

## **Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 18 September 2009**

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

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

### **Contents**

2	Questions to the First Minister
2	Questions to the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
2	Questions to the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing
3	Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services
4	Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs
4	Questions to the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery
4	Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

***To ask the First Minister***

**Nick Bourne (Mid & West Wales):** Will the First Minister make a statement on proposals to undertake an investigation and audit of International Business Wales' expenditure and audit systems. (WAQ54796)

**Nick Bourne (Mid & West Wales):** What is the estimated cost of the investigation and audit of International Business Wales' expenditure and audit systems. (WAQ54797)

**Nick Bourne (Mid & West Wales):** What tender process, if any, was undertaken to select the person/organisation to conduct the investigation and audit of International Business Wales' expenditure and audit systems. (WAQ54798)

**Nick Bourne (Mid & West Wales):** Who has been appointed to undertake the investigation and audit of International Business Wales' expenditure and audit systems. (WAQ54799)

***Answer issued on 18 September 2009***

I announced in July that there would be an external and independent forensic review of International Business Wales' expenditure and audit systems and processes. Following a competitive tender exercise, utilising the Office of Government Commerce framework arrangements, KPMG was selected as the appropriate organisation to undertake that review at a tendered cost of £129,000 (excluding travel and subsistence costs). I anticipate being in a position to publish its findings in the near future.

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

**Ann Jones (Vale of Clwyd):** How is the Welsh Assembly Government using secondary community school facilities to offer training, skills and exercise to their local communities. (WAQ54795)

***Answer issued on 18 September 2009***

The Welsh Assembly Government provides the Community Focused Schools Grant to authorities and their schools. Schools are encouraged to work with partners in order to develop approaches which are right for and meet the needs of pupils, their families and the local community. This is in line with the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to schools being at the heart of their communities and providing a range of services and facilities for pupils, their families and the wider community during and outside of school hours and during school holidays.

Authorities are encouraged to carry out a needs analysis before planning provision of out-of-hours activities in their communities. These activities often include skills-based training for adults and increased access to school sport facilities. Recent Estyn reports have referred to improved access to school premises and resources and in improved relationships between schools and their local communities.

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

**Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire):** Will the Minister give an update on progress towards 2010 TAN 8 targets. (WAQ54794)

***Answer issued on 18 September 2009***

The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to making Wales a leading provider of green energy. The Assembly Government has a target of 4TWh of electricity per annum to be produced by renewable

energy by 2010 and 7TWh by 2020. In order to meet the 2010 target the Assembly Government has concluded that 800MW of additional installed capacity is required from onshore wind sources and a further 200MW of installed capacity is required from offshore wind and other renewable technologies. We currently estimate that over 2TWh of the electricity consumed in Wales is generated from renewable sources—hydro, wind, landfill gas, anaerobic digestion of sewage and biomass. Over 300MW of onshore wind installed capacity is operational, with an additional 165MW having been granted planning consent. In addition, applications for capacity in excess of 900MW have been lodged with the Department of Energy and Climate Change or local planning authorities. We are confident that considerable additional capacity will be provided over the coming years and the 2020 7TWh target will be significantly exceeded.

***To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services***

**Darren Millar (Clwyd West):** By local authority area and in each of the last 5 years, how many patients have been treated with Viagra. (WAQ54801)

***Answer issued on 18 September 2009***

The information you require is not held centrally but may be obtained from Health Solutions Wales (HSW).

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will all Local Health Boards be obliged to have Appeals and Exceptional Funding Committees, if so, when will they be established and how often will they meet. (WAQ54802)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What measures are in place to ensure the openness and transparency of LHB Appeals and Exceptional Funding Committees. (WAQ54803)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** How will LHB Appeals and Exceptional Funding Committees be constituted after 1st October 2009. (WAQ54804)

***Answer issued on 18 September 2009***

From 1st October 2009 until 31st March 2010, all seven Local Health Boards will be expected to put in place processes based on existing arrangements for dealing with requests for exceptional funding and reviews of/appeals against those decisions. Similarly, Health Commission Wales will continue to deal with requests for specialist services within its current procedures. Interim guidance will be issued shortly outlining the good practice that I will expect these organisations to follow in handling and reviewing such requests, ensuring that openness and transparency form an integral part of the process. Revised arrangements will be put in place from 1st April 2010 to cover all decisions about exceptional funding and access to treatment, including a mechanism for review and independent appeal, to coincide with the full operation of the Welsh Health Specialised Service Committee.

**Brynle Williams (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on how, separately, 'family' and 'family breakdown' are defined within her portfolio. (WAQ54807)

***Answer issued on 16 September 2009***

'Family' and 'family breakdown' are not defined within my portfolio.

***To ask the Minister for Rural Affairs***

**Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire):** What percentage of forestry in Wales was restocked with Broadleaf trees in 2008. (WAQ54791)

***Answer issued on 21 September 2009***

2,300 hectares of woodland was restocked in Wales in 2008. Some 35 per cent of this area was re-stocked with Broadleaved trees.

This information is taken from Forestry Facts & Figures 2008 published by the Forestry Commission and available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics).

**Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire):** What percentage of forestry in Wales was planted with Broadleaf trees in 2008. (WAQ54792)

***Answer issued on 21 September 2009***

200 hectares of woodland was planted in Wales in 2008. All of this area was planted with Broadleaved trees.

This information is taken from Forestry Facts & Figures 2008 published by the Forestry Commission and available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/statistics).

**Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire):** When does the Minister intend to introduce regulations on the use of electric shock dog collars in Wales. (WAQ54793)

***Answer issued on 05 April 2011***

The Minister for Rural Affairs issued a Written Statement on the *Introduction of Legislation to Ban Electronic Training Devices* on 22 October 2009.

***To ask the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery***

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** How much has the Welsh Assembly Government spent on legal and surveyors fees on the sale of land. (WAQ54805)

***Answer issued on 15 October 2009***

Further to my letter on 24 September outlining the amount of money the Welsh Assembly Government has spent on legal and surveyors' fees on the sale of land, it has been brought to my attention that the figure provided included payments to surveyors that were not related to land disposals. I apologise for this error and have asked my officials to look into this matter further, to provide clarification.

I can confirm that the Welsh Assembly Government spent £75,915.57 on legal and surveyors' fees on the sale of land during the 2008/09 financial year.

***To ask the Minister for Social Justice & Local Government***

**Brynle Williams (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on how, separately, 'family' and 'family breakdown' are defined within his portfolio. (WAQ54806)

*Answer issued on 17 September 2009*

Within the Social Justice and Local Government portfolio we do not operate with a standard definition of 'Family' and 'family breakdown'. However, a number of the functions I exercise relate to what society would refer to as families and to family breakdown.

**Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** What action does the Minister intend to take to insure continued funding for Women's Aid Refuge child workers following his acceptance of the Communities and Culture Committee's recommendations relating to provision of core funding for key services for children and young people affected by domestic abuse, and the subsequent decision of Children in Need not to provide funding for future projects of this nature once funding is available from statutory sources. (WAQ54808)

*Answer issued on 21 September 2009*

The Welsh Assembly Government continues to make available £246,950 per annum to Welsh Women's Aid to fund peripatetic children workers across Wales. In relation to the funding from Children in Need, I met with the Head of BBC Children in Need on 29 June 2009 and discussions about the future of their funding are ongoing