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



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-485 Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05358/14

William Powell AM Chair Petitions Committee

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11 November 2014

## Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 14<sup>th</sup> October on behalf of the Petitions Committee requesting an update on the use of hourly based and fixed term contracts.

I also note with interest the research brief which you have provided, which sets out an informal review of the use of casual contracts in further education in Wales.

As set out in my letter to the Committee in July 2013, the Welsh Minsters do not have specific statutory powers on the use of hourly based and fixed term contracts.

However, following a consultation exercise by the UK Government, provisions to ban exclusivity clauses in Zero Hours Contracts (ZHCs) have been included in the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill introduced in to Parliament on 25 June 2014.

The Welsh Government is aware of the wide-spread concerns which have been raised about the use of ZHCs and is engaging in discussions with social partners about their impact in Wales.

Yours sincerely

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**Huw Lewis AC / AM** 

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau Minister for Education and Skills