



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref: MA(P)KW2277/17

Lynne Neagle AM  
Chair of Children, Young People and Education Committee

22 June 2017

Dear Lynne,

Thank you for your letter dated 14 June asking for the information I agreed to provide during the recent general scrutiny session.

### **National Academy**

As I explained in Committee, the National Academy for Educational Leadership will be an arm's length organisation. The purpose of the Academy will be to plan for our future needs for high quality leadership development in Wales; it will not be a deliverer of learning but will have strategic oversight.

We would expect the numbers going through the National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) to remain at the same level around 150. In terms of the other programmes we have not yet agreed the number of participants for the proposed programmes for September 2017. In the meantime, we are continuing to work with consortia on consistent national provision to be offered regionally from this date. I will provide the Committee with a further update on the number of individuals benefiting from the Academy in the autumn.

### **Final Budget 2017-18**

I can confirm that there was an increase of £5.436m allocated to Education funding between the draft budget 2017-18 set out in October 2016 and the Final Budget 2017-18. There was a transfer in of £2.236m as a result of £2.5m transfer in relation to the National Reading and Numeracy Tests and their development into online, personalised assessments and minus the repayment of £0.264m for the Student Loans system.

The £3.2m of additional revenue allocations from central reserves were also actioned between draft budget and final budget 2017-18. The breakdown of the £3.2m is outlined below:

- £1.7m transfer in from Central reserves to support transitional arrangements for Schools Challenge Cymru, of which £0.2m will extend advisory support in Pathways

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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.

to Success Schools until the end of 2016/17 academic year. The additional £1.5m will be used to provide targeted support for schools in 2017-18, building on lessons learnt from the Schools Challenge Cymru programme.

- £1m transfer in from Central reserves to fund teaching training incentives.
- £0.5m in 2017-18, as part of a three year offer, to support the work of the School Holiday Enrichment Programme.

### **First Supplementary Budget 2017-18**

As confirmed in my evidence paper, at present there are no further changes to the budget allocations for Education planned in the First Supplementary Budget.

Transferring portfolio responsibilities for Careers across to the Minister for Science and Skills offers several significant policy and operational benefits. First, it positions policy responsibility for the careers service in the same arena as wider services and functions which support the economy and employers. Employers want access to well prepared, motivated and appropriately qualified individuals in the labour market. CCDG is already a key provider of programmes and services which are the responsibility of the Minister for Skills and Science. For example, Careers Wales already delivers various adult employability initiatives on behalf of Welsh Government (such as ReAct and Individual Skills Gateway and Employment Routes). These initiatives are focused on developing the career management skills of individuals to make them more resilient to challenges in the future, and increasing awareness of the labour market and future opportunities.

Transferring the portfolio responsibilities will help strengthen employer links through the education system. Careers Wales has a central role to play in supporting the Welsh Government to deliver the Apprenticeship Policy Plan (reflected in the organisation's key objectives). CCDG provide the Apprenticeship Matching Service and in the last year have engaged over 50,000 young people at Opportunity Awareness events across Wales.

Yours sincerely



**Kirsty Williams AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg  
Cabinet Secretary for Education