

## **Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at y Cyfarfod Llawn Information Further to Plenary**

*Cyhoeddir ymatebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o ymatebion yn y Gymraeg.*

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

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at y Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes a gyhoeddwyd gan Alun Davies, y Dirprwy Weinidog Amaethyddiaeth, Bwyd, Pysgodfeydd a Rhaglenni Ewropeaidd, ar 6 Mawrth 2012**

#### **Information further to the Business Statement and Announcement issued by Alun Davies, the Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and European Programmes, on 6 March 2012**

##### **At/To Antoinette Sandbach:**

I am writing in response to your recent correspondence and Assembly Question in relation to marine recirculation aquaculture in Wales, and in particular the fish farm site at Pen Mon, Anglesey.

The adoption of land-based re-circulation aquaculture systems is a relatively recent development in Wales with only one commercial site established in Wales at Pen Mon, Anglesey. There is an increasing global demand for fish and the development of this technology and its commercial application has an important role in the future production of farmed fish.

The site at Pen Mon was established by Selonda UK through a project funded by the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG). The aim of the project was to establish an integrated land-based marine recirculation fish farm and to explore the design and technology developments to maximise controlled fish production and its commercial viability. The project underwent a detailed financial appraisal. The appraisal considered the economic viability of the project including proposals for job creation, inward investment, the ability to use existing skills, fish welfare, and subsequent developments from the project. The project met the objectives of the scheme and encouragingly continues to attract interest from the wider industry due to its innovative use of technology.

In relation to your concerns regarding non-compliance, I understand this relates to a discharge incident in March 2010. Environment Agency Wales conducted an investigation and both Selonda UK Ltd and the previous site manager pleaded guilty to the charge. I understand that the current site manager has been working with the EAW to develop mitigation measures and controls to minimise the risk of such an occurrence in the future.

The sea bass farm in Penmon, Anglesey is now owned and managed by **Anglesey Aquaculture Ltd**, a wholly owned subsidiary of **Linnaeus Capital Partners B.V**, a Dutch registered business with strong global links to the aquaculture industry.

Officials have held initial discussions regarding the company's plans for the site that essentially involve its continuing usage (established through the FIFG project) for Research & Development of the technology and also as a production facility. I understand Anglesey Aquaculture Ltd intend to explore the improvement of brood stock at the site, while at the same time investigating the potential to add value to sea bass produced in North Wales. I hope these developments will lead to opportunities for further employment in an area already identified as in need of assistance.

