

**Partneriaeth
Outline Budget
2022-23**

**Partneriaeth Joint Committee
29 April 2022**

**Partneriaeth
S151 Officer**

1. Introduction

This report presents the Joint Committee with an outline budget for the new entity 'Partneriaeth', an alliance of Carmarthenshire County Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and Swansea Council.

The Partneriaeth Legal Agreement, which it is anticipated will be signed off by each Local Authority imminently, provides the following as a matter reserved for Councils: 'Approving the first Annual Budget of Partneriaeth and any subsequent Annual Budget which would exceed the scope of the authority delegated to the Joint Committee within its terms of reference'. It is therefore proposed that the Joint Committee consider and endorse the first Annual Budget of Partneriaeth, prior to approval by the Councils.

2. Assumptions and Estimates

A number of assumptions and estimates have had to be made to create the outline budget and should be considered throughout.

The assumptions and estimates for the outline budget, based on the alliance of the three Local Authorities, are:

- The assumptions and estimates are subject to change as they are confirmed;
- The funding for the RCSIG is indicative only, see Appendix A, is subject to change by Welsh Government and it is assumed that it will be paid direct to Partneriaeth for 2022-23 (it was paid direct to Local Authorities in 2021-22);
- For budgeting purposes, where elements of the RCSIG and PDG are still to be confirmed, the funding level has been excluded as agreement will need to be made as to the distribution from Partneriaeth in the future;
- No commissioning of Partneriaeth services by NPT/Ceredigion/Powys has been included within this outline budget, for prudence and due to the "TBC" status of these funding streams within the indicative funding, other than the HLTA and future leaders programme for NPT (assumed £80k);
- All posts for 2022-23, both filled and vacant, have been included;
- A 4.0% pay increase from April 2022 has been budgeted for anyone on the non-teaching pay grades;
- Salaries for all other staff have remained the same for the period April to August 2022, as their increases do not come into effect until September 2022, with a 4.0% pay increase budgeted for September 2022 to March 2023.
- Remote working will continue for this period due to uncertainty around Covid-19 and to reduce costs;
- Service Level Agreements (SLA's) – the costs has been re-calculated for the Partneriaeth structure, including the Principal Accountant and the Accounting Technician moving into the Finance SLA;
- Audit Wales have yet to confirm their fees for 2022-23;
- £20k has been included for laptop replacements, to ensure technology is fit for purpose especially as remote working is to continue.

3. Partneriaeth Outline Budget 2022-23

Local Authority Contributions

Local Authority contributions for 2022-23 will be £300,000, following a request by the Lead Education Director to reduce the contributions from 2021-22 levels.

The Partneriaeth contribution is based on PLASC-20 figures (80%) and the number of schools within each Local Authority (20%).

Local Authority	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
	ERW Contribution £	ERW Contribution £	ERW Contribution £	Partneriaeth Contribution £
Powys	33,535	81,934	34,139	-
Pembrokeshire	33,895	79,898	79,898	65,370
Carmarthenshire	53,167	123,998	123,998	107,160
Swansea	69,998	150,785	150,785	127,470
Ceredigion	18,692	43,741	-	-
NPT	40,713	0	-	-
Total	250,000	480,356	388,820	300,000

The increase in contribution levels for 2020-21 was due to a requirement to fund the ERW structure following the review and reform work undertaken in 2019 as outlined in the report considered and approved by the ERW Joint Committee on 9 December 2019.

Powys only contributed £34,139 for 2021-22 (5/12th's).

Service Level Agreements (SLA's)

The budgets presented within this report include the re-calculated SLA's below.

SLA's	2021-22 ERW £	2022-23 Partneriaeth £
Committee Services (Carmarthenshire)	5,000	5,000
Scrutiny (Swansea)	5,000	5,000
Finance (Pembrokeshire)	40,000	121,000
Internal Audit (Pembrokeshire)	25,000	26,000
Human Resources (Pembrokeshire)	20,000	6,000
Information Technology (Pembrokeshire)	24,000	31,000
Procurement (Pembrokeshire)	20,000	20,000
Total Budgeted SLA's	139,000	214,000

The reason for the increase in the Finance SLA is that the Principal Accountant and the Accounting Technician are now included. Previously they were part of the ERW Central Team but it was deemed prudent for them to be included in the Finance SLA in order to provide a level of resilience in their absence.

The reason for the reduction in the HR SLA is due the reduced size of the Partneriaeth structure but a 0.8 FTE HR Manager still being retained by Partneriaeth.

For the purposes of the budget, the SLA's have been rounded to the nearest £k.

There continues no charge being made for the services of the Partneriaeth Lead Chief Executive, Partneriaeth S151 Officer, Partneriaeth Monitoring Officer or the Partneriaeth Lead Education Director.

Partneriaeth Outline Budget 2022-23

Budgeted Expenditure	Core Funded £'000	Grant Funded £'000	Total £'000
Staffing Costs			
Salaries, Secondments, Specialists		1,930	1,930
Travel, Subsistence, Training & Development		15	15
IT Hardware & Mobiles	8	12	20
	8	1,957	1,965
Development and Running Costs			
Rent and Accommodation	25		25
General Office Expenses	7		7
Stationary, Telephone & Photocopying	5		5
Translation		40	40
Software & Marketing	26		26
Service Level Agreements	214		214
External Audit	15		15
Business Plan Objectives		3,058	3,058
	292	3,098	3,390
Estimated Total Expenditure	300	5,055	5,355
Budgeted Income	Core Funded £000	Grant Funded £000	Total £000
Local Authority Contributions	300		300
Grant Funding RCSIG		4,159	4,159
Grant Funding RCSIG EIG Retained		841	841
PDG Co-ordinator		55	55
Estimated Total Income	300	5,055	5,355

- The above does not include an estimate for PDG LAC, as this is 'TBC' by Welsh Government, however, 10% is usually retained to carry out work across the region in line with the Business Plan approved by the Joint Committee and the LAC Plan approved by the Directors of Education. It is suggested that 10% be made available for this purpose once funding is confirmed.
- The £80k from NPT outlined above is included in the £4.159m in the table.

4. Risks

Continued reliance on grant funding was a risk for ERW and remains a risk for Partneriaeth.

Partneriaeth currently has no working balance or reserves, however, it is anticipated that a working balance and reserves will be created following the cessation of ERW, utilising any ERW reserve or EWC balances. If there are no balances following the cessation of ERW, consideration would have to be given how to fund a Partneriaeth working balance or reserve, e.g. Specific contribution from each Local Authority.

It is anticipated that the costs of any redundancies from the cessation of ERW will be met from ERW balances, however, should there be insufficient balances, the costs would have to be funded by Local Authorities in accordance with the ERW Joint Agreement.

5. Recommendations

- The Joint Committee notes the assumptions and estimates made in compiling the outline budget for 2022-23;
- The Joint Committee endorses the Local Authority contributions for 2022-23, the Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for 2022-23 and the outline budget for 2022-23 prior to approval by the Councils;
- The Joint Committee authorises the Partneriaeth S151 Officer to make amendments to the outline budget for 2022-23 as assumptions and estimates are confirmed.

RCSIG 2022-23 Indicative Figures							
Funding Description	All Wales 22-23	Former ERW Total	Partneriaeth Total	Pembs	Carms	Swansea	Formula
Curriculum Reform - Regional support for curriculum and assessment reform	£3,400,000	£971,364	£588,745	£130,064	£214,636	£244,045	PLASC
Curriculum Reform - National Network schools' engagement	£3,000,000	£857,085	£519,480	£114,762	£189,384	£215,334	PLASC
Curriculum Reform - Schools curriculum and assessment reform, inc learning progression	£6,346,000	£1,813,022	£1,098,875	£242,760	£400,612	£455,503	PLASC

Curriculum Reform - Wellbeing in learning	£330,000	£94,279	£57,143	£12,624	£20,832	£23,687	PLASC
Education Improvement Grant for Schools (EIG) - Total	£120,159,000	£33,923,625	£20,949,162	£4,711,435	£7,416,364	£8,821,363	Weighting by month and PLASC
Curriculum reform professional learning programme (Curriculum Design and Development + New PL for curriculum)	£3,200,000	£800,000	£400,000	£133,333	£133,333	£133,333	Equal

Professional learning, enquiry and research to realise curriculum - school-led (NPEP, research, pedagogy school funding)	£3,200,000	£914,223	£554,113	£122,413	£202,010	£229,690	PLASC
Professional learning for developing practice and reflection (RALD/ WCLD, SLO, Pedagogy, Professional Standards)	£1,100,000	£ 274,998	£137,499	£ 45,833.00	£ 45,833.00	£ 45,833.00	Equal

Regional support for Modern languages - (Modern Foreign Languages (Global Futures))	£462,000	£115,500	£57,750	£19,250	£19,250	£19,250	Equal
Literacy & Numeracy Grant	£500,000	£124,998	£62,499	£20,833	£20,833	£20,833	Equal
Coding & Digital Skills	£300,000	£85,707	£51,947	£11,476	£18,938	£21,533	PLASC
Primary LNF Oracy Scheme for Wales	£400,000	£114,278	£69,264	£15,302	£25,251	£28,711	PLASC
Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA) - & TALP	£950,000	£237,498	£118,749	£39,583	£39,583	£39,583	Equal
Welsh - Professional Development	£2,700,000	£771,377	£467,533	£103,286	£170,446	£193,801	PLASC
A Level Improvement	£800,000	£ 184,000	£73,600	£ 16,560	£ 44,160	£ 12,880	Number of sixth form learners

Modern Foreign Languages – building capacity for MFL in the primary sector	£271,000	£77,424	£46,927	£10,367	£17,108	£19,452	PLASC
Digital Competence Framework	£100,000	£25,002	£12,501	£4,167	£4,167	£4,167	Equal
All Age Schools - Support for Research and Collaborative Projects	£70,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	EAS only
Induction / Early Career support package	£250,000	£62,502	£31,251	£10,417	£10,417	£10,417	Equal
Professional Learning funding for schools	£12,000,000	£3,261,220	£2,000,120	£424,090	£717,305	£858,725	FTE teachers

Support Collaborative Working & Help Develop Capacity in Consortia	£70,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	EAS only
Building Capacity in Leadership	£60,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	CSC only
Future Leadership Programme (Aspiring, middle leaders including Coaching & Mentoring support)	£1,000,000	£250,002	£125,001	£41,667	£41,667	£41,667	Equal

National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)	£675,000	£198,000	£198,000	£198,000	N/A	N/A	Based on numbers. Partners are delivering for Mid-Wales as well, funding distributed via Pembrokeshire.
Multi-agency support approach - EAS only	£10,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	EAS only
Funding to Support System Preparation for International Tests	£250,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	GWE only
Remote instruction of Language and Literacy	£145,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	GWE only
National Welsh in Education Project Manager	£70,000	£0	£0	N/A	N/A	N/A	GWE only

Total RCSIG	£161,818,000	£45,156,104	£27,620,159	£6,428,222	£9,752,129	£11,439,808
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