

**Colegau Cymru Cross Party Group – Focus on Construction**

Conference Room C&D – Ty Hywel

30/01/18

Chair – John Griffiths AM

Presentation by Mark Dacey – Principal NPTC Group of Colleges

**CPG meeting on Further Education and Future Skills - Aligning plans and provision for skills needs:  
Focus on construction**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Signature</b>
Andrew Clark	Welsh Government	
Barry Liles	Coleg Sir Gâr	
Carmen Smith	NUS Cymru Wales	
Cliona O’Neill	HEFCW	
Darren Millar AM	Welsh Assembly	
David Blaney	HEFCW	
Ed Evans	Civil Engineering Contractors Association Wales	
Guy Lacey	Coleg Gwent	
Hywel White	City & Guilds	
Ian Lumsdaine	NPTC	
Ifan Glyn	FMB	
Jack Sellers	Welsh Assembly	
Jeffrey Greenidge	LWI	
John Griffiths AM	Welsh Assembly	
Kieron Rees	Universities Wales	
Llyr Gruffydd AM	Welsh Assembly	
Mark Jones	Gower College Swansea	
Mark Bodger	CITB	
Mark Dacey	NPTC	
Nathan Thomas	Coleg y Cymoedd	
Sharon James	Cardiff and Vale College	

Simon Brown	Estyn	
Viv Buckley	Bridgend College	
Jane Lewis	RLSP South West/Mid Wales	
Joe Champion	Assembly Researcher	
Robert Lewis	Gower College Swansea	
Ceri Williams		
Riyadh Issa	NUS Wales	
Sharron Lusher	Pembrokeshire College	
Huw Irranca Davies AM		
Vikki Howells AM		
Hefin David AM		
Iwan Thomas	Data unit Wales	

## Comments

Low level qualifications need more appreciation

There needs to be more parity between vocational and academic qualifications

Do the RSPs need tweaking?

## Questions

1. Are qualifications truly employer-led?
  - Colleges need to speak employer language.
  - Some experience of work needed - Employers can then mould students into tradespeople.
  - Technology is the next big thing – we mustn't spread resources too thin
2. There aren't enough young people in South East Wales to fill jobs, is there too much emphasis on young people?
  - Re-skilling needs to be made more attractive to older people
  - Compulsory education till 16, after that the funding diminishes greatly
  - The emphasis must be on employers and individuals to invest in their own future. FE needs to be more creative
3. Should work experience (with no formal qualifications) be recognised?
  - Less time studying means getting into the work force sooner.
4. Where does student voice fit in?
  - Social media used in colleges to hear students opinions
  - Must be wary of managing expectations. Some careers have a certain capacity for earning
5. Darren Millar AM – What does Welsh Government plan to do to make the 14-15 offer made available to all?
  - Promote choices at 14 – both academic and vocational

- Independent advice and guidance – unbiased advice is crucial to ensure the best outcomes for the learner
- Eluned Morgan touched on the Junior Apprenticeship scheme from Cardiff and Vale College which is aimed at 14-16 year olds. She suggested the scheme would need time to settle in, as it's only in its second year, before rolling out to other colleges.
- Careers Wales – Eluned Morgan said to 'watch this space'