

## Written Assembly Questions for answer on 18 March 2004

**R** - Signifies the Member has declared an interest.

**W** - Signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

(Self identifying Question no. shown in brackets)

### ***To ask the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning***

**John Griffiths (Newport East);** Will the Minister make a statement on progress in education attainment in schools serving the most deprived communities in Wales. (WAQ33506)

**Lorraine Barrett (Cardiff South and Penarth);** What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to improve school buildings in Cardiff South and Penarth. (WAQ33507)

**Lorraine Barrett (Cardiff South and Penarth);** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of school meals. (WAQ33520)

**Ann Jones (Vale of Clwyd);** Will the Minister make a statement about the development of the pilot programme for providing free school breakfasts in Wales. (WAQ33508)

**Janice Gregory (Ogmore);** What discussions are underway to ensure that the local workforce in South Wales is equipped with the skills that will be required by the Dragon International Film Studios when they begin operating in the Llanharan area. (WAQ33509)

**Laura Anne Jones (South Wales East);** Will the Minister make a statement on school sports facilities across Wales. (WAQ33510)

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen);** What action has the Minister taken to promote speech and language development in 0-3 year olds nursery or early years education in Wales. (WAQ33511)

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen);** Will the Minister make a statement following the publication of the terms of reference for the Rees Commission. (WAQ33512)

**David Davies (Monmouth);** Will the Minister give an update on the estimated costings for school breakfasts. (WAQ33513)

**David Davies (Monmouth);** What discussions has the Minister had with her Westminster colleagues about the draft School Transport Bill. (WAQ33518)

**William Graham (South Wales East);** Will the Minister make a statement on the number of courses in Universities in Wales that are taught solely in Welsh. (WAQ33514) **R**

**William Graham (South Wales East);** Will the Minister make a statement concerning Primary Schools within South Wales East. (WAQ33515) **R**

**Nicholas Bourne (Mid and West Wales);** Will the Minister update us on her plans for funding higher education. (WAQ33516)

**Nicholas Bourne (Mid and West Wales);** Will the Minister make a statement on the closure of rural schools. (WAQ33517)

**Brynle Williams (North Wales);** Does the Minister have any plans to close any small sized rural schools in North Wales. (WAQ33519)

**Sandy Mewies (Delyn);** Will the Minister make a statement on the PE and School Sports Initiative. (WAQ33521)

**Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside);** Will the Minister make a statement on action she is taking on the improvement of school buildings. (WAQ33522)

**Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside);** Will the Minister make a statement on 16+ Education in North Wales. (WAQ33525)

**Peter Black (South Wales West);** Will the Minister make a statement on Estyn's proposals for schools to open all year round. (WAQ33523)

**Owen John Thomas (South Wales Central);** Will the Minister make a statement on Free School Transport. (WAQ33524)

### ***To ask the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside***

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Is the Minister aware of when the Government changed its policy that no harvested material from Genetically Modified crops involved in the Farm Scale Evaluations programme would be fed to animals or otherwise enter the food chain. (WAQ33527)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Is the Minister aware of reports that find Liberty on its own has proved ineffective as a herbicide used with Genetically Modified Herbicide-Tolerant fodder maize crops in the United States, and that to overcome this problem Liberty / atrazine mix has been used since the spring of 2001. (WAQ33528)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** In the absence of ruminant feeding studies, how does Chardon LL have real value for cultivation and use in Wales.

(WAQ33529)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** When did the Minister become aware that the transgenic insert used in Chardon LL is unstable, and that the variety would be incapable of passing the DUS test under Directive 2001/18/EC. (WAQ33530)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** When did the Minister become aware that the dry matter content for the variety of Genetically Modified maize called Chardon LL averages only 27.3%; and when did he become aware of the recommendation of Professor David Beever that no new maize variety should be placed upon the National Seeds Register unless it achieves a whole-plant target of 32%. (WAQ33531)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Is the Minister satisfied that Chardon LL fodder maize has a greater value for cultivation and use (VCU) than the conventional varieties from which it was bred. (WAQ33532)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** What results has the Minister obtained from the Chardon LL cattle feeding studies which were completed at the Reading University Centre for Dairy Research in 2002. (WAQ33533)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Will the Minister make an assurance that no milk or meat from the cattle involved in the Chardon LL feeding studies at Reading University has entered the food chain in Wales. (WAQ33534)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Is the Minister satisfied that the 1998-99 National List Trials for Chardon LL were independent and impartial, and that they provide adequate and robust support for the placing of this variety on the National Seeds Register. (WAQ33535)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Has the Minister, as required by Directive 2001/18/EC, communicated the shortcomings of the Farm Scale Evaluations maize trials to the lead competent authority in France, and has he requested a variation in the conditions attached to the Part C consent for Chardon LL fodder maize. (WAQ33536)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** When did the Minister become aware that cattle feeding studies involving Chardon LL fodder maize had been requested by the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment and the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs. (WAQ33539)

**Mike German (South Wales East);** Does a local authority have to comply with the standards described in its UDP or can it waive considerations when approving planning applications. (WAQ33538)

**Mike German (South Wales East);** Can any local authority in Gwent change the Gwent Statutory Development Plan before its Unitary Development Plan is adopted. (WAQ33537)

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

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen);** Will the Minister make a statement on the action being taken by the Assembly Government to improve capacity in Cancer services in Wales. (WAQ33489)

**Lynne Neagle (Torfaen);** Will the Minister make a statement on the effect the Assembly Government's Informing Healthcare Strategy will have on the provision of Cancer services in Wales. (WAQ33491)

**William Graham (South Wales East);** Will the Minister make a statement concerning the Royal National Institute for the Deaf survey "A Simple Cure". (WAQ33490)

**Laura Anne Jones (South Wales East);** Would the Minister make a statement on the arrangements available for the physically disabled in South Wales East. (WAQ33492)

**Owen John Thomas (South Wales Central);** Will the Minister make a statement on Neonatal provision for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. (WAQ33493)

**Peter Black (South Wales West);** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of ITU beds in Wales. (WAQ33494)

**Peter Black (South Wales West);** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of HDU beds in Wales. (WAQ33495)

**Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside);** Would the Minister make a statement on waiting lists in North Wales. (WAQ33496)

**Carl Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside);** Would the Minister give an update on the Welsh Assembly Government's Health Gain Targets. (WAQ33497)

**Sandy Mewies (Delyn);** Would the Minister make a statement on the provision of pain management services in Wales. (WAQ33498)

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr);** Will the Minister make a statement on the financing of locum cover during the 26 week maternity leave under the new GP contract. (WAQ33499)

**Owen John Thomas (South Wales Central);** What meetings has the Minister had with the leader of Cardiff County Council regarding the council's commitment to the strengthening of social services in Cardiff. (WAQ33500)

**Nicholas Bourne (Mid and West Wales);** Will the Minister update us on her current spending priorities. (WAQ33501)

**Nicholas Bourne (Mid and West Wales);** Will the Minister make a statement on her plans to tackle bed blocking in the NHS. (WAQ33502)

**David Davies (Monmouth);** Will the Minister make a statement on the waiting times for assessments for the chest clinic in Abergavenny. (WAQ33503)

**David Davies (Monmouth);** Will the Minister make a statement on the waiting times for brain scans following strokes in Monmouthshire. (WAQ33504)

**Lorraine Barrett (Cardiff South and Penarth);** Can the Minister make a statement on the appointment system within the NHS. (WAQ33505)

***To ask the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration***

**Alun Cairns (South Wales West);** Will the Minister make a statement on the financial support given to the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales and any plans to increase the budget. (WAQ33526)