

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 8 July 2010

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

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

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To ask the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister outline the rationale behind each of the three criteria for the Welsh Boiler Scrappage Scheme. (WAQ56183)

Answer issued on 07 July 2010

The Assembly Government was clear from the outset that any boiler scrappage scheme would be targeted on those more likely to be vulnerable to fuel poverty. Many pensioner households are on fixed incomes and often spend large parts of their day at home, so it was decided to target the scheme at householders over 60.

The Boiler Scrappage Scheme was run according to the Regulations that govern the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) partial grant, and as such the applicants needed to meet the requirement of being a homeowner in order to qualify.

The Boiler Scrappage Scheme was open to people aged 60 or over and the voucher had to be used to upgrade a G-rated boiler to an A-rated boiler to ensure that biggest improvement in efficiency of the boiler for the householder.

Boiler scrappage will be one of the measures that we will be considering as part of the whole house package for the all-Wales Fuel Poverty Scheme that will replace HEES next year.

Due to the popularity of the Welsh Boiler Scrappage Scheme all 5000 vouchers have now been issued and the scheme has now been closed to new applications.

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): What grants are available in Wales for energy efficiency improvements in the home. (WAQ56184)

Answer issued on 12 July 2010

The Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) provides grants for heating and insulation measures for eligible households. eaga manage the scheme on behalf of the Assembly Government and can be contacted on Freephone 0800 316 2815.

The Energy Savings Trust (EST) provides advice on what grants that may be available to householders in Wales from all sources such as energy suppliers and UK Government. EST can be contacted on Freephone 0800 512 012.

It is also worthwhile people contacting their energy suppliers as they frequently offer discounts and grants towards heating and insulation measures. Some energy suppliers have set up independent charitable trusts which give grants to their customers.

Each local authority in Wales is statutorily required to produce a Housing Renewal Policy which will set out what forms of assistance will be provided to home owners. The assistance can include energy efficiency measures.

The Welsh Housing Quality Standard sets minimum standards, including on energy performance, for social housing. The Assembly Government expects all social landlords in Wales to adopt the Standard and there is support available for bringing all properties up to the standard by the end of 2012.

In addition to investment through housing programmes, Arbed is investing over £30 million in improving the energy efficiency of homes across Wales' Strategic Regeneration Areas.

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What discussions does the Minister have planned with NHS BT as to the lack of activity in Wales in relation to National Transplant Week 2010 on 4 to 11 of July by NHS BT. (WAQ56179)

Answer issued on 09 July 2010

The Welsh Assembly Government is undertaking activity around National Transplant Week, including media relations support and digital engagement via the WAG website. However, our commitment to increase organ donation is not limited to one week of awareness but is an ongoing campaign to raise awareness of organ donation issues.

My officials have regular and ongoing discussions with NHSBT on its efforts to raise awareness of the importance of organ donation. To mark National Transplant Week, NHSBT launched a UK wide media campaign entitled Heart to Heart, a part of which features a case study of a patient from Tenby

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Which is the lead organ donation promotion organisation in Wales. (WAQ56180)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister ask NHS BT to enter a Memorandum of Understanding with Donate Wales via Kidney Wales Foundation. (WAQ56181)

Answer issued on 09 July 2010

There is no single lead organ donation promotion organisation in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government expects all organisations with an interest in organ donation to work through the Welsh Organ Donation Implementation Group to raise awareness across Wales.

The Welsh Organ Donation Implementation Group is currently in the process of developing an integrated Communications Strategy. One of the purposes of the strategy is to bring together all the key partners, improving co-operation and eliminating any potential for duplication of effort.

In light of the work currently being undertaken, I am not persuaded of the need for a Memorandum of Understanding between NHSBT and the Kidney Wales Foundation.

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire): Will the Minister announce the publication date for the report 'Ensuring Financial Stability and Developing a 5-Year Strategic Framework' which was recently referenced in another report on the National Medicines Management Programme by the All Wales Medical Strategy Group (AWMSG). (WAQ56186)

Answer issued on 08 July 2010

The report was published on 10 June 2010.

To ask the Minister for Rural Affairs

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): When is the task and finish group which is reviewing existing guidance on the licensing of dog breeding establishments due to report. (WAQ56182)

Answer issued on 08 July 2010

I received the Report from the Task and Finish Group on the 30th June and I issued a written statement on the 6th of July.

Mick Bates (Montgomeryshire): Will the Minister give an assurance that adequate resource will be devoted to monitoring Glastir, in accordance with EC Regulation 1290/2005 which states that up to 4% of the RDP may be devoted to monitoring. (WAQ56185)

Answer issued on 12 July 2010

A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation programme for the Glastir scheme is currently being designed in close co-operation with the relevant agencies and external partners.