



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ90080, WQ90091 & WQ90092

Andrew R.T. Davies
MS Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central
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16 January 2024

Dear Andrew,

I promised to write with a substantive reply to the questions you recently tabled which are grouped together below:

How is the Welsh Government working with universities and local authorities in Wales to incentivise the expansion of campus activity (WQ90080)

How is the Welsh Government working with universities and local authorities to attract university staff from outside of Wales? (WQ90091)

What assessment has the Welsh Government made of the impact of the university lecturer strikes on the employment prospects of students in Wales? (WQ90092)

HEFCW monitors the ongoing sustainability of universities, including in relation to any plans for growth. Strategic decisions about areas for expansion are for universities to make, taking into account the needs of students, their local communities and economy and of Wales as a whole.

Universities have close relationships with stakeholders in their local area, including local government, frequently working together on growth deals and investment zones for example.

Recruitment of university staff is a matter of institutional autonomy. Universities play a key role in their local communities in making Wales an attractive place to work and live, including through opening up and sharing sports and arts facilities. HEFCW's Vision for Research and Innovation in Wales recognises the importance of maintaining a high-quality research base in order to attract and retain the best researchers from across the world by offering rewarding careers, which is underpinned by a culture which promotes and supports integrity, diversity, inclusivity, wellbeing and respect.

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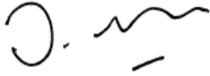
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

HEFCW monitors graduate outcomes as part of its national measures ([National Measures | HEFCW](#)). Data is collected 15 months after graduation via the UK wide Graduate Outcomes survey. HEFCW also monitored the impact of industrial action during 2022/23 on the student experience and student outcomes. During the marking and assessment boycott, all institutions prioritised students in the cohort due to graduate in order to minimise the impact on their progression to employment or further study.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a wavy line and a short horizontal stroke.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg

Minister for Education and Welsh Language