

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE EDC 08-02(p1a)

Minister's oral update to Committee - 8th May

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

ITV Digital

Yesterday I had a video-conference meeting with Mr Iain Herbertson, the Managing Director of Manpower, to discuss progress in trying to attract new clients to the Cleddau Bridge call centre.

Manpower is pursuing a number of prospects and marketing the centre strongly on the basis of the committed and well-trained workforce. Some staff are back at the call centre on a small temporary contract with NTL.

I also separately met yesterday representatives of a company interested in directly employing staff at their customer relationship centre. It would be inappropriate for me to mention their name or to raise false hopes. The meeting was exploratory, but the First Minister and I emphasised the support that could be provided. It is heartening that there is such interest in the centre.