



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

21 September 2022

Dear Stakeholder

I am writing to inform you that on the 8 September, the [Tertiary Education and Research \(Wales\) Bill](#) became the 51st Act of the Senedd, and the first law passed by the current Welsh Government. This is the culmination of 5 years work with many of you having contributed. We are grateful for all your contributions to date and look forward to continuing working together as we move into the implementation of the Act.

The Act will create a new national steward for tertiary education and research called the new Commission for Tertiary Education and Research (CTER). CTER will take a uniquely coherent and system-wide view, supporting learners throughout their lives with the knowledge and skills to succeed, and securing strong independent and diverse providers making significant contributions to national wellbeing and prosperity.

Wales will be the only UK nation to have school based sixth-forms, colleges, universities, apprenticeships, and adult education managed as a single system, as well as responsibility for research and innovation.

Some of the historic arrangements regarding tertiary education in Wales have been in place for 30 years, before big increases in student numbers, devolution, and major changes in technology. By building on the excellence and expertise we already have in Wales, and by having set out in law the Welsh Government's values and goals for a more accessible, higher quality lifelong tertiary education and research system, the Commission will be enabled to help deliver the Welsh Government's [Strategic Vision](#) for the sector.

CTER will have legal responsibility for the funding, oversight, regulation, and quality of tertiary education in Wales, along with the registration of providers. It will ensure that Welsh apprenticeships are enabled to meet the future needs of the economy, improve opportunities to study bilingually and set out a new duty to fund proper facilities for further education for adults.

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.

These reforms provide a clear purpose for post-16 education and research in Wales.

Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles said:

“The Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022 will bring together a range of currently disparate functions and funding streams and will enable us to deliver our vision of a single, collaborative Post Compulsory Education & Training (PCET) sector, focused on learners and aligned to the needs of business and Welsh communities.”

Yours sincerely



Zenny Saunders

Deputy Director, PCET Reform and
Programme Director, CTER Implementation Programme