

# **REQUEST FOR QUOTATION: Internationalisation in the FE sector in Wales**

**February 2021**

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## 1. Company Information

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<b>Company Name</b>	Colleges Wales / Colegau Cymru Limited (Parent company of Fforwm Services Limited)
<b>Company Number</b>	2832103
<b>Charity Number</b>	1060182
<b>Subsidiary Company</b>	Fforwm Services Limited
<b>Subsidiary Company Number</b>	3066192
<b>VAT Number</b>	655 9801 02
<b>Registered Office and operational address</b>	Unit 7, Cae Gwyrdd Greenmeadow Springs Tongwynlais Cardiff CF14 7TE
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## 2. Background

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ColegauCymru is an education charity which promotes the public benefit of further education in Wales. We believe that all learners have the right to world-class education, delivered in a safe, diverse and inclusive setting and within a sector which supports the wider community, employers and the economy.

We also convene the Further Education Principals' Forum, which represents the interests of further education (FE) providers.

We undertake research and policy development and provide practical support to the FE community. Working closely with Welsh Government, their agencies, and other stakeholders, we help shape policies affecting the FE sector, their learners and staff.

CollegesWales is the first point of contact for further education in Wales.

Fforwm Services Limited is a private limited company and wholly owned subsidiary of CollegesWales. It is a platform through which commercial, income-generating activity is channelled, and which allows us to facilitate sector-specific events, training and conferences.

## 3. Rationale

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- 3.1 ColegauCymru is planning to undertake research within the FE sector to establish the current status of internationalisation, to determine what needs to be in place to further develop internationalisation and to improve how the sector communicates its future international ambitions to a global audience.
- 3.2 During these uncertain times and the necessary pause in overseas travel, ColegauCymru wants to learn from and build on its past international activities in order to put a strategic plan in place for its future international engagement.
- 3.3 The UK's departure from the EU has already changed the landscape of opportunities for the international activities of the FE colleges in Wales. The Welsh Government's International Strategy refers to this and sees it as an opportunity to raise the global profile of Wales.
- 3.4 The FE colleges have an important role to play in supporting these ambitions and ColegauCymru is well-placed to examine and define the role of internationalisation for the FE sector in Wales.

3.5 ColegauCymru plans to formalise the sector's commitment to international collaboration through the development of a strategic plan for the sector so that, in the long term, internationalisation becomes embedded in the FE curriculum. A more strategic approach to international activities is of particular importance at the moment as the UK government decided not to participate in the Erasmus+ programme 2021-2027.

## 4.0 The research

4.1 ColegauCymru invites proposals from organisations that will undertake the research to determine:

- i. The current position in FE colleges – baseline data, current activities, strengths/capabilities & capacity
- ii. The policy position – Welsh Government, UK government and other devolved administrations of the UK
- iii. Partnerships within the sector that could support activities, structures and processes for Internationalisation in the sector
- iv. The colleges' future ambitions

4.2 The research should produce recommendations that will support ColegauCymru to produce a short and longer term internationalisation strategy for the sector.

## 5.0 Requirements

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5.1 The supplier is expected to undertake research that will fulfil the headings in Section 4.0. The supplier should submit the work to ColegauCymru in the form of a final report. We require the final report to be a bilingual MS Word document, 1 copy in Welsh and 1 in English to comply with ColegauCymru's Welsh Language Scheme. We adopt the principle in the conduct of our public business in Wales that we will not treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language. A copy of our scheme is available on our website.

5.2 The work is expected to start on 5 March 2021 with a draft report to be completed by 19 March 2021 and the final report by 24 March 2021.

5.3 The bid should explain the methodology that will be used to achieve the research outcomes. The expected methodology must include the following elements:

- literature review of current Welsh Government and UK policy relating to internationalisation
- comparative analysis with another appropriate country or region in the world
- online survey with FE colleges to gather baseline data

- online meetings with Principals, International Managers and staff with a responsibility for international activities within each college
- online/face to face meetings with learners who have participated in international activities
- online/face to face meetings with other organisations in Wales that are active internationally and could support the development of internationalisation
- produce a final report and recommendations

5.4 The proposed dates for monitoring and project updates are detailed below and will be confirmed at the project initiation meeting:

Meeting	Date
Project Initiation	5 March 2021
Draft final report meeting	19 March 2021
Final report meeting	24 March 2021

5.5 Suppliers are expected, as part of their application, to declare any relationship or association with a person or persons significant employee, elected or nominated in the institutions falling within the scope of the survey.

5.6 The supplier is expected to complete a pricing schedule which is exclusive of VAT. The maximum budget available for this work is £9225 ex VAT.

## 6. Use of findings

6.1 Once the research has been completed, the document will be used to provide feedback to Welsh Government, ColegauCymru's Board and the Principals' Forum. The recommendations in the report will support ColegauCymru in producing an internationalisation strategy for the sector.

6.2 The research should be in a format that could be published as a standalone report document.

## 7. Timescale

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The timescales are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
23 February 2021	ColegauCymru to provide an invitation to quote to selected organisations and share on its website
1 March 2021	Proposals submitted to ColegauCymru
3 March 2021	Successful organisation notified and contracting is undertaken
5 March 2021	Start of project
19 March 2021	Presentation of draft report and recommendations to ColegauCymru
24 March 2021	Final report shared with Welsh Government and ColegauCymru

Proposals should be submitted by email to [sian.holleran@colegaucymru.ac.uk](mailto:sian.holleran@colegaucymru.ac.uk) by 5pm on Monday 1 March 2021. The project team welcomes queries in regard to this quotation up to Friday 26 February 2021. No correspondence or queries will be addressed during the period in which a contract decision is being made.