

Higher Education Funding in Wales

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Mr Leighton Andrews, the Minister for Education and Skills, made a commitment that the Welsh Government will pay the increase in student fees for Welsh domicile students, wherever they study in the UK, at least until the next election takes place in 2016. This has meant, inter alia, a considerable ‘leakage’ of resources going across the border to English Universities. Higher education funding is extraordinarily complicated with unintended consequences for cross border flows and widening participation for what may appear to be progressive policies. This paper summarises current policy developments in Wales and identifies ‘killer questions’ that need to be asked of any measures designed to fund students and their universities effectively.