

## **Information Further to Ministerial Answers**

**Information further to OAQ36202 issued by Rhodri Morgan, the First Minister, on 5 July 2004**

**To Rhodri Glyn Thomas:**

During Plenary on 22 June 2004 you asked about the national fallen stock scheme and I said that I would give a written response to your detailed questions. These questions are to do with the proportion of fallen stock that go to hunting dog kennels and with the supposed number of collection points in hunting dog kennels after the scheme is set up.

Neither the Welsh Assembly Government nor DEFRA has information about the proportion of fallen stock that goes to hunting dog kennels. As you probably know, many hunting dog kennels dispose of calves in the traditional way, namely the most appropriate livestock being fed to the hunting dogs, although some could take a small number of horses, sheep and other livestock. As hunting dog kennels are not found in every part of the UK, and as it is believed that calves represent a small percentage of all fallen stock that must be disposed of, it is not felt that hunting dog kennels have a very important function in terms of collecting and disposing of fallen stock.

The number of hunting dog kennels that are collection points will not be known for several months until the process of registering collectors under the fallen stock scheme has been completed. However, we understand that the National Fallen Stock Company has registered a great deal of interest from hunting dog kennels in the scheme. Although hunting dog kennels will be allowed to continue with the current practice of feeding fallen stock to their hunting dogs, they will be required to invest in the same way with slaughter yards for the collection and disposal of fallen stock in order to be able to be a part of the scheme.

I would also like to clarify the situation in relation to our contribution to the Government's budget for the National Fallen Stock Scheme. DEFRA has set aside £5 for the scheme in year 1, £3 million in year 2 and £2 million in year 3. The Welsh Assembly Government, in conjunction with the other Devolved Administrations, contributes a corresponding sum which means that the *total* Government funding in the first year, for example, will be around £10 million.

**Information further to the debate on the School Organisation Proposals by the National Council for Education and Training for Wales Regulations 2004 issued by Jane Davidson, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, on 4 July 2004**

**To Peter Black:**

In the context of the Plenary debate on the School Organisation Proposals by the National Council for Education and Training for Wales Regulations 2004 on Wednesday 22 June, you asked for details of the most recent English-medium sixth form established in Wales. I can now inform you that the most recent establishment of an English-medium sixth form took place in September 1997 at Cwmcarn High School, Cross Keys, Newport. By way of comparison, there have been no new further education corporations established in Wales in this time, and four further education mergers have taken place.

I trust that this information is helpful to you.

**Information further to OAQ26192 issued by Edwina Hart, the Minister for Social  
Justice and Regeneration, on 23 July 2004**

**To William Graham:**

During Assembly Questions on 22 June, the First Minister said that he would ask me to write and let you know if there are any crime reduction targets linking in with the crime fighting fund on which money would be particularly well spent.

Targets for the crime fighting fund are set out in 'Wales: A Better Country'; they are to reduce the fear of crime and address drug related crime, including effective treatment for addicts. By bringing together various Assembly funding streams, including substance misuse and some education budgets, we have created a focused package which will permit concerted action on substance misuse—including stamping down on Class A drugs; local crime reduction projects; domestic violence; youth disaffection and truancy and help with housing for ex-offenders. All these will help drive crime and disorder down and restore people's peace of mind.

Community safety partnerships are required to draw up strategies and action plans to tackle crime and substance misuse in their areas. These plans are submitted to the Assembly for approval. When approved, the partnerships put forward detailed proposals that deliver their action plans. The plans include detailed objectives and targets. Some of the funding for the projects comes from the Assembly's substance misuse action fund and safer communities fund. The Assembly is closely monitoring the delivery of the plans and the impact of the funding will be evaluated in due course.

**Information further to OAQ36189 issued by Jane Hutt, the Minister for Health and  
Social Services, in July 2004**

**To Nick Bourne:**

I refer to the question you raised with Rhodri Morgan in Plenary on 22 June about delays in answering correspondence. Rhodri promised that we would write to you about this matter.

You will recall that I wrote to you about this matter on 12 May. The situation has improved and specific measures have been put in place to ensure that we are better able to meet future deadlines. I remain confident that the response times will progressively improve though, particularly where the correspondence is complex and requires the input of outside bodies, there will be occasions when additional time will be needed. We are also monitoring the correspondence on a weekly basis.

I hope that this is helpful.