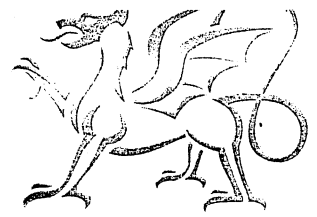
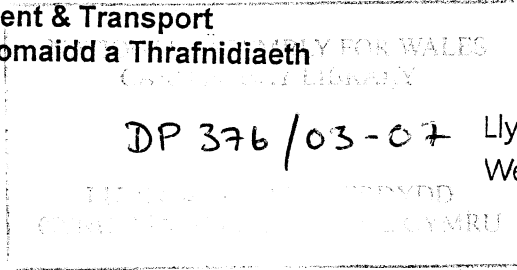


**Andrew Davies AM/AC**  
Minister for Economic Development & Transport  
Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth



Your ref/Eich cyf:  
Our ref/Ein cyf: MB/AD/5210/03



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cardiff Bay/Bae Caerdydd  
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Christine Gwyther AM  
Chair Economic Development  
And Transport Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

26 July 2003.

*Dear Chris*


**PROPOSALS FOR STATUTORY REGISTRATION OF TOURISM ACCOMMODATION**

You may recall that I gave an update to EDC on 6 March 2003 ( EDC 04-03 (p1b) ) on developments for the possible introduction of a statutory registration scheme for tourism accommodation in Wales. In this, I acknowledged the letter you sent me on 21 January 2003 in which you confirmed that the Committee was broadly in favour of the principle of statutory registration subject to a number of issues being addressed.

I went on to give my in principle support for a statutory scheme subject to closer examination of some issues by a Working Group. I also said that I would keep the Committee informed of developments.

In line with this, I can confirm that work has been ongoing and that the WTB has retained the services of the consultant who worked with them on the initial proposals to look in more detail at options and areas of concern and produce a report. The Working Group - which included representatives from the WLGA and the Wales Tourism Alliance - met on 24 July to refine the Group's Terms of Reference, discuss issues and agree a timetable for producing a report. I have enclosed a copy of the Terms of Reference, membership of the Working Group, and a timetable for future meetings and completion of the report.

A copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the Assembly Library. I will continue to keep the Committee informed.

*Yours*  
  
*Andrew*

**MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUP  
CONSIDERING WALES TOURIST BOARD'S PROPOSALS FOR  
STATUTORY REGISTRATION**

**Assembly**

Dr Emyr Roberts (Chair) – Head of Economic Policy Division.  
Keith Parsons – Head of EPD2 Branch  
Philip Rae (Secretariat) – EPD 2b  
Gavin Burke (Secretariat) – EPD 2b

**Wales Tourist Board**

Jonathan Jones (Chief Executive)  
David Peate (Asst Director – Quality & Business Competitiveness)  
Chris Coleman (Head of Quality Assurance)  
Gwenfyl Edwards (Trade Relations Exec)

**Welsh Local Government Association**

Tim Hooper (Policy Officer – WLGA)  
Nigel Owens (Eco Dev & Tourism Marketing Manager (Ceredigion CC))  
Susan Perkins (LACORS Officer)  
Dawn Roberts (Tourism Manager (Wrexham CBC))

**Wales Tourism Alliance**

Julian Burrell (Chair of WTA)

**The Tourism Company**

Steve Beioley (Consultant)

## TIMETABLE

- ◆ Draft report to be completed by early October 2003.
- ◆ Next meeting of Working Group scheduled for mid October 2003 to discuss draft report.
- ◆ Final report early December 2003.
- ◆ Working Group meeting mid December 2003 to discuss and finalise report.

## **WORKING GROUP CONSIDERING WALES TOURIST BOARD PROPOSALS FOR STATUTORY REGISTRATION OF TOURIST ACCOMMODATION**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

⇒ To consider in more detail the Wales Tourist Board's report to the Welsh Assembly Government on proposals for introducing a Statutory Registration Scheme for accommodation providers in Wales and report back to the Minister for Economic Development and Transport.

In particular, the Working Group should examine and report in more detail on:-

- ⇒ The proposed arrangements for administration of a statutory registration scheme and advise on further options for the management and delivery mechanism for operating such a scheme;
- ⇒ The proposed mechanism for detailing and setting out standards and levels of fees and advise on further options;
- ⇒ The relationship between a statutory registration scheme and existing grading schemes;
- ⇒ The process for dealing with consumer complaints and appeals from businesses failing to meet minimum standards or challenging the level of fees [ if different levels of fees are proposed ];
- ⇒ The overall costs and options for the introduction of a Statutory Registration Scheme in Wales with clearly identified costs and resources for all parties involved.