

PROGRESS TOWARDS KEY PERFORMANCE TARGETS PUBLISHED IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2002-03 TO 2004-05

Strategic Aim	Target	Progress to February 2003
<p>a) to maintain and develop high quality and cost-effective institutions covering a diverse range of missions which individually provide, in different measure, for the education of students, the pursuit of scholarship and the advancement of knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to make Structural Change Fund allocations no later than March 2002; • Complete the installation of the Video Services Network; • Make further substantial capital investment in the infrastructure for learning and teaching and information technology in the period 2002-03 to 2003-04; • Achieve student numbers within 2% of the Assembly's planning figures, as converted into fundable numbers. <p><u>Student number targets 2001/02:</u></p> <p>- Total fundable full-time equivalent (fte) enrolments: 68,900</p> <p>- Fundable full-time and sandwich undergraduates: 50,600</p> <p>- Fundable part-time FTEs: 12,150</p> <p>- Fundable part-time undergraduate FTEs: 9,500</p> <p>ITT Primary intake numbers: 1,150</p> <p>ITT Secondary shortage subject intake numbers: 688</p> <p>ITT Secondary intake numbers: 1,251</p>	<p>✓ Achieved</p> <p>✓ Achieved</p> <p>✓ Achieved</p> <p>✓ Achieved. Actual student numbers from 2001/02 End of Year Monitoring survey (as FTEs: using headcounts where available, otherwise converted credit values):</p> <p>68,123 (-1.1%)</p> <p>50,180 (-0.8%)</p> <p>11,965 (-1.5%)</p> <p>9,369 (-1.4%)</p> <p>1,223 (+6%)</p> <p>746 (+8.4%)</p> <p>1,145 (-8.5%)</p>
<p>b) to promote continuous improvement in the quality and standards of higher education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that, from 2003, all institutions have developed strategies for continuous enhancement of learning and teaching that are embedded in their strategic plans, which the Council will review annually; • introduce an interim quality assurance system for 2001/02, following withdrawal by England from the previously planned UK-wide system; 	<p>On target, subject to the development of new arrangements for rewarding teaching excellence. Consultation document on rewarding teaching to be published February 2003.</p> <p>✓ Achieved</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work with the sector, the other funding councils, and the QAA to develop a revised system for quality assurance for implementation from AY2002/03; • work with the sector to address any cases of unacceptable quality or standards. Should such cases arise, ensure that remedial action is taken; failing this, withdraw public funding; • use, and work with UK partners to develop further, the UK HE Performance Indicators for measuring student retention and progression, in order to identify and respond to any instances of poor performance; • in addition to annual monitoring, work with the sector to ensure that the Welsh average for the Performance Indicator for student retention and progression rates at least matches the UK average; • publish by October 2002 performance information regarding initial teacher training in Wales • work with Estyn and the sector to introduce a new framework for the inspection of initial teacher training from 2002/03. 	<p>Proposed framework has received Ministerial approval and will be launched in February 2003. Published, with revised implementation date of academic year 2003/04.</p> <p>Not applicable. All outcomes of interim quality assurance process indicated 'confidence' in academic standards and at least 'approved' in quality of learning opportunities and learning resources.</p> <p>Further work on Performance Indicators in hand in the context of developing Corporate Strategy.</p> <p>The latest UK Performance Indicators (published in December 2002) showed Wales performing better than the UK in all performance indicators relating to widening participation and student retention .</p> <p>Published November 2002.</p> <p>✓ Achieved</p>
<p>c) to maintain, develop and improve the quality and increase the volume of research carried out in higher education institutions in Wales</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for Research Capacity Development Fund reviewed and allocations agreed by July 2002; • work on review of research assessment begun early in 2002; • achieve an overall 20% increase in external research income to the Welsh HE sector over 2000/01 levels, including income from Research Council and Charities of £36.2m in 2002/03 and of £57.1m from industry, commerce and public services. 	<p>✓ Achieved</p> <p>The review, chaired by Sir Gareth Roberts, was launched on schedule and is on course to report to the four UK HE funding bodies by the end of March 2003</p> <p>External research income data for 2001/02 not available until March 2003.</p>

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<p>d) to secure value for money for the funds employed by the Council, by promoting the provision of cost-effective higher education and research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the period of the Plan, make a regular, critical review of the balance in the proportion of funds allocated through the Council's main funding methods and through initiative funding; • Monitor the framework of control at institutions, including promulgation of good practice guidance. To be achieved through the three-year cycle of Gwasanaeth Archwilio ELWa/ELWa Audit Service review visits. • Audit: participate in the work of the joint Value For Money Steering Group by contributing to studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Security, catering, cleaning and sickness absence; - Evaluation of the 1996 Energy Management Study; - Evaluation of the work of the Steering Group. • <i>Estates (assuming adequate funding):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce the percentage of accommodation in categories C and D of the Building Maintenance Information (BMI) index to 30% by 2005; ○ Increase year on year the levels of frequency and occupancy by 2% per annum; ○ Improve the amount of accommodation in A and B of the functional grades to 66% by 2005; ○ Increase expenditure across the sector on capital and maintenance by 10% per annum; ○ Reduce energy expenditure. 	<p>Further work on approaches to funding in hand in the context of developing Corporate Strategy.</p> <p>✓ Achieved. In accordance with the Council's approved audit plan for 2001-02, two full institutional reviews and five follow up reviews were completed by the Council's Audit Service. In addition to this, the Audit Service has continued to rely on the assurance provided by institutions' own audit processes, the audit committee, and internal and external auditors through scrutiny of annual audit returns</p> <p>The Council continues to participate in the work of the UK Joint VFM Steering Group. Studies on security, catering and sickness absence have been progressed during the year, as has an evaluation of the 1996 Energy Management Study. In addition, the work of the Steering Group has itself been subject to an evaluation by independent consultants as the basis for re-assessing the Funding Councils' strategy for promoting value for money in the HE sector.</p> <p>Improvement on previous year's figures. Proportion of accommodation in categories C & D is at 32%.</p> <p>Frequency target achieved with 2% increase. Occupancy rate has however, decreased by 3%.</p> <p>On target to date. Increase by 2% on previous figures.</p> <p>Achieved. Increase by 27%.</p> <p>Over 3% increase on energy costs on previous figures.</p>
<p>e) to encourage institutions to play their part according to their missions in meeting the social, economic and cultural needs of Wales, including those associated with the Welsh language, and of the United Kingdom and beyond</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to encourage and enable institutions to identify how they might best participate in local economic activity, working to support local firms through knowledge transfer arrangements and the 	<p>Officers' participation in KEF Assessment panels and seminars to enable KEF funds to support institutional activity in these areas (regular reports to Council in papers).</p>

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	provision of training and consultancy services; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support the Third Mission activities alongside Knowledge Exploitation Fund, building upon the Training and Consultancy Services and Contract Research initiatives and, in time, Spinout, CETICs and Graduate Wales (All to be integrated from 2002/03 into a new Council initiative, the Higher Education Economic Development Fund, initially worth £2.3m) • Ensure that, from 2003, all institutions offering Welsh Medium provision have developed strategies for the maintenance and extension of this provision. Monitor via Institutional Strategic Plans. 	First HEED allocations released following receipt of satisfactory HEED business plans from HEIs. Currently engaged in a sector consultation exercise on further developing the HEED fund towards a permanent stream of Third Mission funding. ✓ Achieved, although some institutions with floor provision have chosen not to accept the funding and therefore have not developed strategies.
f) to promote opportunities for higher education and training which enhance individuals' personal development in the context of a lifelong learning agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend credit based funding to all HE taught provision for 2002/03; • Credit Framework fully operational by April 2003; • Following the joint meeting of HEFCW and the National Council on 19 June, develop criteria by December 2001 for both Councils to engage with proposals for collaborative activity across the HE-FE interface. 	✓ Achieved ✓ on-target The Councils conducted a joint consultation exercise on proposed criteria in August 2002. The criteria were agreed by Council in December 2002.
g) to encourage the widening of access to higher education and equality of opportunity for all individuals who could benefit from it, particularly from groups who are under-represented in higher education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the National Council - ELWa, secure an increase of 10% in the percentage of entrants to higher education from under-represented areas from 1998-99 to 2004-05; • Introduce a premium payment for students with disabilities into the teaching funding formula for 2002/03. 	Ongoing, but the % of young FT first degree and young FTUG from low participation neighbourhoods in Wales remained unchanged from 1999/00 to 2000/2001 (the latest dates for which UK Performance Information data is available) ✓ Achieved
h) to contribute to the development of a skilled and well-qualified workforce, and the capacity for supporting the creation of wealth having regard to the economic policies of the National Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Foundation Degrees introduced in 2001/02; • During 2001, investigate how coherence might be brought to the Graduate Wales and Cymru Prosper Wales work placement and job experience programmes, including the possibility of their merger; • Maintain level of institutional performance under 	✓ Achieved Following Minister's agreement to merger on 29 November, proposals put to sector in January. New joint programme currently under development. Delivery of Graduate Wales subcontracted to University of Wales Swansea while new joint proposal developed.

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	Graduate Wales as it is incorporated into HEFCW management; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key conclusions from Equality Challenge Unit to be apparent in institutions' human resource strategies within a year of becoming available. 	Consultants have been commissioned by the Council to advise institutions on the development of HR strategies. All institutions will be requested to submit their HR strategies to Council in July 2003. These will be evaluated by the consultants and feedback given.
i) to assess and represent the achievements, concerns, contributions and potential of the higher education sector and its financial and other needs effectively to the National Assembly and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish a Corporate Plan, updated annually; • Publish an Annual Report; • Publish the outcomes of projects and consultations; • Conduct an annual public meeting. 	<i>Corporate Plan 2003-04 to 2005-06</i> submitted to the Assembly Government in October 2002. ✓ <i>Annual Report 2000-01</i> published in March 2002 None published in the period concerned (April –September 2002) ✓ March 2002
j) promote collaboration between the further and higher education sectors and other providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint meeting with the National Council – ELWa at least annually; • Joint programme of action by December 2001. 	✓ First joint meeting held June 2001. The Councils subsequently agreed to establish a Joint Sounding Board, served by Members of both Councils, to oversee joint activity in three key areas: widening access, knowledge generation and application, and strategies for effective learning. To date, the Joint Sounding Board has met twice – in October 2001 and July 2002.
k) work in partnership with institutions, public agencies and other bodies at a UK and all-Wales level and, where appropriate, at a regional and local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful engagement, via standing arrangements and through such other ad hoc arrangements as may be required, in joint activities and deliberations with all relevant partner organisations. 	Extensive programme of joint activity and cooperation with other UK HE funding bodies, WDA, Wales European funding partnerships, National Council, and others