

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 27 Mawrth 2012

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 27 March 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.*

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

Ieuan Wyn Jones (Ynys Môn): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog restru'r sefydliadau, y cwmnïau a'r unigolion y cyfarfu â nhw yn ystod ei ymweliad ag Unol Daleithiau America rhwng 7 ac 11 Mawrth 2012. (WAQ59989)

Ieuan Wyn Jones (Ynys Môn): Will the First Minister list the organisations, companies, and individuals he met during his visit to the United States of America between the 7 and 11 March 2012. (WAQ59989)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 27 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 27 March 2012***

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): I met the following individuals, organisations and companies:-

Bilaterals

Ambassador Sir Peter Westmacott KCMG, LVO
Philip Barton Deputy Head of Mission
Danny Lopez, British Consul-General, New York and Director General, Trade & Investment USA
Matthew Rees – Actor
David Marwell, Director of the Jewish Museum of Heritage
FAUN Trackway/Pennsylvania State University
General Dynamics
Comflict Studios Inc
Washington Post
Saint David's Society of New York State

Defence and Aerospace Seminar – Washington DC

Office of the Secretary of Defence, Comparative Technology Office
Hyjek and Fix Inc
Commonwealth Consulting
Raytheon
Lockheed Martin
Boeing
GE Aviation
Northrop Grumman
QinetiQ US Holdings
Spectrum Technologies
BCB International Ltd
HDT Global
EADS

Business Breakfast Seminar – New York

Sir Terry Matthews
The Livingston Group
ESPN International
“Your Nurse is on”
Consumer Bell
Ergo

Momentum Dynamics Corporation
Office of the Mayor of New York
BABi
State University of New York
Mountbatten Interns
How to in USA
SIGA Technologies Inc
AbilTo
Development Counsellors International
A Edwards Major Counsellors
Morgan Stanley
Tactronics
The Pont Group Inc
Wormser, Kiely, Galef and Jacobs LLP
Nine-TZ
Telephonics
NeoStem Inc
PDQ, Development Counsellors International
American Express
PA Consulting Group

Tourism Roundtable Meeting – New York

Academic Arrangements Abroad
CIE Tours
United States Tour Operators Association

I also met many other individuals at networking events and took the opportunity to promote Wales and what it has to offer. I attach a copy of my Statement to Plenary which issued on 20 March 2012 and provides more detail about my visit.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio gwella lefelau rhifedd ymysg plant teithwyr. (WAQ59983)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government seeking to improve numeracy levels amongst traveller children. (WAQ59983)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 22 March 2012

The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): Our Circular 'Moving Forward – Gypsy Traveller Education' recognises that the parents of Gypsy and Traveller children are keen for them to gain functional literacy and numeracy skills. The circular provides comprehensive guidance on how this can be achieved given these children's often interrupted learning and lack of experience of pre-school settings. In addition, my officials have commissioned a resource for teachers that is aimed at making the curriculum more relevant and engaging for Gypsy and Traveller pupils.

I have increased the Grant for the Education of Gypsy and Traveller Children to £1 million in 2012-13. Local authorities can draw on it to cover the cost of employing additional staff and purchasing resources to improve these children's literacy and numeracy levels.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio gwella lefelau rhifedd ymysg oedolion yn y gymuned teithwyr. (WAQ59984)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government seeking to improve numeracy levels amongst adults in the travelling community. (WAQ59984)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 March 2012

Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government is committed to redressing the inequalities faced by Gypsies and Travellers by improving equality of opportunity for all and we place a high value on people living together in strong, cohesive communities and families.

While there is diversity in the culture, history and traditions amongst Gypsies and Travellers there are some shared characteristics and in particular an emphasis on a strong family unit and the importance of education within this family unit.

Therefore, whilst Wales has an 'open door' policy for the provision of adult literacy and numeracy with access for all, work has been done to encourage and support Gypsy and Traveller adults to improve their literacy and numeracy skills through family orientated actions. Such actions include:

- The publication of 'Travelling to a Better Future', the first national Gypsy and Traveller Framework in the UK. The Framework is supported by a delivery plan which outlines in more detail how we will, with our stakeholders, deliver on the commitments to the education of Gypsy and Traveller adults and their families. One such commitment is the improvement of permanent sites of occupancy, where families reside and are able to access a range of services, such as health and education.
- Funding local authorities to provide Family Literacy/Numeracy Support Programmes to target the most hard to reach groups. These programmes support schools to contextualise and deliver learning for Gypsy and Traveller families through the development of supported literacy/numeracy groups.
- Working work with local authorities, and other agencies, to support family learning through the Families First Fund.

This provision of better living conditions on site and family orientated programmes will give adults better access to education. The resultant improved literacy and numeracy levels will have long term impacts on the employment potential of these adults and will give them the skills and abilities to ensure for themselves the same rights as everyone else in Welsh society.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio gwella lefelau llythrennedd ymysg plant teithwyr. (WAQ59985)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government seeking to improve literacy levels amongst traveller children. (WAQ59985)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 22 March 2012

Leighton Andrews: Our Circular 'Moving Forward – Gypsy Traveller Education' recognises that the parents of Gypsy and Traveller children are keen for them to gain functional literacy and numeracy skills.

The circular provides comprehensive guidance on how this can be achieved given these children's often interrupted learning and lack of experience of pre-school settings. In addition, my officials have commissioned a resource for teachers that is aimed at making the curriculum more relevant and engaging for Gypsy and Traveller pupils.

I have increased the Grant for the Education of Gypsy and Traveller Children to £1 million in 2012-13. Local authorities can draw on it to cover the cost of employing additional staff and purchasing resources to improve these children's literacy and numeracy levels.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio gwella lefelau llythrennedd ymysg oedolion yn y gymuned teithwyr. (WAQ59986)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government seeking to improve literacy levels amongst adults in the traveller community. (WAQ59986)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government is committed to redressing the inequalities faced by Gypsies and Travellers by improving equality of opportunity for all and we place a high value on people living together in strong, cohesive communities and families.

While there is diversity in the culture, history and traditions amongst Gypsies and Travellers there are some shared characteristics and in particular an emphasis on a strong family unit and the importance of education within this family unit.

Therefore, whilst Wales has an 'open door' policy for the provision of adult literacy and numeracy with access for all, work has been done to encourage and support Gypsy and Traveller adults to improve their literacy and numeracy skills through family orientated actions. Such actions include:

- The publication of 'Travelling to a Better Future', the first national Gypsy and Traveller Framework in the UK. The Framework is supported by a delivery plan which outlines in more detail how we will, with our stakeholders, deliver on the commitments to the education of Gypsy and Traveller adults and their families. One such commitment is the improvement of permanent sites of occupancy, where families reside and are able to access a range of services, such as health and education.
- Funding local authorities to provide Family Literacy/Numeracy Support Programmes to target the most hard to reach groups. These programmes support schools to contextualise and deliver learning for Gypsy and Traveller families through the development of supported literacy/numeracy groups.
- Working work with local authorities, and other agencies, to support family learning through the Families First Fund.

This provision of better living conditions on site and family orientated programmes will give adults better access to education. The resultant improved literacy and numeracy levels will have long term impacts on the employment potential of these adults and will give them the skills and abilities to ensure for themselves the same rights as everyone else in Welsh society.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr achosion o'r frech goch yn ardal Porthmadog. (WAQ59977) W

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the outbreak of measles in the Porthmadog area. (WAQ59977) W

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Lesley Griffiths): Ar 19 Mawrth, cofnodwyd 42 achos cadarnhaol o'r frech goch yn ardal Porthmadog. Yn y mwyafrif o achosion ni chafodd y plant hyn y brechlyn MMR neu cawsant un dos yn unig. Mae'r achosion yn cael eu rheoli gan Fwrdd Iechyd Betsi Cadwaladr a Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru.

Un o'r ymrwymadau yn y Rhaglen Lywodraethu yw ymrwymiad i "gynyddu'r cyfraddau imiwneiddio plant er mwyn dileu'r problemau iechyd a achosir gan y frech goch, clwy'r pennau a rwbela". Caiff hyn ei fesur yn ôl nifer y plant sy'n ddwyflwydd oed a gafodd eu brechu yn erbyn MMR. Y targed yw sicrhau bod 95% o blant yn cael dau ddos o'r brechlyn.

Mae nifer y plant sy'n cael eu brechu yng Nghymru wedi bod yn cynyddu'n araf ac yn gyson ers y canran isel o 77% a gofnodwyd yn 2003. Erbyn hyn mae nifer y plant dwyflwydd oed sy'n cael y dos cyntaf o'r brechlyn MMR yn 93.3%, a nifer y plant pum mlwydd oed sy'n cael y dos cyntaf yn 95.2%. Mae nifer y plant sy'n cael yr ail ddos yn bum mlwydd oed hefyd wedi cynyddu i 87.6%. (Adroddiad COVER Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, Chwarter 4, 2011).

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): At 19 March, 42 cases of measles have been clinically diagnosed in the recent outbreak in the Porthmadog area. The majority of cases have either had no MMR vaccination or only one dose. The outbreak is being managed by Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board and Public Health Wales.

The Programme for Government includes a commitment to "increase immunisation among children to eradicate the health problems caused by measles, mumps and rubella". This will be measured by the number of children aged 2 years who have been immunised against MMR. The target is 95% of children to receive two doses of vaccine.

MMR uptake in Wales has been increasing slowly and steadily since the low point of 77% in 2003. Uptake of the first dose is now 93.3% at two years of age and 95.2% at five years of age. Uptake of the second dose at five years has also increased to 87.6%. (Public Health Wales COVER report Quarter 4, 2011).

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr amseroedd aros am therapi gwybyddol ymddygiadol yng Nghanolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru. (WAQ59979)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide a statement on the waiting times for CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) in Mid and West Wales. (WAQ59979)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 22 March 2012

Lesley Griffiths: This information is not held centrally.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â salwch meddwl yn y Gymuned Teithwyr. (WAQ59980)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government addressing mental ill health within the Travelling Community. (WAQ59980)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The Welsh Government Strategy 'Travelling to a Better Future' aims to address the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in Wales. As part of this strategy, we are committed to working with the NHS to ensure the mental health needs of Gypsies and Travellers are identified and addressed in local healthcare strategies and policies, including Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategies and associated needs assessments, Children and Young Peoples Plans, equality schemes, and engagement and consultation mechanisms. In particular, the 'Health of Homeless and Specific Vulnerable Groups Standards' issued in 2009, acknowledge the Travelling community as a vulnerable group at risk of mental ill-health. The Standards address the problems which Gypsies and Travellers face in accessing primary healthcare, and set expectations on Health Boards (as lead organisations) and local authorities (as supporting partners) to ensure Gypsies and Travellers can readily access primary care services and their health needs addressed. The forthcoming Mental Health Strategy for Wales 'Together for Mental Health', aims to strengthen mental health provision for all vulnerable groups by ensuring all partner agencies meet their equality duties and removing discriminatory practices in relation to individuals with 'protected characteristics'.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi menywod mewn carchardai sy'n hunan-niweidio. (WAQ59981)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Government is supporting women in prisons who self-harm. (WAQ59981)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Lesley Griffiths: There are no women in Welsh prisons. The Prison Service is a non-devolved matter and responsibility rests with the Ministry of Justice. Healthcare in English prisons is also the responsibility of the UK Government.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â'r disgwyliad oes isel yn y Gymuned Sipsiwn a Theithwyr. (WAQ59987)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government addressing the low life expectancy in the Gypsy and Traveller Communities. (WAQ59987)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Lesley Griffiths: There are various strategies underway to address inequalities in health, such as low life expectancy in the Gypsy and Traveller Community,

Welsh Government place significant emphasis on addressing health inequalities through our two key policies, Our Healthy Future and Fairer Health Outcomes for All. These set the foundations for the development of a long term and systematic approach to achieving greater equity in health. Together for Health also affirms the Government's commitment to improve health, reduce inequalities and create services to match the best. The Programme for Government clearly states the importance the Welsh Government places on fairer health outcomes for all.

The Welsh Government strategy 'Travelling to a Better Future' aims to address the inequalities and poverty experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community, to ensure equality of opportunity for the Gypsy Traveller community and to enable the community to access resources and mainstream services, such as healthcare.

One of the specific aims is to tackle the high rates of infant mortality, accidents and illness and the low life expectancy experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community by working with Gypsies and Travellers and health care practitioners.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â'r gyfradd uchel o farwolaethau babanod yn y Gymuned Sipsiwn a Theithwyr. (WAQ59988)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government addressing the high infant mortality in the Gypsy and Traveller Community. (WAQ59988)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 26 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 26 March 2012

Lesley Griffiths: There are various strategies underway to address inequalities in health, such as infant mortality rates in the Gypsy and Traveller Community,

Welsh Government place significant emphasis on addressing health inequalities through our two key policies, Our Healthy Future and Fairer Health Outcomes for All. These set the foundations for the development of a long term and systematic approach to achieving greater equity in health. Together for Health also affirms the Government's commitment to improve health, reduce inequalities and create services to match the best. The Programme for Government clearly states the importance the Welsh Government places on fairer health outcomes for all.

Our maternity care strategy addresses the factors underlying poor pregnancy outcomes, and aims to improve care and outcomes for all women, including a focus on those who may not access healthcare effectively.

The Welsh Government strategy 'Travelling to a Better Future' aims to address the inequalities and poverty experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community, to ensure equality of opportunity for the Gypsy Traveller community and to enable the community to access resources and mainstream services, such as healthcare.

One of the specific aims is to tackle the high rates of infant mortality, accidents and illness and the low life expectancy experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community by working with Gypsies and Travellers and health care practitioners.

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

Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro): Beth oedd casgliadau'r Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Gydraddoldeb mewn perthynas â'r gwasanaeth Bws Bro a gyllidir drwy'r Fenter Tocynnau Teithio Rhatach ar Drafnidiaeth Gymunedol (WAQ59978)

Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire): What conclusions did the Equality Impact Assessment reach in relation to the Town Rider service funded through the Community Transport Concessionary Fares Initiative. (WAQ59978)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 28 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 28 March 2012

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): Our Equality Impact Assessment considered the overall impact of ending the Community Transport Concessionary Fares Initiative (CTCFI) on people with protected characteristics. It did not look at individual schemes.

The Assessment evidenced that there will be some adverse impact on people with protected characteristics within the CTCFI areas when the scheme closes. However, these groups will not be more disadvantaged than people with the same characteristics living elsewhere in Wales.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i gyfleu pwysigrwydd larymau tân yn y cartref. (WAQ59982)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Government is continuing to communicate the importance of fire alarms in the home. (WAQ59982)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 27 Mawrth 2012
Answer received for publication on 27 March 2012

Carl Sargeant: Between 2004 and 2011 the Welsh Government provided over £5.5m to the FRAs to deliver over 375,000 Home Fire Safety Checks and provide free smoke alarms and other fire safety preventative equipment.

Our new Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales, which will be introduced on 20 April 2012, sets out the priorities and actions for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) in Wales from 2012 onwards. The FRAs have responsibility to continue to work collaboratively with the Police, Local Authorities, Community Safety Partnerships and other relevant key stakeholders in delivering their preventative and protection initiatives including communicating the importance of smoke alarms in homes.