

DP 1173 / 07-11

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC/AM
Dirprwy Brif Weinidog /Deputy First Minister



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MB/DFM/0139/09

Val Lloyd AM
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19 February 09

Val Lloyd

Following my Oral Statement on Corus at Plenary on 27 January, you asked for assurance, that officials will be vigorously exploring with Corus Management any assistance that they can give Corus workers. You also asked if the temporary stoppage of work would have a negative effect on the available assistance, and if Pontardulais employees would receive the same support and entitlements as every other Corus employees. I undertook to write to you on these matters.

You will be pleased to know that DCELLS Officials have already had discussions with Corus Management regarding assistance for the plants and workers(including apprentices) affected by the recent announcement.

I understand that during periods of stoppage at Pontardulais in 2008 and into 2009, those employees were transferred to work at the Port Talbot plant and therefore were not subject to a break in employment or short time working. I also understand that those employed at Pontardulais would receive the same support and assistance from Corus as all its other employees affected by the restructuring announcement.

I can also confirm that the temporary stoppage time will not affect the eligibility of any Corus worker for support through the ReAct. Programme. Corus workers will be eligible for support through ReAct and can apply, whilst they are under notice of redundancy and up to six months from the date they are made redundant. This support will entitle the individual to £2,500 towards the training they might need to retrain or up-skill for new employment opportunities.

I hope this addresses your concerns. I am copying this letter to John Griffiths AM.

Ieuan Wyn Jones
Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for the Economy and Transport

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