



My Ref / Fy Ref: CM32533

Your Ref / Eich Ref :

Date / Dyddiad: 5 November 2015

Councillor R. Cook
Chair
Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Dear / Annwyl Richard,

**RE: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – BUDGET
MONITORING PANEL**

Thank you for your recent letter, following the Budget Monitoring Panel meeting held on the 6th October 2015.

In response to the issues that required further clarification;

Delegated School Balances – I note and share your concerns regarding the deteriorating position of certain schools deficit balances. However I can assure you that officers are working closely with every school with a deficit budget within an agreed protocol. Schools in deficit are obliged to agree a medium term financial plan showing how they will balance their delegated budget and any staffing changes can only be made with the authorisation of Council Officers. Additionally you will be aware that the Council has intervened in four schools; Michaelston, Glyn Derw, Eastern and Cantonian High Schools and withdrawn delegation from the Governing Bodies. In each school a senior officer from the Finance Department is assigned to work with the school to ensure the medium term financial plan is adhered to.

Central South Consortium – I share your opinion that the Consortium should contribute to the savings being made by the commissioning Councils and I can confirm that this has been made clear to the Managing Director of the Consortium. The next meeting of the Consortium Directors will be considering how these savings targets can be met.



Line 134: Staff Realignment and Restructure – I note your concerns regarding the current level of savings that have not been achieved within this financial year. This saving will be achieved through restructuring and reduction of posts which will be in place before the start of the new financial year.

I also note your request for further meetings after the months 6 and 9 monitoring figures are available and I will ensure that officers are available to attend.

Yours sincerely
Yn gwyir



**Cllr /Y Cyng Sarah Merry
Cabinet Member for Education/
Yr Aelod Cabinet Dros Addysg
Member for Cathays /
Aelod Dros Cathays**