

Bill Rammell MP

Minister of State for Lifelong Learning,
Further and Higher Education

Department for
**Innovation,
Universities &
Skills**

Sir George Sweeney
Chair of the Self Regulation Implementation Group

20 November 2007

Dear George

I would like to thank, you, John Taylor and the Self Regulation Project Team for your efforts in developing proposals for self regulation which you are publishing today.

Self Regulation is a fundamental element in shaping the FE System of the future. We expect it to provide even greater benefits for learners, employers and communities as well as benefit the individual institutions. It has been quite a challenge to get to this stage and I know that you have engaged with a number of people in the sector in developing your thinking.

However, the challenge does not stop here. The landscape for FE is changing: proposals for self regulation must now take account of the proposals for pre- and post-19 delivery chains. Further work on developing the details will need therefore to take place within the machinery of Government consultations scheduled for the New Year. I would like you and your colleagues to work closely with the Department to ensure that self regulation proposals are given due weight in the consultation document.

This will not preclude further discussions with the sector in the interim but it is important that the outcomes of these are fed into the wider consultation exercise.

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I hope that all those in the sector will read the proposals published today and make sure that their views are known. I also hope that they will also play an active part in the machinery of Government consultation process.

Yours Sincerely



BILL RAMMELL