

CYPE(6)-02-22 - Paper to note 3

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg
Minister for Education and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Jane Bryant MS
Chair Children, Young People and Education Committee

10 January 2022

Dear Jane,

Following on from my predecessor, Kirsty Williams', letter of 16th December 2020 informing the Committee of the appointment of an Interim Chair of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW), I wanted to write to you to provide you with a further update.

Due to the timescales associated with the establishment of the Commission for Tertiary Education and Research (the Commission) and to ensure continuity for the HEFCW Council during this crucial period of transition, I sought the agreement of the Commissioner for Public Appointments to extend Rob Humphreys' appointment for a period of 18 months or until the Commission is established in April 2023. I wrote to Mr Humphreys on 23 December to confirm his appointment would be extended beyond the current period, which was due to end on 4 January 2022.

However, in light of feedback we have received from stakeholders it is likely that HEFCW will need to remain operational beyond April 2023. If necessary, therefore, I would seek to extend Mr Humphreys' appointment further until the Commission has been established and HEFCW dissolved, subject to seeking further approval from the Commissioner for Public Appointments. I will provide further information to the Committee on these arrangements during the evidence session scheduled for the 13th January.

In view of these changes I have also taken the opportunity to formalise Mr Humphreys' appointment as Chair of HEFCW as opposed to his appointment being on an interim basis. Therefore he will begin his reappointment as Chair of the HEFCW Council.

I will continue to keep you updated as our plans to establish the Commission progress.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
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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.