

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

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 19 September 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***

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ba drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cynnal o ran y bwriad i sefydlu cyswllt awyren uniongyrchol â Tsieina, gan nodi dyddiadau ac amseroedd unrhyw gyfarfodydd a'r unigolion neu'r cyrff y cyfarfu â nhw. (WAQ61209)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the First Minister provide an update on what discussions he has held in relation to the proposed establishment of a direct air link to China, giving dates and times of any meetings and the individuals or bodies with whom those meetings took place. (WAQ61209)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012***

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): I hold regular discussions regarding the development of a wide range of new air links to Wales. These discussions are all commercial in confidence.

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

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): Sawl swydd sydd wedi'i chreu gan y Gronfa Fuddsoddi Busnesau Bach a Chanolig hyd yma. (WAQ61199)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): How many jobs have been created by the SME Investment fund to date. (WAQ61199)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012***

The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science (Edwina Hart): We will be capturing and reporting data on actual job creation on the first anniversary of investments, in line with current Finance Wales arrangements.

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): Sawl busnes bach a chanolig sydd wedi elwa o'r Gronfa Fuddsoddi Busnesau Bach a Chanolig ac a wnaiff y Gweinidog roi dadansoddiad o faint mae pob busnes bach a chanolig wedi'i dderbyn. (WAQ61200)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): How many SME's have benefited from the SME Investment Fund and will the Minister provide a breakdown of how much each SME has received. (WAQ61200)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Edwina Hart: To date, the Fund has invested £1.025 million into 3 businesses.

Russell George (Sir Drefaldwyn): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion am faint mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i wario ar y broses ac ar lunio adroddiad Ardaloedd Twf Lleol Powys. (WAQ61211)

Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister detail how much the Welsh Government has spent for the process and development of the Powys Local Growth Zones report. (WAQ61211)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Edwina Hart: Travel and subsistence costs for the Task and Finish Group amount to £419.40 to date.

Russell George (Sir Drefaldwyn): A wnaiff y Gweinidog nodi faint o arian Llywodraeth Cymru gaiff ei fuddsoddi er mwyn gweithredu'r argymhellion a wneir yn adroddiad Ardaloedd Twf Lleol Powys. (WAQ61212)

Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister indicate how much Welsh Government money will be invested in the future implementation of the recommendations made in the Powys Local Growth Zones report. (WAQ61212)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Edwina Hart: I am considering the recommendations of the report, and will make a further statement in due course.

Russell George (Sir Drefaldwyn): Ar ba ddyddiad y mae'r Gweinidog yn mynd i gyhoeddi ei rhestr o atebion amgen ar gyfer yr ardaloedd hynny na fydd yn elwa o'r prosiect Band Eang y Genhedlaeth Nesaf. (WAQ61214)

Russell George (Montgomeryshire): What date is the Minister going to announce her list of alternative solutions for those areas that will not benefit from the Next Generation Broadband project. (WAQ61214)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Edwina Hart: Further information on the roll-out of the Next Generation Broadband for Wales project will be available later in the autumn.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol y Gronfa Ddata Ceffylau Genedlaethol. (WAQ61177)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the National Equine Database. (WAQ61177)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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The Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and European Programmes (Alun Davies): The National Equine Database is managed by and paid for by Defra on behalf of UK. Defra announced on 1 August 2012 that no further funding would be available for NED from 30 September 2012 delivering a saving of £200,000 per annum and the database will therefore no longer operate from that date.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): Pa ddadansoddiad sydd wedi'i wneud hyd yma, neu a gaiff ei wneud yn y dyfodol, ynghylch y defnydd a wneir o'r Grant Amddifadedd Disgyblion i godi cyrhaeddiad addysgol ymysg y plant mwyaf difreintiedig. (WAQ61193)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): What analysis has been carried out to date, or will be carried out in future, regarding the use made of the Pupil Deprivation Grant to raise educational attainment amongst the most disadvantaged children. (WAQ61193)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): The creation of the Pupil Deprivation Grant reinforces the Welsh Government's intention to reduce the impact of poverty on educational attainment. It provides additional funding for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to ensure that schools embrace their wider mission to tackle barriers to learning and that they set consistent high standards for all.

Numerous studies have shown that there is no convincing connection between spend per pupil and outcomes for pupils, indicating that this is a complex issue with no simple solution.

For this reason we are looking at introducing a requirement that in their use of the Pupil Deprivation Grant schools must use approaches based on evidence. For example, the Sutton Trust has identified different approaches to improving learning in schools and provides guidance on which interventions are most appropriate for which settings and in which core subjects. We believe that approaches such as these encourage schools and teachers to adopt a more evidence based approach to the issues. They will then need to monitor and evaluate the investment to ensure it is having the desired effect. Identification of potentially productive strategies and approaches and sharing of lead practice will also be a major feature of the PDG.

There has been no analysis as of yet of the scheme as it is too early in its implementation for this to be meaningful. A more formal evaluation of the scheme is a longer term undertaking, one that will be fully scoped and commissioned over the coming months.

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): A oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru a'r Uned Safonau Ysgolion unrhyw gynlluniau i ryddhau unrhyw wybodaeth a gafwyd ynghylch y defnydd a wneir yn rhanbarthol a chan ysgolion unigol o'r Grant Amddifadedd Disgyblion. (WAQ61196)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): Does the Welsh Government and the School Standards Unit have any plans to release any information gleaned regarding regional and individual school use of the Pupil Deprivation Grant. (WAQ61196)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Leighton Andrews: The Welsh Government grant guidance to schools, local authorities and education consortia sets out the expectations of the way in which schools should use the grant funding to improve outcomes for learners. Schools and local authorities are required to submit spending plans which demonstrate that these expectations will be realised. Local authority/regional plans will be published on the Welsh Government website once they have been approved. We will also be identifying and sharing emerging best practice in the use of PDG funding.

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): Pa fecanweithiau sydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar waith i ddadansoddi'n strategol ar sail genedlaethol alldro/canlyniadau ac effeithiolrwydd y ffrydiau ariannu ar gyfer cynlluniau gwella ysgolion, a pha gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i gyhoeddi canlyniadau unrhyw ddadansoddiad o'r fath. (WAQ61197)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): What mechanisms does the Welsh Government have in place to strategically analyse on a national basis the out-turns/outcomes and effectiveness of funding streams for school improvement plans, and what plans does the Minister have to publish the results of any such analysis. (WAQ61197)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: The analysis of out-turns/outcomes and effectiveness of funding streams for school improvement plans under the delegation regulations falls to school governing bodies and local authorities.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y trafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael gyda CBAC yn y 12 mis diwethaf ynglyn â newid ffiniau graddau mewn arholiadau TGAU. (WAQ61215)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on discussions he has had with the WJEC in the last 12 months regarding changing grade boundaries for GCSE examinations. (WAQ61215)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: All discussions with WJEC regarding changes to grade boundaries for GCSE examinations were held by my officials. My regulatory officials engaged in discussions with WJEC on this matter in the process of gathering evidence for the report on GCSE English Language outcomes in Wales which I commissioned in August and which was published on 10 September. Prior to this, my officials negotiated with Ofqual in an attempt to persuade Ofqual not to request a grade boundary change. Discussions between officials and WJEC at this time were held with the purpose of acquiring data to support those negotiations with Ofqual.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): Pa bryd yn y gorffennol y mae'r Gweinidog wedi defnyddio ei bwerau i gyfarwyddo mewn cysylltiad ag arholiadau. (WAQ61216)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): When has the Minister used his powers to instruct regarding examinations in the past. (WAQ61216)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: Never.

Simon Thomas (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y trafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael gydag OFQUAL (Swyddfa Rheoleiddio Cymwysterau ac Arholiadau) yn y 12 mis diwethaf ynglyn â newid ffiniau graddau mewn arholiadau TGAU. (WAQ61217)

Simon Thomas (Mid and West Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on discussions he has had with OFQUAL (Office of Qualifications and Examination Regulation) in the last 12 months regarding changing grade boundaries for GCSE examinations. (WAQ61217)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Leighton Andrews: I have had no discussions with Ofqual regarding changing grade boundaries for GCSE examinations in the last twelve months. My officials had a number of discussions with Ofqual in August this year when Ofqual stated that they believed that WJEC's GCSE English Language qualification had been awarded too generously. Officials negotiated with Ofqual, arguing that a grade boundary change was not appropriate but, eventually had to reach a compromise position where the smallest adjustment of three alternatives was accepted. Ofqual subsequently wrote to WJEC requiring this change.

While my officials were conducting their investigation into GCSE English Language outcomes in Wales, it became increasingly clear to them that the outcomes were unjustified and that a regrading of WJEC's qualification to lower the boundaries was the only fair outcome. In the days leading up to the publication of Ofqual's interim report on 31 August, my officials tried on several occasions to persuade Ofqual to agree to such a regrading but these requests were refused.

Gofyn i Weinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy

To ask the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Yn dilyn ei gyhoeddiad ddydd Iau 6 Medi fod rhaid diwygio'r system gynllunio yng Nghymru er mwyn helpu i dyfu'r economi, a wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sut y mae'n bwriadu diwygio'r system gynllunio a pha ganllawiau fydd yn cael eu rhoi i awdurdodau lleol. (WAQ61205)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Following his announcement on Thursday 6th September that the planning system in Wales must be reformed to 'help grow the economy' will the Minister outline how he proposes to reform the planning system and what guidance will be issued to local authorities. (WAQ61205)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 19 September 2012

The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development (John Griffiths): Reform of the Planning system to help to grow the economy in a sustainable way is a high priority for the Welsh Government. Next month I will publish Planning Policy Wales edition 5 which includes a revised economy chapter. Work is also being taken forward with stakeholders to prepare a new Economic Development Technical Advice Note.

The Welsh Government has also announced its intention to introduce a Planning Bill this Assembly term to drive forward the reform agenda.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y Strategaeth Ddwr arfaethedig. (WAQ61208)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister provide an update on the proposed Water Strategy. (WAQ61208)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

John Griffiths: As I set out in my written statement of 12 September 2011 we are working on a water strategy that will set out how we will effectively and sustainably manage water in Wales now and in the future.

Since this announcement we have been working with key stakeholders including water companies, the regulators and customer bodies to develop the scope and content of the strategy.

We plan to continue with our stakeholder engagement throughout the development of the strategy and I expect to be in a position to publish a consultation document early in 2013.

Russell George (Sir Drefaldwyn): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion ynghylch pa bryd y bydd yr ymatebion i ymgynghoriad y Llywodraeth ar y Parthau Cadwraeth Morol yn cael eu cyhoeddi yr hydref hwn. (WAQ61210)

Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister detail when the responses to the Government's Marine Conservation Zones consultation will be made public this autumn. (WAQ61210)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 19 September 2012

John Griffiths: We expect to publish a summary of the responses to the first stage consultation for Marine Conservation Zones by the end of October 2012.

Russell George (Sir Drefaldwyn): Yn dilyn datganiad y Prif Weinidog yn gwrthwynebu'r llinellau peilonau 400kv yn y Canolbarth, a wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau a fydd TAN 8 yn cael ei egluro drwy ganllawiau cynllunio i'r graddau bod rhaid cyfyngu datblygiadau gwynt (fel cyfanwaith) i lefel sy'n golygu mai 132kv yw'r gofyniad mwyaf ar gyfer peilonau. (WAQ61213)

Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Following the First Minister's statement opposing 400kv pylon lines in Mid Wales, will the Minister confirm whether TAN 8 will be clarified through planning guidance to the effect that wind developments (cumulatively) must be restricted to a level whereby the maximum pylon requirement is 132kv. (WAQ61213)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 19 September 2012

John Griffiths: The statement issued by the First Minister recognised that there are output capacities in the Strategic Search Areas which the Welsh Government would not wish to see exceeded. In my letter issued in July last year I re-stated the maximum outputs from the SSAs which we would support. As stated in paragraph 2.12 of TAN 8 we envisage connection to the grid, in order to realise the potential of the SSAs, to be achieved either by a standard 3-wire system on wooden poles or by underground lines.

But the Welsh Government is not responsible for determining the grid infrastructure and the size of the pylons is a matter for the UK coalition Government.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Ty

To ask the Minister for Finance and Leader of the House

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu pa gymorth ariannol sydd wedi'i roi i gyrff, asiantaethau ac adrannau Llywodraeth Cymru, ac i Awdurdodau Lleol, i gydymffurfio â'r gofynion yn erbyn gwahaniaethu ar sail anabledd a geir yn Neddf Cydraddoldeb 2010, a Rhan M o Reoliadau Adeiladu 2010. (WAQ61207)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister outline what financial assistance has been given to Welsh Government bodies, agencies, departments; and Local Authorities to conform to the anti-disability discrimination requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 and Part M of the Building Regulations 2010. (WAQ61207)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 19 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 19 September 2012

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): The Welsh Government does not provide specific funding to public bodies in order to assist them in fulfilling each of their statutory duties.

All public bodies must comply with the statutory requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and supporting regulations, and would be expected to build these requirements into their forward budgetary planning in the same way as they would for any other legislation related to public services and functions.

Public authorities in Wales provide services and support on key issues that affect the lives of all citizens. Equality legislation provides a framework to support them in promoting equality, tackling discrimination and prejudice and helping to build a fair and inclusive society in Wales. Integral to this is that public authorities ensure that their organisations and services are fully accessible to, and inclusive of, disabled people.

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau pa Fyrddau Iechyd Lleol sy'n cydymffurfio â Birth Rate Plus gan roi manylion am y dyddiad y gwnaethant sicrhau cydymffurfiad. (WAQ61176)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister confirm which LHBs are Birth Rate Plus compliant and detail the date when they became compliant. (WAQ61176)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): All Health Boards have stated they work to ensure compliance with Birthrate Plus, however day to day compliance will fluctuate due to normal staff turnover, which is not monitored by Welsh Government.

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Sawl meddyg, nyrs a gweithiwr arall yn y gwasanaeth iechyd sydd ar hyn o bryd yn gweithio cyfnod hwy nag wyth awr y dydd ar y tro. (WAQ61180)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): How many doctors, nurses and other health service employees currently undertake shift work in excess of 8 hours a day. (WAQ61180)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: This information is not held centrally.

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi ffigur manwl gywir ar gyfer cyfanswm nifer y gwelyau mewn ysbytai yng Nghymru yn 2010, 2011 a 2012. (WAQ61181)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister give precise figure for the total number of hospital beds in Wales in 2010, 2011 and 2012. (WAQ61181)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: Information on NHS beds up to 2010-11 can be found on the StatsWales website by following the link below. Information for 2011-12 is due to be published in October 2012

<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=1371>

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr astudiaeth Asesu Technoleg Iechyd ar dechneg llawdriniaeth roboteg prostadectomi Da Vinci. (WAQ61182)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister give an update on the Health Technology Assessment study of the Da Vinci prostatectomy robotic surgery technique. (WAQ61182)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: Progress reports on this study are available on the National Institute for Health Research Health Technology Assessment Programme web site at; <http://www.hta.ac.uk/project/2169.asp>

Darren Millar (Gorllewin Clwyd): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi data am faint o arian a wariwyd ar gathetrau a chyfarpar angenrheidiol cysylltiedig yn yr ysbytai canlynol: a) Ysbyty Glan Clwyd; b) Ysbyty Wrecsam Maelor; c) Ysbyty Gwynedd; yn y blynyddoedd ariannol 2011/2012; 2010/2011; a 2009/2010. (WAQ61183)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): Will the Minister provide data on the amount of money spent on catheters and related necessary equipment at the following hospitals: a) Glan Clwyd Hospital; b) Wrexham Maelor Hospital; c) Ysbyty Gwynedd; for the financial years 2011/2012; 2010/2011; and 2009/2010. (WAQ61183)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The Welsh Government does not hold this data centrally. You will need to contact the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board directly for this information.

Darren Millar (Gorllewin Clwyd): Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cymryd i sicrhau nad yw cleifion mewnlol mewn ysbytai'r GIG yn cael cathetr wedi'i osod heb fod angen. (WAQ61187)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): What action the Minister taking to ensure that Welsh NHS hospital in-patients are not inappropriately catheterised. (WAQ61187)

Darren Millar (Gorllewin Clwyd): Pa drefniadau monitro sydd ar waith i warchod cleifion mewnol GIG Cymru rhag cael cathetr wedi'i osod heb fod angen. (WAQ61188)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): What monitoring arrangements are in place to protect Welsh NHS in-patients from inappropriate catheterisation. (WAQ61188)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The correct use of catheters is being implemented through the 1000 Lives S.T.O.P campaign. This is underpinned by a monitoring process for Boards to track compliance and catheter use.

Healthcare staff across Wales are asked to S.T.O.P. and assess whether the patient they are caring for needs a device. If one is in place, then staff will also question whether it is still needed or whether it can be removed.

Information on the campaign can be obtained through the attached link:

<http://www.1000livesplus.wales.nhs.uk/stop>

Darren Millar (Gorllewin Clwyd): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am broffil oed bydwragedd sy'n ymarfer a gyflogir gan GIG Cymru ym mhob un o'r tair blynedd diwethaf. (WAQ61191)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): Will the Minister make a statement on the age profile of practicing midwives employed by the Welsh NHS in each of the past 3 years. (WAQ61191)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The Welsh Government does not hold information about the age profile of practising midwives across NHS Wales.

Darren Millar (Gorllewin Clwyd): Ym mhob un o'r tair blynedd diwethaf, a fesul Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol yng Nghymru, sawl claf a ryddhawyd o wardiau ysbyty rhwng 9pm a 9am. (WAQ61192)

Darren Millar (Clwyd West): In each of the past three years and by Welsh local health board, how many patients were discharged from hospital wards between the hours of 9pm and 9am. (WAQ61192)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 20 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 20 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: This information is not held centrally.

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): A yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymwybodol o benderfyniad gan Ddeoniaeth Cymru i fynnu bod meddygon iau yn cael hyfforddiant mewn unedau newyddenedigol Lefel 3. (WAQ61194)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): Is the Welsh Government aware of a decision by the Welsh Deanery to require training to be undertaken for junior doctors in Level 3 neo-natal units. (WAQ61194)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: It is important all training, not just training for doctors, meets agreed standards. With regard to doctors, the Wales Deanery is responsible for ensuring training is provided within a setting which ensures all aspects of the training requirements are met.

In the case of neonatal care, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health recommend diverse training which is only seen in units treating the full range of sick and premature babies. This level of training required can only be met in level 3 neonatal units. Discussions are on-going with the Deanery.

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): Pa asesiad o effaith a gynhaliwyd ynghylch darpariaeth gwasanaethau newyddenedigol mewn byrddau iechyd fel Betsi-Cadwaladr a Hywel Dda lle mae cynigion yn cael eu hystyried ar hyn o bryd a fyddai'n golygu na fyddai unedau o'r fath yn y rhanbarthau hyn, ac felly na fyddai'r un meddyg dan hyfforddiant yn cael ei leoli yn y gwasanaethau hynny. (WAQ61195)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): What impact assessment has been undertaken on the provision of neonatal services in health boards such as Betsi-Cadwaladr and Hywel Dda where proposals currently being considered would lead to there being no such units within those regions and consequently no trainee doctors being placed within those services. (WAQ61195)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: I expect Health Boards to take all these matters into account in developing their plans for safe, high quality services for local populations. The National Clinical Forum has been established to quality assure these plans and includes representatives of the Wales Deanery.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa drafodaethau diweddar yr ydych chi neu eich swyddogion wedi'u cael gydag awdurdodau lleol a byrddau iechyd ynghylch cryfhau'r gwasanaethau cymorth cymdeithasol (e.e. cynlluniau cyfeillio, clybiau cinio, gwasanaethau cymydog da) sydd ar gael i bobl hyn yng Nghymru. (WAQ61198)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What recent discussions have you or your officials held with local authorities and health boards about strengthening social support services (e.g. befriending schemes, lunch clubs, good neighbour services) available to older people in Wales. (WAQ61198)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): We have a long history in Wales of enabling and protecting older people. From our 10 year Strategy for Older People to the appointment of the world's first Commissioner for Older People, older people have been at the heart of public services in Wales. I have regularly met with the National Partnership Forum for Older People (the Ministerial Advisory Group), and a wide range of other older people's organisations to hear their suggestions for improving support services for older people.

Local Authorities have played a key role in the development of local solutions to local issues through the 50+ forums that exist across Wales. Through our third sector partners we have many models of good practice that illustrate how important "that little bit of help" and strong community support is to older people in our communities all across Wales.

Local Health Boards have also engaged, through the National Service Framework for older people, and worked with third sector partners in helping them to deliver for example on hospital discharge and befriending work.

In addition we are exploring ways of creating innovative and responsive services using delivery models such as social enterprise and time banking that have their roots in the third sector. We have worked closely with the Big Lottery Fund on their Advantage Grant Scheme that has led to a £20m investment in Wales for the development of befriending and advocacy services for older people within the third sector in Wales.

In addition I chair a Partnership Forum involving the key stakeholders in social care, including the third and private sectors as well as local government and the NHS.

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Pa ganllawiau a roddir ar hyn o bryd i Fyrddau Iechyd Lleol ar ddefnyddio Prawf Guthrie ar fabanod newydd-anedig. (WAQ61202)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): What current guidance is issued to LHB's on the use of the Guthrie Test on newborns. (WAQ61202)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
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Lesley Griffiths: The Guthrie Test for phenylketonuria (PKU) is part of the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme. A range of guidance is available to all newborn bloodspot sample takers. This includes guidance on taking quality samples, how to complete the bloodspot cards, informed parental consent as well as notification about additional tests for conditions other than PKU. Guidance has been issued through bulletins to the appropriate health professionals' networks and meetings.

Health professionals can access the guidance through the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme website at: www.newbornbloodspotscreening.wales.nhs.uk

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): I ba raddau y mae babanod newydd-anedig yn cael eu sgrinio fel mater o drefn gan ddefnyddio Prawf Guthrie yng Nghymru. (WAQ61203)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): How routinely are newborns screened using the Guthrie Test in Wales. (WAQ61203)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The Guthrie Test for phenylketonuria (PKU) is part of the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Programme. The blood sample is taken from the baby's heel at day five to eight of life, ideally on day five (counting day of birth as day 0). The blood sample is screened for rare but serious diseases that respond to early intervention to reduce mortality and/or morbidity.

The screening test is part of routine post-natal care and is offered to all newborn babies with informed parental consent.

In Wales the conditions currently screened for are congenital hypothyroidism (CHT), cystic fibrosis (CF), phenylketonuria (PKU) and medium chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency (MCADD).

Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed): Pa ganran o fabanod newydd-anedig a enir yng Nghymru a gafodd Brawf Guthrie ym mhob un o'r pum mlynedd diwethaf. (WAQ61204)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): What percentage of newborns, born in Wales, received the Guthrie Test in each year over the last 5 years. (WAQ61204)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 18 September 2012

Lesley Griffiths: The numbers of babies screened in each financial year from 2007-08 to 2011-12 are given below. Live births figures are only available on a calendar year basis and hence cannot be used to calculate percentages:

Financial year	Babies screened
2007-2008	34,807 babies
2008-2009	35,129 babies
2009-2010	35,359 babies
2010-2011	36,232 babies
2011-2012	35,549 babies

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi rhesymau dros yr oedi cyn sefydlu'r Grwp Cynghori newydd ar Anabledd Dysgu a gyfarfu am y tro cyntaf ar 3 Medi 2012. (WAQ61189)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the Minister provide reasons for the delay in setting up the new Learning Disability Advisory Group which met for the first time on 3 September 2012. (WAQ61189)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Gwenda Thomas: The work of the original Learning Disability Implementation Advisory Group came to an end in 2010. It was subsequently agreed that a successor Group should be established to champion learning disability issues and provide advice to Ministers although no specific timescale was agreed. In 2011 we launched 'Sustainable Social Services for Wales: A Framework for Action'. The paper put in place a framework for meeting the challenges facing social services in the next decade and set out priorities for action. It seemed sensible therefore that the new Learning Disability Advisory Group be established to inform learning disability policy development within the context of that reform programme. Following a recruitment exercise earlier this year Dr Roger Banks, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Sophie Hinksman, Vice-chair of All Wales People First have been appointed co-chairs of the Group. Members include representatives of the key voluntary organisations working in the learning disability field as well as health professionals and representatives of the Association of Directors of Social Services.

The Group has the right skills and experience to provide sound advice on issues affecting people with a learning disability including how to take their needs into account in reshaping social services in Wales.

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Yn dilyn ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru i Ymchwiliad y Cynulliad i Adfywio Canol Trefi pan ddywedodd y Gweinidog y byddai'n comisiynu adolygiad o Ardaloedd Gwella Busnes o fewn a thu allan i Gymru, a wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynnydd yr adolygiad hwn. (WAQ61184)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Following the Welsh Government response to the Assembly Inquiry into Town Centre Regeneration in which the Minister stated that he would commission a review of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) within and beyond Wales, will the Minister provide an update on the progress of this review. (WAQ61184)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis): My Officials have been considering the merits of supporting BIDs within our future regeneration policy and we have gathered a large amount of information on BIDs during our review of regeneration. Following an evaluation of our current approaches to town centre regeneration across Wales we will shortly be commissioning a more detailed assessment of the Swansea BID and lessons learnt on the successful ballot to establish a BID in Merthyr during the summer to further inform policy development.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddweud sawl cais a wnaethpwyd i'r cynllun Cymorth Prynu, a gyllidir gan Lywodraeth Cymru, yn y blynyddoedd ariannol 2010-11, 2011-12, a hyd yma yn y flwyddyn ariannol 2012-13. (WAQ61226)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister provide the number of applications to the Welsh Government funded Homebuy scheme for the financial year 2010-11, 2011-12 and so far for the financial year 2012-13. (WAQ61226)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis): In 2010-11, 161 Homebuy applications were approved via the Strategic Capital Investment Fund 2 (SCIF 2). In 2011-12, 33 applications were approved via the Social Housing Grant (SHG) Programme. To date in 2012-13, 12 applications have been approved via the SHG Programme.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): Yn dilyn ei ateb i WAQ61112, a wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu'r amserlen ar gyfer y trafodaethau gyda rhanddeiliaid perthnasol ar y cynllun indemniad morgais. (WAQ61201)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Further to his answer to WAQ61112, will the Minister outline the timescale of the discussions with relevant stakeholders on the mortgage indemnity scheme. (WAQ61201)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Huw Lewis: As previously stated we have committed to exploring options for a mortgage Indemnity scheme for Wales and we will be making an announcement in due course. Discussions are ongoing with

the relevant stakeholders; which include the Council for Mortgage Lenders and the Home Builders Federation.

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

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sawl gwaith yn y 12 mis diwethaf y cofnodwyd bod cynghorau wedi colli data personol. (WAQ61178)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister outline how many instances of councils losing personal data have been recorded in the past 12 months. (WAQ61178)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): The Welsh Government does not hold data on the number of instances councils have lost personal data. This is a matter you may wish to pursue with the Information Commissioner.

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu pa bryd y gwneir penderfyniad terfynol ar y ffiniau etholiadol yn Ynys Môn; a pha bryd y bydd y ffiniau hyn yn dod i rym. (WAQ61179)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Will the Minister outline when a final decision on electoral boundaries for Ynys Môn will be made; and when will these boundaries come into force. (WAQ61179)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Carl Sargeant: I have agreed for changes to be made to electoral boundaries in Ynys Môn and for an Order to be made to implement the changes. I issued a written statement on 19th September informing Assembly Members of my decision.

A link to the statement is attached

<http://wales.gov.uk/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2012/electoralarrangementsanglesey/?lang=en>

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa gynnydd y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud tuag at sefydlu Comisiynydd Traffig yng Nghymru. (WAQ61185)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What progress has the minister made towards the establishment of a Traffic Commissioner based in Wales. (WAQ61185)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012
Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Carl Sargeant: I am pleased to say that I have made an office available for the Welsh Traffic Commissioner, Nick Jones. This will allow the Traffic Commissioner to work more closely with the Welsh Government and other key partners to improve bus services in Wales. The office is in Brunel House, Cardiff and is now open for business.

Eluned Parrott (Canol De Cymru): Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael gyda Chynghorau lleol a Thraffig Cymru ynglyn â'r paratodau ar gyfer graeanu'r ffyrdd y gaeaf hwn. (WAQ61186)

Eluned Parrott (South Wales Central): What discussions has the Minister had with local Councils and Traffic Wales regarding preparations for road gritting this winter. (WAQ61186)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Carl Sargeant: Since 2011, we have worked in partnership with the WLGA and local authorities to agree targets for the levels of road salt stocks that each should hold to ensure winter maintenance service levels can be maintained without reliance on external supplies, even in winters as extreme as those experienced over recent years.

We are continuing to establish additional road salt storage capacity and stocks in achieving operational and resilience targets which in total amount to 270,000 tonnes. This year we have established a storage facility in Merthyr Tydfil, have been granted planning permission for a resilience barn to be constructed at Llanidloes and are progressing a further two potential facilities on the A55 corridor in North Wales.

The Welsh Government's Information Service Traffic Wales disseminates information of any adverse winter weather on the road network via the Traffic Wales website, travel information line and electronic message signs.

Mohammad Asghar (Dwyrain De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau ar gyfer gorsaf reilffordd newydd yn Abertylleri. (WAQ61190)

Mohammad Asghar (South Wales East): Will the Minister provide an update on plans for a new railway station at Abertillery. (WAQ61190)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Medi 2012

Answer received for publication on 24 September 2012

Carl Sargeant: The Welsh Government published its prioritised National Transport Plan last December, which details the Welsh Government's core funding priorities for transport until 2015. The objective of the prioritisation process was to ensure the delivery of the key Welsh Government priorities within the available budget and to publish a programmed timetable for delivery of these priorities.

The prioritisation process did not consider including additional projects to the existing Plan. As a new station at Abertillery was not included in the original National Transport Plan, it was therefore not prioritised for delivery in the period to 2015.

The Welsh Government retains the funding to deliver the rail commitments within the National Transport Plan. The four regional transport consortia in Wales, including Sewta, receive annual Welsh Government grant to deliver their Regional Transport Plan (RTP) programmes. It is for Sewta to rank its priorities to consider whether Abertillery station should be progressed outside the prioritised National Transport Plan. In doing this, Sewta would need to consider the business case and affordability of a new station at Abertillery, as well as operational aspects such as compatibility with existing services.