

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-P-KW-3043-18

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair CYPE Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

5 November 2018

Dear Lynne,

Inquiry into the Impact of Brexit on Higher and Further Education

I am writing in response to your letter of 24 October seeking further information relating to one of the actions arising from the Committee meeting on 20 September, Impact of Brexit on Higher and Further Education.

Your letter seeks clarity on two points: An analysis of what initial implications were identified and how the £6.2m contributed to their management in practice.

My earlier response explained that although we have identified the key risks and potential impacts for the sector we are also aware, through evidence provided by HEFCW and discussions we have had with both HEFCW and Universities Wales, that individual providers are assessing the risks at an institutional level and are having to consider a variety of measures that may be required to reduce costs. That institutional level risk assessment work, and the specific impacts and actions identified by individual providers, has not been shared with us and it is not information that could be made public, as HEFCW explained in their evidence to the committee.

HEFCW works closely with institutions to understand the challenges and risks they face and to ensure they are well positioned to deal with those challenges. The additional funding was allocated to HEFCW not only to help them to support the sector in preparing for the implications of Brexit but also to deal with the additional challenges resulting from demographic changes. In making the allocation the Welsh Government did not specify how the funding should be split between those two areas. HEFCW is responsible for determining how the funds allocated to it by Welsh Government should be distributed. In this instance, they will have used their knowledge of the sector and expertise to judge the most appropriate method of allocating the resources provided. In their view, as the funding was money brought forward from funds initially identified for the 2018-19 financial year, they judged that reducing the size of the funding adjustment applied to their 2017-18 allocations

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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.

would ensure institutions were able to benefit immediately from the earlier allocation of funds and would enable them flexibility to further develop contingency planning for Brexit.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

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