



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

**Partneriaeth Joint Committee
2 February 2024**

**Partneriaeth
S151 Officer**

1. Introduction

The budget for 2023-24 was approved by the Partneriaeth Joint Committee on 23 June 2023, following 'in principle' approval by email on 27 March 2023.

This report presents the Joint Committee with a financial update at 31 December 2023. All costs are for the 9-month period.

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 the Joint Committee that for 2023-24 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 – December 2023

Budgeted Expenditure	Original Budget 2023-24 £'000	Revised Budget December 2023 £'000	Actual to December 2023 £'000	Committed 2023-24 £'000	Projected Outturn 2023-24 £'000
Staffing Costs					
Salaries	2,023	2,061	1,298	608	1,906
Secondments, Specialists	81	264	157	107	264
Travel & Subsistence	10	10	10	-	10
Training & Development	5	5	1	4	5
	2,119	2,340	1,466	719	2,185
Development and Running Costs					
Rent and Accommodation	15	15	10	5	15
Electricity	2	2	1	1	2
Service Charges	11	11	5	6	11
General Office Expenses	7	7	4	3	7
Mobile Telephone	5	5	1	4	5
Translation	40	40	22	18	40
Hardware Purchases	22	22	-	22	22
Software	10	10	4	6	10
Marketing	18	18	-	18	18
Service Level Agreements	229	229	-	229	229
External Audit	16	16	-15	31	16
Other Contracted Services	48	48	39	9	48
Business Plan Objectives	3,501	4,189	2,750	1,594	4,344
Total Development and Running Costs	3,924	6,952	4,287	2,665	6,952
Total Partneriaeth Retained Expenditure	6,043	6,952	4,287	2,665	6,952
Grants to be Passported	-	21,298	9,052	12,246	21,298
Total Expenditure	6,043	28,250	13,339	14,911	28,250
Budgeted Income					
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Funding RCG*	4,326	25,808	11,751	14,057	25,808
Grant Funding RCG EIG Retained	842	842	358	484	842
PDG**	50	838	-	838	838
EWC	381	381	304	77	381
Secondment Income from WG	109	46	-	46	46
Reserves	335	335	-	335	335
Total Income	6,043	28,250	12,413	15,837	28,250

*Grant Funding RCG includes Professional Teaching Awards Cymru (PTAC) (£3,xxx), grants to be passported (£21,298,280) and Variation letter (£181,466)

**PDG includes PDG LAC (£675,050) and Consortia led funding (£113,152)

Due to the additional grant funding received and projected underspend in salaries, the projected underspend for 2023-24 has been re-allocated to the business plan objectives within the projected outturn.

5. Grant Income 2023-24

According to the National Ministerial Priorities, 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 offers have been received from Welsh Government for the region:

Grant Offer	Date	Amount £'000
Main Grant	18 May 2023	26,469
Variation 1	6 October 2023	181
Total		26,650

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 and Variation 1 offer letters.

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	4,507
Total	26,650

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 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

B) Variation 1

	£
National support for Curriculum Reform	26,800
Welsh-medium capacity building grant	94,666
National Pedagogy Lead	60,000
Total	181,466

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 Local Authorities.

The PDG grant offer letter for 2023-24 was received on 21 November 2023, which included the following allocations:

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

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 2023-24 PDG Grant has been accepted by the Lead Officer and Section 151 Officer.

6. Risks and Opportunities

Continued reliance on grant funding remains a risk for Partneriaeth. Given the change in funding methodology from 2024-25, there is a risk that Local Authority priorities may change with grant money received from Welsh Government being retained by Local Authorities and not used to commission Partneriaeth services.

Recommendations

- The Partneriaeth Joint Committee note the financial report as at December 2023 and the projected outturn for 2023-24.
- The Partneriaeth Joint Committee approve the revised budget for 2023-24 and the grant income and allocation for 2023-24.