



GwE Management Board

Summary of discussions at the meeting held on 3 July 2015

Present	
Flintshire	Ian Budd, Chair
Gwynedd	Garem Jackson, on behalf of Arwyn Thomas
Wrexham	John Davies
Denbighshire	Karen Evans
Conwy	Richard Ellis Owen
GwE Managing Director	Huw Foster Evans
GwE Assistant Director (Support and Brokerage)	Rhys Howard Hughes
GwE Assistant Director (Standards)	Alwyn Jones
GwE Business and Finance Manager	Susan Owen Jones
GwE Processes Manager	Ann Grenet
GwE Senior Challenge Adviser (for item 2)	Eleri Jones
GwE Information Manager (for item 3)	Rheon Larsen
GwE Challenge Adviser (for item 5)	Bethan James
GwE Challenge Adviser (for item 5)	Phil Lord
Apologies	
Gwynedd	Arwyn Thomas
Isle of Anglesey	Delyth Molyneux

The following main matters were discussed:

1. **Arising from the notes of previous meeting:**

- 1.1 GwE SLA: an update was provided on initial work carried out by Directors' task group
- 1.2 National Model Business Case: the Chair referred to the work being done by the regional Networks on strategic planning in relation to the National Model
- 1.3 NQTs: Directors' **agreed** that an integrated regional support function should be established

Action:

- GwE to pursue discussions with WG regarding additional funding for NQT function and a possible extension to funding of PPC
- GwE to seek to identify a suitable person for the role of PPC
- GwE to continue current effective practice in managing the NQT function for 2015-16, with a fully developed regional approach introduced for 2016
- Directors to transmit this Board's decision to their NQT Coordinators / LA staff

2. **Standards in Welsh in Key Stage 4**

- 2.1 GwE's Senior Challenge Adviser presented a report on standards in Welsh in KS4, drawing attention to the sections on first language achievement in the region, linguistic continuity, summaries for each LA and the set of recommendations.
- 2.2 In addition, a full report would be available by September on the outcomes of Visit 2 relating to the questions asked by Challenge Advisers about Welsh.
- 2.3 A national report in relation to the verification project would be available by the end of the summer term.

3. **Data**

- 3.1 GwE's Information Manager presented work carried out on data collation and data sharing, which was very much welcomed by the Directors.
- 3.2 GwE's Head of Standards reported that, from September 2015, there would be a regional arrangement of target setting via GwE's website. GwE would also track performance in Years 2, 6, 9 and 11 against targets, on a termly basis.

Action:

- The Information Manager to make the same presentation to LA officers.
- 3.3 Directors **agreed** that the Information Sharing Protocol should be revised, to include reference to DEWI.
 - 3.4 Directors **confirmed** the decision not to go any further with the Teacher Centre project.
 - 3.5 Directors **asked** the Information Manager to prepare a paper revisiting the proposals for a Regional Management Information Service and report back to a future meeting.

4. **Report from GwE**

GwE's Managing Director referred to:

4.1 **Estyn and the consortium inspection process**

Initial information had been received regarding the process, with inspectors spending two weeks in each consortium.

4.2 **Challenge and Review**

There were some actions emanating from the recent Challenge and Review. It was noted that Geraint Rees (WG) had been charged with discussing the scrutiny plans with GwE.

4.3 **External Delivery Board**

The Board's role was to report to the Minister on the Donaldson developments, the Expert Initial Training Adviser for Wales and the New Deal. It was being renamed the "Successful Futures Change Board".

At its recent meeting, the Board had debated Pioneer Schools, of which there were three categories: Digital, Successful Futures and New Deal. Despite concerns about the timescale, GwE was **charged with** releasing the information on its website and conducting a selection procedure with LA links over the summer.

Action:

- the GwE Management Board's concern regarding the Pioneer Schools timescale and need for clarity to be taken back to WG, via Owen Evans.

GwE's Business & Finance Manager referred to:

4.4 GwE's final accounts

4.5 Ongoing work on the 2015-16 budget

4.6 The creation of some new roles within the business team, not requiring any additional funding.

5. **SACRE**

GwE Challenge Advisers presented a briefing paper in terms of the provision for SACRE.