

Information Further to Ministerial Answers

Information further to OAQ1859(FM) issued by Edwina Hart, the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, on behalf of Rhodri Morgan, the First Minister, on 3 October 2006

To Jocelyn Davies:

At First Minister's questions on October 3 you asked whether urgent consideration could be given to ensuring that all homes have a carbon monoxide detector. The First Minister asked me to reply to you.

Whilst health and safety is not generally devolved and there are no regulations requiring the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in homes, the Assembly Government remains concerned at the health risks posed by carbon monoxide.

Carbon monoxide detectors provide a useful means of protection; however detectors are no substitute for properly maintained appliances and flues.

New research in a review of domestic gas safety by HSE suggests that faulty gas appliances are still being used in many homes and that public awareness of CO poisoning risks is worryingly low.

My officials are working with the HSE in that review to produce proposals that will put in place a modern, effective gas safety regime.