

RESPONDING TO THE EC ACTION PLAN ON ADULT LEARNING

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Policy Developments in Wales

In the last 2 years following Learning Country and One Wales:

Skills that Work for Wales, The Wales Employment and Skills Board, Adult and Community Learning consultation, plus separate reviews of Further and Higher Education sectors

Some emerging themes

Valleys engagement
Welsh language
Unified x-sector policy
Transformation partnerships

Sector skills
Third sector
Progression
Research

Governance tensions

- Quality – but bureaucracy and inspections stifling innovation?
- Consortia – but emerging public sector “talking shops” dominated by schools?
- Voluntary sector – but issues of accountability and autonomy?
- New regional entities – new governance?

Theme 1: Analyse Reforms

CQFW exemplar projects including Learning Coaches, Prisons:

Bite sized attainment
Language

Short awards
Bureaucracy

Cost-benefit analyses of access and learning innovation

Community support
eLearning
Progression

Partnership working
Retention
Employment

Theme 2: Better Quality

- LLUK Sector Skills Council work on occupational standards
- New teaching and learning support qualifications, including HE, FE, Voluntary Sector, Private Training
- Partnership working protocols and expertise
- Coaching and mentoring potential

Theme 3: Progression

- HE and FE together, Foundation Degrees and “2+1” and “2+2”
- CQFW bite sized attainment (and short awards?)
- Lifelong learning catalysts and lifespan development
- Adult learning in the workplace – trade unions, 3rd Sector

Theme 4: Informal and Non Formal Learning

- Escalators in the valleys: GATES
- APEL in Wales
- Migrant populations
- University of the Third Age
- Broadcasting and media campaigns
- Digital story telling

Theme 5: Monitoring

- Tracking and databases
- Learner identification
- Retention and drop-out
- Wider benefits of learning and impact research