

**Leighton Andrews AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg & Dysgu Gydol Oes  
Minister for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref: SF/LA/0070/10

Angela Burns AM  
Chair  
Finance Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF991NA

7<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Dear Angela,

**FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

As requested, I am submitting further information as requested by the Committee during my attendance at the Finance Committee on 24 February.

**Figures on the use made in Wales of higher education reconfiguration funding showing also its effectiveness in terms of outcomes**

I refer you to the information at Annex 1 to this letter.

**Figures showing the number of students studying in school sixth forms (post 16)**

Table 1 below shows that, despite a falling demography, the number of learners studying in sixth forms has increased year on year. This has been the case since the introduction of the post 16 PLASC<sup>1</sup> return. Currently there are 30,434 learners studying at sixth forms in Wales.

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<sup>1</sup> September Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC).

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Ffacs \* Fax 029 2089 8129  
Correspondence.Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
*Printed on 100% recycled paper*

Table 2 below reflects that the funding allocation to local authorities has increased by more than the percentage increase in Headcount.

Table 1.

	Sep-05	Sep-06	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Total Headcount Increase
<b>Headcount</b>	27,989	28,158	28,895	29,551	30,434	<b>2,445</b>
<b>Variation (%)</b>	1.72%	0.60%	2.62%	2.27%	2.99%	<b>8.74%</b>

Table 2

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	Total £ increase
<b>Allocation (£m)</b>	100.525	104.629	112.606	115.493	118.551	<b>18.026</b>
<b>Variation (%)</b>	2.75%	4.08%	7.62%	2.56%	2.65%	<b>17.93%</b>

**Information on the years in which the Welsh government provided 100% funding to support additional learning needs and on when they provided it at lower levels**

The support referred to is supplementary funding (SU funding). This is provided to further education institutions (FEIs) to enable learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD) to take part in a mainstream learning environment in the same way and with similar opportunities as other learners. It is an additional discretionary funding stream intended as support to FEIs to meet their obligations under disability legislation. Colleges also receive the usual recurrent funding for the provision for these learners under the National Planning and Funding System. The legal duty under relevant disability discrimination legislation resides with the College so that although the grant scheme controls asked for details of individual learners, the College would expect to make reasonable adjustments for any of its learners as soon as identified.

The table below illustrates years in which ELWa and then WAG provided funding to meet the FE Colleges' requests at 100% for supplementary funding.

Financial Year	Academic Year	Contribution to FEIs' Eligible Bid	
2001-02	2001/02	69%	
2002-03	2002/03	74%	
2003-04	2003/04	94%	
2004-05	2004/05	90%	
2005-06	2005/06	90%	
2006-07	2006/07	100%	5.8m*
2007-08	2007/08	100%	5.6m
2008-09	2008/09	100%	6.7m
2009-10	2009/10	70%	4.7m

\*Financial figures prior to 2006-2007 not available

Historically, the Government's contribution to the funding provided has been increased by using unspent resources from other budgets later in the year. It has been possible in recent years to contribute 100% of the eligible requests for support made by FEIs.

For the academic year 2008/09 the original allocation available met 68% of colleges' expected eligible costs, however, additional funding was possible by the end of the financial year from other budgets. As a result my predecessor was able to make an additional £2.1m available to FEIs before the end of the financial year and this meant that the support the Department offered was 100% of that sought.

In terms of post-16 funding for special school and SEN out of county provision, currently, each year local authorities are asked to predict their need for this post-16 funding stream which does not follow the NPFS formulaic approach. Predictions are made by authorities both before and during the financial year resulting in an initial and final funding allocation.

The funding is used by local authorities for local authority special school sixth forms and those that attend sixth forms at other specialist institutions. The Assembly's budget for this provision is £15.94m which is exceeded by local authority predictions, and up until 2009-10 DCELLS has been able, through the identification of uncommitted resources, to fund first 90 per cent and then 100 per cent of predicted costs. In 2008-09, for example, a 100 per cent allocation of £18.4m was possible.

Funding constraints in 2009-10 and 2010-11 have meant that 100 per cent reimbursement has not been possible. However, if at the end of the financial year uncommitted resources are identified elsewhere in DCELLS, all funding pressures including those arising in this area, will be given due consideration.'

## Information on how the HE sector in Wales compares with the rest of the UK in accessing Research Council funding

The percentage of UK Research Council funding attracted by HEIs in Wales was a target in *Reaching Higher*, the Higher Education Strategy for Wales which preceded *For Our Future*. The target was for the percentage of Research Council funding attracted by HEIs in Wales to rise from 3.3% to 4.5%.

Although the absolute level of Research Council funding attracted by Welsh HEIs has risen since 2000/01, as a percentage of the UK total it has not, as illustrated in the following table.

### Volume of UK Research Council funding attracted by Welsh HEIs<sup>2</sup>

Year	Welsh HEIs total (£m)	Total UK (£m)	Wales as % of UK
2000/01	22.92	695	3.3
2001/02	27.08	805	3.4
2002/03	27.86	820	3.4
2003/04	28.66	833	3.4
2004/05	28.66	926	3.1
2005/06	34.47	1,073	3.2
2006/07	35.55	1,152	3.1
2007/08	43.82	1,358	3.2
2008/09	51.50	1,351	3.4

A key element of *For Our Future* will be the concentration of Assembly Government support into a smaller range of research fields, which have been identified as areas of strength or national priority. This, alongside encouragement to Welsh HEIs to collaborate on research activity, will aim to grow the capacity of Welsh HEIs to deliver world class research capable of attracting greater investment.

### Definition of the term 'core funding', including a breakdown of the figures for the elements that constituted core funding last year and core funding this year

The term core funding is not one that is in general use. The usual phrase used is "Recurrent Funding".

Recurrent funding is a grant made to Further Education Institutions on an annual basis, for the provision of teaching, learning, assessment and college support services. The deployment of the grant is determined by each of the autonomous institutions, following the issue of planning guidance by the Welsh Assembly Government. On occasions, some part of recurrent funding will be ring fenced for a specific purpose. For example, until recently, funding

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Higher Education Business and Community Interaction Survey

for Welsh for Adults was ring fenced within the Further Education recurrent funding allocations<sup>3</sup>.

The essential element to recurrent funding is that institutions can rely upon its receipt on an annual basis, subject to growth or shrinkage in activity, inflationary factors and efficiency savings. In this sense, it forms the heart of the resource that enables the provision of learning programmes. That said, it is not the only resource for that purpose as many institutions charge fees for certain activities.

For the 2009/10 academic year, recurrent funding to FE Institutions totalled £289.952 million. The comparative figure for 2010/11 is £306.912 million, an increase of some 5.85 per cent.

Comments have been raised about the inclusion of Pathways to Apprenticeship (PTA) funding in the calculation of the 5.85 per cent increase. The PTA initiative was launched in 2009/10 as a stand alone grant that was not intended to be repeated in future years. It was a 'one off' response to the economic downturn and no recipient would have expected the funding to continue in future years. Therefore, PTA funding fell outside the recurrent funding envelope and did not form a part of the routine institutional planning process.

Due to the success of the PTA initiative, and the expectation that youth unemployment will continue to be at higher levels as a lagging effect of the recession, it has been extended, with funds ring fenced for purpose in 2010/11. Its inclusion in the recurrent funding allocation gives institutions the signal that the Welsh Assembly Government intends this initiative to continue in future years. Therefore it is appropriate to include PTA funding for 2010/11 when calculating year on year percentage changes in recurrent funding.

I trust this is helpful.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leighton Andrews". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Leighton Andrews AM**  
**Y Gweinidog dros Blant, Addysg & Dysgu Gydol Oes**  
**Minister for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning**

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<sup>3</sup> Welsh for Adults is now delivered through six specialist centres and no longer forms a part of Further Education recurrent funding.

Figures on the use made in Wales of higher education reconfiguration funding showing also its effectiveness in terms of outcomes

Partnership	Administrative Lead	Partner Institutions	Total Funding Commitment
Merger of Cardiff University and the University of Wales College of Medicine	Cardiff University	Cardiff University and the University of Wales College of Medicine	£15,000,000
Appraisal of creation of a new University for North Wales	North East Wales Institute	University of Wales, Bangor	£250,000
Appraisal of merger and other options	University of Glamorgan	University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	£250,000
Planning work for rationalisation of provision in law, nursing and initial teacher training; and assessment of scope for further collaboration in the provision of support services	University of Wales, Swansea	Swansea Institute of Higher Education	£150,000
Strategic analysis: collaboration in research and teaching	University of Wales, Aberystwyth	University of Wales, Bangor	£100,000
Collaboration in administrative services	University of Wales, Bangor	Coleg Menai	£38,000
Rationalisation of Archaeology provision	University of Wales, Lampeter	Trinity College Carmarthen	£90,000
Subject Rationalisation between the Swansea University and Swansea Metropolitan University	Swansea University/ Swansea Metropolitan University	Swansea University and Swansea Metropolitan University	£3,770,000
Options appraisal for strategic alliance	Cardiff University	Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	£179,000

Integration of Merthyr Tydfil College and University of Glamorgan	University of Glamorgan	University of Glamorgan and Merthyr Tydfil College	£242,000
Strategic Alliance between University of Glamorgan and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	University of Glamorgan	University of Glamorgan and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	£12,750,000*
Research and Enterprise Partnership between the Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities	Aberystwyth University	Aberystwyth University and Bangor University	£10,949,413
Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience	Bangor University	Bangor University; Cardiff University and Swansea University	£5,173,034
Skillset Screen Academy for Wales	University of Glamorgan	University of Glamorgan; University of Wales, Newport; Cardiff University; Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama; Swansea Metropolitan University and Coleg Morgannwg	£620,000
Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences	Swansea University	Cardiff University; Aberystwyth University and Bangor University	£5,021,050
Rationalisation of Chemistry Subject Provision in South Wales	Cardiff University/Swansea University	Cardiff University and Swansea University	£1,205,281
Development of Welsh Medium Provision - Fellowship and Scholarship Schemes	University of Wales	Pan Wales	£2,932,455
Enhancement of the Welsh Medium Teaching Development Centre	University of Wales	Pan Wales	£900,000

Pay Modernisation			Pan Wales	£2,938,037
South West Wales HE Partnership	Aberystwyth University Swansea University		Swansea University, Swansea Metropolitan University and Trinity College Carmarthen	£7,465,623
Further Development of the Welsh Medium Teaching Development Centre	Trinity College Carmarthen		Pan Wales	£1,310,000
Low Carbon Research Institute	Cardiff University		Bangor University, University of Glamorgan and Swansea University	£5,188,960
Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods	Cardiff University		Aberystwyth University, Bangor University, University of Glamorgan and Swansea University	£3,400,009
Biosciences and Environment Alliance/IBERS	Aberystwyth University		Bangor University	£6,997,200 revenue £16,500,000 capital
Wales Institute of Visual Computing	Bangor University		Aberystwyth University, Cardiff University and Swansea University.	£5,020,522
Merger of Trinity University College, Carmarthen and the University of Wales, Lampeter	Trinity University College, Carmarthen		University of Wales, Lampeter	£14,030,000*
Climate Change Consortium for Wales	Aberystwyth University		Bangor University, Cardiff University and Swansea University.	£4,020,000
TOTAL				£126,490,584



There is no question that, in terms of the administration of the reconfiguration and collaboration funding (RCF), it has been operated robustly and with due process. Clear deliverables have been established by HEFCW for all projects funded from the RCF, they are subject to routine monitoring throughout their duration, and progress against targets is assessed and reported on regularly to the Council.

RCF projects have also had to specify longer term, strategic aims. Provision for independent evaluation forms a standard element of all projects.

A number of activities supported by the RCF were recognised in the Wales Audit Office report *Collaboration between Higher Education Institutions* which was published in January 2009. It is fair to acknowledge, as the report did, that, while full evaluation of benefits is for the longer term, beneficial outcomes have been identified through interim evaluations.

HEFCW has pointed to a number of such benefits from its major supported projects, which are detailed below.

My own view is that, while these have been positive, there has been insufficient impact overall on the performance of the higher education sector in Wales, on the configuration and strength of the HE sector in Wales, and in its contribution to Welsh economic performance. I also question how many of the supported activities would have happened anyway.

I will expect to see projects in future which are fewer in number, larger in scale and significantly higher in impact, in line with the themes we have set out in *For Our Future*.

In that context, I am encouraged at the momentum now underway in discussions between FE and HE institutions about collaboration, strategic alliances, and merger. I also expect to see a stronger drive from strategic use of funding to building closer and more sustainable ties between research departments in Wales.

### **Information provided by HEFCW on the use of Reconfiguration and Collaboration funding.**

#### **Mergers**

##### **Cardiff University and University of Wales College of Medicine**

RCF support of £15 million was approved in 2003 for the merger of Cardiff University and the University of Wales College of Medicine.

The merger was followed by significantly increased research competitiveness, as illustrated by research grant income:

- Total annual research grant income has grown from £60.9 million in 2003/04 to £89.1 million in 2008/09.
- This increase has mainly been from non-Research Council sources, although annual income from the Research Councils did increase from £17 million in 2003/04 to £27.2 million in 2008/09.

The interim independent evaluation of this merger concluded that the merger had been highly successful, meeting and, in places, exceeding a substantial majority of the specific and strategic objectives set and had delivered considerable benefits.

HEFCW has set out the following benefits it has identified from the use of the Fund.

### **University of Glamorgan and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama**

RCF support of £12.75 million was approved in 2006 for the development of a Strategic Alliance between the University of Glamorgan and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD). This has resulted in RWCMD becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of Glamorgan.

The Strategic Alliance has enabled RWCMD, as a part of a larger institution, to benefit from a larger, stronger administrative environment, not least in supporting the upgrade of facilities. The Strategic Alliance will:

- Enable the continued competitiveness of RWCMD against other UK conservatoires, safeguarding its position as the National Conservatoire of Wales. This is evidenced through the world-class concert and theatre facilities currently being developed at the RWCMD.
- Result in cost savings from the integration and harmonisation of support functions (HR, Estates, Academic Registry, Finance data systems, Payroll, ICT etc) with the University of Glamorgan. Potential cost savings of £150k pa are forecast.

### **University of Glamorgan and Merthyr Tydfil College**

RCF support of £ 242k was approved in 2006 for the HE elements of the merger of the University of Glamorgan and Merthyr Tydfil College. Key benefits of the development have included improvements in progression to HE, with applications to HE courses at the college increasing from 86 in 2004/05 to 119 in 2007/08. More recent discussions with the University indicates that this trend is developing. The merger has also resulted in improved facilities for HE learners at the College, with:

- The upgrading of the Learning Resource Centre and
- Additional ICT facilities for students.

### **Trinity University College Carmarthen and University of Wales, Lampeter**

RCF and Reaching Higher Capital support totalling £14 million was approved in 2009 for the merger of Trinity University College Carmarthen (TUCC) and the University of Wales, Lampeter (UWL). The merger will:

- Create a new university, rooted in SW Wales, but with an international reputation for student-centred teaching, scholarship, research and postgraduate study.
- Result in anticipated long term efficiency savings of £1m pa.

The new university will ensure the retention of HE provision in Lampeter, as well as in Carmarthen, and act as a key supporting partner in the South West Wales regional community and economy. In addition to safeguarding HE provision in Lampeter, the merger and planned new university enablement activities will allow a refocusing of provision, with new curriculum areas to be developed of specific relevance to the needs of Wales and local communities. It should be noted that the majority of RCF funding for this project is focussed on investment in "enablement activities", rather than the merger *per se*, with a view to strengthening significantly the capacity in SW Wales in respect of community focussed vocational higher education.

## **Collaboration in administrative and other services**

### **South West Wales HE Partnership**

RCF support of £7.49 million was approved in 2007 for the South West Wales HE Partnership (SWWHEP). SWWHEP is a collaborative development between Swansea University, Swansea Metropolitan University and Trinity University College Carmarthen that is bringing together key administrative functions in order to:

- Improve cost efficiency, with energy cost savings alone of £2.6m by 2012 and annual cost savings from 2012 of £1.2m per year through joint procurement; and
- Deliver enhanced services to staff and students (e.g. E-learning, library access, Recording Centre for the Blind, Mentoring Scheme for Students with Mental Health Difficulties, Disabled Students Allowance needs assessment, HR management for equal opportunities etc), assisting the participation of under-represented groups, including those with disabilities.

It is too soon to evaluate the outcomes of this project but progress has been made across some 16 areas of administrative activity and students are already able to enjoy the benefits of harmonised and enhanced services in, for example, student support and library provision.

### **Pay Modernisation – HERA**

RCF support of £2.94 million was approved in 2005 for a development led by Aberystwyth, to deliver an all Wales approach to the development of pay and grading structures and the estimation of the cost of implementation of the 'Pay Framework Agreement'.

The collaborative pan-Wales approach enabled significant savings through purchase of Link Pay Modeller, shared advertising of Role Analyst posts and training of Role Analysts. The approach also enabled smaller HEIs to use neighbours to 'second score' Role Profiles and to provide gender balance among scorers. Collaboration enabled progress to be faster and cheaper than would otherwise have been the case.

## **Rationalisation of provision**

### **Rationalisation of Chemistry provision in South Wales (HEFCW £1.21m)**

RCF support of £1.21 million was approved in 2007 to rationalise chemistry provision in South Wales, strengthening research at Cardiff through the transfer of the Clean Chemistry Research Group from Swansea, which would otherwise have been lost to Wales following the closure of Chemistry at Swansea. The rationalisation also retained and strengthened specific areas of chemistry provision at Swansea University necessary to underpin life sciences research and teaching.

### **Subject rationalisation between Swansea University and Swansea Metropolitan University**

RCF support of £3.77 million was approved in 2005 to rationalise provision in initial teacher training, law and nursing between Swansea University and Swansea Metropolitan University. This included the:

- Consolidation of education provision at the Swansea Metropolitan University School of Education;
- Development of a Swansea University department of Early Childhood Studies and Wales Centre for Child Related Studies;
- Consolidation of teaching and research provision in law at Swansea University; and
- Consolidation of nursing in the Swansea University School of Health Science.

This project has improved provision in these subject areas in Wales by removing duplication of provision and creating centres of excellence.

### **Collaborative research developments**

#### **Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience**

RCF support of £5.173 million was approved in 2006 for the Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience involving Bangor, Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

The Wales Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (WICN) is drawing together, and building upon, cognitive neuroscience research capacity at the three institutions to deliver a well-resourced, sustainable, research partnership capable of competing with the best institutions in the world. This should result in an increase in research grant income, with a target of £1.7 million total research grant income per year by June 2010.

- By 2008/09, WICN had generated annual research grant income of over £5 million (£2.585 million from Research Councils and £2.524 million from other sources).

WICN activity also includes: the establishment of a sustainable Graduate School; the development of partnerships with industry and healthcare; and dissemination activities.

#### **Research and Enterprise Partnership between Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities**

RCF support of £10.949 million was approved in 2006 for the Research and Enterprise Partnership between Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities. Including institutional contributions the total value of the Partnership project was estimated at £82 million. The Partnership is drawing together, and building upon, research capacity in selected areas at the two institutions with the aim of enhancing international competitiveness and securing increased research and enterprise income, with targets of an additional £11 million research grant income and £3 million enterprise income by September 2011.

The Partnership has to date:

- Increased total research grant income by £13.25 million (by 2008/09), and enterprise income by £1.5 million (by March 2009).

#### **Wales Institute of Mathematics and Computational Sciences**

RCF support of £5.021 million was approved in 2006 for the Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences (WIMCS) involving Swansea, Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff and Glamorgan Universities.

WIMCS is drawing together, and building upon, existing academic expertise across a wide range of departments at the partner HEIs, in order to generate critical mass in the Mathematical and Computational Sciences and improve international competitiveness. This is reflected in the target of an additional £5.253 million research grant income by October 2011.

WIMCS is also undertaking outreach activity to schools to encourage progression of students to university level mathematics, with the Institute also playing a key role in the Welsh spoke of the new UK National STEM Programme based at Swansea University.

### **Low Carbon Research Institute**

RCF support of £5.169 million was approved in 2007 for the Low Carbon Research Institute (LCRI) involving Cardiff, Bangor, Glamorgan, Glyndwr and Swansea Universities. Including institutional contributions the total value of the LCRI project was estimated at £9.381 million.

Through drawing together and building on existing research expertise, the LCRI aims to establish Wales as an internationally recognised centre for low carbon energy research, increasing competitiveness and research grant income. This is reflected in the target of an additional £7.0 million income by March 2013, increasing to £13 million by March 2018.

The LCRI will also contribute to the longer term development of a low-carbon economy in Wales through the establishment of an Energy Graduate School to provide Masters, PhD and CPD courses.

The LCRI has to date:

- Led to the development of research proposals with a total value of £46 million, including a successful application for a £34 million WEFO funded programme to help Welsh businesses develop innovative carbon reduction projects and meet carbon emission targets.

### **Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods**

RCF support of £3.4 million was approved in 2008 for the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods (WISERD) involving Cardiff, Aberystwyth, Bangor, Glamorgan and Swansea Universities. A further £1.4 million support is being provided by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

WISERD will draw together and build upon the existing expertise in quantitative and qualitative research methods and methodologies at the partner institutions. As well as building research capacity on a Wales basis, WISERD will contribute to UK wide capacity building through its involvement in the ESRC's National Centre for Research Methods. By enhancing the quantitative research base across the social sciences, through academic appointments and training, WISERD will also seek to increase the competitiveness of the Welsh sector on a national and international basis. This is reflected in the target of the development of research bids with a value of £3 million by 2011.

The development also seeks to underpin interaction with policy makers and the private sector.

### **Biosciences and Environment Alliance (BEA)**

A £7 million RCF and £16.5 million Reaching Higher Capital investment was approved in 2008 for the Biosciences and Environment Alliance. The Biological and Biotechnological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) is also providing £15.5 million investment. Including institutional contributions the total value of the Alliance project was estimated at £55.2 million.

The Biosciences and Environment Alliance with Bangor University will build on the merger of Aberystwyth University and the BBSRC Institute for Grassland and Environment Research, which created the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS). It will further enhance capacity in order to position Aberystwyth/Bangor as an international research and development hub that underpins the next phase of growth in the agriculture, food, bio-renewable and land based industries. The development will grow research and enterprise to develop and commercialise new intellectual property for the benefit of the Welsh economy, especially the biosciences and environmental sectors. The Alliance has the target of growing total research grant income to £32.02 million by September 2013.

### **Research Institute of Visual Computing**

RCF support of £5 million was approved in 2009 for the Research Institute of Visual Computing (RIVIC) involving Bangor, Cardiff, Swansea and Aberystwyth Universities.

RIVIC will draw together expertise, building upon the substantial existing infrastructure investment (e.g., skill base, buildings and large capital equipment) to raise the overall international research standing of areas of visual computing in Wales. By enhancing the competitiveness of the Welsh HE sector, RIVIC will increase research grant income by £4.34 million and enterprise income by £1.2 million, by 2012.

RIVIC activities also include the development of a graduate school, knowledge exploitation and outreach.

### **Climate Change Consortium for Wales**

RCF funding of £4 million was approved in 2009 for the Climate Change Consortium for Wales (C3W) involving Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff and Swansea Universities.

C3W will draw together and build upon the existing expertise in a range of climate change research areas at the partners, with the aim of delivering integrated, internationally-leading research capacity. C3W will enhance the competitiveness of the Welsh HE sector, increasing research grant income by £850k per year by March 2015, with cumulative additional income reaching £7.862 million by March 2019.