

Atebion i Gwestiynau Ysgrifenedig y Cynulliad i'w hateb ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011

Answers to the Written Assembly Questions for answer on 13 December 2011

*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.*

Cynnwys

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To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i wella iechyd rhywiol ymysg pobl ifanc yng Nghymru. (WAQ58450)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What is the Welsh Government doing to improve sexual health among young people in Wales. (WAQ58450)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011
Answer received for publication on 13 December 2011

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): The Sexual Health and Well-being Action Plan for Wales is committed to improving the sexual health and wellbeing of young people, reducing inequalities in relation to sexual health, and to develop a society which supports open discussion about relationships, sex, and sexuality. It also forms part of Our Healthy Future, the Welsh Government's strategic approach to improve the quality and length of life and to ensure everyone has a fair chance to lead a healthy life.

Teenage conception rates fluctuate year-on-year. We are not complacent about this issue and are working to drive down the rate even further. The Sexual Health and Well-being Action Plan highlights the importance of prevention, education, individual responsibility, and access to healthcare services, when required. The plan recognises we need to provide good quality sex and relationship education for young people. It is available on-line at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/health/improvement/index/sexualhealth/?lang=en>,

We currently fund Public Health Wales to deliver the All-Wales Sexual Health Network, including HIV, to share information and promote good practice in sexual health interventions and the National HIV Prevention Programme in Wales targeted at high risk groups (Men who have sex with men and people living in Wales from high risk countries) as an effective method of preventing HIV transmission.

Our revised Personal and Social Education Framework, which has been introduced in schools and colleges, also aims to develop self-esteem and self-awareness, while empowering young people to explore the many aspects of sexuality and healthy personal relationships. The Framework is available at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/curriculuminwales/arevisedcurriculumforwales/pse/?lang=en>.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Pryd y mae'r Gweinidog yn disgwyl cyhoeddi'r ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad ar Ystadegau Staffio'r GIG a gyhoeddwyd ar 30 Awst 2011. (WAQ58451)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): When does the Minister expect to publish the response to the consultation on NHS Staffing Statistics issued on 30 August 2011. (WAQ58451)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011
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Lesley Griffiths: The response to the NHS Staffing Statistics consultation will be published by the Chief Statistician in January 2012.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y diffyg mewn cyllid sy'n wynebu Byrddau Iechyd Lleol yng Nghymru. (WAQ58452)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): Will the Minister make a statement on the funding shortfall facing Local Health Boards in Wales. (WAQ58452)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011
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Lesley Griffiths: As declared in the recent draft and final budget announcements, all NHS organisations have been provided with additional funding for this year and recurrently for future years. Based on this additional funding all Local Health Boards are required to deliver on their financial targets.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â lledaeniad HIV/AIDS yng Nghymru. (WAQ58453)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What is the Welsh Government doing to tackle the spread of HIV/AIDS in Wales. (WAQ58453)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011
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Lesley Griffiths: In addition to a number of local initiatives undertaken by the Health Boards, Public Health Wales are delivering the HIV Prevention Programme. Key elements of this Programme include:

- working with the University of Glamorgan to develop key messages and establish appropriate platforms for targeted populations to inform an integrated HIV awareness raising campaign. Research has been undertaken with targeted focus groups including men who have sex with men (MSM) and those already HIV positive;
- annual HIV testing for injecting drug users;
- piloting an initiative in North Wales to provide testing for asylum seekers from countries with high prevalence rates;
- providing support and funds towards a GP training programme to help improve testing for those at risk in the general population;
- ongoing antenatal screening (with almost 100% of women tested).

The Welsh Government's Sexual Health and Well-being Action Plan for Wales 2010 – 2015 is committed to improving the sexual health and wellbeing of the population and to reducing inequalities in relation to sexual health.

To improve NHS services for people with HIV the Welsh Government published Providing for the needs of people with HIV/AIDs in Wales: National Pathways and Service Specification for testing, diagnosis, treatment and supportive care in 2009. This document provides the recommended models of care for patients with HIV/AIDs including specialist clinical services, social care and services for families affected by HIV.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Beth mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i gynyddu canran y bobl hyn dros 65 sy'n cael eu himiwneddio rhag y ffliw. (WAQ58454)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What is the Minister doing to increase the percentage of elderly people aged over 65 immunised against influenza. (WAQ58454)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011

Answer received for publication on 13 December 2011

Lesley Griffiths: As at 7/12/2011, the percentage of people over 65 years who have received flu vaccination was 61.8%. This is an increase of 5.7% on the same week last year.

To ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure this year's campaign is as successful as possible, in October I met with heads of a range of professional bodies involved with delivery of the flu campaign. I was reassured by the reports I received at that time and I continue to monitor progress of this year's flu season through regular meetings with officials. Further meetings with professional bodies will be held if necessary.

GPs have been encouraged to order sufficient vaccine to achieve the 75% target uptake for people over 65 and the at-risk populations under 65. In addition, the Welsh Government has purchased a reserve stock of flu vaccine of just over 21,000 doses. This stock is being released to GPs who have run out of vaccine and are unable to obtain supplies through other routes.

Research into the effectiveness of the 2010/11 campaign concluded the three key barriers to vaccine uptake in at risk groups were: underestimation of the risk posed by seasonal flu; fear of the vaccinations and a lack of recognition of vulnerability. It also found the two key levers for uptake were using GPs as advocates and advertising. As a result, this year's campaign is better tailored to individual audiences, explaining who is at risk and that the vaccine is safe. The campaign is utilising traditional posters and leaflets as well as local radio and web based messages.

Andrew RT Davies (Canol De Cymru): Beth mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod cleifion yng Nghymru yn gallu cael gaeaf ar driniaethau newydd yn gynt. (WAQ58455)

Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central): What is the Minister doing to ensure patients in Wales have faster access to new treatments. (WAQ58455)

Derbyniwyd ateb i'w gyhoeddi ar 13 Rhagfyr 2011
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Lesley Griffiths: Health Boards are responsible for planning, funding and managing healthcare services for their resident populations, and decisions about an individual patient's care or treatment are for clinicians to make.

All new treatments deemed clinically and cost effective by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence or the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group are routinely made available to patients in Wales.

Where a treatment is not approved for use, or is awaiting approval, a patient may be able to access it via the Individual Patient Funding Request process, if they or their clinician can demonstrate grounds of exceptionality.