

Answers issued to Members on 14 September 2007

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

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

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Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs

Andrew R.T. Davies: Can the Minister give an assurance that the Welsh Assembly Government has sufficient funding in the Tir Gofal budget to meet all existing agreements? (WAQ50362)

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Elin Jones): Yes

Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central): What will be the cost of the creation of local service boards? (WAQ50364) *Transferred to the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery*

The Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery (Andrew Davies): Local service boards are a means of strengthening the leadership of existing local and community strategic partnerships. The outcomes of the projects led by the boards will be improved service delivery for citizens. We are working closely with the boards from six pilot areas to find out how best to secure these outcomes, and have earmarked up to £300,000 from the 'Making the Connections' budget to provide for specific expertise that may be needed to support the boards' work.

Questions to the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery

Jenny Randerson (Cardiff Central): Will the Assembly Government accept and implement the findings of the independent commission to review Assembly funding and finance and press the Westminster Government to do the same when this commission has reported? (WAQ50363)

The Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery (Andrew Davies): The Assembly Government will consider and respond to the Commission's findings once it has completed its work.

Michael German (South Wales East): Will the Minister outline the timetable to establish the independent commission into Assembly funding? (WAQ50369)

Andrew Davies: Work to establish the commission is in its early stages. It is currently anticipated to begin its work this winter.