

## CYPE(6)-08-21 – Paper 3

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Some bullet points:

- Innovation means different things to different people, which reflects the fact that innovation takes many forms.
- Innovation exists on a spectrum of activities, ranging from basic research on the one hand to continuous improvement on the other. All forms of innovation are important. Innovation is not just about science, research and technology.
- Innovation is a critical cross cutting tool relevant to all of the grand challenges that Wales faces from the environment and sustainability, to poverty, the economy, public services, productivity and health and wellbeing. Innovation is at the heart of driving the change that will make a measurable difference.
- IACW recently commissioned two reports from Amlyfi and Cardiff University. These show that Wales has a long way to go to increase its innovation capacity and capability.
- It was interesting that the Cardiff University report noted the dangers of innovation being "owned" by higher education. There are various other recommendations in the Cardiff University report relating to HE and FE.
- There are many examples of excellence in innovation and the contribution of the HE and FE sectors to that. But there are not enough and there are inadequate linkages between the various moving parts of the innovation ecosystem.
- Innovation in any one part of the ecosystem cannot be seen in isolation from the rest of that ecosystem, otherwise silos develop and good practice is not shared. In short, opportunities are lost.

I have also attached for information the [Cardiff University](#) and [Amplify reports](#) and the [IACW cover letter](#) that accompanied their publication.