

Nid yw'r cyfieithiad Cymraeg ar gael ar hyn o bryd.

Text of a press notice issued on 13 July 2000

Agriculture and Rural Development Committee appoints expert adviser

The Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, Rhodri Glyn Thomas today announced the appointment of Professor Terry Marsden as the Committee's expert adviser on its review of economic diversification in rural Wales.

Mr Thomas said " The Committee's diversification review is looking at **ways of developing a stronger, more diverse rural economy in Wales.** It is a wide and complex subject and I am delighted that we will have someone of Terry Marsden's calibre to assist us with this important work. I am sure the Committee will benefit enormously from Terry's advice based on a thorough understanding of rural policy, an independent, objective view and fresh, imaginative thinking."

Terry Marsden is Professor of Environmental Policy and Planning and Head of the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cardiff University. As well as a long track record of research on the rural economy, he has acted as adviser on rural and agricultural issues to the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Committee, the Scottish Executive, MAFF, the Cabinet Office and the Welsh Local Government Association.

The Committee has identified six key areas on which it will focus during the review: planning; education and training; support and advice services; access to capital; marketing and increasing added value; and community development. It will be seeking input from the rural community as it examines these areas in turn between now and the start of next year.

The terms of reference for the Committee's review are:

To review the policies and programmes which would support greater economic diversity in rural areas of Wales. To consider proposals to create:

- a broader representation of economic activities;
- a greater choice of economic opportunities, particularly for young people; and
- more sustainable family farms