

Welsh Economic Review

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The *Welsh Economic Review* is produced twice yearly, by the Welsh Economy Research Unit (WERU) at Cardiff Business School. The aim of the *Review* is to provide an authoritative and objective analysis of the Welsh economy in a manner that promotes understanding and informs decision-making. The core section of the *Review* is written by members of WERU, with feature articles contributed by academics or practitioners within or outside Wales. The *Review* is circulated widely within Wales, to both private and public sector organisations, including the education sector and the Welsh Assembly Government.

Notes for Contributors

Authors should send papers for potential publication in the *Welsh Economic Review* to the Editor at the address given below, preferably via e-mail in a Word for Windows format. Papers are welcome on any topic that would be of general interest to the readership, and should be written in a style suitable for non-specialist readers. Papers should be approximately 3,000-4,000 words, and any graphs or figures should be accompanied by the underlying data to allow reproduction.

Articles will be refereed within WERU. The Copyright for articles published in the *Welsh Economic Review* will be retained by WERU.

Dr Annette Roberts,
Editor, *Welsh Economic Review*,
Welsh Economy Research Unit,
Cardiff Business School,
Aberconway Building,
Colum Drive,
Cardiff, CF10 3EU.

Tel 029 2087 4173

Fax 020 2087 4419

e-mail robertsa1@cardiff.ac.uk

The announcement that the Welsh Development Agency, ELWa, and the Wales Tourist Board were to be merged with the Assembly on the eve of the last recess prompts this edition's interview with Gareth Hall, who was recently appointed as Chief Executive of the WDA. He explains the changing role of the Agency and describes how these newly merged structures might improve the delivery of public services in Wales.

The first feature article has been contributed by Professor Ross Mackay of the University of Wales, Bangor, who presented a paper at WERU's annual conference last spring. It poses with some clarity, the challenges faced by the Assembly and its economic development arm, in the context of regional economies decoupled from a highly prosperous UK core.

The second article by Melanie Jones, Paul Latreille and Peter Sloane of the Welsh Economy and Labour Market Evaluation and Research Centre (WELMERC), University of Wales, Swansea, examines the impact of disability on labour market status in Wales, building upon the work by Pickernell *et al* which appeared in the summer edition of the *Review*.

WERU 2005 Conference

The Welsh Economy Research Unit's 13th annual conference will be held at Cardiff Business School on Friday 20th May 2005 and will be entitled *Wales' Comparative Advantage: building on success*. The conference will provide an opportunity to take an objective view of Wales' strengths. Further information about this conference will be available on www.weru.org.uk early next year.

WERU Activities

WERU has recently completed the *UK Tourism Satellite Account – First Steps Project* in conjunction with Strathclyde University, undertaken for and published by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. The report is available at www.culture.gov.uk.

Information about other WERU publications, projects and activities can be found at www.weru.org.uk. Alternatively please contact Clare Baldwin, WERU Administrator, tel. 02920 874173, email BaldwinCL@cardiff.ac.uk

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The views expressed in feature articles are those of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of WERU.

Editor: Annette Roberts
Assistant Editor: Jane Bryan

Contributors: Jane Bryan, Calvin Jones, Max Munday and Annette Roberts.
