

## **Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 12 February 2010**

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

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

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- 2 Questions to the Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
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***To ask the Minister for Children, Education and Lifelong Learning***

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What is the total cost of the Learner Voice Survey for Wales 2010. (WAQ55601)

***Answer issued on 16 February 2010***

The Learner Voice Survey 2010 pilot will include all FE institutions, 12 WBL providers and one Welsh for Adults language centre will reach approximately 30,000 learners at a cost of £139,000.

The £139,000 includes the following:

- Individual online / paper surveys in 37 learning providers
- Development of a common set of core questions including cognitive testing
- Establishment of an online portal for participating providers
- Development of marketing and guidance materials
- Managing communications and supporting providers throughout the pilot
- Individual analysis reports for participating providers
- Provision of a detailed closure report and recommendations for DCELLS.

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** How much money has the Welsh Assembly Government spent on the Learner Voice Survey for Wales. (WAQ55602)

***Answer issued on 18 February 2010***

The previous approach to customer research in post-16 learning involved telephone surveys. The most recent of these in 2008 / 2009 included a sample of 5,000 further education and work-based learners at a cost of £482,825.

Since then, we have undertaken pilots of an approach, via learning providers.

The pilot phase of the provider led approach includes:

2009	Seven learning institutions at a cost of	£58,000
2010	All FE institutions Twelve WBL providers One Welsh for Adults language centre (Reaching approx. 30,000 learners) at a cost of	£139,000

The total costs of the Learner Voice pilots: £197,000

**Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central):** What assessment has the Minister made of the lost learning and teaching time for college students and staff due to the Learner Voice Survey for Wales 2010. (WAQ55603)

***Answer issued on 18 February 2010***

None.

***To ask the Minister for Rural Affairs***

**Brynle Williams (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's work to model the change from an historic to an area-based single farm payment. (WAQ55593)

*Answer issued on 16 February 2010*

I set up an industry stakeholder group in early 2009 to discuss changes to the Single Payment Scheme but have decided, in light of the challenges facing farmers at the present time, to delay changing the Single Payment Scheme until enforcement by the Commission. This will not be before 2014.

Extensive modelling work has taken place to determine the impact of changing the Single Payment Scheme from an historic payment to an area based payment by my officials and the stakeholder group.

**Brynle Williams (North Wales):** Will the Minister make a statement on the future funding of animal health budgets. (WAQ55600)

*Answer issued on 16 February 2010*

DEFRA currently holds the majority of animal health and welfare budgets on behalf of GB. Discussions are on going about a proposal to devolve these budgets to Wales. Consideration is being given to issues such as managing the implications of any changes to the arrangements for the financial liability associated with an exotic animal disease outbreak. We must also ensure we negotiate a fair settlement to cover our costs in Wales. While I am keen to align our devolved policy and budgets, I must ensure that we do not compromise our ability to deal with any future animal disease outbreak in Wales or across Great Britain.