

## Future Structure of Universities in Wales

### Consultation Response Form

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Responses should be returned by **5 October 2011** to:

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**Question 1:** What are your views on the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales' (HEFCW's) report, *Future Structure of Universities in Wales*?

ATL believes that HEFCW's report is thorough, thoughtful and thought provoking. It rightly attempts to answer the reasons why the HE sector is currently underperforming. There needs to be a concerted effort made to develop critical mass in Wales to the point where universities are sustainable, attract funding and make full use of the funds they are allocated.

**Question 2:** Do you have any comments on the report's proposals relating to specific higher education institutions?

ATL thinks that it would be unwise for Glyndwr University to look across the border as the educational agenda is diverging constantly and is now markedly different to that of Wales. Such cross border cooperation and collaboration is increasingly difficult.

It is imperative that if there is any reconfiguration of HE that it mirrors the educational consortia currently being set up in by local government in Wales, and also takes account of FE merger plans.

The concerns of individuals cannot prelude what is best for Wales. We believe that the merger of UWIC and Glamorgan must be revisited as it is not rational to reject such an offer.

**Question 3:** We have asked two specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use the space below to report these.

We would like to highlight the importance of FE and HE cooperating together. This has currently worked well and needs to be strengthened further.

We would also like to stress the importance of universities linking with schools, especially in areas where university education has not been traditionally pursued. It is imperative that universities work with schools to make sure pupils are fully aware of the courses on offer and the full range of opportunities available to them to encourage a greater take up.

Responses to consultations may be made public – on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to be kept confidential, please tick here: