

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 11 Hydref 2013

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 11 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 Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
To ask the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport***

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): Yn dilyn datganiad y Gweinidog am ardrethi busnes ar 1 Hydref 2013, a all y Gweinidog roi manylion ynghylch sut y bydd yn sicrhau yr ymgwymerir â'r drefn bresennol o fonitro nwyddau newydd mewn siopau elusen? (WAQ65614)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): Further to the Minister's statement on business rates on 1 October 2013 can the Minister provide details on how she will be ensuring that the existing regime of monitoring new goods in charity shops is undertaken?(WAQ65614)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013
Answer received for publication on 10 October 2013***

The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport (Edwina Hart): As I set out in my recent oral statement, I will be working with the Minister for Local Government to ensure that the existing regime of monitoring new goods sales in charity shops is undertaken effectively and consistently. As I also said, I will be writing to all Members to set this out. I can, however, assure you that this process has already begun and a questionnaire has been issued to all local authorities to obtain a full picture of practices across Wales.

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): Yn dilyn datganiad y Gweinidog am ardrethi busnes ar 1 Hydref 2013, a'i sylwadau ynghylch datblygu dulliau gweithredu pendant yng Ngogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban, pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gyda swyddogion yng Ngogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban ynghylch eu dulliau gweithredu o ran ardrethi busnes? (WAQ65615)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): Further to the Minister's statement on business rates on 1 October 2013 and her comments on the 'development of distinct approaches' in Northern Ireland and Scotland, what discussions has the Minister had with officials in Northern Ireland and Scotland regarding their approach to business rates? (WAQ65615)

***Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013
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Edwina Hart: I have written to Ministers in Northern Ireland and Scotland to raise issues on business rates and seek views - this is detailed in my regular statements on business rates to Members. My officials meet on a frequent basis with officials from the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations to discuss business rates policy development.

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

Aled Roberts (Gogledd Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog restru faint o gyllid sy'n cael ei ddyrannu i bob ysgol unigol yng Nghymru drwy'r Grant Amddifadedd Disgyblion ar gyfer y flwyddyn academaidd 2013-14? (WAQ65612)

Aled Roberts (North Wales): Will the Minister list the amount of funding being allocated to each individual school in Wales through the Pupil Deprivation Grant for the academic year 2013-14? (WAQ65612)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Hydref 2013

Answer received for publication on 14 October 2013

The Minister for Education and Skills (Huw Lewis): For 2013-14, individual school allocations are determined on the basis of £450 per pupil, aged 5-15 and eligible for free school meals, and the number of looked after children aged 4-15. We have published proposals in the draft budget to more than double this support in 2014-15 by increasing the amount per child to £918.

Across Wales in 2013-14, the Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) is providing £33.3 million to help schools tackle the barriers to learning for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Under the draft budget proposals, this will rise to over £71m in 2014-15. This is a further important contribution to breaking the link between poverty and educational attainment

The funding is allocated to regional consortia, which are charged with delegating 100% of the grant to schools. This provides consortia with leverage to support and challenge, through their Systems Leaders, the use of the grant by schools. For that reason, information regarding individual school allocations is not held centrally. However, under the terms and conditions of grant, each school is required to publish its PDG allocation on its website. Match funding of the PDG up to £3 million over 2013-14 and 2014-15 is also available under the Communities First Programme. A further £3.5 million has been allocated in 2013-14 to the National Support Programme to upskill the workforce to tackle the impact of poverty on educational attainment, and for development work.

For broader interventions to improve literacy and numeracy and reduce the impact of poverty on educational attainment, support is provided through the School Effectiveness Grant (SEG). For 2013-14 the total SEG amounts to more than £37.4 million of additional support.

Nick Ramsay (Mynwy): Pa gefnogaeth a roddir i'r bobl ifanc hynny sy'n ddi-waith ar ôl i'w lleoliad Twf Swyddi Cymru ddod i ben, gan gynnwys enghreifftiau penodol o gefnogaeth ychwanegol? (WAQ65613)

Nick Ramsay (Monmouth): What support is provided to those young people who are unemployed after their Jobs Growth Wales placement has finished, providing specific examples of further support? (WAQ65613)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013

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The Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology (Ken Skates): When a young person is coming to the end of their Jobs Growth Wales job opportunity the management agent undertakes an exit interview with them. During the interview they will discuss how the young person has found the Jobs Growth Wales opportunity, what skills and experience they have gained and to support them look for alternative employment if there are not successful to remain employed with their existing Jobs Growth Wales employer. The management agent will also support the young person to update their CV and help with any transition into further learning. In addition, the Management Agent will refer them on to Careers Wales who will undertake an impartial careers advice and guidance interview.

Mike Hedges (Dwyrain Abertawe): Pa gydberthynas sydd yna rhwng maint y cyngor a band cyfartalog ysgolion uwchradd yn ardal y cyngor? (WAQ65616)

Mike Hedges (Swansea East): What correlation is there between council size and the average secondary school band in the council area? (WAQ65616)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Hydref 2013

Answer received for publication on 14 October 2013

Huw Lewis: There is no clear relationship between council size and secondary school bands for schools within the local authority area.

The secondary school banding data for 2012 shows that some smaller local authorities such as Denbighshire perform well (all eight schools are in Bands 1 to 3), while others such as Merthyr Tydfil don't perform so well (all four schools are in Bands 3 to 5).

The same is true of larger local authorities. Swansea has eleven of its fourteen secondary schools in Bands 1 to 2, while Rhondda Cynon Taf has seventeen of its nineteen secondary schools in Bands 3 to 5.

Mike Hedges (Dwyrain Abertawe): Pa gydberthynas sydd yna rhwng band cyfartalog ysgolion uwchradd ym mhob ardal cyngor a barn Estyn am yr Awdurdod Addysg Lleol? (WAQ65617)

Mike Hedges (Swansea East): What correlation is there between the average secondary school band in each council area and Estyn's judgement of the LEA? (WAQ65617)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 14 Hydref 2013
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Huw Lewis: Estyn's inspections of the quality of Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People cover a far broader range of considerations than the secondary school banding model. Secondary school banding has been developed to identify schools that are in most need of support by considering school performance data alone.

It is reasonable to expect that banding and inspection outcomes will generally show similar positive or negative trends but they will not align as such. For example Estyn has placed Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council in Special Measures and all of its five secondary schools are in Bands 3 to 5. Similarly Denbighshire County Council had an overall judgement of 'Good' in its Estyn inspection and all eight of its secondary schools are in Bands 1 to 3. However, Estyn placed Pembrokeshire County Council in Special Measures and all of its eight secondary schools are in Bands 2 to 3.

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

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod yr holl ddarparwyr gofal cymdeithasol yn y sector annibynnol, sy'n derbyn contractau cyhoeddus, wedi'u hyfforddi'n ddigonol a bod ganddynt gymwysterau digonol? (WAQ65608)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): What is the Welsh Government doing to ensure that all independent sector social care providers, in receipt of public contracts, are sufficiently trained and qualified? (WAQ65608)

*Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013
Answer received for publication on 10 October 2013*

The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): The Welsh Government requires all independent providers to be registered, and to meet standards set out in regulation in order to operate in Wales. These regulations include workforce standards and are regularly checked by Local Authority commissioners, and inspected by CSSIW.

In addition, the Welsh Government supports training of social care workers in the public and independent sectors through a grant of £8 million a year.

We also provide £10 million a year to fund the Care Council for Wales, the social care workforce regulator and development body. Key staff are required to register with the Council and hold specified qualifications. This includes the managers of all residential and domiciliary care provided by the independent sector.

The Care Council has also produced an induction framework to ensure the sound preparation of new staff and practice guidance which describes the responsibility of managers to induct, supervise and train their staff.

It is encouraging to note that qualification levels in the social care workforce have risen sharply through the last 10 years. The Government is currently consulting on a range of proposals related to workforce development through the White Paper 'The Future of Regulation and Inspection of Care and Support in Wales.'

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n ei wneud i sicrhau bod gofawlyr a gweithwyr cymdeithasol yn cael cyfleoedd datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus? (WAQ65609)

Janet Finch-Saunders (Aberconwy): What is the Welsh Government doing to provide access to continuous professional development for carers and social workers? (WAQ65609)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013
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Gwenda Thomas: The Welsh Government supports the continuing professional development of social workers and social care workers by providing £8 million a year to fund targeted training across the social care sector.

We also provide £10 million a year to fund the Care Council for Wales, the social care development body. It is building upon existing post qualifying training by putting in place continual professional development (CPD) arrangements for social workers to support them at each stage of their career. It is also developing career pathways and CPD arrangements for social care workers, beginning with managers.

In addition, the Welsh Government provides funding to the Social Services Improvement Agency which has developed and ensured access to leadership development for social work team managers.

Continuing workforce development will also be taken into account as part of the implementation planning for the Social Services and Well-being Bill, to ensure that we have a workforce equipped to work in the new ways needed to provide citizen centred care.

Finally, the Government is currently consulting on a range of proposals related to workforce development through the White Paper 'The Future of Regulation and Inspection of Care and Support in Wales.'

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Pa ystyriaeth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i rhoi i ddyfarniad Llys Cyfiawnder Ewrop ar ddefnyddio Aseidiadau Effeithiau Amgylcheddol ar dir sy'n llai nag un hectar o ran maint? (WAQ65610)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What consideration has the Welsh Government given to the European Court of Justice ruling on the use of Environmental Impact Assessments on land below 1 Ha in size? (WAQ65610)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 10 Hydref 2013
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The Minister for Housing and Regeneration (Carl Sargeant): The ruling by the European Court of Justice in case C-244/12 did not raise any issues relevant to Wales.

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

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Yn dilyn WAQ65563, a wnaiff y Gweinidog roi dadansoddiad o'r costau gweithredu o £150,000 sydd ar gael i'r Comisiwn ar Lywodraethu a Darparu Gwasanaeth Cyhoeddus? (WAQ65611)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Further to WAQ65563, will the Minister provide a breakdown of the £150,000 operating costs available to the Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery? (WAQ65611)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 09 Hydref 2013
Answer received for publication on 09 October 2013

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): The budget for the Commission is available to meet necessary costs in regards of public engagement, research, legal fees, report publication, remuneration, expenses, and meeting costs. A final breakdown of costs incurred by the Commission will be available following the completion of the Commissions work.