



## **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers**

### **What is meant by the “Statement of Intent”?**

The Statement of Intent maps out how the two organisations plan to move ahead in partnership. It sets the foundation and outlines how the two institutions can work together initially approving an options appraisal of various partnership models.

### **Who will be involved in these talks?**

The Vice-Chancellor of Glyndwr University, the Principal of Yale College and senior members of both organisations will be involved in the first instance, with approval sought at each stage of the respective Boards of Governors. Once an option is identified, full consultation will take place with all stakeholders.

### **What is the likely timing of a future strategic alliance?**

The two organisations will look to identify an option for moving forward during the remainder of this calendar year.

### **Who is driving this – and why?**

The Welsh Assembly Government’s Transformation policy and the drive for regional collaboration, which was outlined in the recent Welsh Assembly Government higher education policy “For Our Future”. Transformation is already having an affect across Wales with several examples of strategic partnerships and alliances taking place.

### **Who will conduct the Options Appraisal?**

This will be an external appointment made through normal public sector tendering processes and will be funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.

### **When will we learn more?**

Further information is likely to be available once the options appraisal has taken place.

### **What will this mean for current students?**

There will be no impact on current students. Going forward, opportunities will be explored which strengthen the University and College and increase their combined profile and position – providing a robust seamless provision, benefiting students, staff, partners and the region.

**How will this affect staff?**

There will be no immediate impact on staff or ways of working, nor is it envisaged that losing jobs will be a key motivator. Unions will be kept up to date with developments. These talks are expected to help to ensure the longer term prosperity of both organisations and strengthen both sectors in the North East Wales region, which will be of importance to all staff and other stakeholders.

**Is this all about cost cutting?**

No, this is about greater integration of post-16 education. It's about giving the widest possible choice to learners, about access and progression to high quality learning, removing unnecessary duplication, and raising further the level of skills in North East Wales for the benefit of the region, its economy and people.

**What are the benefits of a strategic alliance?**

The University and College are anticipating that the Options Appraisal will identify a means for a closer working relationship that will enable synergies in working practices and the curriculum. Hopefully it can result in enhanced progression to Higher Education and a smoother transition for local young people and adults from Further Education to higher level study.

**Will we become 'one entity'?**

Far too early to say, but the intention is that each organisation will look to retain identity, autonomy, mission and vision and will endeavour not to dilute the provision that each currently provides but secure an enhanced provision for all concerned.

**Will the organisations forfeit other partnerships in favour of this one?**

Both organisations have many collaborative relationships with other partners and they will continue with those partnerships as appropriate and in line with each of their respective strategies.

**Will the University's focus move away from Higher Education and its current priorities?**

No, the University will continue to focus on the development of its Higher Education mission and plans for achieving Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAPs). Our objective to increase research and enterprise activity also remains unchanged. **Contained only on Glyndwr version of FAQ**