

Serial 107 Plenary 1/3

DP 806/03-07

Reynolds, Beverley (Cabinet Secretariat)

**From:** Reynolds, Beverley (Cabinet Secretariat)  
**Sent:** 15 November 2005 14:57  
**To:** Darch, Janet (SJ&R - CSU); Walker, Hilary (Cabinet Secretariat)  
**Cc:** PS Edwina Hart  
**Subject:** Plenary Commitments -1st March 2005 -7

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Due By:** 22 November 2005 17:00  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Both

I am following up commitments made in plenary this year. The commitment below was made by the LG Minister for the FM in answering OAQ 0207 on 1st March. I would be grateful if you could send me an electronic WORD copy of the letter which issued to Helen Mary Jones. Could you send this to me by **22nd November**

**Sue Essex:** On the second part of your question, it is extremely worrying if victims of abuse are being prevented from getting proper accommodation because of a rental history for which they are not responsible. To put on another hat, as it were, as Minister with responsibility for local government, I will take up that issue, and I would hope that the strategy that comes forward will act as a contextual statement for local authorities, within which they can develop their own practices and policies. In a wider sense, I think it might also be worthwhile for local authorities to work together, because where there is already expertise it can be good to share it with other authorities, so that they do not have to reinvent the wheel.

**Helen Mary Jones:** I am sure that all of us share the concerns that Catherine expressed about some of the situations that women and children, predominantly, face in our communities. Would you acknowledge that it has been difficult for some local authorities to develop their own strategies while they have been waiting all this time for the national strategy to come into play? While I appreciate that it is worth taking time to do things properly, can your Government give us some idea of when that strategy will be published, so that local strategies can be produced that fit into a coherent national whole?

**Sue Essex:** That is primarily a question for the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, but I believe that the strategy will be published by the end of March, Helen Mary; **I will let you know if that date is incorrect. I would hope that while the strategy was being developed, there was sufficient dialogue with local authorities for them to feel that they can develop their strategies in parallel. I suspect that that has been happening, but, if it has not, I will write to you and let you know.**

Many thanks - Beverley

Beverley Reynolds  
Assembly Plenary Business Unit/Uned Busnes Cyfarfodydd Llawn y  
Cynulliad  
Tel/Ffon 02920898669  
E-mail/E-bost:- [beverley.reynolds@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:beverley.reynolds@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

CYNULLIAD CENEDLAETHOL CYMRU  
GWASANAETH SENEDDOL Y CYNULLIAD  
LLYFRGELL YR AELODAU  
DP 806/03-07  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES  
ASSEMBLY PARLIAMENT SERVICE  
MEMBERS' LIBRARY

188836-1001

**Edwina Hart AM MBE**  
*Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration*



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Our Ref: MB/FM0166/05  
Your Ref: OAQ 0207

Helen Mary Jones AM  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff. CF99 1NA

Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd CF99 1NA  
Switchboard: 029 2082 5111  
Ffacs: 029 2085 8131

Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff CF99 1NA  
Switchboard: 029 2082 5111  
Fax: 029 2085 8131

21 March 2005

*Rheolwr*

During question time on 1 March the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services said, in a supplementary question to OAQ 0207, that Rhodri Morgan would write to you to about the publication of the All Wales Domestic Abuse Strategy and to confirm that sufficient dialogue has taken place with Community Safety Partnerships about the content of their strategies. I am replying as this falls within my portfolio.

I will be launching the National Strategy on Domestic Abuse on 30 March. It will build on the good work already being carried out by agencies and will develop multi-agency approaches to working with victims of domestic abuse and ways to prevent future incidents. The All Wales Domestic Abuse Working Group will closely monitor its delivery.

There was a public consultation about the Strategy that ended in September 2004 and the result of this was discussed at the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee meeting on 8 December 2004. The views of all interested parties, including the Welsh Local Government Association and Community Safety Partnerships, were taken into account.

Assembly officials have advised all Community Safety Partnerships that plans for addressing domestic abuse must be included in their Community Safety Plans from April 2005. This has been done via seminars that were held both in North and South Wales in 2004 and through a conference for all Domestic Abuse Co-ordinators.

*Edwina Hart*



BY DDENODDWR MATHEN I'WYBODA  
IN AINTEBOL I'N PŴYBODA