

Meeting  
11/12/09

Agenda Item  
17

Reference No  
HEFCW/09/124

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## **1 Issue**

- 1.1 The paper requests the Council to delegate authority to the Chairman to approve the allocation of primary and secondary initial teacher training (ITT) intake targets to ITT providers for 2010/11.

## **2 Corporate Planning Implications / Rationale for paper**

- 2.1 Each year the Welsh Assembly Government provides HEFCW with ITT intake targets for the higher education sector as a whole. We then determine the allocation of intake targets to individual ITT providers. This process is part of HEFCW's statutory responsibilities for ITT under the Education Act 2005.

## **3 Recommendation(s)**

- 3.1 The Council is invited to delegate authority to the Chairman to approve the allocation of primary and secondary intake targets to institutions for 2010/11.

## **4 Timing for decisions**

- 4.1 Delegated authority is sought so that that we can complete the allocation process as promptly as possible to help institutions plan their recruitment for the next academic year.

## **5 Council members' interests**

- 5.1 The Chief Executive's partner is a member of staff in the School of Education at Swansea Metropolitan University. For this reason, delegated authority is sought for the Chairman to approve the allocations.

## **6 Further information**

contact Alison Allan (Tel 029 2068 2223; E-mail: [alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk))

## **7 Background**

- 7.1 ITT is a quota subject in that the Welsh Assembly Government sets intake targets for the sector as a whole each year informed by its forecast of the demand for newly-qualified teachers. Under the Education Act 2005, in making allocations to institutions, HEFCW is required to have regard to this forecast demand.
- 7.2 The intake targets are divided into the various categories of ITT provision in Wales:
- Primary Undergraduate (UG)
  - Primary PGCE
  - Secondary UG
  - Secondary PGCE.
- 7.3 Once we have received the sector targets from the Assembly Government, we then determine targets for individual providers based on factors including previous recruitment trends and Estyn inspection information as appropriate. This takes place during December and January, following the receipt of early recruitment data for the current academic year from providers.
- 7.4 The Welsh Assembly Government has been reducing intake targets for ITT in a planned way since 2006/07 in particular in response to an over-supply of teachers, although the final reduction is now not quite as steep as originally envisaged. Parallel to this, as discussed and agreed by the Council in earlier meetings (2006 to 2008), there is a reconfiguration of the ITT sector. From 2009/10 Swansea Metropolitan University and Trinity University College have formed the South West Wales Centre of Teacher Education and UWIC and University of Wales, Newport the South East Wales Centre. Aberystwyth University and Bangor University will form the North and Mid Wales Centre from 2010/11. ITT is being phased out at Glyndŵr University which took its last new intake in 2009/10. The Open University offers a small flexible part-time secondary PGCE.

## **8 Intake targets 2010/11**

- 8.1 We received the sector intake target letter for 2010/11 from the Assembly Government on 19 November 2009. This has been issued to the sector with a covering circular (Circular W09/38HE). Our aim is to issue the targets for individual providers as early as possible in the new year to help institutions plan their recruitment. As has been the practice over the last few years, the Assembly Government is content for us to issue the institutional primary targets but is asking us to submit the secondary targets to them for approval by the end of January.
- 8.2 The main points to note from the letter are:
- The Assembly Government's forecasts of the demand for newly-qualified teachers is informed by its Teacher Planning and Supply Model (TPSM) which it has developed over the last few years and which is gradually being refined through the input of more robust data. Since 2007 there has been a shallower reduction path than previously indicated for primary numbers (755 rather than 575 by 2010/11) and for 2010/11 the reduction

in secondary targets is slightly less than the original estimates (1045 rather than 990) .

- As part of ITT reconfiguration, the Welsh Assembly Government gave indicative targets in 2006 for the period 2006/07 to 2010/11. As ITT numbers reduced, the institutions concerned have been able to use the released numbers for alternative provision which met Assembly Government education workforce priorities. 2010/11 is the last year in which there will be any new released numbers, although there will be some feed through for the next few years as the reductions in numbers associated with UG courses (generally two or three years long) work through the system.
- Changes to the priority attached to particular secondary PGCE subjects. Secondary subjects are divided into priority groups according to whether they are seen to be shortage areas for teacher recruitment. Attached to these groupings are incentive payments for ITT students and teaching grants when they start their first post. Changes have been made to these incentive groupings in England for 2010/11 and have been mirrored in Wales so that Welsh HEIs and their students are not at a disadvantage. PGCE secondary targets are sub-divided in line with these priorities.
  - Science, which has hitherto had an overall target, has now been sub-divided so that a greater priority is given to Chemistry and Physics than Biology and General Science
  - English and Drama have been split and placed in different groups.
- The letter gives indicative targets for 2011/12 and 2012/13, although with a warning that these may change.

***The Council is invited to delegate authority to the Chairman to approve the allocation of primary and secondary intake targets to institutions for 2010/11.***

## **9 Financial implications**

- 9.1 Funded credits and funding for ITT is calculated as part of HEFCW overall funding for teaching.

## **10 Communications implications**

- 10.1 The sector intake targets have been published in Circular W09/38HE. The targets for individual providers will be published once these have been approved by the Chairman and, additionally in the case of Secondary targets, by the Welsh Assembly Government.

## **11 Diversity and Equal Opportunities implications**

- 11.1 There are no specific diversity and equal opportunities implications attached to the ITT intake targets. The range of ITT provision provides for diverse entry routes to ITT and to the teaching profession. As part of their ITT

strategies, providers are expected to give attention to their statutory obligations and to activities to support diversity and the needs of different groups of students. Welsh medium provision forms a significant part of ITT in Wales and again, in their strategies, providers are asked to give attention to maintaining and developing this provision.

## 12 Risk Assessment

12.1 Identified risks associated with ITT intake targets for 2010/11 are given below:

RISK	ACTION TO ADDRESS RISK
<p>Failure to issue ITT intake targets to providers as soon as possible could adversely affect their planning, leading to over or under-recruitment against targets.</p>	<p>Delegated authority for the Chairman to approve the targets.</p>
<p>Over-recruitment against primary intakes, as this is a popular area amongst prospective students.</p>	<p>Penalty arrangements are in place to discourage over-recruitment.</p>
<p>Given the economic climate and therefore potentially stronger recruitment to ITT, there may be a slight risk of over-recruitment against secondary targets, particularly in the more popular subjects.</p>	<p>The importance of avoiding over-recruitment will be drawn to providers' attention.</p>