

UCU Wales briefing for branch officers on the aims and purpose of the Education Workforce Council Wales

The Education Workforce Council came into force on the 1st April 2015 and all FE lecturers were automatically enrolled.

WHAT ARE THE AIMS OF THE EWC?

- To contribute to improving standards of teaching and quality of learning in Wales
- To maintain and improve standards of professional conduct amongst teachers and others who support teaching and learning in Wales
- To maintain public trust, confidence and to safeguard the interests of learners, parents and general public

WHAT WILL THE EWC DO?

- Deduct registration fees annually
- Maintain a register of persons deemed suitable to practice within the education workforce
- Investigate and hear cases against registered persons involving professional misconduct, incompetence or criminal offences
- Code of Professional Conduct and Practice
- Give advice to Welsh Government on teaching & learning issues
- Provide information about the education workforce
- Carry out specific work as requested by Welsh Government, e.g on CPD
- Promotion of careers within the education workforce (If requested by Welsh Government)

IMPLICATIONS FOR FE COLLEGES AND FE LECTURERS

New legal requirements on FE colleges and supply agencies

- Only employ registered staff. (Pre-employment checks)
- Refer cases to EWC where a member of (registered) staff is dismissed / resigns in certain circumstances, i.e. involving professional misconduct, incompetence or criminal offences.
- Report serious case to the DBS - The Council shall assess whether or not a referral should be made to the DBS at all times, based on the evidence and information received by it, and whether there is a suggestion of harm, or a risk of harm to children or vulnerable adults.