

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 15 June 2010

[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 Business and Budget

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister confirm that she fully monitors over and under-spend on all individual budget lines and adjusts future budgets to take into account these historical levels of expenditure. (WAQ56077)

Answer issued on 22 June 2010

The Assembly Government has robust procedures for monitoring in-year expenditure. Each Department's expenditure is monitored against its profiled spend on a monthly basis.

An over or under-spend in previous years does not imply that that will be the case in future, hence this is just one of a range of issues we consider in determining budget allocations for future years. These include our policy priorities, budgetary pressures and progress with delivering our objectives, as well as historic levels of expenditure.

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Further to WAQ55762, does the Minister now plan to publish the McKinsey Report in line with the Department of Health in England. (WAQ56071)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Further to WAQ55762, how will the Minister be implementing the recommendations of the McKinsey Report. (WAQ56073)

Answer issued on 15 June 2010

As I explained previously, there is no McKinsey Report. The work carried out by McKinsey is helping to inform the development of a 5-Year Service, Workforce and Financial Strategic Framework by the NHS in Wales. The overall framework is a set of documents, processes and behaviours which will guide transformation and integration. These include the seven Health Board delivery plans which will continue to be developed and refined year on year with partners.

A summary of the evidence base which underpins the strategic direction has now been published on the HOWIS website and can be accessed at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/page.cfm?orgid=1&pid=7452>.

Val Lloyd (Swansea East): Do the two cycles of IVF treatment made available to patients in Wales include the transfer of frozen embryos. (WAQ56076)

Answer issued on 15 June 2010

The Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee's policy on specialised fertility treatment defines a cycle of IVF treatment as one fresh treatment, where embryos are transferred shortly after fertilisation and one frozen embryo transfer where any viable embryos remaining after the first treatment are preserved and transferred at a later date. This applies to both a first and a second cycle of treatment.

To ask the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What discussions has the Minister had with Local Authorities in Wales regarding their budget for food safety. (WAQ56074)

Answer issued on 22 June 2010

A consideration of the financial pressures on environmental services which includes food safety and hygiene is included in the WLGA annual Expenditure Sub-Group (ESG) Report. This assesses the overall funding pressures facing councils. The report is discussed at Partnership Council and the Consultative Forum on Finance and helps to inform the Assembly Government's collective budgetary decisions.

Environmental health policy matters do not fall within my portfolio of responsibilities and I have not met local authorities to discuss specifically food safety budgets.

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): How much has each Local Authority in Wales spent on food safety in each year since 2005/06. (WAQ56075)

Answer issued on 22 June 2010

Expenditure on food Safety by each local authority is given in the following table:

Food safety - Net Current Expenditure by authority				<i>£</i>
	<i>thousands</i>			
	<u>2005-06</u>	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Isle of Anglesey	249	289	286	249
Gwynedd	362	410	463	453
Conwy	286	322	353	368
Denbighshire	369	346	224	236
Flintshire	395	359	427	491
Wrexham	262	273	356	370
Powys	552	547	514	517
Ceredigion	309	316	366	370
Pembrokeshire	662	689	641	707
Carmarthenshire	692	680	594	742
Swansea	506	447	545	619
Neath Port Talbot	619	648	686	320
Bridgend	387	440	442	396
Vale of Glamorgan	561	605	596	572
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1,306	1,074	1,034	1,005
Merthyr Tydfil	142	150	139	135
Caerphilly	337	581	551	574
Blaenau Gwent	176	210	184	170
Torfaen	230	396	406	325
Monmouthshire	166	167	135	135
Newport	275	284	304	369
Cardiff	880	981	957	1,008
	9,723	10,214	10,204	10,130

Source: Revenue Outturn Form 5, line 3