Edwina Hart MBE OStJ AC / AM Y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technolog a Gwyddoniaeth Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-414 Ein cyf/Our ref EH/06850/12

William Powell AM Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

24 October 2012

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter of 10 October providing me with details of petition P-04-414 concerning employers relocating to Wales, or opening new facilities and outlets to recruit and, where necessary, train local staff

Job creation and retention is our main concern in creating a sustainable Welsh economy for the people and businesses of Wales. The Welsh Government is committed to providing a fair society free from discrimination, with strong communities and expanding the opportunities for people to enter employment within the private and public sectors.

While we actively encourage any company we have dealings with to employ a local workforce, and are able to assist in providing skills for an existing workforce, for those entering employment and supporting employers to recruit, we have an obligation to comply with European Union law on the single market and the free movement of goods, services, capital and labour.

The free movement of workers within the European Union, and internationally is a non-devolved matter. The UK Government Department responsible for these matters is the Department for Work and Pensions who can be contacted at: Department for Work and Pensions, Caxton House. Tothill Street, London SW1H 9DA.

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