PET(4) WPI 27 Petitions Committee

Consultation on petition P-03-262 Wales Peace Institute Response from Tudur Dylan Jones

Dear Friend,

## A brief word in support of establishing a Peace Institute in Wales.

In the current economic climate, everyone realises that futile, wasteful expenditure is not possible. The expenditure seen on militarising Wales and the UK is unsustainable. We need to realise that there is another, much cheaper way to ensure peace, namely to develop a far less aggressive ethos, and an ethos that will ultimately ensure that futile expenditure on weapons is unnecessary. Establishing a Peace Institute in Wales will be an important step towards achieving this goal. Spending just one-tenth of the defence budget would secure peace much more quickly than spending billions on weapons. The Welsh Government has shown through its decisions that it is leading the way within the UK e.g. charging for plastic bags, the intention to ban smoking in cars. People have respect for a Government that takes the first step in matters of principle.

Wales truly needs to show that it is a country that believes in peace, and what better way to do this than to establish a Peace Institute?

Thank you very much

**Tudur Dylan Jones**