



### **CYPE Committee Inquiry into EOTAS**

The Education Workforce Council (EWC) is the professional regulatory body for the education workforce in Wales, covering teachers in school and further education (FE) settings, youth / youth support workers and work based learning professionals.

In responding to the consultation, the Council wishes to make a small number of points as follows:

1. Any qualified teacher or member of learning support staff working in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) in Wales is legally required to register with the EWC. However, the same does not apply for those in independent or home settings. The Council has raised this anomaly with the Welsh Government on a number of occasions as this position continues to represent a safeguarding risk.

In a previous consultation document from the Welsh Government on this matter in 2017, the Council noted a reference to “commissioning frameworks” and the intention that “any organisation seeking to provide EOTAS services to learners whose education is maintained by the local authority will have a set of guidelines within the framework regarding the education, safeguarding and wellbeing responsibilities they will be expected to fulfil”. The Council asked the Welsh Government to clarify whether staff within these organisations will need to register with the EWC under existing legislation? The Council has yet to receive a response to this clarification.

2. The Council notes the Committee’s interest in professional development for staff in Pupil Referral Units and those who provide home tuition. The Council wishes to highlight that it provides a range of presentations and support services to schools (including Pupil Referral Units), FE colleges, work based learning and youth work providers. These sessions are available for both staff and governors, with the most popular covering the Code of Professional Conduct and Practice.
3. Through the Register of Education Practitioners, the Council has extensive data on the education workforce in Wales. Should the Committee require it, the Council would be able to provide specific information on staff working in Pupil Referral Units, including profiles of age, gender, ethnicity, qualifications and Welsh language ability.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Hayden Llewellyn  
Chief Executive