Mark Drakeford AC/AM Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid Cabinet Secretary for Finance



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-811 Ein cyf/Our ref MD/00284/18

David Rowlands AM
Chair
Petitions committee.
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20 June 2018

Dear David,

I refer to your letter of 17 May regarding Petition P-05-811 Stop Using Worker Certification on Welsh Government Projects.

I have noted and considered Mr Fear's points but as stated in previous correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport, the former Minister for Skills and Science and the Minister for Welsh Language and Lifelong Learning, the Welsh Government has no direct influence on the CSCS card scheme.

CSCS is an industry-wide standard certification, which is often required by contractors as it provides important assurance that individuals working on construction contracts are qualified to undertake the work they are to perform and have received health and safety training. As such, I have no plans to interfere with the scheme.

However, where Mr Fear makes specific observations in his petition, for example about the need to ensure that the CITB health and safety test does not discriminate against people with dyslexia, we will ensure that his points are drawn to the attention of the CITB and seek a response from it.

My officials have made enquiries with colleagues in several other departments and there is no evidence the Welsh Government has made any assessment of the impact of certification schemes such as CSCS on insurance costs for individuals or companies.

Best wisher, Mark

Mark Drakeford AM/AC
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid
Cabinet Secretary for Finance