

Daniel Collier
Deputy Committee Clerk
Committee Services
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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6th July 2001

Enterprise and Learning Committee

Dear Mr Collier

As requested by the committee I enclose a summary of thoughts following some discussions with colleagues surrounding the area of synergy of DWP programmes with Welsh Assembly Government programmes; in particular as highlighted through discussions at committee in relation to Flexible New Deal.

The over-riding theme seems to be that many of the Welsh Assembly Government Skills Initiatives are not as linked in with DWP initiatives that operate within Wales; as the English equivalents are.

Within FND, in particular at Step 4, there are discrepancies between the ways that E2E and other English programmes are able to link with FND compared to Skillbuild and associated programmes within Wales.

The key issue would seem to be the fact that the Skills agenda is devolved, but the work agenda is not – perhaps resulting at times in these not fully linking us in such a way as not to be able to achieve full impact on the lives of the people that thy seek to support.

Many thanks

Yours sincerely



Richard Newton
Director
Rathbone Cymru