

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 30 Hydref 2012

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 30 October 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.*

Cynnwys

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Gofyn i Brif Weinidog Cymru
To ask the First Minister

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Faint o arian sydd wedi'i gyllidebu ar gyfer cyfathrebu a hyrwyddo gwaith gweinidogol, ac a allwch roi dadansoddiad yn hyn o beth ar gyfer pob Gweinidog ym mhob un o'r tair blynedd ariannol diwethaf. (WAQ61429)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): How much money is budgeted for communications and promotion of ministerial work, giving a breakdown for each minister in each of the last three financial years. (WAQ61429)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 31 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 31 October 2012

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): This information is not held centrally.

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Faint y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i wario ar hysbysebu swyddi gwag yn y wasg ysgrifenedig ym mhob un o'r tair blynedd ariannol diwethaf. (WAQ61427)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): How much has the Welsh Government spent on advertising staffing vacancies in the written press in each of the last 3 financial years. (WAQ61427)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): Staffing within the Welsh Government is a matter for the Permanent Secretary. I have asked him to write to you separately with the information you have requested.

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 gadarnhau faint o gyrff a noddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru, o unrhyw faint, sydd â phencadlys neu brif leoliad eu gweithrediadau ym Mro Morgannwg, ac a wnaiff y Gweinidog roi nifer y staff ar gyfer pob un. (WAQ61428)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister confirm how many Welsh Government sponsored bodies of any size have their headquarters or primary location of operations based in the Vale of Glamorgan, and will the Minister give the staff count for each. (WAQ61428)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 01 Tachwedd 2012
Answer received for publication on 01 November 2012

Jane Hutt: There are no executive Welsh Government Sponsored Bodies that have their headquarters or primary location of operations based in the Vale of Glamorgan.

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

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn caniatáu rhoi ail sbectol a geir am ddim drwy bresgripsiwn gan y GIG i blant mwyach oherwydd cyfyngiadau ar y gyllideb. (WAQ61415)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the Minister confirm that the Welsh Government is no longer allowing the issue of a second pair of free NHS prescription spectacles to children due to budget restrictions. (WAQ61415)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Tachwedd 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 November 2012

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): It has never been Welsh Government policy to freely provide a second pair of spectacles to children. Children are only entitled to a free NHS voucher for one pair of spectacles. If clinically necessary, children will be prescribed two pairs of glasses of a different prescription i.e. distance and reading. In exceptional circumstances, if clinically necessary, the optician can prescribe a second pair of glasses when they have sought prior approval from the health board.

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

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru'r cynigion unigol sydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno gan Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio a rhoi gwybodaeth am a) pa fis y cafwyd y cynnig; b) pa fis y cymeradwywyd neu y gwrthodwyd y cynnig; c) cyfanswm yr arian a oedd o dan sylw yn y cynnig; ac ch) cyfanswm yr arian a gafwyd. (WAQ61417)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): Will the Minister list the individual bids that have been submitted by the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales and provide information on a) what month the bid was received; b) which month the bid was approved or not approved; c) the total money that was bid for; and d) the total money that was received. (WAQ61417)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis): The details of individual applications to the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales ("the Fund") are subject to non-disclosure agreements with the applicants and are treated on a commercial in confidence basis. However, I can advise you that to date the Fund has reviewed a total of 56 applications of which 9 have received conditional offers of finance, including one which has reached financial close on 4th October 2012. That scheme is the Neath Town Centre Regeneration scheme which was the subject of a recent press announcement.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Beth oedd y swm a wariodd Cronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio ym mhob blwyddyn ariannol ers ei sefydlu. (WAQ61418)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What was the amount spent by the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales in each financial year since it was established. (WAQ61418)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The amount spent by the Fund in each financial year since it was started, taken from the Audited Financial Statements is as set out in the table below:

Year Ending	Expenditure	Comment
31 March 2011	£1,023,072	for the 16 month period from inception
31 March 2012	£793,818	to be published in December 2012

Note:-

1. 2011 includes Fund Formation costs incurred by Welsh Government
2. the £385,830 costs incurred in relation to the disposal of land assets have not been included in the 2012 total costs above as they are included in the cost of sales of property inventory (£14,885,830).

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Beth oedd y gyllideb ar gyfer Cronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio ym mhob blwyddyn ariannol ers ei sefydlu. (WAQ61419)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What was the budget for the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales in each financial year since it was established. (WAQ61419)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The Fund was established in 2010. The Assets which transferred to the Fund consisted of a portfolio of land with an approximate value of £20.6million. A Welsh Government cash input with a value of £9million was also made to the Fund. The value of the European Regional development Funding is £25 million. The transfers into the Fund were as lump sum investments. As a Limited Liability Partnership Welsh Government does not have a separate budget line for the fund. The costs involved in running the Fund are included in the Funds published annual accounts.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Faint o fuddsoddiad sector preifat ychwanegol y mae Cronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio wedi'i sbarduno y mae modd ei fuddsoddi mewn cynlluniau adfywio ledled Cymru. (WAQ61420)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): How much additional private sector investment has the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales leveraged that can be invested in regeneration schemes throughout Wales. (WAQ61420)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: In accordance with the Business Plan agreed with WEFO, to date, the Fund has enabled up to £13m of private sector leverage at a 1:1 ratio in connection with the Neath Town Centre project mentioned above.

However, the Fund has not levered private sector investment into the Fund itself as yet. Private investment is expected to be raised once the Fund has completed its initial investments and is able to

demonstrate to potential investors the anticipated financial returns. The priority for the Fund is to fully invest the European Funding by December 2015.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa waddol cynaliadwy y mae Cronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio wedi'i greu a faint o elw y mae wedi'i gynhyrchu / y rhagfynegir iddi ei gynhyrchu y bydd modd ei ailfuddsoddi mewn cynlluniau yn y dyfodol yng Nghymru. (WAQ61421)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What sustainable legacy has the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales created and how much return has it generated / is it predicted to generate that can be reinvested into future schemes in Wales. (WAQ61421)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The Fund is in year 2 of a 12 year term, so it is early to quantify a legacy. Investments are expected to repay in full plus interest perpetuating and growing this evergreen fund. Interest rates offered range between 2.50% and 6.00% in accordance with current European Commission reference rate methodology and assessment for project risk.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa amcanion polisi o'r Rhaglen Lywodraethu sy'n cael eu cyflawni drwy Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio. (WAQ61422)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What policy objectives from the Programme for Government are being delivered through the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales. (WAQ61422)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The Fund is intended to become a long term investment vehicle for regeneration projects. In 'Vibrant and Viable Places', our new regeneration framework, which is currently out for consultation, we have acknowledged that regeneration contributes to all of our Programme for Government objectives when it is pursued in the holistic, partnership way we have set out in our proposals.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Beth yw'r targedau y cytunwyd arnynt ar gyfer Cronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio o allbynnau'r Rhaglen Weithredol a pha ganlyniadau sydd eisoes wedi cael eu cyflawni. (WAQ61423)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What are the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales' agreed targets from the Operational Programme's outputs and what results have already been achieved. (WAQ61423)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The table below identifies the target and aspirational outputs set out in the Business Plan agreed with WEFO:

Business Plan Agreed with WEFO		
Output	Target	Aspiration

Land Developed (hectares)	4	12
Physical Improvement Schemes (no.)	6	12
Premises Created/Refurbished (m2)	9,000	22,000
Jobs Accommodated (No)	243	500
Investment Induced (£)	580k	55m

Outputs achieved are, for the most part, verified post construction and are subject to formal evaluation by an independent external contractor at the end of the Programme Period in 2015 in accordance with the RIFW Performance Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation Framework.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Faint o hyder sydd gan y Gweinidog y bydd Cronfa Datblygu Rhanbarthol Ewrop ac arian cyfatebol yn cael eu hymrwymo cyn mis Rhagfyr 2015, drwy Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio. (WAQ61424)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What confidence does the Minister have that the European Regional Development Fund and match funding, via the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales, will be committed before December 2015. (WAQ61424)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 02 Tachwedd 2012
Answer received for publication on 02 November 2012

Huw Lewis: It took longer than we had anticipated and hoped for the Fund to make its first investment. My officials and WEFO are monitoring progress closely. The Fund's ability to invest depends on a number of factors, including the quality of projects coming forward. Furthermore, I expect my assessment of the Fund's abilities to meet its targets to be informed by the results of the Wales Audit Office review recently announced by the Auditor General for Wales.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): A yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu darparu arian ychwanegol ar gyfer adfywio mewn ardaloedd (hynny yw, Dwyrain Cymru) na ddônt o dan Gronfa Buddsoddi Cymru mewn Adfywio. (WAQ61425)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): Does the Minister intend to provide additional money for regeneration in areas (i.e. East Wales) not covered by the Regeneration Investment Fund for Wales. (WAQ61425)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: The Fund is able to operate on a pan-Wales basis. Initially the European funding of £25m and Welsh Government match funding of £15m will have to be invested in qualifying expenditure within the Convergence areas of Wales. Once it has been repaid to the Fund, this funding can be recycled across the whole of Wales. In addition, we have also invested an additional £14.6m to the Fund which is not restricted to Convergence areas, to ensure that the Fund can already operate across the whole of Wales. However, as noted above, the Fund is prioritising the allocation of Convergence funding since this needs to be invested by December 2015.

Our future regeneration investment proposals from Welsh Government budgets are subject to the 'Vibrant and Viable Places' consultation.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa gyfran o ardal cydgyfeirio Gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd sydd hefyd yn dod o dan Ardal Adfywio Strategol. (WAQ61426)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What proportion of the West Wales and the Valleys convergence funding area is also covered by a Strategic Regeneration Area. (WAQ61426)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 30 Hydref 2012
Answer received for publication on 30 October 2012

Huw Lewis: Maps for Convergence Area can be found at <http://wefo.wales.gov.uk/programmes/convergence/areamap/?lang=en> and are attached below for the Regeneration Areas.



Carto SRAs
[1].pdf (817 KB).

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

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn monitro arian cyhoeddus a roddir i ganghennau Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru. (WAQ61416)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Government monitors public funds allocated to Citizens Advice Cymru (CAC) branches. (WAQ61416)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 05 Tachwedd 2012
Answer received for publication on 05 November 2012

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be placed on the internet.

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