POST-16 FUNDING FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS

Consultation on new formula allocation

September 2019

1.   INTRODUCTION

The Powys County Council Scheme for Financing Schools requires consultation on any change to the existing way that schools are funded in Powys.

The current formula for Post-16 allocation has been in use for several years and does not accurately reflect the amount schools actually spend on delivering courses. In addition to this, the current formula allocates funding for Welsh medium delivery to all 11 secondary schools, even though only 4 deliver courses in the medium of Welsh.

On the 17th September 2019, the Council's Cabinet considered various short-term options for Post-16. A change to the funding formula is one of these short-term options.

The new formula is based on transparency and fairness.

2.   PRINCIPLES

Post-16 is funded in two blocks within the current formula.
- the educational and resources elements
- the premises costs.

The proposed changes listed below would replace the education and resources elements.

The new formula allocation contains:
- a fixed allocation for schools to fund at least one course via the delivery of e-sgol
- a fixed allocation for the Local Authority to spend on marketing of Post-16 providers and courses.

1) Cost of a course
In the new formula allocation, the cost of a course is calculated as follows:

Staff costs	This is determined by the average teacher cost, divided by the number of teaching days (190) divided by the number of average teaching hours a week to give a rate per hour. The number of A Level hours per week is added to 0.5 for PPA and 0.4 for management time to give a total number of teaching hours.

	This is multiplied by the number of teaching hours and then multiplied by the number of weeks to give a teaching cost per year.
Invigilator costs	This is determined by the wage of an invigilator (with on-costs) divided by an average of hours per course in exams.
Admin costs	This is determined by the average fee paid for the entry fee per pupil on the course and other fees.

2) Formula allocation

In the new formula allocation, the total cost for delivery of Year 13 courses is deducted from the total amount of Welsh Government funding. The number of courses is calculated by PLASC and other data collected by schools.

3) Year 12 funding allocation

In the new formula allocation, the total cost for delivery of Year 12 courses is calculated as follows:

D = Deprivation £, S = Sparsity £, W = Welsh £, TD = Total Deprivation £, TS = Total Sparsity £, TW = Total Welsh £, PpN = Projected Pupil numbers, DQPW = Deprivation Quartile Pupil Weighting, ASR = Average Sparsity Rating, AWC = Average Welsh Courses.

Distributed Costs £	This is determined by taking the remaining funds available for Year 12 from the Welsh Government Core funding divided by the total sum of projected pupil numbers across Powys multiplied by the number of projected pupil numbers for the school. *Core Funding ÷ Total PpN × PpN*
Deprivation Rating Quartile	This is determined in line with the guidance from Welsh Government on calculation of their deprivation uplift (See variables below).
Deprivation Quartile Pupil Weighting	This is determined in line with the guidance from Welsh Government on calculation of their deprivation uplift (See variables below).
Average Sparsity Rating	This is determined in line with the guidance from Welsh Government on

	calculation of sparsity uplift (See variables below).
Average Welsh Courses	This is determined in line with the guidance from Welsh Government on calculation of their deprivation uplift (See variables below).
Deprivation £	This is determined by the deprivation quartile pupil weighting value for each school being divided by the total combined rating for all schools multiplied by the total funding given by Welsh Government for Deprivation Uplift. *DQPW ÷ Total DQPW × Deprivation Funding*
Sparsity £	This is determined by the sparsity rating for each school being divided by the total combined rating for all schools multiplied by the total funding given by Welsh Government for Sparsity Uplift. *ASR ÷ Total ASR × Sparsity Funding*
Welsh Medium £	This is determined by the average welsh courses value for each school being divided by the total combined value for all schools multiplied by the total funding given by Welsh Government for Welsh Medium Uplift. *AWC ÷ Total AWC × Welsh Medium Funding*
Amended Uplift £	This is determined by the combined sum of the uplifts above, divided by the total sum of the uplifts multiplying it by the number of projected pupil numbers for Year 12.

	$(D+S+W) \div (TD+TS+TW) \times$ Uplift Funding

Variables

Deprivation Rating Quartile

Schools are placed into quartiles based on the average number of LSOA education rating for each ward where their pupils on roll live. Quartile 1 is the lowest with Quartile 4 being the highest deprived areas.

Deprivation Quartile Pupil Weighting

The deprivation rating quartile is multiplied with the projected Year 12 pupil number. This ensures that the number of pupils is taken into account with the deprivation rating.

Average Sparsity rating

Schools average sparsity rating is determined based on the LSOA in which students are on roll, with each LSOA area being given a rating as determined below with an average being applied across all the places where students are on roll.

Description	Rating
Urban city and town & Urban city and town in a sparse setting	4
Rural town and fringe in a sparse setting	3
Rural village in a sparse setting	2
Rural hamlet and isolated dwellings	1

Average Welsh Courses

This is calculated based on previous courses and entries to examinations in the medium of Welsh. This only applies to schools who provide access to courses in the medium of Welsh.