Medr
Y Comisiwn Addysg Drydyddol ac Ymchwil
Commission for Tertiary Education and Research

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Investment and Monitoring Newsletter

Update: October 2026

This newsletter is based on queries from the sector and any relevant Medr updates. We welcome feedback on the format of this newsletter at: InvestmentandMonitoring@medr.cymru.

If others would like to receive the newsletter, please ask them to contact us using the email address above.

General updates

- We would like to take this opportunity to thank Cristian-Vasile Vacariuc for his hard work and dedication as he leaves the Investment & Monitoring Team as Senior Investment & Monitoring Manager (Part-time and PLA) to take up a new position with Medr's Performance and Coordination team as Senior Provider Performance Manager. We are grateful for his excellent contribution to the team and wish him every success in his new role. In the meantime, please direct any queries to Cory Chant via investmentandmonitoring@medr.cymru, who will be happy to assist.

Learner eligibility

- We have received a number of queries recently around individual learner eligibility and thought it would be helpful to provide some further clarification on the approach providers should take.
- Through the Post-16 Funding Framework 2026/27, alongside the Terms and Conditions of Grant 2026/27, we have pulled together the information on eligibility in one place for the ease of providers. While the Framework provides guidance to

support eligibility decisions, we recognise that individual circumstances can vary and it may not always provide an explicit answer for every situation. In some cases, providers may need to look further at a learner's individual circumstances, for example their residency or immigration status, and consider other relevant official guidance or evidence alongside the Framework.

- Medr are on hand to signpost you to this information and provide links to further considerations. However, the assessment of an individual learner's circumstances ultimately forms part of the provider's own eligibility checks. Providers should therefore be satisfied that the relevant requirements have been met and retain appropriate evidence to support their assessment and any associated funding claim.
- We would encourage providers to refer to both the Post-16 Funding Framework and the Terms and Conditions of Grant, available through the Medr Funding for Providers page, when considering learner eligibility.

Funding information

We would like to remind providers that information on allocations and links to guidance documents can be found on Medr's website at: Funding for providers

Full time funding

Increased Participation Funding for Local Authority Sixth Forms

- For the 2025/26 academic year, Medr allocated £21.126 million to further education institutions (FEIs) and local authorities (LAs) in recognition of in-year increases in learner participation.
- To enable Medr to monitor delivery against this funding allocation, we are requesting that local authorities provide their final learner numbers for the 2025/26 academic year.
- In addition, we ask that you submit your initial enrolment data for the 2026/27 academic year.
- A data collection form was issued by email on **8 October 2026**. We kindly request that all local authorities complete and return the form to investmentandmonitoring@medr.cymru by close of play on **26 October 2026**.
- If you have not received the email containing the form, please contact us as soon as possible as timely receipt of this information is particularly important.

Part time funding

Newly Approved Personal Learning Account (PLA) qualifications

OfQual LAim Ref	QW Approval No.	Title	Programme Code (LP74)
60189642	C0011513	Qualifications Scotland Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Plant Operations (Construction)	9001AXXV

Adult Community Learning

Submission of CLG data on the LLWR Inform

- Please ensure that Community Learning Grant data it is submitted with the correct programme code and that the hours field is populated. This will allow the data to be processed appropriately.
- LLWR refresher training available for anyone who wishes to attend. This will be focused on FAQs that we have received since the last training. If there are areas that you would like covered, please email investmentandmonitoring@medr.cymru with your suggestions.
    - Monday 23 November at 11am –11:45am
    - Tuesday 24 November at 1pm – 1:45pm

PLA

- A reminder to all providers of PLA provision to update details on the Careers Wales website.

PLA and Occupational Qualifications Panel

- The Panel will be piloting meeting every other month for 2026/27, this is due to a high number of meetings being cancelled in 2025/26. This will be reviewed over summer 2027 to make any permanent changes.
- Current deadlines for applications for new qualifications to be funded are as below. If there are any significant changes to these dates, we will provide an update in the earliest newsletter possible.
    - Wednesday 18 November 2026
    - Wednesday 20 January 2027
    - Wednesday 17 March 2027
    - Wednesday 19 May 2027
    - Wednesday 21 July 2027

Special Projects

- The deadline for submitting returns for **Learner Recovery and Progression funding** and **Post-16 Transition** funding returns has now passed. Providers will be notified of any reclaim due before the end of October.
- The deadline for submitting **Support & Wellbeing Fund** Plans (Annex A) is 9 October. Medr will provide feedback on these plans by 3 November.
- Additional funding has been awarded to Medr by Welsh Government for Junior Apprenticeships. This funding is to cover the cost of increased delivery for 2026/27. There will be no increase to the programme value for Junior Apprenticeships.

Learner Support

- **Financial contingency fund (including Period dignity fund)** end of year reports 2025/26 to be returned by 27 November 2026, the relevant documentation has been sent to the contacts for this fund.
- **Additional Learning support fund** end of year reports 2025/26 to be returned by 4 December 2026. The relevant documentation has been sent to the contacts for this fund.

ILS

Please send all documents to: investmentandmonitoring@medr.cymru