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Y Dirprwy Weinidog Sgiliau a Thechnoleg
Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref OAQ(4)0422 (ESK)
Nick Ramsay AM
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Dear Nick,

Thank you for raising the matter of Apprenticeship programme outcome measures during Oral Assembly Questions in Plenary on 21 May. As suggested I am writing with an update on data collection.

The Welsh Government has undertaken a data matching pilot with the Department of Work and Pensions to combine benefits, employment and earnings data with learner data from the Lifelong Learning Wales Record (LLWR). It was hoped that the combined dataset would allow analysis of the labour market performance of former learners both by course/learning programme and by provider and meet the recommendation made in the Enterprise and Business Committee's *Apprenticeship in Wales* report.

The initial analysis of the datasets identified a number of issues, including the lack of information around sector of employment, occupation or employer. This data would be needed to support the analysis of the relevance of course of study to the employment outcome. For this reason it has been decided not to continue with the pilot.

The Welsh Government is seeking to develop a new set of measures for the post-16 sector, including destinations but, as this requires further data matching and potentially leaver surveys, it will take at least two years to establish the approach. In the meantime, we will continue to use Apprenticeship framework success as the main measure of outcomes.

Yours ever,

Ken Skates AC / AM
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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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