

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

**Information further to the statement in Plenary issued by Sue Essex, the Minister for  
Finance, Local Government and Public Services, on 4 August 2004**

**To Christine Chapman:**

**Pembrokeshire County Council**

In response to your comments in plenary on 13 July, my officials have made inquiries as to procedures at Pembrokeshire.

My understanding is that chairs of overview and scrutiny committees were appointed at the council's AGM on 29 June and that they were allocated in accord with political balance. Although, of course, that means the majority of scrutiny chairs remain with the independent group, there does not appear to have been anything improper in the procedure here.

On your second point, this is not a case of new cabinet members having lower special responsibility allowances than continuing cabinet members. Pembrokeshire recently approached me with a proposal to include a layer of 'deputy cabinet members', effectively in a development role and without decision-making functions. The proposal was that cabinet members would retain two thirds of their SRA entitlements, while the remaining third would be allocated to the deputies. I have approved this proposal.

**Information further to OAQ36900 issued by Rhodri Morgan, the First Minister, on 9  
August 2004**

**To David Melding:**

Following your questions in Plenary, I agreed to write to you with further details of Assembly Government support to the fashion industry.

We support a host of projects covering both the manufacture and design of clothing. For example, the Welsh Clothing and Textile Association Objective 1 project was recently launched in Caernarfon aimed at establishing a centre offering assistance with design facilities, networking, trade shows, graduate support, marketing and sample manufacture.

The Shared Technology Resource Centre in Carmarthen, a knowledge exploitation funded programme, will provide computer-aided design, and manufacturing services, and a pattern cutting facility free of charge to companies based in Objective 1 assisted areas. Also, Skillfast UK (the Sector Skills Council for Textiles, Apparel, Footwear and Related Industries) are launching the Skills for Enterprise Wales project funded by Education and Learning Wales, to promote skills and deliver training development assistance to businesses.

In addition, the WDA/Design Wales offer a free of charge colour and trend library based at UWIC in Cardiff, which provides a full range of leading market publications detailing trend projections for both colour and inspiration. Team Wales are supporting Welsh small and medium sized enterprises in Objective 1 assisted areas to exhibit at both the ISPO in Munich and Premier Vision in Paris.