



**Partneriaeth
Financial Report
2023-24
(August 2023)**

**Partneriaeth Joint Committee
6 October 2023**

**Partneriaeth
S151 Officer**

1. Introduction

This report presents the Joint Committee with a financial update at 31 August 2023. All costs are for the 5-month period.

As its meeting on 23 June 2023, the Partneriaeth Joint Committee resolved that 'The assumptions and estimates made in compiling the outline budget for 2023-24 be noted, 'The Local Authority contributions for 2023-24, the Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for 2023-24 and the outline budget for 2023-24 be endorsed, prior to approval by the Councils' and 'the Partneriaeth S151 Officer be authorised to make amendments to the outline budget for 2023-24 as assumptions and estimates are confirmed.

2. 2023-24 Service Level Agreements (SLA's)

The SLA's for 2023-24 are outlined in the table below:

SLA's	2023-24 £'000
Committee Services (Carmarthenshire)	5
Scrutiny (Swansea)	5
Finance (Pembrokeshire)	130
Internal Audit (Pembrokeshire)	28
Human Resources (Pembrokeshire)	7
Information Technology (Pembrokeshire)	33
Procurement (Pembrokeshire)	21
Total Budgeted SLA's	229

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

3. Local Authority Contributions

There are no Local Authority contributions for 2023-24.

It was agreed by Joint Committee that reserves will be used to fund the element of the Partneriaeth budget formally funded by the Local Authority contributions, which total £335k.

4. Budget Monitoring – August 2023

Budgeted Expenditure	Original Budget 2023-24 £'000	Actual to August 2023 £'000	Committed 2023-24 £'000	Projected Outturn 2023-24 £'000
Staffing Costs				
Salaries	2,023	677	1,321	1,998
Secondments, Specialists	81	60	21	81
Travel & Subsistence	10	7	3	10
Training & Development	5	-	5	5
	2,119	744	1,350	2,094
Development and Running Costs				
Rent and Accommodation	15	7	8	15
Electricity	2	-	2	2
Service Charges	11	3	8	11
General Office Expenses	7	3	4	7
Mobile Telephone	5	1	4	5
Translation	40	7	33	40
Hardware Purchases	22	-	22	22
Software	10	4	6	10
Marketing	18	-	18	18
Service Level Agreements	229	-	229	229
External Audit	16	-15	31	16
Other Contracted Services	48	41	7	48
Business Plan Objectives	3,504	531	2,998	3,529
	3,927	582	3,370	3,952
Total Expenditure	6,046	1,326	4,720	6,046
Budgeted Income				
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Grant Funding RCG	4,329	973	3,356	4,329
Grant Funding RCG EIG Retained	842	190	653	842
PDG Co-ordinator*	50	-	50	50
EWC	381	-	381	381
Secondment Income from WG	109	-	109	109
Reserves	335	-	335	335
Total Income	6,046	1,163	4,915	6,046

The salaries are projecting an underspend of £24k, this will be reallocated to the Business Plan Objectives.

5. Grant Income 2023-24

According to the National Ministerial Priorities, Grants received are allocated based on the Partneriaeth Business Plan Strategic Objectives 2023-24:

Priority 1 – Support all schools and settings to design and deliver their own high quality equitable curriculum.

Priority 2 – Embed principles and processes, which underpin educational equity in all schools and settings.

Priority 3 – Support schools and settings to develop a range of research and enquiry skills as a key part of their professional learning.

Priority 4 – Provide career pathways for leaders, practitioners and support staff at all levels of the system

5.1 Regional Consortia Grant (RCG)

The following Grant offer has been received from Welsh Government for the region:

Grant Offer	Date	Amount £'000
Main Grant	18 th May 2022	26,469
Total		26,469

The terms and conditions of the grants are carefully adhered to, and wherever possible clear links are made between the grants to enable greater value for money when planning expenditure. The Lead Officer and Section 151 Officer have accepted the 2023-24 Main Grant offer letter.

Welsh Government are distributing the RCG on a quarterly basis the first instalment of the Main Grant has been received to date, totalling £5,955,517.

The table below shows how the RCG has been allocated.

	£'000
EIG retained by Partneriaeth	842
EIG passported to LA's	19,291
Professional Learning to be passported to LA's	2,007
Professional Teaching Awards Cymru (PTAC)	3
Partneriaeth RCG Priorities	4,326
Total	26,469

A) Main Grant

The RCG contains the following elements

- Education Improvement Grant
- Professional Learning

Funding for EIG totalling £19,291,298 and £2,006,982 for Professional Learning is distributed to Member local authorities. These are detailed below.

Education Improvement Grant (EIG)

Individual Local Authorities will be passported the amounts below for each EIG Element of RCG:

EIG Breakdown by Authority	Grant Funding £'000
Carmarthenshire	6,873
Pembrokeshire	4,330
Swansea	8,088
Total	19,291

As per the Award Letter from Welsh Government, Local Authorities are to provide match funding to the EIG funding and the 2023-24 level is set at the match funding level to the Education Improvement Grant for schools for 2017-18.

Along with the EIG, the Professional Learning (PL) element of RCSIG is passported to each Local Authority as outlined below:

PL Breakdown by Authority	Grant Funding £'000
Carmarthenshire	705
Pembrokeshire	440
Swansea	862
Total	2,007

The EIG and Professional Learning amounts to be passported to Local Authorities have not been included in the figures in Section 4 above.

The remaining RCG funding is allocated by Partneriaeth to the following priorities:

Priority 1 - Curriculum

	£
1.1 Regional support for curriculum and assessment reform	578,364
1.2 Schools curriculum and assessment development, including National Networks and learning progression	1,589,824
1.3 Curriculum reform professional learning programme	337,500
1.4 Regional support for Modern languages - (Modern Foreign Languages (Global Futures))	57,750
1.5 Modern Foreign Languages – building capacity for MFL in the primary sector	46,098

1.6 Literacy & Numeracy Grant/ Support for Curriculum Improvements	62,499
1.7 Primary LNF Oracy Scheme for Wales	68,042
1.8 Digital Competence Framework	12,501
1.9 Coding & Digital Skills	51,033
1.10. A Level and Welsh Bacc PL	89,700
1.11. Welsh - Professional Development	425,268
1.12. Welsh-medium capacity grant	33,227
Total	3,351,806

Priority 2 - Equity

	£
2.1 Supporting Vulnerable Learners	18,750
Total	18,750

Priority 3 – Research and Enquiry

	£
3.1 School-led professional learning, enquiry and research to realise curriculum	510,322
3.2 Professional learning for developing practice and reflection	112,500
Total	622,822

Priority 4 – Career Pathways

	£
4.2 Teaching Assistants Learning Pathway	118,749
4.1 Induction / Early Career support package	31,251
4.3 Future Leadership Programme (Aspiring, middle leaders including Coaching & Mentoring support)	106,251
4.5 Aspiring Headteachers Programme	76,500
4.4 National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH)	TBC
Total	332,751

5.2 Pupil Development Grant (PDG)

Welsh Government have made changes this year to the distribution of the PDG Funding with the PDG for eFSM Learners, PDG for Early Years settings and PDG for learners educated other than at school being passported directly to the LAs.

The PDG invitation letter for 2023-24 was received on 4th August indicating the following allocations:

	£'000
Looked After Children	675
Consortia Led Funding	113
PDG Strategic Advisor	50
Total	838

Welsh Government require a PDG Strategic Support Plan be submitted before issuing the Grant Offer letter. The draft PDG Strategic Support Plan has been submitted to Welsh Government for consideration and we are awaiting a response.

6. Risks and Opportunities

Continued reliance on grant funding remains a risk for Partneriaeth.

Recommendations

- The Partneriaeth Joint Committee note the financial report as at August 2023 and the projected outturn for 2023-24.