

ERW JOINT COMMITTEE

Report of: Natalie Chambers, Principal Accountant

Date: 13 November 2020

ERW Grant Allocations 2020-21

Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant 2020-21

ERW were awarded funding of £33,910,861 for the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) on 29 July 2020. The grant was accepted and signed by the Interim Managing Director and Section 151 Officer on 31 July 2020. Please see a copy of the Grant Offer Letter at Annex A.

EIG Element of the RCSIG

Allocation for the EIG element of the RCSIG was agreed via email by each Lead Executive to ensure that these could be communicated timely to schools.

A lot of work was undertaken last year to improve the allocation of the EIG. Directors suggest that we retain the improvements that were worked on last year due to the conversations around the future footprint and in wanting to get the allocations out to our schools.

1. **Minimum foundation phase at £800/£400.** In the same context as last year these would be minimum allocations, each LA is free to pay more for foundation phase with the remaining funding.
2. **Minimum funding for non-maintained settings deducted first.**
3. **For the ERW retained element, in 2019-20 we retained £970k. For 2020-21 we are suggesting £911k.**
 - £411k would be to fund salaries for some of the curriculum and leadership team respectively, as last year.
 - £500k accounts for the grant flexibility we have been awarded by WG to assist in financing the administrative functions and support school improvement as an organisation.
 - ERW have absorbed the 3% savings required by WG and protected the EIG and PDG elements of the grant, retaining this element of the EIG would be helpful based on the 3% savings required. The 3% saving equates to £1.06m.

4. The remaining distribution (i.e. the EIG - Specialist Advisory Element – ERW retained element = remaining portion) was split last year on 20% teachers and 80% pupil basis.
5. Admin allowance at ERW and LA level last year was 0.75%.
6. If all the above factors remain the same we would need a minimum delegation rate within the LA 82.5%, as last year, to comply with the delegation rate in the T&Cs.

In line with the above considerations, the EIG allocations for 2020-21 are as follows:

	Specialist Advisory £	Teacher # £	Pupil # £	Total Grant Funding £	Match Funding £	Total Funding £
ERW	0	0	0	911,000	0	911,000
Powys	179,311	982,377	3,477,040	4,638,727	540,391	5,179,118
Ceredigion	75,310	547,968	1,958,738	2,582,016	290,326	2,872,342
Pembrokeshire	64,552	831,866	3,531,432	4,427,850	496,300	4,924,150
Carmarthenshire	111,173	1,396,958	5,601,196	7,109,326	668,892	7,778,218
Swansea	0	1,708,795	7,303,454	9,012,249	714,418	9,726,667
Totals	430,345	5,467,965	21,871,859	28,681,169	2,710,327	31,391,496

	Total Funding £	Admin 0.75% £	Delegation to schools 82.5% £	Minimum Foundation Phase £
ERW	911,000	6,833	0	0
Powys	5,179,118	38,843	4,272,773	2,366,000
Ceredigion	2,872,342	21,543	2,369,682	1,526,000
Pembrokeshire	4,924,150	36,931	4,062,424	3,124,000
Carmarthenshire	7,778,218	58,337	6,417,030	4,706,000
Swansea	9,726,667	72,950	8,024,500	6,626,000
Totals	31,391,496	235,436	25,146,409	18,348,000

Recruit, Recover, Raise Standards: Accelerating Learning Programme (RRRS-ALP) Element of RCSIG 2020-21

ERW were awarded funding of £156,875 as part of a variation letter to the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) on 7 September 2020. The grant was accepted and signed by the Interim Chief Officer and Section 151 Officer on 11 September 2020. Please see a copy of the Grant Offer Letter at Annex B.

Allocation for the RRRS-ALP element of the RCSIG was agreed via email by each Director of Education to ensure that this could be communicated timely with Senior Challenge Advisors to allow prompt response to Welsh Government on the spending plan per the terms and conditions of the grant. The spending plan was discussed between the Chief Officers of ERW, the Senior Challenge Advisors and the Directors of Education prior to submission to Welsh Government. The allocation of funding is as follows:

Local Authority	School Numbers	School £	Allocations
Powys	95	36,527.27	23.28%
Ceredigion	44	16,917.89	10.78%
Pembrokeshire	62	23,838.85	15.20%
Carmarthenshire	113	43,448.22	27.70%
Swansea	94	36,142.77	23.04%
Total	408	156,875.00	100%

Welsh Charter Element of RCSIG 2020-21

It is proposed by the ERW Chief Officers, the Lead for Welsh in Education and the Lead Director of Education to delegate £120,000 of Welsh Charter funding among the 5 Local Authorities within ERW to allow each Local Authority to use the funding in line with local priorities.

While the grant is intended for pupil development, the objectives will need to be delivered by the schools. As such, it is proposed that the allocation is split 50% based on school numbers and 50% based on pupil numbers. The proposed allocation is as follows:

Local Authority	School Numbers	School £	Pupil Numbers	Pupil £	Total	Allocations
Powys	95	13,970.59	17,068	9,538.39	23,508.98	19.59%
Ceredigion	44	6,470.59	9,615	5,373.31	11,843.90	9.87%
Pembrokeshire	62	9,117.65	17,335	9,687.60	18,805.25	15.67%
Carmarthenshire	113	16,617.65	27,495	15,365.49	31,983.13	26.65%
Swansea	94	13,823.53	35,851	20,035.21	33,858.74	28.22%
Total	408	60,000.00	107,364	60,000.00	120,000.00	100%

Professional Learning Grant Element of RCSIG 2020-21

ERW was awarded £1.6m for the Professional Learning Grant 2020-21. This grant alternates between the Local Authorities and the Regional Consortia on an annual basis. The Terms and Conditions of the grant stipulate that 100% of this funding is passported to schools. The allocation of funding has been based on the Welsh Government calculation of teacher numbers with the PRU teacher numbers added to ensure equity. The allocation agreed is as follows:

Local Authority	Total
Powys	277,483
Ceredigion	153,039
Pembrokeshire	248,109
Carmarthenshire	417,848
Swansea	504,590
ERW	1,601,069

The additional £1,069 will be funded from the Professional Learning Strategy group.

Pupil Development Grant 2020-21

ERW were awarded funding of £21,283,060 for the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) on 28 August 2020. The grant was accepted and signed by the Interim Managing Director and Section 151 Officer on 28 August 2020. Please see a copy of the Grant Offer Letter at Annex C.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The ERW Joint Committee accept the Regional School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) awarded for 2020-21
 - The ERW Joint Committee formally approve the EIG Allocations for 2020-21.
 - The ERW Joint Committee approve the RRRS-ALP Allocations for 2020-21.
 - The ERW Joint Committee approve the Welsh Charter Distribution Allocations for 2020-21.
 - The ERW Joint Committee approve the Professional Learning Grant Allocations for 2020-21.
 - The ERW Joint Committee accept the Pupil Development Grant awarded for 2020-21.
-