



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Professor P Gummatt
Chief Executive
Higher Education Funding
Council for Wales
Linden Court
The Orchards
Ilex Close
Llanishen
CARDIFF CF14 5DZ

Eich cyf . Your ref
Ein cyf . Our ref SF/JD/0505/06

29 November 2006

Dear Professor Gummatt

INTAKE TARGETS FOR INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING 2007/08

I am writing to let you know the intake targets for initial teacher training (ITT) for the 2007/08 academic year.

Background

As you know, the Minister's statement of 29 March set out an ITT Change Plan to restructure ITT so that intake targets, courses and course availability can deliver teachers with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) to better meet the needs of maintained schools in Wales. Based on the Review of ITT Provision and the information available at the time, our outline working assumptions for reductions in ITT numbers are that compared with the 2004/05 numbers, overall primary provision will reduce by 50% and secondary by 25% by 2010/11.

HEFCW has been remitted to produce a detailed plan by 30 November 2006 for a reconfiguration of HEI ITT providers in Wales. To support the reconfiguration work, on 5 July we provided indicative intake targets for the years from 2007/08 up to 2010/11.

Parc Cathays
Caerdydd
CF10 3NQ

Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Ffôn • Tel: 029 2080 1331
GTN: 1208
Ffacs • Fax: 029 2082 6109
Ebost • Email: philip.rogers@wales.gsi.gov.uk

In producing this plan we emphasised that the figures were very much in outline only and might be subject to noticeable changes depending on e.g. the outcomes of our examination of data collection improvements and of HEFCW's reconfiguration work. However, at this stage we do not consider that we are in a position to alter any of the figures in our outline plan, because:-

- HEFCW are not due to deliver their detailed plan for a reconfiguration of HEI ITT providers in Wales until 30 November, and it will then need to be considered. This may affect how we plan for reductions in ITT course numbers up to 2010/11, but the need to settle on intake targets for the next academic year now means that decisions based on that plan will not be able to influence ITT courses for 2007/08.
- We have been looking at the teacher supply modeling used for calculating ITT intake targets to see the scope which might exist for better inputs to and outputs from the process, using data which is more specific to and reflective of issues of concern in Wales. However, we will not have results from this in time to affect planning for the 2007/08 intake.
- We have let a contract for a review of the statistical planning issues underlying Welsh medium ITT course provision. The results from this may well help to influence future intake planning. However, the consultants are not due to deliver their report until 15 March 2007.

In view of this and to maintain a consistency of approach in the absence of further information, we propose that the intake targets for ITT for the 2007/08 academic year should be based on the figures set out in our outline plan of 5 July.

Detail

For primary numbers in 2007/08 our outline plan showed a total of 950 places (a reduction of 86 compared with 2006/07), of which 520 were undergraduate places (-69) and 430 postgraduate (-17).

For secondary numbers in 2007/08 our outline plan showed a total of 1,240 places (a reduction of 40 compared with 2006/07), of which 143 were undergraduate places (-10) and 1,097 postgraduate (-30).

These figures are shown in the annex attached to this letter. This also shows a breakdown of secondary subjects into three groupings to reflect the priority subjects and the differing levels of incentives which are available.

Open University

The intake targets set out here do not include provision for the Open University (OU) in Wales. It is proposed to add a number of places to these intake targets, on the basis that the accreditation for the OU in Wales will be agreed and in place in the financial year 2007-08. As we have noted before, this will not be an increase in intake; this just represents intake previously offered in Wales, but funded and recorded in England, now being funded and recorded in Wales instead.

For the purposes of intake target setting, we have assumed that eventually there will be 25 OU places each academic year (10 maths and science, 10 PGCE other priority and 5 PGCE non-priority). The courses will run on a part-time basis and the OU has six potential start dates; once the courses are up and running numbers entering, on courses and leaving all balance out. However, given that initially the OU will be starting from zero, it will have less than 25 on the course in the first year of operation. We have assumed that, with a March 2007 start, that 14 places will be taken by the end of the financial year 2007-08; and 18 places by the end of the academic year 2007/08.

These figures are not shown in the annex attached to this letter.

Action

The intake targets for initial teacher training for the 2007/08 academic year are set out in the table in the annex attached. These form the basis of the Welsh Assembly Government's forecast demand for newly qualified teachers to which the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales is required to have regard under section 86(6) of the Education Act 2005.

Providers should have been aware of our outline plan for reductions in ITT numbers and their planned recruitment assumptions for 2007/08 should have been made on that basis. However, providers should have their attention drawn to the fact that the targets for 2007/08 are in line with the outline plan.

As usual, the intake targets do not include separate Welsh medium intake targets, not least because splitting subject intake targets between Welsh medium and English medium could produce exceptionally small and unmanageable cohorts. There are also wider issues about what might be appropriate targets; this is one of the factors being considered in the review of Welsh medium ITT provision. For the moment, HEFCW is asked to continue to encourage institutions to develop Welsh medium provision where possible.

As last year, the targets are only provided for the total primary and secondary targets, sub-divided between undergraduate and postgraduate. The only additional sub-divisions are between secondary postgraduate targets for priority (maths and science) subjects, other priority subjects and non-priority subjects. HEFCW will be aware that for 2007/08 the priority secondary postgraduate subjects will continue to be mathematics, science, modern languages, design and technology, ICT, English (including drama), Welsh, music and RE.

Taking these targets, HEFCW is asked to consider how (in the light of the intake targets notified to it last year, its own allocations to providers for 2006/07, actual recruitment to courses, course availability for 2007/08, and other relevant factors) it proposes to allocate these numbers between providers; and in the case of secondary targets, between subjects. For primary numbers, we are content for HEFCW to allocate them to providers as soon as possible and to notify us when this is done. For secondary numbers, HEFCW should write to Practitioner Division by no later than 31 January 2007 with proposals for allocating these numbers between providers for agreement by this office. In considering

proposals, we are content for HEFCW to exercise its discretion regarding virement providing it is within the limits set out in the annex attached.

The Minister would like to reinforce the message that although there are reductions in intake numbers, efforts must continue to be made to ensure that over-recruitment against targets does not occur. HEFCW is asked to maintain its financial and other efforts to prevent initial teacher training providers from over-recruiting.

Yours sincerely

Philip J Rogers
Head of Practitioner Division - Higher Learning Group
Department for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills.

Intake targets 2007/08

	Undergraduate	Postgraduate	total
Primary	520	430	950
Secondary	143	1097	1240
Total	663	1527	2190

Secondary PGCE subjects***Priority group 1***

Mathematics; Science

280

Priority group 2

English (including drama); Modern Languages; Welsh; Design & Technology; IT; Music; RE

497

Other subjects

History; Geography; PE; Art; Business studies; Outdoor

320

Virement flexibility

- No virement into the undergraduate or postgraduate primary target totals.
- Up to 5% virement flexibility into the undergraduate secondary target total from the undergraduate primary target total.
- Up to 5% virement flexibility into the postgraduate secondary other subjects target total from the postgraduate primary target total.
- No virement out of the postgraduate secondary other subjects target total.
- No virement into or out of the postgraduate secondary priority group 1 target total.
- No virement into or out of the postgraduate secondary priority group 2 target total.

