

# **Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 21 Hydref 2013**

## **Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 21 October 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 Brif Weinidog Cymru  
To ask the First Minister***

**Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro):** A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog restru manylion pob cyfarfod y mae wedi'i gael gydag arweinwyr busnes ers mis Mai 2011, gan gynnwys y dyddiad, yr unigolyn a'r lleoliad? (WAQ65651)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** Will the First Minister list the details, including the date, individual and venue, of all meetings he has held with business leaders since May 2011? (WAQ65651)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro):** A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog restru manylion pob cyfarfod y mae wedi'i gael gydag arweinwyr undebau llafur ers mis Mai 2011, gan gynnwys y dyddiad, yr unigolyn a'r lleoliad? (WAQ65652)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** Will the First Minister list the details, including the date, individual and venue, of all meetings he has held with trade union leaders since May 2011? (WAQ65652)

**Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru):** A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddatblygu Sefydliad Polisi Cyhoeddus ar gyfer Cymru? (WAQ65657)

**Aled Roberts (North Wales):** Will the First Minister provide an update on the development of the Public Policy Institute for Wales? (WAQ65657)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Hydref 2013  
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**Carwyn Jones:** The Public Policy Institute for Wales came into being on 1 October, and will be fully staffed by early November. Its Board of Governors met for the first time on 14 October. The Institute's Director, Professor Steve Martin, has been meeting Ministers individually with a view to determining the Institute's initial work programme. In addition to the programme of work directly for Ministers, the Institute has set work in hand on four assignments for the Commission on Public Service Governance & Delivery.

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

**Mike Hedges (Dwyrain Abertawe):** Pa ddatblygiadau diwydiannol/masnachol pellach sydd yn yr arfaeth yn ardal Abertawe, gan gofio pa mor llwyddiannus oedd y datblygiad ym Mro Abertawe gyda'r Cynulliad a'r Awdurdod Lleol yn cydweithio? (WAQ65661)

**Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** What further industrial/commercial developments are planned to take place in the Swansea area, given the success of the development at Swansea Vale of joint Assembly and Local Authority working? (WAQ65661)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 18 October 2013***

**The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport (Edwina Hart):** In the context of joint working, the Joint Venture Agreement between Welsh Government and Swansea Council at Swansea Vale was

recently extended for a period of five years in order to support the continued delivery of the development, and at Felindre, substantial construction works to deliver site infrastructure are nearing completion. The site will provide up to 16 hectares of developable land for commercial uses, in a high quality landscape setting.

Welsh Government continues to progress development at SA1 and a number of commercial proposals are currently under consideration.

**Nick Ramsay (Mynwy):** Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu eu cymryd mewn ymateb i'r adroddiadau awdurdodol sy'n rhybuddio y bydd economi Cymru yn parhau i danberfformio o gymharu â gweddill y DU ar gyfer mwyafrif helaeth y ddegawd? (WAQ65663)

**Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** What action does the Minister propose to take in response to authoritative reports warning that the Welsh economy may continue to underperform the rest of the UK for much of the rest of the decade? (WAQ65663)

**Nick Ramsay (Mynwy):** Pa ystyriaeth y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i gwneud o'r effaith ar hyder economaidd yn dilyn ei rhybuddion ym mis Ionawr 2013 y gallai'r DU fynd i ddirwasgiad triphlyg? (WAQ65664)

**Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** What consideration has the Minister made of the impact on economic confidence of her warnings in January 2013 that the UK may go into a triple dip recession? (WAQ65664)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Hydref 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 18 October 2013***

**Edwina Hart:** As a devolved Government we have been providing strong leadership and have taken wide-ranging actions to support jobs and growth across Wales. We will continue to help individuals and businesses right across Wales, and we will be working with the Council for Economic Renewal in the coming months to develop a framework for investment.

**Nick Ramsay (Mynwy):** Ers dechrau yn ei swydd, a yw'r Gweinidog wedi cyfarfod neu siarad â newyddiadurwyr neu olygyddion ym mhapur newydd y Morning Star? (WAQ65665)

**Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** Since taking office, has the Minister met with or spoken to journalists or editors at the Morning Star newspaper? (WAQ65665)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 15 Hydref 2013***  
***Answer received for publication on 15 October 2013***

**Edwina Hart:** No.

**Nick Ramsay (Mynwy):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru manylion pob cyfarfod y mae wedi'i gael gydag arweinwyr busnes ers mis Mai 2011, gan gynnwys y dyddiad, yr unigolyn a'r lleoliad? (WAQ65666)

**Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** Will the Minister list the details, including date, individual and venue, of all meetings she has held with business leaders since May 2011? (WAQ65666)

**Nick Ramsay (Mynwy):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru manylion pob cyfarfod y mae wedi'i gael gydag arweinwyr undebau llafur ers mis Mai 2011, gan gynnwys y dyddiad, yr unigolyn a'r lleoliad? (WAQ65667)

**Nick Ramsay (Monmouth):** Will the Minister list the details, including date, individual and venue, of all meetings she has held with trade union leaders since May 2011? (WAQ65667)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 18 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 18 October 2013*

**Edwina Hart:** This information can only be provided at disproportionate cost.

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

**Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi dadansoddiad o'r £330 miliwn a ddyrannwyd i gefnogi Addysg Uwch drwy Gyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru o fewn cynigion y Gyllideb Ddrafft 2014-15? (WAQ65656)

**Aled Roberts (North Wales):** Will the Minister provide a breakdown of the £330m allocated to support Higher Education through the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales within the Draft Budget proposals 2014-15? (WAQ65656)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013*

**The Minister for Education and Skills (Huw Lewis):** The draft budget allocates the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales funding of around £362m in 2014-15. The breakdown is as follows:

HEFCW running costs - £2.7m  
HE Revenue - £330m  
For our Future - £32m  
HEFCW depreciation - £82k  
HE receipts – (£2.8m)

The £330m HE revenue BEL will provide expenditure for both the tuition fee grant (estimated to be around £190m) and funding to institutions (via HEFCW) in Wales for the promotion of other strategic priorities.

**Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru):** Faint o leoedd myfyrwyr cyfwerth ag amser llawn sy'n cael eu darparu ar hyn o bryd gan Athrofa Prifysgolion Blaenau'r Cymoedd? (WAQ65658)

**Aled Roberts (North Wales):** How many full time equivalent student places are currently provided by the Universities Heads of the Valleys Institute (UHOVI)? (WAQ65658)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013*

**Huw Lewis:** The latest figures available at the end of the 2012/13 academic year are as follows:

- Headcount: 3,305 learners (target 1,663)
- Credits: 125,115 credits (target 124,725)

This information relates to the number of learners (ie headcount) and the volume of credits, not full-time equivalents. This is because UHOVI is focussed primarily on part-time and work-based learning provision, with a significant focus on 'bite-sized' provision aimed at reaching the maximum number of hardest-to-reach learners. The use of FTE as a measure of full-time numbers is therefore not appropriate.

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

**Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro):** Pa drafodaethau a gafodd y Gweinidog Cyllid gyda Byrddau Iechyd Lleol cyn drafftio'r Gyllideb Ddrafft ddiweddaraf? (WAQ65653)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** What discussions did the Finance Minister have with Local Health Boards prior to the drafting of the latest Draft Budget? (WAQ65653)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013***

**The Minister for Finance (Jane Hutt):** Over the summer, I met a range of stakeholders, including representatives from Local Health Boards, to discuss the economic outlook and how we can collectively respond to the financial challenges we are facing.

These discussions fed into Cabinet's Budget considerations where we agreed allocations in line with our priorities and based on a real understanding of experience on the ground.

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

**Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog gyhoeddi cofnodion cyfarfodydd yn ymwneud â'r adolygiad o gyllid y GIG a gynhaliwyd dros yr haf, a rhoi manylion am gasgliadau'r adolygiad hwnnw? (WAQ65654)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** Will the Minister publish the minutes of meetings relating to the summer review of NHS finances and provide details of the conclusions of that review? (WAQ65654)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 21 October 2013***

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Mark Drakeford):** The formal elements of the review involved a series of meetings held between myself and the Minister for Finance between 1 May and 31 August.

The conclusions of that review formed part of the Draft Budget Statement announced by the Minister for Finance on 8 October, and further details are available in the Written Statement published on 17 October.

A request for publication of the minutes is currently being considered under the Freedom of Information Act and the outcome will be published in the Disclosure Log on the Welsh Government website in due course.

**Kirsty Williams (Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed):** Gan gofio eich bod wedi dweud yn y cyfarfod llawn ar 21/05/2013, "Byddaf yn ystyried a fyddai llinell gymorth chwythu'r chwiban benodol i Gymru yn ddefnyddiol i staff", beth yw casgliadau'r Gweinidog yn dilyn ei ystyriaethau? (WAQ65660)

**Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire):** Given that on 21/05/2013, you said in plenary that you "will reflect on whether a Welsh-specific whistleblowing helpline would be helpful to staff", what are the conclusions of the Minister's reflection? (WAQ65660)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 21 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 21 October 2013*

**Mark Drakeford:** We now have a specific Welsh whistleblowing policy, set out below. It continues to make available access to the Royal Mencap Society Whistleblowing Helpline. I am reassured that we have a range of avenues available to staff to raise their concerns.

On the 24th July 2013 the NHS Welsh Employers Unit disseminated a 'Raising Concerns (Whistleblowing) Policy for NHS Wales'. It is a policy developed in partnership with the NHS and Trade Unions and approved by the Welsh Partnership Forum - copy enclosed.

The policy encourages staff to report concerns and details how an individual can raise concerns by either contacting their line manager initially or alternatively contacting the following

- Other managers/ Board Members/Governance staff / Professional heads
- Local Counter Fraud Specialist
- National Fraud & Corruption Reporting Line
- NHS Counter Fraud Services
- Professional health organisations e.g. Health Inspectorate Wales
- Professional regulatory bodies e.g. General Medical Council
- Trade Union / staff representatives
- Any local hotline that might exist
- The charity Public Concern at Work
- Royal Mencap Society Whistleblowing Helpline

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

**Mike Hedges (Dwyrain Abertawe):** Pa ddatblygiadau tai pellach sydd yn yr arfaeth yn ardal Abertawe, gan gofio pa mor llwyddiannus oedd y datblygiad ym Mro Abertawe gyda'r Cynulliad a'r Awdurdod Lleol yn cydweithio? (WAQ65659)

**Mike Hedges (Swansea East):** What further housing developments are planned to take place in the Swansea area, given the success of the development at Swansea Vale of joint Assembly and Local Authority working? (WAQ65659)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013*

**The Minister for Housing and Regeneration (Carl Sargeant):** In the context of joint working, the Joint Venture Agreement between Welsh Government and Swansea Council at Swansea Vale was recently extended for a period of five years in order to support the continued delivery of the development. Swansea City Council is receiving support for affordable housing through the Social Housing Grant (SHG) programme. Within the current 3 year programme the funding will contribute to approximately

400 new affordable homes across the local authority area. In addition 36 new affordable homes will be delivered through the smaller properties programme in 2013/14 with support of £1.76m.

***Gofyn i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth  
To ask the Minister for Local Government and Government Business***

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Pa sylwadau a wnaeth y Gweinidog i'r Gweinidog Cyllid am y portffolio llywodraeth leol cyn drafftio Cyllideb Llywodraeth Cymru? (WAQ65646)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** What representations did the Minister make to the Finance Minister regarding the local government portfolio ahead of the drafting of the Welsh Government's Budget? (WAQ65646)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013***

**The Minister for Local Government and Government Business (Lesley Griffiths):** I had regular discussions and meetings with the Minister for Finance over the summer months regarding my portfolio ahead of the Draft Budget.

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u gwneud i'r Gweinidog Cyllid a chyd-Weinidogion eraill y Cabinet ynghylch y cyllid sydd wedi'i neilltuo ar gyfer llywodraeth leol? (WAQ65647)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** What representations has the Minister made to the Finance Minister and other Cabinet colleagues regarding hypothecated funding in local government? (WAQ65647)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 24 October 2013***

**Lesley Griffiths:** I have asked my Cabinet colleagues to consider opportunities for reducing the hypothecation of the grants they provide to Local Government to allow greater flexibility. For 2013-14, the Local Government Settlement included £91 million which was previously provided as specific grants. I recently announced the provisional settlement for 2014-15 which proposes transferring a further £39 million of specific grants into the RSG.

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Pa gasgliadau y daeth y Gweinidog iddynt yn ystod ei thaith haf o amgylch awdurdodau lleol o ran capasiti llywodraeth leol i ymdopi â thoriadau o hyd at 5.8% mewn cyllid heb orfod torri gwasanaethau rheng flaen neu gynyddu biliau'r Dreth Gyngor? (WAQ65648)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** What conclusions did the Minister make during her summer tour of local authorities regarding the capacity of local government to cope with cuts of up to 5.8% in funding without resorting to cutting frontline services or putting up Council Tax bills? (WAQ65648)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 24 Hydref 2013  
Answer received for publication on 24 October 2013***

**Lesley Griffiths:** I will write to you and a copy of the letter will be put on the internet.

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog egluro pam fod teuluoedd yng Nghymru wedi wynebu rhai o'r biliau Treth Gyngor uchaf yn y DU dros y tair blynedd diwethaf? (WAQ65649)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Will the Minister explain why families in Wales have faced some of the highest Council Tax bills in the UK over the past three years? (WAQ65649)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 23 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 23 October 2013*

**Lesley Griffiths:** This is not the case. Households in Wales pay amongst the lowest Council Taxes in the UK. The average band D Council Tax in Wales has remained well below the average for England since the tax was introduced in 1993. In 2013-14, the average Band D tax in Wales is some £230 lower than the average for England as a whole. The gap is even greater, £260, if we compare the figures for Wales with the average for Unitary Authority areas in England, the tier of Local Government there which provides the nearest comparison to Authorities in Wales for Council Tax purposes.

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** A wnaiff y Gweinidog esbonio pa wersi y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u dysgu yn dilyn yr helynt ynghylch cyflogau uwch swyddogion yng Nghyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili? (WAQ65650)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Will the Minister explain what lessons the Welsh Government has learnt from the senior executive pay scandal in Caerphilly County Borough Council? (WAQ65650)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 23 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 23 October 2013*

**Lesley Griffiths:** The Auditor General for Wales concluded the decisions regarding Caerphilly's pay-setting processes were a direct result of weaknesses in the Council's corporate governance arrangements. All Local Authorities should have strong corporate governance arrangements and these should be kept under continuous review by the Authority itself and be subject to external scrutiny by the Auditor General. Ultimately, decisions about the pay of senior staff are matters for each Authority for which they are accountable to their electorates.

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud o'r ganran uchaf o gynnydd yn y Dreth Gyngor a fyddai'n briodol yn yr hinsawdd ariannol bresennol? (WAQ65662)

**Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy):** What assessment has the Minister made of the highest percentage Council Tax rise that would be appropriate in the current financial climate? (WAQ65662)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013*

**Lesley Griffiths:** Local Authorities need to balance their commitments to maintain services whilst limiting the burden they place on council tax payers. Local Authorities have a good record in recent years of limiting the overall council tax rise and I expect them to continue to do so. I am prepared to use the capping powers available to me if any proposed increase appears unreasonable.

**Paul Davies (Preseli Sir Benfro):** Pa sylwadau a wnaeth y Gweinidog i'r Gweinidog Cyllid am y toriadau arfaethedig yn y portffolio Llywodraeth Leol? (WAQ65655)

**Paul Davies (Preseli Pembrokeshire):** What representations did the Minister make to the Finance Minister about the proposed cuts in the Local Government portfolio? (WAQ65655)



*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 22 Hydref 2013*  
*Answer received for publication on 22 October 2013*

**Lesley Griffiths:** I had regular discussions and meetings with the Minister for Finance over the summer months regarding my portfolio ahead of the Draft Budget.