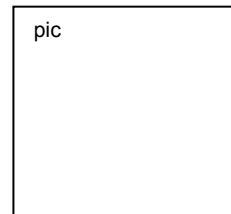


Delivering for Wales - Report of the First Minister, the Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM. April 2000 – July 2001



Welcome to the First Minister's report on the work of the Cabinet between spring 2000 and the summer 2001.

Up to last October my Cabinet operated without a majority of the Assembly behind it, and achieved much. Ministers worked hard to deliver the targets set out in the first strategic plan Betterwales.com. Without a majority support, you could never be sure that they could get proposals approved. That was why, a new Cabinet, based on a partnership agreement between Labour and the Welsh Liberal Democrats, was formed, the only Cabinet in the World with a majority of women, confident of its ability to implement the kind of radical programme the people of Wales rightly expect of us, to deliver for Wales.

The Government I now lead, with the support of the majority of the Assembly, has clarity of purpose and is fully accountable to the people of Wales in exactly the same way as governments in the rest of the UK and throughout the whole of Europe.

Through our own legislative powers we have:

- Provided free services such as, prescriptions and dental services for certain groups, and frozen prescription charges
- Created the UK's first Children's Commissioner, which aims to ensure that our future, the children of Wales, are safeguarded and represented in all we do;
- Established Education and Learning Wales (ELWa), our new body to oversee post 16 education and training; and Careers Wales – the first all-age advice and guidance service in the UK;
- Extended the categories of people who are eligible for support as homeless, with a Homelessness Commission, to devise a means of tackling homelessness and rough sleeping.

Through our united purpose and influence we gained for Wales an extra

- £1.8bn in the Chancellor's Spending Review;
- £421m over the next three years to back our European Structural Funds programmes, which will make substantial moves towards improving the quality of life for people in deprived communities;
- £14.7m to compensate farmers for the effect of the level of Sterling against the Euro.

We have been innovative in developing:

- Our **Communities First** programme, which enables the 100 most deprived communities in Wales to help themselves out of poverty
- **Extending Entitlement** a new approach to youth services in Wales developed with youth agencies and young people themselves;
- **policy agreements** with each local authority in which we have agreed targets for key services in return for additional funding if targets are met;
- **Health impact assessment** trials, as part of a World Health Organisation programme to test the health effects of policies,

- ***The Learning Country***, a comprehensive policy statement charting the way forward for education and training in Wales through to 2010, and
- **“Wales World Nation”**, an initiative designed to raise the profile and promote Wales overseas.

The creation of the Assembly has given Wales a new international platform. Over the year, we had formal visits from Heads of State and Ambassadors from all corners of the world and were able to strengthen our political, economic and social ties abroad.

To develop our distinctive responses and policies for the needs of Wales, in May 2001 Cabinet Sub-Committees on urban regeneration, sustainable development, children and young people, and Wales in the World, and a Cabinet task group on Corus were established.

After all the anxieties over the Objective One programme, I am particularly pleased to be able to report that the programme was in place on schedule and that over £200m has already been committed to projects across West Wales and the Valleys

Good progress has been made in making ours a new form of government – based on key long-term principles and working in a spirit of openness and participation.

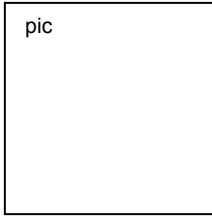
Over the year we have finalised our statutory schemes for sustainable development and the voluntary sector and saw them adopted by the Assembly. They, together with our formal partnerships with business, local government and the voluntary sector, provide a wholly new basis for our work – rooted in partnership and concern for achieving social, economic, and environmental well being. We have backed this up with a range of actions for tackling social deprivation and for pursuing equality of opportunity

I attach great importance to the openness of government and in April 2000 began to publish the record of our Cabinet meetings with a 6-week time lag built in. We published our revised Code of Practice on public access to information in May 2001 and I hope soon to make more information on day to day decisions available as a matter of course. This gives more extensive rights to information than in any other UK dispensation. Openness also includes finding new ways of involving people in our work We were able to involve young people directly in appointing the Children’s Commissioner and in developing our work for children and young people, the first time this has happened at Government level. The Internet is offering new chances to engage people, with 3,000 people directly emailed our E-strategy *Cymru Ar-Lein*.

Since the autumn of 2000, the Assembly has faced an unprecedented series of crises, in fuel, flooding, the railways, Corus and, most recently, foot and mouth. Because of devolution we have been able to deal with these issues directly here in Wales. From my direct first hand observation, this has made a real difference to crisis management. The work of Assembly, and emergency staff in forming the teams, which responded so superbly to these crises, has been outstanding. I pay tribute to the sense of public service which we are able to draw upon in Wales and which has so long been a feature of the Welsh way of pulling together when things go wrong. At times in the worst of the Foot and Mouth crisis we had a team in Cathays Park Operational Headquarters with Assembly civil servants joined by UK Government civil servants, Environment Agency, plus Army and Police officers. Different chains of command and ways of working, but one loyalty and one purpose.

Finally, I want to remark on the sad loss this year of some of the leading architects of devolution. Donald Dewar, who was a true friend of Wales and one of the political giants of the new political geometry of the United Kingdom, Val Feld, who played a major role, as national treasurer of the 'Yes for Wales' campaign, in creating this Assembly served with distinction as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee; and finally, Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, who strove throughout a half-century of service in both Houses of Parliament to put Wales on the political map as a nation in its own right, and with its own rights. They will be greatly missed.

Education and Lifelong Learning



Jane Davidson – Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning

We have put in place a massive programme of change this year, which goes a long way towards realising our ambition of Wales as the Learning Country. Our comprehensive policy statement *The Learning Country* charts the way forward for education and training in Wales through to 2010.

In April 2001 we launched 'ELWa - Education and Learning Wales', a new body bringing together support for universities and other post 16 education. This will transform the way in which education and lifelong learning is provided in Wales. Alongside ELWa, we have created an all-age advice and guidance service - Careers Wales, the first of its kind in the UK - to draw together existing services provided to young people and adults into an all-Wales service.

We also began work on implementing our commitment to the Welsh Baccalaureate – a new broader post 16 qualification – which will be piloted from 2003. Removing barriers to education is a major priority: our independent investigation group into Student Hardship and funding in Wales reported in June 2001.

Engaging young people is vital to our nation's future health. In October 2000, as part of our work on an overall framework for children and young people, we published *Extending Entitlement*, which sets out how we should focus services on the needs of young people. This will be backed up with our own legislation.

Getting high quality schools that work for all pupils is a key goal. We have significantly increased the education budget, in particular, an extra £293m over next 3 years to improve school buildings.

We have carried through our commitment to reduce class sizes for 5, 6 and 7 year olds so that by September 2000 only 4.5% of these pupils were in classes of over 30 - down from around 15% in January 1999. We are on course to ensure that there are no infant classes of over 30 pupils in September 2001 and the Assembly has set the target of reducing all junior class sizes to 30 or less by 2003-4.

Other achievements:

- Extended access to skills training through the introduction of the Modern Skills Diploma for Adults, extension of Modern Apprenticeships beyond 25 and a new skills development fund
- Initiated a unique Knowledge Exploitation Fund to help our higher and further education

- sectors contribute to wealth generation for Wales
- Set – and moved towards meeting – challenging targets for attainment at all levels including our best ever GCSE and equivalent results
 - Established the General Teaching Council for Wales to give an independent voice for teachers in Wales which befits their status as a profession
 - Made preparations to implement our commitment to provide part time nursery education for all 3 year olds by 2003
 - Introduced incentives to attract the best graduates into teaching

Education and Lifelong Learning Budgets

[graph]

Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 Outturn £m	2001-2002 Budget £m
Higher Education Funding Council - ELWa	292.7	313.2
ACCAC	9.4	9.9
Council for Education & Training in Wales - ELWa	0	354.9
Training & Enterprise Support ¹	134.2	5.2
Youth & Adult Guidance ¹	20.6	0
Further Education Funding Council ²	213.1	0
Student Access Funds	9.1	11.5
Promotion of Lifelong Learning	3.2	11.8
Research Development Fund	4.0	10.0
Teacher: Restructuring	5.0	13.8
Grants for education support & training ³	64.5	59.1
Schools capital	15.8	16.2
Schools capital (Welfare to Work)	10.1	14.6
Other Education	7.3	16.9
Education – General Capital Funding	44.6	54.9
Careers Wales	0	27.9

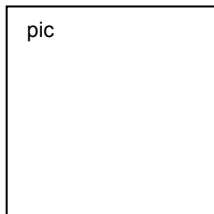
 Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies

¹ From 1st April 2001, Careers Wales was established which took over the responsibility for Careers Service, Adult Guidance and part of Education Business Links budgets (formerly in Youth and Adult Guidance)

² From 1st April 2001 The National Council for Education & Training in Wales was established which took over the responsibility for the Further Education Funding Council and elements in the budget in Training & Enterprise Support and Youth and Adult Guidance

³ Provision for Infant class sizes grant which formed part of the outturn against Grants for Education Support and Training in 2000-2001 was transferred to the Local Government Revenue Settlement for 2001-2002

Health and Social Services



Jane Hutt – Minister for Health and Social Services

This year, we have focussed on three main areas of work:

- Radical reform of the National Health Service
- Recognition of the rights and needs of children
- Providing support for carers.

In February we launched the National Health Service plan - *Improving Health in Wales* which, with its partners, aims to improve the health and well being of the people of Wales, tackle inequalities in health, and enhance health services. From this plan, two major reviews have already commenced the *Future of Primary Care* and *Structural Change in the NHS in Wales*.

For the first time detailed guidance was issued to the NHS and its partners to respond to growing emergency pressures. Careful planning and a focused collective effort helped maintain services through the winter and, despite persistent pressures, the NHS was able to cut inpatient waiting lists sharply.

A major aim throughout has been to encourage working between agencies so they provide a seamless service. New regulations now provide for close joint working between health services and local government in Wales.

We removed barriers to health care by introducing free prescriptions for under 25s, freezing prescriptions and maximum dental charges for all, and introducing free dental checks for under 25s and over 60s. We provided Meningitis C vaccinations for all children, and addressed seasonal health threats by increasing the uptake of influenza vaccinations for over 65s.

In June 2000 we launched the Human Resources Strategy for NHS Wales, *Delivering for Patients*. We are continuing to ensure that there are more nurses, doctors and other health professionals in training in Wales.

Following the Waterhouse Report into child abuse in North Wales, we increased funds for the Children First programmes to help children in need. In December 2000 we appointed Peter Clarke as the first Children's Commissioner in Wales. We continue to develop our Children and Young Peoples Framework, building on the work with young children under the Sure Start programme, and looking at improving links between different services.

This has been a significant year for carers. In July, the Assembly discussed in plenary the Carers Strategy in Wales – First Report; commenced the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000; and approved a further £3.7m special grant spending on carers. This builds upon £3m spending on carers in 2000-01.

We also laid the foundations for the new Care Standards Inspectorate to oversee the quality of residential care, and a Care Council for Wales to set standards for Care staff.

Other achievements:

- Set up an All Wales free call Mental Health helpline (*CALL*)
- Increased investment in the Ambulance Trust
- Introduced Sure Start and Children and Youth partnerships in each local authority area
- Published an implementation plan in order to improve treatment of Coronary Heart Disease
- Extended *NHS Direct* across the whole of Wales
- Provided extra funding to advance the resettlement of people with learning difficulties
- Launched the Assembly's Nursing strategy *Realising the Potential* and created 11 nurse consultant posts
- Provision of £1.8million for nurse recruitment and retention, including return to practice courses and nursery provision for staff with child-care responsibilities.
- A 25 per cent expansion in Nursing and Professions Allied to Medicine Training numbers on a recurring basis which will help tackle acknowledged problem areas.
- Established Inequalities in Health Fund (launched in February –portfolio of 54 projects announced on 3 July
- Launched Framework for the Control of Communicable Disease in Wales
- Enrolled 6,500 children in the 'Smokebugs' club
- Put in place the Food Standards Agency
- Opened the North Wales cancer treatment centre
- Launched *National Health Promotion Strategy* and Action Plan (Promoting Health and Well-being).
- Reached an agreement to deliver welfare rights advice through Citizens Advice Bureaux.
- Invested over £2m to extend volunteering through the Volunteer Bureaux Xtra scheme
- Encouraged active citizenship amongst young people through the Millennium volunteers scheme
- Sustainable Health Action Research Programme (SHARPS) launched.
- Launched the strategy *Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales: A Partnership Approach*
- Agreed a sexual health strategy for Wales
- Provided extra money for capital projects
- Made available more money, and new ways of working, in order to tackle orthopaedic waiting lists;
- Increased the number of beds in hospitals in Wales
- Developed innovative advice schemes in primary care, directly addressing the connection between poverty and poor health.
- Launched two Mental Health strategies to improve the quality of mental health services

Health and Social Services Budgets

[graph]

Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 Outturn £m	2001-2002 Budget £m
Health Authorities and NHS Trusts	2,390.0	2,598.5
Education and Training	99.9	115.7
Family Health Services	312.1	333.8
Health Improvement	27.3	32.2
Health Promotion	2.3	5.0
Food Standards	1.4	1.9
Welfare Food	9.2	12.0
Children	17.5	34.8
Social Disadvantage	11.8	14.0
Support for the Voluntary Sector	5.1	5.6
Other Health and Social Services	58.9	77.2
Personal Social Services – General Capital Funding	6.5	6.5
Social Services Inspectorate (Wales)	5.2	6.4

Economic Development



Rhodri Morgan – Minister for
Economic Development


Modernising the economy continues to be the key to providing better prospects for the people of Wales and meeting our objectives for sustainable development.

This was a period in which Wales continued the, often painful, process of change to its economy, from a reliance on traditional heavy industry to a more modern broader base. Major high technology projects announced during the year included Wireless Systems International in Cwmbran; Unilever's European IT Headquarters in Ewloe; Pure Wafer Ltd. in Swansea; IQE in Cardiff, and Surface Technology Systems in Newport. In total, they have the potential to create 1000 new jobs. In addition, the further developments at Technium, Swansea are creating opportunities for high technology companies such as International Rectifier and Agilent Technologies to establish a significant presence within the Objective 1 area.

The closure of the heavy steel making capacity in Wales has been a considerable economic blow to the areas affected, especially for Ebbw Vale. Following the Corus announcement on 1 February 2001, we announced a £66 million package of support for both individual steelworkers and for their communities.

The great achievement of the year was the approval of the Objective One programme for West Wales and the Valleys in July, and winning an extra £421m funds from London to back it up. Between October 2000, when funding was able to commence, to August 2001 the new Welsh European Funding Office had approved more than 340 projects for grant valued of over £220 million: the value of the projects' investment exceeds £450 million in the poorest parts of Wales. The Objective 3 programme for East Wales has also made substantial progress, committing over £23 million to over 200 projects in the same period.

Looking to the future, we have worked together with our partners to ensure a coherent, robust and shared economic strategy for Wales through the development of our National Economic Development Strategy. This has not been an easy process. Difficult decisions have to be taken – we need to be ambitious, but realistic; we need to ensure growth in poorer areas but not deny the realities of the market; and we need to be clear exactly what the public sector can do to help businesses grow. And all this must help achieve our aims of sustainable development, social inclusion and equality of opportunity.

To achieve our ambitious goals for a modern Wales we must create the environment within which modern businesses can flourish. The National Economic Development Strategy will provide an action plan, embracing the Assembly and its partners. It will focus on a small number of policies with the potential to make a real difference: innovation, entrepreneurship, internationalisation, skills, strong communities, and physical and communications infrastructure 

Other achievements:

- Secured £1,114m of additional funds to invest in the Objective One programme.
- Since 1 July 1999, made offers of Regional Selective Assistance (RSA) worth over £188m, securing private investment of over £840m, creating 15,700 new jobs and safeguarding 8,150
- 75 inward investment projects with a capital investment of some £490m, creating or safeguarding 13,000 jobs.
- Opened Brussels office to raise profile of Wales in Europe
- Identified more than £260 Million of trade opportunities and converted over £27 million into firm orders
- Created WalesTrade International to establish international business partnerships
- Introduced streamlined procedures reducing the target processing time for small case RSA claims from 30 working days to 15 working days
- Met and significantly exceeded the target of 50% of businesses in Wales using e-commerce by 2003
- Helped and subsequently launched the Best of Rural Wales e-commerce project which won a Government Computing Innovation award

Economic Development Budgets

[graph]

Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 outturn £m	2001-2002 budget £m
Wales Tourist Board	16.4	20.1
Welsh Development Agency	106.2	149.2
Regional Selective Assistance & other business support	45.3	58.8
Cardiff Bay Development Corporation	17.9	18.0
WEFO : European Funding	67.5	135.2
Other economic development	0.6	1.7
Pathway to Prosperity Fund	2.7	29.1

 Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies

Finance, Local Government & Communities

Edwina Hart – Minister for Finance, Local Government & Communities

This past year we laid the foundations for fundamental change to the way local government works in Wales and to bring new hope and opportunity to our most deprived communities.

- We developed Communities First - a comprehensive approach to area-based regeneration which will give 100 local communities their say over how to improve their areas.
- We brought into effect legislation and guidance giving local authorities a new power to promote economic, social and environmental well being as well as a new duty to prepare community strategies. These strategies will involve local people in identifying the real needs of communities. They will provide a new way for local authorities to provide community leadership, drawing together all the organisations which can contribute to achieving agreed priorities.
- We passed further legislation to create new decision-making structures in local councils which will enable them to respond better to this new role, in an open and accountable way. We have introduced a new code of conduct and an independent system for ensuring the observance of high standards in local government.
- We continued to work in partnership with local government to deliver better services for the people of Wales. We developed policy agreements with each Local Authority setting out what improvements they will deliver in their services. These focus on the outcomes to be achieved rather than limiting local authority discretion over how to use their budgets.

Delivering high quality local services remains a priority. We were able to provide additional money for local government over the next three years to ensure standards of services can be maintained and improved while Council Tax rates are kept low, and the introduction of a duty of 'best value' will test the quality and value for money of local services.

We worked across sectors to develop an all-Wales Housing Strategy so that people can have access to, and choice over, housing to meet their needs. We have placed particular emphasis on tackling homelessness, with a Homelessness Commission and new legislation to back it up.

Over the year, we have developed strong programmes to promote equality of opportunity and social inclusion – two of the Assembly's guiding themes. Our aim is for Wales to be a place where the gap between the poorest and wealthiest in society has been reduced, and where a revitalised local government speaks for and responds to the needs of the communities it serves, and delivers high quality services.

The Assembly's Finances received a considerable boost in the Comprehensive Spending Review. As well as an overall rise in our budget, we received specific additional funds to meet the needs of our Objective One programme. This will take the total budget to nearly £10bn in 2003, compared with £8bn when the Assembly first came into existence.

Achieving value for money also remains a high priority. As part of a national initiative to achieve better value for money from the expenditure on procurement by the Welsh public sector a fundamental review of procurement was completed and the report 'Better Value Wales' was published.

Ensuring that our major sponsored bodies are working in the best interests of the public and making good use of the funds they receive is a key goal. We therefore started an accelerated programme of reviews with those of the Welsh Development Agency, Countryside Council for Wales, National Museums & Galleries of Wales and the Welsh Language Board all getting underway.

Other achievements:

- Extended 'Care and Repair' to all parts of Wales
- Created a fairer formula for distributing the Revenue Support Grant to local authorities
- Given new powers to the Local Government Ombudsman to investigate misconduct by councillors
- Carried out independent reviews into tackling institutional racism and increasing diversity in appointments to public bodies
- Completed audits of our policy-making, service delivery and employment practices
- Drawn up action plans to address areas for improvement
- Conducted an equality survey
- Put in place the Assembly's Social Inclusion Action Plan

Local Government and Communities Budgets

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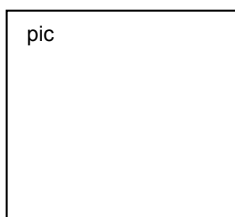
Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 outturn £m	2001-2002 budget £m
Local Authority Revenue	2,697.4	2,860.5
Non Domestic Rates Collection costs	5.2	5.2
Social Housing Grant	54.9	56.4
Supported Housing Revenue Grant	10.7	11.6
Other Housing Revenue	12.2	18.5
Housing – General Capital Funding / SCAs	193.2	199.2
Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS)	173.9	200.6
Local Regeneration Fund	20.6	36.7
Regeneration and other Local Services – General Capital Funding	17.8	17.8

Other Regeneration	2.3	0.6
Valuation Office & Local Government Other Services	12.2	12.1
Community Purposes ⁴	1.3	20.1
Crime Prevention (Social Disadvantage) ⁵	0.1	1.4

⁴ This BEL was set up at October Statement 2000

⁵ This transferred from the Health and Social Services MEG to Housing and Local Government Other Services MEG at Spring Statement March 2001

Environment, Planning and Transport



Sue Essex – Minister for Environment

In November, the Assembly adopted its unique Sustainable Development scheme. This will ensure that everything we do takes account of environmental, social and economic needs, changing the way in which Wales develops and preserving its qualities for future generations. As a first step, following input from a National Planning Forum, we have reviewed existing land use planning guidance which will encourage use of brownfield sites and reduce the need for out of town development. Work has also begun on the Wales Spatial Plan.

Developing a modern, integrated transport system remains a major priority, brought into focus by concerns expressed in rural areas over transport costs in the fuel strikes in October, last year. Following work with the Transport Forum we began consultation in March on a new Transport Framework for Wales, and put additional funding into local transport and rail.

The environment continued to be an issue of public concern. Parts of Wales experienced their worst flooding in almost 25 years over the winter, and the potential impacts of waste disposal were brought into focus by the investigation into the Nantygwyddon landfill site. After setting up the Waste Forum, we prepared a Waste strategy for consultation in the summer 2001; this will mark a considerable shift towards waste recycling, and away from landfill. We also announced a £40m package of additional funds to local authorities and other organisations to help innovate and implement the new strategy over the next 3 years.

Further work on identifying protected habitats was delayed as a result of the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, but despite that we have been able to meet almost all our European obligations under the Natura 2000 programme aimed at sustaining habitats for endangered wildlife. Visitors' access to the countryside was, temporarily, severely curtailed too, but action was taken to restore access as soon and as far as possible. At the same time, work has continued on the preparations for the implementation of the new access provisions of the Countryside and Rights Of Way Act.

Other achievements:

- Funded an improved North-South rail service
- Launched PTI Cymru information service
- Announced transport grant five-year programme of £300m.
- Completed the A55 across the Isle of Anglesey
- Launched a National Park scheme to pilot innovative sustainable development schemes
- Produced an All-Wales Climate Change programme

Environment, Planning and Transport Budgets.

[graph]

Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 outturn £000	2001-2002 budget £000
Environment Agency Wales	12.0	12.4
Countryside Council for Wales	27.0	28.1
Trunk Roads, Motorways & Transport Services	117.9	131.2
Transport Grant & other Local Authority Capital Grants	49.0	48.1
Bus Partnership Fund	4.9	6.0
Roads – General Capital Funding	19.8	19.8
Planning	2.0	2.8
Flood and Coast Protection	3.8	8.3
Other Environmental Services	1.7	3.0
Cadw	6.3	6.2
Regeneration and other local services – General Capital Funding	18.3	18.3
National Parks	7.19	7.9
Sustainable Development Fund	0.01	0.4

 Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies

Rural Affairs & Agriculture



Carwyn Jones – Minister for Rural Affairs

This was, and continues to be a difficult time for rural Wales. Following on from the difficulties with BSE, we were hit by the first major outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease for over thirty years. In response to this, in July we announced a Rural Recovery Plan worth £65m. The personal, social and economic impacts have been great and will take some years, and much concerted effort, to address. The Government has worked in the Rural Partnership to respond to the crisis as well as look to the long-term future of farming in Wales.

Though much of the year was inevitably taken up with addressing the Foot and Mouth disease crisis we continued to put in place the building blocks which will provide a more sustainable future for agriculture and rural communities. Our priority is the future of young people in rural areas. We have established a new rural policy unit to co-ordinate policy across the Assembly on rural development and are fully engaged with the Rural Partnership for Wales to develop a distinctive Welsh strategy for rural Wales which will compliment the work already underway focused around the Rural Development Plan for Wales.

The new work builds on the already successful work of the Agri-Food strategy, our organic conversion programme, and the Tir Gofal agri-environment scheme.

Over the year, we successfully launched the Tir Mynydd scheme, a more environmentally sound payments scheme for hill farmers in the Less Favoured Areas of Wales, and secured £14.7m since Oct 2000 in funding from the UK Government to pay Agri-monetary compensation to offset the level of Sterling against the Euro.

We have also taken the most restrictive approach possible to Genetically Modified crops within existing parameters. We believe that the future for rural areas lies in an approach based on high environmental quality.

Other achievements:

- Secured additional funding of £15.3m from UK Government to help support Welsh farmers
- Launched a rural recovery support package worth £65 million to alleviate the effects of FMD on rural businesses.
- Every farmer who applied to go Organic has been given funds to do so
- Committed £109.3m to Tir Gofal up to 2006
- Introduced the free school milk scheme for all Key stage 1 pupils

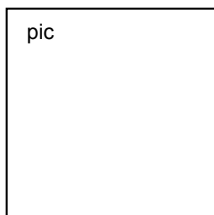
- Commenced Implementation of the Rural Development Plan following approval by European Commission
- Devised Independent Appeals Mechanism for farmers in Wales
- Introduced financial support to ease the burden of meat hygiene charges on small abattoirs
- Launched new Woodland Strategy
- Set up an All-Wales Rural Stress help-line
- Worked with large number of farming groups and food processing companies as part of the Agri-food Strategy
- Placed legally enforceable separation distances around GM crops and re-opened the coexistence debate in Brussels.
- Completed the first ever study of the potential for fisheries in Wales.
- Launched the Farming Futures document for consultation

Rural Affairs and Agriculture Budgets

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Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 outturn £m	2001-2002 budget £m
Market Support Schemes (AME)	166.8	147.4
Agri-environmental schemes (EC element) (AME)	5.5	5.1
HLCAs (non-assigned budget)	31.6	32.9
Rural Development Programme	0.8	1.4
Agri-environmental schemes (UK element) – Capital	6.2	8.6
Tir Gofal	7.5	10.9
Other Agricultural Services	10.7	21.1

Culture, Sport & The Welsh Language



Jenny Randerson – Minister for Culture, Sport & Welsh Language

The Partnership Government's creation of the Culture, Sport and Welsh Language portfolio in October underlined the importance we attach to these issues and has led to a greater focus on these aspects of life in Wales.

We have provided additional funding to the National Museums and Galleries of Wales to provide free entry to the public from 1st April 2001, opening up our national treasures to a wider audience. We are also supporting the development of a major new visitor centre at the National Library, and in June the First Minister registered on behalf of the Assembly the intention to submit a bid for the Ryder Cup in 2009.

After a difficult period for the Arts Council, and in light of the management review, we have provided additional funding to the Council to enable it to restructure its services and win back the confidence of the sector.

Following the Culture Committees' report *A Culture in Common*, we launched a new cultural consortium *Cymru'n Creu* to bring together sectors like the arts, tourism, and sport.

We want Wales to be a country with a distinctive and creative culture; one which values diversity, where bilingualism is a growing reality and where there are strong links between community arts and sport and our national cultural institutions. We are currently preparing the first cultural strategy for Wales, on which we consulted over the summer of 2001.

Other achievements:

- Increased funding for Mentrau Iaith community language schemes
- Launched the new Arts Council for Wales Cultural Diversity Strategy
- Supported bringing the FA Cup to Wales
- Increased Arts Council for Wales budget by 28% by 2003/4
- Provided funding, through the New Opportunities Fund, to implement the People's ICT Network in public libraries
- Supported major improvements to the Llanberis Slate Museum
- Secured the future of Big Pit by the creation of the National Mining Museum for Wales
- Supported the National Museum bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £10 million to develop a new maritime Museum in Swansea which it won
- Funded the start of a major programme to digitise the National Museum and Library collections, so they can be available on line.
- Established a Football Forum to examine football development and funding.
- Established a Task & Finish Group to examine the role of the Welsh Books Council and the development of publishing.
- Provided commitment to additional funding for Wales Millennium Centre

Culture, Sport & Welsh Language Budgets

Sub-Expenditure Group	2000-2001 Outturn £m	2001-2002 budget £m
National Museums & Galleries of Wales	14.8	15.5
National Library of Wales	7.2	7.2
Arts Council of Wales	15.4	16.6
Sports Council for Wales	7.0	7.7
Welsh Language	6.9	7.0
Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historic monuments	1.3	1.3
Millennium Centre for Wales	1.2	0
Other arts & libraries	0.5	1.3

Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies

Better Government



Andrew Davies – Minister for Assembly Business

To make our plans a reality we have begun to transform the way in which government at all levels does business. This has meant ensuring all our public agencies are working consistently to deliver our programmes and to re-think and improve their services.

A major aim has been to create a much more open and responsive government - government that involves people and all sectors of society in decisions which affect them and listens to what they have to say.

Over the period, we consolidated our formal partnerships with Local Government, the Voluntary and Business Sectors, and adopted formal schemes to underpin those relationships.

As part of our commitment to openness, we have published the minutes of Cabinet meetings and issued a revised code on access to information.

We have pioneered the imaginative use of Information Communication Technology in government with extensive use in consultation exercises. We devised an ICT strategy to ensure that Wales can benefit from new technology.

We have placed considerable emphasis on having a clear strategic approach to delivering for Wales. The first strategic plan betterwales.com, was published in May. In October, we made a series of new commitments as a Partnership Government. These were reflected in our first Annual Government Business Programme in November, which set out our forward programme to the summer.

Other achievements:

- Provided support so that partners can have a stronger voice in policy-making

[Map]

Health Authority Budgets 2000/01

Health Authority	£000
Bro Taf	636,459
Dyfed Powys	409,820
Gwent	451,706
Iechyd Morgannwg	425,024
North Wales	563,122
Central Budgets	355,857
Total	2,841,988

[Map]

Welsh Development Agency

Expenditure by Agency Division 2000/01

Division	£000,s
North Wales	15,561
Mid Wales	16,825
South West Wales	24,744
South East Wales	38,801
All Wales Agency Expenditure (Including Land Division)	86,373
Total Expenditure	182,304

[Map]

Transport Grant

Expenditure supported by Transport Grant 2000/01

	Authority	£'000
1	Isle of Anglesey	N/A*
2	Gwynedd	915
3	Conwy	1,000
4	Denbighshire	1,657
5	Flintshire	1,022
6	Wrexham	1,575
7	Powys	171
8	Ceredigion	1,176
9	Pembrokeshire	383
10	Carmarthenshire	2,817
11	Swansea	3,739
12	Neath Port Talbot	1,928
13	Bridgend	2,446
14	Rhondda Cynon Taff	4,231
15	Merthyr Tydfil	637
16	Caerphilly	2,065
17	Blaenau Gwent	1,045
18	Torfaen	480
19	Monmouthshire	470
20	Newport	1,123
21	Cardiff	6,577
22	The Vale of Glamorgan	910
	TOTAL	36,367

*Isle of Anglesey is not included as no schemes applied to this authority this year.

[Map]

Local Government

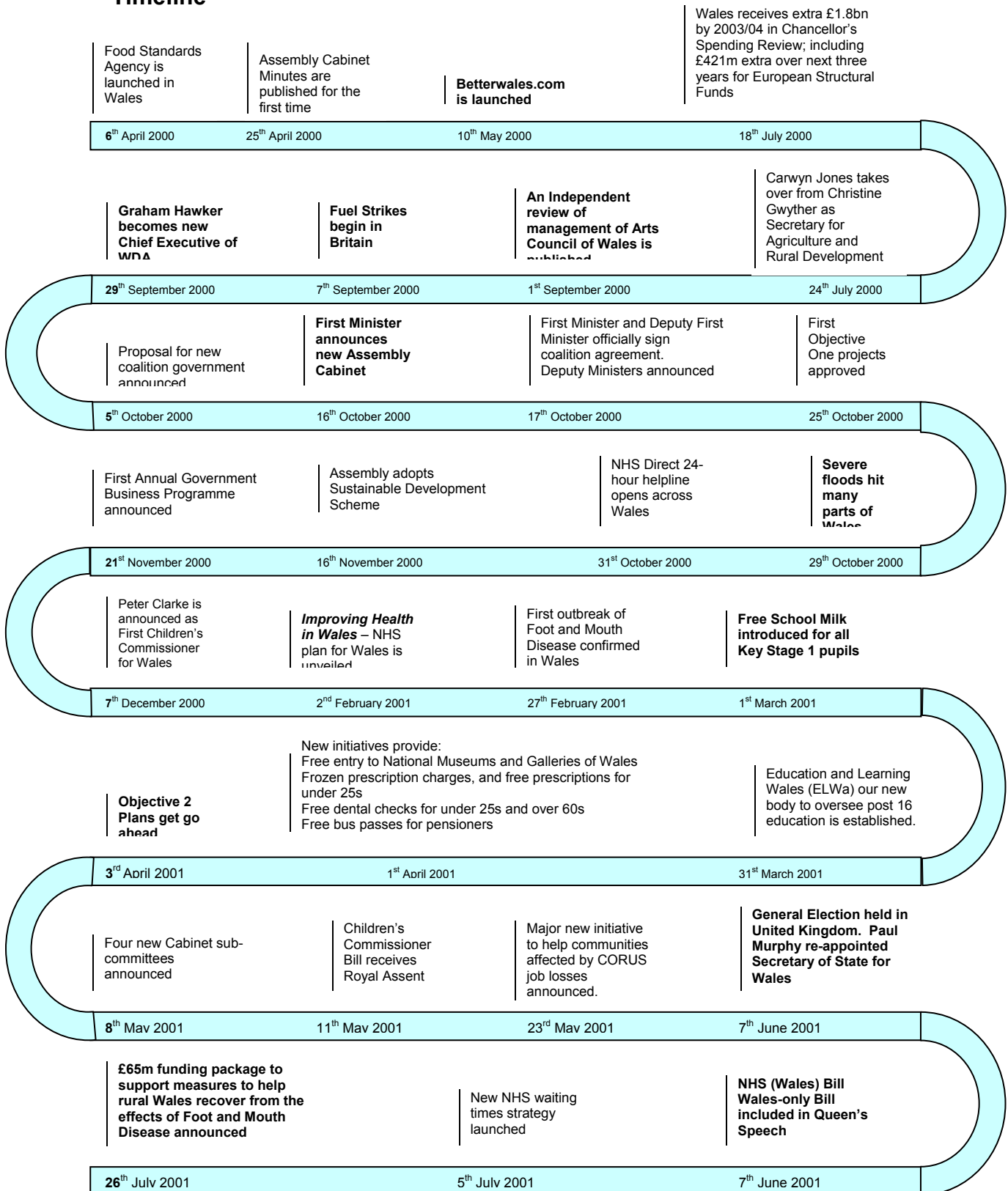
Level of Revenue Support Grant for principal local authorities 2000/01

	Authority	(to nearest) £'000
1	Isle of Anglesey	46,949
2	Gwynedd	83,345
3	Conwy	69,091
4	Denbighshire	65,038
5	Flintshire	91,101
6	Wrexham	76,007
7	Powys	91,235
8	Ceredigion	49,447
9	Pembrokeshire	79,848
10	Carmarthenshire	119,306
11	Swansea	144,761
12	Neath Port Talbot	94,151
13	Bridgend	85,876
14	Rhondda Cynon Taff	71,939
15	Merthyr Tydfil	169,883
16	Caerphilly	45,432
17	Blaenau Gwent	119,635
18	Torfaen	51,921
19	Monmouthshire	65,433
20	Newport	45,587
21	Cardiff	92,358
22	The Vale of Glamorgan	193,856
	TOTAL	1,952,116

The National Assembly for Wales Budget 2001-2002

[pie chart]

Timeline



The Assembly Cabinet

16th October 2000 – 31st July 2001

First Minister (Minister for Economic Development from 5th July 2001)

The Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM

Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economic Development (stepped down, temporarily, 5th July 2001)

Michael German OBE AM

Minister for Assembly Business

Andrew Davies AM

Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities

Edwina Hart MBE AM

Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning

Jane Davidson AM

Minister for Culture

Jenny Randerson AM

Minister for Environment

Sue Essex AM

Minister for Rural Affairs

Carwyn Jones LLB AM

Minister for Health and Social Services

Jane Hutt AM

Deputy Minister for Economic Development (until April 30th 2001)
Deputy Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (since April 30th 2001)

Alun Pugh AM

Deputy Minister for Local Government

Peter Black AM

Deputy Minister for Health

Brian Gibbons FRCGP AM

Deputy Minister for Rural Affairs, Culture and Environment

Delyth Evans AM

Deputy Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (until 30th April 2001)

Huw Lewis AM

Deputy Minister for Economic Development (since April 30th 2001)

John Griffiths AM

The Assembly Cabinet

1st April 2000 – 15th October 2000

First Secretary	The Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM
Finance Secretary	Edwina Hart MBE AM
Secretary for Economic Development	The Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM MP
Secretary for pre Education and Children	Rosemary Butler AM
Secretary for post 16 Education and Training	Tom Middlehurst AM (resigned 09.10.00)
Secretary for Health and Social Services	Jane Hutt AM
Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development	Christine Gwyther AM (left office 23.07.00)
	Carwyn Jones LLB AM
Secretary for Environment, Transport and Planning	Sue Essex AM
Secretary for Local Government and Housing	Peter Law AM
Business Secretary	Andrew Davies AM
<hr/>	
Deputy Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development	Carwyn Jones LLB AM (until 24.07.00)
	Delyth Evans AM
<i>Deputy Assembly Secretary for Health and Social Services</i>	Alun Pugh AM
Deputy Secretary for Education and the Economy [became Chair of the Objective One Monitoring Committee in October 2000]	Christine Chapman AM

Partnership Councils

Partnership Council	Dates of Meetings	Chair
Partnership Council for Local Government	12 th May 2000 10 th July 2000 16 th October 2000 11 th December 2000 26 th March 2001 9 th July 2001	Edwina Hart AM
Voluntary Sector Partnership Council	13 th October 2000 15 th December 2000 16 th March 2001 22 nd June 2001	Jane Hutt A M
Business Sector Partnership Council	13 th April 2000 30 th June 2000 1 st December 2000 15 th February 2001 29 th June 2001	The Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan AM