

Committee for the Scrutiny of the First Minister

Minutes (SFM(3)-01-09)

Date: 1 October 2009

Time: 9:00 - 11:00

Venue: Committee Room 4, Ty Hywel, Cardiff Bay

Assembly Members in Attendance

Darren Millar (Chair), Clwyd West
Trish Law, Blaenau Gwent
Val Lloyd, Swansea East
Kirsty Williams, Brecon and Radnorshire
Leanne Wood, South Wales Central

Committee Service

Virginia Hawkins, Clerk
Meriel Singleton, Deputy Clerk

Others in Attendance

Rhodri Morgan AM, First Minister
Tracey Burke, Deputy Director of Operations, Department of Economy and Transport,
David Richards, Head of Public Private Partnerships, Welsh Assembly Government
David Hawker, Director General, Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
Paul Williams, Director General for Health and Social Services

Item 1: Election of Chair

1.1 The Clerk requested nominations for Chair from Committee Members. Darren Millar was nominated and elected.

Item 2: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

2.1 The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Janice Gregory, Val Lloyd substituted.

Item 3: The Welsh Assembly Government's response to the current economic situation

3.1 The Chair welcomed the First Minister and his officials to the meeting and invited him to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the Minister.

3.2 The First Minister agreed to provide the Committee with the following information:

Figures for the number of people who had received support via the ReACT programme at the end of September 2009

Further information on the longevity and sustainability of jobs that have been found through the ReAct scheme.

An evaluation of the long term effectiveness of the ReAct scheme in particular considering the larger schemes which it has covered such as Anglesey Aluminium

Figures on the numbers of subsequent redundancies for those who had received support through the ProAct scheme

Figures for the number of enquires regard Flexible Support for Business during 2009

Information on the client satisfaction survey results of the Flexible Support for Business

Further information on any evaluation of the running of the Flexible Support for Business service in Mid-Wales.

Item 4: The Current Economic Climate and the Effect on Key One Wales Commitments

4.1 The First Minister responded to questions from witnesses on the current economic climate and its effect on key One Wales commitments.