

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 5 November 2009

[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 Minister for Health and Social Services

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Does the Minister have any plans to issue guidance to the NHS Health Board regarding the exceptional funding process. (WAQ55073)

Answer issued on 05 November 2009

I refer you to the answer I gave on 18 September. Interim guidance on dealing with concerns, which included good practice on handling and reviewing requests for exceptional funding, was issued on 12 October 2009. The guidance is available at the following link (Annex 1 refers):

<http://www.nhswalesgovernance.com/display/Home.aspx?a=163&s=2&m=0&d=0&p=0>

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What measures is the Minister taking to protect frontline NHS services in the light of Welsh Assembly Government budget pressures. (WAQ55074)

Answer issued on 04 November 2009

At this point in time the intention is to issue the NHS revenue allocations and the NHS Annual Operating Framework for 2010-11 in December. These two documents will set out how I expect the NHS to manage its funding next year and the service priorities that need to be achieved.

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What impact has the economic downturn had on the delivery of frontline NHS services. (WAQ55075)

Answer issued on 04 November 2009

NHS organisations have substantial budgets. I expect them to manage their funding to ensure that service priorities are achieved and frontline services are protected.

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What plans does the Minister have to introduce greater transparency to, and greater public awareness of, the exceptional funding process. (WAQ55076)

Answer issued on 05 November 2009

I refer you to the answer I gave on 18 September. Interim guidance on dealing with concerns, which included good practice on handling and reviewing requests for exceptional funding, was issued on 12 October 2009. The guidance is available at the following link (Annex 1 refers):

<http://www.nhswalesgovernance.com/display/Home.aspx?a=163&s=2&m=0&d=0&p=0>

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of her decision to bring forward capital resource spending on spending plans for 2010-11. (WAQ55077)

Answer issued on 06 November 2009

My decision to bring forward capital resource spending for 2010-11 provides a significant boost to a number of capital projects already in the pipeline. I have brought forward £29.2 million to spend this year on the following schemes:-

£6 million on the Ysbyty Glan Clwyd Theatre Development

£2.2 million on the Welsh Ambulance Service Electronic Patient Record

£7.0 million on the Health Vision Swansea scheme.

£10.0 million on Cardiff and Vale Mental Health Services

£4.0 million on the Ysbyty Gwynedd Electrical Infrastructure scheme.

Additionally I have secured a further in year allocation of £8.6 million of Strategic Capital Investment funding for the following schemes:-

Prince Charles Hospital Merthyr Tydfil, new Urgent Care Centre - £6.9 million. This scheme is in site and on target to spend full allocation.

Bryn-y-Neuadd Hospital Llanfairfechan, resettlement programme - £1.7 million. This scheme consists of 8 phases. Phase 1 is on site. Planned spend this year £2.5 million..

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What plans does the Minister have to introduce a responsibility for NHS Health Boards to explain their exceptional funding decisions to patients in the case of their application being refused. (WAQ55078)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What steps is the Minister taking to ensure that there is greater consistency in the exceptional funding process. (WAQ55079)

Answer issued on 05 November 2009

I refer you to the answer I gave on 18 September. Interim guidance on dealing with concerns, which included good practice on handling and reviewing requests for exceptional funding, was issued on 12 October 2009. The guidance is available at the following link (Annex 1 refers):

<http://www.nhswalesgovernance.com/display/Home.aspx?a=163&s=2&m=0&d=0&p=0>

Jonathan Morgan (Cardiff North): Will the Minister list the occasions over the past 10 years that: (a) her department has used management consultancy firms and the costs that were incurred and (b) NHS Wales has used management consultancy firms and the costs that were incurred. (WAQ55080)

Answer issued on 06 November 2009

- a. This information is not collated centrally.
- b. This information is not held centrally.

Jonathan Morgan (Cardiff North): In the last three financial years, how many of the requirement letters served by CSSIW on care providers were repeat letters from previous years. (WAQ55081)

Answer issued on 05 November 2009

CSSIW does not issue requirement letters.

Jonathan Morgan (Cardiff North): Will the Minister state how much money has been allocated by the Welsh Assembly Government to be spent on the GP contract, for each financial year since it was introduced. (WAQ55082)

Answer issued on 06 November 2009

The table below shows how much money has been allocated by the Welsh Assembly Government on the GP contract since it was implemented on 1st April 2004.

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m

Funding allocated	386.006	414.335	433.138	436.031	450.821	459.851 to date
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The figures represent the total funding issued to Health Boards for the GP contract and for centrally held GP Information Management & Technology expenditure.

Jonathan Morgan (Cardiff North): Will the Minister state how much money has been spent by NHS Wales on the GP contract since it was introduced. (WAQ55083)

Answer issued on 06 November 2009

The total spend by NHS Wales on the GP Contract from 2004/05 onwards can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/primary-care/general-practice/investment-in-general-practice-2003-04-to-2008-09-england-wales-northern-ireland-and-scotland>