

Circular

Initial Teacher Training (ITT) Strategy Fund: 2007/08 Allocations

15 May 2007

Ref: W07/19HE

To: Heads of higher education institutions in Wales providing Initial Teacher Training

Summary: This circular sets out the allocations to be made to institutions in 2007/08 to support the implementation of ITT Strategic Plans.

Response by: No response required

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INTRODUCTION

- 1 This circular sets out the allocations to be made to institutions in 2007/08 to support the implementation of ITT Strategic Plans.

BACKGROUND

- 2 The initial period covered by the ITT Strategic Plans was 2003/04 to 2005/06. We would normally have asked you to submit a fully revised plan for a further three-year period from 2006/07. However, given the uncertainties arising from the Welsh Assembly Government Review of ITT, we continued the existing arrangements in 2006/07 (Circular W06/17HE). Uncertainties remain about the reconfiguration of the ITT sector while we await a decision from the Minister on our advice. Even when the position is clearer, 2007/08 will be a period of planning and transition. Thus, it is still not appropriate to ask you to prepare a new three-year plan at present. We are therefore rolling forward arrangements again for 2007/08.
- 3 We will be issuing a circular shortly about the overall AMS process for 2007. We will then write to you later in the summer with the ITT Annual Monitoring Statement (AMS) form for your institution, for you to report on progress in 2006/07 and plans for the use of your 2007/08 allocation by November 2007.

2007/08 ALLOCATIONS

- 4 The sum available for the **ITT Strategy Fund** for 2007/08, including Teacher Training Recruitment Scheme allocations, is £1,161,470. Allocations for 2007/08 are set out in **Annex A**. There is also an additional ITT Partnership allocation of £260,770 (see below).
- 5 **Teacher Training Recruitment Scheme Allocation (TTRS)** While other aspects of the original TTRS were subsumed within the ITT Strategy Fund, the undergraduate (UG) student placement grant element of the TTRS allocation remains separately identified as a ring-fenced allocation to ITT providers of secondary UG provision. We pay UG placement grants as part of the ITT Strategy Fund allocations, but you should keep this sum ring-fenced within your institutional financial processes, as the funding is to be forwarded directly by you to eligible UG students.
- 6 **ITT Partnership** In 2005/06 and 2006/07, we made an additional ITT Partnership allocation to ITT providers. This was in recognition of the impact that the reductions in primary ITT intake targets in particular might have on the viability of some smaller departments and institutions, including those offering Welsh Medium provision, and on supporting and maintaining ITT partnership. The Council has agreed to continue this allocation for a further year. The sum available for 2007/08 is £260,770. The funding is allocated pro-rata to institutional ITT funded credits. No institution will receive less

than £25,000 or more than £50,000. You should use this funding to ensure the continuing viability of your ITT provision in 2007/08 and to support ITT partnership.

- 7 As noted above, we recognise that Assembly Government decisions remain to be taken on the future shape of the ITT sector. However, we would expect the situation to become clearer over the coming months. By the time you report to us in November, you may be in a position to gear some of your activities to developments consistent with your plans for the longer-term future, if you consider this appropriate.
- 8 ITT Strategy Fund allocations, including the additional ITT Partnership allocation, will be paid in two equal instalments in September 2007 and March 2008. We will confirm release of the March 2008 payment subject to the receipt of a satisfactory Annual Monitoring Statement in November 2007.
- 9 In February this year, we received a letter from the Director of HEW on behalf of ITT providers raising a number of issues relating to ITT Reconfiguration. In our response (9 March 2007), we noted that the Council has yet to consider whether ITT Strategy funding should continue in the future and, if so, at what level under the new circumstances which would exist in the sector. If we were to reduce the funding, we would of course honour existing commitments.

ITT STRATEGIC FUNDING ALLOCATIONS 2007/08

Institution	ITT Strategy Fund		Additional ITT Partnership Allocation	Total
	Teacher Training Recruitment Scheme (TTRS) Secondary Undergraduate Placement Grants* £	Main ITT Strategy Fund Allocation £		
University of Wales, Aberystwyth	0	60,620	25,000	85,620
University of Wales, Bangor	43,000	150,108	47,085	240,193
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	151,000	205,436	50,000	406,436
University of Wales, Newport	116,000	102,237	32,069	250,306
North East Wales Institute of Higher Education	0	46,428	25,000	71,428
Swansea Institute of Higher Education	0	175,847	50,000	225,847
Trinity College Carmarthen	10,000	100,794	31,616	142,410
Total	320,000	841,470	260,770	1,422,240

**Note: The TTRS UG Placement Grant allocation for 2007/08 will be paid with the ITT Strategy Fund but must be ringfenced by institutions for distribution to UG trainees*