

# Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd A Thrafnidiaeth

## EDT2 02-05(p1)

Dyddiad: 19 Ionawr 2005

Amser: 9.00 am tan 12:30 pm

Lleoliad: Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, Bae Caerdydd

Teitl: Adroddiad Y Gweinidog Dros Ddatblygu Economaidd A Thrafnidiaeth

### Cefnogi Busnes

1. Cronfeydd Strwythurol - Ceir adroddiad llawn ar hynt ddiweddaraf Rhaglenni'r Cronfeydd Strwythurol yn yr Adroddiad Chwarterol yn ddiweddarach ar agenda'r cyfarfod. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch o adrodd fod pob un o Raglenni'r Cronfeydd Strwythurol yng Nghymru wedi cyrraedd eu targedau dadneilltuo anodd ar gyfer 2004 a bod y Comisiwn wedi cyhoeddi Penderfyniadau ffurfiol ar Adolygiadau Canol Tymor Rhaglenni Amcan 1, 2 a 3 a Mentrau Cymunedau Interreg IIIA ac URBAN II.

2. Diwydiannau Creadigol - Ar 16 Rhagfyr bûm mewn cyfarfod o Fforwm Eiddo Deallusol y Diwydiannau Creadigol Llywodraeth y DU yn Llundain. Mae Eiddo Deallusol yn un o brif ysgogwyr datblygiad a thwf economaidd. Mae sylfeini economïau creadigol ac economïau gwybodaeth llwyddiannus yn dibynnu ar greu a dosbarthu eiddo deallusol yn barhaus.

3. Ffurfiwyd y grwp hwn i gyfleu neges gref wrth y sector creadigol fod y Llywodraeth yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd mawr eiddo deallusol i ddatblygu ac iechyd economaidd yn y dyfodol. Bydd hefyd yn darparu fframwaith i ystyried materion eiddo deallusol allweddol ac i ddatblygu strategaeth gydgysylltiedig rhwng y Llywodraeth a diwydiant i roi sylw i'r materion o bwys.

4. Diben y cyfarfod hwn oedd caniatáu i weithgorau fwydo'n ôl ynghylch Eiddo Deallusol, Cyfleoedd Busnes, Addysg, Troseddu a Chysylltiadau. Yn ychwanegol at hyn, achubais ar y cyfle i roi gwybod i'r fforwm am y gwaith sydd wedi cael ei wneud yng Nghymru wrth lansio fy Strategaeth ar gyfer Diwydiannau Creadigol Cymru a sefydlu'r Gronfa ED Creadigol.

5. O ystyried pwysigrwydd Diwydiannau Creadigol i economi Cymru, mae'n bwysig sicrhau ein bod yn ymwybodol o'r datblygiadau diweddaraf ar lefel y DU, a'n bod yn parhau i weithio'n agos gyda Llywodraeth y DU ar y mater hwn.

6. Athrofa Gwyddor Bywyd, Abertawe - Ar 6 Ionawr, cyhoeddais fuddsoddiad o £50 miliwn i greu un o gyfleusterau gwyddonol a chyfrifiadura pennaf y byd ar gyfer ymchwil i wyddorau bywyd ym Mhrifysgol Cymru, Abertawe.

7. Mae creu'r Athrofa Gwyddor Bywyd yn gam allweddol tuag at wireddu'r argymhellion a nodwyd yn Knowledge Economy Nexus, adroddiad terfynol Grp Gorchwyl a Gorffen Addysg Uwch a Datblygu Economaidd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, a'r ymrwymiad yn Cymru: Gwlad Well i "datblygu'r economi gwybodaeth ymhellach".
8. Mae'r prosiect hwn yn cael ei gefnogi gan y Prif Weinidog, y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, a'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.
9. Yn ystod ei phum mlynedd weithredol gyntaf, bydd yr Athrofa Gwyddor Bywyd yn creu, yn uniongyrchol, 240 o swyddi â gwerth ychwanegol uchel ac amcangyfrifir y bydd yn creu 30 o gwmnïau deillio. Dros yr un cyfnod, bydd yr Athrofa Gwyddor Bywyd yn cynyddu'r gwariant ar wyddoniaeth ac ymchwil a datblygu i oddeutu £70 miliwn, gan wella'r sylfaen gwyddoniaeth yng Nghymru tra ar yr un pryd yn darparu datblygiad economaidd sylweddol a manteision i'r sector iechyd.
10. Wedi'i lleoli o fewn yr Athrofa Gwyddor Bywyd bydd y ganolfan Ewropeaidd, Deep Computing Visualisation Centre for Medical Applications – ar y cyd ag IBM. Yma y lleolir yr archgyfrifiadur cyflymaf yn y byd sydd wedi'i neilltuo ar gyfer ymchwil gwyddor bywyd, ac mae'n cynrychioli ymrwymiad sylweddol gan IBM.
11. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn darparu £17.5 miliwn tuag at y prosiect, yn uniongyrchol a thrwy'r WDA a WEFO, yn amodol ar broses arfarnu prosiectau Amcan 1.

## **Pennu Cyfeiriad Newydd**

12. Y Gyfarwyddeb Arfaethedig ar Fatriâu a Chroniaduron - Yn narlleniad cyntaf Cyngor Amgylchedd Ewrop o'r Gyfarwyddeb arfaethedig ar 20 o Ragfyr cytunodd y Comisiwn a'r aelod wladwriaethau ar eithriad i fatriâu nicel cadmiwm a ddefnyddir mewn offer per diwifr am 4 blynedd o'r adeg y daw'r Gyfarwyddeb i rym. Bydd yr eithriad hwn yn cael ei adolygu 4 blynedd ar ôl i'r Gyfarwyddeb ddod i rym (2009/-10 yn fras).
13. Mae swyddogion Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gweithio'n agos gyda'r DTI, a oedd i ddechrau yn gwrthwynebu gwaharddiad. Mae derbyn eithriad ar gyfer batriâu nicel-cadmiwm a ddefnyddir mewn offer pwer yn sefyllfa gyfaddawd y cytunais iddi cyn Cyngor yr Amgylchedd.

## **Ennill Lle i Gymru yn y Byd**

14. Allforion - Mae'r ystadegau allforio diweddaraf (chtr 3-2004) yn galonogol unwaith eto ac yn dangos cynnydd pellach ym mherfformiad masnachu Cymru dramor. Mae gwerth allforion i Gymru am y pedwar chwarter hyd at ac yn cynnwys chwarter 3 2004 wedi cynyddu £525 miliwn (7.3%) o'i gymharu â'r 4 chwarter blaenorol. Mae hyn yn cymharu â chynnydd o 1.0% drwy'r DU gyfan.

15. Y targed allforio yn 'Cymru'n Ennill' yw cyrraedd yr un lefel â thwf y DU dros gyfnod y rhaglen. Roedd y twf mewn allforion o Gymru dros y 4 chwarter hyd at ac yn cynnwys chwarter 3 2004 o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn sylfaen (2001) yn 8.4%, tra mai 2.2% oedd ffigur cyfatebol cyfanswm rhanbarthau'r DU.

16. Ymgyrch Farchnata 2005 Bwrdd Croeso Cymru – Bum yn lansiad Ymgyrch Farchnata Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yng Nghanolfan y Mileniwm ar 15 Rhagfyr. Mae'r ymgyrch yn canolbwyntio ar ddifyrru a bod yn arloesol, mae'n edrych ar Gymru yn onest a chyda hiwmor. Mae'r hysbysebion yn cael eu dangos ar draws y DU o'r mis hwn, ac rwyf yn sir y byddant yn adeiladu ar lwyddiant 'The Big Country' yn 2004.

## **Hyrwyddo Technolegau Gwybodaeth a Chyfathrebu**

17. Roedd Ymgyrch farchnata Rhaglen Band Eang Cymru i'w gweld ledled Cymru unwaith eto dros gyfnod y Nadolig. O'r wythnos yn dechrau 13 Rhagfyr disgynnodd bron i 700,000 o daflenni drwy flychau llythyrau ym mhob Awdurdod Unedol bron drwy'r Wlad. Roedd yr ymgyrch yn targedu aelwydydd mewn ardaloedd lle mae'r cyfnewidfydd wedi cael eu haddasu (neu lle maent ar fin cael eu haddasu) i sicrhau bod rhagor o bobl yn manteisio ar y cyfleusterau hyn. Bwriadwyd y gweithgareddau hyn i adeiladu ar lwyddiant yr hysbysebion Byrddau Poster a'r Hysbysebion ar fysiau a ddechreuodd yn gynharach eleni ac sy'n dal i fod yn amlwg ledled Cymru.

## **Newyddion Am Swyddi a Buddsoddi**

### **Enillion Swyddi:**

Ers yr adroddiad diwethaf i'r Pwyllgor, yr wyf yn falch o gyhoeddi nifer o brosiectau RSA ac AIG yn cynnwys:

- Mae Envirowales Limited wedi cyhoeddi ei fod yn mynd i agor cyfleuster ailgylchu batrïau asid plwm yng Nglynebwy, gan greu 128 o swyddi i gyd. Rhoddwyd Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol tuag at y prosiect hwn.
- Pure Wafer - Cyhoeddodd Pure Wafer o Abertawe, cwmni ailgylchu microsglodion sydd wedi cael Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol, fod cyfranddaliadau ynddo wedi cael eu cynnig yn llwyddiannus ar y Gyfnewidfa Stoc yn Llundain. Roedd y cwmni wedi codi £7 miliwn drwy hyn. Mae'r cwmni'n bwriadu defnyddio'r enillion net i barhau i ehangu'r cwmni.
- Cyhoeddodd Axiom Manufacturing Services o Drecelyn ei fod wedi cynyddu ei drosiant yn y 12 mis diwethaf o £14.8 miliwn i ffigur amcanestynedig o £16.4 miliwn. Mae'r cwmni uwch dechnoleg hwn yn weithgynhyrchwr electroneg sydd ar flaen y gad ym maes contractau canolig eu main. Mae'r Cynulliad wedi rhoi cymorth ar ffurf Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol i Axiom.

- Mae Picture Financial o Gasnewydd, sydd wedi cael Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol, wedi cyhoeddi ei fod i ehangu ymhellach drwy recriwtio 60 o staff ychwanegol. Mae'r cwmni yn delio yn y farchnad benthyciadau gwarantedig.
- Ford Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr – ymwelais â'r cwmni i ddynodi'r injan Zetec olaf yn dod oddi ar y llinell gynhyrchu am y tro olaf. Caiff y model hwn ei ddisodli gan yr injan Zetec SE a wneir yn gyfan gwbl o alwminiwm, sy'n fwy effeithlon.
- Scan Design – Ymwelodd y Prif Weinidog ag un o brif gynhyrchwyr cardiau cyfarch, papur lapio anrhegion a chlecars y byd dros gyfnod y Nadolig. Mae Scan Design o Hirwaun wedi cael cymorth gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar ffurf Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol.

### **Colledion swyddi:**

18. Ar 16eg Rhagfyr 2004, cyhoeddodd Yuasa Battery (UK Ltd) o Lynebwy y bydd yn lleihau maint gweithgynyrchu'r gwaith gan fod y farchnad batrïau yn Ewrop yn dod o dan bwysau o ran prisiau a chostau, sy'n golygu y bydd 220 o staff y llawr gwaith a rheolwyr yn cael eu diswyddo. Disgwylir y diswyddiadau hyn cyn diwedd mis Mawrth 2005. Bydd y cwmni yn canolbwyntio ar gynhyrchu nifer llai o gynhyrchion sydd â gwerth uwch.

19. Mae Trelleborg Bonded Seals (y Drenwydd), sydd ar hyn o bryd yn cyflogi 121 o bobl yn cynhyrchu cydrannau i ddiwydiant, wedi cyhoeddi ei fod yn bwriadu lleihau'r gweithlu gyda'r posibilrwydd y collir 70 o swyddi. Dywed Trelleborg Bonded Seals mai pwysau economaidd yn ei sector yw'r rheswm am y toriadau. Os daw'r cynnig hwn i rym bydd y toriadau'n cael eu gweithredu'n raddol dros 2005.

20. Merton Packaging, Aber-big – Dychwelodd y gweithwyr i'w gwaith ddechrau Ionawr i gael gatiâu'r ffatri ar glo – a chael ar ddeall gan warchodwyr y safle nad oedd y busnes yn masnachu rhagor. Cyflogid 95 o bobl yn gwneud blychau cardfwrdd.

21. Budelpack, Y Rhymni – Mae'r cwmni'n arbenigo ar gontractau pacio i'r farchnad fferyllol, gofal personol a gofal cartref. Diswyddwyd 52 o staff cyn y Nadolig, ac ar hyn o bryd, cyflogir 136. Yn ôl y cwmni, amodau masnachu anodd yw'r rheswm dros y cyhoeddiad.

### **Nid yw'r atodiadau ar gael yng nghymraeg**

## **Action Outstanding from EDTC 1 December 2004**

**Wales Tourist Board to provide Member with a breakdown of the 16 different sources of EU funding (Action Point 2.9)**

## Capital Grants Profile – 2004/05

Description	Comment	2004-05 £000
Assembly Core Funding	Core GIA funding is unchanged	4,150
Regeneration - Corus	Now includes Herian	308
Regeneration – Fishguard/N. Pembs	Confirmation from WAG - August 2003	427
Regeneration – Cardigan/S. Ceredigion	Confirmation from WAG - August 2003	232
Rural Development Grant – Farming Connect	Approved by WAG May 2004	80
ERDF – Objective 2 – IBS Core & Transitional (Part 1)	Approved by WEFO July 2003	195
ERDF – Objective 1 – IBS retrospection	Approved by WEFO November 2003	1,084
ERDF – Objective 2 – IBS retrospection	Approved by WEFO November 2003	808
EAGGF Objective 1 – Farming Connect	Approved by WEFO March 2003	160
ERDF – Objective 2 - Adfywio retrospection	Approved by WEFO December 2003	133
ERDF Objective 2 IBS (Part 2)	Approved by WEFO February 2004	720
ERDF – Objective 1 – IBS Phase III	Approved by WEFO  September 2004	1,000
EAGGF – Adfywio (P5M4)	Prospects are good	800
PTP: Obj 2 match funding – IBS Core/ Transitional	Approved by WAG August 2003	511
PTP: Green Seas Beaches Infrastructure	Drawdown agreed with WAG October 2003	578

PTP: Obj 2 match funding – IBS (Part 2)	Approved by WAG March 2004	720
Total		11,906

## Welsh Development Agency to provide Members with a breakdown of costings for individual Business Eye offices (Item 3, point 2)

The Business Eye budget is funded through the core GIA of the WDA. Funds are allocated to cover a number of discrete activities within the service. The majority of funds are allocated to front-line delivery – either through the contractual relationships with local deliverers or through use of funds from the other budgets. For example, the WDA supports front line delivery through training of staff (Quality), local marketing and networking (Marketing) and Provision of information resources for staff (Information team).

AREA OF SPEND	Amount (£000s)	% of total
Contracts to deliver the local element of Business Eye	2788	50.6
Quality Monitoring and Training	273	4.9
Marketing, sponsorship and events	1220	22.1
Contact Centre (including staff costs)	572	10.4
Information Team (including staff costs)	344	6.2
Website	123	2.2
Commissioned Research	44	0.8
Client Management System (including pan-Wales core WDA costs)	117	2.1
Miscellaneous (e.g. legal costs, meetings)	44	0.8
Total	5525	

## Contracts to deliver the local element of the Business Eye service

The majority of Business Eye funds is allocated to organisations delivering the local element of the service through formal contracts. These contracts were awarded following competitive tender in 2002. The current contracts are as follows:

<b>Contract Holder</b>	<b>Local Authority areas covered</b>	<b>Contract Value 2004-05 (£000s)</b>
Torfaen CC	Torfaen	82.5
Merthyr Tydfil CC	Merthyr Tydfil	82.5
Business In Focus	Cardiff, Bridgend, RCT, Vale of Glamorgan, peripatetic service for SE Wales	438.5
Newport CC	Newport	82.5
Monmouthshire CC	Monmouthshire	94.5
Caerphilly CC	Caerphilly	82.5
Blaenau Gwent CC	Blaenau Gwent	82.5
Neath Port Talbot CC	Swansea, Neath Port Talbot	210
Pembrokeshire CC	Pembrokeshire	161
Carmarthenshire CC	Carmarthenshire	157
Powys CC	Powys	230
Ceredigion CC	North Ceredigion	48
Antur Teifi	South Ceredigion	64
Wrexham CC	Wrexham, Flintshire	306
Denbighshire CC	Gwynedd, Anglesey, Denbighshire, Conwy	665

## **Local Delivery from 2005**

The WDA is currently in the process of evaluating tenders to deliver the service from 2005 on a local level. These tenders are being evaluated on value for money, through an assessment of quality and costs.

Given the need for continuous improvements to the customer experience and anticipated growth in demand, the WDA is working to further maximise value for money in the tender evaluations through:

- Wider implementation of ‘peripatetic’ services, allowing greater flexibility and use of personnel.

These services cover a number of contracts - providing back up and cover when demand is high, thus negating need for additional fixed staff within centres.

- Detailed negotiation with identified preferred suppliers to maximise cost efficiencies.
- Focus on a flexible, proactive awareness raising process within the service to improve take-up of the service in local areas and amongst business groups where use is comparatively low.

These measures will allow Business Eye to offer its services to all businesses in Wales at a consistent and high-quality level whilst maintaining optimal efficiency in use of public funds.

### **WDA to provide Members with information on WDA links with Community organisations and Community partnerships (Item 3, point 2)**

The following table sets out some of the Community Groups and Partnerships across Wales that are supported by the WDA. It is not exhaustive and covers a range of activities including the funding of Community Development Officers, consultancy, marketing, support for social enterprise, environmental improvements, IT training facilities, Welsh language initiatives, town improvement grants, community cafes and workshops.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Community Groups Supported</b>
Mid	<p>Blaenau Ffestiniog; TregaronPenrhyndeudraeth; Menter Aberteifi</p> <p>Bala; New Quay; Trawsfynydd; Dolgellau; Llanbedr Pont Steffan</p> <p>Pentir Pumlumon; Llandysul &amp; Pont Tyweli Ymalen; Menter Aberystwyth; Llanidloes; Rhayader; Welshpool; Abercraf</p> <p>Newtown; Builth Wells; Llandrindod Wells; Antur Dwy Afon</p> <p>Brecon; Eco Dyfi Partnership</p>
North	<p>Holyhead; Rhyl; Llandgefni; Bangor; Caernarfon; Pwllheli; Llandudno</p> <p>Penmaenmawr; Llanfairfechan; Denbigh; Ruthin; Holywell; Connahs Quay</p> <p>Shotton; Flint; Queensferry; Wrexham; Rural Llyn; Slate Valleys; Rural Ynys Mon; Llanwrst &amp; Conwy Valley</p>



Leader +	Adventa; Cadwyn Clwyd; Glasu; Mentor Mon; Northern Marches; PLANED; Rural Conwy; Antur Teifi; Conwy Council; Llwyddo'n Lleol; PAVO;
Article 33	Monmouthshire CC; Vale of Glamorgan CBC; Flintshire CC;
West	<p>NPT area: Warm Zone; Ystalyfera Healthy Living Centre; Amman Valley Trotters; NPTCVS; Awel Amman Tawe; Dove Workshop Ltd.; Glynneath Training Centre; Croeserw CA Ltd.; New Sandfields Sustainable Regeneration; Dulais Valley Partnership; Ystalyfera Development Trust; Steer Studios.</p> <p>CCS area: Clydach Development Trust; Ty Fforest House; SCVS; Phoenix Development Trust; Mumbles Development Trust; Communities Mean Business; Menter Iaith Abertawe; BPP (Blaenymaes, Penplas, Portmead) Development Trust; Cornerstone; Hafod; GSP (Grenfell Park, St. Thomas, Port Tennant) Partnership; Pontardulais; Gorseinon Development Trust; Penlan Communities First; Mawr; Penclawdd</p> <p>CCC area: Peniel; Trimsaran; Cydweli; Pencader; Whitland; Antur Cwm Taf Tywi; Seaside Community Association; The Mount (Carmarthen Town); Carmarthenshire Tourism Association (this one is support to CTA to develop community websites with various groups, and will support about 20 communities across the county)</p> <p>PCC area: Menter Iaith Sir Benfro; Maenclochog; Pembroke 21C; Johnston</p>
South	<p>Job Match, Blaenau Gwent; RCT Community Training Partnership; Barry Steam Railway; Llanhilleth; Newport Association for the Single Homeless; St Pauls Church, Newport; Garw Regeneration Partnership (BAVO, Bridgend Valleys Railway; Communities First Coordinators; Creation Development Trust; Garw Valley Chamber of Commerce; Garw Valley Co-operative; Garw Valley Regeneration Forum; Groundwork Bridgend &amp; Neath Port Talbot; Mynydd Carn Adventure; Gurnos Estate, Merthyr; Princes Trust; Scarman Trust; Switch Project Cardiff ( Scarman Trust, Bawso; Gypsy Sites Group Shirenewton; Somali Advice Centre; Yemeni Community Association; Butetown Slipper Baths Centre; Cardiff Action for the Single Homeless; Sikh Community Riverside, Bangladeshi Women, Riverside; Adamsdown Community Group; Samaj at the Gujerati Community Centre); Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association</p>

## **WDA to provide Members with details on the underwriting of rental as a new funding mechanism (Item 3, point 2)**

Funding proposals have yet to be submitted to the Minister for his consideration and approval. It would not be appropriate to provide a paper on the funding mechanisms to Committee until his approval has been given.

**WDA to provide Committee with a copy of the response on P2P funding issues (Item 3, point 2)**

Information awaited.

**Deputy Economic Development and Transport Minister to provide Members with a copy of "Streets for All" presentation (Action Point 4.5)**

Information sent to Committee Clerk for distribution.

**Economic Development and Transport Minister to provide Members with more information regarding Mountain Bike Trails (Action Point 4.5)**

Information awaited.

**Economic Development and Transport Minister to provide Members with information on the Review of Transport Policies (Action Point 4.7)**

Information awaited.

**Economic Development and Transport Minister to provide Members with information on Objective 1 funding for Swansea Waterfront (Action Point 4.11)**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Sponsor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grant Received (£m)</b>	<b>Total Project Cost (£m)</b>
Fabian Way Gateway	Welsh Development Agency	Construction of a primary gateway leading from Fabian Way into the Port Tawe Development. The development will occupy an area of 40 hectares of former dockland, with the potential of creating up to 2000 new jobs.	1.7	4.8

National Waterfront Museum Swansea	National Waterfront Museum Swansea	Creation of a nationally significant tourism and leisure destination within the Maritime / Waterfront development.	3.71	28.27
Phase 2 (Zones B & C) Port Tawe Innovation Village	Welsh Development Agency	Development of the second phase of infrastructure provision for the Port Tawe Innovation Village, which will be a fully integrated mixed-use development with a focus on quality, added-value employment and knowledge-based businesses. It has the potential to be a flagship Waterfront development providing a strategic site of international standard.	1.86	5.0
SA1 Swansea Waterfront Office Development	Welsh Development Agency	SA1 Swansea Waterfront is proposed as a mixed-use development within a high-quality urban design setting. It will provide highly attractive, waterfront sites for knowledge-based development, essential to the city's prosperity with good links to the city centre and wider transport corridors.	0.8	4.0
Technium 2	Welsh Development Agency	The Technium business incubation centre provides optimum environment for young companies and spinouts to achieve their high-growth potential, while also providing an attractive base for international satellite R&D projects.	3.25	6.62

Express Bus Route	City and Council of Swansea	The project seeks to link Fabian Way Park and Ride site to the City Centre via a dedicated bus route. It will also serve to create a sustainable transport/cycle route from the eastern approaches linked to the express bus route. The scheme will also address traffic congestion issues by introducing a new gyratory system incorporating the two existing river bridges located by the Waterfront.	0.96	3.33
Eastside Energy Infrastructure Development	Welsh Development Agency	Provision of the required energy infrastructure to enable the Port Tawe development to proceed. The development will occupy an area of 40 hectares of former dockland, with the potential of creating up to 2000 new jobs.	0.75	2.5
Total				

### **Economic Development and Transport Minister to provide Members with a full cost analysis of the ASPB merger (Action Point 4.13)**

Information awaited.

### **Economic Development and Transport Minister to pursue the issue of the European Parliaments' eagerness to phase out the use of nickel cadmium batteries for power tools (Item 7.2)**

To date, the Commission proposed Directive on batteries and accumulators decided against a ban on nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries but instead sought a recycling rate of minimum of 160g per inhabitant of which 80% of NiCad batteries would have to be collected. However the European Parliament (EP), in its 1st reading vote in April 2004 chose to opt for a full ban on NiCad use.

The Council Environment Working Group has been considering the draft Directive since the EP 1st reading approval in April. Currently the Dutch Presidency has signalled a wish to attain a 1st reading

common position at the Environment Council on 20 December, however, this is as yet uncertain.

Once the Environment Council reaches a common position (either under the Dutch Presidency or subsequent Presidencies) the proposed Directive will return to the European Parliament for second reading consideration.

## **Economic Development and Transport Minister to seek a meeting with the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside on the disposal of hazardous waste (Item 7.3)**

Information awaited.

## **Oral Up-date from EDT2 02-05, 19 January 2005**

In addition to my Written Report, I raised the following item:

### **Airbus**

- Yesterday was a very important day for the Welsh economy with the reveal of the A380 super-jumbo in Toulouse.
- The giant 33-metre long wings for the world's biggest passenger aircraft are all made at the Airbus West factory in Broughton, Flintshire.
- Airbus has become Wales' biggest private sector employer. Broughton also has the largest apprentice training programme in the UK, with approximately 300 apprentices currently in training.

### **GE Engine Services**

- A further boost to the Welsh aviation sector came with confirmation that GE Engine Services of Nantgarw have been named as the first link in a world-wide network of service centres for the GP7200 engines, that will power the Airbus A380.
- The contract is worth several million dollars and will introduce a new product line into the South Wales overhaul facility.
- GE Engine Services won the contract against significant competition world-wide and has been supported by the Welsh Assembly Government with a Regional Selective Assistance Grant.

### **Phurnacite, Abercwmboi**

- I am pleased to announce that work has begun on the cleaning up of the site of the former Phurnacite plant in Abercwmboi. The Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Development

Agency have invested £12.5 million in the clean up of one of the largest areas of contaminated land.

## **Genesis Childcare Project**

- I was pleased to be able to take part in the launch of the extension of the Genesis Project in Tonyrefail yesterday.
- The Genesis Project first piloted in Rhondda Cynon Taff provides advice, support and child-care for people wishing to access work, training or learning opportunities. The overall aim of the project is to remove barriers to people finding employment and as a result improving the economic activity of the people of Wales.
- Further £12.5m of Objective 1 and 3 funding have been secured from the Welsh European Funding Office to roll out the project across Wales. Each local authority will be invited to undertake the Genesis project in their area.

## **Nid yw'r newyddion diweddaraf ar lafar gan y Gewinidog ar gael yng nghymraeg**

## **Oral Up-date from EDT2 02-05, 19 January 2005**

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- Yesterday was a very important day for the Welsh economy with the reveal of the A380 super-jumbo in Toulouse.
- The giant 33-metre long wings for the world's biggest passenger aircraft are all made at the Airbus West factory in Broughton, Flintshire.
- Airbus has become Wales' biggest private sector employer. Broughton also has the largest apprentice training programme in the UK, with approximately 300 apprentices currently in training.

### **GE Engine Services**

- A further boost to the Welsh aviation sector came with confirmation that GE Engine Services of Nantgarw have been named as the first link in a world-wide network of service centres for the GP7200 engines, that will power the Airbus A380.
- The contract is worth several million dollars and will introduce a new product line into the South Wales overhaul facility.
- GE Engine Services won the contract against significant competition world-wide and has been supported by the Welsh Assembly Government with a Regional Selective Assistance Grant.

## **Phurnacite, Abercwmboi**

- I am pleased to announce that work has begun on the cleaning up of the site of the former Phurnacite plant in Abercwmboi. The Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Development Agency have invested £12.5 million in the clean up of one of the largest areas of contaminated land.

## **Genesis Childcare Project**

- I was pleased to be able to take part in the launch of the extension of the Genesis Project in Tonyrefail yesterday.
- The Genesis Project first piloted in Rhondda Cynon Taff provides advice, support and child-care for people wishing to access work, training or learning opportunities. The overall aim of the project is to remove barriers to people finding employment and as a result improving the economic activity of the people of Wales.
- Further £12.5m of Objective 1 and 3 funding have been secured from the Welsh European Funding Office to roll out the project across Wales. Each local authority will be invited to undertake the Genesis project in their area.