues to make the curriculum reform exercise extremely challenging. As Qualifications Wales' work progresses on qualifications for the new curriculum, proposals will be subject to an RIA and any costs of the new qualifications to awarding bodies, schools and other parts of the sector will be looked at in detail.

***Information on any financial implications for Qualifications Wales, or any Welsh Government budgets, from the disruption from COVID-19 and exceptional arrangements for the awarding of qualifications in 2020 and potentially in 2021.***

2.12.5 Qualifications Wales have identified slippage for 2020-21 due to reduction in expenditure on travel and subsistence; conferences and external events due to COVID-19. There have also been some delays in appointing staff to work on curriculum reform. So far £0.6m has been reported as an underspend against their 2020-21 budget which is kept under constant review. There has clearly been disruption to learning, assessment and exams due to COVID-19. However, at present Qualifications Wales are working with the Design and Delivery Advisory Group as observers with the WJEC, so that new arrangements are as robust as possible under the circumstances.

## **2.13 Welsh-medium education**

***Details of budget provision to support the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium education strategy and local authorities' Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs).***

- 2.13.1 The *Welsh in education: action plan 2017-21*, published in December 2017, sets out our direction for the development of Welsh-medium and Welsh language education over a four year period, in line with the vision of *Cymraeg 2050* and *Our National Mission*. The Education Directorate leads on the implementation of activities and actions in response to the education priorities identified within the action plan, for example increasing the number of teachers, curriculum development and support for learners with additional learning needs. The Education MEG will continue to provide support for these activities from existing BELs (Teacher Development and Support, Curriculum Review, Additional Learning Needs and Raising School Standards) in 2021-22.
- 2.13.2 Local authorities continue to use funding from a number of sources to implement their Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) including activities supported and delivered through the 21st Century Schools Capital programme and the RCSIG. In the delivery of their RCSIG, the regional consortia are asked to ensure that the programme of activities funded reflect the priorities set out in the local authorities' WESPs.
- 2.13.3 New WESP regulations came into force in January 2020 requiring local authorities to plan over a longer term (10 years) and to set themselves a more ambitious target to increase the provision of Welsh-medium education in its area in line with *Cymraeg 2050* milestones. Budget is allocated from the Welsh in Education BEL to assist local authorities in their preparation of new 10 year Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs).

- 2.13.4 To support the milestone of increasing the percentage of learners in Welsh-medium education, we are driving forward the delivery of capital projects funded through the combined Welsh medium Capital and Childcare offer Grant Fund of £46m announced during 2018-2019 (£32.81m from the Welsh Medium Capital Grant and £13.02m from the Early Years Capital Grant). This injection of grant funding is supporting 46 projects across 20 local authorities which will, when all projects are realised, lead to an additional 2,818 school and childcare places for Welsh-medium learners. This funding boost will go some way to support the increase in provision needed to respond to the Cymraeg 2050 ambition.
- 2.13.5 The majority of 46 projects are well underway, with eight projects already complete, and over £16.1m claimed to date. I officially opened, and welcomed new students to Pantycelyn Hall of Residence on 18 September, and look forward to the official opening of Glan-llyn Isa in the New Year. We are expecting the majority of projects to be complete by 2021/22

***A outline of how the Welsh in Education budget Action supports the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy and its target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050. A summary of how activity funded under this Action relates to activity funded under the International Relations and the Welsh Language MEG (correct MEG title at time of writing)***

- 2.13.6 The Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy, *Cymraeg 2050*, is implemented in partnership across the Welsh Government and with external stakeholders. The Welsh in Education budget, which is being maintained at £12.675m for 2021-22, supports our commitment of one million Welsh speakers by 2050 and supports work undertaken in relation to Theme 1 of the strategy (Increasing the number of Welsh speakers).
- 2.13.7 Activities funded through the Welsh in Education BEL includes: the development of Welsh-medium and bilingual early years provision; support for the development and implementation of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs); support for FE colleges and training providers with training to enable tutors and assessors to teach and train learners bilingually; and funding for Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to support the development of Welsh-medium HE provision and lead on post-16 development. Other activities include: the development of teaching and learning resources to support the teaching of Welsh, other subjects through the medium of Welsh, as well as bilingual resources to support the new curriculum.
- 2.13.8 Activity within this BEL also supports the work undertaken through the Welsh Language and Welsh Language Commissioner BELs in the Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG (previously International Relations and the Welsh Language MEG). Funding within this MEG mainly concentrates on Theme 2 (Increasing the use of Welsh) and 3 (Creating favourable conditions – Infrastructure and context) of *Cymraeg 2050*. In order to realise the vision of a million Welsh speakers, we are taking action under all three themes and recognise the interdependencies between them. Work undertaken under Theme 1 creates new speakers and work under Theme 2 and 3 creates



opportunities for the language to be used. For example, the Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG funds *Cymraeg for Kids* (Cymraeg i Blant) which is designed to help increase the number of children in Welsh-medium education by supporting parents, prospective parents and other family members. It also funds *Siarter Iaith* which supports and promotes the informal use of Welsh amongst primary school-aged children and Ysgol Gymraeg Llundain enabling those that have left Wales to continue to contribute to our community and wider society through the medium of Welsh or pupils who follow their primary education in London to join a Welsh-medium secondary education when families later relocate to Wales.

***Information on any funding allocated to support the realisation of the single continuum for the teaching and learning of Welsh, for example increasing the capacity of the Welsh-speaking education workforce.***

2.13.9 Funding for increasing the capacity of the Welsh-speaking education workforce is supported through funding within the Teacher Development and Support BEL and the Raising School Standards BEL.

2.13.10 We continue to provide incentives for student teachers from Wales undertaking Initial Teacher Education (ITE) and I have maintained the Iaith Athrawon Yfory incentive of £5,000 for each student who goes on to teach in Welsh. When set alongside other incentives for Welsh-medium teachers of priority subjects, this means an eligible ITE student could benefit from a total incentive of over £25,000 in 2020/21 and 2021/22 academic years.

2.13.11 A new part-time PGCE and Employment-based ITE Scheme, the Salaried PGCE, have been commissioned to diversify the teaching workforce and support careers into the profession including for the Welsh-medium sector. These are now operational. Part-time students can benefit from our generous student finance package and Salaried PGCE students can receive a training grant as well as their schools receiving a salary contribution grant.

2.13.12 The primary-secondary Welsh-medium conversion programme to provide support for teachers to transfer from teaching in the primary sector to teach in secondary started in September 2020 with 10 teachers taking part in 5 schools. We are currently reviewing the programme to develop proposals for the 2021/22 academic year.

2.13.13 Professional learning is a key feature of our approach to strengthening Welsh-medium teaching capacity and improving the skills of teachers to teach Welsh as part of the new curriculum. We will be developing new proposals for our induction programmes along with professional learning programmes for teachers in their early career years, and we are keen to build on the Welsh language development, and expertise to teach through the medium of Welsh delivered in ITE as part of these programmes.

2.13.14 We also continue to support practitioners to develop their Welsh language skills in accordance with the Professional Standards for Teaching and Leadership through the sabbatical scheme and support delivered by the

regional consortia and in conjunction with other stakeholders. We hope to maintain the same level of funding in 2021-22 to support Welsh-language and Welsh-medium professional learning, which totals £6.4m.

- 2.13.15 In the update to *Our National Mission* (October 2020), I set out a series of further actions we will take with strategic partners to continue to support schools on the path to reform. One such commitment is establishing a National Network for implementation, made up of practitioners and stakeholders, to share understanding across the profession, gather intelligence and co-construct solutions to implementation barriers. £0.025m has been allocated from Curriculum Review BEL for expert engagement, communications and supporting materials for the National Network, along with £0.096m for practitioner involvement in the National Network.
- 2.13.16 The Collaboratory will be critical in taking forward the OECD recommendations and *Our National Mission* objectives through overseeing and driving implementation of the curriculum at the national level. It will empower practitioners to build shared understandings, and address common, national barriers to effective curriculum implementation over the short, medium- and longer-term. Through these mechanisms, we will work with partners to support schools to develop curricula that supports progression in Welsh, including how a Welsh language continuum can be achieved.

## **2.14 Early Years / Foundation Phase**

***An update on the work being undertaken to review the relationship between funding rates for childcare for three and four year olds (under the Childcare offer) and early years education (the Foundation Phase) for three and four year olds.***

- 2.14.1 Aligning the Welsh Government's funded childcare provision and the well-established Foundation Phase Nursery (FPN) provision remains pivotal to the continued success of the Welsh Government's Childcare Offer (the Offer). We have recognised that early implementation of the Offer highlighted disparities between the funding rate paid by local authorities for FPN and the childcare element of the Offer.
- 2.14.2 The impact of introducing a consistent funding rate for the education and care elements of the Offer was tested between January and July 2019 in a pilot project undertaken in partnership with Flintshire County Council. Arad Research was commissioned to undertake an evaluation of the pilot to assess the impact of a consistent funding rate, which was presented to the Welsh Government in December 2019. This work was delayed by the impact of the pandemic and the impact this has had on the education and non-maintained sectors.
- 2.14.3 Guided by the recommendations, we have worked with the sector and local government to develop detailed financial modelling of the potential additional

costs and considered the best method to ensure that any additional funding would have the desired impact. For 2021-22 the Minister for Health and Social Services and I have identified funding totalling £3.8m (£1.9m equally from the Health and Social Services MEG and Education MEG) to harmonise funding rates in the non-maintained sector. This funding is essential to ensure stability of the current childcare offer and realise our long term vision of delivering an integrated early childhood education and childcare (ECEC) system.

***An updated assessment of the financial position of the funded non-maintained nursery sector as it relates to the Education MEG and the Minister for Education's portfolio, including in the context of delivering the new curriculum.***

- 2.14.4 We are committed to ensuring that the many young children who have their first experience of education in a childcare setting should continue to receive the high quality educational provision and that provision continues to be strengthened. We will be developing curriculum and assessment arrangements for non-maintained nursery settings following the high standards of co-construction that has been pivotal to the development of Curriculum for Wales.
- 2.14.5 This development work has now started. We will be working closely with the non-maintained sector in the development of this work, including childcare practitioners, early years advisory teachers and the national umbrella organisations. We have funded the umbrella organisations - £0.060m in 2019-20 to strengthen their contribution to this development work.
- 2.14.6 We intend to use the summer term 2021 to pilot the draft curriculum and assessment arrangements, alongside a public consultation to ensure the sector and others are engaged effectively before the final guidance documents are published in the autumn. We are developing our plans for the pilot exercise and anticipate the costs will be around £0.2m.
- 2.14.7 While the structure and terminology of the new arrangements for nursery settings will be consistent with Curriculum for Wales to ensure a continuum of learning, the key pedagogical principles of the Foundation Phase will remain. We do not therefore anticipate a significant impact on the non-maintained sector in implementing the new curriculum. We will though continue to engage closely with stakeholders to ensure we clearly understand any likely impact and ensure appropriate support can be put in place for the sector.
- 2.14.8 We recognise that professional learning is critical in supporting the sector before the curriculum becomes a requirement in autumn 2022. We will be working with stakeholders to determine the most effective way of developing an appropriate professional learning package.

## **2.15 Youth work**

***Details of the budget provision to support youth service provision including any changes made to reflect the work and recommendations of the Welsh Government's Interim Youth Work Board.***

- 2.15.1 We are maintaining the Youth Engagement and Employment BEL at £7.326m for 2021-22. This budget funds a number of youth support grants to support statutory and voluntary youth services in Wales, including local authorities through the Youth Support Grant, the voluntary sector through the National Voluntary Youth Organisation Grant, CWVYS an umbrella body supporting voluntary sector organisations and ETS Cymru who support the education and qualification of the sector. The funding is playing a pivotal role in securing the implementation of the Youth Work Strategy for Wales. The vital preventative services, which are delivered by both local authorities and the voluntary sector, are increasingly reliant on the development of innovative partnership approaches.
- 2.15.2 This budget contributes heavily towards support for some of our most vulnerable young people, including those with emerging emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues, and those at risk of youth homelessness. This targeted work builds on the successful Youth Engagement and Progression Framework, improving the ability of local authorities and their partners to identify and broker interventions for those most in need at the earliest opportunity. Our investment is intended to encourage greater collaboration and new ways of working. This budget includes the continuation of £2.5m targeted funding to support young people with emotional wellbeing or mental health needs through non-clinical approaches and community based youth work support.
- 2.15.3 The budget will continue to support the work of the Interim Youth Work Board (IYWB) in developing a sustainable model for youth work including engagement with young people, through a newly established young person's committee and the youth work sector through its Strategy Participation Groups, which have developed workplans to deliver the aims of the Youth Work Strategy for Wales (2019). The IYWB will be publishing their interim report 'Time to Deliver for Young People in Wales' in January 2021.

## **2.16 Offender Learning**

***Details of provision in 2021-22 and how this compares to previous years.***

- 2.16.1 The Welsh Government annually funds (from monies provided to the Welsh Ministers specifically for this purpose by the UK government) the education and learning provision and prison libraries in Welsh public sector prisons through a joint Memorandum of Understanding with Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS).

- 2.16.2 In 2021-22, a budget of £3.328m will be allocated to HMPPS to support the provision of prisoner learning and skills in public sector prisons in South Wales. This budget remains the same as that in 2020-21.
- 2.16.3 Education and learning at HMP Berwyn is provided under contract by Novus Cambria and separate arrangements are in place for its funding to that of the other public sector prisons in Wales. Contract costs are agreed annually and money transferred from Ministry of Justice to the Welsh Government constitutes part of the contract costs and it is the responsibility of HMPPS to fund any residual costs. Under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Welsh Government and HMPPS, HMPPS has the lead responsibility for the contract management of the learning and skills services delivered at HMP Berwyn. For 2020-21, the Welsh Government received an in-year transfer of £3.3 million from HMPPS to pay Novus Cambria for education and learning delivery. A similar level is expected in 2021-22 however this has not yet been agreed.
- 2.16.4 The current arrangement enables the Welsh Government to improve further the quality and relevance of offender learning in the context of Welsh Government priorities. It supports a number of commitments within the Programme for Government, with a key focus on providing the support people need in order to access jobs, and is taking forward a number of recommendations in the Hanson Review of Education in Prisons. Through better education and providing skills for life, this will serve to break the cycle of disadvantage and inequality that many experience within this cohort over the longer term.
- 2.16.5 We know that providing access to good quality education, skills and employment is a major contributing factor to reducing reoffending rates and we are committed to delivering an offender education and employment programme that supports an effective pathway out of crime. This includes the development of an offender learning policy, and an accredited and Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW) recognised female offender pathway, developed with input from offenders and ex-offenders.
- 2.16.6 Welsh Government recognises that a different approach is required to assist our Youth and Female offenders who are in or at risk of entering the criminal justice system. Our blueprints are ambitions, and will take time to deliver. That said, progress is already in place to enable the delivery of short, medium and long term goals within the blueprints.
- 2.16.7 Our aspiration is to develop a Female and Youth justice system which treats all with fairness and respect while focusing on early intervention and prevention.
- 2.16.8 We are working closely with colleagues in HMPPS to ensure that learners in prison continue to have access to education and skills materials during these challenging times.

2.16.9 We are also working with HMPPS on their proposals for the future provision of learning and skills at HMP Parc as part of the HMP/YOI<sup>5</sup> Parc Expiry and Transition Project, as the current contracts expire in December 2022. We want to ensure the provision is developed in line with the Welsh Government devolved competencies in the areas of education and skills.

## **2.17 Further education, Sixth Forms and Adult Community Learning**

***Details of the complete 2020/21 allocations to further education colleges, to include the amounts of all components of the allocation (i.e. full-time, part-time, part-time allowance, deprivation, sparsity and welsh medium allowances, maintenance allowance and the Adult Learning Wales adjustment).***

2.17.1 This information has been provided at **Annex I**.

***Details of changes to the further education funding model (if any) from the model provided to the Committee in your paper dated 08 Jan 2020 and the reason for any changes.***

2.17.2 When calculating FE funding the same model as presented in the paper dated 8 January 2020 will be used.

2.17.3 There will be one small, planned, change to the method of deriving predicted learners by including a 3 year average (last year a 2 year average was applied). This is due to Welsh Government holding the relevant data for the last 3 years and the change brings the FE funding methodology fully in line with the school sixth form funding methodology, which has used a 3 year average for several years now.

***Details of any hypothecated funding to further education institutions or Sixth Forms beyond their usual core grants.***

2.17.4 With regard to 2021-22 budget, at the time of writing the post-16 allocations have not yet been agreed. This, in the main, is due to final datasets still being verified. We will provide the Committee with an update on further hypothecated grants once allocations have been agreed and finalised.

***Details of any funding provided in the 2021-22 budget for achieving pay parity and/or to meet any pay award to further education institutions and Sixth Forms, including an explanation as to the sufficiency of the funding to meet in full any agreed pay award / pay equivalency over the period of this budget.***

2.17.5 At the time of writing the post-16 allocations have not yet been agreed. This, in the main, is due to final datasets still being audited. We will provide the Committee with an update once allocations have been agreed and finalised.

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<sup>5</sup> Young Offenders' Institution

***Details of the complete 2021-22 Sixth Form allocation broken down by each local authority, and the full list of programme values for 2020-21 and 2021-22 used in the calculation of the Sixth Form grant allocations.***

2.17.6 At the time of writing the post-16 allocations to the FE sector have not yet been agreed. This, in the main, is due to final datasets still being audited. We will provide the Committee with an update once allocations have been agreed and finalised.

2.17.7 Similarly the 2021-22 programme values, which are a core part of the allocations have not yet been agreed. A full list of 2020-21 programme values have been attached at **Annex I**.

***A copy of the most recent Further Education Financial Forecast Planning Assumptions guidance issued to FEIs.***

2.17.8 As a result of the impact of COVID-19 it was agreed with the sector not to commission the 2020 FE financial Forecasting exercise due to the large number of uncertainties that existed in the early stages of the lockdown, as well as the resource requirements that would have been placed upon FE finance staff during the exercise, which could have been better deployed on other activities. During the lockdown period, Welsh Government staff have worked closely with the FE Finance Directors' Group in ensuring the Financial Health of the sector.

2.17.9 Once the economic outlook has stabilised and significant uncertainties disappeared, we will look to undertake the exercise and will provide suitable planning assumptions to the FEIs in order that they can prepare their forecasts.

***A step-by-step explanation of the funding model for Adult Community Learning announced in July 2019, and the allocation for Adult Community Learning broken down by the relevant bodies that directly receive the funding.***

2.17.10 For the purposes of the 2020-21 allocation, each Local Authority received 5/12 of their allocation based on the existing methodology covering the remainder of the academic year from April 2020 to August 2020 with the remaining 7/12 of the allocation based on the new methodology covering September 2020 to March 2021 of the 2020/21 academic year.

2.17.11 The new methodology pro-rates the overall allocation to each Local Authority based on the numbers of learners within each area that hold a level 1 or below as their highest qualification. While it is recognised that this new methodology results in some large shifts in funding between Local Authorities, it does ensure a more equitable approach in line with the recommendations of the Adult Learning consultation, by ensuring the population of Wales (that hold a level 1 or below as their highest qualification) each have an equitable opportunity regardless of local authority of domicile.

2.17.12 We appreciate that moving to the new funding allocations needs to be planned carefully. Consequently, we have included transition elements to ensure that no Local Authority's allocation decreased by more than 5% when compared to 2019-20; and have placed a cap to ensure that no Local Authority's allocation increases by more than 50% (or £50,000 max).

2.17.13 Officials are working closely with the adult learning sector to discuss tailored transitions to achieve the new levels of funding.

2.17.14 ACL allocations for 2020-21 are included at **Annex I**.

## **2.18 Higher education & post-16 learner support, including student loans resourcing**

***Details of the HEFCW allocation, including details of any hypothecated funding, or funding which is intended for specific activities including mental health and student well-being.***

2.18.1 The revised total budget for HEFCW, as per the 2020-21 Second Supplementary Budget is set out in the table below:

<b>BEL Name</b>	<b>2020-21 £000</b>
HEFCW Revenue Expenditure	193,357
HEFCW Depreciation	90
Education Infrastructure (capital expenditure via Education Infrastructure BEL)	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>203,447</b>

2.18.2 HEFCW was issued with an interim funding letter in April 2020 advising them of an indicative 2020-21 grant in aid allocation of £172m to support higher education in Wales. In terms of the priorities, the Council was advised – “The priorities we have focussed on in recent years – FE-HE collaboration; co-operation between the sector and business and industry; and building a sector that has civic responsibility at its heart – will be crucial in supporting the national effort to deal with the outbreak and I look to the Council to continue to prioritise these areas of activity.”

2.18.3 HEFCW's remit letter was issued in August which allocated a further £31.5m to establish an Investment and Recovery Fund (£27m), provide support for an expanded Go Wales programme (£1.5m) and funding for the delivery of degree apprenticeships in Wales (£3m).

2.18.4 The priorities for the Investment and Recovery Fund were as follows:

- Maintaining capacity across the HE system in Wales in priority areas of teaching and research which need to be maintained through the 2020/21 academic year where HEFCW has identified such provision is under threat due to shortfalls in domestic and international student recruitment. I would like



HEFCW to ensure it has assessed how such provision can continue to be sustainable in the long-term.

- Priority recovery and investment projects in teaching and research, particularly tied to the Welsh Government's priorities for economic recovery, stabilisation and reconstruction, including artificial intelligence research, development of digital technologies, and green technologies.
- Investment in learning technologies and blended learning facilities, including expansion of online provision and parallel developments in digital inclusion and reach, to ensure maintenance of the quality of student experience in Welsh universities, with the goal of maintaining Welsh universities' traditionally strong performance in student experience surveys.
- Support the extension of at-risk skills and research contracts which universities hold with businesses to support jobs and knowledge exchange.
- Student hardship funds to be allocated by HEFCW to institutions, and by institutions to students, on the basis of urgent financial need.
- Facilitating institutions to review their portfolio offer and to advise their governors on its future development.

2.18.5 In 2021-22, reflecting the ongoing impact of COVID-19, and in line with Diamond reforms, HEFCW's indicative allocation will be £201m. This comprises a flat budget, excluding allocations from the COVID-19 reserve, with additional investment from student support savings.

***Regarding the Diamond reforms: set out the expected level of student financial support saving for 2021-22 compared to 2020-21 and the proportion of this sum that will be reinvested back into the higher education sector as part of the "Diamond Dividend".***

2.18.6 £25m in 2021-22 has been identified and this will be wholly reinvested into the higher education sector, implementing the recommendations of the final phase of the Diamond review as agreed by Cabinet. This includes additional funding for expensive subjects (part time and full time), expansion and maintenance of part time, increases in QR and increase in provision of knowledge transfer, (an integral part of the Welsh Government response to the Reid review) and increased collaboration between HE, FE and Schools.

2.18.7 In 2020-21 the intention had been to allocate additional funding of £35m to HEFCW as a recurrent allocation providing them with the funding necessary to take forward the next phase of the Diamond reforms. However, following the budget re-prioritisation exercise HEFCW's Programme Expenditure BEL was reduced by £16.3m, which meant HEFCW has had to adjust their planned investments in some of those activities in 2020-21. However, HEFCW have subsequently been allocated additional funding of £41.5m to help the sector in mitigating the effects of the pandemic, support the wider economic recovery and to provide additional support for student health and well-being and hardship funds.

***Details of any 2021-22 allocation intended for the delivery of degree apprenticeships and if it is intended to be used to recruit new apprentices or to just teach out existing apprentices.***

2.18.8 £5m is included in the HEFCW baseline to support Degree level Apprenticeships. It is anticipated that further funding will be transferred in year from the Economy and Transport MEG (as part of the supplementary budget process) to support the cost of new and continuing Degree Apprenticeships in 2021-22, the cost is not confirmed at this stage.

***Details of any capital funding to be made available to HEFCW, including any restrictions to be placed on it by Welsh Government.***

2.18.9 The three year capital funding commitment (£10m a year from 2018-19 to 2020-21) to provide funding to support institutions in reducing their financial risks associated with estates and to realise efficiencies in the management of their estates and operations, has been extended for a further year. A further £10m capital has been allocated for 2021-22.

***Grants: A table showing the 2019-20 outturn, and forecast expenditure over the following four years (broken down by students studying in Wales and elsewhere in the UK) for:***

- ***Full-time undergraduate (FTUG) Tuition Fee Grant;***
- ***FTUG Maintenance Grant;***
- ***Part-time undergraduate (PTUG) Tuition Fee Grant;***
- ***PTUG Maintenance Grant;***
- ***Masters Finance grant element;***
- ***Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA);***
- ***Welsh Government Learning Grant (Further Education) (WGLG(FE)); and***
- ***Targeted grants and allowances.***

2.18.10 This information has been provided for in **Annex J**.

***Loans provision: A table showing the 2019-20 outturn, and forecast loan outlay over the following for years (broken down by students studying in Wales and elsewhere in the UK) for:***

- ***FTUG tuition fee and maintenance loan outlay and Resource Accounting and Budgeting (RAB) charge;***
- ***PTUG tuition fee and maintenance loan outlay and RAB charge;***
- ***Masters Finance loan element outlay and RAB charge; and***
- ***Doctoral loan outlay and RAB charge.***

2.18.11 This information has been provided at **Annex J**.

## **2.19 Other post-16 education provision**

## ***Details of Personal Learning Account funding***

- 2.19.1 The Personal Learning Accounts, a £17.4m programme for 2021-22, provides support to employed people, furloughed workers or individuals that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 gain higher level skills and qualifications in priority sectors, empowering individuals to take responsibility for their learning. This approach opens up opportunities for people to switch careers or upskill in their chosen occupation.
- 2.19.2 The courses and qualifications are fully funded by the Welsh Government; they are delivered by colleges and provide each individual with a workable plan that is manageable around their existing commitments to help them achieve their future career goals. The programme will help employers rebuild their businesses through skills and training in areas such as digital, marketing, production and management.
- 2.19.3 This new flexible approach to learning enables colleges to work differently to offer courses and qualifications to address the economic skills requirements for employed people regardless of their previous level of qualification achievement.
- 2.19.4 Welsh Government has taken forward a gender focussed approach in the roll out of the Personal Learning Accounts (PLA) to date. This approach has intended to help identify and understand potential different impacts, including unintended impacts, to improve how we prioritise and allocate resources. Work has been commissioned from the Learning and Work Institute to understand and explore the ongoing take-up of the offer, and identify any unintended barriers for groups with protected characteristics. Findings from this work will be made available in early 2021.

Individuals must:

- Live in Wales
- Want to gain skills/qualifications in priority sectors
- 19 years old or over

2.19.5 In addition, individuals must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Employed people (including self-employed) earning under the median income (£26,000), or
- Furloughed workers, or
- Workers on zero hours contracts, or
- Agency staff, or
- At risk of being made redundant, or
- Have been negatively impacted by COVID-19

**Details of the Welsh in Education budget including any allocation for the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol.**

2.19.6 The overall funding for the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol is £6.243m. This includes £5.4m for the Coleg and £0.330m for its Welsh-medium scholarship scheme in HE. For post-16, a total of £0.513m is allocated to support the Further Education and Apprenticeships Welsh-medium Action Plan.

## 2.20 Research and innovation, and science

**Details of the funding for research and innovation across the whole of Welsh Government. Welsh Government told the Committee during 2020-21 budget scrutiny that “it’s not wholly clear at the moment how much Government funding is going into research and innovation” and that once known, this information would be passed to the Committee.**

2.20.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Welsh Government has had to reprioritise its efforts to deal with this exceptionally challenging pandemic and the impacts to our society and economy at all levels with significant implications to all respective Ministerial responsibilities. Therefore I can only relate the position as it applies to my own portfolio responsibilities. The gross funding for Research and Development within my portfolio for 2021-22 is £22.6m.

**Details regarding the support for:**

- **Chief Scientific Advisor and their office;**
- **research and innovation activity for business and industry; and**
- **the Life sciences.**

**Chief Scientific Advisor and their office:**

2.20.2 Total funding currently proposed for 2021-22 for the Chief Scientific Adviser and the Office for Science is broken down as follows:

<b>Office for Science budget</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
<b>Capital</b>	£000
Sêr Cymru II+	439
Sêr Cymru III	5,236
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,675</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
Project support & facilitation	520
Trio Sci Cymru	330
Wellbeing & Marketing inc Brexit support & preparedness funding	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,350</b>

2.20.3 As part of the response to COVID-19, the Chief Scientific Adviser for Wales and staff within his team have since March endeavoured to support their colleagues in Health.

- 2.20.4 In addition, the Welsh Government Office for Science (WGOS) held a research call, via the Sêr Cymru Programme, for applications from Welsh Universities for novel research proposals that could contribute to or boost the advancement of research that impacts COVID-19. As well as helping to address priority issues regarding COVID-19, this activity also aimed to support and exploit the expertise and talent within our university sector. This initiative has enabled support for a total of 39 projects with a total allocation of £2.9m.
- 2.20.5 Universities have responded well to the Sêr Cymru ‘Tackling COVID-19’ research call and prioritised resource to help with the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects but they have also experienced episodes of delay to their overall research when academics have been unable to access laboratory space during lock-down periods.
- 2.20.6 Collectively these different circumstances will mean that some of Universities’ commitments to broader projects, such as those supported by the Sêr Cymru more generally will inevitably slow down. This will push back commitments increasingly to the latter years of the current Programme. It is felt this will recover over time providing we can maintain sufficient funding and resource to continue to manage and support the Sêr Cymru Programme and its beneficiaries in very challenging economic times. The Sêr Cymru programme has, over the past 7 years, supported: three research networks, 12 Research Chairs, 11 ‘Rising Stars’, more than 115 Research Fellows and in the region of 340 PhD students and postdoctoral researchers in Wales, from 29 countries, with a total investment of £100m.
- 2.20.7 Work is on-going to build on and develop a future phase Sêr Cymru for consideration. This phase will build on lessons learnt including from the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However proposals may be financially constrained given the on-going lack of clarity from the UK Government on the Shared Prosperity Fund given research and innovation has historically drawn on the access Wales has had to EU Structural funds.

### ***Research and innovation activity for business and industry***

- 2.20.8 Total SMART Funding for Business Innovation Activity 2014-2020 (though individual projects can run to 2023):

<b>SMART Performance Achievements to Date</b>	<b>Units</b>
Enterprises Receiving Non-Financial Support	463
Specialist Advice That Begin a New Product or Process	299
Patents Registered	39
Number of enterprises/partners cooperating with supported research institutions	108
Employment increase in supported enterprises.	351
New to the market products	122
New to the firm products	423
<b>Private sector investment (£m)</b>	<b>£55.7m</b>

- 2.20.9 Total SMART Funding for Business Innovation Activity 2014-2020 (though individual projects will run to 2023, but within the existing budget lines).

	Welsh Government	ERDF	Private Sector	Total
SMART Innovation	£7.5m	£11.0m	-	£18.5m
SMART Cymru	-	£27.3m	£36.1m	£63.4m
SMART Expertise	£1.3m	£30.3m	£19.7m	£51.3m
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8.8m</b>	<b>£68.6m</b>	<b>£55.7m</b>	<b>£133.1m</b>
<b>Total per Annum</b>	<b>£1.2m</b>	<b>£9.8m</b>	<b>£8.0m</b>	<b>£19.0m</b>

2.20.10 The SMART programmes support Welsh business by:

- **overcoming** barriers to Innovation and R&D. *SMART Innovation* - a field force of industry experts delivering advice and guidance on R&D, technical consultancy, advanced manufacturing, innovative design, open innovation and intellectual property.
- **sharing** the risk of their Innovation and R&D. *SMART Cymru* – co investment to encourage businesses to implement innovative processes and undertake R&D including technical feasibility, industrial research and experimental development.
- **supporting** industry led collaborative R&D to commercialise academic knowledge. *SMART Expertise* – supports industry led collaborative R&D projects between businesses & research organisations translating research into commercial solutions.

2.20.11 The SMART programmes support Welsh business by:

- **overcoming** barriers to Innovation and R&D. *SMART Innovation* - a field force of industry experts delivering advice and guidance on R&D, technical consultancy, advanced manufacturing, innovative design, open innovation and intellectual property.
- **sharing** the risk of their Innovation and R&D. *SMART Cymru* – co investment to encourage businesses to implement innovative processes and undertake R&D including technical feasibility, industrial research and experimental development.
- **supporting** industry led collaborative R&D to commercialise academic knowledge. *SMART Expertise* – supports industry led collaborative R&D projects between businesses & research organisations translating research into commercial solutions.

### **Life Sciences**

2.20.12 Total funding currently proposed for 2021-22 for the Life Sciences Hub Wales is split equally between Education and Health & Social Services.

- 2.20.13 The Hub is an important delivery arm for progressing other important shared priorities. It is one of the leading mechanisms in delivering the principles of joint stakeholder working and portfolio integration as outlined in Prosperity for All and A Healthier Wales, key national strategies.
- 2.20.14 At the start of the current funding period, the Minister for Health & Social Services and I approved the Hub's business plan for 2020/21 with a focus on 5 key impact areas:-
- Advanced Therapeutic Medicinal Products (ATMP)
  - Digital, AI and Robotics
  - Healthy Ageing
  - Intensive Learning Academies/ Value Based Healthcare
  - Precision Medicine
- 2.20.15 In the reporting period April to September the Hub activity has led to a series of positive outcomes which have delivered 417 jobs assisted and new contracts to the value of £4.65m for Welsh life sciences businesses.
- 2.20.16 The COVID-19 pandemic has seen the LSH Wales take a pivotal role in how industry engages with the NHS in Wales. The organisation effectively became the main access point for businesses wishing to supply potential solutions to address product and service demands created by the pandemic. It has done this by providing an effective triage process for the validation of all potential suppliers with onward referral to NHSW SSP, Industry Wales, Welsh Government and Public Health Wales. This activity remains ongoing and will continue into 2021/22, alongside its key impact areas.
- 2.20.17 By August 2020 this saw 2,220 enquiries received from businesses as a result of the LSH Wales COVID-19 industry call and events. Over 550 businesses passed initial due diligence by the Hub Team prior to referral as product supply opportunities. For example, working alongside economy colleagues in ESNR, the Hub has been able to support companies such as BCB International a 160 year old, Welsh manufacturer of protective equipment for defence, marine and adventure markets. The company switched production at its Llanelli site to produce high strength hand sanitiser and PPE equipment, receiving over £2.2m in orders. It has supplied 4 new products to the medical and health sector in Wales and has assisted 100 jobs as a result.
- 2.20.18 The LSH Wales is also the lead partner in a £24 million collaboration with the Welsh HE sector supported by Welsh Government and WEFO. The partnership with [Cardiff University](#), [Swansea University](#) and [University of Wales Trinity Saint David](#) offers the opportunity to tap into academic expertise, a thorough understanding of the life sciences ecosystem, and the latest facilities needed by innovators and entrepreneurs to realise their ideas.

## **2.21 Capital funding for school and college infrastructure**

***Information on budget provision for 21st Century Schools and progress of the programme to date, including expenditure and numbers of projects completed/approved to date, broken down by:***

- ***a summary of expenditure and number of projects undertaken / completed within Band A; and***
- ***the latest position regarding Band B of the programme.***

2.21.1 Band A is drawing to a close having invested £1.61bn in the infrastructure of schools and colleges with in Wales, with the Welsh Government investing £801m. This investment has delivered 170 projects against a target of 150. Of these projects 163 have been completed, with the remainder still under construction.

2.21.2 Band B is well under way having officially commenced in April 2019. To date, investment of £448m has been approved across 43 projects, with the Welsh Government contributing £295m. Of the 43 approved projects 27 are under construction and 12 are in the preconstruction stage. I am pleased to report 4 projects have also been completed.

***Any implications from COVID-19 for the 21st Century Schools programme, including any impact on the progress of projects.***

2.21.3 The pandemic has inevitably affected the programme with construction slowing and even halting on some projects during April and May. Having spoken to delivery partners we have been able to keep abreast of this and at the start of the year it was agreed to pay projects, monthly, on profile to stimulate the construction sector during the difficult period.

2.21.4 During our discussions with the delivery partners it has become clear that costs are rising on projects, not just currently but also in the future, as a result of COVID-19. Contractors are needing to enhance site safety to meet with social distancing guidance. There has also been an increase in supply chain costs. Whilst exact figures of the increase is unknown for Wales at present, it is estimated the construction sector will see an uplift of around 15% in costs as a result.

2.21.5 To support these additional costs, we secured an additional £30m for the programme from the COVID-19 resilience fund. This funding is to help cover costs incurred as a result of the pandemic, but also to start funding Net Zero Carbon costs. We are currently assessing bids from delivery partners for this funding. There has been a further £40m uplift to the programme for 2021-22, of which £5m is to support the Net Zero Carbon pilot.

## **2.22 Capital funding for childcare**

***An update on capital funding from the Education MEG for the Childcare Offer and any information as to how this has been / will be impacted as a result of the***



***review of entitlement to the offer, as announced in paragraph 368 of the Record of Proceedings 24 September 2019.***

- 2.22.1 In 2021-22, we are maintaining the additional £10m investment allocated in last year's budget to support in Flying Start and Childcare Offer capital, to further improve the quality of childcare settings across Wales. This includes £5m for the Childcare Offer which brings total capital investment in the Childcare Offer to £45m for 2021-22, totalling £75m over the four year period 2018-19 to 2021-22.
- 2.22.2 The outcome of the review of entitlement to the Childcare Offer for Parents in Training and Education has yet to be finalised and, combined with the Childcare Offer being a demand led programme, it is currently too early to predict the impact on capital funding. The £75m investment to date is already fully committed but as the £5m has been maintained in the baseline this funding will contribute towards any additional children becoming eligible. Currently, we have allocated £6m more than our capital budget. This is a prudent sum as it covers a number of years, allows for growth in the budget over that period and accepts that capital projects can change in size and scope, and some may not progress.
- 2.22.3 The additional funding for 2021-22 will assist us to continue the co-location of existing early education provision with the new childcare offer provision on a single site, wherever possible, supporting a joined up approach to working with children and their families. It will ensure there is sufficient childcare in the right areas, with a specific focus on developing new provision in areas that currently lack childcare services, in particular in rural and disadvantaged areas.
- 2.22.4 Our capital investment includes a small grant allocation of £8.4 million to local authorities across Wales. This enables childcare providers to apply directly to their local authority for up to £10,000 for smaller projects, such as refurbishment work, to replace worn items and improve existing facilities. We also provided an additional £2m during 2020-21 to specifically help childcare settings with adaptations to manage the pandemic requirements.
- 2.22.5 The Childcare Offer, 21st Century Schools, Flying Start and Welsh-medium capital grants are delivered collaboratively to ensure a joined up approach to the management of our capital programmes. Our capital programme is contributing to the Welsh Government aim of one million Welsh speakers by 2050, with 49% of the Childcare Offer capital invested for Welsh medium and nearly 6% for bilingual childcare provision.
- 2.22.6 Alongside this we are investing £5.5m capital in 2021-22 in Flying Start to ensure the current Flying Start estate is maintained and is able to continue to deliver the highest standards of care. It will also allow Flying Start to contribute to the development of integrated co-located Early Years facilities as part of the wider Early Years Transformation Programme.

## **2.23 Capital funding for the Community Focused Schools initiative**

***Information on budget provision for the Community Hubs and Community Learning Centres grant and an update on progress in increasing the community focused nature of education estates.***

2.23.1 The Community Hubs programme is progressing well, 4 of the 21 one approved projects have been completed with 10 under construction and 7 at preconstruction stage. All projects are on track to complete during 2021-22 with a budget of £12.5m allocated to support delivery. Delivery partners are already including community aspects in to their 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges projects which should increase delivery of provision.

### **Summary**

The Education MEG Draft Budget for 2021-22 is presented to the Committee for consideration.

**Kirsty Williams MS**  
**Minister for Education**

## ANNEX A – Action level commentary within the MEG

As requested by the Committee a commentary of draft budget changes by Action within the Education MEG is provided below. It reflects budgets published in the First and Second Supplementary Budget for 2020-21 and changes for 2021-22 compared to the 2020-21 baseline (based on Final Budget 2020-21 subject to changes outlined in paragraphs 1.1.2 and 1.1.5 of the evidence paper).

### *Literacy and Numeracy Action*

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
6,356	6,356	4,456	(285)	4,171

- Funding within this Action supports the implementation of actions set out in the National Literacy and Numeracy Programme. The budget also supports the development and delivery of the National Reading and Numeracy Tests and the phasing in of online adaptive assessments.
- In order to facilitate the transition from paper-based tests to online adaptive assessments, Invest to Save funding totalling £5m was received between 2016-17 and 2019-20. This will be repaid from 2021-22 until 2024-25 based on the current repayment schedule. The baseline for 2020-21 reflects the removal of £2.1m for Invest to Save funding for 2019-20 that was not adjusted for in Final Budget 2020-21. The decrease of £0.285m reflects the first year's repayment of Invest to Save funding.

### *Curriculum Action*

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
10,053	10,053	13,080	8,900	21,980

- This Action is made up of the Foundation phase BEL (policy work only, the delivery funding now sits in the Education Improvement Grant within the Education Standards Action), the Curriculum and Assessment BEL and the Curriculum Review. The budget increases by £8.9m compared to the 2021-22 baseline. The £7.9m increase to the Curriculum Review BEL in 2021-22 provides additional support for curriculum reform in 2021-22 (further detail in 1.5.1-1.5.2 of the evidence paper).
- There has also been a £1m increase to the Curriculum and Assessment BEL as a contribution to the costs associated with aligning the funding rates for education in the Foundation Phase and childcare through the Childcare Offer. Total funding of £3.8m (being split equally between the Education MEG and Health and Social

Services MEG) has been identified in 2021-22. Further detail is outlined in section 2.14 of the evidence paper. The remaining £0.9m has been identified through existing provision within the Curriculum and Assessment BEL.

### **Teaching and Leadership Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
31,895	31,895	38,914	-	38,914

- The budget supports funding for Initial Teacher Education (ITE) including the new 'alternative' ITE routes, the Part-time PGCE and Salaried PGCE available from 2020/21 academic year, where a training grant and salary contribution grant is provided for ITE students. The budget also provides funding for Teacher Training incentives (both PGCE HE and FE) and continuing professional development for teaching professionals, including professional learning to prepare schools for the new curriculum. It also funds the Education Workforce Council for administration of Qualified Teacher Status and the Induction Programme in schools, including distribution of funding to support NQT mentoring and support.
- There are no changes proposed to this budget for 2021-22 (further details outlined in section 2.4 of the evidence paper).

### **Qualifications Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
9,463	9,463	9,463	404	9,867

- The resource budget for Qualifications Wales has increased by £0.404m in 2021-22; £0.369m to contribute to the reform programme alongside its existing priorities; and £0.035m additional non-cash for depreciation (further details in section 2.12 of the evidence paper).

### **Post-16 Education Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
459,377	487,711	460,326	39,980	500,306

- This Action (Further Education Provision BEL) includes funding for provision of AS, A levels and wide range of vocational programmes to 16-19 year olds in Local Authority Sixth forms and FE colleges. It also provides adult part time

provision (primarily provision of Basic Skills and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), in FE Colleges and Local Authority Community Learning venues. The action also supports strategic projects and quality improvement activities designed to improve the delivery of post 16 learning in Wales including support for quality improvement, capacity building and research for the learning and skills sector, The Learning and Work Institute grant funding (including Adult Learners Week), developing Careers policy, funding to support the delivery of the Seren network, supporting progression to Sutton Trust universities for the brightest learners; and Erasmus activities to support international mobility for staff and students.

- The budget for Post 16 Education Action has increased by £39.98m for 2021-22 due to the following allocations:
  - £5m for FE reconstruction funding;
  - £21.745m to reflect the increase in FE and Sixth form demographics;
  - £5.39m to fund Personal Learning Accounts;
  - £7.0m transfer from the Student Support Grants BEL; and
  - £0.845m transfer from the Additional Learning Needs BEL, representing the proportion of £8m Additional Learning Needs funding for FE institutions.

### **Higher Education Action**

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
161,947	193,477	176,878	25,025	201,903

- **HEFCW programme Expenditure BEL** - This budget contains Grant in Aid funding for HEFCW to deliver the Welsh Government priorities as set out in the Annual Remit letter. The current priorities continue the focus on: widening access; expansion and enhancement of part-time provision and quality research; promoting greater collaboration across HE and FE and a commitment to planning of HE delivery on a regional basis; the delivery of degree apprenticeships in Wales; contributing to the education and professional development of teachers through close university-school engagement; growing the civic mission of HE in Wales; tackling pay inequality and supporting the delivery of the Welsh Government’s wider fair work practices; HE Regulation, enhancing the student experience and student outcomes; well-being, including working with partners on addressing adverse factors affecting mental health; and making a contribution to the Welsh Government’s efforts to address climate change and decarbonise our economy. HEFCW will also be taking forward work to support the implementation of the second phase of Diamond and to help progress our proposals to establish a Commission for Tertiary Education and Research by, for example, developing stronger links with the wider PCET sector.
- The budget for the Higher Education Action has increased by £25.025m in 2021-22 compared to the 2021-22 baseline. A £25m increase is due to a transfer of budgets within MEG from the Student Supports Grants BEL, to support the

continuation of the implementation of the Welsh Government response to the Diamond Review. The changes to the student support regulations have been finalised and the final phase of implementation continues with a transfer of resources from the tuition fee grant to HEFCW – this starts delivery of the final elements of the response as they are phased in over a three year period. There has been an additional transfer in of £0.025m from the Student Supports Grant BEL for Post Graduate Priority and the 60 Plus bursary.

- **HEFCW capital BEL (Depreciation)** – budget of £0.090m has been maintained at 2020-21 levels.

### ***Education Standards Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
153,285	170,125	160,853	12,339	173,192

- **School Improvement Grant BEL** – This BEL includes infant class sizes, the Education Improvement Grant (EIG) and grant funding for ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners. This BEL has increased by £12.029m in 2021-22 as a result of:
  - £12.029m COVID-19 allocation from Reserves for school catch-up funding for the remainder of 2020/21 academic year (see paragraph 1.6.16 of evidence paper);
  - £1m from Reserves to provide additional support for ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners (see section 2.7 of evidence paper); and
  - £1m transfer within the MEG to the Curriculum and Assessment BEL to support the alignment of funding rates for Foundation Phase and the Childcare Offer (see section 2.14 of the evidence paper). The transfer does not represent a cut in funding for this BEL, and reflects the funding committed for continuing the infant class sizes grant into 2021-22.
- **Raising School Standards BEL** – This budget supports the additional £100m committed over this Senedd term to raise school standards. There are no changes to this budget and £25.5m is allocated in 2021-22 to maintain our commitment to raising standards and reducing inequalities in education.
- **School Standards Support BEL** – This budget funds systems and data collection which provide evidence for policy activity and which is visible and high profile. The funding has a direct link to evidencing and demonstrating improvements in standards and tackling the attainment gap. The £0.31m increase is due to a transfer of budgets within MEG to the Research Evidence and International BEL in relation to the transfer of responsibility for PISA.

### ***Pupil Development Grant Action***

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
108,500	108,500	111,500	2,000	113,500

- There has been an overall increase of £2m as a result of a transfer from Reserves for PDG-Access, which will increase funding to over £10m in 2021-22 (see section 2.3 of evidence paper).

### ***ICT and Information Management Systems Action***

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
4,279	4,279	4,429	-	4,429

- This Action supports the delivery of the curriculum through providing access to a range of high quality digital teaching tools and resources, including: Hwb; EPS application support; and in house data management systems. This budget is being maintained for 2021-22.

### ***Wellbeing of Children and Young People Action***

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
34,332	34,332	35,332	305	35,637

- **Additional Learning Needs BEL** – The BEL supports the delivery of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) transformation programme, and implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act. The budget for 2021-22 is £9.691m, which includes the £8m allocated in last year’s budget, offset by a transfer of £0.845m to the Further Education Provision BEL, representing the proportion of £8m ALN funding for FE institutions.
- **Food & nutrition in schools BEL** – We have continued to protect funding within the Food and Nutrition in Schools BEL for the School Milk Scheme in the Foundation phase and at Key Stage 2 at a subsidised rate. There have been two transfers netting to £1.150 consisting of:
  - £2.150m to expand the School Holiday Enrichment Programme; and
  - £1m MEG to MEG transfer to childcare budgets in the Health & Social Services MEG for holiday hunger, to correct the transfer actioned in Draft Budget 2020-21.

- **Post 16 specialist placements BEL** – The budget provides funding for specialist college placements for learners up to age 25 who require specialist provision in order to access FE suitable to meet their needs. The funding is statutory and is demand led. The budget is being maintained at £13.881m for 2021-22 following an increase of £1.4m last year.
- **Whole School Approach to Wellbeing BEL** – This BEL provides funding to support a whole school approach to mental health and is being maintained at £2m for 2021-22. An additional £4m is being allocated to support the whole school approach from the Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG in 2021-22 (further detail at section 2.6 of evidence paper).
- **Vulnerable Groups BEL** – this BEL includes an additional £0.9m allocated in last year’s budget to support to take forward exploratory work on an integrated approach to supporting looked after children in education. As part of this we received a report on a scoping exercise to further explore integrated models, Virtual Schools, and whole system approaches, as a basis for a Welsh approach. On the back of this report we have also commissioned further research with the aim to implement a Welsh approach in the next financial year. The budget is being maintained at £1.150m for 2021-22.

### ***Post-16 Learner Support Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
512,611	512,611	518,231	(28,162)	490,069

- There has been a decrease of £28.162m to the action following a transfer of budgets within MEG from the Student supports Grants BEL to the HEFCW Programme Expenditure BEL and the Further Education Provision BEL. This transfer supports the continuation of the implementation of the Welsh Government response to the Diamond Review. The changes to the student support regulations have been finalised and the final phase of implementation continues with a transfer of resources from the tuition fee grant to HEFCW – this starts delivery of the final elements of the response as they are phased in over a three year period.
- **Student Support Grants BEL** – This budget includes the demand led statutory student support programme accounts for Higher Education (HE) and Further Education (FE). The budget supports Part-Time Grants and Fees, Student Loan Company (SLC) Targeted Grants, Student Support Grants, Tuition Fee Grant and the Education Maintenance Allowance. The BEL reduces by £32.025m:
  - £25m transfer to HEFCW Programme BEL in order to continue our investment in Higher Education and a further £0.025m to this BEL for Post Graduate Priority and 60 Plus Bursary.



- £7m transfer to the FE Provision BEL allocated to our lifelong learning commitments.
- **Student Loans Company/HMRC administration costs BEL** – This budget provides the administration fee that is paid to the student loans company. In addition to business as usual and in-flight project costs, this budget will be used to fund the implementing the Welsh Government response to diamond review. The BEL also funds: the HMRC administration fee, the Open University’s administration of statutory student support for historic student cohorts and policy & implementation. The budget remains at £14.343m for 2021-22.
- **Student loans resource budget provisions BEL** – Contains the non-cash provision for student loans. An increase of £3.863m relates to a transfer from the Health and Social Services MEG for the HEIW Workforce Training Plan.
- **Targeted student support awards BEL** – The Financial Contingency Funds (FCF) budget provides discretionary financial support to students in FE institutions, Y Ganolfan Dysgu Cymraeg Genedlaethol (National centre for learning Welsh) and the Open University, facing financial hardship, to help them access and remain in education. FCF (FE) provides financial help to those eligible students, whose access to FE might be inhibited by financial consideration, or who, for whatever reason, including physical or other disability, face financial hardship. The budget is maintained at £6.297m for 2021-22.

### ***Pupil Engagement Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
784	784	2,015	-	2,015

- This Action (Tackling disaffection BEL) supports activities aimed at improving outcomes for vulnerable/disadvantaged learners through: Improving anti-bullying and attendance in school; Hay festival (schools and learners programmes); Educated other than at school (EOTAS), Counselling; Home education; attendance; anti-bullying. In last year’s draft budget we increased funding by £1.5m to support local authorities in discharging their duties in relation to home education and to meet new expectations. There are no changes to this budget for 2021-22.

### ***Youth Engagement and Employment Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
10,654	10,654	10,654	-	10,654

- This Action funds a number of youth support grants to support statutory and voluntary youth services in Wales and delivery of activity to support the continued implementation of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (Youth Engagement and Employment BEL). In addition, the Action also provides funding to Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) to support the education and learning provision and prison libraries in Welsh public sector prisons. Funding is also available for innovative pilot projects which support the Offender Learning agenda, and to support essential skills delivery for those serving sentences in the community. The Welsh Government has a statutory obligation to provide funding for education in adult prisons in Wales. Funding is being maintained for 2021-22.

### ***Delivery Support Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
1,062	1,062	1,366	(310)	1,056

- This Action funds marketing and communications, research and the International Education Programme. There has been a transfer to the School Standards Support BEL of £0.31m in relation to PISA.

### ***Welsh in Education Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
12,325	12,325	12,675	-	12,675

- This Action (Welsh in Education BEL) is being maintained in 2021-22 and supports the implementation of *Cymraeg 2050*, which includes the:
  - planning of Welsh-medium education;
  - commissioning of teaching and learning resources;
  - research, evaluation and marketing in respect of the strategy; and
  - funding for the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol

### ***Innovation Action***

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
500	500	604	-	604

- This Business Innovation BEL supports optimising the measureable impact that innovation can have on the Welsh economy via support for businesses, academia and collaborations. No changes are proposed for 2021-22.

### **Science Action**

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
3,200	3,200	3,550	-	3,550

- **Science BEL** – The purpose of this BEL is to fund the promotion, delivery and advice to support research capacity and excellence; commissioning and analysing evidence; encouraging opportunities for great commercialisation of research activity; raising scientific and technical skills levels and supporting future generations through STEM engagement activity.
- **Life Sciences BEL** - This budget aims to make Wales the best possible environment for Life Sciences innovation and business growth. Success will be based on increases in sector employment and tracking the wider health and economic benefits to Wales.

### **Capital – Estates and IT Provision Action**

2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000	2020-21 Baseline £000	2021-22 Changes £000	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000
207,775	207,775	199,750	41,968	241,718

- This budget supports the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Education Programme which represents a strategic investment in our education infrastructure in Wales. The budget will also be used to support any capital funding requirements to deliver our education priorities, and also includes capital funding for the Childcare offer and Flying Start.
- An additional £41.968m (net) has been allocated from Reserves:
  - £35m general capital allocation for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B;
  - £5m allocation for Net Zero Carbon Schools pilot;
  - £0.71m Financial Transaction Capital (FTC) allocation for second tranche of working capital facility required by WEPCo to be allocated to DBW Investment MIMs Limited, in relation to the delivery of Mutual Investment Model (MIM);
  - £1.9m FTC allocation anticipated to be invested by DBW Investment MIMs Limited as subordinated debt in the first MIM Project;
  - £0.2m decrease for FTC repayments - Coleg y Cymoedd; and
  - £0.442m decrease for FTC repayments – Bridgend College.

### **Capital - Innovation Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
4,066	3,456	4,066	-	4,066

- This action supports optimising the measureable impact that innovation can have on the Welsh economy via support for businesses, academia and collaborations. No changes are proposed for 2021-22.

### **Capital – Science Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
5,675	4,824	5,675	-	5,675

- **Science BEL** - This funds the promotion, delivery and advice to support research capacity and excellence; commissioning and analysing of evidence; encouraging opportunities for greater commercialisation of research activity; raising scientific and technical skill levels and supporting future generations through STEM engagement activity.
- **Life Sciences BEL** - This budget aims to make Wales the best possible environment for Life Sciences innovation and business growth. Success will be based on increases in sector employment and tracking the wider health and economic benefits to Wales.

### **Capital – Post-16 Education Action**

<b>2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020 £000</b>	<b>2020-21 Baseline £000</b>	<b>2021-22 Changes £000</b>	<b>2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget £000</b>
-	3,200	-	-	-

- There has been a £3.2m COVID-19 allocation from Reserves in 2020-21 to extend the digital offer already made to school learners, to learners undertaking their education in other educational settings including FE colleges and adult learning. Learners have been offered support with digital equipment to ensure they are able to take full advantage of the on-line offer that is now widely available across education sector. No allocations have been at this stage for 2021-22.

## ANNEX B – Education MEG breakdown by Action and BEL for 2021-22, 2020-21 forecast outturn and 2019-20 final outturns

Action	BEL Description	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Literacy and Numeracy	Literacy & Numeracy	6,356	6,356	4,094	4,456	-285	4,171
<b>Total Literacy and Numeracy</b>		<b>6,356</b>	<b>6,356</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>4,456</b>	<b>-285</b>	<b>4,171</b>
Curriculum	Curriculum & Assessment	3,955	3,955	4,961	6,782	1,000	7,782
	Curriculum Review	5,950	5,950	5,551	6,150	7,900	14,050
	Foundation Phase	148	148	158	148	0	148
<b>Total Curriculum</b>		<b>10,053</b>	<b>10,053</b>	<b>10,670</b>	<b>13,080</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>21,980</b>
Teaching and Leadership	Teacher Development and Support	31,895	31,895	41,216	38,914	0	38,914
<b>Total Teaching and Leadership</b>		<b>31,895</b>	<b>31,895</b>	<b>41,216</b>	<b>38,914</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38,914</b>
Qualifications	Qualifications Wales	9,463	9,463	8,846	9,463	404	9,867
<b>Total Qualifications</b>		<b>9,463</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>8,846</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>9,867</b>
Post-16 Education	Further Education Provision	459,377	487,711	510,259	460,326	39,980	500,306
<b>Total Post-16 Education</b>		<b>459,377</b>	<b>487,711</b>	<b>510,259</b>	<b>460,326</b>	<b>39,980</b>	<b>500,306</b>
Higher Education	HEFCW-Programme Expenditure	161,857	193,357	207,458	176,788	25,025	201,813
	HEFCW Capital	90	90	90	90	0	90
<b>Total Higher Education</b>		<b>161,947</b>	<b>193,447</b>	<b>207,548</b>	<b>176,878</b>	<b>25,025</b>	<b>201,903</b>
Education Standards	School Improvement Grant	129,959	146,799	148,657	134,159	12,029	146,188
	Raising School Standards	22,332	22,332	22,934	25,500	0	25,500
	School Standards Support	994	994	916	1,194	310	1,504
<b>Total Education Standards</b>		<b>153,285</b>	<b>170,125</b>	<b>172,507</b>	<b>160,853</b>	<b>12,339</b>	<b>173,192</b>
Pupil Development Grant	Pupil Development Grant	108,500	108,500	113,397	111,500	2,000	113,500
<b>Total Pupil Development Grant</b>		<b>108,500</b>	<b>108,500</b>	<b>113,397</b>	<b>111,500</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>113,500</b>
ICT & Information Management Systems	Supporting Digital Learning in Education	4,279	4,279	4,389	4,429	0	4,429
<b>Total ICT &amp; Information Management Systems</b>		<b>4,279</b>	<b>4,279</b>	<b>4,389</b>	<b>4,429</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,429</b>
Wellbeing of children and young people	Additional Learning Needs	10,536	10,536	9,691	10,536	-845	9,691
	Food & Nutrition in Schools	6,765	6,765	4,990	7,765	1,150	8,915

Action	BEL Description	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
	Post 16 Specialist Placements	13,881	13,881	14,198	13,881	0	13,881
	Whole School Approach to Wellbeing	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
	Vulnerable Groups	1,150	1,150	546	1,150	0	1,150
<b>Total Wellbeing of children and young people</b>		<b>34,332</b>	<b>34,332</b>	<b>31,425</b>	<b>35,332</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>35,637</b>
<b>Post-16 learner support</b>	Student Support Grants	390,742	390,742	383,428	390,742	-32,025	358,717
	SLC/HMRC Administration Costs	8,723	8,723	20,124	14,343	0	14,343
	Student Loans Resource Budget Provision	106,849	106,849	360,640	106,849	3,863	110,712
	Targeted Student Support Awards	6,297	6,297	6,699	6,297	0	6,297
	Digital Transformation Programme	0	0	1,110	0	0	0
<b>Total Post-16 learner support</b>		<b>512,611</b>	<b>512,611</b>	<b>772,001</b>	<b>518,231</b>	<b>-28,162</b>	<b>490,069</b>
<b>Pupil Engagement</b>	Tackling Disaffection	784	784	779	2,015	0	2,015
<b>Total Pupil Engagement</b>		<b>784</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,015</b>
<b>Youth Engagement &amp; Employment</b>	Offender Learning	3,328	3,328	6,628	3,328	0	3,328
	Youth Engagement & Employment	7,326	7,326	11,443	7,326	0	7,326
<b>Total Youth Engagement &amp; Employment</b>		<b>10,654</b>	<b>10,654</b>	<b>18,071</b>	<b>10,654</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,654</b>
<b>Delivery Support</b>	Education Communications	294	294	594	482	0	482
	Research Evidence and International	768	768	768	884	-310	574
<b>Total Delivery Support</b>		<b>1,062</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>1,362</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>-310</b>	<b>1,056</b>
<b>Welsh in Education</b>	Welsh in Education	12,325	12,325	12,325	12,675	0	12,675
<b>Total Welsh in Education</b>		<b>12,325</b>	<b>12,325</b>	<b>12,325</b>	<b>12,675</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,675</b>
<b>Innovation</b>	Business Innovation	500	500	500	604	0	604
<b>Total Innovation</b>		<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>604</b>
<b>Science</b>	Science	1,000	1,000	999	1,350	0	1,350
	Life Sciences	2,200	2,200	1,600	2,200	0	2,200
<b>Total Science</b>		<b>3,200</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>2,599</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,550</b>
<b>EDUCATION - TOTAL RESOURCE BUDGET</b>		<b>1,520,623</b>	<b>1,597,297</b>	<b>1,911,988</b>	<b>1,564,326</b>	<b>60,196</b>	<b>1,624,522</b>

CAPITAL BUDGET							
Action	BEL Description	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Estate and IT Provision	Education Infrastructure	207,775	207,775	241,363	199,750	41,968	241,718
<b>Total Estate and IT Provision</b>		<b>207,775</b>	<b>207,775</b>	<b>241,363</b>	<b>199,750</b>	<b>41,968</b>	<b>241,718</b>
Innovation	Business Innovation	4,066	3,456	3,456	4,066	0	4,066
<b>Innovation</b>		<b>4,066</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>4,066</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,066</b>
Science	Science	4,874	4,143	5,743	4,874	0	4,874
	Life Sciences	801	681	274	801	0	801
<b>Total Science</b>		<b>5,675</b>	<b>4,824</b>	<b>6,017</b>	<b>5,675</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,675</b>
Post-16 Education	Further Education Provision	0	3,200	8,100	0	0	0
<b>Total Post-16 Education</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Qualifications	Qualifications Wales	0	0	80	0	0	0
<b>Total Qualifications</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>EDUCATION - TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET</b>		<b>217,516</b>	<b>219,255</b>	<b>259,016</b>	<b>209,491</b>	<b>41,968</b>	<b>251,459</b>

RESOURCE BUDGET - Annually Managed Expenditure							
Action	BEL Description	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Post-16 learner support	Student Loans - AME	-123,801	-123,801	-61,192	-123,801	-24,585	-148,386
<b>Total Post-16 learner support</b>		<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-61,192</b>	<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-24,585</b>	<b>-148,386</b>
<b>EDUCATION - TOTAL RESOURCE AME BUDGET</b>		<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-61,192</b>	<b>-123,801</b>	<b>-24,585</b>	<b>-148,386</b>

<b>CAPITAL BUDGET - Annually Managed Expenditure</b>							
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Action	BEL Description	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Post-16 learner support	Student Loans - AME	863,631	863,631	883,432	863,631	105,330	968,961
<b>Total Post-16 learner support</b>		<b>863,631</b>	<b>863,631</b>	<b>883,432</b>	<b>863,631</b>	<b>105,330</b>	<b>968,961</b>
<b>EDUCATION - TOTAL CAPITAL AME BUDGET</b>		<b>863,631</b>	<b>863,631</b>	<b>883,432</b>	<b>863,631</b>	<b>105,330</b>	<b>968,961</b>

EDUCATION - SUMMARY	2020-21 1st Supplementary Budget May 2020	2020-21 2nd Supplementary Budget Oct 2020	2020-21 Forecast (Period 8)	2020-21 Baseline	Change	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Resource	1,520,623	1,597,297	1,911,988	1,564,326	60,196	1,624,522
Capital	217,516	219,255	259,016	209,491	41,968	251,459
<b>Total Resource &amp; Capital</b>	<b>1,738,139</b>	<b>1,816,552</b>	<b>2,171,004</b>	<b>1,773,817</b>	<b>102,164</b>	<b>1,875,981</b>
Resource AME	-123,801	-123,801	-61,192	-123,801	-24,585	-148,386
Capital AME	863,631	863,631	883,432	863,631	105,330	968,961
<b>Total AME</b>	<b>739,830</b>	<b>739,830</b>	<b>822,240</b>	<b>739,830</b>	<b>80,745</b>	<b>820,575</b>
<b>EDUCATION - TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>2,477,969</b>	<b>2,556,382</b>	<b>2,993,244</b>	<b>2,513,647</b>	<b>182,909</b>	<b>2,696,556</b>

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**ANNEX C – COVID-19 allocations to/from Reserves - Education MEG 2020-21 and 2021-22**

BEL description	2020-21		
	REVENUE COVID-19 Transfer to Reserves £000	CAPITAL COVID-19 Transfer to Reserves £000	TOTAL COVID-19 Transfer to Reserves £000
<b>Literacy &amp; Numeracy</b> – supported marking scheme due to cancellation of tests	(200)		(200)
<b>Curriculum &amp; assessment</b> – Arts Review, Core Subjects Support, Music Services, Early Years support and MFL programme	(2,827)		(2,827)
<b>Curriculum review</b> – Education in Wales delivery	(200)		(200)
<b>Teacher development and support</b> – NAPL, NAEL and PL	(7,019)		(7,019)
<b>School Improvement grant</b> – regional consortia	(4,200)		(4,200)
<b>Raising School Standards</b> – Research & evaluation – multi-cohort project, Leadership - MIT, Schools as learning orgs, Estyn, Pedagogy.	(3,168)		(3,168)
<b>School standards support</b> – reduction in activity	(200)		(200)
<b>PDG</b> – PDG Access	(3,000)		(3,000)
<b>Supporting Digital Learning in Education</b> - Hwb	(150)		(150)
<b>Food &amp; Nutrition in schools</b> – school milk	(1,000)		(1,000)
<b>Tackling Disaffection</b> – Home Education	(1,231)		(1,231)
<b>Education communications</b> – reduction in activity	(188)		(188)
<b>Research Evidence and International</b> – British Council	(116)		(116)
<b>Welsh in Education</b> – bilingual resources and WESPs	(350)		(350)
<b>Further education provision</b> – Seren, liQ, period dignity grant.	(949)		(949)
<b>HEFCW Programme expenditure</b> – HEFCW GIA	(16,300)		(16,300)
<b>SLC/HMRC Administration costs</b> – release of revenue due to capital requirement	(5,000)		(5,000)
<b>Business Innovation</b> – marketing & communications	(104)		(104)
<b>Science</b> - marketing & communications	(350)		(350)
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers to Reserves (First Supplementary Budget)</b>	<b>(46,552)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(46,552)</b>
<b>Innovation BEL</b> – SMART Operations		(610)	(610)
<b>Life Science BEL</b> – Capital grants		(120)	(120)
<b>Science BEL</b> – Ser Cymru		(731)	(731)
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers to Reserves (Second Supplementary Budget)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,461)</b>	<b>(1,461)</b>
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers to Reserve</b>	<b>(46,552)</b>	<b>(1,461)</b>	<b>(48,013)</b>

BEL description	2020-21		
	REVENUE COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000	CAPITAL COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000	TOTAL COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000
School Improvement Grant - Accelerated Learning Plan - schools catch up	16,840		16,840
FE Provision - catch up support for full time 16-19 year olds in sixth form or FE college.	20,754		20,754
FE Provision - FE colleges support for cleaning costs	3,600		3,600
FE Provision - digital equipment for disadvantaged learners		3,200	3,200
HEFCW Programme Expenditure - Higher Education Investment and Recovery Fund for Wales (2020/21 academic year)	27,000		27,000
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers from Reserves (Second Supplementary Budget)</b>	<b>68,194</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>71,394</b>
PDG BEL - PDG – Access	5,000		5,000
Curriculum & Assessment - Supporting learners to qualifications	650		650
Teacher Development & Support - Supporting learners to qualifications	6,027		6,027
FE Provision - Supporting learners to qualifications	2,823		2,823
School Improvement Grant - Face coverings in schools	1,885		1,885
FE Provision - Face coverings in colleges	469		469
FE Provision - FSM during holidays (FSM for schools during holidays of £10.930m in 2020-21 and £23.3m in 2021-22 - LA Hardship Fund)	758		758
FE Provision - Additional learning at Further Education Institutions	10,000		10,000
FE Provision – Digital Exclusion		4,900	4,900
HEFCW Programme Expenditure - Support for Higher Education	10,000		10,000
Education Infrastructure - Delivery of Educational Estate		30,000	30,000
Education Infrastructure - Flying Start capital		860	860
Education Infrastructure - Childcare Offer capital		2,000	2,000
Science - Ser Cymru 2		1,600	1,600
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers from Reserves (to be allocated in Third Supplementary Budget)</b>	<b>37,612</b>	<b>39,360</b>	<b>76,972</b>
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers from Reserves 2020-21</b>	<b>105,806</b>	<b>42,560</b>	<b>148,366</b>
<b>Net impact - Education MEG Covid-19 Transfers to/from Reserves 2020-21</b>	<b>59,254</b>	<b>41,099</b>	<b>100,353</b>

BEL description	2021-22		
	REVENUE COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000	CAPITAL COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000	TOTAL COVID-19 Transfer from Reserves £000
<b>School Improvement Grant</b> - Accelerated Learning Plan - schools catch up	12,029		12,029
<b>FE Provision</b> - Additional learning at Further Education Institutions	5,000		5,000
<b>Total Covid-19 Transfers from Reserves 2021-22</b>	<b>17,029</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,029</b>

## ANNEX D – £100 million investment in raising school standards over the Senedd term

Raising School Standards – Activity	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Support for a transformational curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary LNF Oracy Scheme</li> <li>• School-employer engagement</li> <li>• Coding and Digital skills</li> <li>• Books Trust</li> <li>• School-employer engagement</li> </ul>	410	1,500	1,423	900	800
Developing a high quality education profession <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher/workforce supply</li> <li>• Welsh medium &amp; Graduate Training Programme</li> <li>• Test alternative supply mechanisms for recently qualified teachers (finished in 19-20)</li> <li>• Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA)</li> <li>• National Networks of Excellence for Science and Technology and Mathematics</li> <li>• Foundation Phase Excellence Network (FPEN)</li> <li>• Welsh Professional Development</li> <li>• Recruitment to attract more teachers to the Welsh sector and to teach Welsh as a subject</li> <li>• Additional Learning Needs</li> <li>• Digital Competence</li> <li>• Infant class sizes</li> <li>• Welsh Sabbatical Scheme</li> <li>• Welsh in Education – Comms and Leadership</li> <li>• A Level improvement</li> <li>• Welsh A-level Plan</li> </ul>	830	10,815	15,045	14,425	15,495
Inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing the Leadership Academy</li> <li>• National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)</li> <li>• Academy Associates Programme</li> <li>• Future Leadership</li> <li>• Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)</li> </ul>	841	3,200	2,900	2,970	1,670
Strong and inclusive schools committed to excellence, equity and wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and Health joint wellbeing programmes for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in school pilots and promoting a whole school approach to health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Regional grant (17-18 only) for wellbeing</li> </ul>	-	631	190	280	302
Robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements supporting a self-improving system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting evidence based practice across the regions</li> <li>• Research into Welsh language frameworks</li> <li>• Develop schools as learning organisations</li> <li>• Support collaborative working and help develop regional capacity</li> <li>• Extend the impact and depth of Federations</li> <li>• Small &amp; Rural grant scheme</li> <li>• Expand use of business managers (2017-2020 only)</li> <li>• Estyn grant</li> <li>• Building Capacity (2017-20 only)</li> <li>• Pisa</li> </ul>	400	3,653	5,430	6,410	5,200
Research and evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of Sabbatical scheme</li> <li>• WISERD data lab</li> <li>• Research and Evaluation Grant</li> <li>• Wellbeing research (Swansea Uni)</li> <li>• Wales DTP for studentship research (Cardiff Uni)</li> </ul>	1,166	430	240	545	145
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,647</b>	<b>20,229</b>	<b>25,228</b>	<b>25,530</b>	<b>23,612</b>

## ANNEX E – BELs supporting the raising of school standards within the Education MEG over the Senedd term

£'000s

Budget Expenditure Line (BEL)	2015-16 Second Supplementary Budget	2016-17 Second Supplementary Budget	2017-18 Second Supplementary Budget	2018-19 Second Supplementary Budget	2019-20 Second Supplementary Budget	2020-21 Second Supplementary Budget	2021-22 New Plans Draft Budget
Literacy & Numeracy	4,512	4,946	6,956	6,331	5,476	6,356	4,171
Curriculum & Assessment	23,255	10,021	6,434	7,066	6,782	3,955	7,782
Curriculum Review	0	20,400	7,100	5,400	5,400	5,950	14,050
Foundation Phase	1,851	1,851	1,511	1,551	148	148	148
Teacher Development and Support	16,856	21,192	20,731	43,373	54,932	31,895	38,914
Qualifications Wales	8,147	8,404	8,142	8,257	8,482	9,463	9,867
School Governance	1,565	1,353	1,124	36	0	0	0
School Improvement Grant	142,594	134,711	136,282	130,359	130,359	146,799	146,188
Raising School Standards	0	4,470	20,000	25,000	25,500	22,332	25,500
School Standards Support	1,364	1,249	1,394	1,194	1,194	994	1,504
Pupil Development Grant	82,046	89,246	93,746	95,523	98,900	108,500	113,500
Supporting Digital Learning in Education	6,935	6,935	6,659	4,470	4,429	4,279	4,429
Welsh in Education	18,733	18,267	27,247	29,050	12,675	12,325	12,675
<b>Total</b>	<b>307,858</b>	<b>323,045</b>	<b>337,326</b>	<b>357,610</b>	<b>354,277</b>	<b>352,996</b>	<b>378,728</b>
<b>Increase on 2015-16</b>		<b>15,187</b>	<b>29,468</b>	<b>49,752</b>	<b>46,419</b>	<b>45,138</b>	<b>70,870</b>
<b>Change over 5 years</b>							<b>256,834</b>

## ANNEX F – Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant allocations

Objective	Funding Description	2019/20	2020/21
<b>Curriculum &amp; Assessment - Supporting a national curriculum with equity &amp; excellence at its core that sets high standards for all learners</b>	Digital and Curriculum Pioneer Schools	3,150,000	3,000,000
	Core Consortia Support for Design & Development of the new Curriculum	2,225,000	1,771,000
	Assessment for Learning (AfL)	400,000	400,000
	Welsh Language Use Framework incl. Welsh Language Charter (Welsh-medium Schools)	500,000	496,000
<b>Developing a high-quality education profession - improving the teaching &amp; learning in our schools</b>	Education Improvement Grant for Schools (EIG)	118,137,000	120,637,000
	Regional support for Modern languages	432,000	432,000
	National Numeracy Test Support	20,000	20,000
	Literacy & Numeracy Grant	500,000	500,000
	Professional Learning - Pioneer Schools	1,860,000	2,040,000
	Learning in a Digital Wales (LiDW) - Phase II CPD	500,000	500,000
	Coding & Digital Skills	300,000	300,000
	Primary LNF Oracy Scheme for Wales	400,000	400,000
	Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA)	990,000	800,000
	Professional Teaching Standards	100,000	80,000
	National Network for Excellence in Science & Technology (NNEST)	900,000	900,000
	Foundation Phase Network (FPEN)	200,000	200,000
	Welsh - Professional Development - Consortia Funding (some lines combined)	2,700,000	2,700,000
	Digital Competence - Professional Learning Offer (PLO)	300,000	300,000
	A Level Improvement	280,000	520,000
	Teaching Workforce Supply (Initial Teacher Education)	312,103	300,000
	Part time and Work Based ITE	200,000	200,000
	Modern Foreign Languages – building capacity for MFL in the primary sector	214,000	214,000
	Digital Competence Framework	100,000	100,000
	All Age Schools - Support for Research and Collaborative Projects	100,000	
	Professional Teaching Awards Cymru (PTAC)	20,000	20,000
	PL Pioneer Cluster Funding - Non Pioneers	595,200	198,400
	PL Pioneer Cluster Funding	126,000	42,000
	Leading Learning Collaborative Project	249,360	247,080
	Facilitate the Evaluation of Professional Standards		20,000
	E- Learning Project	523,067	
	Early Career Support Programme		150,000
	External policy advice/support for the 16-19 PCET Policy team	58,000	24,000

Objective	Funding Description	2019/20	2020/21
	HEI Accreditation Manager	100,000	400,000
	Professional Learning		7,000,000
	Support Collaborative Working & Help Develop Capacity in Consortia	560,000	70,000
<b>Leadership - supporting inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards. Includes future leadership &amp; professional networks</b>	Future Leadership (Aspiring, middle leaders including Coaching & Mentoring support)	1,000,000	1,000,000
	New & Acting Heads (Pre MNSH)	150,000	150,000
	National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) <sup>1</sup>	720,000	720,000
	Building Capacity Expertise	161,690	60,000
<b>Strong &amp; inclusive schools committed to excellence, equity &amp; well-being</b>	Pupil Development Grant (PDG) excluding PDG Access	93,685,579	103,200,000
<b>Supporting a self-improving system - supporting a system in which the education profession have the skills, capacity &amp; agency to continually learn &amp; improve their practice</b>	Extend the impact and depth of collaborative working, including through federation	1,040,000	800,000
	Develop schools as learning organisations - Criteria 3 Funding	500,000	500,000
	<b>Total including PDG</b>	<b>234,308,999</b>	<b>251,411,480</b>
	<b>Total excluding PDG</b>	<b>140,623,420</b>	<b>148,211,480</b>
	<b>Less: COVID-19 savings</b>		<b>(4,203,088)</b>
	<b>Revised allocation</b>		<b>144,008,392</b>
	<b>Less: NPQH</b>		<b>(720,000)</b>
	<b>Revised allocation to consortia</b>		<b>143,288,392</b>

Consortium	2017-18 £000	2018-19 £000	2019-20 £000	2020-21 £000
Torfaen (EAS)	26,298	27,726	27,032	27,682
Rhondda Cynon Taf (CSC)	42,616	42,193	41,700	42,632
Pembrokeshire (ERW)	39,093	40,971	39,862	34,234
Gwynedd (GWE)	30,561	32,620	32,029	32,616
Neath Port Talbot (NPT)				6,125
<b>Total</b>	<b>138,568</b>	<b>143,511</b>	<b>140,623</b>	<b>143,288</b>

<sup>1</sup> NPQH allocation is demand led and therefore not yet allocated to regional consortia for 2020-21

## ANNEX G – Class Sizes grant allocations over the Senedd term

Local Authority	Revenue £	Capital £
Anglesey	306,504	0
Blaenau Gwent	338,108	199,600
Bridgend	747,436	750,000
Caerphilly	961,983	0
Cardiff	2,095,766	3,317,000
Carmarthenshire	870,490	2,000,000
Ceredigion	584,125	1,600,000
Conwy	512,256	300,000
Denbighshire	486,569	0
Flintshire	796,576	1,320,000
Gwynedd	530,722	600,000
Merthyr Tydfil	303,532	931,000
Monmouthshire	426,384	0
Neath Port Talbot	686,951	1,890,000
Newport	908,923	1,100,661
Pembrokeshire	569,373	370,165
Powys	540,652	665,000
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1,384,904	1,600,000
Swansea	1,202,923	1,918,750
Torfaen	566,002	0
Vale of Glamorgan	722,417	0
Wrexham	757,404	1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,000,000</b>	<b>19,562,176</b>



**ANNEX H – Small and Rural Schools grant allocations over the Senedd term**

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>2017-18 £</b>	<b>2018-19 £</b>	<b>2019-20 £</b>	<b>2020-21 £</b>
Anglesey	138,157	140,312	140,353	138,189
Blaenau Gwent	35,948	35,915	35,873	35,904
Bridgend	61,088	61,184	61,177	61,381
Caerphilly	103,580	103,618	103,539	106,947
Cardiff	33,967	31,217	31,217	28,264
Carmarthenshire	265,956	263,560	263,655	276,240
Ceredigion	159,997	154,124	154,193	153,001
Conwy	139,973	141,955	141,905	145,911
Denbighshire	108,500	116,034	116,049	113,309
Flintshire	144,599	137,247	137,235	139,625
Gwynedd	279,580	279,094	279,174	273,482
Merthyr Tydfil	22,573	22,555	22,532	22,549
Monmouthshire	72,984	73,212	73,244	73,618
Neath Port Talbot	84,259	90,356	90,342	91,146
Newport	35,917	35,895	35,868	35,888
Pembrokeshire	157,896	159,536	159,566	146,964
Powys	251,816	246,847	246,910	244,358
Rhondda Cynon Taf	133,841	134,083	134,006	128,356
Swansea	90,991	91,161	91,121	91,547
Torfaen	27,777	27,787	27,800	27,790
Vale of Glamorgan	56,276	56,278	56,281	59,430
Wrexham	94,325	98,030	97,960	106,101
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

## ANNEX I – Details of 2020/21 allocations to further education colleges

### Further Education

Local Authority 6th Form	2019-2020 Allocation £	2020-2021 Allocation £	Variance £	Variance %
Isle of Anglesey County Council	2,319,560	2,529,828	210,269	9.07%
Gwynedd Council	3,284,887	3,414,889	130,002	3.96%
Conwy County Borough Council	4,454,483	4,742,173	287,690	6.46%
Denbighshire County Council	3,225,501	3,357,240	131,739	4.08%
Flintshire County Council	4,418,347	4,439,673	21,326	0.48%
Wrexham County Borough Council	1,049,400	1,046,752	-2,649	-0.25%
Powys County Council	4,440,636	4,732,301	291,665	6.57%
Ceredigion County Council	3,567,851	3,884,737	316,885	8.88%
Pembrokeshire County Council	2,727,235	2,935,601	208,366	7.64%
Carmarthenshire County Council	6,028,967	6,637,156	608,189	10.09%
The City and County of Swansea	5,149,124	5,354,484	205,360	3.99%
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council	1,452,836	1,796,668	343,831	23.67%
Bridgend County Borough Council	5,750,256	6,306,739	556,483	9.68%
The Vale of Glamorgan County Council	5,663,603	6,268,240	604,637	10.68%
Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	9,336,642	9,804,613	467,971	5.01%
Caerphilly County Borough Council	3,792,288	3,756,978	-35,311	-0.93%
Torfaen County Borough Council	3,049,026	1,681,322	-1,367,704	-44.86%
Monmouthshire County Council	3,152,606	3,388,867	236,261	7.49%
Newport City Council	5,998,206	6,481,311	483,105	8.05%
Cardiff County Council	11,866,770	13,162,430	1,295,661	10.92%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,728,225</b>	<b>95,722,001</b>	<b>4,993,776</b>	<b>5.50%</b>

## Sixth Forms

	Full Time Allocation 2020/21 (inc unit rate increase)	Part Time Allocation 2020/21 (inc unit rate increase)	Part Time Allowance	Deprivation Uplift	Sparsity Uplift (as in 2019/20)	Welsh Medium Allowance (as in 2019/20)	3% Centrally Retained Allowance	2% Maintenance Allowance	Transition funding agreed in 2019/20	2020/21 allocation	Additional Funding	Total 2020/21 Allocation
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bridgend College	12,287,612	2,310,693	462,139	717,294		30,000	437,949	291,966		16,537,652		16,537,652
Cardiff & Vale College	24,430,334	6,582,649	1,316,530	2,278,173		30,000	930,389	620,260		36,188,334		36,188,334
Coleg Cambria	28,524,798	5,433,943	1,086,789	1,363,161	733,136	115,000	1,018,762	679,175		38,954,765		38,954,765
Coleg Gwent	32,600,041	5,838,883	1,167,777	2,320,479		230,000	1,153,168	768,778		44,079,125	2,396,355	46,475,480
Coleg Sir Gar	15,418,222	2,443,226	488,645	482,356	575,850	1,061,250	535,843	357,229		21,362,622		21,362,622
Coleg y Cymoedd	23,234,916	3,822,509	764,502	2,379,851		29,756	811,723	541,148		31,584,405		31,584,405
Gower College Swansea	18,700,377	2,840,977	568,195	1,402,654		115,000	646,241	430,827		24,704,271		24,704,271
Grwp Llandrillo Menai	29,277,699	4,720,757	944,151	1,458,394	2,441,719	2,156,250	1,019,954	679,969		42,698,893		42,698,893
Grwp NPTC Group	17,136,899	3,764,121	752,824	997,871	2,456,260	30,000	627,031	418,020		26,183,025		26,183,025
Merthyr Tydfil College	8,499,186	680,779	136,156	742,338		30,000	275,399	183,599		10,547,457		10,547,457
Pembrokeshire College	8,869,788	1,388,188	277,638	222,146	356,812	30,000	307,739	205,160		11,657,470		11,657,470
St David's Catholic Sixth Form College	5,368,256	169,019	33,804	442,058		15,000	166,118	110,746		6,305,001		6,305,001
ALW	0	3,965,377	793,075	235,529	184,699	30,243	118,961	79,308	453,960	5,861,153		5,861,153
	<b>224,348,127</b>	<b>43,961,120</b>	<b>8,792,224</b>	<b>15,042,305</b>	<b>6,748,476</b>	<b>3,902,499</b>	<b>8,049,277</b>	<b>5,366,185</b>	<b>453,960</b>	<b>316,664,174</b>		<b>319,060,528</b>

## Adult Community Learning

Local Authority	2019-2020 Allocation	Population of Wales aged 19+ with Level 1 as highest qualification	percentage of population of Wales aged 19+ with Level 1 as highest qualification
Isle of Anglesey County Council	£12,028	19,748	2.2%
Gwynedd Council	£7,216	32,690	3.6%
Conwy County Borough Council	£7,216	34,538	3.8%
Denbighshire County Council	£103,435	27,882	3.1%
Flintshire County Council	£2,405	44,400	4.9%
Wrexham County Council	£96,219	40,919	4.5%
Powys County Council	£131,498	38,314	4.2%
Ceredigion County Council	£73,199	18,324	2.0%
Pembrokeshire County Council	£462,438	35,407	3.9%
Carmarthenshire County Council	£184,905	55,712	6.1%
The City and County of Swansea	£177,655	66,369	7.3%
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council	£261,394	48,338	5.3%
Bridgend County Borough Council	£155,553	44,488	4.9%
The Vale of Glamorgan County Council	£274,844	31,236	3.4%
Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	£206,068	80,404	8.9%
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	£46,506	21,424	2.4%
Caerphilly County Borough Council	£312,710	61,334	6.8%
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	£335,962	28,211	3.1%
Torfaen County Borough Council	£91,408	29,639	3.3%
Monmouthshire County Council	£2,405	22,999	2.5%
Newport City Council	£381,667	43,735	4.8%
Cardiff County Council	£1,092,079	81,560	9.0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£4,418,810</b>	<b>907,671</b>	<b>100%</b>

5/12 current allocation	New methodology for Sept - Mar	Total 2020-21 Allocation
£5,011	£56,081	£61,093
£3,007	£92,834	£95,841
£3,007	£98,082	£101,089
£43,098	£79,180	£122,278
£1,002	£126,089	£127,091
£40,091	£116,203	£156,294
£54,791	£108,806	£163,597
£30,500	£52,037	£82,537
£192,683	£100,550	£293,233
£77,044	£158,213	£235,257
£74,023	£188,477	£262,500
£108,914	£137,272	£246,186
£64,814	£126,339	£191,153
£114,518	£88,705	£203,224
£85,862	£228,334	£314,196
£19,377	£60,841	£80,218
£130,296	£174,179	£304,474
£139,984	£80,115	£220,099
£38,086	£84,170	£122,256
£1,002	£65,313	£66,316
£159,028	£124,200	£283,228
£455,033	£231,617	£686,650
<b>£1,841,171</b>	<b>£2,577,639</b>	<b>£4,418,810</b>

**ANNEX I -**

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
0	General Education	4 GCSEs	Level 1/2	2,824
0	General Education	5+ GCSEs	Level 1/2	3,413
0	General Education	5 GCSEs equivalent	Level 2	3,413
0	General Education	3 AS	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	3 AS equivalent	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	2 AS plus WBQ	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	2 AS equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	4+ AS	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	4+ AS equivalent	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	3 AS plus WBQ	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	3 AS equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	4+ AS plus WBQ	Level 3	4,707
0	General Education	4+ AS equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	4,707
0	General Education	2 A2	Level 3	2,165
0	General Education	2 A2 equivalent	Level 3	2,165
0	General Education	3 A2	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	3 A2 equivalent	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	2 A2 plus WBQ	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	2 A2 equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	3,012
0	General Education	4+ A2	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	4+ A2 equivalent	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	3 A2 plus WBQ	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	3 A2 equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	3,860
0	General Education	4+ A2 plus WBQ	Level 3	4,707
0	General Education	4+ A2 equivalent plus WBQ	Level 3	4,707
0	General Education	International Baccalaureate Diploma (Year 1 or 2)	Level 3	4,707
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care level 1	Level 1	4,044
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care level 2	Level 2	3,647
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care with Increased Workplace Learning Level 2	Level 2	3,837
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	4,397
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care level 3	Level 3	3,647
1	Health, public services and care	Access to HE Healthcare	Level AA	2,901
1	Health, public services and care	Health and Social Care Entry Level	Level E0	4,044
1	Health, public services and care	Completion of Therapeutic level 2	Level 2	3,647

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
1	Health, public services and care	Complementary Therapies level 3	Level 3	3,647
1	Health, public services and care	Access to HE Social Care	Level AA	2,901
1	Health, public services and care	Access to HE Social Science	Level AA	2,910
1	Health, public services and care	Public Services level 1	Level 1	4,378
1	Health, public services and care	Public Services Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,149
1	Health, public services and care	Public Services level 2	Level 2	4,043
1	Health, public services and care	Public Services level 3	Level 3	4,043
1	Health, public services and care	Childcare Development Level 1	Level 1	3,954
1	Health, public services and care	Childcare Development Level 2	Level 2	4,508
1	Health, public services and care	Childcare Development Level 2 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 2	3,963
1	Health, public services and care	Childcare Development Level 3	Level 3	3,540
2	Science and mathematics	Access to HE Science	Level AA	3,212
2	Science and mathematics	Access to HE Environmental Science	Level AA	3,212
2	Science and mathematics	Access to HE Bio Science	Level AA	3,212
2	Science and mathematics	Applied Science level 2	Level 2	4,049
2	Science and mathematics	Applied Science Level 3	Level 3	4,049
2	Science and mathematics	Applied Science Level 3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 3	4,141
2	Science and mathematics	Access to HE Forensic Science	Level AA	3,212
2	Science and mathematics	Access to HE Health Science	Level AA	3,212
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Land-based Studies Level 1	Level 1	6,408
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Land-based Studies Level 2	Level 2	6,408
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Land-based Studies Level 3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 3	8,605

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Land-based Studies Level 3	Level 3	6,408
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Land-based Studies Level E	Level E0	6,408
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Horticulture and Forestry 1	Level 1	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Horticulture and Forestry Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	7,178
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Horticulture and Forestry 2	Level 2	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Horticulture and Forestry 3	Level 3	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Floristry Level 1	Level 1	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Floristry Level 2	Level 2	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Floristry Level 3	Level 3	6,274
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Equine Studies Level 1	Level 1	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Equine Studies Level 2	Level 2	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Equine Studies Level 3	Level 3	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Horse Care level Entry	Level E0	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Animal Care level 1	Level 1	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Animal Care level 2	Level 2	6,256
3	Argiculture, horticulture and animal care	Animal Care level 3	Level 3	6,256

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Veterinary Nursing level 2	Level 2	6,256
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Veterinary Nursing level 3	Level 3	6,256
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Countryside & Environment Level 1	Level 1	6,294
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Countryside & Environment Level 2	Level 2	6,294
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Countryside & Environment Level 3	Level 3	6,294
3	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Countryside & Environment Level 3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 3	7,040
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Manufacturing and Engineering Level 1	Level 1	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Manufacturing and Engineering Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	7,196
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Manufacturing and Engineering Level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Manufacturing and Engineering Level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Access to HE Engineering	Level AA	4,954
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Engineering Studies Level E	Level E0	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Electrical/ Electronic Engineering Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	8,816
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Electrical/Electronic Engineering Level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Electrical/Electronic Engineering Level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Fabrication and Welding level 1	Level 1	6,330



Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Fabrication and Welding level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Fabrication and Welding level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Aerospace Engineering Level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Aerospace Engineering Level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Electrical Engineering level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Electrical Engineering level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Land based Engineering Level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Land based Engineering Level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Land based Engineering Level 3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 3	7,073
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Marine Engineering Level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Marine Engineering Level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Automotive Engineering level 1	Level 1	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Automotive Engineering Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	6,982
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Automotive Engineering level 2	Level 2	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Automotive Engineering level 3	Level 3	6,330
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Enhanced Engineering Level 2	Level 2	10,997

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Enhanced Engineering Level 3	Level 3	10,997
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Wood Machining level 2	Level 2	4,988
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Furniture Level 1	Level 1	5,170
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Furniture Level 2	Level 2	4,988
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Furniture Level 3	Level 3	4,988
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Operations and Maintenance level 2	Level 2	6,331
4	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Operations and Maintenance level 3	Level 3	6,331
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Construction level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Construction level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Construction Level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Construction & Built Environment Level E	Level E0	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Brickwork Level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Brickwork Level 1 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 1	7,435
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Brickwork Level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Brickwork level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Carpentry & Joinery Level 1	Level 1	6,314

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Carpentry & Joinery Level 1 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 1	7,435
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Carpentry & Joinery Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	8,245
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Carpentry & Joinery Level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Carpentry & Joinery level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Painting and Decorating level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Painting and Decorating Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	8,191
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Painting and Decorating level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Painting and Decorating level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Trowel Trades Level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Trowel Trades Level 1 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 1	7,435
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Trowel Trades Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	8,191
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Trowel Trades Level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Trowel Trades Level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plumbing level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plumbing Level 1 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 1	7,435
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plumbing Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	7,889

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plumbing level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plumbing level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Gas installation and Maintenance level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Gas installation and Maintenance level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Wall and Floor Tiling level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Wall and Floor Tiling Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	8,191
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Wall and Floor Tiling level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Wall and Floor Tiling level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plant Maintenance level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plant Maintenance level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Plant Maintenance level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Electrical Installation level 1	Level 1	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Electrical Installation Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	7,889
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Electrical Installation level 2	Level 2	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Electrical Installation level 3	Level 3	6,314
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Enhanced Construction Programme Level 2	Level 2	10,933

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
5	Construction, planning and the built environment	Enhanced Construction Programme Level 3	Level 3	10,933
6	Information and communication technology	IT Practitioners level 1	Level 1	4,520
6	Information and communication technology	IT Practitioners level 2	Level 2	4,211
6	Information and communication technology	IT Practitioners level 3	Level 3	4,211
6	Information and communication technology	Access to HE - Applied Computing	Level AA	3,324
6	Information and communication technology	Enhanced IT Programme Level 2	Level 2	8,199
6	Information and communication technology	Enhanced IT Programme Level 3	Level 3	8,199
6	Information and communication technology	IT Users level 1	Level 1	4,535
6	Information and communication technology	IT Users level 2	Level 2	4,229
6	Information and communication technology	IT Users level 3	Level 3	4,229
6	Information and communication technology	Information Technology Level E	Level E0	4,535
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Retail level 1	Level 1	4,409
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Retail level 2	Level 2	4,079
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Retail level 3	Level 3	4,079
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Retail Level E	Level E0	4,409
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hair and Beauty level 1	Level 1	4,528
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hair and Beauty Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,680
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hair and Beauty level 2	Level 2	4,220

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hair and Beauty level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hair and Beauty Level E	Level E0	4,528
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hairdressing Level 1	Level 1	4,528
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hairdressing Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,491
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hairdressing Level 2	Level 2	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hairdressing Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	5,099
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hairdressing Level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Beauty Therapy level 1	Level 1	4,528
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Beauty Therapy level 2	Level 2	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Beauty Therapy level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Beauty Therapy Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,680
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Nail Technology level 2	Level 2	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Nail Technology level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Theatrical Special Effects level 2	Level 2	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Theatrical Special Effects level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Spa Therapy level 3	Level 3	4,220
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Professional Cookery level 1	Level 1	4,868
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Professional Cookery Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,551
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Professional Cookery level 2	Level 2	4,623
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Professional Cookery level 3	Level 3	4,623
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Professional Cookery Level 4	Level 4	3,651
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Catering Entry Level	Level E0	4,868
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hospitality & Catering level 1	Level 1	4,868

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hospitality & Catering level 2	Level 2	4,623
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hospitality & Catering level 3	Level 3	4,623
7	Retail and commercial enterprise	Hospitality & Catering Level E	Level E0	4,868
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Sport and Leisure level 1	Level 1	4,355
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Sport and Leisure Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,025
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Sport and Leisure level 2	Level 2	4,015
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Sport and Leisure level 3	Level 3	4,015
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Sport and Leisure Level E	Level E0	4,355
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Travel and Tourism level 1	Level 1	4,409
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Travel and Tourism Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	4,338
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Travel and Tourism level 2	Level 2	4,079
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Travel and Tourism level 3	Level 3	4,079
8	Leisure, travel and tourism	Access to HE Tourism & Hospitality	Level AA	3,232
9	Art, media and publishing	Performing Arts level 1	Level 1	5,060
9	Art, media and publishing	Performing Arts level 2	Level 2	4,851
9	Art, media and publishing	Performing Arts level 3	Level 3	4,851
9	Art, media and publishing	Performing Arts level 4	Level 4	5,041
9	Art, media and publishing	Performing Arts Level E	Level E0	5,060
9	Art, media and publishing	Music & Music Technology Level 2	Level 2	4,851
9	Art, media and publishing	Music & Music Technology Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	6,031
9	Art, media and publishing	Music & Music Technology Level 3	Level 3	4,851
9	Art, media and publishing	Art and Design level 1	Level 1	5,152
9	Art, media and publishing	Art and Design Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	6,005

Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
9	Art, media and publishing	Art and Design level 2	Level 2	4,960
9	Art, media and publishing	Art and Design level 3	Level 3	4,960
9	Art, media and publishing	Art and Design Level E	Level E0	5,152
9	Art, media and publishing	Art Foundation Studies Level 3	Level 3	4,960
9	Art, media and publishing	Media level 1	Level 1	4,950
9	Art, media and publishing	Media Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,400
9	Art, media and publishing	Media level 2	Level 2	4,721
9	Art, media and publishing	Media level 3	Level 3	4,721
9	Art, media and publishing	Media Level 3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level 3	5,357
9	Art, media and publishing	Production Arts Level 2	Level 2	4,711
9	Art, media and publishing	Production Arts Level 3	Level 3	4,721
11	Social sciences	Access to HE Humanities	Level AA	2,772
14	Preparation for life and work	Foundation Studies level 1	Level 1	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Foundation Studies Level 2	Level 2	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Foundation Learning Level E1	Level E1	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Foundation Learning Level E2	Level E2	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Foundation Learning Level E3	Level E3	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Profound Level E1	Level E1	10,277
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Profound Level E2	Level E2	10,277
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Profound Level E3	Level E3	10,277
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Profound Pre Entry	Level PE	10,277
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Level 1	Level 1	5,170
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Level 2	Level 2	4,982
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Level E1	Level E1	5,170



Subject Sector Area	Subject Sector Area Title	Programme Title	Level	Programme value 2020/21
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Level E2	Level E2	5,170
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Level E3	Level E3	5,170
14	Preparation for life and work	ESOL Pre-entry	Level PE	5,170
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Level E1	Level E1	6,538
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Level E2	Level E2	6,538
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Level E3	Level E3	6,538
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Level E3 with Increased Workplace Learning	Level E3	8,724
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Level E3 with supported internship	Level E3	6,599
14	Preparation for life and work	ILS Moderate Pre-Entry Level	Level PE	6,538
14	Preparation for life and work	Preparation for Work Level 1	Level 1	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Preparation for Work Level 2	Level 2	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Preparation for Work Level E1	Level E1	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Preparation for Work Level E2	Level E2	6,184
14	Preparation for life and work	Preparation for Work Level E3	Level E3	6,184
15	Business, administration and law	Accounting level 2	Level 2	4,070
15	Business, administration and law	Accounting Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	5,259
15	Business, administration and law	Accounting level 3	Level 3	4,070
15	Business, administration and law	Accounting level 4	Level 4	3,225
15	Business, administration and law	Access to HE Financial Services	Level AA	2,981
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration level 1	Level 1	4,405
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	5,510
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration level 2	Level 2	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	6,031

<b>Subject Sector Area</b>	<b>Subject Sector Area Title</b>	<b>Programme Title</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Programme value 2020/21</b>
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration level 3	Level 3	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Business Administration Level E	Level E0	4,405
15	Business, administration and law	Legal Secretaries Level 2	Level 2	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Legal Secretaries level 3	Level 3	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Medical Administration level 2	Level 2	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Medical Administration level 3	Level 3	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Business Studies Accelerated Learning Level 1-2	Level 1-2	4,978
15	Business, administration and law	Business Studies Level 2	Level 2	4,075
15	Business, administration and law	Business Studies Accelerated Learning Level 2-3	Level 2-3	5,016
15	Business, administration and law	Business Studies Level 3	Level 3	4,070
15	Business, administration and law	Access to HE Business Studies	Level AA	3,225
15	Business, administration and law	Law level 3	Level 3	3,478
15	Business, administration and law	Legal Practice Level 2	Level 2	3,478
15	Business, administration and law	Legal Practice Level 3	Level 3	3,478
98	Unknown	Access to FE Level 1	Level 1	2,254
98	Unknown	Access to FE Level 2	Level 2	2,254

## ANNEX J – Higher Education Grants

Table 1a: Actual expenditure on student grants, 2019-20

	<b>2019-20</b>
<b>Full-time undergraduate</b>	
Maintenance Grant	£196,743,274.47
Tuition Fee Grant	£127,882,244.65
Allowances	£20,295,192.76
<b>Near Cash</b>	<b>£344,920,711.88</b>
<b>Part-time undergraduate <sup>1</sup></b>	
Maintenance Grant (Pre 2018)	£3,830,960.22
Maintenance Grant (Post 2018)	£16,688,579.38
<b>Near Cash</b>	<b>£20,519,539.60</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>	
Contribution Grant	£12,309,116.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>£12,309,116.54</b>
<b>Further Education</b>	
EMA	£17,149,980.00
WGLGFE	£4,995,915.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,145,895.00</b>

<sup>1</sup> Allowances are included in both part time maintenance grant totals as we are unable to split them

Table 1b: Forecast expenditure on student grants, 2020-21 to 2024-25

<i>Forecasts of financial year costs</i>					
Overall	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Full-time undergraduate</b>					
Maintenance Grant	£222.3m	£239.8m	£251.5m	£262.4m	£275.9m
Tuition Fee Grant	£56.8m	£13.4m	£2.0m	£0.0m	£0.0m
Allowances (Full-time)	£21.3m	£22.3m	£23.2m	£24.3m	£25.5m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£300.4m</i>	<i>£275.5m</i>	<i>£276.8m</i>	<i>£286.7m</i>	<i>£301.3m</i>
<b>Part-time undergraduate</b>					
Maintenance Grant	£23.0m	£26.1m	£29.4m	£32.4m	£34.8m
Tuition Fee Grant	£0.1m	£0.1m	£0.0m	£0.0m	£0.0m
Allowances (Part-time)	£1.8m	£1.8m	£1.9m	£1.9m	£1.9m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£25.0m</i>	<i>£28.0m</i>	<i>£31.3m</i>	<i>£34.3m</i>	<i>£36.8m</i>
<b>Postgraduate taught Masters</b>					
Contribution Grant	£21.2m	£24.1m	£26.1m	£28.0m	£30.1m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£21.2m</i>	<i>£24.1m</i>	<i>£26.1m</i>	<i>£28.0m</i>	<i>£30.1m</i>
<b>Further Education</b>					
EMA	£17.1m	£17.1m	£17.2m	£17.2m	£17.2m
WGLGFE	£4.6m	£4.5m	£4.5m	£4.5m	£4.5m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£21.7m</i>	<i>£21.6m</i>	<i>£21.6m</i>	<i>£21.6m</i>	<i>£21.6m</i>
<b>Total</b>					
<b>Near-cash</b>	<b>£368.4m</b>	<b>£349.1m</b>	<b>£355.8m</b>	<b>£370.7m</b>	<b>£389.8m</b>

Source: Higher Education Division modelling  
(models in use in November 2020), Welsh Government

Table 2: Forecast expenditure on student grants, 2020-21 to 2024-25, for Welsh students studying in Wales.

	<i>Forecasts of financial year costs</i>				
Students in Wales	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>Full-time undergraduate<sup>1</sup></b>					
Maintenance Grant	£154.0m	£166.5m	£174.9m	£182.5m	£192.0m
Tuition Fee Grant	£35.8m	£8.4m	£1.3m	£0.0m	£0.0m
Allowances (Full-time)	£14.7m	£15.5m	£16.2m	£16.9m	£17.7m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£204.5m</i>	<i>£190.4m</i>	<i>£192.3m</i>	<i>£199.5m</i>	<i>£209.8m</i>
<b>Part-time undergraduate<sup>2</sup></b>					
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£23.5m</i>	<i>£26.2m</i>	<i>£29.3m</i>	<i>£32.2m</i>	<i>£34.5m</i>
<b>Postgraduate taught Masters<sup>3</sup></b>					
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£13m</i>	<i>£14m</i>	<i>£15m</i>	<i>£17m</i>	<i>£18m</i>
<b>Further Education (assume all Wales)</b>					
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£22m</i>	<i>£22m</i>	<i>£22m</i>	<i>£22m</i>	<i>£22m</i>
<b>Students in Wales total</b>					
<b>Near-cash</b>	<b>£262m</b>	<b>£252m</b>	<b>£259m</b>	<b>£270m</b>	<b>£284m</b>

Source: Higher Education Division modelling  
(models in use in November 2020), Welsh Government

Notes

<sup>1</sup>Proportion worked out by splitting total based on on numbers of students studying in Wales and elsewhere. This method overestimates Wales' share since it takes no account of lower averages for students studying at home and the higher averages for students studying away from home in London. This method reduces complexity and, in context, the difference is not significant.

<sup>2</sup>The main part-time model has a figure for maintenance grant for Welsh students studying elsewhere and a figure for the total maintenance grant. That ratio is used to split part-time.  
Most part-time provision is in Wales, hence this figure is only a little lower than Table 1.

<sup>3</sup>A postgraduate split was calculated using SLC data accessed via their Microstrategy portal. That data has a count of customers in Wales with a course type of Postgraduate and also by government region of educational institution. The ratio of customers where institution region is Wales versus all customers is used to split postgraduate.

Table 3: Forecast expenditure on student grants, 2020-21 to 2024-25, for Welsh students studying elsewhere.

	<i>Forecasts of financial year costs</i>				
Students elsewhere	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>Full-time undergraduate<sup>1</sup></b>					
Maintenance Grant	£68m	£73m	£77m	£80m	£84m
Tuition Fee Grant	£21m	£5m	£1m	£0m	£0m
Allowances (Full-time)	£7m	£7m	£7m	£7m	£8m
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£96m</i>	<i>£85m</i>	<i>£84m</i>	<i>£87m</i>	<i>£92m</i>
<b>Part-time undergraduate<sup>2</sup></b>					
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£1.5m</i>	<i>£1.8m</i>	<i>£2.0m</i>	<i>£2.1m</i>	<i>£2.2m</i>
<b>Postgraduate taught Masters<sup>3</sup></b>					
<i>Near-cash</i>	<i>£8.6m</i>	<i>£9.8m</i>	<i>£10.6m</i>	<i>£11.4m</i>	<i>£12.2m</i>
<b>(Further Education assume none elsewhere)</b>					
<b>Students elsewhere total</b>					
<b>Near-cash</b>	<b>£106.0m</b>	<b>£96.6m</b>	<b>£97.1m</b>	<b>£100.8m</b>	<b>£106.0m</b>

Source: Higher Education Division modelling (models in use in November 2020), Welsh Government

Notes

<sup>1</sup>Proportion worked out by splitting total based on on numbers of students studying in Wales and elsewhere. This method overestimates Wales' share since it takes no account of lower averages for students studying at home and the higher averages for students studying away from home in London. This method reduces complexity and, in context, the difference is not significant.

<sup>2</sup>The main part-time model has a figure for maintenance grant for Welsh students studying elsewhere and a figure for the total maintenance grant. That ratio is used to split part-time. Most part-time provision is in Wales, hence this figure is lower than Table 1.

<sup>3</sup>A postgraduate split was calculated using SLC data accessed via their Microstrategy portal. That data has a count of customers in Wales with a course type of Postgraduate and also by government region of educational institution. The ratio of customers where institution region is Wales versus all customers is used to split postgraduate.

## ANNEX J – Loans Provision

**Table 4a: Student Loans Provision**

RAB charges: percentages applied from the Stochastic Earnings Pathway (StEP) model

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Loan outlay</b>					
Full-time undergraduate, Plan 1 <sup>(a)</sup>	£12,150				
Full-time undergraduate, Plan 2 <sup>(b)</sup>	£667,931,634	£685,713,291	£699,118,278	£727,880,813	£765,394,891
Part-time undergraduate	£18,934,145	£22,565,442	£24,460,711	£25,744,050	£26,622,611
Master's	£77,199,549	£86,591,338	£94,370,308	£101,462,603	£109,864,016
Doctoral	£7,379,143	£12,042,055	£16,535,530	£20,321,485	£22,814,553
<b>RAB charge - percentages applied</b>					
Full-time undergraduate, Plan 1 <sup>(a)</sup>	31.8%				
Full-time undergraduate, Plan 2 <sup>(b)</sup>	45.7%	45.5%	45.2%	45.1%	44.6%
Part-time undergraduate	40.2%	39.1%	38.5%	38.4%	38.2%
Master's	16.0%	14.0%	13.4%	13.4%	12.6%
Doctoral	43.2%	43.5%	43.3%	42.7%	42.0%

Source: Higher Education Division student loan repayment forecasts (StEP 3.17, July 2020 central coronavirus scenario OBR data, 2019 borrower data)

(a) Plan 1: Pre-2012 student loan regime

(b) Plan 2: Post-2012 student loan regime

**Table 4b: Student Loans Provision**

RAB charges: Amounts calculated, including stock charge and partial cancellation charge

	Actual 2019-20	Forecast				
		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
RAB Charge	(264,499.30)	(349,761.02)	(368,482.03)	(388,643.93)	(413,739.69)	(435,040.99)
Stock Charge	14,733.02	(109,769.77)				
Partial Cancellation Charge	(27,679.69)	(35,697.33)	(37,836.50)	(40,248.59)	(42,989.10)	(45,786.71)
<b>Total RAB Charge</b>	<b>(277,445.97)</b>	<b>(495,228.12)</b>	<b>(406,318.53)</b>	<b>(428,892.52)</b>	<b>(456,728.79)</b>	<b>(480,827.70)</b>

Document is Restricted



## Children Young People & Education Committee

**From: Welsh Government**

**Date: 21st January 2021**

**Venue: Senedd, Cardiff Bay**

**Title: Scrutiny of CYP&E Draft Budget 2021-22**

### 1. Purpose

The Committee's Chair wrote to the Minister for Health and Social Services, the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language on 18 November 2020, inviting them to give evidence on their Draft Budget proposals and asking them to provide a paper in relation to the Draft Budget.

### 2. Introduction

This paper provides information for the Children Young People & Education Committee (CYP&E) on the children and young people future budget proposals for 2021-22 and also provides an update on specific areas of interest to the Committee.

### Commentary on Actions and detail of Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) allocations

The detailed Draft budget published on 21st December set out our spending plans for the HSS MEG by BEL.

Figures for 2022-23 are not available at this time as the draft budget covers one year only.

The tables below illustrate the budget moves from first Supplementary budget 2020-21 to Draft Budget 2021-22.

### Allocations within the Health and Social Services MEG

SPA	Delivery of Targeted NHS Services		
ACTION	2020-21 First Supplementary Budget	Change	2021-22
BEL			
	£m	£m	£m
A Healthier Wales – Early Years	6.3	0.7	7.0

SPA	Supporting Children		
ACTION	Supporting Children		
BEL	2020-21 First Supplementary Budget	Change	2021-22
	£m	£m	£m
Support for Childcare and Play	63.351	17.900	81.251
Support for Children's Rights	0.991	0	0.991
Supporting Children	3.289	0.576	3.865
Children's Commissioner	1.580	0	1.580
Support for Families and Children	3.604	2.400	6.004
<b>Total Supporting Children</b>	<b>72.815</b>	<b>20.876</b>	<b>93.691</b>

Changes included within the Health and Social Services MEG relate to:

**Action - Delivery of Targeted NHS Services in BEL - A Healthier Wales**

- £0.7m increase support for Speech, Language & Communication for Early Years. This will take forward the 'Talk with me' plan and funding to support the new pathfinders with systems transformation.

**Action – Supporting Children (various BELs)**

- £17.9m increase for Support for Children and Play in respect of £15m increase in Childcare Offer, £1.9m increase harmonising rate with the foundation phase and £1m budget transfer for Holiday Hunger from the Education MEG.
- £0.576m increase for Supporting Children in respect of National Fostering Framework.
- £2.4m increase for Support for Families and Children including inter-parental conflict support; parenting support in relation to the Children (Wales) Act, adverse childhood experiences and additional programme costs.

SPA	CAFCASS		
ACTION	CAFCASS		
BEL	2020-21 First Supplementary Budget	Change	2021-22 Draft Budget
	£m	£m	£m
CAFCASS Cymru	12.152	1.470	13.622

Changes to the **CAFCASS Action** are reflective of the planned increase agreed in 2020 due to demand within the service in fulfilling their statutory obligations. The increase represents funding for expected staff costs and court-ordered contact services in 21-22.

#### **BEL 0030 – Other Direct NHS Allocations**

- £17m included within the Integrated Care Fund for programme activity for 'Children on the Edge of Care' (£15m) and a new allocation for safe accommodation for children with complex, high end emotional and behavioural needs (£2m).

#### **New allocations within the Mental Health, Well-being and Welsh Language MEG relevant to children and young people**

##### **BEL 0270 –Mental Health**

- £4m additional support the Whole Systems Approach (previously Whole Schools Approach) to improve access to support the emotional and mental health well-being of children and young people.
- £5.4m additional funding to support young people with diagnosed mental health condition through community or specialist in-patient services

### **3. Impact of expenditure on progressing children's rights under the Rights of the Child and Young Persons (Wales) Measure**

Under the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011, we have given balanced consideration to the rights set out in the UNCRC. The draft Budget 2021-22, published on 21 December, sets out the impacts of our spending decisions as part of the main narratives in chapters four and six, including highlighting spending decisions that directly impact on children and young people. This is complemented by the Strategic Integrated Impact Assessment at Annex C, outlining the contextual evidence that has supported our spending decisions, including the impact of the pandemic on children and young people. Annex C also includes more-detailed case studies on the impacts of specific spending decisions, including one on our support for children and young people's mental health.

The evidence contained in this paper also sets out further information as to how Children's Rights have shaped budget priorities in the HSS MEG and the MHWWL MEG.

In line with evidence we have provided during the scrutiny of previous budgets, an integrated approach enables us to understand more clearly the overall impact of decisions on children and young people. Detailed impact assessments, including Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA), must be undertaken as part of our ongoing policy development and review. These assessments will continue to be used to inform budget decisions and the wider impact assessment of the budget.

This approach, in the context of the budget allocations, ensures that evidence and understanding of impacts are considered from the outset and throughout the course of our budget preparations.

Our integrated impact assessment tool still requires children's rights to be considered, and where necessary, a full CRIA is completed. The CRIA process puts children's rights centre stage when we are developing legislation, new policies and programmes.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act**

The Health and Social Services (HSS) portfolio supports our ambitions to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. This will be achieved through delivering the three objectives set out in Prosperity for All: quality health and care services fit for the future, promoting good health and wellbeing for everyone and building healthier communities and better environments. We have taken a long term approach in developing our spending plans for 2021-22, with an emphasis on delivering our vision of integrated health and social care services for the future as set out in A Healthier Wales, our Plan for Health and Social Care.

The Health and Social Services MEG contains the core revenue and capital funding for NHS Wales, as well as funding to support centrally managed programmed activities in relation to public health, social care and supporting children.

A Healthier Wales meets our commitment in 'Prosperity for All' to publish a long term plan for health and social care in Wales in response to the report of the Parliamentary Review of the Long Term Future of Health and Social Care. The Plan builds on the philosophy of Prudent Healthcare to make an impact on health and wellbeing throughout life. There is an emphasis on preventing measures to support people to manage their own health and wellbeing, enabling people to live independently for as long as they can.

Our aim is to take significant steps to shift our approach from treatment to prevention. The vision we have established in A Healthier Wales is to place a greater focus on prevention and early intervention which we continue to support through universal, as well as more targeted support. This includes information, advice and support for parents through Parenting. Give it Time; support for speech, language and communication (SLC) through the Talk with me SLC plan; and the ongoing work to reduce or mitigate the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

As well as significant investment in the NHS in 2021-22 we are allocating an additional £20m for early years support for children, young people and families. There will be an additional £16.9m in the Childcare offer and a further £3.1m to expand the Early Years Transformation programme building on what we know works from Flying Start and Families First and SLC support.

Our support for childcare and play provision contributes to all of the well-being goals, and specifically to those relating to a prosperous and healthier Wales. Investment in quality childcare and play can help young children develop into healthy, active

adults. It develops their cognitive and social and emotional wellbeing and mitigates the harmful effects of adverse childhood experiences. Childcare can also enable parents to work and train and lifts families out of poverty.

Our Childcare Offer specifically supports the Welsh Government's well-being objectives, in particular to:

- Support people and businesses to drive prosperity
- Promote good health and well-being for everyone
- Support young people to make the most of their potential
- Build ambition and encourage learning for life

We will continue to frame our budget allocations in line with preventative activities, making positive interventions that protect and build on existing foundations, including our commitment to children's rights.

## **Preventative Approach**

### **Whole Systems approach**

- An additional £4m will be allocated to extending the rollout of the whole systems approach from the MHWWL MEG. This will increase the allocation in 2021-22 to £7m from the MHWWL MEG. The investments will support the extension of schools counselling and further extend the existing in-reach pilots for the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service into 2021-22. These services are helping to prevent the escalation of more serious mental health and well-being issues within school aged children and ensure sustainable improvements to timeliness of interventions. There is also £2m in the Education MEG that supports this programme, giving a total commitment of £9m.

### **National Fostering**

- An additional £0.6m to support the existing programme work of the National Fostering Framework and enhancing Foster Wales. The programme work centers around rebalancing service provision addressing demands and improve quality of placements. Support also extends to other key areas of work around residential care including such as the provision of safe accommodation for children with complex needs and exploring ways to increase the use of special guardianship arrangements.

### **Early help**

- An additional £3.1m, which also includes £0.7m funding from the A Healthier Wales Early Prevention funding from the HSS MEG. This funding will provide a range of interventions across a range of programmes which support children and families including Speech, Language and Communication to support the implementation of the delivery plan; inter-parental conflict support; parenting support in relation to the Children (Wales) Act, adverse childhood experiences and additional programme costs.

### **Childcare Offer**

- An additional £16.9m, with £15m increase in the core baseline budget for the Childcare Offer and £1.6m to harmonise the rate for the early education element of the Offer with the childcare element.

### **Integrated Care Fund**

- Maintain the total investment in the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) for Children on the Edge of Care (£15m) and prioritising a new allocation of £2m to support the high-need looked after children currently being sent outside of Wales.

### **CAFCASS Cymru**

- Planned increase of £1.470m, agreed in 2020-21, due to demand within the service in fulfilling their statutory obligations. The increase represents expected staff costs and court-ordered contact services.

### **NHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services for Tier 4 and Community Intensive Teams**

- An additional investment of £5.4m for those vulnerable children and young people who need more significant support. Such support is offered at a community level whenever possible, but in some cases requires specialist Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) intervention which may lead to inpatient treatment.

#### 4. Policy and legislation allocations

The Committee requests an update on allocations within the Draft Budget 2021-22 Health and Social Service MEG in the following areas of interest:

**Costs of legislation :** *Planned expenditure on implementing the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act in the run up to it coming into force.*

A [regulatory impact assessment](#) was published alongside the Bill at introduction in March 2019, setting out the estimated costs and benefits of the proposed legislation. Some costs to organisations are unknown, because relevant data is not collected by those organisations to provide a baseline, and there is a lack of comparable data to provide the basis of an estimate of the potential increase in workload. However, we have worked through a Data Collection and Monitoring task and finish group to agree data collection and monitoring arrangements with the police and social services which will allow us to collect and monitor data both before and after commencement of the legislation, to help assess the impact of the legislation. We also are continuing to work with other stakeholders such as the Crown Prosecution Service Cymru and HM Courts and Tribunals Service to collect additional data after commencement.

We have awarded a contract to support the awareness raising campaign for the Act, and to support our *Parenting. Give it Time* campaign. In 2021-22, we have allocated up to £0.800m to specifically raise awareness of the change to the legislation. This is a comprehensive engagement and communications campaign, comprising; targeted work with partners, stakeholders and professionals; engagement with BAME and targeted audiences; a children and young people strategy; a multi-media public facing awareness campaign including TV, radio, outdoor and social media advertising. £0.2m has been allocated to the *Parenting. Give it Time* campaign, which supports our policy of encouraging positive alternatives to physical punishment and provides information and advice on positive parenting techniques. We will also allocate up to £0.030m for social research to track levels of awareness and opinions on the legislation, and up to £0.043m to support engagement with young people through Children in Wales.

#### Child Poverty

An allocation of £23.27m has been made to the Housing and Local Government MEG through the Local Government Hardship Fund for provision in lieu of free school meals to eligible learners during school holidays in 2021-22.

An allocation of £15m has been made to the Childcare Offer which supports eligible working parents of 3 and 4 years old with their childcare costs. A typical parent whose child is benefitting from 20 hours of childcare per week is getting the equivalent of an extra £90 per week in their pockets – money they would not otherwise have had.

The Offer has been independently evaluated since the first year of implementation. The latest evaluation results are based on year 2 of the Offer and show that:

- **84% of parents** reported having more disposable income
- **57% of parents** felt work related decisions were more flexible
- **56% of parents** had more opportunity to increase earnings
- **45% of parents** reported having more opportunities for training, learning and development

The median salary level of parents supported by the Offer is approximately £21,000 per annum which is lower than the national average annual salary level of £25,896 per annum (as recorded by the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).

The latest evaluation of year 3 of the Offer is currently underway and results are expected in early 2021. During 2021-22 we will also be reviewing the rate of the offer and considering rolling out the Offer to parents of children in education and training.

The programmes within the Children and Communities Grant in the Housing and Local Government MEG are both early intervention and prevention programmes. These include Flying Start and Families First that support families in poverty. No new allocations have been made to the Children and Communities Grant at Draft Budget, but budgets have been maintained at 2020-21 levels.

## **Flying Start**

The Flying Start revenue grant is part of the Children and Communities Grant (CCG). The CCG consists of 7 programmes (Childcare and Play, Communities for Work Plus, Families First, Flying Start, Legacy Fund, Promoting Positive Engagement for young people at risk of offending (PPE), St David's Day Fund), of which - Flying Start and Families First are tackling poverty programmes, enabling Local Authorities (LA's) to be more flexible in their approach in order to improve and integrate service delivery for early intervention. LAs have 100% flexibility to direct their CCG funding across these 7 programmes enabling them to ensure services are delivered in a more efficient and effective way.

In recognition of the new flexibility in budgets allowed for by the CCG, local authorities now have the flexibility to allocate any of their overall CCG budget for outreach i.e. it is for local determination of need, and as requested by our stakeholders we have removed the barriers to this.

The Flying Start programme straddles both primary and secondary preventative spend and is a tackling poverty and early intervention programme.

We want to build on the considerable achievements of the Flying Start programme and learn from what works well, not least in how we can deepen partnership, collaboration and multi-agency working arrangements across sectors in support of young children and their families. We want to progress the work of the nine PSB Early Years Transformation Pathfinders who are exploring what it would take to create a more integrated and responsive early years system, both locally and



nationally, by extending the number of PSBs on the programme to test the core components of an integrated early years' service.

We will **provide an extra £3.1m** across a range of programmes supporting Children and Families including Speech, Language and Communication to support the implementation of the delivery plan; inter-parental conflict support; parenting support in relation to the Children (Wales) Act, adverse childhood experiences and additional programme costs.

Since its inception, Flying Start has invested more than £68m capital developing the infrastructure needed across Wales to deliver this tackling poverty programme. This includes creating new childcare settings to provide high quality, part time places needed for 2-3 year olds and a significant investment in developing accommodation for the multi-agency teams who deliver the programme. The **capital budget for 2021-22 is £5.529m** and local authorities will continue to be encouraged to take a strategic approach to capital programme planning including 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools, Welsh Language and the Childcare Offer to enable key priorities to be delivered in a more joined-up way.

### **Families First Programme**

The Families First revenue grant is part of the CCG. Local authorities can be flexible with how they use this funding within the grant conditions to provide early help to children and families that need it. This continuing investment is an important part of our commitment to helping children fulfil their potential and reduce incidence of adverse childhood experiences which impact on longer-term outcomes.

### **Childcare**

In 2020-21 we developed the Coronavirus-Childcare Assistance Scheme to support parents through the pandemic. An allocation of £20m was also made from reserves to meet the rising costs of the Childcare Offer and to meet demand.

We have allocated an **additional £16.9m** to the Childcare BEL in 2021-22, which has increased funding available to the Offer in 2021-22 to **£76.9m**. Given the demand led nature of the Offer we cannot rule out the possibility that costs will exceed the allocated budget. If this happens then as in previous years this will be managed as an in-year pressure with the support of Welsh Government reserves.

In addition to an increase of £15m to reflect likely demand for the Offer, we are allocating £1.9m towards the costs of harmonising the rates for early education and childcare within the Offer. This follows a pilot of a single rate for both elements of the Offer in 2019. A number of settings are concerned about the disparity in the rate between the education and childcare elements of the Offer.

The total cost of harmonising the rates is expected to be around £3.8m with £1.9m coming from the Health and Social Services budget and a further £1.9m from the Education budget.

We have also committed to review the rate paid for the Offer. We are aware of concerns within the sector that the current rate does not reflect changes within the market including recent changes in the National Minimum Wage for example. Harmonising the rates is the first stage in addressing these concerns.

We have also committed to exploring the implications of extending the Offer to parents in education and training and on the cusp of work.

We are making good progress on both these fronts and expect the reviews to be completed February 2021.

The development of a single all-Wales digital system for administering the Offer has started, with a capital budget of £4.5m for 2020-21 and £4m forecast for 2021-22.

We will maintain the same level of continued support to CWLWM (Childcare Wales Learning and Working Mutually) of £1.4m. This is the umbrella consortium representing childcare providers in Wales. CWLWM plays a key role in maintaining a link between Government and providers on the ground and acts as a valuable sounding board as we develop and implement our policies.

This relationship has been invaluable during 2020 and in seeing us through the Covid-19 crisis an additional in-year allocation of £0.800 was provided to bolster activity relating to Covid-19 guidance and support for childcare providers through our CWLWM partners.

In 2020-21 we have continued to fund local authorities through the Childcare and Play element of the Children and Communities Grant in order that local authorities can help with the sustainability of childcare and play providers in their areas and address any gaps in provision in their local areas.

In 2020-21 we were able to allocate an additional £2.3m to local authorities as part of the Welsh Government's reconstruction package, on top of their usual annual allocation of £2.3m. This additional money was a one-off allocation to support settings which have felt the impact of Covid-19 and to try and ensure that we are able to sustain a strong and viable childcare sector into the future.

In 2021-22 we will continue to support local authorities in their work of securing childcare sufficiency. This funding sits within the Children and Communities Grant in the Housing and Local Government MEG.

Funding for the childcare and play services within Care Inspectorate Wales fell this year as a result of the closure of childcare services due to Covid-19 and the impact on inspection activity. We are expecting funding for CIW to resume to typical levels in 2021-22, which will be in the region of £0.4m. This will support joint inspection activity with Estyn for settings where childcare and early years are provided, will support ICT costs and administration of the nanny scheme.

We are also planning to maintain our funding for Social Care Wales (SCW) in respect of the work they do for the childcare workforce. Childcare forms a part of the wider social care workforce and SCW are supporting the implementation of the 10

year childcare, playwork and early years workforce plan we published in 2017.

In 2020-21 we allocated £0.315m to SCW, though changes to their work plan in light of Covid-19 meant they only required £0.3m. We expect funding to return to at least £0.315m in 2021-22 and are working with them to determine how best to re-profile and restart a range of planned activity to support the wider childcare workforce, including work on qualifications and registration.

We are supporting a range of programmes to upskill the childcare and playwork workforce through Progress for Success, which is funded from European Social Funds. In 2020-21 we expect to spend £0.715m in match funding to meet our commitments in respect of the programme. It is likely our commitments will be slightly reduced in 2021-22, though discussions around the rate of draw-down of European funding are ongoing.

We have continued to support other programmes aimed at supporting the childcare workforce. This includes Childcare Works, which is administered by the National Day Nursery Association, specific work on apprenticeships being taken forward by Mudiad Meithrin, and business support grants administered by Business Wales. While not all of these programmes will continue, with some scheduled to end this year, we will continue to invest in support programmes for the workforce through 2021-22.

### **Parents Childcare and Employment (PaCE)**

The Parents Childcare and Employment (PaCE) is a £21.5m programme jointly funded by the European Social Fund and Welsh Government, working in partnership with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Currently the programme is funded up to March 2023.

PaCE targets economically inactive parents aged 25 and over, and parents aged 16-24 who are Not in Employment Education or Training (NEET). All parents enrolled onto PaCE have childcare as their main barrier preventing them accessing education, employment or training opportunities. PaCE builds upon services offered via Flying Start and Families First and operates outside the former Communities First areas, to complement other projects such as Communities for Work.

PaCE aims to work with 9,000 parents over the life of the project, and help at least 1,800 of those parents into work. As at October 2020, PaCE has supported 5605 people. The programme has delivered consistently and is expected to continue to do so despite the impact of Covid-19 restrictions.

### **Family Information Services**

Funding for the Family Information Services (FIS) is delivered via the Local Authority Revenue Support Grant (RSG).

## **Parenting support**

In 2021-22, we have allocated up to £0.2m to support our Parenting - Give it Time campaign. The campaign supports our policy of encouraging positive alternatives to physical punishment as well as providing information and advice to parents and families on wider positive parenting techniques. We intend to extend the age range of the campaign during 2020-21 from 0 – 7 to parents of 0 – 18 year olds.

A mapping exercise was completed to assess the current availability of parenting support across Wales, and in the light of the pandemic, we have also worked with parenting practitioners to collate and share their innovative work to deliver parenting support virtually. We are considering with our Parenting Expert Action Group the extent to which additional parenting support and resources may need to be made available.

## **Safeguarding & Advocacy £2.365m, in BEL 0460**

### **Safeguarding services**

Funding for Safeguarding primarily supports the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (The 2014 Act) and promotes a preventative agenda to improve well-being outcomes for children and adults at risk. Safeguarding priorities fall under *Taking Wales Forward* which sets out that the Welsh Government will “work with and support the most vulnerable children and families in Wales.” *Prosperity for All* includes social care as a top 5 priority and recognises that there is a need to adopt a child-centred approach built on collaboration to meet the care and support needs of children, support them to stay with their families where it is safe to do so and to protect children from abuse and neglect.

In order to promote these aims funding supports Safeguarding Policy Development and Implementation. These aims include:

- Work to support the implementation of forthcoming statutory guidance on safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation.
- National Action Plan on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse and implementation of actions from that plan which fall within the financial period;
- Publication and work to support the implementation of a Reducing Restrictive Practices Framework for childcare, social care, education and health settings;
- Work to develop advice on safeguarding in the early years.
- Work to promote safeguarding in adolescence multi-agency training package commissioned for development in this financial year.
- Continued work to support Covid-19 recovery through information, advice and support for children and young people, parents/carers, practitioners and the public.

Funding of £103,000 will support the development and implementation of policy to safeguard children as set out above. £53,000 of this is for delivery of actions under the National Action Plan on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse.

Safeguarding funding supports the work of the National Independent Safeguarding Board and the regional Safeguarding Boards so that measures are in place to support consistent evidence-based practice to safeguard children across agencies and across Wales. Funding of £180,000 is provided to the National Independent Safeguarding Board.

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures and aligned practice guides were issued in November 2019 on a digital platform and further promote consistent evidence based safeguarding practice across agencies and across Wales. On-going work led by the Wales Safeguarding Procedures Project Board will ensure the procedures and guides are reviewed and amended as emerging evidence of effective practice is identified and to sustain the digital offer. This will require £25,000 funding.

Funding for Safeguarding activity will remain at 2020-21 levels and 2021-22 priorities will include continuation of support to Regional Safeguarding Boards to ensure the robust adoption into day-to-day practice of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures and accompanying practice guides across relevant workforces as well as funding for the National Independent Safeguarding Board which provides support to regional boards and advice to Ministers about the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Wales. Funding for Safeguarding week will continue to be a priority and this will contribute to both prevention and the protection of children at risk.

Funding will be available to support the implementation of the National Action Plan on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse set out for the financial period within the plan; training development and delivery to support the implementation of new statutory guidance on safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation and a new Reducing Restrictive Practices Framework. Policy development will include a Voluntary Code of Practice for bodies who are not currently relevant safeguarding partners, guidance on emerging safeguarding issues for children and practice advice on safeguarding in the early years and the to support stronger corporate safeguarding policy and practice across Wales.

### **Advocacy services**

The NASA is a standardised approach to statutory advocacy services being delivered by the six Regional Social Services Collaboratives. It has been in place since June 2017, with Welsh Government providing up to £550k each year to support the implementation of this approach. The implementation of NASA is monitored by a Task and Finish Group established under the Ministerial Advisory Group.

The Task and Finish Group was drawn to a close in November 2020 with a new approach being taken of Regional Fora which follows the footprint of the Regional Safeguarding Boards. This will be overseen by a National Forum chaired by Welsh Government and a Local Authority Head of Children's Services. The NASA will continue to be managed and monitored via the Regional and National Fora. The funding element from Welsh Government will continue (up to £550k each year).

The NASA sets out shared national expectations on access and availability of independent professional advocacy. Underpinned by the National Standards and Outcomes Framework, common components of a service specification and reporting template, the NASA reinforces and secures a consistent offer and experience for children and practitioners. The NASA further evidences and informs future delivery and improvement through quantitative and qualitative reporting at local, regional and national levels.

An active offer of advocacy forms part of the NASA and is provided in the following circumstances: 'Children and young people are entitled to an active offer of advocacy from a statutory Independent Professional Advocate (IPA) when they become looked after or become subject of child protection enquiries leading to an Initial Child Protection Conference.'

MEIC is the national information, advice and advocacy helpline providing children and young people with a single point of contact via Freephone, instant messaging and text.

The Welsh Government does not deliver this activity directly but carries out regular monitoring contract meetings with Pro-Mo Cymru who were awarded a two year contract (plus option for additional 2 years) in April 2016 following public tender exercise in 2015.

Welsh Government, as per the terms of the contract, has with Ministerial authority utilised the option to extend the contract for an additional 2 years on an annually renewable basis.

MEIC is currently funded until March 2021 by the Welsh Government at the sum of £535,980 per annum. As a result of the pandemic, an additional funding amount of £33,000 was provided to Pro-Mo Cymru to assist with the additional resources required (both staff and materials) to enable the MEIC service to appropriately respond to the increase in calls to the helpline and to produce Covid-19 specific resources to enable the maintenance of the provision during a period of great change and uncertainty for young people in Wales (e.g. responding to calls concerning uncertainty regarding education, specifically regarding exam results and preparation for university during the pandemic).

The pandemic has presented challenges regarding the procurement exercise to maintain the MEIC service beyond March 2021. Work is ongoing to enable the continuation of the service for a further year until March 2022. During this time, it is intended to continue to explore the provision of a Youth Information Service for Wales (Young Wales) of which, it is intended that MEIC would be one component. This extension will enable the service to avoid interruption whilst the larger proposed service is developed which will be flexible to enable and ensure alignment with current and future Ministerial priorities.

### **Looked after children**

In 2021-22 the programme budget for Looked After Children (LACTG) and the Vulnerable Children budget will be respectively £0.660m and £3.156m.

The LACTG budget will enable the continuation and progression of an extensive programme of work as set out in the Improving Outcomes for Children programme. The key features of the programme are:

### **Safely reducing the numbers of children in need of care**

Working with local authorities, the judiciary and other key stakeholders to continue to develop services which help keep families safely together. This includes using evidence based approaches such as family group decision making approaches to de-escalate family crises and support reunification, delivering peer learning across sectors. It also includes work to support the reform of the family justice system so that preventative measures are a key feature to avoid the need for families to become involved in care proceedings.

### **Providing and commissioning a flexible, affordable and sufficient range of high quality placements**

To progress the work of the National Fostering Framework and the development of the marketing campaign. Recruitment of foster carers is key to the success and development of local authority fostering. It was identified that a requirement to achieve this goal would be the development of an “all Wales brand for Local Authority fostering”, a consistent national brand for Local Authority fostering that reflects the strengths and personalities of the 22 Local Authorities - ‘Foster Wales’ is this brand. Foster Wales presents an opportunity to rebalance service provision, address demands, and improve quality of placement choice for children. The programme also supports other key areas of work around residential care including such as the provision of safe accommodation for children with complex needs and exploring ways to increase the use of special guardianship arrangements.

### **Supporting Children who are Looked After to have the Best Possible Journeys through Care and Into Adulthood**

To continue to provide support to care leavers to help them transition successfully into adulthood. There is also a range of cross government work which is focused on improving educational outcomes for looked after children, developing a range of accommodation options which provide positive experiences for children and young people who are leaving care and a programme of work around corporate parenting.

**Vulnerable Children (£3.156m) – Activities include:**

#### **Independent Review Mechanism**

The IRM manages the process by which prospective or approved adopters, and prospective or approved foster parents, can seek a review of a ‘qualifying determination’ made by an adoption or fostering provider. This includes local authorities and independent providers.

#### **Adoption Services including post-Adoption support**

Adopted children are amongst the most vulnerable children in Wales; children for whom other alternatives have been exhausted and who would most likely remain ‘looked after’ for their entire childhoods if they were not adopted. Improving support will ensure the investment already made in safeguarding these children leads to best outcomes and will encourage more families to consider adopting.

#### **Wales Adoption Register**

The Welsh Government continues to work closely with the National Adoption Service to ensure the continuous delivery of the Wales Adoption Register. The Register provides a tailor-made database for adoption agencies (including voluntary adoption agencies) in Wales. It provides data to better evidence and drive improvement in adoption activity across Wales, particularly in respect of those children who are more difficult to place with prospective parents. During 21-22 the new Adoption Register for Wales will continue to be embedded to speed up matching of children through quicker notification of children and adopters in line with revised regulations.

### **Adoption Support**

#### National Adoption Service Framework:

Investment will continue to support the implementation of the National Adoption Service Framework for Adoption Support which provides the improvement strategy for adoption support across Wales.

#### Life Journey work

Life Journey Work is designed to help a child make sense of their past and understand their current situation in order to help them move into the future. Funding will enable the continued improvement of this service to ensure that all adopted children have access to their life journey work. Funding will be directed at supporting champion co-ordinator posts in each of the NAS regions along with supportive posts to help further develop this area of work,

#### TESSA

Investment to fund for the recently established Therapeutic Education Support Service for Adoptive families (TESSA).

#### Best Practice Approaches

Implementation of best practice guides developed by the National Adoption Service.

### **Adoption UK Cymru**

During 21-22 funding will be directed to Adoption UK Cymru to continue providing a wide range of services which include maintaining and growing volunteers, delivery of post approval training, provision of an Adoption Support Helpline in Wales, delivery of a bespoke service for adopted children age 7- 10, young people age 11 – 25 years old, and an 18-25 year old group.

### **Adopting Together**

Adopting Together is a bespoke programme which finds adoptive families for the most vulnerable children who have been waiting the longest within Wales.

Adopting Together families support needs are at a higher level, and require direct psychological and therapeutic support that are specific rather than generic, to ensure placement stability.

### **Cohort Study – Cardiff University**

So far the study has yielded invaluable information direct from families and children which from a practice point of view, has enabled us to develop responses that will help to preserve adoptions ever more effectively; and to recruit greater numbers of suitable adopters because we can understand more fully the pressures on, and successes of, adoptive families and the best ways to support them in their role. In 2021-22 the funds will build on new areas of research, based on the recommendations stemming from the 5<sup>th</sup> wave data.



### **Association for Adoption and Fostering (AFA) Cymru**

The Association for Fostering and Adoption (AFA) Cymru is a subsidiary of the St David's Children's Society, which undertakes a variety training work for fostering and adoption agencies as well as legal/ consultancy activities. This investment enables AFA Cymru to deliver its core services so that it can continue to strengthen arrangements within the fostering and adoption sector, and promote good practice and support around permanency and stable placements for looked after children.

### **Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service Cafcass Cymru**

Planned recurrent increase of £1.470m agreed in 2021 due to demand within the service in fulfilling their statutory obligations. This increase represents expected staff costs and court-ordered contact services.

The current budget covers staffing and running costs for the organisation but also grant funding to support separated parents, when directed by the Family Court, to have contact with their children. The budget also funds the provision of the court ordered Working Together for Children programme which supports parents who have separated, or are separating, to better manage their own behaviour to ensure the emotional, practical and physical needs and best interest of their children are paramount.

### **Children and young people's rights and entitlements**

Funding of up to £0.991m in 2021-22 will support the implementation of the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011. Part of this funding supports Children in Wales to deliver against their agreed plan in supporting the children rights agenda in Wales.

It also includes the development:

- and implementation of a participation strategy to enable Children and Young people to influence policy (article 12 UNCRC)
- and implementation of a raising awareness strategy to both internal and external stakeholders (article 42 UNCRC)
- of a comprehensive training offer for Ministers, Officials, Deputy Directors and external stakeholders
- of a research strategy focussed on Children's Rights

This funding will ensure that Welsh Government can deliver on the CYPE Committee recommendations into Children Rights in Wales and revised Children Rights Scheme.

## **The Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales**

The Children's Commissioner for Wales is an independent children's rights institution established in 2001. The Commissioner's principal aim, under the Care Standards Act 2000, is to safeguard and promote the rights and welfare of children. The Care Standards Act 2000 makes provision for the Welsh Ministers to fund the Children's Commissioner and her office. The budget allocation of £1.580m covers the running costs of the Commissioner's office for 2021-22 and the resources required in discharging her statutory functions.

## **Play policy and services**

In 2019 we piloted the use of playwork settings to tackle holiday hunger, and the success of these schemes resulted in the allocation of £1m to support this approach in 2021-22, located within the Education budget. It was always intended that this funding should sit alongside that allocated through the School Holiday Enrichment Programme.

We do not think any child should be hungry in the holidays. We funded free school meal provision during the 2020 school Easter holidays, spring half term and summer holidays as part of our Covid-19 response. In addition to that a further £11m was allocated for free school meals from the October half term up to and including the school Easter holidays 2021. This is something we are committed to continuing, increasing opportunities for children to play and addressing issues of hunger.

As a consequence of that provision, we redirected the £1m originally allocated to support playwork settings to tackle holiday hunger into the £1.6m used to provide play and childcare support to school aged vulnerable children over the school summer holidays. This sat alongside the support available to pre-school children via the Coronavirus Childcare Assistance Scheme, the funding in lieu of the School Holiday Enrichment Programme and the continuation of free school meals.

We have retained the £1m allocation for playwork settings to tackle holiday hunger in the budget for 2021-22. It will move from the Education budget into the Health and Social Services budget. We are considering how best to target that funding now that an allocation of £23.27m has been made to continue with free school meals for all eligible learners during school holidays during the 2021-22 financial year. Healthy snacks and drinks will remain available at playwork provision.

Next year, as in previous years, we will be continue to support Play Wales, the charity which supports children's play. Play Wales has worked with local authorities to improve their response to the Play Sufficiency Duty and to provide specialist advice and guidance to the playwork sector. Play Wales has a key role in maintaining a link between Government and the playwork sector. It acts as a valuable sounding board as we develop and implement our policies.

This relationship has been invaluable during 2020. From the Covid-19 reconstruction fund we were able to allocate an additional £0.200m in-year funding to enable Play Wales funding to support local authorities in accessing playwork provision.

The annual grant for Play Wales is to be maintained at the level it has been in recent years, which is £0.360m so that we can continue to capitalise on this key partnership. Play Wales is also supporting the Ministerial Review of Play which will report later in the year.

They will also assist local authorities by supporting the playwork network and third sector to ensure that they understand and comply with the Open Access Playwork protective measures guidance. Play Wales will use their expertise on workplace risk assessments and how to vary play opportunities to ensure that children and young people get the best benefit.

This financial year, a one-off allocation of £0.500m revenue and £3m capital funding from the Covid-19 reconstruction fund was allocated via the All Wales Play Opportunities grant to local authorities to help them meet their Play Sufficiency duty. The £0.500m revenue funding will help local authorities improve play opportunities, such as play schemes and other playwork activities, for children and young people during the holiday periods up to and including Easter 2021. This will help vulnerable communities and support parents by enabling them to work.

The £3m capital funding will enable local authorities to further support play opportunities for children as they will be able to open play areas which have remained closed as the equipment either needs replenishing or repairs. The funding will also be used to enhance children's outdoor play experiences by removing some of the barriers to accessing play space faced by disabled children and their families. Healthy snacks and drinks will be made available at playwork provision.

### **Disabled children's services**

Core funding for local authorities to deliver services for disabled children is through the Revenue Support Grant (RSG).

Funding has been maintained as part of the Healthier Wales funding for the clinical pathway for augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) equipment. £0.6m has been allocated to fund extra speech and language therapists and support workers in health boards (and Velindre) and a small equipment budget, in order to provide a low technology services closer to home for both adults and children who need speech and language assessment, treatment and AAC equipment.

Funding of £0.572m has also been allocated from the budget for A Healthier Wales, in part for the provision of activity prostheses for children and young people up to 25 years (this is so it fits with our policy ages for supporting young people in education under the ALNET Act and Care leavers). An allocation has also been included to support the scaling up of the Health Disability Sport Partnership. This is an award winning pilot which increases children and young peoples (and adults) engagement in disability sport. It is run in partnership with disability sport wales.

Through the Sustainable Social Services Third Sector Grant, in 2021-22, £9.8m will be provided to third sector organisations supporting the principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act and A Healthier Wales. Around 30% of this grant will be supporting schemes involving children and young people. Specific support for disabled children is being provided through grant assistance to a number

of third sector organisations including Down's Syndrome Associations; Learning Disability Wales and Whizz Kidz.

### **Childhood obesity**

There will be £5.5m invested to deliver the Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales strategy in 21-22. The delivery plan, published early 2020 set out commitments as part of the 10 year Healthy Weight Healthy Wales strategy but has been significantly impacted due to Covid-19 which has meant delays in achieving 2020 deliverables. However, the proposals set out in 2020-21 remain our focus and we will publish a revised timeframe for delivery in 2021-22. The funding will focus on:

- Support for a Clinical Obesity Pathway, which will be develop children and families services and develop support for families in the early years. This will include support for a Weight Management in Pregnancy programme which will take forward a national delivery model to roll out best practice, with expertise and support provided for each Local Health Board.
- A Children and Families Intervention which will aim to support our most disadvantaged communities, targeted towards the highest proportion of children who are obese, based on the Child Measurement Programme. This will link with infrastructure through Flying Start and with social prescribing approaches and will place a particular focus on sedentary behaviour and health inequalities in order to develop pilots to test new ways of working.
- Development of systems work through Local Health Boards and partners, to deliver bespoke engagement with children and families, in order to empower decision making and developing local solutions.
- Development of research and behavioural insight which will develop evidence informed actions through the delivery plan.

### **Neonatal Services**

#### Allocations to deliver the All Wales Neonatal Standards

The All-Wales Maternity and Neonatal Network, formed in 2019 from an amalgamation of two previous networks, provides evidence-based timely advice to Health Boards, Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) and Welsh Government in relation to both maternity and neonatal services. This merger established opportunities to foster closer links across the clinical pathway for mother and baby and provide new areas for joint working.

The Network uses an All-Wales Neonatal dashboard that provides oversight on activity and performance; provide assurance on the quality of neonatal services in Wales; provide a platform for monitoring the NNAP measures on an all Wales basis; support WHSSC and Welsh Government business requests for information on the provision of neonatal services.

The Network ensures regular monitoring of progress to full compliance with the Neonatal Standards, which were last revised by the Neonatal Network Steering Group in September in 2017. The standards were based upon the most up to date evidence and best practice guidelines available at that time to make them clinically and operationally relevant. They were influenced by neonatal developments across the United Kingdom and took into account recommendations by the British

Association of Perinatal Medicine (BAPM), the National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP), the Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health (RCPCH), Bliss and other standards published in England and Scotland.

The 3rd Edition standards aimed to continue to build on previous standards to improve services for babies and their families across Wales, incorporating the increasingly important role of the Neonatal Network and Welsh Neonatal Units working collaboratively in order to share the knowledge and skills required, to promote continuous service improvement.

The Maternity and Neonatal Network has developed a set of quality indicators for peer review that are more relevant, but will still need to be refreshed following the current round of reviews (due to complete in April 2021). In light of the ongoing peer review process and the impacts of Covid, the Maternity and Neonatal Network did not ask Health Boards to complete a self-assessment against the standards in 2020. These self-assessments also provide an estimation of the cost implication to meet standards. This baseline assessment identifies any gaps in service provision across units and also areas of non-compliance at unit level.

Priorities for Neonatal services over the next 12 months include ongoing work to introduce a 24 hour transport, 7 day a week neonatal transport service across South Wales, and ensure that the correct critical care capacity with the appropriate workforce is in place across South Wales. An interim 24 hour neonatal transport model has been agreed and will be put in place from January 2021, pending the provision of a permanent model later next year.

We also expect health boards to continue to work with the Maternity and Neonatal Network to ensure their neonatal service plans are sufficiently robust to achieve the all Wales Neonatal Standards and improvements across the service.

Going forward, the Neonatal Peer Review Programme, introduced in April 2019 will continue to review compliance with the Standards as well as agreed performance measures, clinical guidelines and policies relevant at the time of review.

The NHS England Transformational Review was launched this year and the Network has agreed to benchmark the Welsh service against this programme and present to the next Board meeting in March. This will include Welsh data, peer review themes, medical and nursing workforce, therapy support and the availability of transitional care.

Demand and capacity work for both Maternity and Neonatal services features on the Network and Collaborative work programme. A timeframe for this work is yet to be agreed. It will however require collaboration from WHSSC and Delivery Unit.

#### How budget allocation for 2020-21 will help to drive change / deliver performance improvement

Health board neonatal services are funded through the annual discretionary revenue allocation and health boards will set out their local priorities with regards to neonatal services in their Integrated Medium Term Plans (IMTP). WHSSC manages the majority of the health boards' budget for commissioning Neonatal Intensive Care

(Level 4) and Neonatal High Dependency (Level 3) services. The Special Care Baby Unit budget is managed by individual health boards.

Neonatal services are considered Essential Services that need to be maintained during the Covid-19 pandemic. Health boards have been instructed that they need to reflect plans to maintain such services as part of their ongoing planning and they are reporting against this to the Network and Welsh Government.

Since 2015, the Welsh Government has invested approximately £116m in neonatal developments across Wales. The investment has been made across a number of key acute sites in Wales with the aim of reducing the number of transfers of mothers and babies through the provision of a specialist, space compliant environment to ensure that care for babies is safe and effective. The funding across this period comprises:-

- £19m invested at the Sub Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Centre (SuRNICC) at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd which was opened by the First Minister in September 2018;
- £44.5m allocated for the Phase II developments at the University Hospital in Cardiff which completed in 2019;
- £25m allocated for Phase II of the Women and Children's scheme at Glangwili Hospital, Carmarthen which is due to complete in 2021;
- £10m allocated for Neonatal and Post-Natal Capacity on the Singleton Hospital site which was completed in October 2020;
- £6m allocated for works on the neonatal unit at Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr which were completed in 2018;
- £2m invested in works on the neonatal unit at the Royal Gwent Hospital site, Newport which was opened in spring 2017
- £10m invested in phase I neonatal works at both the University Hospital of Wales and Glangwili to enable further investment to be made.

### **Perinatal Mental Health**

During the COVID-19 pandemic we have ensured that perinatal services are amongst those 'essential' mental health services we have been clear must be maintained. Through the reporting mechanism we put in place on a regular basis with health board leads we receive assurance that community perinatal mental health services are still operational and available.

The original investment for perinatal mental health services to health boards was made in 2015-16 and was £1.435m. Future rounds of mental health transformation funding (commenced in 2018/19) and service improvement funding (in both 2019/20 and 2020/21) outlined a number of priority areas where health boards had flexibility to determine where their funding was allocated. This resulted in some, but not all, health boards allocating additional funding to perinatal mental health community services.

The following table shows the cumulative funding allocations which will form part of the Mental Health ring-fence within the main Health Board Allocation for 21-22.

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Health Board</b>	<b>£m</b>
Betsi Cadwaladr University HB	807,426
Powys Teaching HB	223,309
Hywel Dda HB	327,109
Swansea Bay University HB	361,213
Cardiff and Vale University HB	301,149
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University HB	336,030
Aneurin Bevan University HB	472,237
	<b>2,828,473</b>

The Welsh Government remains committed to improving services, with perinatal mental health services remaining a priority area in 2021/22.

Proposals were developed by health boards based on the needs of their area and with the understanding that Welsh Government had confirmed to all health boards that they are expected to meet the Royal College of Psychiatrists Perinatal Community Standards. The Perinatal Clinical Lead has an important role in supporting health boards to work towards these standards. The impact of the mental health service improvement funding for perinatal improvements will be monitored through the agreed arrangements for the Together for Mental Health Delivery Plan 2019-2022.

Although there have been impacts on perinatal mental health work plans as a result of COVID-19, work is continuing to establish inpatient provision at the Tonna site within Swansea Bay University Health Board (UHB). We are on course for completing this build which is scheduled to open from April 2021. The costs for this build currently stand at £1.6m.

### **Children and Young People’s Mental Health and Emotional Well-being**

As a key focus of the Committee’s scrutiny during this Fifth Senedd, we would welcome:

- ***Detailed commentary in relation to children and young people’s mental health and emotional well-being***

In the draft budget, we are dedicating additional funding to support both the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and Whole Systems Approach to mental health. This responds to the expected increase demand for these services and the need to shift to a preventative, integrated provision to support children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing.

Support for young people with a diagnosed mental health condition is offered at a community level whenever possible but in some cases this specialist CAMHS intervention for the most vulnerable children may need inpatient treatment. The additional funding (£5.4m) will be directed towards bolstering the NHS CAMHS services plans against Tier 4 (specialist, including inpatient care) but also Community Intensive Teams.

As part of our Whole Systems Approach we will expand provision of school counselling and emotional support alongside scaling up the provision of CAMHS in-reach by extending the pilot sites on an all Wales basis, increasing funding by £4m in this budget, up to a total of £9m. We will also continue to support implementation of our whole systems approach framework, by funding implementation leads to work locally with schools, local authorities and other partners to develop local whole system approaches to learner wellbeing; and build on earlier activity by developing further universal and targeted interventions; professional learning opportunities; and supporting school staff wellbeing.

▪ ***Information on allocations for children and young people's mental health and emotional well-being in 2021-22 and where they can be found in the Health and Social Services MEG.***

Centrally held mental health budgets have transferred into the new Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG. NHS based funding for Mental Health services remains part of the main NHS allocation within the Health & Social Services MEG. The NHS ring fenced funding, for all mental health, has risen to over £726m for 21-22.

**Within the Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language MEG  
BEL 0270 –Mental Health**

- £7.1m, announced in 2019-20, in relation over Mind Over Matter.
- £7m additional support the Whole Systems Approach to improve access to support the emotional and mental health well-being of children and young people\*.
- £5.4m additional funding to support young people with diagnosed mental health condition through community or specialist in-patient services

\*Continued investment of £2m in the whole systems approach from the Education MEG in 2021-22. This makes up £9m in total funding.

The mental health service improvement funding of £7m, in place in 20-21, will be allocated to health boards as part of their main allocation. There will be an increase in the Mental Health service improvement funding for 2021-22, as part of the additional £20m announced for supporting mental health.

**We would further welcome details of:**

- *Funding for delivery of priorities for children and young people's mental health and wellbeing as set out in the revised Together for Mental Health Delivery Plan.*

A number of the actions within the revised Together for Mental Health Delivery Plan are children and young people focused and will be delivered through the funding outlined above.



- *Details of funding to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, including how this will address the disproportionate impact on certain groups (including, for example, those with pre-existing mental ill health, looked after and vulnerable children, and low income groups).*

In response to Covid-19, we have revised our Together for Mental Health Delivery Plan 2019-2022 to support the changing mental health need. The revised plan reaffirms our commitment to prioritise the mental health and well-being of children and young people and we have accelerated a number of actions, including expanding tier 0 and schools counselling to help do this.

In addition, throughout 2020, we have issued £9.9m additional mental health funding to the NHS, third sector and Local Authorities.

- £5m for the whole systems approach to mental well-being – this include extending schools counselling.
- £2.7 m in tier 0 support to help reduce the demand on primary care NHS mental health services. This includes support for children and young people – for instance through the Youth Mental Health Toolkit and the CALL helpline.
- £2.2m for surge capacity in respect to inpatient provision across Wales.

This is in addition to the planned £7m additional investment in mental health services through the service improvement funding (detailed below).

The joint Education and MHWWL MEG whole systems approach budget of £5m in the previous year and £9.4m in 2021-22 supports the Welsh Government response to Covid19. This recognises that the emotional and wellbeing impacts of the pandemic on children and young people will outlast the physical impact. In the previous year we have targeted funding at specifically supporting Covid-19 related activity, such as supporting school counselling providers to move provision online and developing specific Covid-19 related professional learning modules.

- *How this Draft Budget will support a 'whole-system', cross-Government and cross-sector approach to children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, including a focus on prevention/early intervention and building resilience.*

The Welsh Government has already agreed to review the membership and expand the scope of the Joint Ministerial Task and Finish Group on a Whole School Approach to Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (JMT&FG) which will become a 'Whole System' Ministerial Task & Finish Group to drive progress for the remainder of this Senedd term.

Whilst the focus will remain around school age children, the whole system approach will better reflect the current work of the group and enable it to provide leadership and expand across the additional relevant areas.

In particular, it will ensure the health and social services led actions are integrated with, and benefit from, the structured administrative and programme support that has been focussed around the Whole System Approach to date.

The first meeting of the refocussed group took place on 14 December which will meet more frequently in the New Year to ensure that we keep momentum on the pace of delivery.

We intend to publish the final version of the WSA framework early in 2021 and are also considering what further work and support is needed to help schools, local authorities and other partners to effectively implement the framework. This includes how best to ensure monitoring and evaluation of our work locally by schools.

- *Funding to support the development and sustainability of the children and young people's healthcare workforce, including specific reference to the children and young people's mental health workforce.*

Within the Together for Mental Health 2019-2022 there is a priority action to develop a workforce plan for mental health. The workforce plan is being developed jointly by Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) and Social Care Wales (SCW).

HEIW and SCW carried out a mapping exercise with Health Boards throughout November to identify staff and posts and this will inform the Workforce plan for Mental Health scheduled for consultation in late 2021. Throughout October, HEIW and SCW led a joint, month long virtual conference to engage a wider range of stakeholders to inform the future mental health workforce in Wales. This work will inform future expenditure on the children and young people's mental health workforce, however in the meantime elements of the service improvement funding is allocated to support the training and development needs identified by health boards.

- *Information on the £7 million mental health service improvement fund, to include (in relation to children and young people) details of how this funding is being utilised by health boards in 2020-21, and the objectives/priorities for this funding for 2021-22.*

Early on Welsh Government recognised the importance of providing as much flexibility as possible for health boards in responding to the pressures associated with the current pandemic situation in mental health and therefore released the first six months of funding (£3.5m) allocated to each health board to ensure the continuity and flexibility that was required at this time. Health boards were asked to retrospectively provide a high-level overview on how the funding was utilised to respond to the pressures associated with the current pandemic situation in mental health. Returns confirmed this funding had been utilised in a number of ways including: additional staffing from agency and redeployment, supporting extra care due to day care service closures, additional in-patient care capacity commissioned and reconfiguration of service models to provide them digitally.

The second £3.5m allocation was allocated to a number of priority areas. There will be elements of proposals targeted at young people included within most priority categories. The split across the priority areas for 2020-21 are detailed in the table below.

<b>Priority area</b>	<b>Amount requested 20/21</b>
CAMHS	£330,495
Eating Disorders	£501,385
Perinatal	£222,488
Psych Therapies – all age provision (with £51,000 specifically focused on CYP)	£446,446
Crisis / Out of Hours – all age provision (with £253,000 specifically focused on CYP).	£991,217
Early Intervention in Psychosis	£92,166
Other (i.e. pharmacy, prison health, recovery services)	£300,011
Covid response	£367,848
Non-specific Covid/ Delivery Plan priorities	£247,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,500,000</b>

The impact of this funding will be monitored through the agreed arrangements for the Together for Mental Health Delivery Plan 2019-2022.

# Agenda Item 5.1

CYPE(5)-02-21 - Paper to note 1

Julie James AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol  
Minister for Housing and Local Government

Kirsty Williams AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-JJ-4478-20

Lynne Neagle, MS  
Chair – Children, Young People and Education Committee



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

[SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales)

Copy to:  
John Griffiths, MS  
Chair – Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee

6 January 2021

[SeneddCommunities@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddCommunities@senedd.wales)

Dear Lynne,

Thank you for your letter of 20 November on the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2021-22.

The Minister for Finance and Trefnydd was clear in the draft budget that one of the hard choices we have faced in setting our spending plans for next year is our approach to public sector pay. The reality is that we did not receive any additional funding through the Barnett formula to provide for public sector wide pay awards next year given the UK Government's decision to pause public sector pay rises, with the exception of the NHS and those on the lowest wages. The implications of pay awards in 2021-22 will therefore need to be accommodated within local authorities' budget planning in the light of the Settlement. Our decisions in the budget target as much support as we can to health and local government to support pressure in frontline services focusing on schools and social services.

Whilst we did not receive any additional funding from the UK Government for public sector pay, in determining the distribution of funding across authorities for the local government Settlement, we have recognised the decisions made on the 2020/21 teachers' pay deal and the commitment made by local government to fund this deal by directing funding into the schools part of the formula.

Overall (excluding a transfer of funding for the Coastal Risk Management Programme), the settlement baseline will increase by £176 million in cash terms in 2021-22. This reflects a larger increase in the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) to compensate for a fall in Non-Domestic Rate (NDR) collection, largely brought about by the impact of the pandemic.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales](mailto:Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales)

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

As in previous years, local authority budgeted expenditure is used to set the relative size of the Standard Spending Assessment (SSA) sectors. For 2021-22, in recognition of the 2020/21 teachers' pay deal, we are directing £19.973 million into the schools service SSA sector, for teachers in maintained schools from nursery to year 11, before dividing the remaining increase across the SSA sectors.

The £19.973 million figure was calculated as follows (and includes the most up-to-date position on teachers' pensions):

- £13.148m = the 5 months of the 2.6% element<sup>1</sup> of the 2020/21 pay deal that was not already in the 2020-21 settlement baseline (7 months, covering September 2020 to March 2021, was already in the baseline, at a value of £18.4m in the 2020-21 settlement).

*plus*

- £6.825m = a full 12 months of the 0.5% element<sup>2</sup> of the 2020/21 pay deal, none of which was in the 2020-21 settlement baseline (7 months of which is being paid as a specific grant, covering September 2020 to March 2021, at a cost of £3.981m)

This direction of funding into specific parts of the formula is to ensure the funding is distributed in the most appropriate way, in recognition of the pressures local authorities are facing. It is not a way of badging how much funding is in the settlement for a particular purpose. Therefore, it would not be correct to talk in terms of proportions of funding that have been included for a specific purpose.


With regards to teachers' pensions, there is no additional funding in this settlement specifically for that purpose. The funding that was delivered through the 2020-21 settlement remains in the baseline and is distributed according to the wider needs-based formula.

We hope this information will be of use when assessing local authority pressures.

Yours sincerely



**Julie James AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol  
Minister for Housing and Local Government



**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

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<sup>1</sup> 2.6% was the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) best estimate of inflation at the time of calculation

<sup>2</sup> 0.5% in recognition of the difference between the OBR estimate (2.6%) and the overall 3.1% increase to the pay bill

# Agenda Item 5.2

CYPE(5)-02-21 - Paper to note 2

Eluned Morgan AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl, Llesiant a'r Gymraeg  
Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Lynne Neagle MS  
Children, Young People and Education Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

[SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddCYPE@senedd.wales)

8 January 2021

Dear Lynne,

I write in response to your letter of 20 November on behalf of the Children, Young People and Education Committee. Your letter relates to the Welsh Government Draft Budget for 2021-22.

I received a similar letter from Helen Mary Jones on behalf of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee (CWLC) on 19 November and I have drafted an evidence paper to be discussed with the committee on 14 January 2021 (attached in Annex A). The paper provides information in relation to the Welsh language budget proposals as outlined in the Draft Budget 2021-22 published on 21 December 2020. It provides details of proposed Welsh language expenditure within two MEGs for 2021-22 in order to deliver [Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers](#) as follows:

- The Mental Health, Wellbeing and the Welsh Language MEG within my portfolio:
  - The Welsh Language BEL
  - The Welsh Language Commissioner BEL.
- The Education MEG within the Minister for Education's portfolio:
  - The Welsh in Education BEL.

As detailed in my paper to the CWLC Committee, my budget complements that of the Minister for Education in terms of support for educational activities. *Cymraeg 2050* has three main themes:

- Theme 1: Increasing the number of Welsh speakers
- Theme 2: Increasing the use of Welsh
- Theme 3: Creating favourable conditions – which entails securing the right infrastructure and context to enable themes 1 and 2 to happen.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

[Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

All of the interventions in my portfolio under the Welsh Language and Welsh Language Commissioner BELs ultimately have the aim of increasing the use of the language (Theme 2 and 3). The budget allocated to the Welsh language under the Welsh in Education BEL within the Minister for Education's portfolio tends to concentrate on Theme 1: the acquisition of language within pre-school, school and post-16 settings.

There are however clear links between expenditure between all three BELs (for example the Siarter Iaith / the Welsh Language Charter and the National Centre for Learning Welsh) as language acquisition cannot happen in isolation without the support of other factors. Both budgets work together and I regularly discuss progress against *Cymraeg 2050* targets with the Minister for Education, as with many other ministers across Welsh Government, to ensure that policy aims are aligned.

I would therefore like to thank the committee for its work in scrutinising expenditure on the Welsh language, and wish to draw its attention to the evidence that I have prepared for the CWLC Committee, attached at Annex A. In the paper, for ease of reference, you will find that evidence has been provided under each of the *Cymraeg 2050* milestones.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Iechyd Meddwl, Llesiant a'r Gymraeg  
Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language

Copied to: Minister for Education

# Agenda Item 5.3

CYPE(5)-02-21- Paper to note 3

Kirsty Williams AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA/KW/4547/20  
Lynne Neagle MS  
Chair  
Children, Young People and Education Committee  
Welsh Parliament

14 January 2021

Dear Lynne,

Further to my attendance at CYPE Committee on 26 November, and as part of your Committee's ongoing inquiry into the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people, thank you for your recent correspondence highlighting areas which you intend to revisit this term and seeking clarification on a number of points. I will respond to each of your questions individually, as set out below.

## Steps being taken with regard to all pupils having access to the right digital equipment and infrastructure as part of blended learning

I recognise the challenge facing all learners, teachers and leaders as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and acknowledge that digital responses and solutions may not be as suitable for some as they are for others. We have therefore created a Blended Learning Working Group, consisting of officers from Welsh Government, Local Authorities and the Regional Consortia, and tasked them with addressing issues of equity of access to learning in periods of disruption.

The Working Group has explored how we can best gain an insight into the existing blended learning provision, solutions and guidance, including digital and non-digital, from a central, regional and local perspective. The Group have identified five system level challenges, and we are now mobilising national engagement with each local authority to establish a national baseline of the current provision at school and Local Authority level.

Schools in Wales are already well provisioned with access to digital services and infrastructure through the Hwb EdTech programme. The Hwb platform continues to play a crucial role in supporting the delivery of education during this incredibly challenging period. In November, there were over 2.9 million logins (a 148% increase on the previous year), and over 9.5 million page views (a 143% increase on the previous year). Over 99% of schools continue to be actively engaged in using the platform.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Kirsty.Williams@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Kirsty.Williams@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



Through the wider Hwb EdTech programme, we have already seen the distribution over 74,000 end-user devices to local authorities, with the remaining 58,000 ordered devices expected over the coming weeks.

I have also committed up to £3 million (from within the £30 million 2020/21 Hwb EdTech capital funding allocation) to specifically support digitally excluded learners in maintained schools where there was no existing provision in place from their school or local authority. Working with their schools, local authorities utilised the funding to provide digitally excluded learners with repurposed school devices and 4G MiFi connectivity where required. Based on the demand identified by schools and local authorities, there have been 10,848 MiFi devices and 9,717 software licences funded by the Welsh Government across Wales.

#### Clarification on the interface between Track, Trace and Protect (TTP) and schools and how consistently any advice is being provided across Wales

I have welcomed the weekly publication of data in relation to COVID-19 confirmed cases in schools and settings by Public Health Wales. I also continue to receive daily updates from the school early warning reports which includes details on those self-isolating. The situation in Welsh schools is an evolving situation, just like in other settings.

We are work with schools, local authorities and trade unions to ensure we are learning the lessons from the first half term and will continue to keep the guidance under review. I have published additional assets, which includes details on self-isolation and what this means in practice to further support schools and Local Authorities to ensure schools continue to operate safely and provide the learning necessary for all learners.

We continue to communicate the importance of self-isolation following a positive test and continue to work closely with colleagues in the contact tracing team to make sure this is happening on the ground.

Of course, we also have the offer of serial testing in schools and further education settings from January 2021, this goes some way to reducing the number of children and staff having to self-isolate. Whilst testing alone cannot eradicate the risks associated with contracting and transmitting COVID-19, testing will help to mitigate the risk to those in the school environment if taken alongside other current infection prevention control measures, including appropriate social distancing and hand hygiene measures.

#### Information regarding the depth and extent of consultation with the sector in England with regards to the decision on the approach to awarding A-Levels in 2021

Prior to making the announcement, on 10 November, that there would be no exams for learners taking GCSEs, AS and A levels in Wales in summer 2021, I held discussions with the Higher Education sector – this included universities based outside of Wales and members of the Russell Group. These representatives provided assurances that adopting a different approach to the awarding of qualifications within Wales, when compared with those awarded in other UK nations, would not disadvantage Welsh learners in terms of their application and admission to university courses.

During these discussions, universities highlighted their priorities as: early decision-making, a robust process, clear communication, and ensuring that opportunities for teaching and learning in order to cover the required content to support progression were maximised. This engagement with university representatives has continued as the detailed approach to assessment arrangements has been developed, UCAS is also a key member of our stakeholder reference group.

Further information on the considerations being given to the need to “recover standards” in the qualifications system, beyond the 2021 exam series

2020 was an exceptional year for qualifications, but this year is exceptional in different ways – not only have learners in exam cohorts been out of school and college during the summer term, but they have also already experienced inconsistencies in their learning experience. As such, grade outcomes in 2021 will overall align with 2020 outcomes, to recognise the loss of learning time and overall disruption – this is in line with the UK Government’s approach to grade outcomes in 2021 and will ensure that learners in Wales are not disadvantaged in comparison to learners from elsewhere in the UK. Qualifications Wales continues to work closely with the other UK regulators to maintain confidence and credibility in the qualifications system.

The Welsh Government should review its guidance to the Higher Education sector to ensure it is clearer that institutions are able—and empowered—to organise or facilitate lawful, safe and COVID-secure social activity on campus, and to recognise the link between learning and well-being

In March I established a Higher Education Task and Finish Group with stakeholders from across the sector with student and trade union representatives and the support of public health colleagues. I am very grateful to that group and its Chair, Ben Calvert, for their continued work and support. We have worked together over the past year to ensure we consider the needs of the whole university community alongside the need to protect public health. The work of this group has allowed the Welsh Government to issue guidance to the higher education sector on COVID-19 and to revise and refresh our guidance as the position has changed. The guidance covers keeping both staff and students safe and a revised version that reflects the alert levels will be published shortly.

I recognise that this is not a normal year for students and I have made an additional £10 million available to support activities such as increased mental health services and student financial hardship funds and will help universities bolster their student support services, including food services for students who are required to self-isolate. The funding is also available to help increase capacity in students’ unions and universities to provide advice and support for both students and staff, with a focus on mental health support and suicide-safer measures. This includes online services and support through the medium of Welsh.

The Welsh Government Guidance to Higher Education has been clear that they should facilitate lawful social activities to support students during this difficult time. However, we need to be clear that in the current climate, the safest social interactions will need to be virtual or restricted to interactions within a student’s household or contact group. The move to the new alert level system has allowed the guidance group to review the guidance document to ensure universities, accommodation providers and student unions are able to support students lawfully and how that changes with the alert levels.

Prior to the end of term the Welsh Government worked with the UK Government to deliver a mass lateral flow testing pilot at the majority of our universities to offer asymptomatic testing to students and staff, with Cardiff University and Cardiff Metropolitan using the Cardiff University Screening Service. The data from this pilot is not yet available.

In relation to the spring term, in December, I asked our universities to delay the return to in person teaching until after 11 January and to make decisions in relation to their own students and staff and determine which students need to come back for in person learning when. Universities had already planned to continue with blended learning through the spring

term and universities will commence online learning as planned and universities will communicate plans to their students.

This flexible approach has given universities in Wales the autonomy to make decisions based on the needs of their students and the need to deliver high quality academic qualifications. This has allowed universities to prioritise students with practical elements that require in-person teaching and access to on campus facilities as well as those on placements and the future workforce we need for essential public service delivery such as allied health care, teaching, veterinary, applied sciences, social services and many others. I have also been clear that universities must also consider, but are also best placed to determine how to support, the needs of the large cohort of commuter students in Wales and those students who did not travel for the holiday period and for whom access to on campus facilities is essential.

For those students who have travelled for the holiday, the Welsh Government has issued clear messages that students should not to return term time accommodation until their university lets them know that in person teaching will resume.

In light of the recent increased restrictions, I have worked with the Guidance group and Vice Chancellors to consider the impact of that decision on our plans in Wales. I am confident that the plans we have in place for a staggered return are robust and our universities will be asking students to return over a period of four weeks from 11 January. This will mean that students will be supported to return at the appropriate time to access essential in person teaching based on the academic needs and the needs of the students.

As students and staff return to university they will again be able to access asymptomatic testing. Our guidance asks students to access a test as close to their return as possible, reduce contacts including within your household between tests and then access a second test. This should provide significant reassurances that students returning to term time accommodation will not put their friends, contact groups, university and the wider community at risk. If students choose not to access a test they are expected to self-isolate for 10 days on return to term time accommodation. Again the data from the asymptomatic testing will be valuable evidence on how we can best support our universities as we continue to live with the impacts of COVID-19.

#### Intended use of the £400,000 that has been provided to local authorities for 2020-21 for support to home-educating families, and how its impact will be monitored

For the financial year 2020/21, £400,000 has been allocated to local authorities in Wales in respect of support for home education. This has been disseminated on a pro rata basis – based on the number of known home educated children in the authority as reported in the 2018/19 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC). This funding is specifically for providing support to home educating families. Whilst our thinking is that the funding could be used to help with exam fees, learning resources / software, education trips etc. the allocation and management of this funding is at the discretion of local authorities.

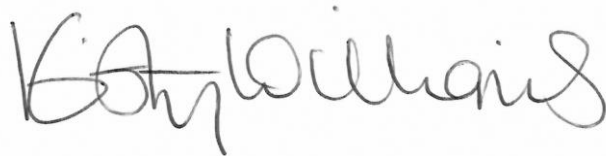
We have not been prescriptive on how the funding should be used since needs may differ from local authority to local authority. My officials will be following up at the local authority operations group as to how the funding has been used.

Additional information on the timescales for changes to the requirement for teachers in independent schools to register with the Education Workforce Council (EWC)

I have been clear previously about my intention to progress changes in regulation so that staff at independent schools are required to register with the EWC. I believe that taking forward this legislation is desirable, and I had hoped that this would be progressed during the current Senedd term. However, given the significant and unprecedented legislative pressures, many of which were simply not foreseeable in relation to Brexit and COVID-19, unfortunately it is not going to be possible to progress this to that timescales.

I hope these responses assist with your ongoing inquiry. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kirsty Williams AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

To: To: Lynne Neagle  
MS

Chair  
Children, Young People  
and Education  
Committee

Via email only

18 January 2021

Dear Chair,

As Children's Commissioner for Wales, I strongly welcomed your recommendation to Government that they include a due regard duty on the face of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill.

In both my written<sup>1</sup> and oral evidence to your Committee I detailed why the inclusion of this duty was so essential in terms of how it may affect children's experience of this bill in their day-to-day lives. I also laid out that without this overarching duty, the Bill needs several amendments in order to make it fully compliant with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

I was disappointed that Government rejected your recommendation, and I strongly dispute the basis on which this rejection has been made.

Please find enclosed a copy of my letter to the Education Minister on this matter, which details why the basis for their rejection of this recommendation is flawed. I am happy for that letter to be published on your Committee webpage in the usual way.

I will continue to urge Government not to lose this opportunity to ensure greater realisation of the human rights of children in Wales, and I thank your Committee also for your continued and longstanding commitment to this issue.

Yours sincerely,



Sally

<sup>1</sup> [CAW97 Childrens Commissioner for Wales.pdf \(senedd.wales\)](#)



Tŷ Ystumllwynarth/Oystermouth House  
Llys Siarter/Charter Court, Phoenix Way  
Abertawe/Swansea SA7 9FS  
01792 765600

**comisiynyddplant.cymru**  
**childrenscommissioner.wales**

post@comisiynyddplant.cymru  
post@childrenscommissioner.wales

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Croesawn ohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg yn ogystal â'r Saesneg ac mewn amryw o fformatau  
We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh and English as well as alternative formats

Sally Holland  
Comisiynydd Plant Cymru  
Children's Commissioner for Wales

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a gwladau a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd cysylltu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi | We welcome receiving correspondence and calls in Welsh. We will respond to correspondence and calls in Welsh, and contacting us in Welsh will not lead to delay.



To: Kirsty Williams  
Minister for Education  
Via email only

18 January 2021

Dear Kirsty,

The principal aim of the Children's Commissioner for Wales is to safeguard the welfare and rights of children and young people in Wales, as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. I have therefore been consistently clear, over a period of years, that children's rights need to be at the heart of new curriculum legislation in Wales.

To do this it is essential that children's rights are part of the legislation underpinning educational reform, and I have called for a due regard duty to the UNCRC to be included on the face of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill. This recommendation has also been made by the Children, Young People and Education Committee in their Stage 1 scrutiny of the Bill, and the Committee specify that this duty should be placed on all persons listed in section 66(3) of the Bill when exercising any of their functions conferred by or under the Bill.

I have written at length about why this change is needed<sup>1</sup>, but I write now to dispute the flawed basis on which this recommendation has been rejected by Government. The Government response claims that, *The UNCRC is aimed at states and, accordingly, it is for Governments to ensure compliance through their laws, administrative actions and other appropriate measures. This is an important principle and, unless the state is directly providing the service, this Convention is not targeted at frontline providers of service.*

This misunderstands human rights. When public bodies, for example, education settings, are exercising a responsibility delegated by the state, these bodies have a delegated responsibility to ensure human rights. It is entirely appropriate for the Governing Bodies of schools, or for professionals employed by local authorities, to pay due regard to the human rights of children when they develop policies, strategies and practices. Including a due regard duty to the UNCRC would underline their responsibility delegated by the state, as it has done in two previous landmark Acts of the Senedd: the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> [CCFW-Children-Rights-and-Curriculum-Reform-Position-Paper-2018.pdf \(childcomwales.org.uk\)](https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/CCFW-Children-Rights-and-Curriculum-Reform-Position-Paper-2018.pdf)



Tŷ Ystumllwynarth/Oystermouth House  
Llys Siarter/Charter Court, Phoenix Way  
Abertawe/Swansea SA7 9FS  
01792 765600

**comisiynyddplant.cymru**  
**childrenscommissioner.wales**

post@comisiynyddplant.cymru  
post@childrenscommissioner.wales

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The response asserts that this would result in, 'creating layers of red tape and bureaucracy – teachers, schools and governing bodies would have to evidence that they have taken the Convention into account in their interactions with all children.' But this is not the case, and has not proven to be the case in the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. A due regard duty would simply mean that as policies and practice are redeveloped in line with the new curriculum, they are at the same time re-developed in line with the principles of children's human rights. Changes are and will be underway to realise the ambitions of the new curriculum, and to integrate children's rights into this would be a highly effective way of simultaneously supporting the human rights of children in Wales through their education.

And this change is needed. Whilst many children do have an educational experience that upholds and promotes their rights this is not universally the case, as illustrated by the low levels of participation experienced in secondary schools in Wales<sup>2</sup>, or by the lack of information provided to some young people in EOTAS provision<sup>3</sup>, or by the frequency of exclusions of Foundation Phase aged children<sup>4</sup>. Currently, children's experience of their rights in education relies too often on the practice of individual professionals, rather than being embedded into policies and strategies across a whole setting, or embedded into policies at a local authority level.

There is an opportunity presented by this Bill to ensure that all children and young people experience their rights on a daily basis throughout their education. In her 1958 address to the United Nations in New York, Eleanor Roosevelt posed the following:

*"Where, after all, do universal rights begin? In small places, close to home – so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere."*

It is exactly this that we need to achieve for children in Wales.

Yours sincerely,

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<sup>2</sup> The Children's Commissioner for Wales Annual Report 2019-2020 p.67 [Annual-Report-2019-20.pdf](#) ([childcomwales.org.uk](http://childcomwales.org.uk))

<sup>3</sup> [EOTAS 08 Childrens Commissioner for Wales.pdf](#) ([senedd.wales](http://senedd.wales))

<sup>4</sup> [Building Blocks: Inclusion in the Foundation Phase - Children's Commissioner for Wales](#) ([childcomwales.org.uk](http://childcomwales.org.uk))







Sally

Sally Holland  
Comisiynydd Plant Cymru  
Children's Commissioner for Wales

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