

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 10 Gorffennaf 2013

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 10 July 2013

*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 Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi
To ask the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

Lynne Neagle (Torfaen): Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn cyhoeddi ei Hasesiadau Effaith Hawliau Plant? (WAQ65076)

Lynne Neagle (Torfaen): What plans does the Minister have to ensure that the Welsh Government makes public its Children's Rights Impacts Assessments? (WAQ65076)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty (Jeff Cuthbert): The previous Minister Huw Lewis confirmed during his evidence to the Children and Young People Committee, that whilst the impact assessments are not currently routinely made public, he would consider this further. It is therefore an issue I will be looking at.

Lynne Neagle (Torfaen): Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i baratoi ar gyfer cam nesaf gweithredu Mesur Plant a Phobl Ifanc (Cymru) 2011? (WAQ65077)

Lynne Neagle (Torfaen): What steps is the Welsh Government taking to prepare for the next stage of implementation of the Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011? (WAQ65077)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
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Jeff Cuthbert: We are working towards a new Children's Rights Scheme for 2014 which will set out the arrangements to help implement the second stage of the 'due regard' duty, which comes into force on 1 May 2014.

Gofyn i Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
To ask the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Gan gyfeirio at y llythyr cyfrinachol a anfonwyd at Aelod Cabinet dros Gyllid ac Economi Cyngor Caerdydd ynghylch safle Sgwâr Callaghan, a adroddwyd yn ddiweddar yn y wasg, a yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu rhoi caniatâd i Arweinydd Cyngor Caerdydd i'r llythyr gael ei weld ym mhwyllgor y Cyngor? (WAQ65062)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): With reference to the confidential letter sent to Cardiff Council's Cabinet Member for Finance & Economy regarding the Callaghan Square site, which was recently reported in the press, does the Minister intend to give permission to the Leader of Cardiff Council for the letter to be viewed in Council committee? (WAQ65062)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 08 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 08 July 2013

The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport (Edwina Hart): No.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau a all plentyn a anwyd ychydig cyn hanner nos ar 31 Awst oedi mynediad i'r flwyddyn ysgol ganlynol? (WAQ65061)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister confirm whether a child born shortly before midnight on 31 August can delay entry to the following school year? (WAQ65061)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

The Minister for Education and Skills (Huw Lewis): All children have to attend school in the term after their fifth birthday. Parents normally apply for a place in a reception class for their children for the school year following the child's 4th birthday, but they do not have to do so. If parents of a child born on the date in question apply for a place in a school for the September after the child's fifth birthday the child would normally be offered a place in Year 1, their chronological age group.

Angela Burns (Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion ynghylch a fydd y cynllun arfaethedig i gofrestru athrawon yn y Bil Addysg (Cymru) yn rhoi lle i gyflwyno sancsiynau i athrawon nad ydynt yn bodoli ar hyn o bryd? (WAQ65063)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister detail if the proposed teacher registration featured in the Education (Wales) Bill might give scope to introduce sanctions for teachers which do not currently exist? (WAQ65063)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Huw Lewis: It is not my intention to introduce new sanctions for teachers through the Education (Wales) Bill.

We already have well established arrangements to maintain high standards of practice for teachers. It is important that we ensure these arrangements continue without interruption, and without detriment to teachers or learners in our schools. The Education (Wales) Bill will create the framework for The Education Workforce Council to deliver its functions.

Angela Burns (Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu rhagor o fanylion am ei sylwadau yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 2 Gorffennaf 2013 pan ddywedodd y gellid symud dyddiadau tymor ysgol ar gyfer amgylchiadau anarferol megis digwyddiadau chwaraeon rhyngwladol? (WAQ65064)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister provide further detail on his comments in plenary on 2 July 2013 in which he stated that school term dates could be moved for unusual circumstances such as international sporting events? (WAQ65064)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 08 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 08 July 2013

Huw Lewis: The Bill sets out a possible 2-stage process to achieve harmonisation of term dates.

The first stage lies with local authorities and the governing bodies of voluntary aided and foundation schools who continue with their current duties to set term dates, but are given an additional duty of co-

operating and co-ordinating with each other when setting dates, so that those dates are the same, or as similar as can be.

The second stage, if required, is that the Welsh Ministers have the power to direct local authorities and voluntary aided and foundation school governing bodies on the dates which they must set.

It is my hope that term dates will be agreed by all local authorities and voluntary aided and foundation school governing bodies across Wales, so that I do not need to consider using my powers of direction.

Where it is clear that harmonisation of term dates has not been achieved during the first stage of this process, I will then consider stepping in and using my powers of direction to achieve harmonisation.

My comments on the 2 July related to the limited circumstances in which I may have to consider using my powers of direction even when term dates have been agreed during the first stage of this process. For example, an event such as the Ryder Cup may mean that it is prudent for schools within a 20 mile radius of the event to have different term dates to those of the rest of Wales.

However, such circumstances would be rare, and it must be remembered that I would have to consult on proposals to use my powers before I go on to actually issue a direction. This would be the case whether I was using my powers to achieve harmonisation or to change term dates which had been agreed.

Angela Burns (Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynglyn â'r cynigion yn y Bil Addysg i gysoni amseroedd tymor ledled Cymru, a sut y bydd hyn yn effeithio ar deuluoedd ar y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr a allai fod â phlant yn y ddwy wlad? (WAQ65065)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister make a statement regarding the proposals in the Education Bill to harmonise term times across Wales, and how this will affect families on the border of England and Wales who might have children in schools in each country? (WAQ65065)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 08 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 08 July 2013

Huw Lewis: Under existing legislation local authorities are responsible for setting term dates within their area, with certain exceptions such as voluntary aided and foundation schools whose term dates are set by the school's governing body. There is already potential therefore for term dates to differ between schools either side of the border.

Education in Wales is devolved and harmonisation of school term dates is an example of Welsh policy going in the opposite direction to that of England. Michael Gove's plans to allow all schools in England to be able to set their own term dates is likely to mean that parents and carers in England face greater difficulties in finding and financing additional childcare. It may also have an affect on families on the border of England and Wales who might have children in schools in each country.

Allowing all schools in England to set their own term dates could result in a variety of dates being set for English "border" schools. As a result, there may be little point in local authorities or relevant school governing bodies considering the term dates of their counterparts across the border when working together to harmonise term dates.

We have no plans to explore using the proposed Welsh Ministers' powers to alter the pattern of the school year.

Angela Burns (Gorllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ganlyniadau PISA 2012 y disgwylir eu cyhoeddi ym mis Rhagfyr? (WAQ65066)

Angela Burns (Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire): Will the Minister make a statement on the 2012 PISA results which are due out in December? (WAQ65066)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 08 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 08 July 2013

Huw Lewis: Following the PISA 2009 results, my predecessor announced a series of initiatives that would be taken forward to drive up improvements on 2 February 2011. These have been incorporated into the Improving Schools Plan published in October 2012. These reforms are now starting to embed in the system. All along, we have been clear that we do not expect to see large improvements in the PISA 2012 results. Our target is focused on the results of PISA 2015.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Cyllid
To ask the Minister for Finance

Leighton Andrews (Rhondda): A wnaiff y Gweinidog nodi, mewn termau arian parod, lefel cyllidebau Refeniw a Chyfalaf Llywodraeth Cymru yn 2013-14, 2014-15 a 2015-16, yn dilyn yr Adolygiad Cynhwysfawr o Wariant ar 26 Mehefin? (WAQ65078)

Leighton Andrews (Rhondda): Will the Minister set out, in cash terms, the level of Welsh Government Revenue and Capital budgets in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, following the CSR on 26th June? (WAQ65078)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 11 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 11 July 2013

The Minister for Finance (Jane Hutt): The Supplementary Budget 2013-14 published on 25 June sets out the Welsh Government Fiscal Resource DEL and Capital DEL Budgets for 2013-14. The Budget includes changes since the Final Budget 2013-14 was approved by the Assembly in December. The fiscal resource DEL for the Welsh Government in 2013-14 stands at £13.577m and the capital DEL is £1.223m.

The Resource and Capital budgets for the Welsh Government in 2014-15 and 2015-16 will be set in the Draft Budget 2014-15.

The UK Government's Spending Round announcement on 26 June set the total level of funding available to Wales in 2015-16. These budgets include provision for the Assembly Commission, the Auditor General Wales and the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, as well as the Welsh Government. This information, alongside the level of funding available to Wales in 2013-14 and 2014-15 is set out in the table below.

£000s

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Fiscal Resource DEL	13,705	13,690	13,635
Non-Fiscal Resource DEL ¹	482	506	626
Capital DEL	1,304	1,431	1,461

Total DEL (excluding Non-Fiscal Resource items)	15,009	15,121	15,096
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1 Ring-fenced depreciation and student loans.

Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
To ask the Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog nodi pa ddarpariaethau sydd wedi eu rhoi mewn lle i sicrhau'r gwarant 30 mlynedd ar y Grant Refeniw Tai Cymdeithasol? (WAQ65067)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister detail what provisions have been put in place to ensure the 30 year guarantee on the Social Housing Revenue Grant? (WAQ65067)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

The Minister for Housing and Regeneration (Carl Sargeant): I have made a very clear commitment that the Welsh Government will provide a stream of funding of £4m per year for 30 years to RSLs to finance the new mechanism we are developing to increase investment in social housing. Further details will be announced in due course.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog gadarnhau a yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau bod cyllid ar gyfer y Grant Refeniw Tai Cymdeithasol ar gael drwy fenthycwyr, neu a yw Cymdeithasau Tai yn gwneud cais uniongyrchol i Lywodraeth Cymru? (WAQ65068)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister confirm if the Welsh Government is making funds for the Social Housing Revenue Grant available through lenders, or if Housing Associations apply directly to the Welsh Government? (WAQ65068)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Carl Sargeant: This grant will be payable directly to Registered Social Landlords in order to fund the collective borrowing product that we are putting in place.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru unrhyw fodelau cyllido naill ai ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol neu dai'r farchnad agored y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu hystyried fel dewisiadau eraill yn lle'r modelau sydd eisoes ar gael? (WAQ65069)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister list any financing models either for social housing or market housing the Welsh Government is considering as alternatives to models already available? (WAQ65069)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Carl Sargeant: We are currently designing a shared equity scheme for Wales whereby funding is made available to potential home owners to purchase new build homes.

My officials are playing an integral part in the Ely Mill project which will bring over 700 homes to Cardiff.

Similarly, they are also working closely with the Bellerophon development company and local authorities to help identify suitable land sites.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ffigurau a ryddhawyd ym mis Mai 2013 gan y Cyngor Benthycwyr Morgeisi, a nododd mai yng Nghymru y mae'r dyhead am ferchen ar gartref ar ei uchaf yn y DU? (WAQ65070)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on the figures released in May 2013 by the Council of Mortgage Lenders, which stated that the aspiration of home ownership in the UK is highest in Wales? (WAQ65070)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
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Carl Sargeant: We provide support for people who aspire to own their own homes, both in terms of low cost home ownership (Homebuy) and intermediate rented homes (Rent First), via our Social Housing Grant programme.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynglyn â'r gyfradd llog y bydd yn ofynnol i Gymdeithasau Tai dalu eu Grant Refeniw Tai Cymdeithasol yn ôl arni? (WAQ65071)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement regarding the interest rate at which Housing Associations will be required to pay back their Social Housing Revenue Grant? (WAQ65071)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013*

Carl Sargeant: Housing associations are not required to pay back the grant.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ynglyn â Chynlluniau Datblygu Lleol a thargedau tai? (WAQ65072)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement regarding Local Development Plans and housing targets? (WAQ65072)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
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Carl Sargeant: The Welsh Government does not set housing targets for local planning authorities to achieve; it is for each authority to determine housing needs, based on robust evidence. The Welsh Government population and household projections form the starting point when preparing a Local Development Plan. The data and a model have been made available for local planning authorities to consider in light of local circumstances.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu rhagor o fanylion am fesurau diogelu i Gymdeithasau Tai o ran cynnal a gwasanaethu grantiau o'r Grant Refeniw Tai Cymdeithasol? (WAQ65073)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister provide more detail regarding safeguards for Housing Associations in maintaining and servicing grants from the Social Housing Revenue Grant? (WAQ65073)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Carl Sargeant: The lender performs the necessary affordability checks regarding the borrowing product. The grant is provided on a yearly basis in order to assist financing the borrowings.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi manylion am yr holl waith presennol y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud gyda'r sector rhentu preifat? (WAQ65074)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister detail all current work the Welsh Government is undertaking with the private rented sector? (WAQ65074)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Carl Sargeant: The Housing Bill and the Renting Homes Bill are the two main areas of current work being undertaken by the Welsh Government which will directly change the way things are carried out in the private rented sector.

Mark Isherwood (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am Alluogwyr Tai Gwledig? (WAQ65075)

Mark Isherwood (North Wales): Will the Minister make a statement on Rural Housing Enablers? (WAQ65075)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Gorffennaf 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 July 2013

Carl Sargeant: Rural Housing Enabler (RHE) projects in Wales work closely with rural communities to identify affordable housing need and lead those communities towards housing delivery in their areas.