

## **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 OAQ(4)0213(FIN) a gyhoeddwyd gan Jane Hutt, y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ, ar 11 Chwefror 2013 Information further to OAQ(4)0213(FIN) issued by Jane Hutt, the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House, on 11 February 2013**

#### **At/To Suzy Davies:**

On 6 February 2013 during Assembly Questions I took an action to report back to you on the steps that have been taken to help indigenous businesses the opportunity to bid for Welsh Government work.

It is important to ensure that all public contracts in Wales are open and accessible to indigenous businesses. In December I published the Wales Procurement Policy Statement, which clearly set out my expectations of the public sector to adopt best practice in procurement, including our groundbreaking approaches to supplier selection and Community Benefits. Adoption of the principles of the Policy Statement will ensure contract opportunities are accessible to all and our procurement processes are as simple and straightforward as possible.

The introduction of the SQuID has already had positive results. Looking at construction, in the last financial year, Wales-based businesses have won 51 of the 75 construction contracts or framework places awarded, with a potential value of £780 million, compared with 18 in the previous year. The Community Benefits approach is also achieving excellent results for Wales. To date 19 projects worth £289 million have been measured, illustrating that 82% of the spend went to Wales, with some 386 disadvantaged people having received over 13,000 weeks' worth of work experience and training.

You also asked for an update on the matter of the CADW approach to procurement of marketing services. It is Welsh Government policy to use existing contracts and frameworks where ever possible. The award of the CADW marketing materials framework followed this protocol and I am pleased to say that all of the companies submitting tenders against the framework were indigenous or have a base in Wales. As a result CADW appointed a company based in Cardiff to undertake their marketing activity. By taking this approach CADW were also able to reduce the number of marketing contracts being awarded and streamline activities, achieving significant savings of 30% on historical annual marketing spend. This example demonstrates that the appropriate use of framework arrangements does not prohibit SMEs from winning business.

### **Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0213(FIN) a gyhoeddwyd gan Jane Hutt, y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ, ar 19 Chwefror 2013 Information further to OAQ(4)0213(FIN) issued by Jane Hutt, the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House, on 19 February 2013**

#### **At Alun Ffred Jones:**

Ar 6 Chwefror 2013 yn ystod Cwestiynau'r Cynulliad fe wnaethoch dynnu sylw at bryderon a godwyd gan y gymuned fusnes yn y Gogledd am y defnydd o'r trefniadau fframwaith mewn caffael cyhoeddus, gyda phryder arbenning am y rhaglen Ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain Ganrif sydd ar y gweill. Dywedais fy mod wedi cynnal trafodaethau yn rheolaidd â busnesau yn y Gogledd ac y byddwn yn teithio yno i gyfarfod â Mr Wynne, Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr Wynne Construction, ar y diwrnod canlynol. Dywedais hefyd y byddwn yn adrodd yn ôl i chi yn dilyn y cyfarfod.

Cyfarfu Mr Wynne a minnau ar safle prosiect adfywio Gwesty'r Bee and Station, ac roeddwn yn falch o glywed sut mae cwmni Wynne Construction yn gweithredu'r prosiect ar ran Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Sir Ddinbych. Drwy ennill y contract gwaith hwn mae cwmni Wynne Construction wedi rhoi cyfleoedd i weithwyr ac is-gontractwyr lleol, ac roeddwn wedi fy mhlesio'n fawr gan y staff a chyfraniad cyffredinol y prosiect at y gwaith o adfywio'r Rhyl. Mae'r prosiect hwn yn enghraifft wych o sut y gall buddsoddiad ddod â manteision i'r gymuned bob cam o'r ffordd o'r gwaith adeiladu i'r canlyniadau terfynol.

Mae'n bwysig i mi sicrhau bod yr holl gontractau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn agored ac yn hygyrch i alluogi busnesau cynhenid i allu cystadlu am y cyfleoedd hyn. Mae hyn yn arbennig o wir yn achos datblygu strategaeth gaffael ar gyfer y rhaglen Ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain Ganrif yn y Gogledd, o ystyried yr effaith bosib sylweddol ar yr economi leol a ddaw yn sgil y gwariant hwn.

Nid yw defnydd priodol o'r trefniadau fframwaith yn atal busnesau bach a mawr rhag ennill busnes. Mae fy swyddogion yn Gwerth Cymru yn cynnig cyngor a chymorth i awdurdodau'r Gogledd i wneud polisi caffael Cymru yn rhan hanfodol o'u cytundeb fframwaith Ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain Ganrif. Drwy'r cymorth hwn, mae'r awdurdodau wedi cytuno i ddefnyddio'r dull SQuID, sefydlu'r dull Manteision Cymunedol o weithredu, ac ymrwymo i strategaeth ddiwygiedig o wneud cynigion er mwyn sicrhau bod y fframwaith ar gael i bawb. Mae busnesau'r Gogledd wedi cadarnhau fod y strategaeth arfaethedig yn gyfle realistig. Rwy'n falch o'ch hysbysu bod y chwe chyngor bellach wedi cadarnhau'n ffurfiol eu hymrwymiad i'r strategaeth, ac y bydd y broses gaffael yn bwrw ymlaen ar y sail hon.

### **To Alun Ffred Jones:**

On 6 February 2013 during Assembly Questions you highlighted concerns raised by the business community in north Wales on the use of framework arrangements in public procurement, with particular concern around the forthcoming 21 Century School programme. I advised that I have been in regular dialogue with north Wales businesses and was due to visit north Wales to meet with Mr Wynne, Managing Director of Wynne Construction the following day. I took an action to report back to you following my meeting.

I met with Mr Wynne at the Bee and Station Hotel Regeneration project and was pleased to hear how Wynne Construction is delivering the project on behalf of Denbighshire County Borough Council. Through winning this work Wynne Construction has been able to provide opportunities for local employees and sub-contractors, and I was most impressed with the staff and with the project's overall contribution towards the regeneration of Rhyl. This project is an excellent example of how investment can provide benefits for the community every step of the way from construction to the end result.

It is important to me to ensure that all public contracts in Wales are open and accessible to enable indigenous businesses to be able to compete for these opportunities. This is especially the case in the instance of the developing procurement strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme in north Wales given the potential significant local economic impact that this expenditure offers.

The appropriate use of framework arrangements does not prohibit SMEs from winning businesses. My Value Vales officials are providing advice and support to the north Wales authorities to embed Welsh procurement policy into their 21<sup>st</sup> century schools framework agreement. Through this support, the authorities have agreed to utilise the SQuID approach, embed the Community Benefits approach and commit to a revised lotting strategy to ensure the framework is accessible to all. North Wales businesses have confirmed to me that the strategy proposed provides a realistic opportunity. I am pleased to advise you that all six of the councils have now formally confirmed their commitment to the strategy, and that the procurement will proceed on this basis.