

**Atebion a roddwyd i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 13  
Chwefror 2013**  
**Answers issued to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 13 February  
2013**

*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.

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

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u cymryd yn ystod y Pedwerydd Cynulliad i wella'r cysylltiadau rhwng Cymru a Phatagonia. (WAQ62197)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** What steps have been taken by the Welsh Government during the Fourth Assembly to enhance links between Wales and Patagonia. (WAQ62197)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**The First Minister (Carwyn Jones):** I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be put on the internet.

*Gweler Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad*  
*See Information Further to Written Assembly Questions*

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Ers i'r Prif Weinidog gyhoeddi bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn hybu cysylltiadau awyr rhwng Tsieina a Chaerdydd, a wnaiff ddarparu manylion am unrhyw gyfarfodydd neu ohebiaeth ysgrifenedig y mae ef neu Lywodraeth Cymru wedi'u cael ynghylch sefydlu'r cyswllt awyr hwn. (WAQ62228)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Since the First Minister's announcement of Welsh Government promotion of air links to China from Cardiff, will he provide details of any meetings of written correspondence that he or his government have taken in relation to establishing this air-link. (WAQ62228)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**The First Minister:** I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be put on the internet.

*Gweler Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad*  
*See Information Further to Written Assembly Questions*

***Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth***  
***To ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science***

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn defnyddio'r cysylltiadau diwylliannol rhwng Cymru a Phatagonia i hybu cyfleoedd i dwristiaid o'r Ariannin a Chile i Gymru. (WAQ62198)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** How is the Welsh Government utilising the cultural links between Wales and Patagonia to promote tourist opportunities from Argentina and Chile to Wales. (WAQ62198)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 12 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 12 February 2013***

**The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (Edwina Hart):** Visit Wales works with VisitBritain (VB) in the South American market. Visit Wales will be discussing the development of tours and holidays to Wales with South American tour operators at a VB trade event in London, including consideration to historic linkages with Patagonia.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Pa waith y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i ddatblygu potensial twristiaeth lleoliadau ffilmiau a rhaglenni teledu yng Nghymru. (WAQ62199)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** What work is the Welsh Government undertaking to develop the tourism potential of film and television locations in Wales. (WAQ62199)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 12 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 12 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** BETS Creative Industries sector team actively promotes and markets locations in Wales to production teams and potential visitors across the world.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu manylion am bob cynhadledd ac arddangosfa twristiaeth yn 2013 lle bydd gan Croeso Cymru gynrychiolaeth swyddogol. (WAQ62200)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales West):** Will the Minister provide details of all tourism conferences and exhibitions in 2013 where Visit Wales will have official representation. (WAQ62200)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 12 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 12 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** The Tourism Sector Panel is currently concluding its work on the future strategy for Visit Wales (VW) and this includes attendance at key trade shows. In 2013, there has been VW attendance at:

- PGA Golf Show: Florida - 24-26 January
- UK-Inbound Convention: Major incoming Tour Operators event - Windsor 6 - 8 February

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn WAQ62070, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu rhestr fanwl o'r cyfarfodydd y mae wedi'u cael gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Fusnes, Arloesi a Sgiliau Llywodraeth y DU ers dechrau'r Pedwerydd Cynulliad, gan ddarparu dyddiad a lleoliad pob cyfarfod a phwy oedd yn bresennol. (WAQ62218)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to WAQ62070, will the Minister provide a detailed list of meetings she has held with the UK Government's Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills since the start of the Fourth Assembly, providing the date, location and attendees of each meeting. (WAQ62218)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 13 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** I met the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills on 15 Dec 2011. I have had face to face and telephone meetings with junior Ministers from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu dyddiad ar gyfer cyhoeddi'r adolygiad o ryddhad ardrethi busnes i elusennau. (WAQ62226)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister provide a date for the publication of the business rates relief for charities review. (WAQ62226)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 11 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 11 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** I expect Professor Brian Morgan's Review next month and I will publish his findings before the end of March.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn eich ymateb i NDM5147 yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 30 Ionawr 2013, pan ddywedasoeh ynghylch Cyllid Cymru bod "70% o'r staff buddsoddi yn canolbwyntio ar fuddsoddi mewn busnesau bach a chanolig yng Nghymru", a allwch egluro nifer y staff y mae'r ffigur hwn yn ei chynrychioli a rhoi manylion cyfrifoldebau'r 30% arall. (WAQ62230)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to your response to NDM5147 in Plenary on 30 January 2013, where you stated regarding Finance Wales that "70% of investment staff are focused on investing in SMEs in Wales", can you clarify the number of staff this figure represents and detail the responsibilities of the remaining 30%. (WAQ62230)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 11 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 11 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** The information you have requested is held by Finance Wales. In order to be helpful, I will write to Members with full details of the Finance Wales organisation.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn eich ymateb i NDM5147 yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 30 Ionawr 2013, pan ddywedasoeh "mae'n bwysig hefyd inni ystyried rhinweddau'r holl gynigion a gyflwynir ger ein bron, gan bob plaid, ynglyn â sut y gallwn helpu busnesau bach a chanolig yng Nghymru", a allwch yn awr roi manylion eich ymateb i gynigion y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig a amlinellir yn 'Buddsoddi Cymru', gan gynnwys pa feysydd penodol o rinweddau y byddech yn bwriadu eu trafod ymhellach. (WAQ62229)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to your response to NDM5147 in Plenary on 30 January 2013, where you stated that "it is also important that we look at the merit of all the proposals that are placed before us, from all parties, about how we can help SMEs in Wales", can you now detail your response to the Welsh Conservative proposals outlined in 'Invest Wales', including what particular areas of merit would you look to discuss further. (WAQ62229)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 11 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 11 February 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** As part of the review into the availability of finance for SMEs in Wales, Professor Dylan Jones-Evans is considering a range of potential solutions and will identify those that he believes have the best chance of helping businesses thrive.

I will be considering Professor Jones-Evans' report and its recommendations once the review has been completed in the autumn.

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

**Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru):** O ba linell yn y gyllideb y daeth y grant o £20,000 i gynnal gwyl Gymraeg Tafwyl Caerdydd, a gyhoeddwyd ar 6 Chwefror 2013, wythnos ar ôl i Gyngor Caerdydd gyhoeddi ei fod yn torri'r grant y mae'n ei ddarparu. (WAQ62187)

**Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central):** From which budget line has the £20,000 grant funding to maintain Cardiff's Tafwyl Welsh language festival come from, which was announced on 6 February 2013, a week after Cardiff Council announced it was cutting the grant it provides. (WAQ62187)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews):** The £20,000 grant funding for Tafwyl will come from the Welsh Language Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) within the Education and Skills MEG. The Welsh Language BEL for 2013-14 has a budget of £8.864m as published in the Final Budget for 2013-14 on 27 November 2012.

**Christine Chapman (Cwm Cynon):** Pa ganran o'r garfan o bobl ifanc 16-18 oed a oedd wedi ymgeisio am Safon Uwch ac UG yn ystod pob un o'r deng mlynedd diwethaf mewn a) bioleg b) cemeg c) mathemateg a d) ffiseg oedd yn ferched. (WAQ62193)

**Christine Chapman (Cynon Valley):** What percentage of the cohort of 16-18 year olds entered for A and AS levels during each of the previous ten years in a) biology b) chemistry c) mathematics and d) physics were girls. (WAQ62193)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Leighton Andrews:** The data is in the four tables below. Ages are as at the start of the academic year. Consistent data for schools and FE institutions is not currently available, so the data is shown separately for the two sectors.

*Ar gyfer y tabl, gweler Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad*  
*For table, see Information Further to Written Assembly Questions*

**Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** Yn dilyn y dystiolaeth a roddodd CBAC i'r Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc heddiw, pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gydag Ofqual ynghylch dyfarnu TGAU Saesneg ar gyfer 2013. (WAQ62195)W

**Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales):** Further to the evidence given to the Children and Young People Committee by the WJEC today, what discussions has the Minister had with Ofqual regarding the awarding of GCSE English for 2013. (WAQ62195)W

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Leighton Andrews:** Nid wyf wedi cynnal trafodaethau gydag Ofqual ynghylch dyfarnu TGAU Saesneg yn 2013. Fel a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad "TGAU Saesneg Iaith 2012 – Ymchwiliad i ganlyniadau ymgeiswyr yng Nghymru", a gyhoeddwyd gennyf fis Medi y llynedd, nid yw TGAU Saesneg "wedi'i gymeradwyo i'w ddefnyddio mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru ac mae'n ofynnol i ddsygwyr mewn ysgolion

a gynhelir yng Nghymru astudio'r rhaglen lawnach mewn Saesneg Iaith y mae'r TGAU Saesneg Iaith yn ei hybu." Mae dyfarnu TGAU Saesneg, felly, yn fater i Ofqual yn bennaf, y rheoleiddiwr cymwysterau yn Lloegr.

Mae fy swyddogion yn cynnal trafodaethau yn rheolaidd gydag Ofqual a Chyngor Arholiadau ac Asesu'r Cwricwlwm, y rheoleiddiwr yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, ynghylch dyfarnu TGAUau yn y dair gwlad, gan gynnwys TGAU Saesneg Iaith a Saesneg Llên.

**Leighton Andrews:** I have had no discussions with Ofqual regarding the awarding of GCSE English in 2013. As set out in the report "GCSE English Language 2012 - An investigation into the outcomes for candidates in Wales", which I published in September last year, GCSE English is "not approved for use in schools in Wales and learners in maintained schools in Wales are required to cover the fuller programme of study in English Language that GCSE English Language promotes." The awarding of GCSE English is, therefore, primarily a matter for the qualifications regulator in England, Ofqual.

My officials have regular discussions with Ofqual and the Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment, the regulator in Northern Ireland, about the award of GCSEs in the three countries, including GCSE English Language and English Literature.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Pa gyllid y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i ddyrannu i gynnal 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' a pha ffrydiau ariannu y bydd y penderfyniad hwnnw'n effeithio arnynt. (WAQ62201)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales Central):** What funding has been allocated by the Welsh Government to undertake 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation' and which funding streams will be affected by that decision. (WAQ62201)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** The funding, the level of which is to be determined, will be met from the Welsh Language Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) within the Education and Skills MEG. The Welsh Language BEL for 2013-14 has a budget of £8.864m as published in the Final Budget for 2013-14 on 27 November 2012.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Pa weithgareddau cyfredol a fydd yn cael eu haddasu neu eu torri drwy symud cyllid ar gyfer 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr'. (WAQ62202)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales Central):** Which current activities will be modified or cut by the diversion of funding for 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation'. (WAQ62202)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** No activities will be modified or cut as a result of funding 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation'.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** Pa gyfarfodydd y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael yn ystod y Pedwerydd Cynulliad ynghylch sefydlu 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr'. (WAQ62203)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales Central):** What meetings has the Minister had during the Fourth Assembly concerning the establishment of 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation'. (WAQ62203)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Leighton Andrews:** I have had a number of discussions with officials and Cabinet colleagues concerning the establishment of 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation'.

**Suzy Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu'r canlyniadau y mae'n gobeithio y bydd yn cael eu cyflawni i'r Gymraeg o ganlyniad i gynnal 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr'. (WAQ62204)

**Suzy Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister outline the outcomes he hopes will be achieved for the Welsh language as a consequence of undertaking 'Y Gynhadledd Fawr' – 'A Big Conversation'. (WAQ62204)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Leighton Andrews:** We are currently planning this event which will seek wide engagement in constructive discussions on the future of the Welsh language.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bwysigrwydd denu myfyrwyr rhyngwladol i brifysgolion yng Nghymru. (WAQ62210)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister make a statement on the importance of attracting international students to Welsh Universities. (WAQ62210)

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan pa ddarpariaethau y mae'n bwriadu eu rhoi ar waith i annog myfyrwyr rhyngwladol i fynychu prifysgolion yng Nghymru. (WAQ62211)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state what provisions he intends to put in place to encourage international students to attend Welsh universities. (WAQ62211)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Leighton Andrews:** Attracting international students to Welsh Universities has clear economic and educational benefits for both Wales and overseas countries. The recruitment of international students and the participation of Welsh universities in collaborative partnerships with overseas institutions contribute to the strength and competitiveness of the Welsh higher education sector.

Welsh higher education institutions are successful in attracting students from all over the world. Data from the Higher Education Statistical Agency demonstrates a year-on-year increase in the number of non-EU international students enrolling to study at undergraduate level in Welsh higher education institutions between 2005/06 and 2011/12.

While immigration is not a devolved matter, the UK Government's immigration policy has a significant impact on the ability of Welsh higher education institutions to attract international students. I and the higher education sector support the introduction of tighter controls by the UK Government aimed at identifying bogus institutions and students. However, the further tightening of the student visa process may decrease the attractiveness of the UK, and hence Wales, as a destination of choice for overseas students.

I wrote to UK Government's Immigration Minister last year, informing him of my concerns about the changes to visa rules and their potential impact on the financial stability of the Welsh higher and further education sectors.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan pa ddarpariaethau y mae'n bwriadu eu rhoi ar waith i roi cefnogaeth well i fyfyrwyr rhyngwladol sy'n mynychu prifysgolion yng Nghymru. (WAQ62212)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state what provisions he intends to put in place to better support international students attending Welsh universities. (WAQ62212)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** Higher education institutions in Wales and HEFCW must when exercising their functions have due regard to the public sector equality duty contained in the Equality Act 2010. The public sector equality duty, replaced the previous equality duties in respect of race, disability and gender. In Wales specific duties supporting performance of the public sector equality duty came into force on 6 April 2011. Universities in Wales already do much to promote and champion equality and diversity, including celebrating and sharing the different cultures and belief systems of students from the UK and across the world. Working in partnership with their respective students' unions, Welsh universities undertake activities throughout the year including, for example, 'International Week' aimed at fostering a greater inclusivity of international students. Welsh universities also work hard at supporting international students from pre-arrival to employment, thus building strong relationships with their students that last long after they have graduated.

Excellent teaching and learning must be at the core of the student experience. Working with Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW), the Welsh Government is encouraging institutions to enhance the student experience for the diverse student population studying at Welsh universities. The Welsh higher education sector remains at the forefront of student engagement. All higher education institutions in Wales had a Student Charter in place by September 2012. Also from 2012/13 higher education institutions were required to take account of guidance issued by HEFCW in March 2012 on best practice in the funding of effective, democratic student unions and student representation.

While immigration is not a devolved matter, the UK Government's immigration policy has a significant impact on the ability of Welsh higher education institutions to attract international students. I and the higher education sector support the introduction of tighter controls by the UK Government aimed at identifying bogus institutions and students. However, the further tightening of the student visa process may decrease the attractiveness of the UK, and hence Wales, as a destination of choice for overseas students.

I wrote to UK Government's Immigration Minister last year, informing him of my concerns about the changes to visa rules and their potential impact on the financial stability of the Welsh higher and further education sectors.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan pa ddarpariaethau sydd ar waith i fonitro profiadau myfyrwyr rhyngwladol sy'n mynychu prifysgolion yng Nghymru. (WAQ62213)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state what provisions are in place to monitor the experiences of international students attending Welsh universities. (WAQ62213)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*



*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** The National Student Survey provides final year students with an opportunity to give their opinion on their learning experience, including their institution and course. The National Student Survey results are publicly available to prospective students and advisors to help make informed choices of where and what to study.

The results from the 2012 National Student Survey demonstrate that the overall satisfaction of students studying in Wales has remained high, with 84% of respondents satisfied with their course.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bwysigrwydd enw da cadarnhaol ar gyfer prifysgolion yng Nghymru ymysg cymunedau rhyngwladol. (WAQ62214)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister make a statement on the importance of a positive reputation for Welsh universities amongst international communities. (WAQ62214)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** Higher education in Wales has a strong reputation in the UK and internationally. We now have a Welsh higher education sector based on a smaller number of stronger universities, able to promote themselves and Welsh higher education more vigorously in the UK and globally. We must continue to develop a Welsh higher education sector renowned for its ability to attract and retain high-quality students with distinctive provision built around the needs and expectations of learners and offering the best experience and outcomes.

While immigration is not a devolved matter, the UK Government's immigration policy has a significant impact on the ability of Welsh higher education institutions to attract international students. I and the higher education sector support the introduction of tighter controls by the UK Government aimed at identifying bogus institutions and students. However, the further tightening of the student visa process may decrease the attractiveness of the UK, and hence Wales, as a destination of choice for overseas students.

I wrote to UK Government's Immigration Minister last year, informing him of my concerns about the changes to visa rules and their potential impact on the financial stability of the Welsh higher and further education sectors.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan sut y mae'n gweithio gyda phrifysgolion i ddileu hiliaeth tuag at fyfyrwyr rhyngwladol sy'n mynychu prifysgolion yng Nghymru. (WAQ62216)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state how he is working with universities to eliminate racism towards international students attending Welsh universities. (WAQ62216)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Leighton Andrews:** Higher education institutions in Wales and HEFCW must when exercising their functions have due regard to the public sector equality duty contained in the Equality Act 2010. The public sector equality duty, replaced the previous equality duties in respect of race, disability and gender. In Wales specific duties supporting performance of the public sector equality duty came into force on 6 April 2011. Universities in Wales already do much to promote and champion equality and diversity,

including celebrating and sharing the different cultures and belief systems of students from the UK and across the world. Working in partnership with their respective students' unions, Welsh universities undertake activities throughout the year including, for example, 'International Week' aimed at fostering a greater inclusivity of international students. Welsh universities also work hard at supporting international students from pre-arrival to employment, thus building strong relationships with their students that last long after they have graduated.

Excellent teaching and learning must be at the core of the student experience. Working with Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW), the Welsh Government is encouraging institutions to enhance the student experience for the diverse student population studying at Welsh universities. The Welsh higher education sector remains at the forefront of student engagement. All higher education institutions in Wales had a Student Charter in place by September 2012. Also from 2012/13 higher education institutions were required to take account of guidance issued by HEFCW in March 2012 on best practice in the funding of effective, democratic student unions and student representation.

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I wrote to UK Government's Immigration Minister last year, informing him of my concerns about the changes to visa rules and their potential impact on the financial stability of the Welsh higher and further education sectors.

***Gofyn i Weinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy***  
***To ask the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development***

**William Powell (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu pa gysylltiadau a fu rhyngddo ef a Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch ei chynlluniau i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth i wahardd anifeiliaid mewn syrcau. (WAQ62192)

**William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** Will the Minister outline what communications he has had with the UK Government regarding their plans to introduce legislation to ban animals in circuses. (WAQ62192)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 12 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 12 February 2013***

**The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development (John Griffiths):** I received correspondence from Defra Minister Lord de Mauley in November 2012 seeking a view on whether Wales wished to be covered by Defra's forthcoming ban on wild animals in travelling circuses. I responded positively, that I was content that Wales should be included in Defra's proposals.

**Antoinette Sandbach (Gogledd Cymru):** Yn dilyn yr ateb i WAQ61362, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu dadansoddiad wedi'i ddiweddarau o'r holl daliadau a wnaed, hyd yn hyn, i fusnesau ac i sefydliadau sy'n ymwneud â chreu Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru. (WAQ62194)

**Antoinette Sandbach (North Wales):** Further to the answer to WAQ61362, will the Minister provide an updated breakdown of all payments made, to date, to businesses and organisations associated with the creation of Natural Resources Wales. (WAQ62194)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** A breakdown of all payments made, to date is shown on the attached Annex 1.

*Ar gyfer y tabl, gweler Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad*  
*For table, see Information Further to Written Assembly Questions*

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynghylch camau gweithredu diweddar y Grwp Cynghori Allanol ar Drechu Tlodi sydd â nodau penodol i leihau tlodi tanwydd. (WAQ62219)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister make a statement regarding recent actions from the Tackling Poverty External Advisory Group which have specific goals regarding fuel poverty. (WAQ62219)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** I have met Professor David Egan, Chair of the Tackling Poverty External Advisory Group (TPEAG) and have asked that the group provide me with advice and recommendations on tackling fuel poverty as part of their future work programme. The work of the advisory group will link with the Nest Stakeholder Group, which is being established to improve methods of identifying fuel poor households to benefit from Nest energy efficiency advice and referral for improvement packages where eligible.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn WAQ61952, beth oedd y targed ar gyfer Cam Un Arbed i gysylltu eiddo i'r prif gyflenwad nwy a gosod systemau gwres canolog llawn. (WAQ62220)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to WAQ61952, what was the target for Arbed Phase One to connect properties to the gas main and install full central heating systems. (WAQ62220)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** There was no such target. Arbed phase one was an area based energy efficiency scheme to provide low income households in the most energy inefficient homes across Wales with the most appropriate and cost effective package of home energy improvements to help reduce their energy bills. In some cases the most appropriate and cost effective solution was to connect a specific property to the gas network, and that decision was made by the local authorities and registered social landlords delivering the projects under the scheme. Connecting to the gas network was one of the permissible measures under the terms of the scheme but was not its primary purpose.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn WAQ61952, beth oedd y targed i Nyth ar gyfer dod â chartrefi gwledig ar y rhwydwaith nwy. (WAQ62221)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to WAQ61952, what was the target for Nest to bring rural homes onto the gas network. (WAQ62221)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** Nest is our all-Wales, demand-led fuel poverty scheme that aims to provide low income households in the most energy inefficient homes across Wales with the most appropriate and cost effective package of home energy improvements to help reduce their energy bills. In some cases the most appropriate and cost effective solution may be to connect a specific property to the gas network, and that decision will be made by a qualified Nest home energy assessor for each property assessed. There is therefore no target for gas connections under the scheme.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Yn dilyn WAQ61952, beth yw targed 2013 Nyth ar gyfer dod â chartrefi gwledig ar y rhwydwaith nwy. (WAQ62222)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Further to WAQ61952, what is the 2013 target for Nest to bring rural homes onto the gas network. (WAQ62222)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** Nest is our all-Wales, demand-led fuel poverty scheme that aims to provide low income households in the most energy inefficient homes across Wales with the most appropriate and cost effective package of home energy improvements to help reduce their energy bills. In some cases the most appropriate and cost effective solution may be to connect a specific property to the gas network, and that decision will be made by a qualified Nest home energy assessor for each property assessed. There is therefore no target for gas connections under the scheme.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau nifer y cartrefi a gafodd fesurau effeithlonrwydd ynni ddiwedd mis Rhagfyr 2012 fel y cyfeirir atynt yn WAQ61645. (WAQ62223)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister confirm the number of homes that received energy efficiency measures at the end of December 2012 as referenced in WAQ 61645. (WAQ62223)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013*

**John Griffiths:** Nearly 1200 properties were installed with energy efficiency measures by the end of December 2012.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bolisi iechyd anifeiliaid Llywodraeth Cymru mewn perthynas â gallu ffermwr i ailstocio ar ôl achos o TB buchol, gan gyfeirio'n benodol at reoliadau iechyd anifeiliaid newydd o 1 Ionawr 2012 ymlaen yng nghyswllt ailstocio. (WAQ62227)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's animal health policy in relation to a farmer's ability to re-stock after a bovine TB

breakdown; with particular reference to new animal health regulations from January 1st 2012 in relation to re-stocking. (WAQ62227)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 15 February 2013***

**John Griffiths:** Normally, in TB breakdowns where the Officially TB Free (OTF) status has been suspended or withdrawn, cattle are not allowed onto the premises pending completion of the first short interval test at 60 days. However, in exceptional circumstances, AHVLA, subject to a veterinary risk assessment, may authorise movements onto the premises under specific licence, to include:

- replacing suckler calves on welfare grounds,
- purchased bulls in exceptional circumstances only and where AI cannot be used as an interim measure,

The restrictions are designed to limit the number of cattle which may potentially become infected if undisclosed infection remains on the breakdown premises following the disclosing test.

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

**William Powell (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** Pryd y mae'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad am ddatblygiadau ynghylch defnyddio Pegvisomant yng Nghymru. (WAQ62188)

**William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** When does the Minister intend to update the Assembly on developments with regard to the use of Pegvisomant in Wales. (WAQ62188)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths):** In determining the effectiveness of medicines such as pegvisomant and their potential benefit to patients, the Welsh Government is guided by recommendations of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG). AWMSG carried out an appraisal of pegvisomant in 2005 and recommended it should not be routinely available within NHS Wales. In advising the manufacturer of this decision, AWMSG invited the company to submit further clinical data for reappraisal. To date they have not done so and therefore the decision of AWMSG remains extant.

**Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau beth oedd argymhellion Gweithgor Dal Anadl Wrth Gysgu Cymru Gyfan ar gyfer safonau clinigol sylfaenol ar gyfer dal anadl wrth gysgu yng Nghymru, a pha gynnydd sydd wedi cael ei wneud i gynllunio ar gyfer gwasanaethau cysgu gwell. (WAQ62196)

**Mark Isherwood (North Wales):** Will the Minister confirm what the All Wales Sleep Apnoea Working Group's recommendations for minimum clinical standards for sleep apnoea in Wales were and what progress has been made in planning for improved sleep services. (WAQ62196)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 14 February 2013***

**Lesley Griffiths:** In 2010, the All Wales Sleep Apnoea Working Group produced an advisory document to assist Health Boards in planning improved sleep services. This included recommendations on minimum standards for such a service. These were: all Health Boards should provide local facilities for investigation of common types of sleep disordered breathing; all hospitals admitting acute, unselected medical patients should have facilities for investigating and treating sleep disordered breathing; any patient diagnosed with criteria accepted in the NICE guidelines for Continuous Positive Airways Pressure (CPAP) should be provided with CPAP; and each Health Board should have one specific centre for investigation of more complex problems.

Planning for improved sleep services is the responsibility of individual Health Boards. The Welsh Government is currently working with the Respiratory National Specialist Advisory Group to agree what will be included in a Respiratory Delivery Plan. It will include sleep apnoea. As part of the preparatory work, a process of engagement with clinicians is taking place. We intend to consult on a draft plan during Summer 2013.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cynnal ynghylch 'EVAR-stent' neu drwsio aortig endofasgwlaidd, ac a wnaiff gadarnhau a oes cynlluniau i ddarparu'r driniaeth hon ar GIG Cymru. (WAQ62224)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What discussions has the Minister held regarding 'EVAR-stent' or endovascular aortic repair, and will she confirm whether there are plans to make this treatment available on the Welsh NHS. (WAQ62224)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 14 February 2013*

**Lesley Griffiths:** I have not had any specific discussions regarding 'Evar-stent'. Guidance for the availability of this treatment is covered by NICE technology appraisal guidance 167, Endovascular stent-grafts for the treatment of abdominal aortic aneurysms.

Welsh Local Health Boards have a statutory obligation to make funds available to comply with NICE technical appraisal guidance if a clinical consultant recommends such a treatment.

*Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth*  
*To ask the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage*

**William Powell (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ynghylch cynlluniau ar gyfer pont Dyfi, Machynlleth. (WAQ62191)

**William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** What representations has the Minister received regarding plans for the Dyfi Bridge, Machynlleth. (WAQ62191)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis):** I have not received any recent representations regarding Dyfi Bridge but my officials in Cadw are in contact with Welsh Government Transport colleagues to offer advice on any emerging proposals.

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan pa waith y mae wedi'i wneud gyda Chwaraeon Cymru a chynghorau lleol i greu etifeddiaeth chwaraeon yng Nghymru yn dilyn llwyddiant y Gemau Olympaidd a Pharalympaidd. (WAQ62205)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state what work he has done with Sport Wales and local councils to create a sporting legacy in Wales after the success of the Olympic and Paralympic games. (WAQ62205)

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan faint o gyfarfodydd y mae wedi'u cael gyda Chwaraeon Cymru i lunio cynllun i helpu cynghorau lleol i greu etifeddiaeth chwaraeon yng Nghymru yn dilyn llwyddiant y Gemau Olympaidd a Pharalympaidd. (WAQ62206)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state how many meetings he has had with Sport Wales to establish a plan to help local councils to create a sporting legacy in Wales after the success of the Olympic and Paralympic games. (WAQ62206)

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan sut y mae'n bwriadu cynyddu cyfraddau cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol a sefydlu cydweithrediad gwirioneddol gyda chynghorau lleol er mwyn sicrhau bod buddsoddiad mewn chwaraeon yn arwain at gyfleoedd cynaliadwy ac o ansawdd i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon. (WAQ62207)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state how he plans to increase participation rates in sport and physical activity and establish true collaboration with local councils so that investment in sport brings quality, sustainable opportunities to participate in sport. (WAQ62207)

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan faint o arian a fuddsoddir mewn chwaraeon i helpu cynghorau lleol i gynyddu cyfraddau cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon. (WAQ62208)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state how much money will be invested in sport to help local councils increase participation rates in sport. (WAQ62208)

**Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatgan sut y bydd yr arian y mae'n ei fuddsoddi mewn chwaraeon yn helpu cynghorau lleol i gynyddu cyfraddau cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon. (WAQ62209)

**Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East):** Will the Minister state how the money he invests in sport will help local councils increase participation rates in sport. (WAQ62209)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Huw Lewis:** Local authorities are key delivery partners in our drive to increase rates of participation in sport and build upon the positive momentum which has been gained as a result of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Last year I launched the Sport Wales Community Strategy which has put in place a clear framework and priorities for the delivery of sport with particular emphasis on developing stronger links involving schools and sports clubs so that there is a natural transition and clubs can broaden their membership base. This Strategy is supported by funding of £9m over a three year period and as part of the delivery mechanism

Sport Wales are working closely with local authorities, national governing bodies of sport and the third sector so that we create long lasting quality sporting opportunities and not gain quick fixes.

Through Sport Wales the Welsh Government invests around £13m each year to support local authorities to deliver their own Local Authority Partnership Agreements which are tailored to their own individual needs and priorities and which focus on creating more sporting opportunities and improving sport provision.

I regularly meet the Chair of Sport Wales to discuss a range of issues involving the delivery of our wider sporting aims and priorities and I have set these out clearly in their latest Remit Letter. This includes how they should continue to work closely with local authorities across Wales so that we see an increase in participation in sport and physical activity by all age and social groups.

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

**William Powell (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** Mewn ymateb i'r ateb a roddwyd i WAQ62003, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu amserlen fanwl ar gyfer pryd y ceir y cyngor gan swyddogion a sut y mae'n bwriadu symud ymlaen. (WAQ62189)

**William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** In response to the answer given to WAQ62003, will the Minister provide a detailed timetable on when the advice from officials will be received and how he intends to move forward. (WAQ62189)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant):** My officials are currently drafting the advice and I expect to be in a position to confirm my decision shortly.

**William Powell (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru):** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gyda'r Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth ynghylch pont Dyfi, Machynlleth yn ystod y 24 mis diwethaf, a pha gyfarfodydd sydd ar y gweill i drafod yr un mater dros y 12 mis nesaf. (WAQ62190)

**William Powell (Mid and West Wales):** What discussions has the Minister had with the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage regarding Dyfi Bridge, Machynlleth in the last 24 months, and what meetings are planned to discuss the same issue over the next 12 months. (WAQ62190)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***

**Carl Sargeant:** I have had no such discussions and currently have no meetings planned.

**Mike Hedges (Dwyrain Abertawe):** Pa gyngor y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i roi i awdurdodau lleol ar hybu ac annog trigolion ardaloedd clwstwr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf i gymryd rhan. (WAQ62217)

**Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** What advice has the Minister given to local authorities on promoting and encouraging resident participation in Communities First cluster areas. (WAQ62217)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013***



**Carl Sargeant:** New Communities First Guidance will be published later this year. This will reinforce the importance of Community Involvement and provide further guidance to Clusters and local authorities on how to promote and encourage resident participation.

**Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau a fyddai cyflwyno mynychu o bell mewn cyfarfodydd cyngor lleol hefyd yn galluogi aelodau i bleidleisio a gwneud cyfraniadau a gofnodir, ac a wnaiff hefyd gadarnhau a fyddai cyflwyno mynychu o bell yn gofyn am unrhyw newid deddfwriaethol ar lefel y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. (WAQ62225)

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** Will the Minister confirm whether the introduction of remote attendance at local council meetings would also enable members to vote and make recorded contributions, and will he also confirm whether the introduction of remote attendance would require any legislative change at National Assembly level. (WAQ62225)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**Carl Sargeant:** Chapter 1 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 concerns the promotion and support for membership of local authorities and section 4 provides for remote attendance. This enables a meeting of a council to take place in more than one location, provided that all the participants can see and hear each other, and also be seen and heard by any members of the public attending.

The local authority's standing orders would spell out the circumstances in which remote attendance could operate in a particular council and this would be based on guidance issued by Welsh Ministers. This section of the Measure has not yet been commenced but I expect to publish draft guidance for consultation shortly, with a view to bringing the provisions into force later this year.

Local authority standing orders would need to include procedures for voting and recording proceedings. No fresh legislation would be required for remote attendance to operate, although I would always be prepared to consider any amendments to the Measure provision if that were necessary to assist in carrying through the policy intention.

*Gofyn i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol*  
*To ask the Counsel General*

**Byron Davies (Gorllewin De Cymru):** A yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu ymateb i ymgynghoriad Gweinyddiaeth Cyfiawnder y DU ar 'Leihau niferoedd a chostau hawliadau yn sgîl anafiadau atchwipio'. (WAQ62215)

**Byron Davies (South Wales West):** Does the Welsh Government intend to respond to the UK Ministry of Justice consultation on 'Reducing the number and costs of whiplash claims'. (WAQ62215)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Chwefror 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 18 February 2013*

**The Counsel General (Theodore Huckle):** No. The current Ministry of Justice (MoJ) consultation on 'Reducing the number and costs of whiplash claims' does not raise devolved issues and there is no relevant Programme for Government initiative that relates to the matters raised in the MoJ consultation.