

South Wales Chamber of Commerce

South West Wales Quarterly Economic Survey

Q1 2010



the
third stage



South West Wales QES Q1 2010



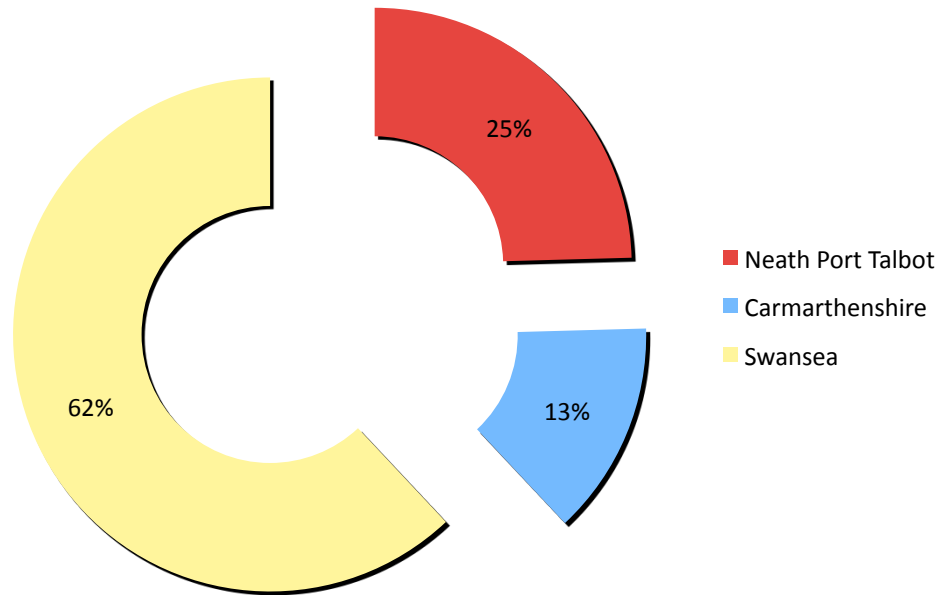
Possible headlines for a press release

The following key points could be used in a press release:

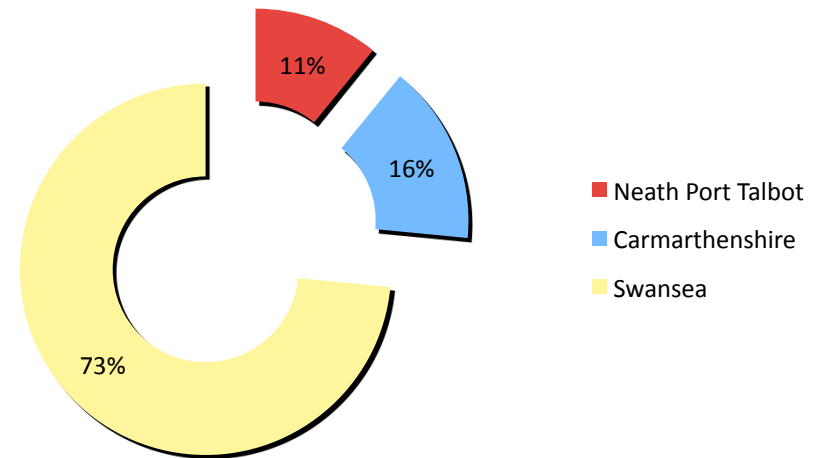
- **Business Optimism has stabilized in the last three months**
 - The proportion of companies with decreasing UK order books and sales has reduced this quarter, whilst the proportion with increasing UK sales and orders has increased.
 - Workforce levels have remained stable.
 - The proportion of companies with worsened cashflow has reduced this quarter from 42% in Q4 to 37%.
 - 38% expect higher turnover next quarter compared to 34% in Q4, and 29% expect a profitability increase compared to 27%
- **Capacity**
 - 71% of businesses are operating below full capacity compared to 72% in Q4.
- **Recruitment**
 - As previously the most difficult jobs to recruit are skilled manual/technical.
 - The most difficult jobs to recruit were, as last quarter, skilled/technical.
- **Business Concerns**
 - Competition remains the biggest business concern, followed by taxation and business rates.

Geographical spread of respondees

Q1 2010 - Location of businesses

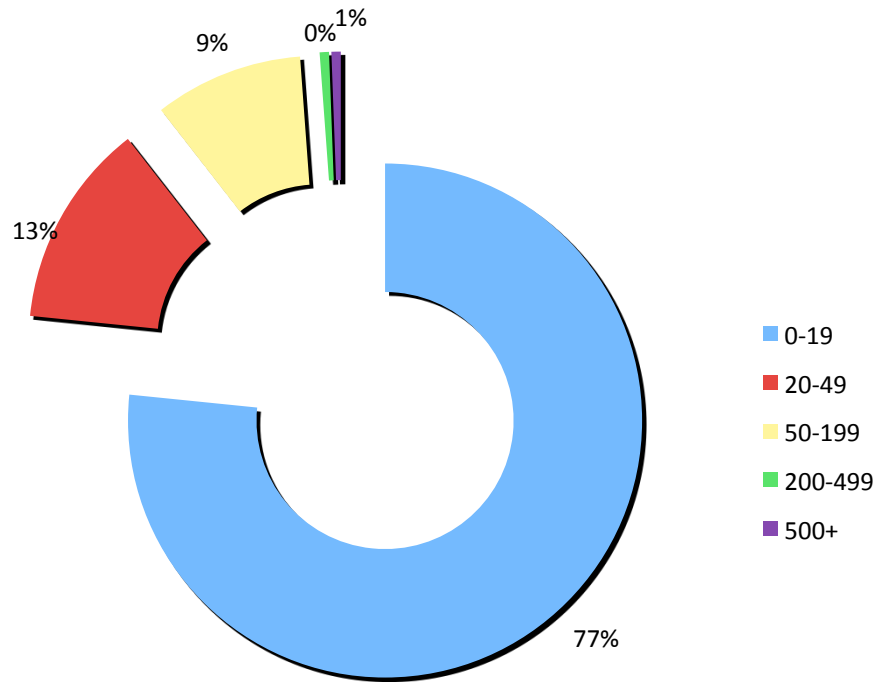


Q4 2009 - Location of businesses

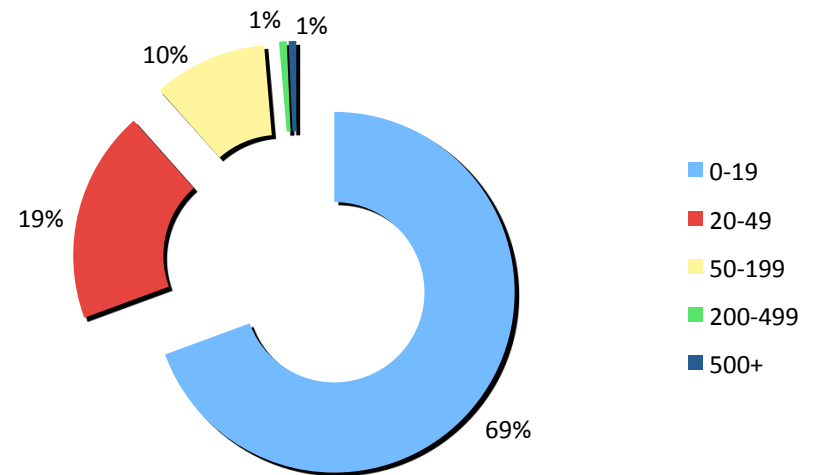


Company size groupings

Q1 2010 - Number of employees

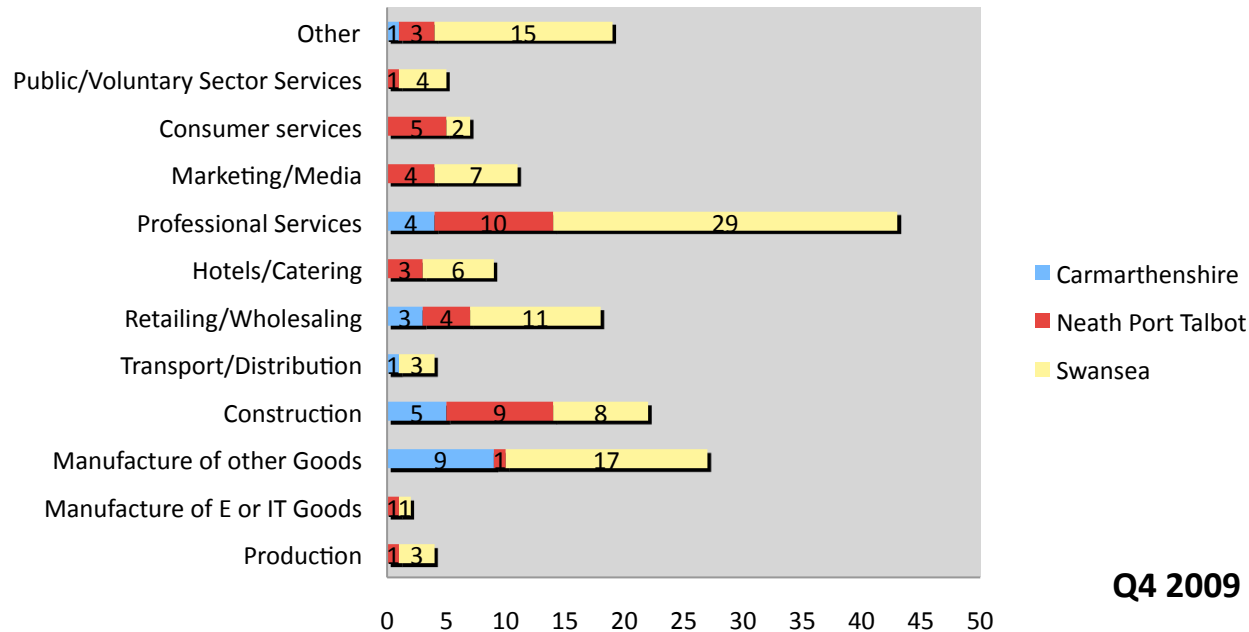


Q4 2009 - Number of employees

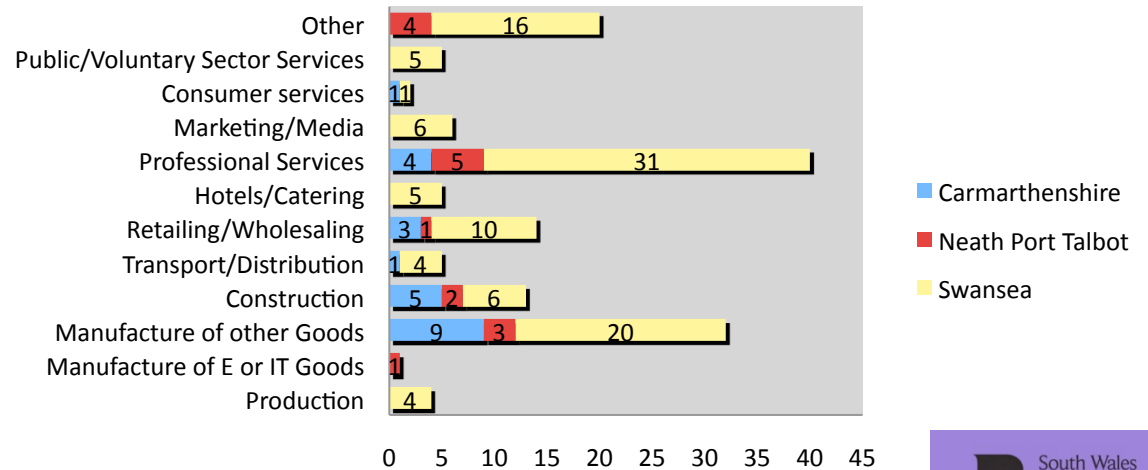


Profile of respondees

Q1 2010 - Business activity

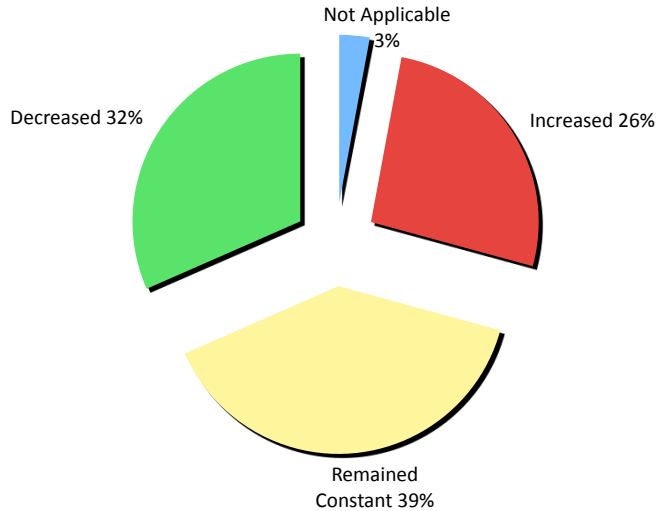


Q4 2009 - Business activity

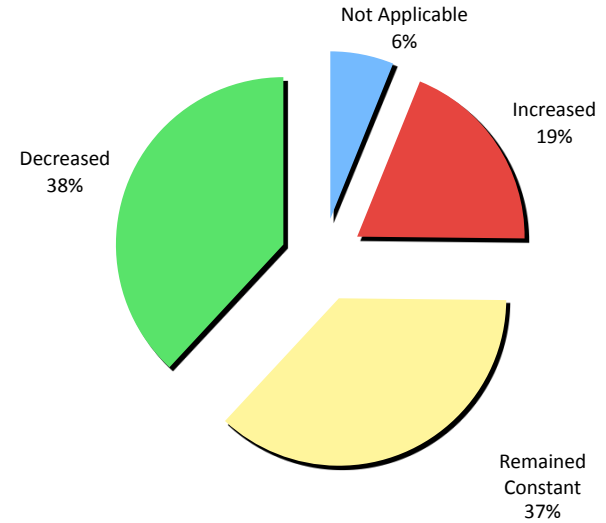


UK Sales - changes in the last quarter

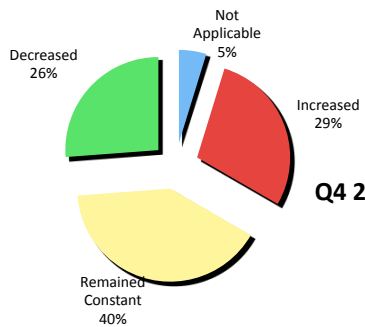
Q1 2010 - Overall UK Sales



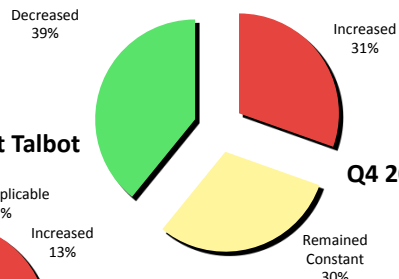
Q4 2009 - Overall UK Sales



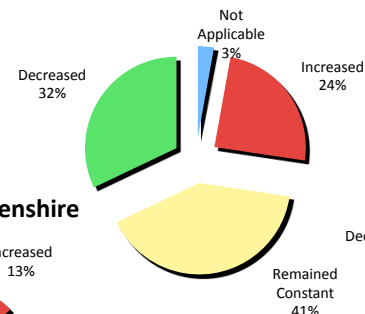
Q1 2010 - Neath Port Talbot



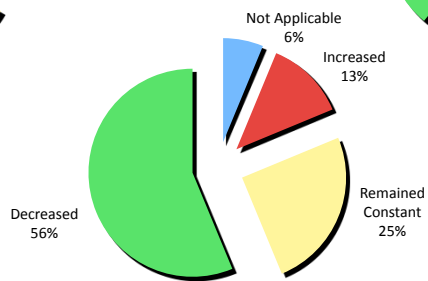
Q3 2009 - Carmarthenshire



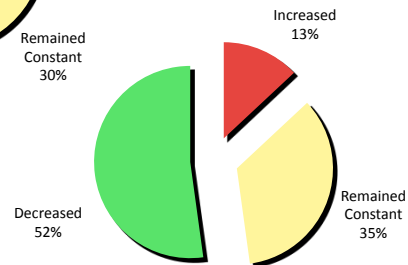
Q1 2010 - Swansea



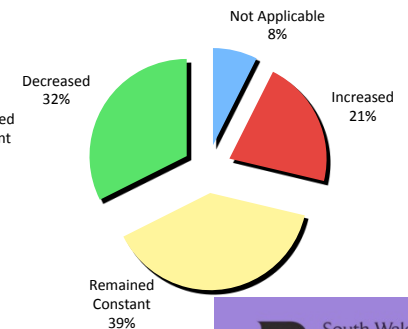
Q4 2009 - Neath Port Talbot



Q4 2009 - Carmarthenshire

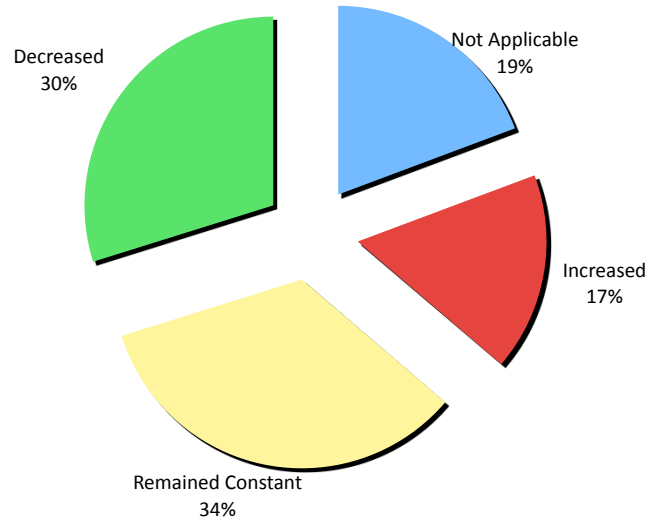


Q4 2009 - Swansea

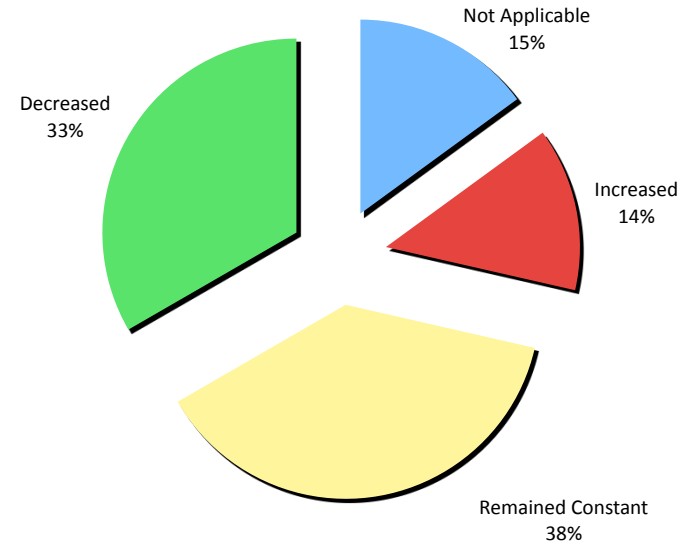


UK Orders - changes in the last quarter

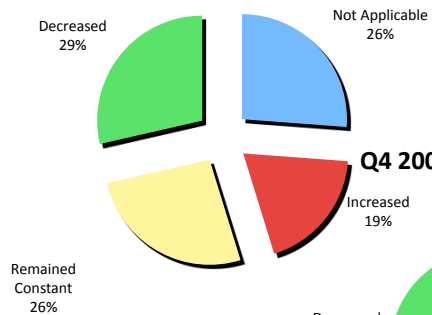
Q1 2010 - Overall UK Orders



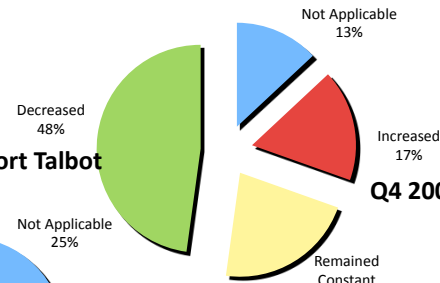
Q4 2009 - Overall UK Orders



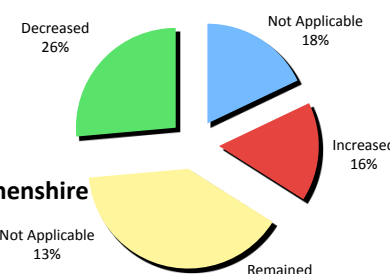
Q1 2010 - Neath Port Talbot



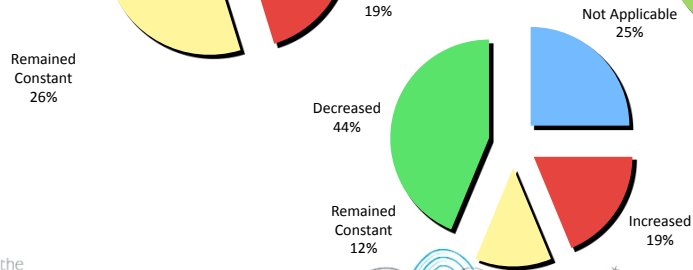
Q1 2010 - Carmarthenshire



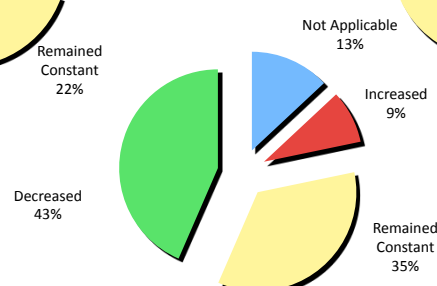
Q1 2010 - Swansea



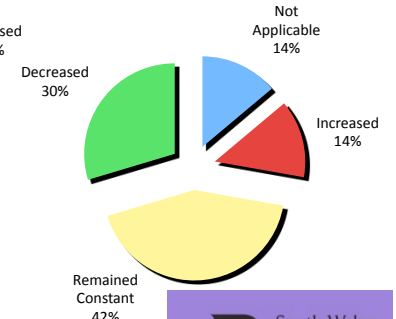
Q4 2009 - Neath Port Talbot



Q4 2009 - Carmarthenshire

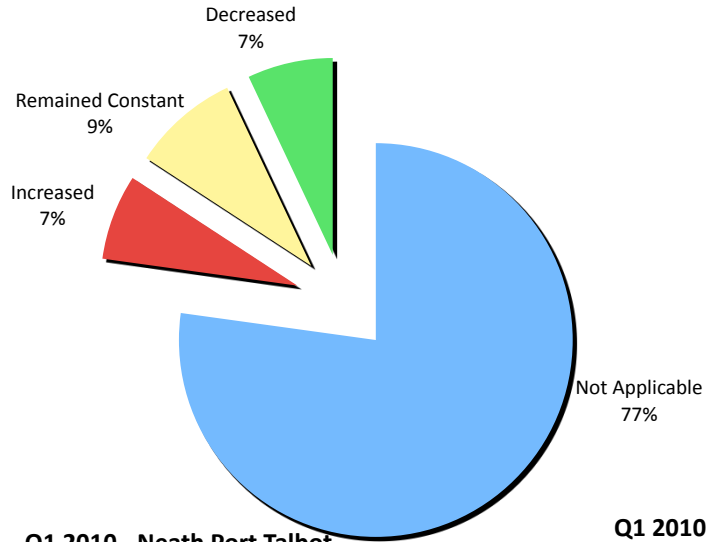


Q4 2009 - Swansea

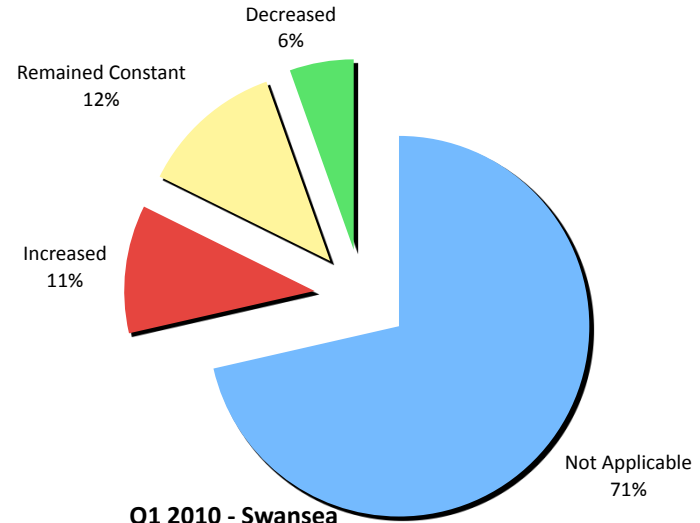


Export Sales - changes in the last quarter

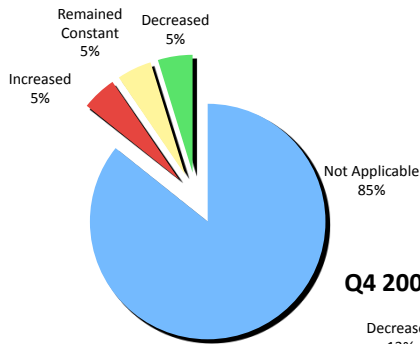
Q1 2010 - Overall Export Sales



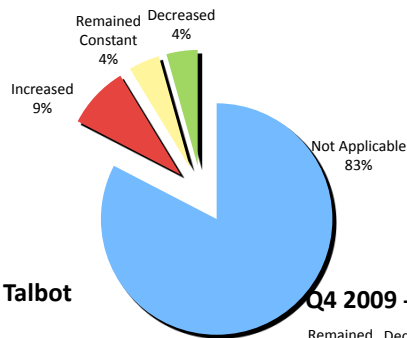
Q4 2009 - Overall Export Sales



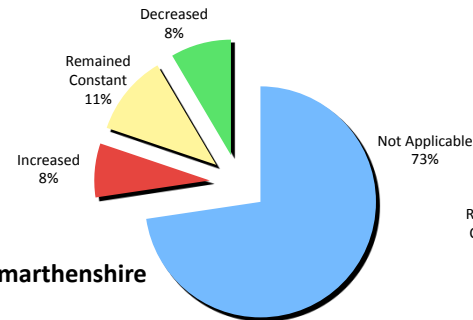
Q1 2010 - Neath Port Talbot



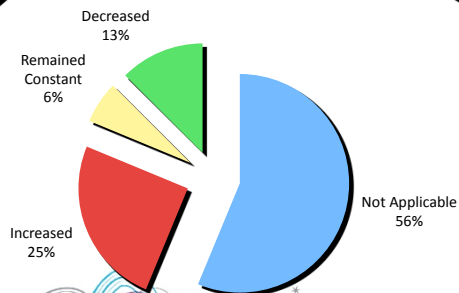
Q1 2010 - Carmarthenshire



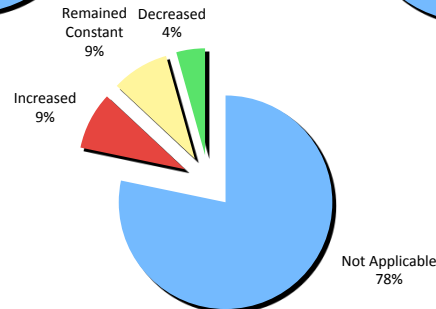
Q1 2010 - Swansea



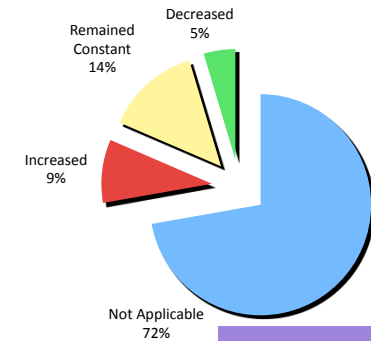
Q4 2009 - Neath Port Talbot



Q4 2009 - Carmarthenshire

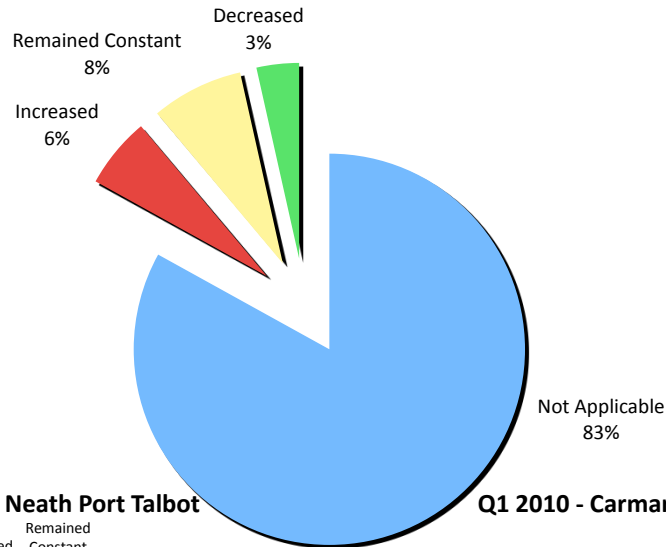


Q4 2009 - Swansea

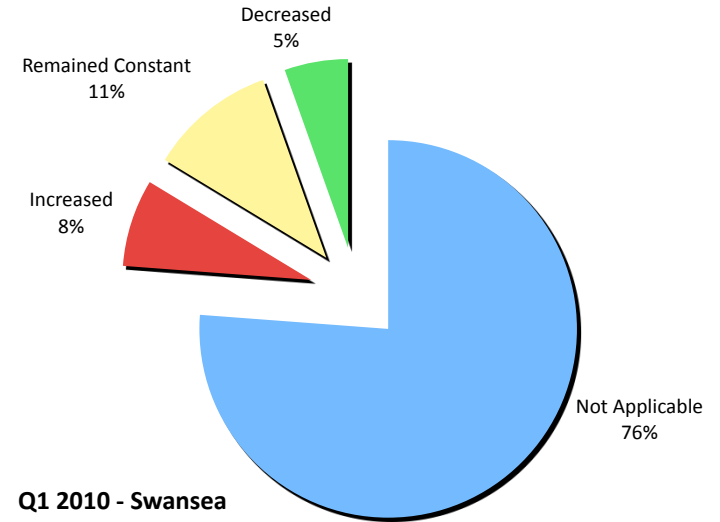


Export Orders - changes in the last quarter

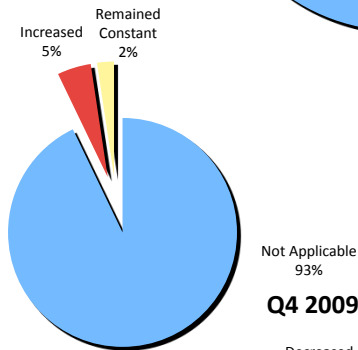
Q1 2010 - Overall Export Orders



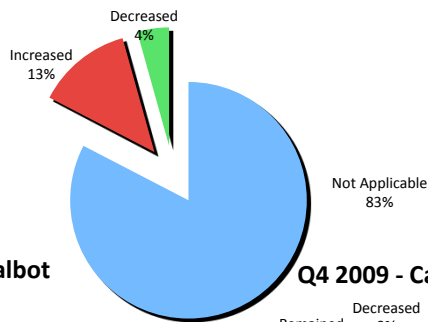
Q4 2009 - Overall Export Orders



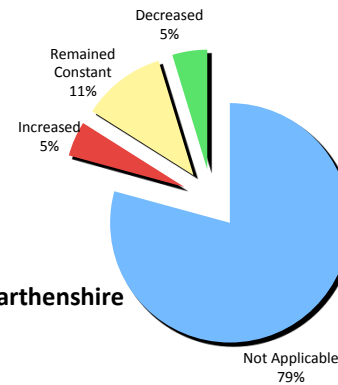
Q1 2010 - Neath Port Talbot



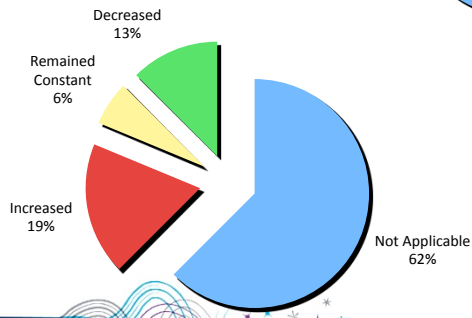
Q1 2010 - Carmarthenshire



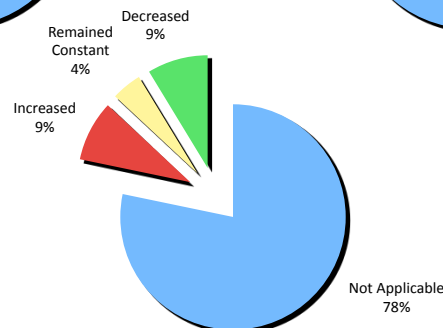
Q1 2010 - Swansea



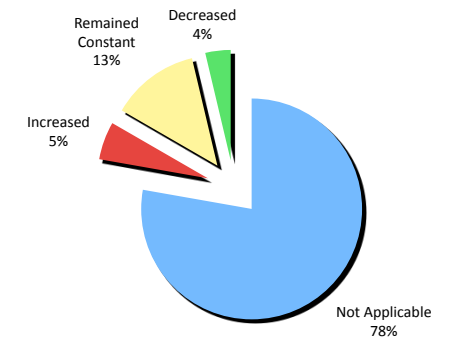
Q4 2009 - Neath Port Talbot



Q4 2009 - Carmarthenshire

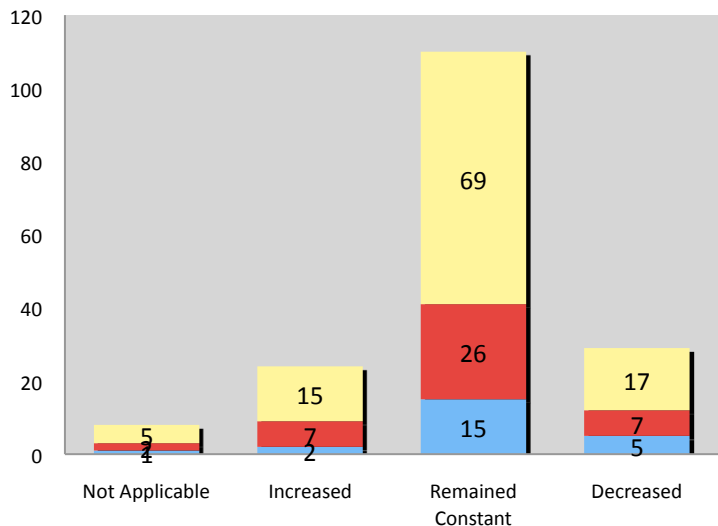


Q4 2009 - Swansea

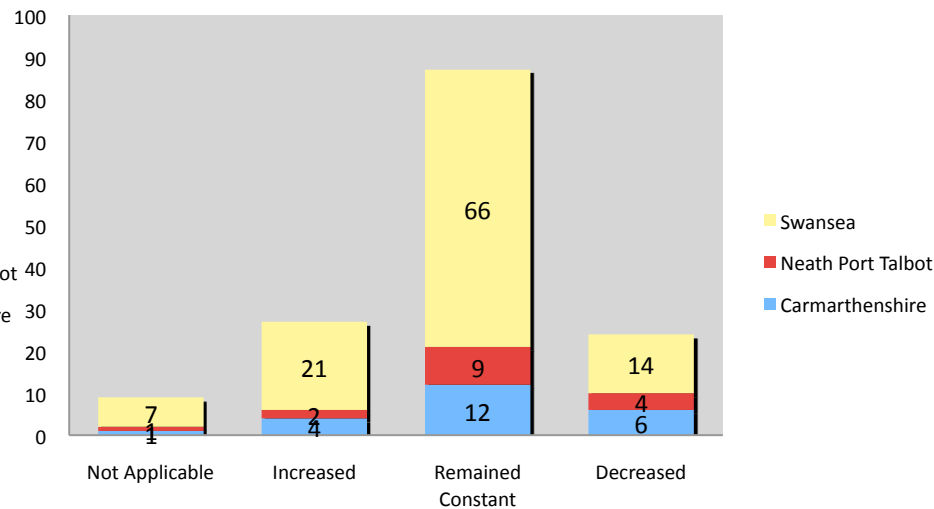


Workforce changes and expectations

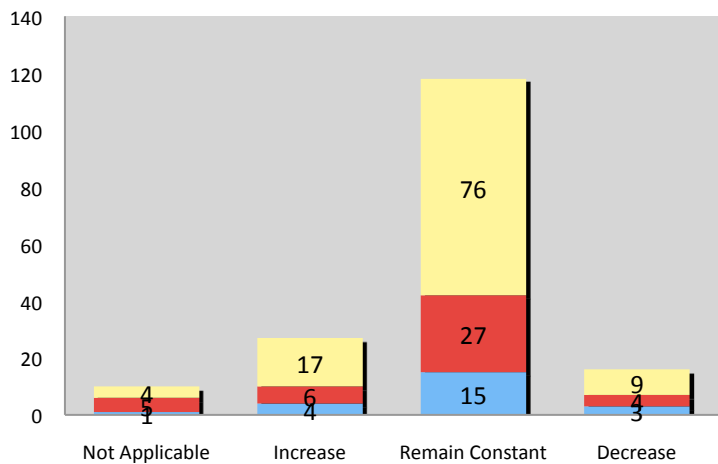
Q1 2010 - Workforce changes in past quarter



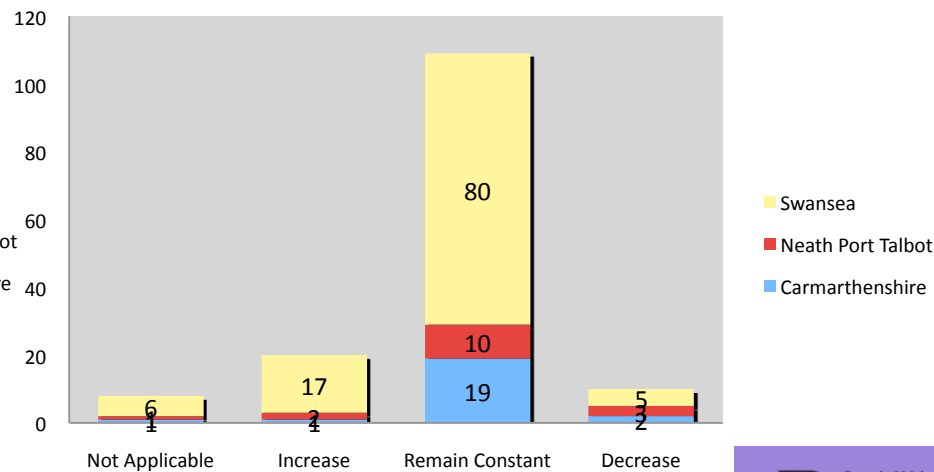
Q4 2009 - Workforce changes in past quarter



Q1 2010 - Workforce changes in next quarter

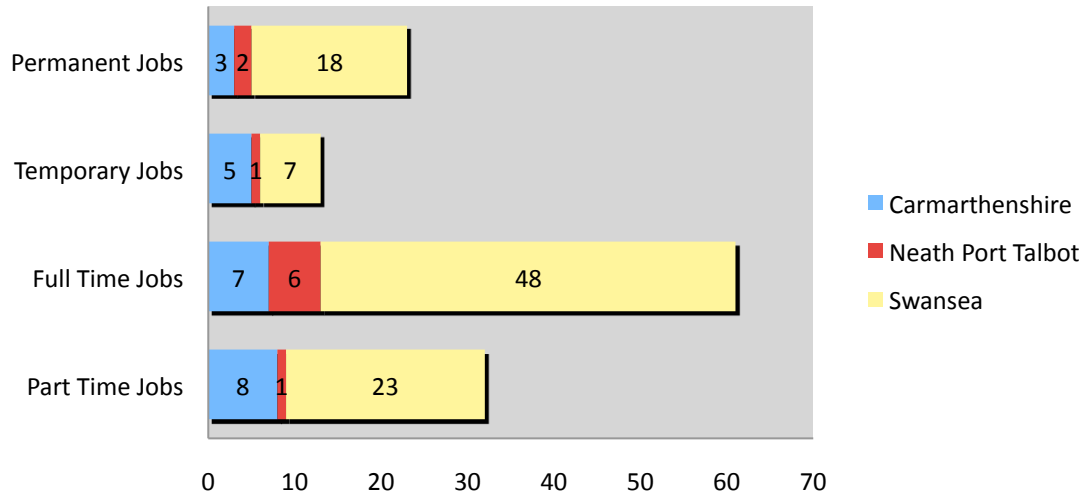


Q4 2009 - Workforce changes in next quarter

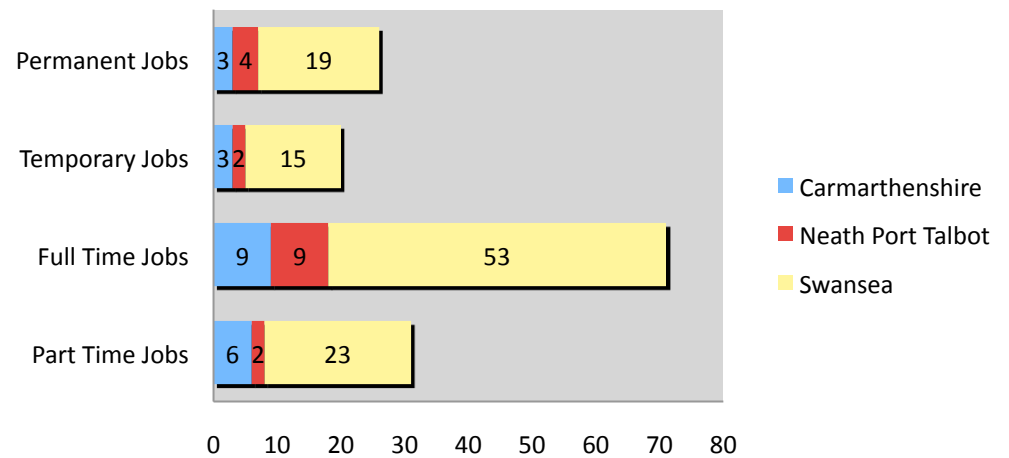


Staff recruitment

Q1 2010 - Types of staff attempted to recruit

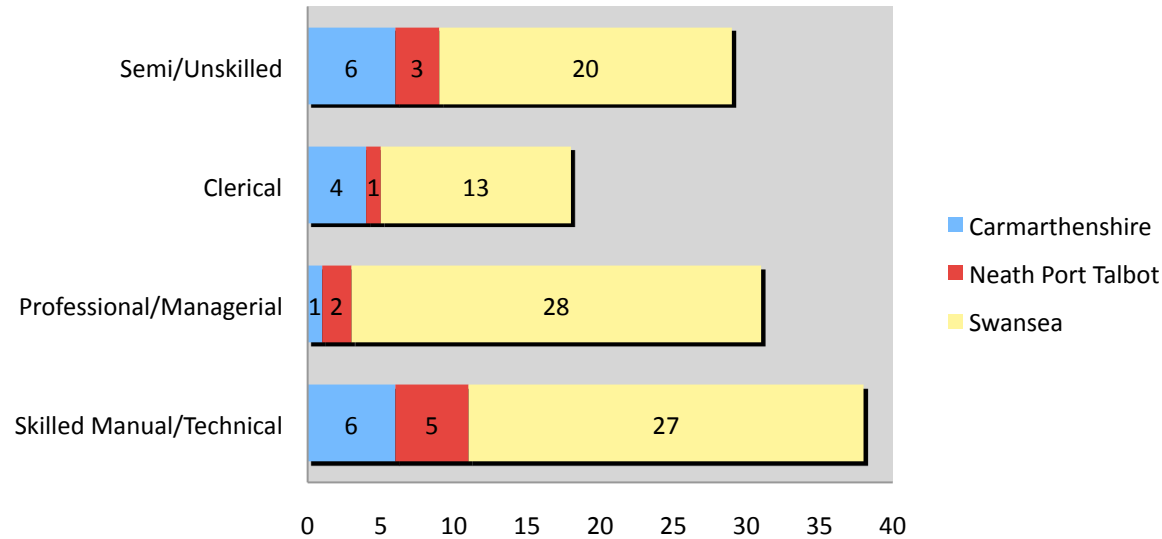


Q4 2009 - Types of staff attempted to recruit

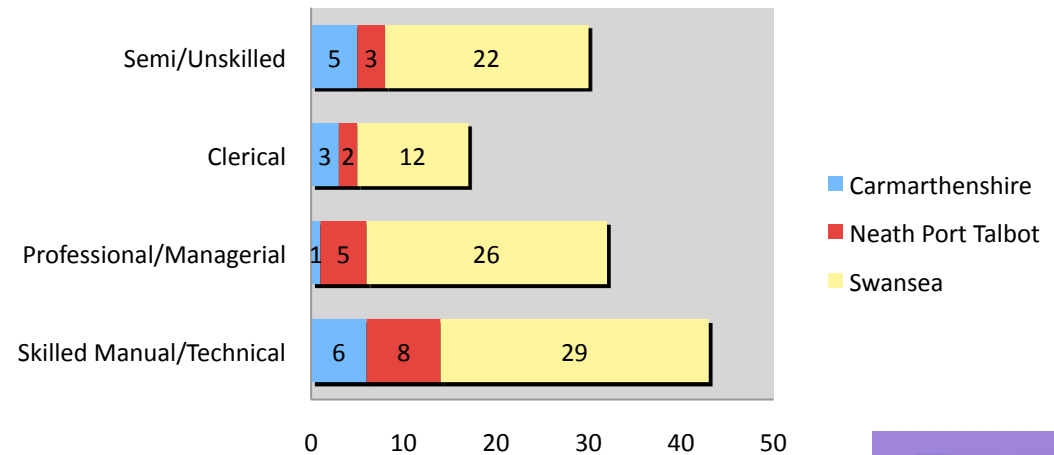


Difficulties in staff recruitment

Q1 2010 - Types of staff difficult to recruit

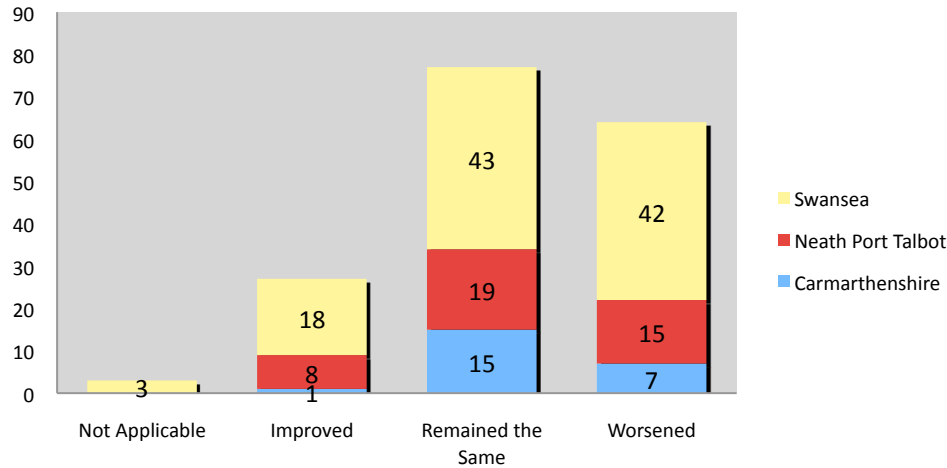


Q4 2009 - Types of staff difficult to recruit

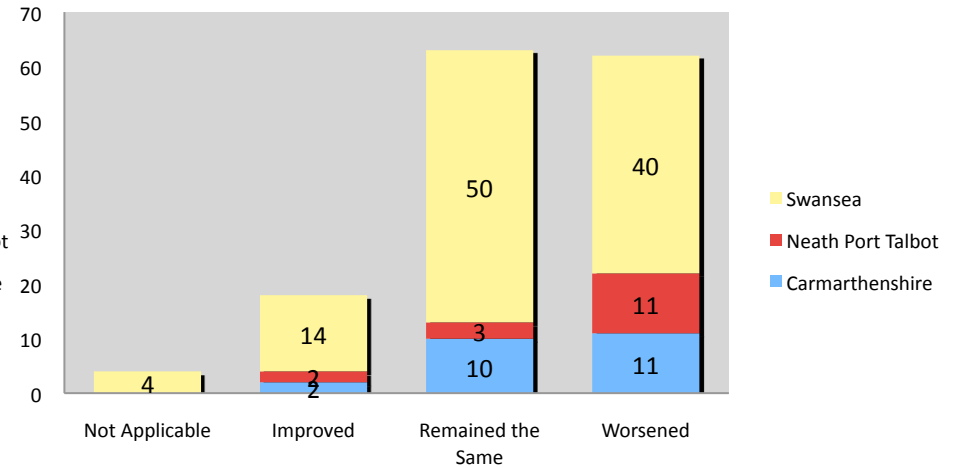


Cash flow & price changes and expectations

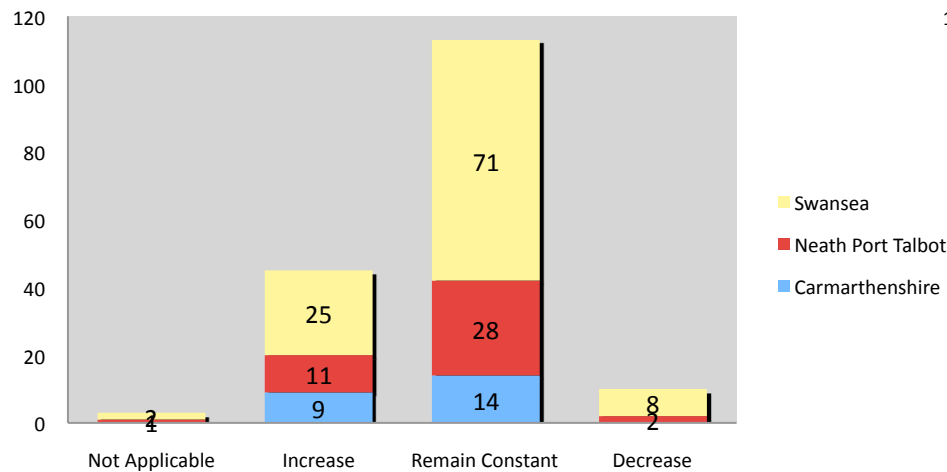
Q1 2010 - Changes in cashflow over previous quarter



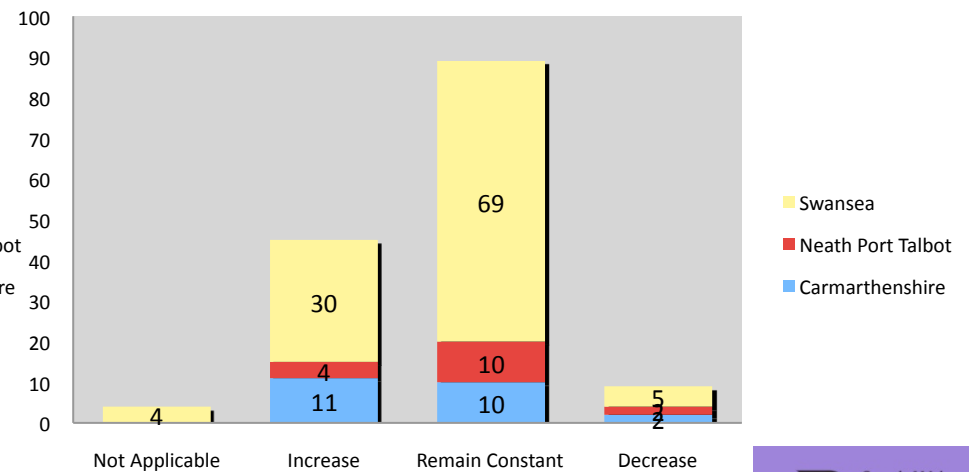
Q4 2009 - Changes in cashflow over previous quarter



Q1 2010 - Expectations for prices over next quarter

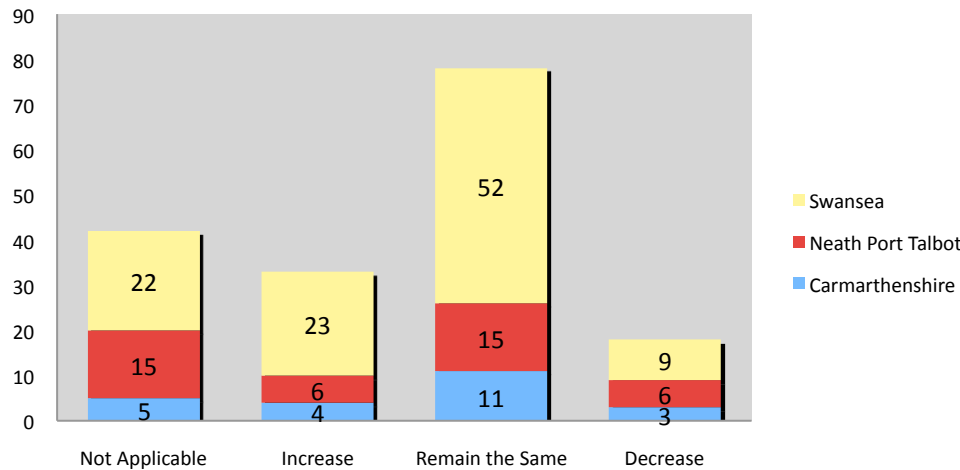


Q4 2009 - Expectations for prices over next quarter

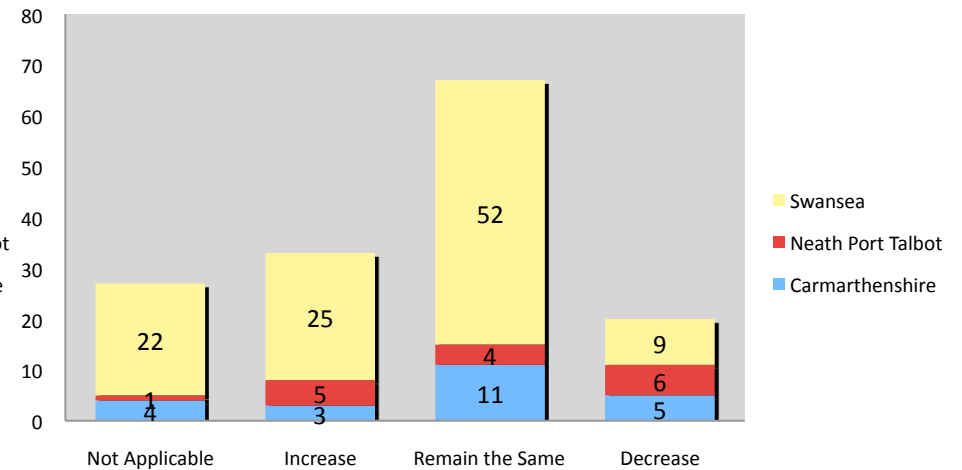


Investment in training & PME

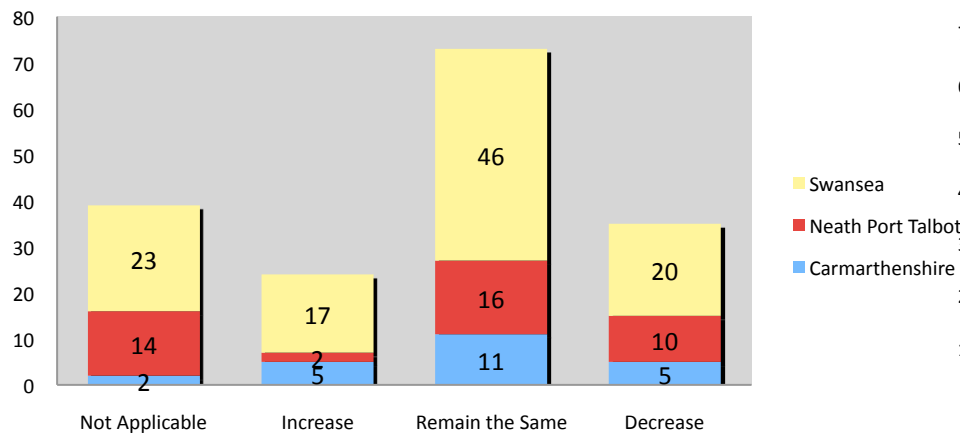
Q1 2010 - Plans for training in next quarter



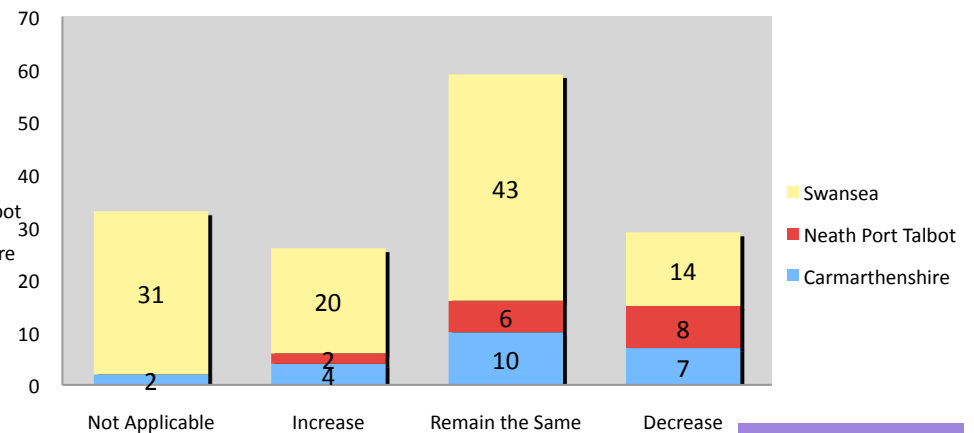
Q4 2009 - Plans for training in next quarter



Q1 2010 - Plant & equipment investment plans for next quarter

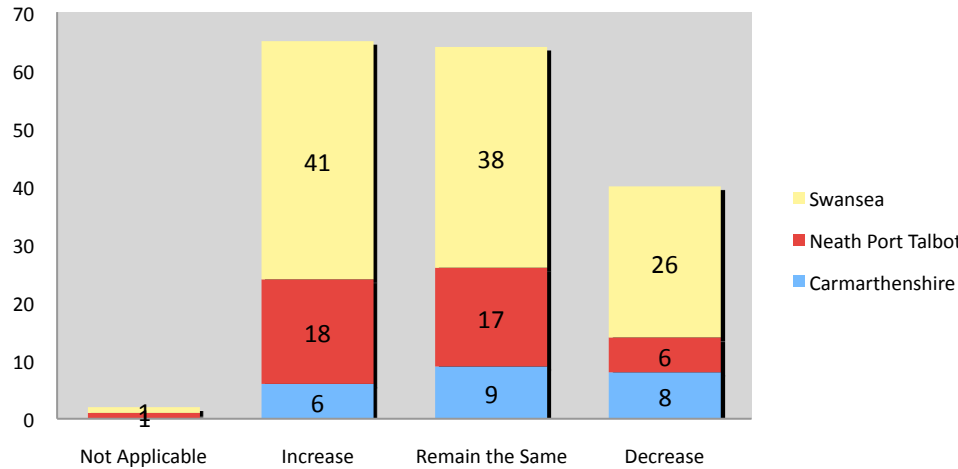


Q4 2009 - Plant & equipment investment plans for next quarter

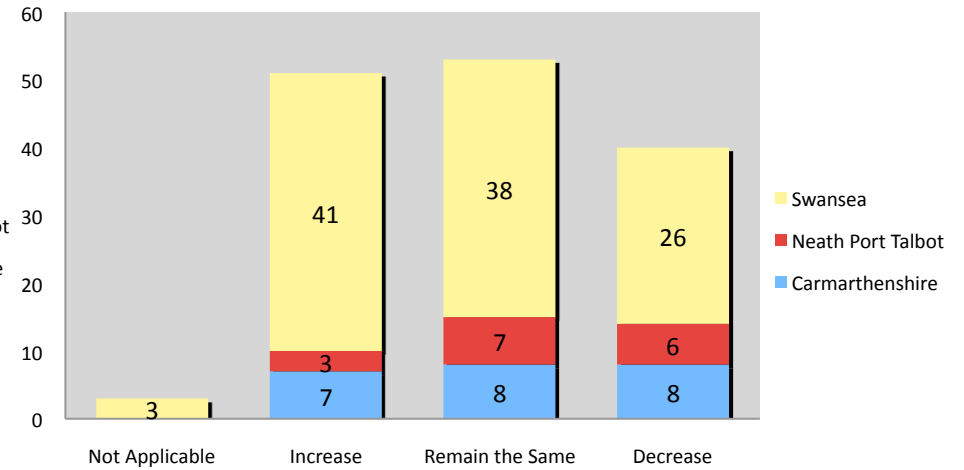


Business optimism - 12 month expectations

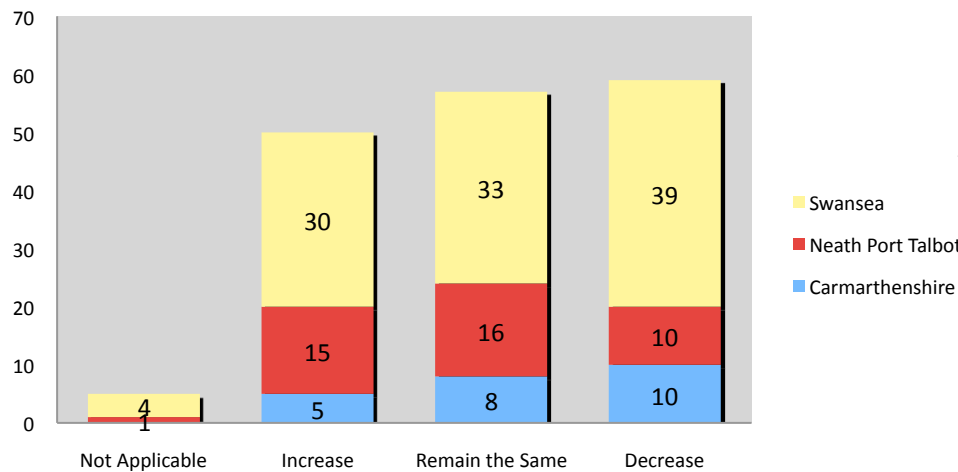
Q1 2010 - Turnover expectations in next quarter



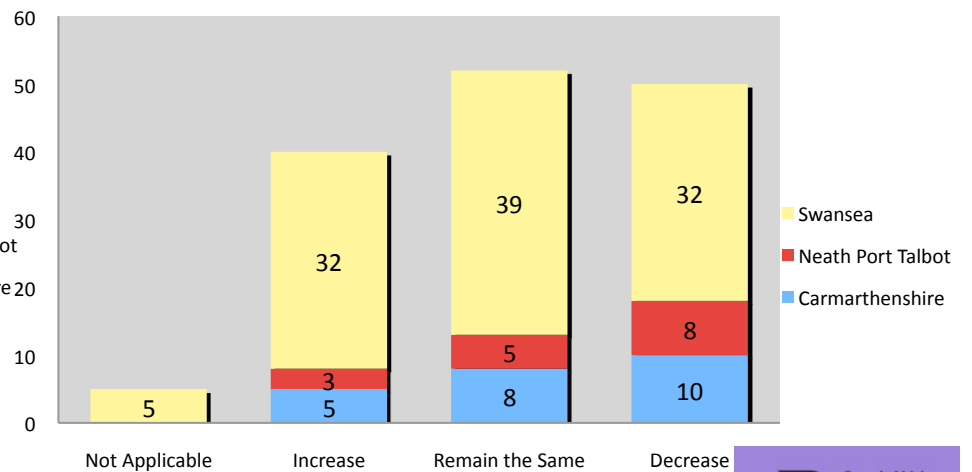
Q4 2009 - Turnover expectations in next quarter



Q1 2010 - Profitability expectations in next quarter

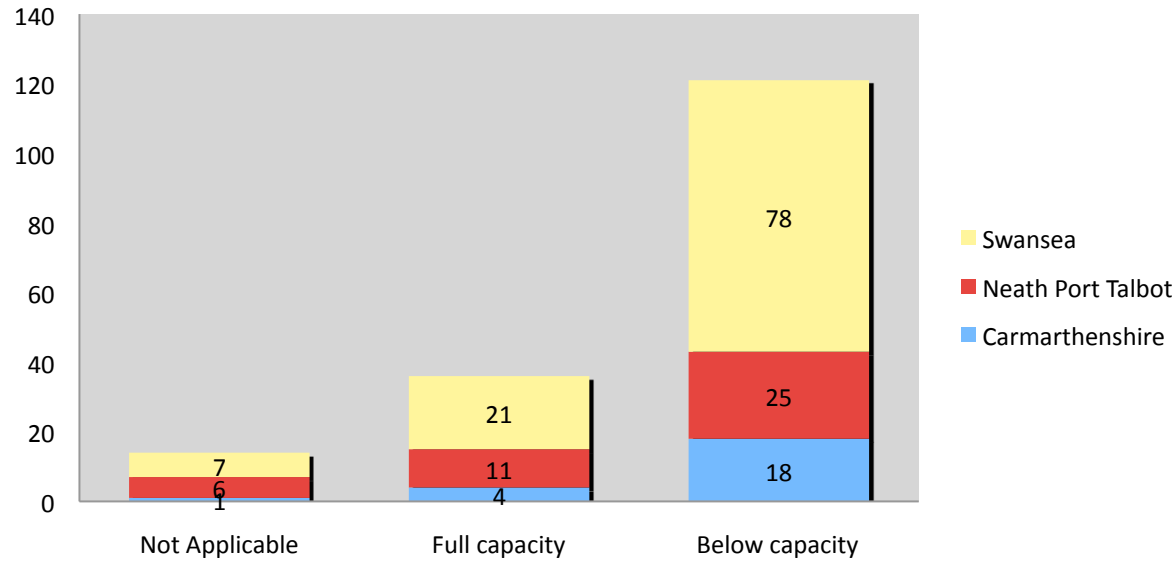


Q4 2009 - Profitability expectations in next quarter

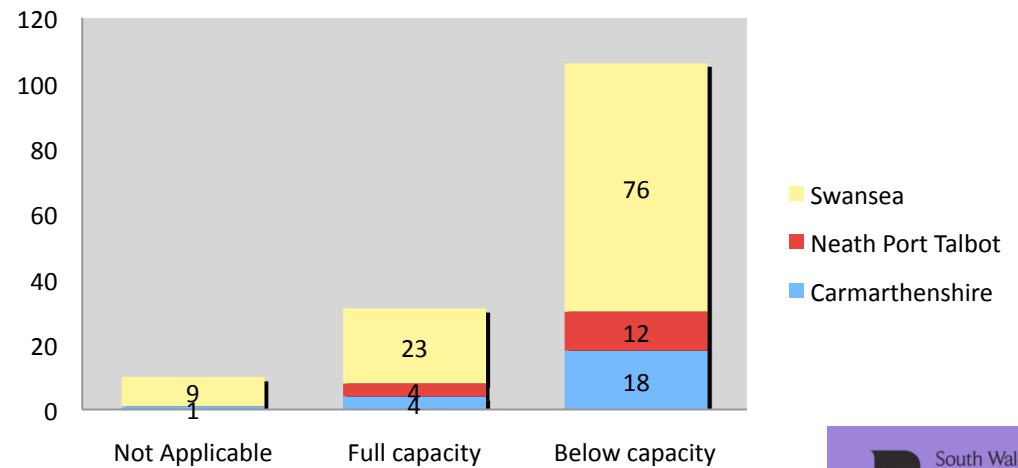


Operating at capacity

Q1 2010 - Operating at capacity

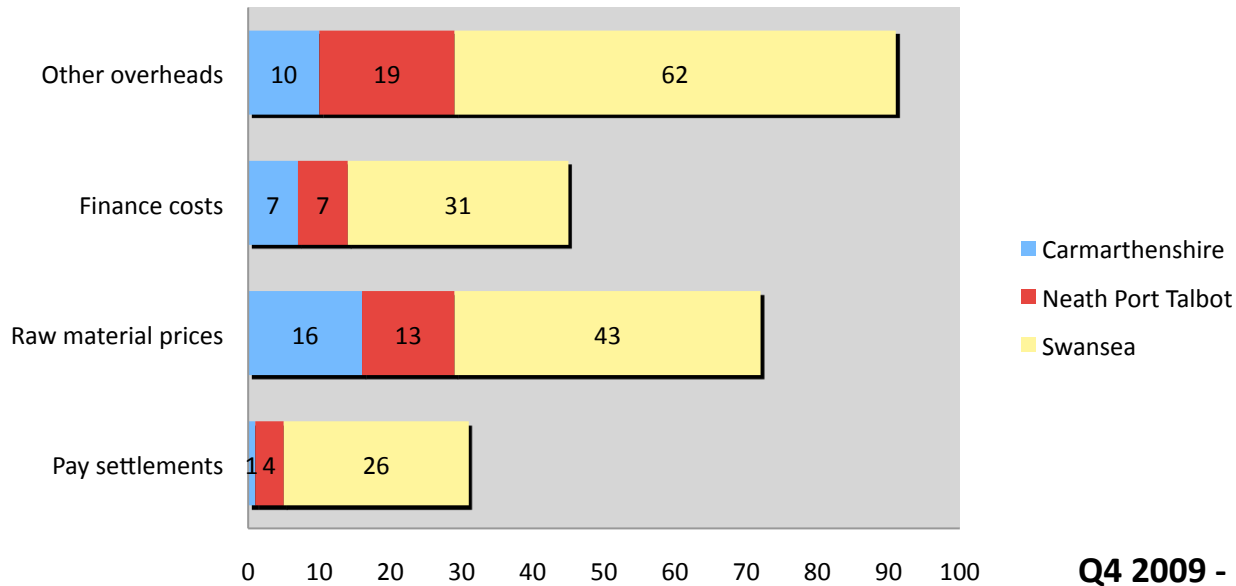


Q4 2009 - Operating at capacity

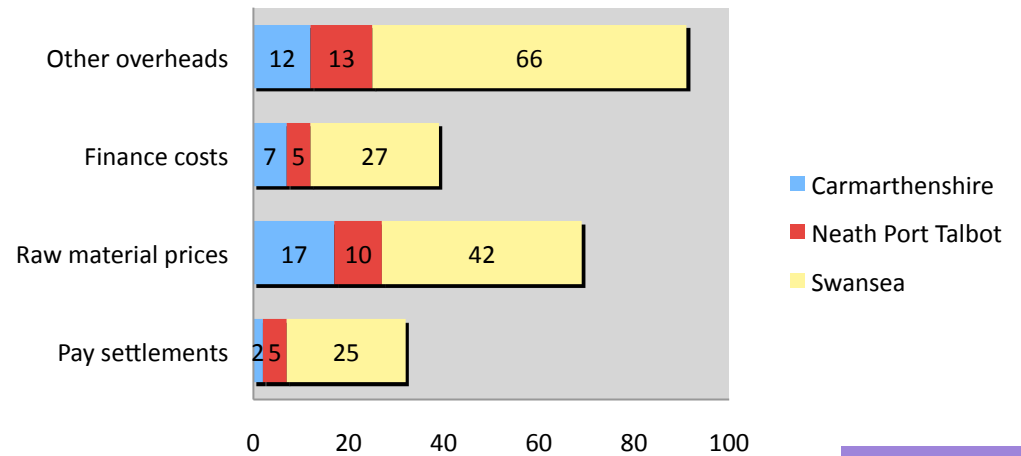


Pressures on businesses

Q1 2010 - Pressures on businesses

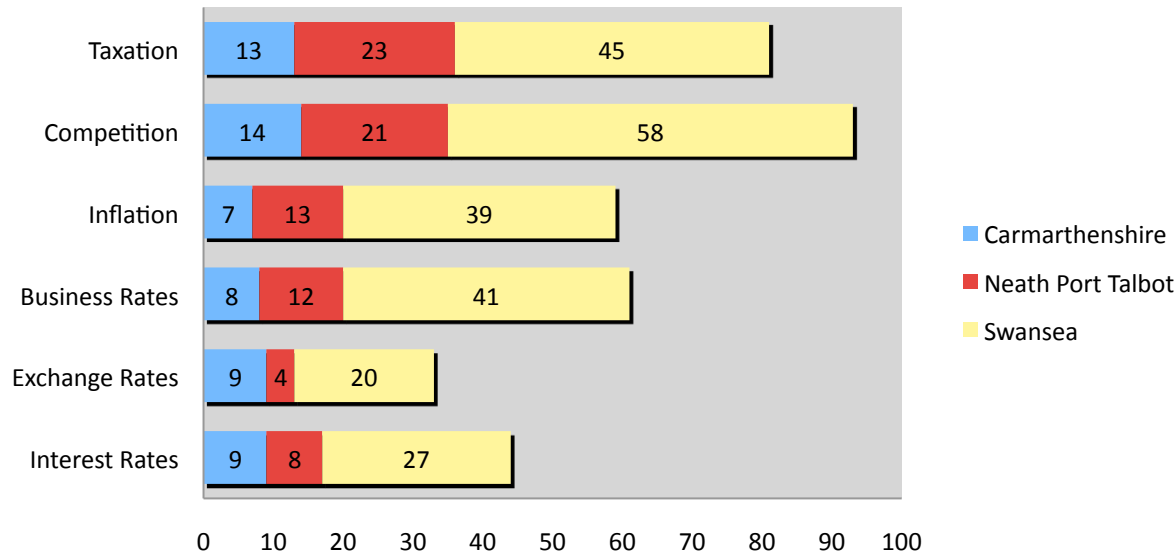


Q4 2009 - Pressures on businesses

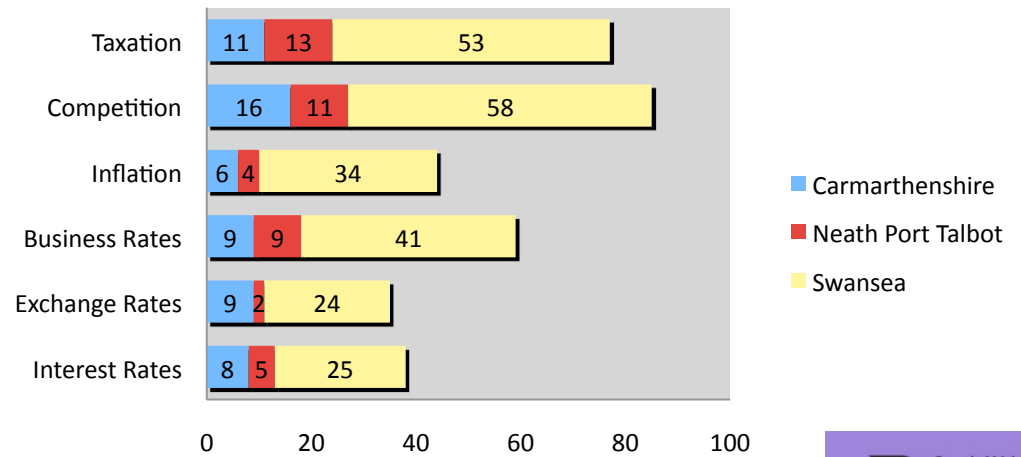


Business concerns

Q1 2010 - Concerns



Q4 2009 - Concerns



The South West Wales Quarterly Economic Survey Q1
2010 has been managed for South Wales Chamber of Commerce by The Third
Stage Group.

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