

Please contact: Ray Collier
Our Ref: RC/CC/001

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Mr William Powell AM
Chair of the Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF00 1NA

Careers Wales
Heol Nantyroes
Crosshands
Carmarthenshire
SA14 6RJ

8th August 2013

Dear Mr Powell,

Thank you for your letter of 10 July 2013 to my colleague Rilla Morries regarding the petition from the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

As a wholly owned subsidiary of the Welsh Government and being responsible to Welsh Ministers it would not be appropriate for Careers Wales to comment on access to schools by the armed forces as such policy matters should be referred to the relevant Welsh Government Minister for comment.

However, your letter does ask for information from Careers Wales on "what other types of employers go into schools to give careers advice" and we are able to provide you with factual information.

The position is that schools, colleges and training providers all have a statutory duty to provide careers education and work-focused experiences in accordance with the Careers and World of Work Curriculum framework (CWW) which is part of the basic curriculum requirement for all 11 to 16-year-olds in maintained schools.

Careers education and work-focused experience is intended to broaden young people's experience and knowledge of the world of work and the overall responsibility for, and coordination of, CWW provision lies with the learning provider's governing body/management committee and senior leadership team.

Careers Wales main remit is to provide - through its Careers Advisers, the Careers Wales Connect telephone service and our web site www.careerswales.com - independent and impartial information, advice and guidance that helps young people make informed choices about their career pathways.

In addition Careers Wales in its Education Business Partnership role does facilitate links between employers and schools to support the school's delivery of the CWW framework. The types of employers linked with schools via Careers Wales or providing work experience opportunities through the National Work Experience Database (NWED) are many and varied.

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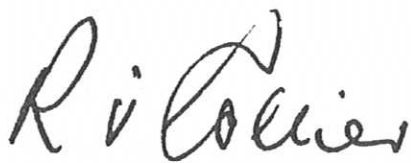
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Careers Wales worked with over 21,000 employers last year in sectors as diverse as accountancy to zoology. However, in the case of the armed forces, they normally offer their demonstrations and visits directly to schools and colleges, as do many other organisations and providers.

As we understand it, in law the decision on which employers or organisations have access to individual schools rests entirely with the Head Teacher and Governors and this is not something that Careers Wales has influence over.

I hope that this clarifies the matter for the Committee

Yours sincerely,



Ray Collier
Interim Chief Executive
Careers Wales

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