

National Assembly for Wales

Children, Young People and Education Committee

ST 24

Inquiry into Supply Teaching

Evidence from : Supply Teacher

I am a teacher registered with Welsh GTC. I am a member of the NAS UWT union. Here are some facts on the agency scandals.

- 1) Agencies are unregulated. Anyone can set one up.**
- 2) They cost the Local Education authorities as much as paying teacher direct.**
- 3) They recruit student teachers to work for as little as £60 a day.**
- 4) They rob teachers of pension contribution and at least a third of their salary.**
- 5) In North Wales one agency started when the clerks saw how much their bosses in Cardiff (were making) so they founded Excell agency.taking with them staff details.**
- 6) Teachers are sometimes encouraged to work as little as £40 a day as cover supervisors but are expected to teach.**
- 7) Agencies are trying to undercut payments to make them more attractive to schools.**
- 8) Agency works undermines gender equality.
When I signed up with an agency for work, I was interviewed by a 19 year old who didn't even have a degree and did not know anything about education!**
- 8) Labour controlled Flintshire Council are giving preference to New Directions Agency.going against equality. Teachers are told we will not pay you through LEA .go to New Directions Agencies.**
- 9) Agencies offer consultancy roles to retired heads.who help them get into schools.**
- 10) Agencies operate dubious expense tax scams and the Unions advise against these.**