



Huw Lewis AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau  
Minister for Education and Skills

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA(P)/HL/1072/16

Mr David Allen  
Chair  
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales  
Linden Court, Ilex Close  
Llanishen  
Cardiff  
CF14 5DZ

15<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Dear David,

### **Guidance in pursuit of the Higher Education (Wales) Act 2015**

#### **Preparation for full implementation of the new regulatory system for higher education in Wales**

I write to provide you with guidance in respect of the remaining functions to be conferred on the Council by the Higher Education (Wales) Act 2015.

The purpose of this guidance is to assist HEFCW to prepare for full implementation of the new regulatory system for higher education in Wales established by the 2015 Act from the 2017/18 academic year with particular reference to:

- HEFCW's fee and access plan monitoring and enforcement functions under section 13 and sections 15 to 16 of the Act;
- HEFCW's functions under sections 27 to 36 of the Act that relate to the financial assurance of regulated institutions and the financial management code;
- HEFCW's intervention functions under sections 37 to 40 of the Act that relate to the loss of approved fee and access plan status;
- HEFCW's annual and special reporting functions under sections 50 to 51 of the Act; and
- HEFCW's duty to prepare and publish a statement on how it proposes to exercise its intervention functions under section 52 of the Act.

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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.

This guidance should be read alongside previous guidance issued to the Council in June 2015 and January 2016.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council for the significant progress made to date in preparing for the implementation of the new regulatory system and look to you to continue to work with the Welsh Government and with institutions and other stakeholders to ensure a successful transition to the full system from the 2017/18 academic year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Huw Lewis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Huw Lewis AC / AM**

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Minister for Education and Skills