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Circular

Initial Teacher Training: Intake targets 2009/10

Date: 15 December 2008
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To: Heads of higher education institutions in Wales providing
initial teacher training courses
Response by: No response required
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This circular sets out the initial teacher training intake targets for the sector for 2009/10.

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Introduction

- 1 This circular sets out the initial teacher training (ITT) intake targets for the sector for 2009/10.
- 2 The letter which we have received from the Welsh Assembly Government setting out the targets is attached at **Annex A**.

Sector ITT intake targets 2009/10

- 3 The letter from the Welsh Assembly Government outlines the basis for the intake targets for 2009/10, which has included taking account of information from the continuing work on the Teacher Planning and Supply Model (TPSM) for Wales.
- 4 There is a smaller decrease in primary intake targets for 2009/10 compared with the indicative targets issued by the Assembly Government in July 2006. The overall secondary intake targets remain the same as the July 2006 indicative targets. The distribution between mathematics and science, other priority subjects and non-priority subjects has since been adjusted, as we informed you by email in October 2007, to take account of English (including drama) no longer being a priority subject from 2008/09. While the letter refers to secondary intake targets for the Open University in Wales, these are not included in the intake target table.
- 5 The Assembly Government's letter notes that it is still considering the implications for 2010/11. While it is likely that projected secondary reductions are of the right order, there may be less reduction in primary numbers. However, this will not be confirmed until the Assembly Government has considered updated outputs from the TPSM.

Over-recruitment

- 6 The Assembly Government letter emphasises that, particularly in the context of reductions in intake numbers, efforts must continue to ensure that over-recruitment against targets does not occur. HEFCW has been asked to maintain its current efforts to prevent ITT providers from over-recruiting. We would therefore remind you that penalty arrangements remain in place for over-recruitment to primary provision.
- 7 We have warned for the last two years that, if an institution substantially over-recruits, we may need to reconsider the broad planning assumptions which we gave in October 2006 or the full availability of released numbers from the reductions in ITT intake targets. Provisional HESES data does indicate that at least one institution has substantially over-recruited against its primary target numbers. If this is confirmed following verification of the HESES figures by institutions, given the

impact this will have on other providers, in the context of the TPSM and ITT reconfiguration more generally, we intend to apply the 5% penalty to 2009/10 intake targets for such institution(s). This will be calculated against the original indicative primary targets for 2009/10. Such institution(s) will not therefore benefit from the additional intake targets for primary provision as a result of adjustments made in the context of the TPSM, or receive released numbers associated with the penalty reduction in intakes.

- 8 Where, as a part of reconfiguration plans, an ITT portfolio is transferring between partners from 2009/10, for example, where one of the partners will in future offer primary undergraduate provision and the other PGCE primary provision, the penalty will not be applied to the partner taking over the portfolio but to the institution which was responsible for the over-recruitment. Thus, while over-recruitment may have occurred on undergraduate primary, the penalty would be applied to the institution's PGCE targets.

Institutional/Centre intake targets 2009/10

- 9 The reconfigured South West Wales Centre for Teacher Education (Swansea Metropolitan University and Trinity College, Carmarthen) and the South East Wales Centre for Teacher Education (University of Wales Institute, Cardiff and University of Wales, Newport) will come into operation from 2009/10. For these two Centres we will provide intake targets to the Centre but we will show for 2009/10 only a breakdown as it would have been for the individual institutions. Thereafter we would expect to show Centre targets only.
- 10 The North and Mid Wales Centre (Aberystwyth University and Bangor University) will come into operation from 2010/11. We will therefore show separate intake targets for these two institutions for 2009/10 and for Glyndŵr University.
- 11 We will write to you in the new year with the institutional/Centre intake target allocations. You will note that for secondary numbers we have to put proposals for allocating these to the Assembly Government by the end of January. We would hope to get details of institutional primary allocations to you before the end of January.

Further information

- 12 For further information, contact Alison Allan (tel 029 2068 2223; email alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk).

Our Ref: SF/JH/0366/08

Professor Philip Gummett
Chief Executive
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
Linden Court
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8 December 2008

Dear Professor Gummett

INTAKE TARGETS FOR INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING 2009/10

I am writing to let you know the intake targets for initial teacher training (ITT) for the 2009/10 academic year.

Background

The Welsh Assembly Government's ITT Change Plan aims 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 have been that compared with the 2004/05 numbers, overall primary provision would reduce by up to 50% and secondary by up to 25% by 2010/11.

To support the ITT Change Plan, we have provided indicative intake targets for the years from 2007/08 up to 2010/11. These have been updated on several occasions. In producing these indicative intake targets we have emphasised that the figures are 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.

In our letter to you of 13 August giving approval to the Council's specific reconfiguration proposals for implementation we said that the indicative targets up to the 2010/11 academic year are not yet definite and could be subject to alteration. However, we said that we would approach the intake targets for 2009/10 on the basis that we were aiming not to move significantly away from the previously published indicative targets without compelling and over-riding evidence to the contrary.

Detail

For primary numbers in 2009/10 our outline plan showed a total of 725 places (a reduction of 175 compared with the actual 2008/09 intake figure), of which 330 were undergraduate places (-140) and 395 postgraduate (-35).

For secondary numbers in 2009/10 our outline plan showed a total of 1,100 places (a reduction of 75 compared with the actual 2008/09 intake figure), of which 115 were undergraduate places (-15) and 985 postgraduate (-60).

The Welsh Assembly Government's updated ITT Change Plan work programme for 2008-09 (the short term plan) included our Statistical Directorate continuing to work on developing a Teacher Planning and Supply Model (TPSM) for Wales. This work has been considering in particular collecting teaching registration data and developing a time series for this which will enable wastage and re-entry rates to be modelled; and evaluating the feasibility and likely resource implications of running a successful Welsh TPSM. The 2008-09 short term plan also included consideration of modifications to the outline plan for reductions in ITT numbers up to 2010/11 in the light of data collection information from the work on a possible TPSM for Wales.

The updating work on the TPSM is not yet finished, but information from data presently available is that in general the results for secondary are very similar to those produced last year. Pupil numbers in secondary schools will continue to decline until around 2015 and the reductions proposed for secondary numbers in our indicative targets are in the right sort of area to deliver newly qualified teachers in suitable numbers to meet the needs of maintained schools in Wales. The TPSM output presently suggests slightly greater reductions in intake compared with those currently proposed. Given the margin for error on the various components which make the statistical inputs to the TPSM and the need for intake target stability in 2009/10, we do not propose any alteration to the existing secondary ITT intake target projections

For primary, we also get similar results to last year. The data on future pupil numbers (which now have a small rising projection) coupled with increasing retirements after the next 3-4 years and other data indicate that the reduction proposed by Furlong of 50% from 2004-05 would now be too steep. However, other evidence, such as the application numbers for vacancies, suggests that over-supply is still the present situation. We consider that at this stage we should reduce numbers by 50 places less than previously envisaged – to 775 rather than 725. Postgraduate numbers would reduce from 430 to 405 (-25) and undergraduate numbers would reduce from 470 to 370 (-100).

We are still considering the implications for 2010/11. The balance of present data suggests that for secondary numbers the present projected reduction is in the right sort of area, although we will want to look at further data before confirming this. For primary, the evidence suggests that less reduction than previously proposed will be needed. We will need to consider updated outputs from the TPSM during 2009 before making decisions, however.

Open University

These intake targets do not include provision for the Open University (OU) in Wales. For the purposes of intake target setting, we have previously agreed that the OU can recruit up to 25 places each academic year. Broken down by priority groupings, these will be 12 maths and science places, 12 PGCE other priority places and 1 PGCE non-priority place – with permission to vire one place from PGCE other priority to PGCE non-priority in the light of demand. These figures are not shown in the annex attached to this letter.

Action

The primary and secondary intake targets for ITT for the 2009/10 academic year are set out in the table in the annex attached. 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. These targets are derived from 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 their attention drawn to the fact that the secondary targets for 2009/10 are in line with the previous indicative intake targets and that the primary targets show a change. Providers should also be made aware of the potentially developing position for 2010/11.

These targets do not include separate Welsh medium intake targets. HEFCW is asked to continue to encourage institutions to develop Welsh medium provision where possible.

As in previous years, 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.

Taking these targets, HEFCW is asked to consider (in the light of the intake targets notified to it last year, its own allocations to providers for 2008/09, actual recruitment to courses, course availability for 2009/10, reconfiguration plans and other relevant factors) how 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 2009 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.

HEFCW will also need to consider whether the intake targets are allocated to individual institutions, or allocated to the developing reconfigured ITT Centres.

This will depend on how advanced planning for these is, and we are content for HEFCW to exercise its discretion on this. If numbers are allocated to the reconfigured ITT Centres, we would like to see a breakdown of the 2009/10 numbers between the two collaborative partners as well as totals by Centre.

The Minister would like to reinforce the message that, particularly in the context of reductions in intake numbers, efforts must continue to be made to ensure that over-recruitment against targets does not occur. We would be grateful if HEFCW could maintain its current efforts to help avoid ITT providers over-recruiting.

Yours sincerely

Helen Arthur
Acting Head, Learning Improvement and Professional Development Division

Intake targets 2009/10

	Undergraduate	Postgraduate	Total
Primary	370	405	775
Secondary	115	985	1100
Total	485	1390	1875
<u>Secondary PGCE subjects</u>			
<i>Priority group 1</i>			
Mathematics; Science		258	
<i>Priority group 2</i>			
Modern Languages; Welsh; Design & Technology; ICT; Music; RE		347	
<i>Other subjects</i>			
English (including drama); History; Geography; PE; Art; Business studies; Outdoor		380	

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.