



Ein cyf/Our ref LF/HL/1006/14

Ann Jones AM
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee
National Assembly for Wales

16 October 2014

Dear Ann,

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE - STAGE 1 SCRUTINY
OF THE FINANCIAL EDUCATION & INCLUSION (WALES) BILL**

Following my attendance at the Children, Young People and Education Committee on 1 October, I agreed to provide Members with further details in the following areas:

- The provision in ITT and support programmes available for the LNF and Maths programme of study;
- The levels of funding set aside for ITT and CPD that take into account the improved standards in LNF and the numeracy G.C.S.E; and
- Timetable of the evaluation of the LNF.

I would like to remind the Committee that the vast majority of teachers that need to be targeted are already in the workforce. For instance, in 2014/15 the ITT intake was just over 1,600 students, whereas as of March 2014, there were nearly 38,000 registered teachers. The greater share of support will clearly be aimed at continuing professional development.

That being said, the answer to the question is that with regards to ITT, under the current statutory framework for the delivery of ITT in Wales, including the Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) standards and the requirements for the provision of ITT courses, ITT providers have the flexibility to design and deliver their courses taking into account the curriculum requirements for Wales; related policy frameworks and recent policy developments as they emerge including content related to the national literacy and numeracy frameworks.

Mainstream ITT provision is delivered through universities accredited to deliver ITT courses. Under the higher education funding structure, the resources required to support the delivery of ITT courses are funded through tuition fees and the tuition fee grant arrangements. Unfortunately, I'm unable to give accurate costs of the impact of the LNF and GCSEs discretely on ITT provision.

However, ITT providers themselves have informed the Welsh Government that given the small amount of class time student teachers have, there would be little if any space for anything specific on our new qualifications.

There are more discrete funding streams for support to deliver ongoing professional development for literacy and numeracy, namely:

Name	Purpose	Amount
Education grant programme – e.g. School Effectiveness Grant	Support the delivery of national education priorities i.e. literacy, numeracy and reducing the impact of poverty on attainment. Regional consortia use this to provide support for delivery – it cannot be discretely broken down into CPD.	£37m in 2013/14 (inc. LA match funding).
National Support Programme for literacy and numeracy	To complement the capacity and capability of regional education consortia in delivering the LNF, and literacy and numeracy skills in the long term.	Estimated £14.4m over 4 years. Actual 2014-15 budget is £4.8m.
Implementation support for the LNF	Training materials and resources to support consortia and schools to deliver the LNF.	£400k – one off cost.
GCSE Support Programme	Work with consortia to ensure schools are fully prepared for new GCSEs in English, Welsh, Mathematics and Mathematics – Numeracy which commence in September 2015.	Up to £3 million per year for two years.
Foundation Phase Grant	An element of this is set aside for the training of Foundation Phase practitioners in key priorities.	Approximately £2m in 2014-15.

I offered further detail of the timetable for evaluating the delivery of the Literacy and Numeracy Framework. An outline timetable is provided below. As you will see from the timetable, fieldwork is still under way, so I am not able to pre-empt the findings in any way, or suggest what the greater breakdown of outputs will be.

Milestone by Financial Year	Date
<i>Year 2</i>	
Production of evaluation tools for consultations with stakeholders	31/07/2014
Completion of fieldwork	31/12/2014
Production of Year 2 Report	27/02/2015
<i>Year 3</i>	
Production of evaluation tools for consultations with stakeholders	31/07/2015
Completion of fieldwork	30/09/2015
Production of Year 3	30/11/2015

Report	
<i>Year 4</i>	
Completion of analysis of fieldwork	31/05/2016
Production of Final Report	30/06/2016

I trust that the information I have provided is helpful and clarifies the position on the issues to the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Huw Lewis AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills