

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 30 Awst 2012

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 30 August 2012

*Cyhoeddir atebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o atebion yn y Gymraeg.
Answers are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.*

[R] *yn nodi bod yr Aelod wedi datgan buddiant/signifies that the Member has declared an interest.*

[W] *yn nodi bod y cwestiwn wedi'i gyflwyno yn Gymraeg/signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.*

Cynnwys

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***Gofyn i Brif Weinidog Cymru
To ask the First Minister***

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddarparu rhestr o holl swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru a oedd yn bresennol yn agoriad swyddfa Llywodraeth Cymru yn Llundain. (WAQ61103)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the First Minister provide a list of all Welsh Government officials who attended the opening of the Welsh Government's office in London. (WAQ61103)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012***

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): The Welsh Government officials who attended the opening of the Welsh Government's office in London were:

James Price, Director General, Department for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science, Welsh Government

Des Clifford, Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister of Wales.

Jonathan Jones, Director, Welsh Government Office London.

Ifona Deeley, Head of International Relations, Welsh Government.

Lynsey Thompson, Welsh Government Office London.

Ruth Cox, Welsh Government Office London.

Catherine Harris, Welsh Government Office London.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddarparu rhestr o'r holl gynrychiolwyr gwleidyddol etholedig a oedd yn bresennol yn agoriad swyddfa Llywodraeth Cymru yn Llundain. (WAQ61104)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the First Minister provide a list of all elected political representatives who attended the opening of the Welsh Government's office in London. (WAQ61104)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012***

The First Minister: In addition to myself the elected political representatives who attended the opening of the office in London were The Rt Hon Cheryl Gillan MP, Secretary of State for Wales and Owen Smith MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Wales.

***Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth
To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science***

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Pa gynnydd sydd wedi cael ei wneud o ran darparu cynllun amgen i'r hwnnw a gynigir drwy'r prosiect POWIS a phryd y bydd y cynllun olynol a) yn cael ei gyhoeddi a b) ar waith. (WAQ61108)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): What progress has been made in delivering an alternative scheme to that offered through the POWIS project and when will the successor scheme be a) announced and b) active. (WAQ61108)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (Edwina Hart): The POWIS scheme is still running, but without Welsh Government funding. Businesses are able to access knowledge, technology or skills from the Higher Education sector via our Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) and, for larger companies, the recently announced Enhanced KTPs.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion ynghylch a oes unrhyw bryderon ynghylch (a) cyrhaeddiad, (b) cynnwys cwricwlaidd, (c) strwythurau darparu a (ch) gwerth am arian gyda'r system bresennol sydd wedi arwain at yr Adolygiad Cymraeg i Oedolion er mwyn datblygu'r dull gorau o ddatblygu sgiliau iaith Gymraeg oedolion sy'n ddysgwyr. (WAQ61096)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): Will the Minister detail whether there are any particular concerns regarding the (a) attainment, (b) curriculum content, (c) delivery structures and (d) value for money with the present system which have prompted the Review of Welsh for Adults to best develop adult learners' Welsh language skills. (WAQ61096)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): Six Welsh for Adults Centres were established in 2006 in order to bring together the range of Welsh language provision that existed at the time and with the aim of raising standards. A three-year evaluation of the Welsh for Adults programme was undertaken during the period 2007-2010 and can be found at <http://wales.gov.uk/about/aboutresearch/social/latestresearch/evaluationofwfa/?lang=en>

The continuing importance of Welsh for Adults in offering opportunities for adults to learn Welsh is emphasised in the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy. The Strategy contains a number of specific actions for the continued development of the programme. In addition, the Welsh Language Strategy also recognises the importance of the Welsh for Adults programme to enable an increase in the number of people who both speak and use the language.

The Welsh Government has commissioned a comprehensive research project into Improving the way in which Welsh is transferred to adults. This research, which will provide recommendations for future curriculum development and teaching and learning methodologies, will be published in the autumn and will inform the work of the Review of Welsh for Adults Group

In terms of delivery structures and value for money, the Centres have been operational for 6 years, and in line with the other structural changes to the education and training system, it is timely to look again at the Welsh for Adults sector.

Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru): Gan gyfeirio at waith Grwp yr Adolygiad Cymraeg i Oedolion, pa waith monitro a gwerthuso sydd wedi cael ei wneud i ganfod a yw unrhyw welliannau i'r Canolfannau Cymraeg i Oedolion ar y trywydd iawn ar gyfer cyflawni, a phryd y cafodd y gwaith hwnnw ei wneud. (WAQ61097)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): With reference to the work of the Review of Welsh for Adults Group, what monitoring and evaluation has been carried out to establish whether any improvements to the Welsh for Adults Centers are on track for delivery, and when was it carried out. (WAQ61097)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: Between September 2007 and March 2010, a formative evaluation was undertaken to assess the effects and effectiveness of the Welsh for Adults programme in order to inform its future development. The final report included a number of recommendations for the Welsh Government and the Welsh for Adults Centres. The final report can be found at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/researchandevaluation/evaluation/evaluationofwfa/?lang=en>

In addition, the work of the six Welsh for Adults centres has been monitored by Welsh Government officials, and has included:

- the submission of three-year Strategic Plans and annual Operational Plans by the six Centres for approval and monitoring;
- the submission of quarterly monitoring reports by the six Centres;
- termly strategic planning meetings whose members include the six Welsh for Adults directors and Welsh Government officials; and
- annual meetings with the six Centre Directors and their Senior Managers.

In 2009 the Welsh Government commissioned a comprehensive research project into Improving the way in which Welsh is transferred to adults. This research, which will provide recommendations for future curriculum development and teaching and learning methodologies, will be published in the autumn and will inform the work of the Review of Welsh for Adults Group.

Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru): A godwyd unrhyw bryderon â chyfarwyddwyr y Canolfannau Cymraeg i Oedolion i weld pa welliannau y gellid eu gwneud o ran datblygu Cymraeg i oedolion sy'n ddysgwyr, a phryd y cafodd y pryderon hynny eu codi. (WAQ61098)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): Have any concerns been raised with the directors of the Welsh for Adults Centres to see what improvements could have been made regarding the development on Welsh for adult learners, and when were those concerns raised. (WAQ61098)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government has worked closely with the Directors of the Welsh for Adults Centres to ensure that they continuously strive to develop the provision in line with the strategic priorities set out by the Welsh Government in the annual planning guidance. The priorities include:

- ensuring a high quality tutor workforce;
 - increasing the number of learners on intensive courses;
 - increasing the number of learners on the higher level courses;
 - developing the use of e-learning to make Welsh for Adults more accessible;
 - developing Welsh for the Family provision to enable parents to learn Welsh with their children;
 - developing Welsh in the Workplace to support organisations to provide Welsh-language services;
- and
- increasing the informal use of Welsh amongst learners and through various projects to bring Welsh learners and fluent speakers together.

Any concerns about progress and opportunities to improve planning and provision with the six Centre directors are raised through the response to each Centre's three-year Strategic Plan and annual Operational Plan; the quarterly Strategic Planning Group meetings and the annual monitoring meetings.

Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau y bydd yn gofyn i Grwp yr Adolygiad Cymraeg i Oedolion, a sefydlwyd i adolygu Cymraeg ail iaith yng Nghyfnod Allweddol 3 a 4, edrych ar yr awgrym y byddai dysgu iaith fodern dramor, fel sgil, yng Nghyfnod Allweddol 2, yn gwella diddordeb, parodrwydd a hyder – a hyd yn oed dawn – disgyblion sy'n mynd i ysgol uwchradd i ddefnyddio ac i astudio'r Gymraeg fel ail iaith. (WAQ61099)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): Will the Minister confirm that he will be asking the Review of Welsh for Adults Group, set up to review Welsh second language at Key Stage 3 and 4, to examine the suggestion that the teaching of a foreign modern language, as a skill, at KS2, would improve the interest, willingness and confidence – and even aptitude – of pupils entering secondary school to use and study Welsh as a second language. (WAQ61099)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: One of the objectives of the Welsh second language Action Plan, which I approved on 30 April, was to review Welsh second language assessment and qualifications in the context of the ongoing Qualifications Review. On 17 July I established the Welsh second language Review Group which is separate to the Welsh for Adults Review Group.

The Welsh second language Review Group, chaired by Prof. Sioned Davies, is made up of individuals with experience and expertise in Welsh second language in schools. This group has been asked to look at specific issues which face Welsh second language teachers and learners at Key Stages 3 and 4 and which hinder progress in developing Welsh-language skills which can be transferred and used in the workplace, community and family. The review will commence in September 2012 and will conclude in September 2013 following the submission of a report and recommendations.

The group will primarily focus on ways of improving provision so that all learners have a positive experience of learning Welsh at Key Stages 3 and 4 and have the opportunity to develop Welsh-language skills commensurate to their ability. The group will be required to receive expert evidence during the course of the review and may look at good practice in teaching and learning Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) as a comparison and consider the implications of replicating MFL practice in Welsh second language teaching. However, recommendations for teaching MFL at Key Stage 2 are beyond the group's remit.

Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru): Yng nghyswllt yr Adolygiad Cymraeg i Oedolion, a yw unrhyw rai o'r ystyriaethau a'r dewisiadau y cyfeirir atynt yn y datganiad yn newydd ac yn ychwanegol at y rheini sydd yng nghylch gorchwyl presennol Canolfannau Cymraeg i Oedolion. (WAQ61100)

Suzy Davies (South Wales West): Regarding the Review of Welsh for Adults, are any of the considerations and options referred to in the statement new and in addition to those within the current Welsh for Adults Centres terms of reference. (WAQ61100)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: The terms of reference for the Review of Welsh for Adults Group are detailed in the Written Statement, which can be found at

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2012/welshforadults/?lang=en>. The main considerations for the Review Group are:

- how best to develop learners' Welsh language skills so that they are able to use the language in the workplace, community and with their families;
- the options for the future structure of Welsh for Adults development and delivery;
- the relationship with private sector providers; and
- whether qualifications (currently available and/or other possible forms of accreditation/assessment) are a lever or a barrier with regard to developing transferable Welsh-language skills.

The current priorities for the Welsh for Adults Centres, as outlined in the annual planning guidance, include:

- ensuring a high quality tutor workforce;
 - increasing the number of learners on intensive courses;
 - increasing the number of learners on the higher level courses;
 - developing the use of e-learning to make Welsh for Adults more accessible;
 - developing Welsh for the Family provision to enable parents to learn Welsh with their children;
 - developing Welsh in the Workplace to support organisations to provide Welsh-language services;
- and
- increasing the informal use of Welsh amongst learners and through various projects to bring Welsh learners and fluent speakers together.

Therefore, some of the considerations and options for the Group are new, while others are currently part of the Welsh for Adults Centres terms of reference. In particular, the consideration of options for the future structure of Welsh for Adults development and delivery is new. In line with other structural changes to the education and training system, it is timely that an external group considers the evidence and provides recommendations on the way forward.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Ar gyfer pob penderfyniad sydd wedi cael ei wneud gan Lywodraeth Cymru ynghylch gwaredu caeau chwarae ysgolion ers 1999, a wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion y lleoliad a'r rheswm am y gwaredu arfaethedig a nodi beth oedd canlyniad y penderfyniad. (WAQ61101)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): For each determination made by the Welsh Government on the disposal of school playing fields since 1999, will the Minister provide detail on the location and reason for the proposed disposal and state what the outcome of the determination was. (WAQ61101)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012
Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government does not make determination on the disposal of school playing fields therefore I am unable to provide this information.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn disgwyl y byddai uno Prifysgol Fetropolitan Caerdydd, Prifysgol Morgannwg a Phrifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd yn effeithio ar gyfleoedd i fyfyrwyr y dyfodol yn y sefydliad gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon Prifysgol. (WAQ61116)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What impact does the Minister anticipate any merger of Cardiff Metropolitan University, the University of Glamorgan and the University of Wales, Newport would have on opportunities future students at the institution have to participate in University sport. (WAQ61116)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 August 2012

Leighton Andrews: I made a statement to the Assembly on 17 July announcing that I proposed to undertake statutory consultations with Cardiff Metropolitan University, the University of Glamorgan and the University of Wales, Newport, together with staff and student unions, on the dissolution orders relating to University of Wales Newport and Cardiff Metropolitan University. The statutory consultation period will close on 26 November. Representations on all relevant issues will be considered.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Faint o arian sydd wedi cael ei wario ar ddarparu Canolfan Eni yn Ysbyty Cwm Cynon a faint yn fwy o arian sydd ei angen i gwblhau'r Ganolfan Eni. (WAQ61089)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): How much money has been spent on the provision of a Birthing Centre at Ysbyty Cwm Cynon and how much further money is needed to complete the Birthing Centre. (WAQ61089)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): We do not hold this detail of information for the new Ysbyty Cwm Cynon, which became operational on 22 April this year. However, the total capital cost of the hospital was £81million. This amount included the accommodation for the Birthing Centre. Further details can be obtained from Cwm Taf Local Health Board.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i sicrhau na fydd goblygiadau difrifol i iechyd a diogelwch mamau a babanod yng Nghwm Cynon yn sgîl methiant i ddarparu gwasanaethau mamolaeth llawn yn Ysbyty Cwm Cynon. (WAQ61090)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What action is the Minister taking to ensure that the failure to provide full maternity services at Ysbyty Cwm Cynon will not have serious implications for the health and safety of both mothers and babies in the Cynon Valley. (WAQ61090)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

Lesley Griffiths: There were very low numbers of women using the birth centre in Aberdare, despite encouragement from midwives to do so. Due to this, the Health Board agreed to pilot a 6 month period of having the birth centre alongside the obstetric unit in Prince Charles Hospital. Once the pilot has been completed the Health Board will consider its options, bearing in mind access and safety.

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Yng ngoleuni'r adolygiad presennol o drefniadau prosesu a llywodraethu sy'n gysylltiedig ag ariannu cynlluniau sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru ar gais Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol GIG Cymru, pa dduiliau sydd ar waith i ddiogelu gwasanaethau y gallai stopio'r broses ymgeisio am gyllid dros dro effeithio arnynt. (WAQ61091)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): In light of the current review of process and governance arrangements associated with the funding of voluntary sector schemes in Wales requested by the Director

General of NHS Wales, what mechanisms are in place to protect services that may be affected by the temporary halting of the funding application process. (WAQ61091)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr adolygiad o drefniadau prosesu a llywodraethu sy'n gysylltiedig â chyllido cynlluniau sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru ar gais Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol GIG Cymru, gan gynnwys: cylch gwaith a meini prawf llawn yr adolygiad, pawb sy'n ymwneud â'r adolygiad a'r amserlenni sy'n berthnasol i gasgliad yr adolygiad. (WAQ61092)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister provide an update on the review of process and governance arrangements associated with the funding of voluntary sector schemes in Wales requested by the Director General of NHS Wales, to include: the full remit and criteria of the review, all persons involved in the review and the timescales relating to the conclusion of the review. (WAQ61092)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 31 Awst 2012
Answer received for publication on 31 August 2012

Lesley Griffiths: My officials have considered how the process and governance arrangements associated with applications received from the Third Sector for capital from the Welsh Government's Health Capital Programme can be improved. In order to ensure the best use of resources and a better fit with local plans, there will be three criteria to be considered for funding:-

- 1) Funding will only be considered up to a maximum of 50% of total costs.
- 2) The maximum total funding contribution per scheme will be £1.5 million
- 3) Bidding organisations will need to submit a detailed business case to support their proposals in partnership with the local health economy.

These criteria will be used to guide decisions. There will be scope for some flexibility should the circumstances merit this.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am amseroedd aros ar gyfer Therapi Gwybyddol Ymddygiadol yn a) Powys; a b) Cymru drwyddi draw. (WAQ61109)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister make a statement on waiting times for Cognitive Behavioural Therapy in a) Powys; and b) Wales as a whole. (WAQ61109)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 31 Awst 2012
Answer received for publication on 31 August 2012

Lesley Griffiths: We do not hold this information centrally and understand it would depend whether CBT would be provided in primary care or more specialist services. There is also an option for GP's to refer to computerised CBT via the Book Prescription Wales scheme. We anticipate the Mental Health Wales Measure will improve access.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Faint o swyddi clercol gwag sydd yn GIG Cymru ar hyn o bryd. (WAQ61114)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): How many clerical vacancies are there currently in the Welsh NHS. (WAQ61114)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

Lesley Griffiths: We do not hold this information within the Welsh Government. This information will be available from Health Board's and Trusts.

***Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth
To ask the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage***

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan a yw'r ymchwil a nodir yn argymhellid 4 (tudalen 17) Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes, Ionawr 2012, wedi cael ei gomisiynu'n ffurfiol ac, os na, pryd y bydd y Gweinidog yn comisiynu'r ymchwil hwn. (WAQ61106)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): Will the Minister state if the research set out in recommendation 4 (p.17) of the Enterprise and Business Committee Report, January 2012, has been formally commissioned and, if not, when will the Minister be commissioning this research. (WAQ61106)

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi dyddiadau penodol ar gyfer comisiynu a chwblhau'r ymchwil a nodir yn argymhellid 4 (tudalen 17) Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes, Ionawr 2012, ac amlinellu pwy fydd yn gwneud y gwaith ymchwil. (WAQ61107)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): Will the Minister provide specific dates for the commissioning and completion of the research set out in recommendation 4 (p.17) of the Enterprise and Business Committee Report, January 2012, and outline who will be undertaking the research. (WAQ61107)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012***

The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis): In our response to the Enterprise and Business Committee's Report, the Welsh Government committed to commission research which will study the impact that new retail development has had on town centres in Wales. Our future research and policy development work programme will be reviewed in the Autumn, including identifying priority tasks.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyl neu'n mynnu bod awdurdodau lleol yn codi ffioedd ymgeisio ar gyfer 'Y cynllun Troi Tai'n Gartrefi – defnyddio eiddo preswyl gwag unwaith eto.' (WAQ61105)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Does the Welsh Government expect or require local authorities to levy application fees for the 'Houses into Homes scheme – bringing empty residential properties back into use.' (WAQ61105)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012***

Huw Lewis: The Houses into Homes scheme has a fee that is payable to local authorities attached to all successful applications. The fee is set at:

- £295 for loans of up to £50,000;
- £395 for loans from £50,001 to £100,000; and
- £495 for loans of between £100,001 and £150,000.

The fee covers the costs that a local authority incurs through administering the successful loan application.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i annog pobl i ddefnyddio cynlluniau cyd-berchnogaeth yng Nghymru. (WAQ61110)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): What steps are being taken by the Welsh Government to encourage the take up of shared-ownership schemes in Wales. (WAQ61110)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012

Huw Lewis: The Welsh Government encourages the take up of shared ownership schemes in Wales primarily through its Homebuy scheme and through its existing framework of supporting housing delivery via local authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). Details of the Homebuy scheme are on the Welsh Government website. In addition to this, all Registered Social Landlords who operate shared-ownership schemes promote either new properties or re-sales of existing properties on their websites and at their local offices. Local authorities also provide advice and support on how to access shared-ownership schemes.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion yr holl fentrau sydd ar gael i gefnogi prynwyr tro cyntaf a faint o'r gyllideb tai sydd wedi'i dyrannu i gefnogi prynwyr tro cyntaf. (WAQ61111)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister provide details of all initiatives available to support first time buyers and how much of the housing budget is allocated to supporting first time buyers. (WAQ61111)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012

Huw Lewis: The Welsh Government recognises the difficulties that first time buyers experience in raising a mortgage and supports the Home buy scheme and Rent First which can be funded either through the Social Housing Grant Programme or delivered by Registered Social Landlords from their own resources. The Welsh Government is also committed to introducing a mortgage indemnity scheme which will allow qualifying buyers access to mortgage finance without the up front requirement for a large deposit.

There is no specific budget targeted at first time buyers but local authorities have the option of using their Social Housing Grant (SHG) allocation for the Homebuy scheme. Local authorities are responsible for deciding what its strategic priorities are and how they would like to spend their SHG allocation.

Three local authorities in Wales (Conwy, Gwynedd and Torfaen) are participating in the Homebuy scheme this financial year with £1.1m (including £378k Recycled Capital Grant) set aside.

In addition, a group of seven housing associations in the South Wales area operate their own version of the Homebuy scheme without Welsh Government funding which is known as "Homes Within Reach".

<http://www.homeswithinreach.co.uk/hwrhome.html>

In North Wales a group of five housing associations are working together with four local authorities (Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire & Wrexham) to administer an affordable homes register. The aim of the register is to give opportunities to residents who are struggling to take their first step into homeownership to register their interest in future new affordable properties by developers or affordable properties for re-sale by private owner occupiers at an affordable price.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion pryd y cyflwynir cynllun gwarantu morgais ar gyfer prynwyr tro cyntaf yng Nghymru. (WAQ61112)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister provide details of when a mortgage guarantee scheme for first time buyers will be introduced in Wales. (WAQ61112)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012

Huw Lewis: We are committed to the introduction of a mortgage indemnity scheme for Wales, which will allow qualifying buyers access to mortgage finance without the requirement for a substantial up front deposit.

The date for introduction of a specific mortgage indemnity scheme for Wales is dependent on the result of ongoing discussions and the individual requirements of relevant stakeholders; which include the Council for Mortgage Lenders (CML) Wales and the Home Builders Federation. This work is being actively taken forward by Welsh Government.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion nifer y cartrefi a brynwyd drwy'r cynllun Cymorth Prynu hyd yn hyn yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon. (WAQ61113)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister provide details of the number of homes purchased through the HomeBuy scheme so far this financial year. (WAQ61113)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012

Huw Lewis: The Welsh Government only holds details on Welsh Government funded Homebuy. To date 10 approvals have been issued for the Homebuy scheme and we expect to issue another 20 during the course of the year. The grant is paid to housing associations upon completion of sale.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau bod yr Adolygiad Adfywio ar amser ac y bydd yn cyhoeddi ei benderfyniadau ym mis Chwefror 2013. (WAQ61115)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister confirm that the Regeneration Review is on schedule and that he will publish his decisions in February 2013. (WAQ61115)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 04 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 04 September 2012

Huw Lewis: I can confirm that my review is on schedule and that I plan to outline my proposals going forward in February 2013.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
To ask the Minister for Local Government and Communities

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Pa asesiad y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i wneud o:

- a) effaith Cyflog Byw ar farchnadoedd cyflogau sector preifat, lleol; a
- b) cost ychwanegol gweithredu Cyflog Byw i Lywodraeth Cymru. (WAQ61093)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): What assessment has the Welsh Government made of:

- a) the impact of a Living Wage on local, private sector wage markets; and
- b) the additional cost to the Welsh Government of implementing a Living Wage. (WAQ61093)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 28 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 28 August 2012

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be put on the internet.

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

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Yn ystod proses y Bil Is-ddeddfau, pa gyngor cyfreithiol swyddogol y gofynnodd y Gweinidog amdano gan ei swyddogion mewn ymateb i'r pryderon a godwyd gan Swyddfa Cymru ac a wnaiff ddarparu manylion. (WAQ61095)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): During the Byelaws Bill process, what official legal advice from his officials did the Minister seek in response to the concerns raised by the Wales Office and will he please provide details. (WAQ61095)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 28 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 28 August 2012

Carl Sargeant: I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be put on the internet.

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

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): Faint o arian y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i ddarparu mewn grantiau i Gymdeithas Pakistan o Gyngor Asiaidd Casnewydd a Gwent, Cymru yn 2010, 2011 a 2012. (WAQ61102) **Trosglwyddwyd i'w ateb yn Ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Ty**

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): How much money has the Welsh Government provided in grants to the Pakistan Association of Newport and Gwent Welsh Asian Council in 2010, 2011 and 2012. (WAQ61102) **Transferred for written answer by the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House**

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 03 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 03 September 2012

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): The Welsh Government has not provided any grant funding to the Pakistan Association of Newport and Gwent Welsh Asian Council in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Gofyn i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol
To ask the Counsel General

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol amlinellu pa swyddogaeth a gafodd, os o gwbl, o ran craffu ar y Bil Is-ddeddfau a sicrhau ei fod yn gyfreithlon. (WAQ61094)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Counsel General outline what role, if any, he had in scrutinising the Byelaws Bill and ensuring its legality. (WAQ61094)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 29 Awst 2012

Answer received for publication on 29 August 2012

The Counsel General (Theodore Huckle): Section 112 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 provides that the Counsel General or the Attorney General may refer the question whether a Bill, or any provision of a Bill would be within the Assembly's competence to the Supreme Court for a decision. The Attorney General for England and Wales exercised his power under section 112 to refer the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Bill to the Supreme Court.

As the Assembly are aware, there is an established convention that the following is not disclosed:

- (a) whether or not the advice of Law Officers has been sought or given on a particular matter; and
- (b) if Law Officer advice is given, the content of that advice.