

P-04-458 Keep Further Education in the Public Sector- Correspondence from the petitioner to the Chair, 20.05.13

UCU Crosskeys Branch would like to submit the following points for consideration by the Petitions Committee:

- 1) The Minister's letter states there are no plans for Academies and privately-run institutions in Wales. If governing bodies are given the power to dissolve the corporation and transfer a corporation's rights and assets to a person or bodies, to whom could these responsibilities and assets be transferred to if the Minister has already ruled out privately-run institutions in his letter dated 8th May?
- 2) The Minister has not explained why it might be necessary for a FEI to dissolve itself, and the power to transfer its property, rights and liabilities to another body. Providing examples, what situations might this be necessary?
- 3) In the Bill's Explanatory Memorandum a cost benefit analysis is provided. For *Option 3: Introduce an Assembly Bill* it outlines the risks on page 24, stating "*That the legislation does not give the ONS Classification Committee the assurances needed that key steps have taken place to increase the autonomy of FE colleges and the reversal of the public sector categorisation for national account purposes fails.*" It is possible the Minister could be pressing ahead with this Bill that would not resolve the ONS classification issue.
- 4) Can the Minister confirm if he has consulted the Welsh Labour National Policy Forum on this Bill, given it goes against the commitments outlined in the 2011 Welsh Labour National Assembly for Wales election manifesto?

We would be grateful if the Petitions Committee would consider asking the Minister to clarify these above questions.

Yours truly

UCU Crosskeys Branch