

April 2006

RE-APPOINTMENT AT SIANEL PEDWAR CYMRU (S4C)

The Culture Secretary Tessa Jowell has reappointed Eira Davies and Dr Christopher Llewelyn as members of the Sianel Pedwar Cymru (S4C). The term of reappointment is for four years until 31 October 2009.

Biographical details

Eira Davies

Following many years' experience in the fields of broadcasting, education and business, Eira now works as a business consultant in Wrexham. She spent over 12 years with independent radio company Marcher Sound, as director of Champion FM and Coast FM, two radio stations in north Wales. She spent the first part of her career as a teacher and lecturer before turning to broadcasting. She was a Member of the Richard Commission which consulted on the powers of the National Assembly for Wales and is a member of the Corporation Board of Llandrillo College.

Dr Chris Llewelyn

Chris is Director of Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure at the Welsh Local Government Association. He was previously Head of Research and Consumer Policy at the Welsh Consumer Council. He has also worked at the House of Commons. He taught and researched in the field of international politics at the University of Wales Swansea. He was also at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, for a time. He is the author of a number of publications in the field of public policy. The tenure of both Cefin Campbell and Nic Parry came to an end during the year

Notes to Editors

1. Sianel Pedwar Cymru (S4C) is the statutory authority responsible for providing and regulating Welsh language public service television. The Authority's main function is to provide television programme services for the dissemination of information, education and entertainment with a view to their being available for reception wholly or mainly by members of the public in Wales.

2. On analogue the Welsh Authority is required to provide the fourth channel in Wales, "S4C". Its remit is to provide a broad range of high quality and diverse programming a substantial proportion of which is in Welsh (with the programmes broadcast in peak hours consisting mainly of programmes in Welsh and the English programmes normally being Channel 4 programmes). On the digital service, "S4C Digidol", the remit is to simulcast the Welsh language elements of the analogue service and provide a broad range of high quality and diverse programming in a

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service in which a substantial proportion of the programmes consists of programmes in Welsh.

3. During 2005 S4C broadcast an average of 41 hours a week of Welsh language programmes on "S4C" and 86 hours a week on "S4C Digidol". S4C commissioned 88% of its original programming output (excluding hours received from the BBC, ITV and in-house production) from the independent production sector in Wales. In addition to its public service television services S4C provides coverage of the National Assembly of Wales and additional services on its digital television service, "S4C2".

4. S4C is funded by Grant-in-aid, the level of which is determined by a formula set out in the Broadcasting Act 1996. S4C's Grant-in-aid for 2006 is £90.857 million.

5. Remuneration for board members is £9130 per annum

6. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.