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Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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Dyddiad/Date: 12th April 2013

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Gofynnwch am/Please Ask For: **Samantha Morgan**
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Dear Sir/Madam

In response to the Petitions Committee request for views on the Armed Forces providing careers advice to young people in schools, the Schools Department of the Local Authority in Merthyr Tydfil would like to submit the following response:

Locally, there is no evidence that the Armed Forces target their activities in schools in more deprived areas or that they work differently in independent schools than in Local Authority schools.

The Armed Forces have, in the past, participated in Local Authority organised careers events for pupils and are able to visit the local schools in order to support specific or general careers events if required.

Any restrictions on access to career advice that allows young people to make informed career decisions would be a disadvantage and there are no restrictions on access imposed on any other employers who are willing to work with pupils and schools in the delivery of specific and general careers advice. Any support for careers advice and guidance from employers is to be welcomed and it should also be pointed out that advice is different from recruitment.

Yours faithfully

Lorraine Buck
Chief Education Officer