

**Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Atebion Gweinidogion
Information Further to Ministerial Answers**

Cyhoeddir ymatebion gan Weinidogion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfiethiad Saesneg o ymatebion yn y Gymraeg.

Ministerial responses are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(3)3485(FM) a gyhoeddwyd gan Carwyn Jones, y Prif
Weinidog, ar 24 Mawrth 2011**

**Information further to OAQ(3)3485(FM) issued by Carwyn Jones, the First Minister, on 24
March 2011**

At/To Nick Bourne:

During First Minister's questions this week I said that our manufacturing strategy would be published before the Assembly dissolves. I have subsequently been advised that this is not the case and to avoid any further confusion I thought it important to set the record straight as soon as possible.

The Wales Manufacturing Forum, comprising representatives of industry, trades unions, Business Wales, Engineering Employers Federation and others, was established as a One Wales commitment by the Assembly Government. We are a key partner in the Forum and assisted in the development of the strategy document, *Manufacturing in Wales*. This document sets out the steps that need to be taken to underpin the sector, recognising that action will be required by both the private and public sectors. Earlier this month, the document was published and the Forum is now developing its action plan.

Last month the Deputy First Minister announced new Sector Panels made up of business people from outside government with established records in their fields within the six key sectors identified in '*Economic Renewal: a new direction*'. These Panels will advise on the opportunities within the sectors and will develop specific Sector Plans to guide the Assembly Government's policies and actions. The precise timing for preparation of the Plans is a matter for the Panels but it is the primary task we have asked them to take on. In the case of the Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Sector Panel, the strategy document, *Manufacturing in Wales*, will be a key component of this work. The Panel is chaired by Gareth Jenkins and comprises industry leaders including the current Chair of the Manufacturing Forum, Roger Evans, to ensure integration with the Forum's work. I am advised that this work is unlikely to be completed before the autumn.

I am arranging for a copy of this letter to be placed on the record.