



## EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 9TH JULY 2013

**SUBJECT: FINANCIAL PLAN EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING 2013/14**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide members with details of the Financial Plan for Education & Lifelong Learning for 2013/14.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Financial Plan outlines the details of how the Directorates total available budget has been allocated.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The report identifies how the Directorate intends using the allocated resources to ensure that key strategies are achieved.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 As part of the Authority's budget process the Directorate has been given budgetary growth of 1% for potential pay award costs, excluding Teachers and other school based staff. There has also been a 1.5% increase (net of fees and charges increases) for non pay budgets. In addition 2.08% budgetary growth has been allocated to meet the Schools Pledge (£2.087m). The Individual Schools Budgets (£94m delegated directly through the formula & £6m Post 16 grant & revenue support grant funded) will need to fund any pay, price and other growth related pressures within the cash limited protected budget.
- 4.2 In 2013-14 funding of £891k has transferred into the Authority for Post 16 SEN Special Schools, £33k for Post 16 SEN Mainstream and £272k for School Based Counselling (formally Welsh Government grants).
- 4.3 The Directorate has received £100k growth to fund additional Youth Service provision and a virement from the Home to School / College Transport budget of £33k to fund the running costs of the re-opened Aberbargoed Library.
- 4.4 The Directorate Savings target for 2013-14 of £489k has been achieved as required.
- 4.5 In addition to Directorate specific efficiencies, a saving of £268k has been achieved in relation to demographic changes with regards to school pupil numbers.

- 4.6 In total the Directorates net budget for 2013/14 is £125m (excluding Central Support Service Apportionments) of which £100m (which includes £6m Post 16 funding) forms the Individual Schools Budgets.

The detailed Financial Plan pages are included in **Appendix 1**.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct equality implications to this information report. However, the protections afforded to Education (Schools) through the pledge will serve to protect the most vulnerable groups for the purposes of Equalities Legislation.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None at present, but the budget will be kept under review during the year.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 In 2013-14 the Directorate will continue with the strategy of prudent vacancy management.

## **8. CONSULTATIONS**

- 8.1 As detailed below.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 Members are requested to note the contents of this report.

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Consultees: Directorate Senior Management Team  
Councillor Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education & Lifelong Learning  
Nicole Scammell, Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151 Officer  
Stephen R Harris, Acting Head of Corporate Finance  
Councillor Keith Reynolds, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services  
Councillor Wynne David, Chair, Education for Life Scrutiny  
Councillor DWR Preece, Vice-Chair, Education for Life Scrutiny  
David A Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)  
Mike Lewis, Principal Accountant Education  
Sue Richards, Principal Finance Officer (Schools)  
Lynne Donovan – HR Service Manager, Customer Services

Appendices:  
Appendix 1 Financial Plan