

DP 1120/07-11

Edwina Hart AM MBE

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services

Our ref: MB/EH/0696/08

Your ref:

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Dear Jenny

I am writing further to concerns about the threshold on tenders from SMEs for health construction projects which you raised in Plenary on 4 June and in your letter of 3 June.

The *Designed for Life: Building for Wales* initiative Framework agreements include a periodic review of the original £5 million threshold to reflect construction inflation based on national indices. In April, the Strategic Framework Board reviewed the threshold and increased it to £6 million. The threshold will be reviewed again in April 2009.

The Framework has been designed to help ensure that smaller Welsh firms and self-employed building industry workers will benefit as sub-contractors to these companies. The agreements require that supply chain partners employ local workers / sub-contractors and with regard to sustainability, they select local materials and components.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

