Vikki Howells AS/MS Y Gweinidog Addysg Bellach ac Uwch Minister for Further and Higher Education



Ein cyf/Our ref: VH/PO/288/2024

Rt Hon Elin Jones MS Llywydd Llywydd@senedd.wales

Dear Elin,

Having reviewed my comments in Plenary last night in response to the question from Cefin Campbell, I would like to put on record some amendments to what I said about potential support for the higher education sector in Wales.

I would like to reiterate my absolute commitment supporting a sustainable higher education sector, with strong institutions able to deliver on our ambitions for students and research, and driving economic growth in Wales.

During my response to the question, I made reference to a specific 'transformation fund'. I would like to clarify that the policy in this area remains at a very exploratory stage, and we are still working through what, if any, potential support mechanism may look like, in partnership with Medr and institutions.

Although I'm aware of wider calls for an Emergency Fund, support for the higher education sector in England is solely a matter for the UK Government.

I would also like to reiterate my statement in the chamber that we do not believe there is any Welsh institution that is at risk of failure.

I wanted to write to you as Llywydd at the earliest opportunity so that there is complete clarity on this important issue for Members and the wider sector, and I will return to update the Senedd on this once the further development work is complete.

Yours sincerely,

Vikki Howells AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Addysg Bellach ac Uwch Minister for Further and Higher Education

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