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Ann Jones AM
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Dear Ann,

Re; FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND INCLUSION BILL

I just wanted to write to amplify two points raised in Committee on 9 October.

Firstly, as regards section 12, Members asked whether the Bill might include a duty on local authorities to go wider than simply using their website as signposting to residents. The suggestion was made that local authorities might use “apps” and other digital media to signpost residents to useful information. I am very open to amending the Bill at Stage Two to widen its scope in this way. I am also keen to hear any suggestions from Committee Members on this point.

Secondly, the Committee was keen to hear any alternative suggestions around involving FE colleges etc instead of the current provision set out in section 13. I would say that I am still keen to see section 13 remain in the Bill for the reasons I gave in Committee. However, I have written to the Student Loans Company to explore additional options here. Again, I would be keen to hear the Committee’s suggestions.

Otherwise, I hope I dealt with the Committee’s questions in the session and in my letter of 1 October.

I look forward to the outcome to the Committee's consideration of all the evidence it has received, including the written responses to its consultation, and the next steps in the legislative process.

Kind Regards,

Bethan Jenkins AM South Wales West

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