



Darren Millar AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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30 March 2011

Dear Mr Millar,

You recently tabled WAQ57339 in which you asked the Minister for the Economy and Transport to provide figures for the number of full-time equivalent posts in the Department for the Economy and Transport (DE&T) in each year of the third Assembly and the total paid in staff costs in each year. The Minister has asked me to respond.

For the purposes of this response, I have provided details of full-time equivalent staff, rather than posts, and salary costs as the representative indicator of staff costs. During a period of restructuring, transitional and aspirational posts are created which are either short term or are never filled. Including details of all of these posts would give a misleading picture of staffing levels. The table below therefore details the number of full-time equivalent staff employed on 1 April of each year and the total salaries for DE&T in each of the last three full years.

Year	Staffing (FTE)	Total Salary Costs (£)
2007-08	1,489.1	38,012,421
2008-09	1,219.0	37,910,686
2009-10	1,157.8	39,359,550

The total number of full-time equivalent staff in DE&T has decreased considerably during the past year, with the total standing at 928.1 on 28 February 2011. This has been largely the result of the development of the Economic Renewal Programme, which has allowed DE&T to review and restructure their workforce to deliver against their revised, focused remit. It is inevitable, however, that staffing levels across all departments within the Assembly Government will continue to decrease over the next 2-3 years as we are forced to live within increasingly tight budget settlements.

Yours sincerely



Gill Morgan

GILL MORGAN



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