

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 20 Chwefror 2012

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 20 February 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'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ariannu cynllun Erasmus ar ôl 2014. (WAQ59740)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the financing of the Erasmus scheme post 2014. (WAQ59740)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): The EU proposes to integrate the current Lifelong Learning Programme, Youth in Action, and international higher education programmes (eg Erasmus Mundus) into one programme Erasmus for All (EfA). The intention of the new programme is to support increased emphasis on education and skills in the overarching Europe 2020 strategy

The EfA budget cannot be ratified until the EU financial package for 2014-2020 – the Multi-Annual Financial Framework – has been adopted at the end of this year at the earliest. Once the overall EfA budget is known, Education Ministers and MEPs will look to allocate resources to the different sub-programmes, activities and sectors.

The Welsh Government will continue to contribute financially to the management of EU lifelong learning programmes in the new programming period. Currently the cost to the Welsh Government is over £200,000 per annum which gives Welsh organisations access to bid for funds, and supports the administration and management of the programme.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ynghylch dyfodol cynllun Erasmus. (WAQ59741)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): What discussions has the Minister had regarding the future of the Erasmus scheme. (WAQ59741)

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Leighton Andrews: Arrangements are already in train for discussions with the EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth and with key individuals in EU institutions in the months ahead, and I will be raising the Erasmus for All proposals at those discussions. It is essential that the development of EU programmes for the next Multi-Annual Financial Framework period, such as Erasmus for All, is also informed by the views, experiences and forward needs of Europe's regional administrations, including Wales. In addition, my officials remain engaged with UK and EU counterparts on the detail of the Erasmus for All proposals as they develop.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyllid ar gyfer cynllun ffioedd Erasmus ar gyfer ieithoedd tramor modern ar ôl 2014. (WAQ59742)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on funding for the Erasmus fee scheme for modern foreign languages post 2014. (WAQ59742)

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Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government strongly supports EU funding programmes that encourage the learning of modern foreign languages. However, at present it is not clear how much funding will be available for allocation within Member States to support modern foreign languages under the Erasmus for All programme, or how that would be accessed. Negotiations are still ongoing between Member States on the programme architecture and levels of likely resource.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyllid Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer trefniadau hepgor ffioedd Erasmus ar ôl 2014. (WAQ59743)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government funding for the Erasmus fee waiver post 2014. (WAQ59743)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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Leighton Andrews: The current arrangements for the Erasmus fee waiver operate on a largely reciprocal basis throughout the UK. My officials are engaged in the work of a Student Mobility Joint Steering Group operating across the UK and tasked to review current incentives, financial support and obstacles to outward student mobility, and making recommendations to ensure its continuation and increase. As that work moves forward I will be considering advice on the final recommendations of the Group, the UK Government's response to those recommendations and any implications for the future of the Erasmus Fee waiver scheme in Wales from 2013-14.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae'r Llywodraeth yn sicrhau bod pobl mewn carchardai'n gallu cael mynediad at hyfforddiant sgiliau llythrennedd sylfaenol. (WAQ59746)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on how the Government is ensuring that people in prison are able to access basic literacy skills training. (WAQ59746)

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The Deputy Minister for Skills (Jeff Cuthbert): The Welsh Government and NOMS Wales share the ambition of reducing re-offending and protecting the public. This involves the delivery of appropriate skills interventions for those in custody and for those serving sentences in the community which aims to reduce re-offending.

All offenders received into custodial establishments in Wales undertake an induction process which includes assessing their learning and skills strengths and needs. Offenders undertake an initial assessment to determine their functional literacy and numeracy skills along with any learning difficulties. This is followed by to more in-depth diagnostic assessments that lead to an individual learning plan which they will follow throughout their sentence. Basic skills provision is offered to all those who are identified with a need.

The Welsh Government has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in place with NOMS Wales for the commissioning of education and learning in the prisons in Wales. All Welsh prisons offer essential, vocational and non-vocational skills provision and the majority of the courses are for accredited qualifications. Essential skills including literacy are delivered as either stand alone courses or embedded

into other subject areas. The delivery of literacy skills within prisons in Wales is a key target and forms part of the core provision detailed within the MoU.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn hyrwyddo addysg fel dewis i oedolion hyn. (WAQ59747)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government promoting education as an option for older adults. (WAQ59747)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 16 Chwefror 2012
Answer received for publication on 16 February 2012

Jeff Cuthbert: The Welsh Government (WG) encourages a wide range of providers and voluntary organisations to work in partnership to deliver learning to meet the needs of older people. We acknowledge the benefits that learning brings to older people through our The Strategy for Older People and our current policy statement: Delivering Community Learning for Wales.

At present, DfES promotes the benefits of learning through a range of activities. We work with NIACE Dysgu Cymru (NDC) to deliver learning campaigns including Adult Learners' Week. Such campaigns have been successful in engaging around 14,000 people per year over the age of 50 through over 1,000 fun taster sessions and activities across Wales.

WG also supports the Inspire! Adult Learner Awards, which includes a category for 'Older Learner of the Year'. This high profile event attracts significant media attention and highlights inspiring examples of how participation in learning can transform lives.

NDC is also currently leading a review into ACL Strategic Partnerships on behalf of DfES. The review is looking at a number of key issues including how effective current partnerships are in managing and developing provision in their areas. This review will influence future policy to ensure availability of and access for the local population to education and training. Participation in learning by older people will also be addressed by identifying learning as an important element of the Older People's strategy.

Our current policy statement includes the requirement for providers to move towards a target of 80% provision aimed at target groups; however, the remaining 20% of ACL Grant Funding can be used for innovative provision based on locally determined needs including more informal learning. We encourage providers to use this flexibly to re-engage adults, including older adults, who have not participated in learning for some time and for providers to be innovative in their approach in recognising the benefits of non formal learning i.e. the provision of learning through clubs for older learners.

DfES is presently considering future ACL policy, but in the interim will be asking Partnerships to ensure that provision is made available, is suitable and is of interest to those aged over 65. Partnerships will be encouraged to work with Older Peoples Coordinators so that they are better informed of the needs of older learners in their area. This is in direct response to the recent Estyn report on Skills for Older Learners: the impact of adult community learning on the well being of older learners that 'the current emphasis on skills for employment has resulted in gaps in the provision for other older learners, mainly those aged over 65'. Estyn also state that enrolment in adult education falls dramatically in the over 70 age group.

Welsh Government will also consider means of extending the scope of the Older Peoples Wellbeing Monitor for Wales (Government Social Research 2009) to accommodate a 'measure of wellbeing through learning' and 'access to employment'.
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/olderpeople/research/wellbeingmonitor2009/?lang=en>

Our detailed response to the Estyn report can be obtained from

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/raisingstandards/estynremit/estynreports/estynskills/?lang=en>

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

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr allyriadau nwyon ty gwydr sy'n gysylltiedig â nwyddau sy'n cael eu cynhyrchu mewn llefydd eraill yn y byd ond sy'n cael eu defnyddio yng Nghymru. (WAQ59745)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the greenhouse gas emissions associated with goods produced elsewhere in the world but consumed in Wales. (WAQ59745)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Chwefror 2012
Answer received for publication on 21 February 2012

The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development (John Griffiths): Resources used in producing and transporting goods produced elsewhere in the world but consumed in Wales are measured through the Welsh Government's Ecological Footprint indicator, which is one of our headline indicators of sustainable development.

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

Antoinette Sandbach (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi dadansoddiad o gostau rhagamcanol cynnal Arolwg Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan gynnwys i) y prawf maes, ii) llythyrau gwahoddiad, iii) cynnal cyfweiliadau, a iv) cyfanswm cost datblygu a chynnal yr arolwg. (WAQ59751)

Antoinette Sandbach (North Wales): Will the Minister provide a breakdown of the projected costs of conducting the National Survey for Wales, including i) the field test, ii) invitation letters, iii) conducting interviews, and iv) the total cost of developing and carrying out the survey. (WAQ59751)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Chwefror 2012
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The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): The total cost for the first three years of the contract to deliver the National Survey for Wales is £3.18m. The contract is set to run for three years, with the option to extend up to five years. The cost mainly covers fieldwork, which includes sending letters to the addresses selected to take part and other activities such as the field test, data collection and data processing. It is not possible to provide the exact cost breakdown requested because the information is commercially sensitive. In addition to the main survey contract, there are additional development costs for technical advice from external experts and work to test and refine new survey questions. The total additional development costs are approximately £0.14m.

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

David Rees (Aberafan): Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i gefnogi pobl sydd ag epilepsi a'u teuluoedd. (WAQ59744)

David Rees (Aberavon): What action is the Welsh Government taking to support people who suffer from epilepsy and their families. (WAQ59744)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): The Welsh Government is committed to improving services for people with epilepsy across Wales as set out in our Service Development Directive for Epilepsy. It identifies key actions needed to improve services and underlines the need to strengthen integrated care across primary, community and secondary care services.

We have provided additional funding to all Health Boards in Wales to enable them to improve services and deliver care to patients with chronic conditions in their locality, including epilepsy. Health Boards are responsible for planning and delivering the services which meet the needs of their local population, working closely with all partners, including the Third Sector.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn annog pobl i ofalu am eu clyw yn dda. (WAQ59748)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): How is the Welsh Government encouraging people to take good care of their hearing. (WAQ59748)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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Lesley Griffiths: I am keen to explore all possibilities for helping people to lead as healthy a life as possible and for supporting them to take responsibility for their own health, including the need to raise awareness about sensory loss.

I recently met with Action on Hearing Loss Cymru and agreed to ask Public Health Wales to review the evidence on what could be effectively achieved by a public health campaign on hearing loss and to make recommendations on the potential impact of such work.

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa ddarpariaeth ffitrwydd ac ymarfer corff y mae'r GIG yn ei gwneud i bobl sydd ar feddyginiaeth y mae ennill pwysau yn un o'i sgil-ffeithiau (ee nifer o feddyginiaethau gwrthseicotig). (WAQ59749)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): What exercise and fitness provision does the NHS make for people who are on medication which has a side effect of weight gain (e.g. a number of anti-psychotic medications). (WAQ59749)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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Lesley Griffiths: The National Exercise Referral Scheme (NERS) provides opportunities for patients with certain health conditions. The Scheme aims to provide a safe and effective community based exercise opportunities suitable to client base that complies with national standards, offer suitable nutrition advice as appropriate in partnership with community dieticians and or accredited local slimming groups,

promote healthy weight loss and improve mental wellbeing and physical health of clients and increase the long-term adherence in physical activity of clients

Exercise referral provides an opportunity for patients to access a high quality supervised exercise programme, with the aim of encouraging long-term participation in physical activity.

The Scheme has been designed to build upon the best practice from the UK and the current evidence base as well as operating to national standards. The Scheme has been supported by the Welsh Government, working in partnership with Local Authorities, the National Public Health Service and Local Health Boards (LHBs).

Rebecca Evans (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ynghylch sawl ward mewn unedau seiciatrig yng Nghymru sy'n dal i ddefnyddio ystafelloedd cysgu. (WAQ59750)

Rebecca Evans (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister provide an update on how many wards in psychiatric units in Wales are still using dormitories. (WAQ59750)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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Lesley Griffiths: This information is not held centrally.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Faint o gleifion yng Nghymru a gafodd gluniau newydd metel-ar-fetel ar GIG Cymru cyn rhoi'r gorau i'w defnyddio yn 2010 ac a ydynt yn cael eu monitro yng ngoleuni tystiolaeth i'r Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd eu bod yn gallu achosi Gwenwyn Systemig. (WAQ59752)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): How many patients in Wales received metal-on-metal hip replacements on the Welsh NHS prior to their withdrawal in 2010 and are they being monitored in light of evidence to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) that they may cause Systemic Toxicity. (WAQ59752)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Chwefror 2012
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Lesley Griffiths: The NHS Wales Medical Director wrote to Health Boards on 30 January 2012 requesting an update on the number of patients being monitored following a metal on metal (MoM) hip implant. This data is currently being collected and I will write to you with the all-Wales figures as soon as they are available.

It is important to note the MHRA has only withdrawn one particular MoM implant device (the DePuy ASR hip replacement implant), and not all MoM implants.