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14 September 2011

**E-xpress on the Pre-Legislative Paper:  
Putting Learners at the Centre:  
Delivering our Ambitions for Post-16 Education**

**Dear David**

Welcome to our E-xpress - keeping you up to date with the latest developments in Adult Education across Scotland.

**The Scottish Government** believes that a high performing education and skills system is vital to creating the new Scotland we want to see; it is vital to building our workforce, improving people's life chances and maintaining our competitiveness.

On the 29th of June 2011 the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Michael Russell, announced his intention to pursue an **ambitious programme of reform** of the full range of Government-funded post-16 education in Scotland; higher education, further education and skills.

Today sees the publication of [Putting Learners at the Centre: Delivering Our Ambitions for Post-16 Education](#). This pre-legislative paper sets out the proposals for this wide-ranging reform process.

The government is looking for a wide response to this consultation and is keen that it is circulated to those interested in participating in this important discussion.

The **deadline** for submitting responses is the **23rd of December 2011**.

Written responses should be submitted either by e-mail to [post16reform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:post16reform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), or by post to:

Putting Learners at the Centre  
Scottish Government –Colleges and Adult Learning - Funding and Policy Division  
5 Atlantic Quay  
150 Broomielaw  
Glasgow  
G2 8LU

More guidance on consultation responses, including information on potential events, can be found in the draft policy. There will also be opportunities for comment on the [Engage for Education website](#), and you can read Michael Russell's [blog entry on post-16 reform](#).

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We believe that **input from the voluntary sector is required** on this new post-16 education programme of reform.

On our first reading of the paper, **only one of the 63 proposals in the pre-draft paper mentions the third sector or Community Learning and Development** (p64-68). We will be putting together a response and as this is about "Putting Learners at the Centre", we would therefore encourage members to **respond individually** to the consultation as well.

Learning Link Scotland is a Charity registered in Scotland: SC025308, Scottish Company Number: SC380020