Jeremy Miles AS/MS Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a'r Gymraeg Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Welsh Language



Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ92689 Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Buffy Williams MS Member of the Senedd for Rhondda

13 June 2024

Dear Buffy

Thank you for your recent Written Question (WQ92689), in which you asked about the support that the Welsh Government offered to Everest 2020 and what support can be provided to workers who have lost their jobs.

The workforce there is one that we have supported in the past and we are now focused on finding them alternative local employment wherever needed. Officials are also in touch with the administrator and were in discussions with a potential purchaser of the assets.

While those discussions were unsuccessful, the Welsh Government has programmes in place to assist employees affected by redundancy to help them back into work. This support is only a part of the overall package of support to individuals delivered in conjunction with essential partner organisations. The Welsh Government will work closely with Everest 2020's Administrators and our key partners Jobcentre Plus, Working Wales, local authorities and the trade unions, to ensure people who are facing redundancy are provided with information, advice and guidance about the support available to them.

This multi-agency approach has been employed in a number of large redundancy situations to ensure that all barriers to employment are identified at an early stage and that appropriate support can be provided. Advisers from relevant agencies can arrange joint presentations to the workers affected and provide additional tailored, one-to-one support to those who need it.

Following the redundancy announcement, Working Wales spent a week at Treorchy Job Centre where a careers adviser met with 33 customers. Working Wales also worked with DWP and Communities for Work+ to organise an information event for Everest employees on 17 May. This was well attended, with over fifty Everest employees taking part. Working Wales continues to support Everest employees; according to their records, 4 ReAct applications have been submitted so far with another four in the process of being submitted.

Anecdotal evidence from Jobcentre Plus suggests that many of the 103 employees have secured employment, which is promising news.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

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