

**Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad
Information Further to Written Assembly Questions**

Cyhoeddir atebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o atebion yn y Gymraeg.

Responses are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at WAQ57640 a gyhoeddwyd gan Lesley Griffiths, y
Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ar 26 Awst 2011
Information further to WAQ57640 issued by Lesley Griffiths, the Minister for Health
and Social Services, on 26 August 2011**

At/To Darren Millar:

I am writing following the Written Assembly Question (WAQ) relating to prescribed Gluten Free Products and the subsequent confusion over the cost. No doubt you will have seen the Welsh Government's press release accepting that although guidance notes were available on the Statistics for Wales' website, the WAQ response provided by the Welsh Government's Statistical Directorate, although correct, could have been presented in a more useful way. In particular, the user of the data needed to know that a prescription item may be for a variable quantity e.g. 14, 28 or 56 tablets, or as in a particular case, a variable number of loaves.

My officials have now expanded the explanatory notes to the data which can be accessed on our web-site at:

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/health2011/1103301/?lang=en> For your ease of reference, I have enclosed a copy with this letter. Officials will be reviewing further the use of the data and the related explanatory notes with a service user group during October.

I have also asked my officials to ensure that any data presented in the future, is clear, understandable and, as far as possible, not open to misinterpretation. In particular, they will be looking at ensuring the product costs can be readily identified, though food products present a particular challenge since the quantity prescribed is measured in grammes and individual products may be of variable size and weight.

Finally, turning to the broader issue of costs, you may be interested to know that we have a working group looking at the prescription of gluten free products and I will be considering their report later this year.