

**Atebion i Gwestiynau nas cyrhaeddwyd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn**  
**Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary**  
**29/11/2006**

[R] *yn nodi bod yr Aelod wedi datgan buddiant.*

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

[W] *yn nodi bod y cwestiwn wedi'i gyflwyno yn Gymraeg.*

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

**Cynnwys**  
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**Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau**  
**Questions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills**

**Swyddogaeth Penaethiaid Ysgolion**  
**The Role of Headteachers**

**Q10 Laura Anne Jones:** Will the Minister make a statement on the role of headteachers in Wales? OAQ1154(ELL)

**C10 Laura Anne Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am swyddogaeth penaethiaid ysgolion yng Nghymru? OAQ1154(ELL)

**The Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills (Jane Davidson):** Headteachers play a key role in driving up standards of teaching and attainment in schools. 'The Learning Country: Vision into Action' outlines our commitment to supporting headteachers to meet this challenge by extending and enhancing the current training and development opportunities that we offer to them.

**Y Gweinidog dros Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau (Jane Davidson):** Mae penaethiaid yn chwarae rhan allweddol o ran codi safon dysgu a chyrraedd mewn ysgolion. Mae 'Y Wlad sy'n Dysgu: Gweledigaeth ar Waith' yn amlinellu ein hymrwymiad i gynorthwyo penaethiaid i gyflawni'r sialens hon drwy estyn a gwella'r cyfleoedd hyfforddiant a datblygu yr ydym yn eu cynnig iddynt.

**Plant Awtistig**  
**Autistic Children**

**Q12 Jonathan Morgan:** What discussions has the Minister had with Welsh local authorities to ensure that there is adequate educational provision for autistic children throughout Wales? OAQ1139(ELL)

**C12 Jonathan Morgan:** Pa drafodaethau mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gydag awdurdodau lleol Cymru i sicrhau bod darpariaeth addysgol ddigonol ar gael ar gyfer plant awtistig ledled Cymru? OAQ1139(ELL)

**Jane Davidson:** Following the audit of provision in 2005, we are working with

**Jane Davidson:** Yn dilyn yr archwiliad o'r ddarpariaeth yn 2005, yr ydym yn gweithio

authorities to help them develop regional provision for low-incidence special educational needs such as autistic spectrum disorder. To date this has led to provision of two regional autism centres in north and south-east Wales with substantial Assembly Government funding.

gydag awdurdodau i'w helpu i ddatblygu darpariaeth ranbarthol ar gyfer mathau llai cyffredin o anghenion addysgol arbennig, fel anhwylder yn y sbectrwm awtistig. Hyd yn hyn sefydlwyd dwy ganolfan awtistiaeth ranbarthol yn y gogledd ac yn y de-ddwyrain gyda chyllideb sylweddol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad.

### **Gwella Adeiladau Ysgolion Improving School Buildings**

**Q13 Jenny Randerson:** Will the Minister make a statement on the amount of money spent by local councils in Wales on improving school buildings? OAQ1138(ELL)

**C13 Jenny Randerson:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am faint o arian a werir gan gynghorau lleol yng Nghymru ar wella adeiladau ysgolion? OAQ1138(ELL)

**Jane Davidson:** Latest available figures for local authority capital outturn expenditure on schools are for 2005-06 and show that £147.9 million was spent on improving school buildings inclusive of all grants.

**Jane Davidson:** Y ffigurau diweddaraf sydd ar gael ar gyfer gwariant alldro cyfalaf awdurdodau lleol ar ysgolion yw'r ffigurau ar gyfer 2005-06. Maent yn dangos y gwariwyd £147.9 miliwn ar wella adeiladau ysgolion, gan gynnwys pob grant.

### **Y Gyllideb Addysg The Education Budget**

**Q14 Janet Ryder:** Will the Minister make a statement on the education budget? OAQ1127(ELL)

**C14 Janet Ryder:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y gyllideb addysg? OAQ1127(ELL)

**Jane Davidson:** The education, lifelong learning and skills portfolio budget for 2006-07 is £1,536,247,000, rising to £1,735,929,000 at draft budget. Gross budgeted schools' expenditure by local authorities is over £2.1 billion in 2006-07. Average per pupil funding across Welsh local education authorities stands at £4,487, which is up from £4,291 in 2005-06.

**Jane Davidson:** Cyllideb y portffolio addysg, dysgu gydol oes a sgiliau ar gyfer 2006-07 yw £1,536,247,000, gan gynyddu i £1,735,929,000 yn y gyllideb ddrafft. Mae'r gwariant gros a gyllidwyd gan awdurdodau lleol i ysgolion dros £2.1 biliwn yn 2006-07. Mae gwariant ar bob disgybl unigol yng Nghymru bellach yn £4,487, sy'n gynydd ar y gwariant yn 2005-06, sef £4,291.

### **Canolfannau Dysgu Learning Centres**

**Q15 Mark Isherwood:** Will the Minister make a statement on provision for post-16 learning centres in Wales? OAQ1114(ELL)

**C15 Mark Isherwood:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ddarpariaeth ar gyfer canolfannau dysgu ôl-16 yng Nghymru? OAQ1114(ELL)

**Jane Davidson:** Capital funding for post-16 learning is made available primarily through the strategic capital investment fund, used to fund well-managed projects of the highest possible quality throughout Wales. Capital funding for the development of learning

**Jane Davidson:** Sicrheir bod arian cyfalaf ar gyfer dysgu ôl-16 ar gael yn bennaf drwy'r gronfa buddsoddi cyfalaf strategol, a ddefnyddir i ariannu prosiectau a reolir yn dda ac sydd o'r ansawdd gorau posibl ledled Cymru. Yr oedd yr arian cyfalaf ar gyfer

facilities was in excess of £25.5 million in 2006-07.

datblygu cyfleusterau dysgu yn fwy na £25.5 miliwn yn 2006-07.

## **Cwestiynau ar Lywodraeth Leol i'r Gweinidog Cyllid Questions on Local Government to the Finance Minister**

### **Gwella Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Improving Public Services**

**Q7 Kirsty Williams:** Will the Minister make a statement on what measures she has taken to support Powys County Council in improving the local services it delivers? OAQ1010 (LGP)

**C7 Kirsty Williams:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau a gymerwyd ganddi i gefnogi Cyngor Sir Powys o ran gwella'r gwasanaethau lleol y mae'n eu darparu? OAQ1010 (LGP)

**The Finance Minister (Sue Essex):** My officials have concluded the second review of the policy agreement between the Assembly and Powys County Council. The council's performance in 2005-06 was sufficiently strong for it to receive the third instalment of the performance incentive grant. The amount received by Powys was £1,424,716. Powys also benefited from a Making the Connections improvement fund consortia award.

**Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex):** Mae fy swyddogion wedi cwblhau'r ail adolygiad o'r cytundeb polisi rhwng y Cynulliad a Chyngor Sir Powys. Yr oedd perfformiad y cyngor yn 2005-06 yn ddigon cryf iddo gael trydedd ran y grant cymell perfformiad. Y swm a gafodd Powys oedd £1,424,716. Yr oedd Powys ar ei hennill hefyd o gael grant consortiwm gan gronfa gwella Creu'r Cysylltiadau.

*Atebwyd cwestiynau 8, 9, 10 ac 11 yn y Cyfarfod Llawn.  
Questions 8, 9, 10 and 11 were answered in Plenary.*

### **Cyflwyno Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus The Delivery of Local Services**

**Q12 Mark Isherwood:** Will the Minister make a statement on the regional delivery of public services by local authorities working together? OAQ0972 (LGP)

**C12 Mark Isherwood:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyflwyno gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn rhanbarthol gan awdurdodau lleol sy'n cydweithio? OAQ0972 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** We have already stimulated increased regional working through initiatives like the Making the Connections improvement fund and regional partnership boards. Our response to the Beecham report highlighted how we intend to build on this, encouraging further joint working and delivery of public services at both a local and regional level.

**Sue Essex:** Yr ydym eisoes wedi ysgogi cynnydd mewn gweithio rhanbarthol drwy fentrau fel cronfa gwella Creu'r Cysylltiadau a byrddau partneriaeth rhanbarthol. Dangosodd ein hymateb i adroddiad Beecham sut yr ydym yn bwriadu adeiladu ar hyn, gan annog rhagor o gydweithio a darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus ar lefel leol a rhanbarthol.

### **Gwasanaethau Llywodraeth Leol Local Government Services**

**Q13 William Graham:** Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of local government services in South Wales East?

**C13 William Graham:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y gwasanaethau llywodraeth leol a ddarperir yn Nwyrain De

OAQ0979 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** It is difficult to generalise about services provided by six local authorities. However, broadly, services are improving, Newport being the second authority to receive its performance incentive grant this year. Also it is gratifying to witness the improved performance of Blaenau Gwent following its well-documented problems a few years ago.

Cymru? OAQ0979 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** Mae'n anodd siarad yn gyffredinol am wasanaethau a ddarperir gan chwe awdurdod lleol. Fodd bynnag, yn gyffredinol, mae gwasanaethau'n gwella, a Chasnewydd oedd yr ail awdurdod i gael y grant cymell perfformiad eleni. Mae'n braf hefyd gweld y gwelliant ym mherfformiad Blaenau Gwent yn dilyn ei broblemau hysbys rai blynyddoedd yn ôl.

### **Dyfodol Cyfraddau Busnes The Future of Business Rates**

**Q14 Jenny Randerson:** Will the Minister make a statement on the future of business rates in Wales? OAQ0988 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** The non-domestic rating multiplier in Wales, at 43.2p, is the lowest in the United Kingdom. I propose to introduce an all-Wales small business rates relief scheme on 1 April 2007 which will reduce the rates bills for nearly half of all business in Wales. Most post offices will receive enhanced relief.

**C14 Jenny Randerson:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol ardrethi busnes yng Nghymru? OAQ0988 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** Y lluosydd ardrethu annomestig yng Nghymru yw'r isaf yn y Deyrnas Unedig, sef 43.2c. Yr wyf yn bwriadu cyflwyno cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi ar gyfer busnesau bach Cymru gyfan ar 1 Ebrill 2007 a fydd yn lleihau biliau bron hanner y busnesau yng Nghymru. Bydd y rhan fwyaf o swyddfeydd post yn cael rhyddhad pellach.

### **Y Broses Ddemocrataidd The Democratic Process**

**Q15 Mick Bates:** Will the Minister make a statement on any plans she is considering that will improve participation in the democratic process? OAQ1026 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** The elections planning group facilitates the sharing of information and dissemination of best practice in all areas of electoral administration. A joint campaign with the Welsh Local Government Association was launched in October to raise public awareness of the role of members and encourage and prepare new candidates for the 2008 local elections.

**C15 Mick Bates:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am unrhyw gynlluniau y mae'n eu hystyried a fydd yn gwella cyfranogaeth yn y broses ddemocrataidd? OAQ1026 (LGP)

**Sue Essex:** Mae'r grŵp cynllunio etholiadau yn hwyluso'r broses o rannu gwybodaeth a lledaenu arfer da ym mhob maes mewn gweinyddu etholiadol. Lanswyd ymgyrch ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ym mis Hydref i godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o rôl aelodau, ac i annog a pharatoi ymgeiswyr newydd ar gyfer etholiadau lleol 2008.