Area	Challenge Advisers
Date of	December 2017
report	
Focus	National Categorisation
	 Categorisation training was delivered on 9.6.17 to all ChAds, emphasising accuracy and clarity of all categorisation reports. Challenge Advisers attended national training in July 2017, focusing on the introduction of addendum and new national priorities. Additional training on addendum provided in September 2017 Further focus on ensuring consistency emphasised in Strategy meeting in the Autumn of 2017. PCAs clear about expectation regarding addendum etc. PCAs instructed to share expectation with all ChAds within their respective LAs. Further to WG correspondence in October 2017 relating to Step 1 not being published, messages were shared with all LAs and PCAs regarding the clear exemplification of standards and the impact of provision and leadership in categorisation reports.
	 Implementation Draft categorisation was completed in July for all schools in the 6 Local Authorities. Outcomes of initial drafts and analysis were shared with the six Directors and Executive Board. Primary schools were prioritised for categorisation visits due to the early publication of FPh and KS2 data. Secondary schools were targeted for November and December visits. PCA carried out joint visits to a sample of schools within their LAs. (F3) Cross LA moderation visits also implemented for the first time this year to improve consistency with feedback suggesting consistency in the implementation in many cases. The deadline for final submission of categorisation was agreed as December, 2017.
Evaluation	 Quality Assurance Good and detailed guidance and training is provided regionally by the central team; however, the overall quality assurance process for reports remains with the LA and relies on their internal line management systems. There is an expectation that all reports submitted on to the Rhwyd platform are quality assured for accuracy and quality (F2 and QA2) prior to the publishing and release of the categorisation report. However, in the majority of reports submitted to regional QA (31 reports) there were issues in the quality, consistency or accuracy of the reports. These ranged from addendum not referred to (6 reports) accuracy (7 reports) and quality (7 reports) All reports with issues outstanding were referred back to the PCAs and Chads for amendments and further quality assurance prior to regional moderation. In a few cases the quality of writing remained an issue.
	 Regional Moderation The Head of Quality and Support was nominated as Lead Regional Moderator (LRM) for the Regional Moderation Board (RMB) The RMB comprised of the RLM, 2 ERW Central Team representatives, 9 PCAs from the LAs, 2 Directors and representation from the Headteachers' Advisory Board. All members of the board had the appropriate skills and knowledge and were suitably prepared. The RLM from GWE attended the regional moderation meeting. 30 schools and one F1 school were selected for moderation.
	Breakdown of schools

	Carm	Cere	Pem	Pow	NPT	Swa
Primary	3	2	2	3	2	3
Secondary	2	1	2	1	1	2
3-16		1		1	1	
Special	1			1		1

- The sample for regional moderation consisted of 30 schools. In 2016 the sample included 60 schools and became too onerous and resulted in a lack of rigour and depth to the discussions during moderation. The sample represented each of the four capacity to improve judgments (A, B, C, D) as well as the four support categories (Green, Yellow, Amber, Red)
- Two F1 forms were submitted for moderation with additional evidence provided by the PCA. The RMB agreed with the school's appeal in one instance and in the other the school withdrew their appeal as it was dealing with the LA process and timeliness of the LA's reporting to the school.
- Two changes were made to schools' categorisations. Both changes were made to their capacity to improve judgment. Support categories remained the same in both instances. LAs were informed through their PCA who were present at the moderation.

Schools in Estyn Statutory Category

- The region has used the national guidance "In normal circumstances the improvement capacity of a school requiring **significant improvement or special measures** should not normally be higher than D and the support category red in the first instance. As a school addresses the recommendations from its inspection, evidence about its progress should be weighed carefully and professional judgement applied when reviewing the school's support category"
- There has been additional challenge built in to the moderation process with clear rationale expected where a schools was judged higher than a D or a Red. This has been based on progress review by Estyn indicating that the school is making good progress.

Primary

Llandrindod Wells C.P. School	Powys	С	Red	Special measures
Pontiets C.P. School	Carmarthenshire	С	Amber	Significant improvement (07.17)
Morriston Primary School	Swansea	С	Amber	Significant improvement (03.17)
Llansawel Primary School	Neath Port Talbot	D	Red	Special measures
Eastern Primary School	Neath Port Talbot	С	Red	Special measures

Secondary

Llandrindod High	Powys	D	Red	Special measures
Tasker Milward	Pembrokeshire	С	Red	Special measures
Llanfyllin	Powys	С	Amber	Significant improvement (02.16)
Milford Haven	Pembrokeshire	D	Red	Significant improvement
Penglais	Ceredigion	С	Red	Significant improvement
Caereinion	Powys	С	Amber	Significant improvement (12.16)
Greenhill	Pembrokeshire	С	Red	Significant improvement
Sir Thomas Picton	Pembrokeshire	С	Amber	Special measures (06.16)

Step 2 and Step 3 Alignment.

• In most cases there is good alignment between step 2 and 3. In a few cases the Challenge Adviser and the school have agreed on the most appropriate support category for the school. In nearly all instances there is clear rationale for these decisions.

A Yellow – 18 B Ambers – 30 C Yellow – 7

Reference	SchoolName	Cat Step 2 2017	Cat Step 3 2017

6662049	Guilsfield	Α	Yellow
6662060	Maesyrhandir	А	Yellow
6663030	Trefonnen	А	Yellow
6663046	Llangedwyn	А	Yellow
6682233	Maenclochog	Α	Yellow
6682383	Glan Cleddau	А	Yellow
6692019	Gwynfryn	Α	Yellow
6692020	Carway	А	Yellow
6692024	Ponthenri	А	Yellow
6692177	Parc y Tywyn	А	Yellow
6692384	Griffith Jones	А	Yellow
6702098	Bryn-Y-Mor	А	Yellow
6702235	Llwynderw	А	Yellow
6704062	Penyrheol Comprehensive School	А	Yellow
6712140	Godre'rgraig	А	Yellow
6712221	Waunceirch	А	Yellow
6713314	St Therese's RC	А	Yellow
6717008	Ysgol Hendrefelin	Α	Yellow

Reference	SchoolName	Cat Step 2 2017	Cat Step 3 2017
6663051	Welshpool Church in Wales Primary School	В	Amber
6672313	Penllwyn	В	Amber
6672320	Beulah	В	Amber
6672345	Trewen	В	Amber
6672363	Penrhyncoch	В	Amber
6672367	Cenarth	В	Amber
6682223	Brynconin	В	Amber
6682243	Bro Ingli	В	Amber
6682267	Mount Airey Infants	В	Amber
6682385	Clydau	В	Amber
6682391	Prendergast	В	Amber
6683058	Ger y Llan	В	Amber
6683320	St Marks	В	Amber
6691110	CSTLC	В	Amber
6692037	Meidrim	В	Amber
6692044	Ty-croes	В	Amber
6692057	Llanedi	В	Amber
6692061	Ffairfach	В	Amber
6692084	Rhys Prichard	В	Amber
6692166	Llansteffan	В	Amber
6692182	Hafodwenog	В	Amber
6692385	Y Fro	В	Amber
6692390	Bryn Teg	В	Amber
6697010	Rhydygors School & Support Services	В	Amber
6701113	City and County of Swansea PRU	В	Amber
6712129	Creunant	В	Amber
6712181	Tonnau	В	Amber

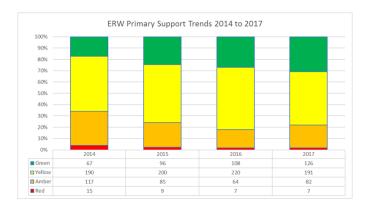
6712238	Central Primary School	В	Amber
6713311	Bryncoch CiW	В	Amber
6713313	Alderman Davies CiW	В	Amber

Reference	SchoolName	Cat Step 2 2017	Cat Step 3 2017
6662153	Ysgol Y Mynydd Du	С	Yellow
6665200	Llanerfyl	С	Yellow
6675500	Ysgol Bro Pedr	С	Yellow
6692052	Blaenau	С	Yellow
6692119	Llanmiloe	С	Yellow
6692159	Old Road	С	Yellow
6692192	Y Castell	С	Yellow

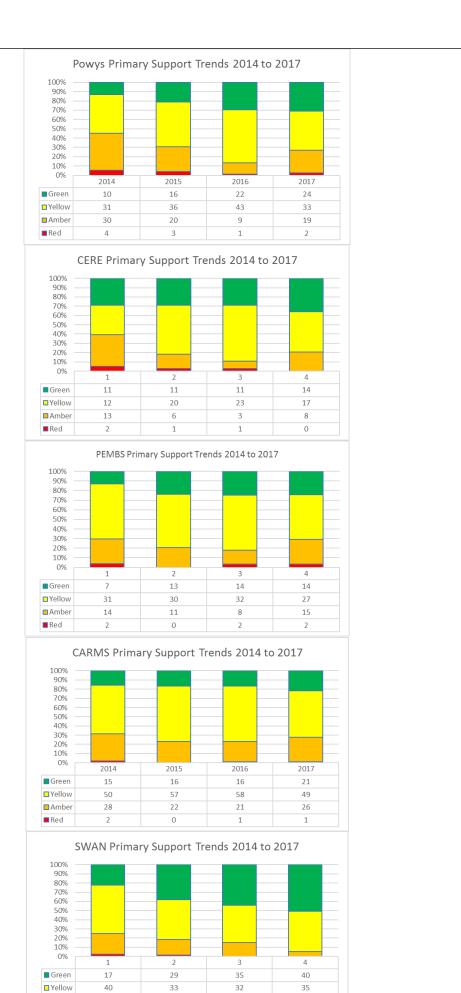
Categorisation Data

ERW - primary

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Red	15	9	7	7	3.9%	2.3%	1.8%	1.7%
Amber	117	85	64	82	30.1%	21.8%	16.0%	20.2%
Yellow	190	200	220	191	48.8%	51.3%	55.1%	47.0%
Green	67	96	108	126	17.2%	24.6%	27.1%	31.0%

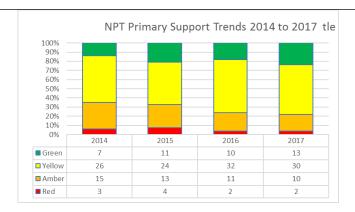


- There is a clear 4-year increase in the percentage of schools in green category. The percentage of red schools has remained fairly static for the last three years.
- The proportion of schools requiring more intensive support (red and amber) has increased from 71 to 89 in 2017.



Amber

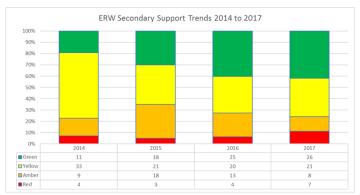
■ Red



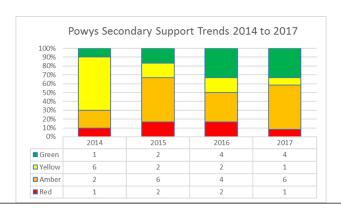
- In 4/6 LAs we see an increase in the percentage of schools requiring amber support and a decrease in the % of schools requiring yellow support. However, in Swansea and NPT the trend is different with a decrease in the % of schools requiring amber support.
- 43 primary schools have been categorised as green for four years
- 61 schools have remained categorised as yellow for four years.
- 10 schools have remained categorised as amber for four years.

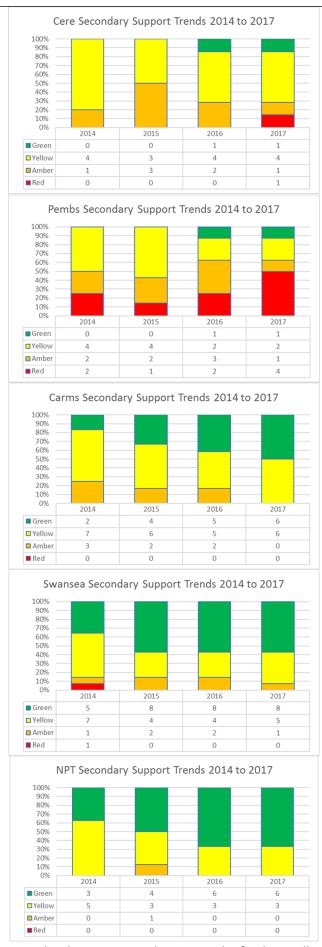
ERW Secondary

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Red	4	3	4	7	7.0%	5.0%	6.5%	11.3%
Amber	9	18	13	8	15.8%	30.0%	21.0%	12.9%
Yellow	33	21	20	21	57.9%	35.0%	32.3%	33.9%
Green	11	18	25	26	19.3%	30.0%	40.3%	41.9%



- The is a four-year increase in the % of schools requiring green support. 26 secondary schools are categorised as green compared with 11 schools in 2014.
- The number of schools requiring the most intensive support (amber and red) has remained constant since 2014.

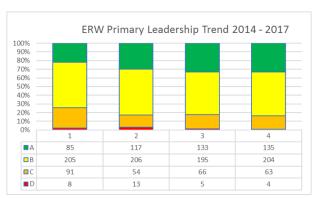




- Half of the LAs have no schools requiring red support. The final overall support category changed in
 23 schools from draft categorisation in July.
- 8 secondary schools have been categorised as green for four years
- 5 secondary schools have remained categorised as yellow for four years.

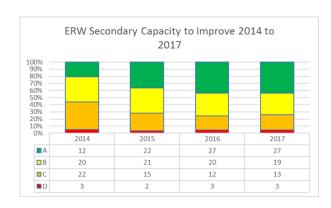
- No secondary schools have remained categorised as amber for four years.
- 1 secondary school has remained categorised as red for four years

Capacity to improve Primary



- The proportion of each 'capacity to improve' category in primaries has remained fairly static for two years. No 'D' judgements were awarded for Capacity to Improve in two LAs in 2017.
- 48 primary schools have been judged 'A' for four years
- 59 primary schools have been judged 'B' for four years
- 5 primary schools have been judged 'C' for four years
- No primary schools have been judged 'D' for four years

Secondary



- The proportion of each 'capacity to improve' category in secondary schools has remained fairly static for two years.
- No 'D' judgements were awarded for Capacity to Improve in 4 of the 6 LAs.
- 8 secondary schools have been judged 'A' for four years
- 2 secondary schools have been judged 'B' for four years
- 1 secondary schools have been judged 'C' for four years
- No secondary schools have been judged 'D' for four years

R1 To continue to work closely with the Quality and Standards Group especially around the consistency of application of standards' judgement

Recs

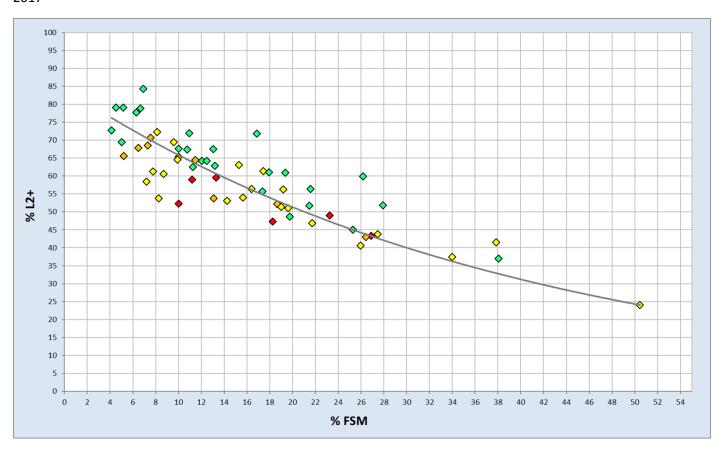
R2 Continue with training for all ChAds and PCAs on accuracy and rigour.

R3 Improve the quality assurance process across the region.

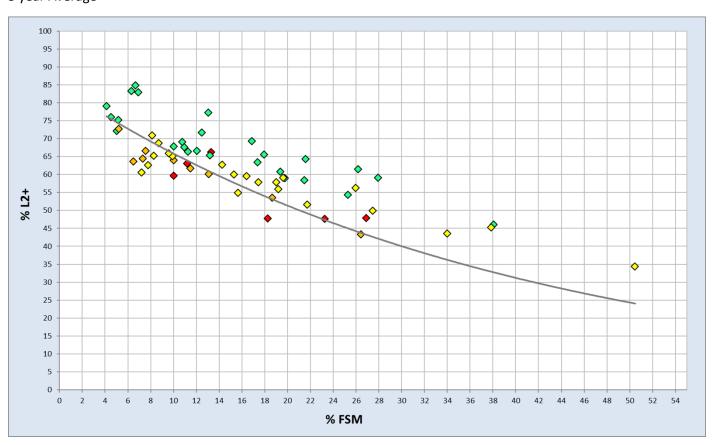
R4 Increase Headteacher participation in the categorisation process.

Value for Money

- The Rhwyd system continues to evolve to reduce workload for ChAds.
- Multiple requests for intelligence for schools will be significantly reduced by utilising Rhwyd.



3 year Average



Capped 9

