

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 2 March 2010

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

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

Contents

2	Questions to the Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport
2	Questions to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing
2	Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services
3	Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs
3	Questions to the Representative of the Assembly Commission

To ask the Minister for the Economy and Transport

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): What funding has been allocated to develop Wales as a Low Carbon Economic Area for hydrogen and low carbon fuel technologies. (WAQ55704)

Answer issued on 08 March 2011

Funding has been awarded to a University of Glamorgan project entitled CymruH2Wales. This three-year project valued at £6.3m which is part of the activities of the Low Carbon Research Institute, is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund from the Convergence Programme and part funded by the University.

The University has also been awarded £240,000 for its South Wales Alternative Fuel Gateway project. This project is part funded by the UK Department for Transport's Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Grant Programme and part funded by the University of Glamorgan.

Bethan Jenkins (South Wales West): Will the Minister provide details of discussions involving his office and the Department of Transport over the devolving of powers for regulating bus services in Wales to the National Assembly. (WAQ55706)

Answer issued on 05 March 2010

I am already taking forward the Transport LCO that seeks to provide the National Assembly with legislative competence in relation to learner transport safety. In addition, the Local Transport Act 2008 introduced several new and strengthened powers for Welsh Ministers in respect of bus services, for example on Quality Partnerships.

To ask the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): What will be the environmental standard of build for housing developed using the £42million allocated to deliver 400+ affordable houses under Tranche 2 of the SCIF process. (WAQ55703) ***Transferred for answer by the Deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration***

Answer issued on 04 March 2010

The Deputy Minister for Housing and Regeneration (Jocelyn Davies): The £42 million allocated to deliver 400+ affordable homes was made available from Tranche 1 of the Strategic Capital Investment Fund. Homes built on land purchased under this programme are required to meet Welsh Assembly Government "Design Quality Requirements" which includes an environmental standard of Code for Sustainable Homes level 3. Also from 1st September 2009 a new planning policy has introduced a requirement for planning applications for developments of 5 units or more to meet Code for Sustainable Homes level 3 with an additional improvement in carbon reduction over Building Regulations of 31%. Homes purchased from the private sector (either completed or under construction) are required to meet the energy efficiency standards contained within the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): By NHS body, how much was spent on homeopathic treatments in each of the last ten years. (WAQ55698)

Answer issued on 04 March 2010

This information is not held centrally.

Peter Black (South Wales West): What is the situation with regard to the removal of asbestos from hospitals within the former Rhondda & Pontypridd Health Trust; what has been done since 2004 and what is planned. (WAQ55701)

Peter Black (South Wales West): What actions have been taken since May 2009, when three members of staff were suspended by Cwm Taf Trust following revelations that asbestos removal on several hospitals sites had not been properly carried out, to ensure that the situation is rectified. (WAQ55702)

Answer issued on 04 March 2010

This is a matter for Cwm Taf Local Health Board.

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): How many patients within each Local Health Board received manipulation (rather than manual therapy) for low back pain suffered for six weeks to one years duration in the period of July 2009 to December 2009 (inclusive). (WAQ55705)

Answer issued on 04 March 2010

This information is not held centrally.

To ask the Minister for Rural Affairs

Brynle Williams (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on what criteria will be used to assess the success of the Young Entrants Support Scheme. (WAQ55699)

Answer issued on 04 March 2010

The Young Entrants Support Scheme (YESS) aims to support at least 500 young entrants establish themselves as head of holding within viable farm business, over the five years of the scheme. To this end the Welsh Assembly Government will invest at least £7.5m of new capital investment, to be matched by a minimum of £7.5m of new private, capital investment.

YESS also aims to promote cross generational working, through its mentoring programme and, in partnership with Farming Connect, effective business planning, targeted educational and training support and active succession planning.

To ask the Representative of the Assembly Commission

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): What was the cost to the Assembly Commission for the production of all materials (including but not exclusive to pamphlets, booklets, guides, posters, badges, beer mats, postcards and invitations) relating to the reopening of the refurbished Pierhead Building. (WAQ55700)

Answer issued on 02 March 2010

Assembly Commissioner for the Sustainable Assembly, Lorraine Barrett AM:

On 1 March 2010, the Pierhead was re-launched as a space where people can come to express opinions and give voice to issues that matter to them as individuals, as communities or as organisations.

The Pierhead will function as an events and conference venue that complements the work of the Assembly, containing displays and interactive exhibitions that tell the story of this iconic building.

Assembly Members will also be able to hold Member-sponsored events with stakeholders such as charities and pressure groups – it will function as a political, but not party political space.

The building's effective functioning is therefore dependent on stakeholders and the public being aware of its role as a space for public debate, and as an important part of the Assembly's estate in Cardiff Bay. In addition, the capital investment associated with the Grade 1 listed building's renovation warranted complementary marketing activity.

The official reopening of the Pierhead took place on 1 March and was celebrated with various activities and the opening of the building to visitors. The official opening took place at 11:00, and was attended by over 120 visitors, including staff who worked at the Pierhead over 30 years ago, the Merchant Navy Association, contractors involved with the Pierhead Project and children from Mount Stuart School.

Following the official opening the Welsh Governance Centre used the building for their annual St David's Day lecture, delivered by Justice John Thomas. The lecture was attended by 98 people. After the lecture, the Pierhead was opened to the public. Between 13:00 and 16:30, 250 members of the public visited the building.

In total, on its opening day, the Pierhead had over 468 visitors.

Below is an itemised breakdown of marketing costs associated with raising awareness of the reopening of the Pierhead among the public and stakeholders across Wales. Activity marked with an asterisk (*) indicates that this material was also collated to provide information packs for all sixty Assembly Members.

An analysis of the unit cost of the four items contained in information packs for Assembly Members show that the cost of each pack was £1.21.

Item	Quantity	Cost (£)
Pierhead promotional leaflet*	1310	814.00
Photography		1,000.00
Promotional staff-t-shirts	60	706.41
Coasters*	5,000	1,991.63
Commemorative lapel pins*	300	358.38
Light projection		0
Stencil for light projection		147.99
Six-sheet ad poster design		280.00
Six-sheet advertising placement		5,679.45
Picture postcards*	400	0
Pierhead opening invitation design		180.00
Invitation printing costs	100	415.00

Envelopes (minimum order)	500	110.00
Pierhead tape		279.00
Entrance flags	2	740.25
		12,702.11