Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 19 Tachwedd 2012

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 19 November 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

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddweud pa drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cynnal yn ddiweddar o ran denu rownd derfynol Cwpan Ewrop UEFA i Gymru. (WAQ61575)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the First Minister advise what discussions he has held recently with regard to bringing the UEFA European Cup final to Wales. (WAQ61575)

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddweud pa drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cynnal yn ddiweddar o ran denu rownd derfynol Cynghrair y Pencampwyr i Gymru. (WAQ61576)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the First Minister advise what discussions he has held recently with regard to bringing the Champions League final to Wales. (WAQ61576)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 15 November 2012

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): The Welsh Government has been working closely with, and supporting the Football Association of Wales (FAW) in its discussions with UEFA with the aim of bringing major football events and tournaments to Wales. The FAW have advised that the UEFA President's proposal to host the European Championships in 2020 across a range of European nation states will be formally discussed by UEFA in February 2013.

In this context, UEFA has announced that the 2014 UEFA Super Cup will be hosted at the Cardiff City Stadium. This showpiece occasion features the winners of the UEFA Champions League against the winners of the UEFA Europa League.

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddweud pa drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cynnal yn ddiweddar o ran denu Gemau'r Gymanwlad i Gymru. (WAQ61577)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the First Minister advise what discussions he has held recently with regard to bringing the Commonwealth Games to Wales. (WAQ61577)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 15 November 2012

The First Minister: I met with the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology & Science and Minister for Housing, Regeneration & Heritage in October to consider an initial feasibility study. Following that meeting I have requested further detailed technical advice on potential venues. We will continue to work with partners on a potential bid taking full account of the costs and benefits of the 2014 games in Glasgow ahead of any final decision regarding a bid.

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

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y Strategaeth Entrepreneuriaeth Ieuenctid. (WAQ61579)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide an update on the Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy. (WAQ61579)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 14 November 2012

The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (Edwina Hart): I issued a written statement update on the Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy on 29th February. I will be issuing a further update shortly.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am waith y paneli sector. (WAQ61580)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide an update on the work of the sector panels. (WAQ61580)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 14 November 2012

Edwina Hart: The Sector Panels have advised on Sector Delivery priorities and plans. Sector priorities can be viewed at www.business.wales.gov.uk. Further information about the membership and work of the Panels can be found at www.wales.gov.uk.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sawl cwmni sydd wedi'i gymeradwyo ac wedi derbyn statws cwmni angor yng Nghymru hyd yma. (WAQ61581)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): To date, how many companies have been approved and have accepted anchor company status in Wales. (WAQ61581)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 14 November 2012

Edwina Hart: To date, 38 companies have been approved and 38 have accepted anchor company status in Wales.

Antoinette Sandbach (Gogledd Cymru): Erbyn pa ddyddiad y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn disgwyl y bydd astudiaeth Arsyllfa Wledig Cymru 2010 o wasanaethau gwledig yn cael ei chyhoeddi. (WAQ61588)

Antoinette Sandbach (North Wales): By what date does the Welsh Government expect the Wales Rural Observatory 2010 study of rural services to be published. (WAQ61588)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 22 November 2012

The Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries & European Programmes (Alun Davies): The study has been received and a ministerial briefing is being prepared. I intend to publish before the end of December 2012.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Faint o rieni yng Nghymru sydd wedi cael dirwy oherwydd bod eu plentyn wedi chwarae triwant ers i'r fenter hon gael ei lansio yng Nghymru. (WAQ61567)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How many parents in Wales have been fined because their child has played truant since the launch of this initiative in Wales. (WAQ61567)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): The fixed penalty notice system for regular non-attendance at school has not yet been introduced in Wales. Prior to its introduction it will be subject to a comprehensive consultation which will be issued this school term.

Local Authorities currently have powers to prosecute parents for non-attendance of their children and the courts have powers to fine up to $\pounds 1,000$.

Targeted intervention and effective engagement between schools, families and the Education Welfare Service plays a vital role in resolving issues of poor school attendance. Where this fails to have the desired effect and attendance does not improve a number of options already exist for Local Authorities and schools to try to help secure regular attendance. In considering the most suitable strategy for improving attendance, particularly for unauthorised absences, it is proposed that penalty notices would, in some circumstances, provide a suitable quick and effective measure for improving levels of unauthorised absences

The consultation will provide the opportunity for stakeholders to further inform development of the proposals.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael ag absenoldeb o'r ysgol mewn ysgolion cynradd yng Nghymru. (WAQ61568)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government tackling absences from school in Wales' primary schools. (WAQ61568)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

Leighton Andrews: There is no single solution to tackling attendance issues. It is a demanding area of work that depends on establishing and utilising close working relationships between parents, pupils, schools, the Education Welfare Services and other professionals working with children and young people in social, educational and health care settings.

The main body of work on attendance over the past 18 months has involved the development of an Attendance Analysis Framework which set out a standardised and robust approach to data analysis. The Framework was developed in consultation with Local Authorities to help identify systematic problems in schools and local authorities, and ways that these might be addressed.

Using the Framework as a basis each local authority's data on attendance was extensively analysed and a report highlighting areas which the Welsh Government felt were strengths or requiring improvement were sent to each local authority. Welsh Government officials then met with each authority to discuss the

findings and it was clear from the meetings that the drive to raise the profile of attendance has been having a positive impact on Local Authority activity and focus in this area.

Recently released data on absence in secondary schools for 2011/12 shows that the overall attendance rate in secondary schools has improved by 0.8 percentage points on the previous year. The 2011/12 statistics for primary schools will be released in December and it is hoped that these will show a similar improvement.

The recently published Improving Schools document sets out the Welsh Government's plans for improving the education system in Wales which includes continuing to progress activities to improve attendance.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Ty To ask the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): Pa ymchwil y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i gomisiynu i gymhellion ac amgylchiadau'r rheini sy'n cyflawni troseddau casineb yng Nghymru. (WAQ61587)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): What research has the Welsh Government commissioned into the motivations and circumstances of the perpetrators of disability hate crime in Wales. (WAQ61587)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): The Welsh Government has commissioned research entitled 'Understanding who commits hate crimes and why they do it' from the Universities' Police Science Institute, Cardiff Centre for Crime, Law and Justice and Manchester University. Focus groups with statutory and third sector organisations on the emerging findings were held in September 2012 and the research will be published early next year. The research examines who commits the five Police recorded categories of hate crime (race, faith, disability, sexual orientation and gender reassignment).

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

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ymgyrch Cychwyn Iach Cymru i atal pobl rhag ysmygu mewn ceir sy'n cludo plant. (WAQ61569)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide an update on the Fresh Start Wales campaign to stop people smoking in cars with children. (WAQ61569)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): We are moving forward with our initiative asking parents and carers not to smoke in their cars when children and young people are passengers. We launched the latest phase of our three-year Fresh Start Wales campaign in mid October.

Make a Wish brings home to parents and others, the dangers their smoking poses to the health of children. It encourages parents and relatives to stop smoking around children, especially in enclosed spaces, like cars. The advertising took place in close proximity to schools, cinema advertising, and posters in shopping centres. In the New Year, we will be launching a further phase of the campaign, focusing on the impact smoking in cars has on children and young people themselves.

Fresh Start packs, containing helpful tips and advice on how smokers can protect themselves and their families from the harm second-hand smoke causes, have also been developed to support parents to make this important behaviour change. They include a number of practical tools designed by smokers and exsmokers to also help smokers to consider taking the next step by completely giving up smoking. Packs will be available from Community Pharmacies across Wales.

Fresh Start Wales is also sponsoring the ITV Wales weather, S4C weather and Sgorio from December 2012 until August 2013.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa gymorth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau y bydd ar gael i bobl ifanc sydd wedi cael eu diagnosio â sgitsoffrenia, a'u teuluoedd. (WAQ61570)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): What support is the Welsh Government ensuring is available for young people with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia, and their families. (WAQ61570)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

Lesley Griffiths: Together for Mental Health, our new all-ages 10-year Strategy for mental health and wellbeing, takes a holistic approach, using a recovery and enablement model of care, to place the individual, their families and carers at the centre of care and treatment. It aims to improve the emotional and mental health of all young people, including those with Schizophrenia. A key aim of the Strategy is to build on the expansion of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), which has occurred in recent years and foster closer collaboration between CAMHS and its Adult counterpart for the benefit of service user. The Strategy also emphasises the importance of informal carers who support people with mental health problems.

Work has already taken place to develop intelligent targets to ensure increased clinical involvement in target setting. The desired outcome is to improve the quality of services and the outcome of care, and one of the areas addressed is early intervention in psychosis.

Under the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010, service users receiving secondary care will have a care coordinator and a prescribed Care and Treatment Plan. Care coordinators ensure that families and carers receive the information, help and support they need by identifying any support required to maintain parenting relationships.

Our Programme for Government contains a commitment to refreshing the Carers Strategy for Wales during 2012-13. A key focus will be on enabling and supporting local authorities, the NHS and the Third Sector to deliver services and support to carers. It will cover carers of all ages, including family members who care for young people with Schizophrenia. We will be engaging with all key stakeholders as part of this work, and will ensure that the needs and expectations of carers are addressed throughout.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa gymorth a gynigir i blant os yw eu rhieni'n mabwysiadu. (WAQ61571)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): What support is offered to children whose parents are adopting. (WAQ61571)

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn annog y gwaith o recriwtio mabwysiadwyr sy'n barod i gymryd plant hyn, grwpiau o frodyr neu chwiorydd, plant duon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, a phlant ag anawsterau ymddygiad. (WAQ61572)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government encouraging the recruitment of adopters who are willing to take on older children, sibling groups, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) children and children with behavioural difficulties. (WAQ61572)

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa fynediad at hyfforddiant a gynigir i rieni sy'n mabwysiadu cyn ac ar ôl iddynt fabwysiadu. (WAQ61573)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): What access to training is offered to adoptive parents both pre and post adoption. (WAQ61573)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 19 November 2012

The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): The Children Act (1989) and the Adoption and Children Act 2002 set out the legal framework which promotes the welfare of the child and ensures this is the paramount consideration in all decisions relating to adoption.

Within the adoption assessment process provision already exists for the children of an applicant to be interviewed on their own as well as with the prospective adopter; these interviews provide the opportunity for the birth children to express their views and discuss any concerns they may have on the proposed adoption and to help the social worker identify the provision of adoption support needed to aid in the smooth transition for the adoptive child, the birth child and the prospective adopter. Identifying and planning for those support needs is critical to the successful outcome of every adoption placement.

Poor or inadequate post placement and post adoption support is often cited as a key factor in adoption breakdown activity. Identifying and planning for those support needs is critical to the successful outcome of every adoption placement. We must also recognise that not all families need or want support; as some may wish to be left to get on with their new life together and we must respect their right to privacy.

The establishment of a National Adoption Service will have a major impact on the delivery of adoption services in Wales, linked to the recruiting of prospective adopters. The new service will build on existing good practice, where a child's ethnic origin, cultural background, religion and language is fully recognised and positively valued and promoted when decisions are made. This will be achieved by targeting recruitment of prospective adopters to meet unmet need – likely to be older children, sibling groups, disabled children, or a child with multiple needs arising from early life experiences, which may result in attachment difficulties

The National Adoption Service will reap greater benefits by enabling the concentration of specialised skilled persons which will enhance the efficiency and quality of the assessment process, providing equity in the arrangements for adoption and more efficient and effective delivery through greater collaboration and co-operation across boundaries to harness the specialist nature of the adoption service.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Faint o gleifion sy'n arod yn hwy na'r 18 mis yn y canllawiau i gael triniaeth IVF; gan ddarparu ffigurau ar gyfer cleifion y cylch cyntaf a'r ail gylch. (WAQ61578)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): How many patients are waiting longer than the 18 month guideline to receive IVF treatment; providing figures for first and second cycle patients. (WAQ61578)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 22 November 2012

Lesley Griffiths: I will write to you with the information.

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y capasiti i ddarparu triniaeth IVF cylch cyntaf ac ail gylch yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y gwasanaeth GIG newydd ym Mwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, a chyflwr y ddarpariaeth yn IVF Cymru. (WAQ61582)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister make a statement on the capacity to provide first and second cycle IVF treatment in Wales, including an update on the new NHS service in Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board and the state of provision at IVF Wales. (WAQ61582)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 20 November 2012

Lesley Griffiths: All eligible patients in Wales are entitled to receive two cycles of IVF funded by the NHS. We are working with the NHS in Wales to ensure safe and sustainable services within Wales for the future. In the short term, and whilst the South Wales service is being further strengthened, some NHS services are being provided in Bristol.

I am advised building work at the new IVF clinic at Neath Port Talbot Hospital will be complete by the end of November following which they will seek Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority accreditation.

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

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu efelychu'r codiad Cyflog Byw i £7.45 yr awr ar gyfer gweithwyr Llywodraeth Cymru a GIG Cymru. (WAQ61574)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Does the Minister plan to match the Living Wage increase to £7.45 per hour for Welsh Government and Welsh NHS employees. (WAQ61574)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 21 November 2012

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): Welsh Government staff are currently paid at least £7.45 per hour. The pay remit for Welsh NHS Employees is currently being negotiated at UK level and negotiations are expected to conclude in the New Year.

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau sawl un o'r 22 awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru sydd wedi bodloni gofynion Mesur Llywodraeth Leol 2011 o ran Pwyllgorau Gwasanaethau Democrataidd. (WAQ61583)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister confirm how many of the 22 local authorities in Wales have fulfilled the requirements of the 2011 Local Government measure with regards to Democratic Services Committees. (WAQ61583)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Sawl gwaith y flwyddyn y dylai Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd gyfarfod er mwyn i'r Gweinidog ystyried eu bod yn cyflawni eu swyddogaethau craffu'n effeithiol. (WAQ61584)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): How many times per annum should a Democratic Services Committee meet for the Minister to consider them to be effectively performing their scrutiny functions. (WAQ61584)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am arfer awdurdodau o ddefnyddio Pwyllgorau Archwilio i gyflawni swyddogaethau Pwyllgor Gwasanaethau Democrataidd. (WAQ61585)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister make a statement on the practice of authorities using Audit Committees to perform the functions of a Democratic Services Committee. (WAQ61585)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 21 November 2012

Carl Sargeant: The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 ("the Measure") requires each principal council to establish a Democratic Services Committee (DSC), whose role is to designate an officer of the council as its Head of Democratic Services, to consider the adequacy of the resources made available to support members of the authority to carry out their functions and to produce reports and recommendations on these issues.

The DSC must be established by the full council. It should consist only of councillors, who should reflect the political balance of the council, and can include no more than one member of the council's executive, though not the leader. The committee should appoint its own chair but that person should not be a member of a group represented in the executive (unless there are no opposition groups).

The minimum requirement is that a DSC must meet at least once each calendar year but can meet as often as it chooses. It is, therefore, not possible to say that authorities have or have not complied with the Measure until the year is completed. In any case, local authorities are not required to report on compliance with these provisions, although I would expect any non-compliance to be reported by auditors. I should also point out that a DSC is not a scrutiny committee so does not have scrutiny functions as such. It does, however, have responsibility for keeping under review the adequacy of the staffing and resources available to support scrutiny committees.

It is not possible to say precisely how often a DSC should meet in order to effectively perform its functions as this will vary according to the different situations in each authority. Infrequent meetings of a DSC could be an indicator of a negative approach to its functions but it could also indicate that the authority in question was well organised and had effective scrutiny and other procedures in place.

I am not aware of audit committees fulfilling the functions of a DSC. They have different functions and structures. In addition, an audit committee must have at least one lay member and can have up to a third of its membership as lay members. These co-optees cannot be members of DSCs. It might be possible for the councillor members of an audit committee and a DSC to be the same people but each principal council has a statutory requirement to operate both bodies.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Ar ba ddyddiad, neu ym mha fis, y mae'r Gweinidog yn disgwyl y bydd yn cyhoeddi canfyddiadau ei adolygiad ynghylch ariannu bysiau. (WAQ61586)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): On what date, or in which month, does the Minister expect to announce the findings of his bus funding review. (WAQ61586)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Tachwedd 2012 Answer received for publication on 14 November 2012

Carl Sargeant: I am currently considering the Report from the Bus Funding Review Steering Group that sets out proposals for the future funding of bus and community transport services in Wales. The Report contains a number of recommendations that require more detailed consideration before I am able to make a decision. I will make a further announcement in due course.