

# 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.

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In November 2005 the Welsh Assembly published the consultation document 'Wales: A Vibrant Economy', which acknowledges that it is time to examine whether its economic development strategy is still fit for purpose. The Political Economy section of the *Review* reflects upon WAG's progress to date.

The interview section of the *Review* features Nigel Walker, Head of Sport at BBC Wales. Nigel is a much respected sportsman, who represented Great Britain in the 1984 Summer Olympics in the 110m high hurdles and then went on to win 30 vests in total representing GB in all the major championships. During his rugby career he won 17 caps for Wales, and scored 12 tries. He now plays a crucial role in determining how sport is broadcast in Wales.

The first feature article entitled 'The complexities of encouraging Welsh enterprise' has been contributed by Dr John Ball, of Swansea Business School. He reports on a review of international literature he has undertaken in the important field of entrepreneurship, and he draws some interesting conclusions for Wales.

The second article is 'Seeing the wood for the trees: clustering for competitiveness in the Welsh timber sector' by David Pickernell, Welsh Enterprise Institute (WEI), Nick Clifton, Centre for Advanced Studies (CASS), Rhys David, Institute of Welsh Affairs (IWA), and Tim Palazon (WEI). The team report on their application of Multi-sectoral qualitative analysis (MSQA) in order to improve understanding of clusters in the timber industry. This methodology is finding increasing use as a policy tool.

#### **WERU 2006 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

Papers from the Welsh Economy Research Unit's annual conference entitled *Wales and Ireland: Building Links* will be summarised and published in the autumn edition of the *Review*.

#### **WERU Activities**

Information about WERU publications, projects and activities can be found at [www.weru.org.uk](http://www.weru.org.uk). Alternatively please contact Debbie Harris, WERU Administrator, tel. 02920 875730 email [HarrisDL@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:HarrisDL@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.

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