

Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary 7 December 2000

[R] signifies that the Member has declared an interest.

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Questions to the Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language

Free Entry to National Museums

Q6 Alun Cairns: Has any progress been made in securing free entry for all adults to our national museums? (OAQ8341)

The Minister for Culture, Sport and the Welsh Language (Jenny Randerson): The National Museums and Galleries of Wales already offers free entry at all its branches to children and young people under 19, the over 60s and the unemployed. The draft budget makes available £600,000 to enable it to introduce a flat-rate admission charge for adults of just £1 from 1 April next year. In addition, we have announced that additional funding has been allocated that will enable the National Museum to extend free admission even further to include students and disabled people from next April.

Sports and Cultural Industries (Community Regeneration)

Q7 Helen Mary Jones: How will Jenny Randerson ensure that sports and cultural industries in Wales make a contribution towards regeneration in our communities? (OAQ8323)

Jenny Randerson: I will work closely with the Arts Council of Wales and the Sports Council for Wales, together with Cabinet colleagues, to ensure that we provide a wide ranging and co-ordinated approach to the development of communities in Wales.

There is clear evidence to show that sport, the arts and the wider cultural industries have a major impact upon the regeneration of communities, in providing community facilities, in building community confidence, in the development of skills and in providing wider access to a broad range of opportunities.

Canolfan Ucheldre Centre in Holyhead

Q8 Peter Rogers: What representations has Jenny Randerson received regarding problems faced by Canolfan Ucheldre Centre in Holyhead? (OAQ3335)

Jenny Randerson: I have not received any representations about any problems at the centre, although I have accepted an invitation to visit it when I am next in the area.

Promoting Non-Welsh Medium Arts and Culture

Q9 Richard Edwards: How does Jenny Randerson intend to promote non-Welsh medium arts and culture in Wales? (OAQ8252) *Withdrawn.*

Designating St David's Day as a Bank Holiday

Q10 Pauline Jarman: What discussions has Jenny Randerson had with the Secretary of State for Wales on the subject of designating St David's Day as a national bank holiday for Wales? (OAQ8328)

Jenny Randerson: I have not had any discussions with the Secretary of State for Wales on the subject of making St David's Day a bank holiday in Wales. The First Minister has written to the Secretary of State asking him to seek Cabinet colleagues' views on making St David's Day a bank holiday.

Delivering the Administration's Objectives

Q11 Jocelyn Davies: Will the draft budget for the period 2001-04 enable the administration to deliver its objectives with regard to the arts, culture and sport, as outlined in the partnership agreement? (OAQ8325)
Withdrawn.

The Arts Council of Wales's Constitution

Q12 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Has Jenny Randerson considered ways of freeing the Arts Council of Wales from the constitution that presently controls its activities? (OAQ8368) *Withdrawn.*

Input into the Forthcoming Westminster Legislation

Q13 Gareth Jones: What consideration has Jenny Randerson given to means of securing effective input into the forthcoming Westminster legislation on broadcasting and communications? (OAQ8327)
Withdrawn.

The Welsh Language Act 1993

Q14 David Davies: What public bodies in Wales are currently not covered by the Welsh Language Act 1993? (OAQ8298)

Jenny Randerson: Section 6 (1) (a) to (n) of the Welsh Language Act 1993 lists organisations that are public bodies for the purposes of that Act. Others are listed in the Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Orders 1996 and 1999.

Any organisation not listed in one of those places is not currently a public body for the purposes of the Act. I plan to bring forward draft secondary legislation to specify more organisations as public bodies.

Developing Museums Outside Cardiff

Q15 Mick Bates: What steps is Jenny Randerson taking to develop museums outside Cardiff? (OAQ8287)

Jenny Randerson: I have decided to ask the National Museum to work with the Council of Museums in Wales to explore the possibility of establishing exhibition partnerships to enable local museums to share and display items from the National Museum's extensive collections. That would enhance the role of local institutions and enable the National Museum to display more works to a larger audience.

The European City of Culture in 2008

Q16 Jonathan Morgan: Has Jenny Randerson received any representations from representatives of Welsh cities who propose to put in a bid for the European City of Culture in 2008? (OAQ8373)
Withdrawn.

Gwaith Flynyddol y Llywodraeth

C17 Owen John Thomas: Sut y mae Jenny Randerson yn esbonio absenoldeb unrhyw gynlluniau ar gyfer chwaraeon yn rhaglen waith flynyddol y Llywodraeth? (OAQ8369)

Jenny Randerson: Mae gennym eisoes gynlluniau sydd wedi'u hen sefydlu ar gyfer datblygu chwaraeon yng Nghymru, a amlinellwyd yn nogfen Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, 'Pobl Ieuainc yn Gyntaf: Strategaeth ar gyfer Chwaraeon yng Nghymru', sydd wedi cael ei chymeradwyo gan y Cynulliad mewn Cyfarfod Llawn. Yn ogystal, mae ein cyllideb ddrafft yn cynnwys cefnogaeth ariannol ychwanegol ar gyfer y Cyngor Chwaraeon, ac yr ydym yn cymryd rhan yng ngwaith dau weithgor. Mae'r cyntaf ar addysg gorfforol mewn ysgolion, a'r llall ar ddulliau o annog ffyrdd egniol o fyw.

The Government's Annual Work Programme

Q17 Owen John Thomas: How does Jenny Randerson explain the absence of any plans for sports in the Government's annual work programme? (OAQ8369)

Jenny Randerson: We already have well-established plans for developing sport in Wales, which were set out in the Sports Council for Wales document, 'Young People First: A Strategy for Welsh Sport', which was endorsed by the Assembly in Plenary. In addition, our draft budget provides increased financial support for the Sports Council, and we are participating in the work of two working parties. The first is on physical education in schools, and the second is on ways of encouraging active lifestyles.

Match Funding for Sporting Initiatives

Q18 Richard Edwards: Will Jenny Randerson make a statement on the availability of match funding for sporting initiatives in Wales? (OAQ8251) *Withdrawn.*

Replacing the BBC Six o'Clock News

Q19 Nick Bourne: Will Jenny Randerson reassert her support for the replacement of the current BBC six o'clock news with a 'Welsh Six'? (OAQ8308) *Withdrawn.*

Raising the Profile of Sport in Wales

Q20 David Lloyd: What measures will the administration bring forward over the next 12 months to raise the profile of sport in Wales? (OAQ8324) *Withdrawn.*

Developing the Film Industry in Wales

Q21 Kirsty Williams: How does Jenny Randerson intend to develop the film industry in Wales? (OAQ8351)

Jenny Randerson: I am encouraging the key agencies to look at the European structural funds and European Union programmes for support. Discussions are already taking place between Sgrŷn and Finance Wales about the establishment of a film fund. The Welsh Development Agency and Arts Council of Wales will continue to support film making. I am giving urgent consideration to the recommendations in the 'A Culture in Common' report, with a view to taking those forward.

Bringing the Ryder Cup to Wales

Q22 Glyn Davies: What steps has Jenny Randerson taken to support the campaign to bring the Ryder Cup to Wales? (OAQ8284)

Jenny Randerson: I took part in the all-party teeing-off event on 31 October to publicise the submission to the Professional Golfers' Association on the day of Wales's bid to host the Ryder Cup. The excellent team effort between the Assembly, the Celtic Manor resort, its golfing unions, the sponsored bodies and local government, has produced an impressive bid, which I hope will persuade the PGA to bring the event to Wales.

Arts and Culture Policy (Partnership and Collaboration)

Q23 Cynog Dafis: How will the administration ensure that the arts and culture policy is taken forward on the basis of partnership and collaboration between all relevant parties within the arts community? (OAQ8331) *Withdrawn.*

Establishing a National Gallery of Modern Art

Q24 David Melding: When will Jenny Randerson fulfil her manifesto commitment to establish a national gallery of modern art? (OAQ8283) *Withdrawn.*

Re-establishing a Welsh Marathon

Q25 John Griffiths: Will Jenny Randerson investigate the possibility of re-establishing a high profile, mass-participation Welsh marathon? (OAQ8300)

Jenny Randerson: Any proposals to arrange such an event would be a matter between the sport's governing body, the Athletics Association of Wales, and the relevant local authority. I would, of course, welcome any initiative that they might decide upon.

Gweithredu Polisi'r Cynulliad ar gyfer yr Iaith Gymraeg

C26 Owen John Thomas: A yw Jenny Randerson yn fodlon bod cyllid digonol ar gael er mwyn gwireddu polisi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar gyfer yr iaith Gymraeg? (OAQ8374)

Jenny Randerson: Bydd ein cyllideb ddrafft yn cynnig dros £2 miliwn ychwanegol ar gyfer Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Bydd hynny'n ei alluogi i gynyddu nifer ei staff a fydd yn monitro cynlluniau iaith Gymraeg, ehangu'r mentrau iaith, a gwneud gwaith pellach i annog trosglwyddiad y Gymraeg o fewn y teulu.

Implementing the Assembly's Welsh Language Policy

Q26 Owen John Thomas: Is Jenny Randerson satisfied that adequate funding is available to put the National Assembly's policy on the Welsh language into operation? (OAQ8374)

Jenny Randerson: Our draft budget will provide the Welsh Language Board with increased resources of over £2 million over the next three years. That will enable it to increase its staff effort on monitoring Welsh language schemes, extending the coverage of *mentrau iaith*, and carrying out further work to encourage the transmission of Welsh within the family.

Promoting the Creative Industries in Wales

Q27 Gareth Jones: Will Jenny Randerson make a statement on the measures that she is taking to promote the creative industries in Wales? (OAQ8371) *Withdrawn.*

Developing the Film Industry in Wales

Q28 Peter Black: How does Jenny Randerson intend to develop the film industry in Wales? (OAQ8288)

Jenny Randerson: I am encouraging the key agencies to look at the European structural funds and European Union programmes for support. Discussions are already taking place between Sgrŷn and Finance Wales about the establishment of a film fund. The Welsh Development Agency and Arts Council of Wales will continue to support film making. I am giving urgent consideration to the recommendations in the 'A Culture in Common' report, with a view to taking those forward.

The Recommendations of 'A Culture in Common'

Q29 Jocelyn Davies: What priorities has Jenny Randerson set among the recommendations of 'A Culture in Common'? (OAQ8326) *Withdrawn.*

Increasing Participation in Sport

Q30 John Griffiths: What policies will Jenny Randerson follow to increase participation in sport? (OAQ8301)

Jenny Randerson: Our draft budget provides the Sports Council for Wales with extra funding of £1.8 million over the next three years. That increase will enable the council to maintain its current activities and, in addition, to carry out a major drive to increase participation rates among women and girls, and to improve facilities and access for disabled sportsmen and women at the Welsh Institute of Sport.

Questions to the Minister for Rural Affairs

Implementing the Motion Adopted on 24 May

Q6 Jocelyn Davies: Have there been any further developments in efforts to implement the terms of the motion adopted by the National Assembly for Wales on 24 May? (OAQ8281)

The Minister for Rural Affairs (Carwyn Jones): I have drawn the terms of the motion to the attention of both the UK Government and the seed companies. In addition I have sought to persuade Michael Meacher to adopt a much more restrictive approach in his consideration of applications for marketing release. I have also asked Aventis to destroy the GM crop being grown at Birchenfield Farm in Flintshire and to stop talking to our farmers about more trials in Wales.

Maximising the Value of Welsh Beef and Lamb

Q7 Delyth Evans: What progress is being made to maximise the value of Welsh beef and lamb? (OAQ8274)

Carwyn Jones: Good progress is being made. In addition to work to improve the quality of animals through the sheep strategy and the beef improvement programme, the Assembly continues to work closely with the agri-food partnership, the Welsh Development Agency, Welsh Lamb and Beef Promotions Limited and others to develop and promote the sales of Welsh lamb and beef both at home and overseas. The Assembly is also working with partners to improve the grading of sheep when sold at market.

Sales of Welsh lamb to multiple retailers in the UK last year increased by 17.5 per cent on the previous year. Sales of Welsh beef in the UK represented a 28.5 per cent increase on the previous year. Export sales of Welsh lamb showed an increase of 13.7 per cent on the previous year and exports of Welsh beef were 250 tonnes (no comparison available to previous year due to export ban). These figures represent a significant increase in value to our livestock industry.

At the beginning of November I was able to announce that Oriel Jones and Son of Llanybydder had won a contract to supply 20 tonnes of Welsh lamb loin to the Ministry of Defence for its armed forces. This is

very good news for Wales and Welsh farmers. The deal is the outcome of hard work from many organisations which have worked together to ensure that every opportunity for sourcing Welsh meat at competitive prices is fully explored.

Fair and Independent Distribution of Food

Q8 Janet Davies: How can Carwyn Jones ensure that distribution of food through the Intervention Board is carried out fairly and independently? (OAQ8261)

Carwyn Jones: I refer you to the answer I gave to your question (OAQ8263) in Plenary.

Cysylltu Cynlluniau Amaeth-Amgylcheddol â Chynlluniau Newydd

C9 Gareth Jones: A yw'n fwriad gan Carwyn Jones gysylltu cynlluniau amaeth-amgylcheddol â chynllun newydd ddyfodiad i ffermwyr? (OAQ8355)

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn gweithio ar ystod o syniadau ar gyfer mentrau a fydd yn cynorthwyo newydd ddyfodiad i ffermio a byddaf yn cyflwyno papur a fydd yn amlinellu'r posibiliadau gerbron y Pwyllgor Amaeth a Datblygu Gwledig cyn bo hir. Byddaf yn ystyried ystod eang o opsiynau posibl i ddarparu cymorth, ac nid wyf awyddus i ddiystyried unrhyw bosibiliadau ar hyn o bryd.

Linking Agri-Environment Schemes with New Schemes

Q9 Gareth Jones: Does Carwyn Jones intend to link agri-environment schemes with a new scheme for new entrants to farming? (OAQ8355)

Carwyn Jones: I am currently working up a range of ideas for initiatives to help new entrants to farming and I will present a paper outlining the possibilities to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee shortly. I will be considering a wide range of possible options to provide assistance, and would not want to rule out any possibilities at this stage.

Adnoddau Ewropeiadd

C10 Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff Carwyn Jones ddatganiad i egluro sut y mae Trysorlys y DU yn effeithio ar yr adnoddau Ewropeiadd a fwriedir ar gyfer cynlluniau amaeth-amgylcheddol yng Nghymru? (OAQ8359)

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r Cynulliad wedi dewis defnyddio'r grant Ewropeiadd sydd ar gael ar gyfer cynlluniau o dan gynllun datblygu gwledig Cymru yn bennaf ar gyfer cynlluniau amaeth-amgylcheddol, coedwigaeth a Thir Mynydd. Bydd y grant hwn yn cael ei dderbyn yn uniongyrchol gan y Cynulliad ac nid oes gan Drysorlys y DU unrhyw ran i'w chwarae yn y broses.

European Resources

Q10 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement explaining how European resources that have been directed for agri-environment schemes in Wales are affected by the UK Treasury? (OAQ8359)

Carwyn Jones: The Assembly has elected to use the European grant that has been made available for schemes under the rural development plan for Wales primarily for agri-environmental schemes, afforestation and Tir Mynydd. This grant will be received directly by the Assembly and the UK Treasury has no part to play in this process.

The Rural Development Plan

Q11 Phil Williams: Are the accommodating measures of the rural development plan receiving the maximum additional funds from Europe, together with match funding from the Treasury? (OAQ8267)

Carwyn Jones: The Assembly has elected to use the European grant that has been made available for schemes under the rural development plan for Wales primarily for agri-environmental schemes, afforestation and Tir Mynydd—three of the four available accompanying measures under the Rural Development Regulation. All of the available European grant has been allocated for expenditure on specific measures during the plan period, together with substantial match funding from Assembly budgets.

Targets for Agri-Environmental/Organic Conversion

Q12 Helen Mary Jones: Has the Government of Wales amended its targets for agri-environmental/organic conversion by 2006? (OAQ8282)

Carwyn Jones: No. The target specified in the 'Betterwales.com' document published last April is to bring 25 per cent of agricultural land into either an agri-environment scheme or organic conversion by March 2003. The target of 26 per cent referred to in the partnership agreement, 'Putting Wales First', is a cautious estimate of the further progress that might be made by 2006.

Support for Young People

Q13 Elin Jones: How much money from the Assembly's agriculture budget is spent on support for young people in the Welsh countryside? (OAQ8343)

Carwyn Jones: It is not possible to provide a precise answer to this question since many of the individual agriculture budgets which relate to grant schemes are available for all eligible applicants, regardless of age.

Reducing Bureaucracy

Q14 Christine Humphreys: What action is being taken to reduce the amount of bureaucracy in agriculture? (OAQ8303)

Carwyn Jones: In October I published the Welsh farming customer survey action plan which sets out what action will be taken to address this issue. Initiatives include:

- a form design group to look at ways of standardising and simplifying common agricultural policy management scheme application forms and guidance notes
- free herd and flock record books for all cattle and sheep producers. 'Records clinics' are taking place across Wales to help farmers ensure that their farm livestock records meet European Union scheme requirements
- workshops being held across Wales to explain changes to common agricultural policy schemes and European Union regulations so that farmers are clear about what information they need to provide.

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in Welsh Meat Imports

Q15 Alun Cairns: What investigation has been made into the possibility of BSE being present in Welsh meat imports? (OAQ8337)

Carwyn Jones: The Food Standards Agency has recently instructed local enforcement agencies to step up checks on beef imported into the UK and investigate any consignments where the documentation may be inadequate, or where there are questions about the age, origin or traceability of the meat. FSA officials

visited France last week to check that the controls in place there were sufficient to prevent the export of meat now banned in France.

Future of Small Abattoirs

Q16 Glyn Davies: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement on the future of small abattoirs in Wales? (OAQ8290)

Carwyn Jones: The National Assembly has been pressing for action to implement the recommendations of the Maclean report and I welcome the announcement made on 28 November by the UK Government.

We will make a substantial contribution from next year to reduce the burden of hygiene charges on smaller abattoirs. The Food Standards Agency will announce the details of how the scheme will operate in due course.

Anghysondeb yn y Gyllideb

C17 Dafydd Wigley: A wnaiff Carwyn Jones ddatganiad i egluro'r anghysondebau sydd yn bodoli rhwng yr adran ar y Gymru wledig yn y ddogfen 'Rhoi Cymru'n Gyntaf', a'r adnoddau sydd yn cael eu cynnig yn y gyllideb? (OAQ8364)

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf yn credu bod anghysondebau rhwng 'Rhoi Cymru'n Gyntaf' a'r gyllideb ddrafft. Yn benodol, mae'r datganiad partneriaeth yn nodi'n glir yr adnoddau ychwanegol uwch law'r gwaelodlin sydd yn cael eu neilltuo i gyllidebau amaeth dros y tair blynedd nesaf.

Inconsistency in the Budget

Q17 Dafydd Wigley: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement explaining the inconsistency that exists between the rural Wales section in 'Putting Wales First' and the resources that are on offer in the budget? (OAQ8364)

Carwyn Jones: I do not believe that there is an inconsistency between 'Putting Wales First' and the draft budget. In particular the partnership statement clearly identifies the additional resources above the baseline which are being devoted to agriculture budgets over the next three years.

Cynllun Ffermwyr Ifanc

C18 Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff Carwyn Jones ddatganiad i egluro pam nad yw'r cynllun ffermwyr ifanc yn cael ei gynrychioli yn y gyllideb? (OAQ8356)

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf wedi datgan fy marn sawl gwaith na fydd cymorth sefydlu ar gyfer newydd-ddyfodiaid, fel sydd yn cael ei argymhell gan y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn y Rheoliad Datblygu Gwledig, yn cynrychioli gwerth da am arian ac ni fyddai'n debygol ynddo'i hun o gael unrhyw effaith sylweddol. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cytuno gyda'r Pwyllgor Amaethyddiaeth a Datblygu Gwledig y byddaf yn cyflwyno cynigion wedi'u cynllunio i gynorthwyo newydd ddyfodiaid ifanc i mewn i'r diwydiant ffermio fel bod modd eu trafod yn y flwyddyn newydd.

Young Farmers' Scheme

Q18 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement explaining why the young farmers' scheme is not represented in the budget? (OAQ8356)

Carwyn Jones: I have repeatedly made clear my view that an installation aid for young entrants, as envisaged by the European Commission in the Rural Development Regulation, would not represent good value for money and would be unlikely in itself to have any substantial effect. I have, however, agreed

with the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee that I will bring forward proposals designed to assist young entrants to the farming industry for discussion in the new year.

Tir Gofal

Q19 Owen John Thomas: A fydd buddsoddiad ychwanegol o £10 miliwn y flwyddyn i gynllun Tir Gofal yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf? (OAQ8363)

Carwyn Jones: Bydd cyfanswm y gyllideb ar gyfer Tir Gofal dros y tair blynedd nesaf yn fwy na £40 miliwn—llawer mwy na £10 miliwn y flwyddyn.

Tir Gofal

Q19 Owen John Thomas: Will there be an additional £10 million a year investment in the Tir Gofal scheme during the next three years? (OAQ8363)

Carwyn Jones: The total budget for Tir Gofal over the next three years will be in excess of £40 million—substantially more than £10 million a year.

Fox Control Societies

Q20 Lorraine Barrett: Can Carwyn Jones make a statement on the amount of money paid each year to fox control societies by the Forestry Commission? (OAQ8296)

Carwyn Jones: The Forestry Commission paid £8,215 to fox control societies in Wales last year. Many commission woods adjoin sheep farms, so the commission, as a good neighbour, controls foxes by shooting. Where there are active fox control societies, the commission may ask them to find and shoot foxes on its land, paying £25 on average for each visit.

An Integrated Plan for Rural Wales

Q21 Mick Bates: What action has Carwyn Jones taken to draw up an integrated plan for rural Wales? (OAQ8333)

Carwyn Jones: I am convening a meeting of the rural partnership in the new year and I shall be putting proposals to the partnership about how to take these matters forward.

Pithing Ban

Q22 Jonathan Morgan: What representations has Carwyn Jones received from the slaughterhouse industry on the proposed banning of pithing? (OAQ8306) *Withdrawn.*

Farming Connect

Q23 Alison Halford: Can Carwyn Jones make a statement about Farming Connect's performance in comparison to Business Connect? (OAQ8255)

Carwyn Jones: As Farming Connect is still being developed, it is not yet possible to make a comparison between the performance of this scheme and that of Business Connect.

The Phillips Report

Q24 David Lloyd: What impact will the Phillips report have for the National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department? (OAQ8279)

Carwyn Jones: The issues raised by the Phillips report are being considered by the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and the Health and Social Services Committee. There will be a joint meeting of the Committees in January and their report will inform the subsequent Plenary debate.

The National Assembly is now kept fully informed of the deliberations of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee, the expert advisory committee that briefs the UK government on BSE and new variant CJD matters, and has a scientific expert as an observer at SEAC meetings. The Agriculture Department regularly liaises with the Food Standards Agency, which was set up to advise and account to the National Assembly on food safety matters, and with colleagues from the Assembly's Public Health Division and the State Veterinary Service to ensure that relevant information is shared.

Low Pay for Agricultural Labourers

Q25 Ann Jones: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement on the problems of low pay for agricultural labourers in Wales? (OAQ8354) *Withdrawn.*

Veal Industry (Use of Dairy Calves)

Q26 Richard Edwards: Will Carwyn Jones make a statement on latest developments concerning the use of dairy calves in the veal industry in Wales? (OAQ8258) *Withdrawn.*

Safety of French Beef

Q27 Nick Bourne: What discussions has Carwyn Jones had with his Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food colleagues in relation to the safety of French beef that is imported into Wales? (OAQ8270)

Carwyn Jones: I have been in frequent and close contact with the UK Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on this issue.

Food safety is primarily a matter for the Food Standards Agency and we await its advice on this matter.

Lleihau Costau Hylendid Cig

C28 Cynog Dafis: Sut y mae Carwyn Jones yn bwriadu lleihau costau hylendid cig mewn unedau prosesu bychain? (OAQ8345)

Carwyn Jones: Mae'r cynigion yn y gyllideb a gyflwynwyd ger bron y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol fis Hydref yn cynnwys darpariaeth i leddfu pwysau o'r fath ar ladd-dai bach. Yr wyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi dilyn ein harweiniad ni drwy ymrwymo'i hunan i weithredu argymhellion adroddiad Maclean i gynorthwyo lladd-dai bach a chanolig. Bydd gostyngiadau mewn costau cyffredinol yn galluogi amryw o'r llad-dai lleiaf i oroesi a pharhau i wasanaethu'r gymuned wledig yng Nghymru.

Bydd yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd yn cyhoeddi manylion am sut y bydd y cynllun i gynorthwyo lladd-dai bach yn gweithredu maes o law.

Reducing Meat Hygiene Costs

Q28 Cynog Dafis: How does Carwyn Jones intend to reduce meat hygiene costs in small processing units? (OAQ8345)

Carwyn Jones: The budget proposals put before the National Assembly in October included provision to ease such pressures on the smaller abattoirs. I am pleased that the UK Government has followed this lead in making a commitment to implement the recommendations in the Maclean report to provide support for small and medium sized abattoirs. Reductions in overhead costs will enable many of the smaller plants to survive and to continue to serve the rural community in Wales.

The Food Standards Agency will announce the details of how the scheme to help smaller abattoirs will operate in due course.

The Effects of Flooding on North Wales Farmers

Q29 Peter Rogers: Will Carwyn Jones be meeting with north Wales farmers to discuss support in addressing the effects of flooding? (OAQ8332)

Carwyn Jones: The meeting has been arranged for 9 January.

Assistance for Farmers' Markets

Q30 Brian Hancock: What assistance is being offered to established farmers' markets by the Welsh Development Agency? (OAQ8278)

Carwyn Jones: The WDA is working actively to support the development of farmers' markets in Wales, and the agri-food partnership's regional groups are well placed to enable further developments to take place. There are a number of factors that the WDA have to take into consideration when looking at financial support for farmers' markets but, in general terms, the WDA will consider applications for assistance with respect to the following costs:

- a. start up costs (up to 40 per cent and linked to the likely size of the venture);
- b. costs associated with the development of the market with respect to the number of producers involved;
- c. costs associated with the promotion of the market to the public.