

# **Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 8 September 2010**

[R] signifies that the Member has declared an interest.

[W] signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

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***To ask the First Minister***

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister detail how many people are employed in each Minister's private office, breaking this figure down into staff numbers per office, per year, since 2007. (WAQ56462)

***Answer issued on 15 September 2010***

The information is shown in the tables below.

<b>Ministerial Private Offices: Staff Numbers</b>			
<b>Private Office</b>	<b>2007 (September)</b>	<b>2008 (July)</b>	<b>2009 (November)</b>
First Minister	6	8	7
Deputy First Minister	6	6	6
Minister for Social Justice & Local Government	4	4	5
Deputy Minister for Regeneration	2	2	4
Minister for Heritage	4	5	4
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing	5	6	6
Deputy Minister for Housing	2	2	2
Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills	6	6	7
Deputy Minister for Skills	2	2	2
Minister for Health and Social Services	6	6	6
Deputy Minister for Social Services	3	4	3
Minister for Rural Affairs	5	5	5
Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery	4	4	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>62</b>

<b>Private Office</b>	<b>2010 (Current - September)</b>
First Minister	6
Deputy First Minister	5
Minister for Social Justice & Local Government	4
Deputy Minister for Science, Innovation and Skills	3
Minister for Heritage	3
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing	4.5
Deputy Minister for Housing	3
Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong learning and skills	5
Deputy Minister for Children	2
Minister for Health and Social Services	6
Deputy Minister for Social Services	2
Minister for Rural Affairs	4
Minister for Business and Budget	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51.5</b>

Note:

Figures are known staff complements for those months for which we hold figures. For any year some office complements may have varied slightly within that year.

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the First Minister detail the impact the restructuring of the Department of Economy and Transport has had on staffing, giving a breakdown of the numbers of staff offered redundancies, redeployment in other departments, or who are currently on 'gardening leave'. (WAQ56463) *Transferred for answer by the Permanent Secretary*

*Answer issued on 13 April 2011*

**The Permanent Secretary (Dame Gill Morgan):** The proposed restructuring of the Department for Economy and Transport is currently in a formal consultation phase with the trade unions. Final structures are not due to be published until 28 September. We will not know the full impact on staffing until the HR processes to populate the new structure are completed, which are anticipated to be late November/early December. There are currently 17 members of staff, formerly attributed to DE&T, in the redeployment pool. There is no member of Welsh Assembly Government staff on gardening leave.

*To ask the Minister for Business and Budget*

**Veronica German (South Wales East):** How much money has the Welsh Assembly Government spent on branded stationery for each year since 2007/08, broken down by type of stationery. (WAQ56455)

*Answer issued on 08 March 2011*

Welsh Assembly Government does not generally pay for letter headed paper to be printed externally. Instead a simple logo is held within an electronic template and incurs no additional printing costs.

Some branded stationery is printed and this is listed below, on the basis of available information:

<b>Business Cards ( all departments)</b>	
2007/08	£22,194
2008/09	£16,805
2009/10	£17,893

<b>Visit Wales</b>		
2007/08	£8,730	Campaign Response Envelopes
2008/09	£7,100	Campaign Response Envelopes
2009/10	£7,100	Campaign Response Envelopes
2007/08	Not available	Campaign Response Stationary
2008/09	Not available	Campaign Response Stationary
2009/10	£2,478	Campaign Response Stationary
2007/08	£8,730	Campaign Response Envelopes

2008/09	£7,100	Campaign Response Envelopes
2009/10	£7,100	Campaign Response Envelopes
2007/08	Not available	Visit Wales Letterheads/Compliment Slips
2008/09	£965	Visit Wales Letterheads/Compliment Slips
2009/10	£2,305	Visit Wales Letterheads/Compliment Slips

<b>Permanent Secretary, Ministerial Offices and other Departments through Print Unit</b>		
2007/08	Not available	Letterheads
2008/09	£5,830	Letterheads
2009/10	£4,310	Letterheads
2007/08	Not available	Compliment Slips
2008/09	£785	Compliment Slips
2009/10	£580	Compliment Slips
2007/08	Not available	Envelopes
2008/09	£797	Envelopes
2009/10	£1078	Envelopes
2008-2010	£371	Continuation Sheets
2008-2010	£239	Notepads

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister detail the total Welsh Assembly Government spending on the purchasing of advertising on commercial radio in Wales, providing figures for each of the last four years. (WAQ56461)

*Answer issued on 08 March 2011*

The table below provides information on commercial radio advertising spend for the years that you requested:

<b>Advertising Category</b>	<b>2006/07</b> £	<b>2007/08</b> £	<b>2008/09</b> £	<b>2009/10</b> £
Radio advertising	227,671	388,910	260,346	502,362

Radio advertising spend is closely related to the need to raise awareness of important matters of public interest and the take up of public services, as a result, costs will rise or fall year on year. There were more campaigns in 2009-10 than the preceding years reflecting priority issues occurring during that period such as Swine Flu, Alcohol Awareness Week, Apprenticeship Week and Waste Awareness.

Includes costs of £40,034 in 2008-09 and £24,009 in 2009-10 for the All Wales Convention.

***To ask the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning***

**Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** With regard to the report on the future of Careers Advise in Wales "Review of Careers Related Services", (a) when will this be published and made available to careers guidance providers and (b) when will the Minister's response to the report and its recommendations be published. (WAQ56449)

***Answer issued on 15 September 2010***

I received the report 'Future Ambitions: Developing Careers Services in Wales', authored by Dr Haydn Edwards and his team, on 22 June 2010. The report includes some sixty detailed recommendations that have the potential to impact across much of the lifelong learning system and beyond. My officials have been assessing the recommendations over the summer period and I shall consider their findings over the coming weeks. I would, therefore, expect to come to a decision about my reaction to the report sometime during October.

***To ask the Minister for the Economy and Transport***

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on cameras on the A470 in Newtown, Powys, in relation to control of traffic flow. (WAQ56444)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

The cameras are not on the A470 in Newtown but on the A483. As part of the recent Tesco development and as part of their planning conditions from the local planning authority, Tesco was required to install CCTV cameras on the A483 through Newtown. These cameras will assist in the monitoring of the traffic conditions within the town.

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** What was the cost of the installation of cameras on the A470 in Newtown, Powys, with regard to the control of traffic flow. (WAQ56445)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

The Welsh Assembly Government does not have this information as Tesco arranged for the works to be undertaken as part of the planning conditions for their development from the local planning authority. Tesco was responsible for the cost of the installation of the cameras. The cameras are not on the A470 in Newtown but on the A483.

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** What was the cost of the road improvements made on the A470 in Newtown, Powys, with regard to traffic flow during 2009-2010. (WAQ56446)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

The Welsh Assembly Government does not have this information as Tesco arranged for the works to be undertaken as part of the planning conditions for their development from the local planning authority. Tesco was responsible for the cost of the road improvements, which were to the A483 in Newtown not the A470.

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** What benefit has been derived from the traffic flow cameras on the A470 in Newtown, Powys. (WAQ56447)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

The CCTV cameras on the A483, not the A470, in Newtown will assist in monitoring the traffic conditions in the town.

**Nick Bourne (Mid and West Wales):** Will the Minister publish any correspondence, agendas, details of meetings, written memoranda or other written documents relating to the new traffic flow scheme operation in Newtown, Powys, since February 2010. (WAQ56448)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

I have no plans to publish any documentation.

**Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire):** What recent discussions has the Minister had with his officials regarding the Dyfi Bridge. (WAQ56450)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

I am kept fully briefed with regard to the progress being made with repairs to the bridge following the accident in June.

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What initiatives has the Welsh Assembly Government enacted to allow more capital to be made available to small and medium sized businesses and are there any plans to establish a venture capital fund to support homegrown businesses. (WAQ56464)

***Answer issued on 08 March 2011***

Businesses in Wales can access commercial finance from a variety of sources including Finance Wales. We are working with Chris Rowlands, author and chairman of the UK Government's 'Rowlands Review' (2009) into the availability of growth capital to small and medium-sized businesses, to gather expert advice on where the gaps currently exist and how we can leverage private sector investment. In addition, we are looking at the provision of micro-finance and the possibility of securing additional investment through European funds.

***To ask the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing***

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Following the First Minister's undertaking in plenary on 4 May 2010 that the Welsh Assembly Government is meeting with fuel providers to ensure that fuel poverty targets are met in the future, will the Minister now outline any plans to tackle this issue in Wales as well as giving a revised date by which targets will be met. (WAQ56460)

***Answer issued on 15 September 2010***

The Fuel Poverty Strategy which I launched in July sets out how the Assembly Government plans to tackle fuel poverty.

The Living in Wales fuel poverty data will be published shortly and this will help to inform the monitoring and evaluation plan which will set out how the proposed schemes will impact on the number of fuel poor households in Wales.

The Assembly Government is committed to working towards the eradication of fuel poverty and we have invested additional funding for action on fuel poverty.

We have committed over £30 million of additional funding received through the Strategic Capital Investment Fund to the first phase of arbed. This funding will enable investment in major domestic energy performance projects across Wales' Strategic Regeneration Areas that will improve the energy efficiency of homes, tackle fuel poverty and generate employment for Welsh residents and economic opportunities for Welsh businesses.

I also announced on 17 March that £34 million of European funding would be available to improve the energy efficiency of homes in Wales and we are currently working on proposals to deliver this investment.

The Assembly Government has increased the funding for the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) which has assisted over 124,000 households in Wales with heating and insulation measures at a cost of over £134 million since it started in 2001.

*To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services*

**Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** In the three Artificial Limb and Appliance Centres in Wales, what systems of measurement have been put in place, or are planned, to continue a statistical database in Wales recording the numbers and trends of existing and new amputees, including death rates, so that services can be designed to match this. (WAQ56452)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

It is for the Artificial Limb and Appliance Centres and the Local Health Boards to plan and deliver this service at a local level.

**Veronica German (South Wales East):** Will the Minister provide a breakdown of spending for NHSF publicity in the last budget, specifically what this budget line consists of, what the administrative costs were, what the funding produced, the final expenditure against this budget line and the estimated expenditure for the next financial year. (WAQ56454)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

Details of all publicity spend that I have approved are published through Decision Reports and can be found on the Welsh Assembly Government website.

I am not in a position to provide estimated expenditure for the next financial year at the present time.

**Veronica German (South Wales East):** With reference to your answer to WAQ56289, will the Minister provide a detailed account of the in-year pressures the health budget has experienced so far, at what cost, and what are the envisaged pressures for the next financial year, with estimated costs. (WAQ56456)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

I have agreed to provide funding of approximately £80m to date to meet emerging pressures, including providing funding to the Thalidomide Trust and for mental health services.

In terms of estimating pressures for 2011-12, the Welsh Assembly Government has made prudent assumptions in starting to prepare for the Draft Budget. However, it would be inappropriate to speculate

on any impact for health and social services until the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review is known in October.

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that the decision to end the use of private sector capacity in the NHS does not lead to an increase in waiting times in Gwent. (WAQ56457)

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that the decision to end the use of private sector capacity in the NHS does not mean that waiting times targets are missed in Gwent. (WAQ56458)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

I expect all Local Health Boards to have strategies in place to ensure they have the required capacity on a sustainable basis to treat all patients within the waiting times targets.

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** Will the Minister make a statement on her plans for NHS Direct in Wales. (WAQ56459)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

A review of unscheduled care services, including NHS Direct is being conducted as part of the National Programme to improve NHS services.

### *To ask the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government*

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen):** Will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of any Welsh Assembly Government funding given to the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service via the 'Invest to Save' programme, to support the proposed introduction of self-rostering at fire stations in Wales. (WAQ56451)

*Answer issued on 15 September 2010*

I can confirm that the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service's self-rostering proposal was selected as a project to be awarded funding under the 2nd Round of the Invest-to-Save Fund. The award is a repayable investment of £1.5 million towards the cost of developing accommodation at three fire stations where the new crewing arrangements are proposed. The investment is however conditional upon Members of the Fire Authority approving the new crewing proposal as part of the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service's Risk Reduction Plan 2011-12. The decision to proceed or otherwise is therefore one for the Fire Authority and to help inform their decision it is essential that consultation is thoroughly undertaken, especially with staff and managers.

**Veronica German (South Wales East):** For each year since 1999, please provide a) the amount of funding given to the Welsh Women's National Coalition and b) the purpose for which each element of that funding was provided. (WAQ56453)

*Answer issued on 27 September 2010*

The Wales Women's National Coalition was awarded £50,000 core funding each year from 2002 until 2005 by the National Assembly for Wales. In 2005 a further three years of funding was awarded by the Welsh Assembly Government totalling £230,872 until 31 March 2008.



During the review of the Promoting Equality Fund, the Wales Women's National Coalition was awarded transitional funding on two occasions, in 2008/09 and again in 2009/10. The awards in each year were £78,797.