

## REPORT BY THE ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND COUNTRYSIDE COMMITTEE

## Tir Gofal(Amendment)(Wales) Regulations 2006

The Committee sought clarification on the following:

- the one-off accommodation cost of £600,000 associated with the Tir Gofal merger; and
- the degree to which the merger would result in a loss of agricultural expertise and affect the free-flow of information between staff in the Countryside Council for Wales and those who have transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government to administer Tir Gofal.

In response the Minister said that the £600,000 would meet the cost of modifying existing accommodation to provide a level of physical separation between Welsh Assembly Government and Countryside Council for Wales staff. This separation was necessary to meet security requirements relating to the use of the government secure internet.

The Minister assured the Committee that interaction between staff would continue following the transfer.

Following discussion, the Committee recommended approval of the Regulations without amendment.

**Chair, Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee Glyn Davies AM** 

Affer Jesco