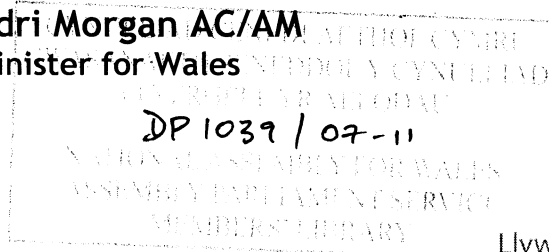


Y Gwir Anrh/Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AC/AM
Prif Weinidog Cymru/First Minister for Wales



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MB/FM/5365/07

David Melding AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

November 2007

During First Minister's Questions session on 20 November 2007 I promised to write to you regarding Fair Trade schools in Wales.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that the Fair Trade Schools scheme, launched in September of this year by the UK Fairtrade Foundation with the support of the Wales Fair Trade Forum, is going extremely well in Wales.

The Forum report that 204 Welsh Schools have registered on the scheme and that more are registering every day. Of these, 7 have so far gained Fair Trade status and most of the others are expected to submit their evidence and receive Fairtrade Status towards the end of the year. In addition, over 500 other Welsh schools have expressed an interest in joining the scheme.

Welsh schools receive face to face support from the 7 regional workers employed by the Forum with funding from the Welsh Assembly Government. These workers each work one day per week. Wales is leading the UK in this scheme as nearly half of the schools in the scheme are Welsh.

I am sure you will want to join with me in congratulating the schools and the Forum on their early success.

To: 1. First Minister

[FM/05326/07]

From: Jon Townley

CC:

Ext 1670

PS Jane Davidson

Gary Davies

Date: 29 Nov 2007

LETTER TO DAVID MELDING AM REGARDING FAIR TRADE SCHOOLS

During Questions to the First Minister on Nov 20th you promised to write to David Melding AM regarding Fair Trade Schools.

The Fair Trade Schools scheme was launched in September by the UK Fairtrade Foundation who received a grant from the Department for International Development to develop a UK wide scheme. The Wales Fair Trade Forum have been a part of the group developing the scheme and ensured that Welsh language and curriculum issues were addressed.

The Forum has been funded to employ a schools worker for this financial year from the Wales for Africa budget. The Forum decided that the best way to cover all of Wales was to recruit 7 people working one day a week. These workers are reporting a great deal of enthusiasm for the scheme and have recruited 204 schools so far (the 15 other 'regions' of the UK have only managed 300 between them).

I have drafted a letter for your consideration.