

## WRITTEN ASSEMBLY QUESTION TABLED ON 2 DECEMBER 1999 FOR ANSWER BY THE FIRST SECRETARY ON 7 DECEMBER 1999

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** Has he received any representations about the exclusion of Barry from Objective 2 area status, and if he will publish those representations (WAQ2631JS)

Mr Alun Michael: I have received 1 such representation. I am making a copy available in the Library.

**Drafted By:** H F Rawlings

Cleared By:

Stats/Legal/Other:

NB. This section <u>must</u> be completed. Draft answer <u>must</u> be cleared by Head of Division or equivalent.

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## PRIDE IN BARRY 43 Romilly Park Road Barry CF62 6RR

Mr Alun Michael National Assembly of Wales **CARDIFF** 

20 OCT 1999

18th October 1999

DEAR MR MICHBEL

BARRY

## ASSISTED STATUS AND OBJECTIVE 2 **EUROPEAN FUNDING**

Pride in Barry is a non-political association of Voluntary Community Groups which, in addition, attracts commercial and industrial representation. This "broad church" has many and wide interests and views, but, there is always unanimous agreement on the vital need to encourage and support the emerging redevelopment of Barry.

The consequences of almost two generations of economic deprivation have bred the inevitable social consequences in Barry, and there now exists and depressed and cynical community which desperately needs help.

The WDA over the last few years has provided some support to begin the process of urban redevelopment - this support is, seemingly, also threatened. The removal of Assisted Status and the rejection of Objective 2 Status for European funding are two hammer blowers to the town's hope of any real future prosperity.

Firstly: The hopes are dashed of a meaningful continuation of the vital and necessary urban development which is still in its infancy.

Secondly: The lack/withdrawal of such funding will act as a substantial negative factor in attracting appropriate and responsible private sector funding.

Thirdly Most importantly the morale of the Town has been dealt yet again a blow to its hopes of being heard and given a fair chance.

Pride in Barry, in consequence, write and ask for your support and intervention on behalf of Barry in respect of European Funding Assisted Status and Objective 2 status; and additionally for the continuance of the current WDA support.

D.T. BRYER. (CHAIR)

c.c. Rh.Morgan, J. Hutt, National Assembly of Wales Counc. J. James (Leader), J. Maitland-Evans (Chief Exec) V.O.G.B.C.