

Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary 28/09/2010

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

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

Contents

Questions to the First Minister

Effect of European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion on Wales

11. Eleanor Burnham: What assessment has the First Minister made of the effect the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion has had on Wales. OAQ(3)3099(FM)

The First Minister: The Department for Work and Pensions is the lead Government department for the year. The Assembly Government, in conjunction with DWP, will ensure that outcomes emerging from the year in Wales influence policy and form part of the UK-wide report in early 2011.

Mixed-Sex Wards

12. Dai Lloyd: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's policies regarding mixed sex wards. OAQ(3)3076(FM)

The First Minister: The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to abolishing mixed-sex hospital accommodation and to ensuring the safety, privacy and dignity of patients. Other than in circumstances where immediate intensive medical care is the priority, hospitals are required to ensure that patients are cared for in single-sex accommodation.

Deprivation in Wales

13. Darren Millar: Will the First Minister make a statement on action to tackle deprivation in Wales. OAQ(3)3094(FM)

The First Minister: There are many initiatives across the Assembly Government that aim to tackle deprivation. These include programmes such as Communities First, Families First, the community facilities and activities programme and our strategic regeneration areas. Also, the economic renewal programme will encourage a stronger business environment from which everyone can benefit.

Welsh Economy

14. Angela Burns: What steps is the First Minister taking to ensure a strong Welsh economy. OAQ(3)3089(FM)

The First Minister: We are implementing 'Economic Renewal: a new direction'. That means investing in infrastructure, skills, research and development and improving business conditions to support a stronger and more sustainable economy.

Priorities

15. Andrew R.T. Davies: Will the First Minister outline the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for the next six months in the South Wales Central region. OAQ(3)3087(FM)

The First Minister: For South Wales Central, as for the rest of Wales, we shall continue to implement 'One Wales', protect public services and build sustainable economic recovery.