

Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary 26 November 2002

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

[W] signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

Questions to the First Minister

Prisons Policy in Wales

Q12 John Griffiths: What discussions has the First Minister had with the UK Government regarding prisons policy in Wales? (OAQ20511)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): Discussions are ongoing with the Home Office and the Department of Health regarding the transfer of responsibility for healthcare in prisons and the appropriate budget provision to the Assembly, in line with the principles set out in the 1999 White Paper 'The Future Organisation of Prison Health Care' and the provisions of the 2002 spending review.

‘Delio â Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau yng Nghymru: y Dull Partneriaeth’

C13 Geraint Davies: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y ddogfen strategol ‘Delio â Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau yng Nghymru: y Dull Partneriaeth’? (OAQ20478) [W]

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Lansiodd Jane Hutt ‘Delio â Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau yng Nghymru: y Dull Partneriaeth’ ym mis Mai 2000. Edwina Hart sy'n gyfrifol am gamddefnyddio sylweddau, ac am weithredu'r strategaeth erbyn hyn. Bydd ailstrwythuro'r timau gweithredu alcohol a chyffuriau, a phresenoldeb swyddogion y Cynulliad yn ardaloedd y pedwar awdurdod heddlu, yn gwella cydweithio ac yn arwain at well dealltwriaeth o'r sector cyffuriau ac alcohol. Bydd yn rhaid i'r 22 partneriaeth diogelwch cymunedol ledled Cymru gynhyrchu cynlluniau i ddelio â chamddefnyddio sylweddau, yn seiliedig ar ganllawiau'r Cynulliad. Rhydd hyn gyfeiriad clir ar gyfer gweithredu'r strategaeth ar lefel leol.

‘Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales: A Partnership Approach’

Q13 Geraint Davies: Will the First Minister make a statement on the strategic document ‘Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales: A Partnership Approach’? (OAQ20478) [W]

The First Minister: ‘Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales; a Partnership Approach’ was launched in May 2000 by Jane Hutt. Responsibility for substance misuse and implementation of the strategy now lies with Edwina Hart. The restructuring of the drug and alcohol action teams and the presence of Assembly officials in the four police force areas will result in improved partnership working and a better understanding of the drug and alcohol sector. The 22 community safety partnerships across Wales will be required to produce substance misuse plans, based on Assembly guidance. This will demonstrate a clear way forward for the implementation of the strategy at local level.

Links between North and South Wales

Q14 Glyn Davies: What steps has the First Minister taken to improve road and rail links between north and south Wales? (OAQ20504)

The First Minister: The trunk road programme, published in March, includes several schemes on the A470 and A483, which will further improve north-south links. Following the resumption of the process for establishing a 15-year Wales and Borders rail franchise, the Assembly Government is working closely

with the Strategic Rail Authority to ensure that we have an operator that will, over time, introduce improved services, including those for services between north and south Wales.

Question 15 (OAQ20475) withdrawn.