Leighton Andrews AC / AM Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau Minister for Education and Skills



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-458 Ein cyf/Our ref LA/01201/13

William Powell AM

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Thank you for you letter of 24 April regarding my response of 12 March in relation to the petition from the UCU Crosskeys branch highlighting their concerns with the proposals outlined in the Further and Higher Education (Wales) Bill 2013.

The Further and Higher Education (Governance and Information) (Wales) Bill 2013, which I introduced to the National Assembly for Wales on 30 April will give the governing bodies of further education corporations the power to dissolve the corporation. This power, however, will be regulated to protect publicly funded assets.

In the 2014/15 academic year I propose to consult on secondary legislation that will regulate the transfer of a corporation's rights and assets on dissolution by specifying the type of persons or bodies to whom a corporation can transfer their assets. Assets transferred will also have to be used for charitable purposes which are exclusively for educational purposes. To reiterate what I said in my introductory statement to Assembly Members on 30 April, I expect colleges to continue to take responsibility to ensure that they not only fulfil, but exceed the expectations and aspirations of their wide ranging customers. Our objective is to build a Wales that gives our young people the very chances in life that is at the heart of the Welsh Government's vision.

There is no policy intention in Wales to establish Academies and privately-run institutions.

Leighton Andrews AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau Minister for Education and Skills