

## **Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary 5 February 2002**

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

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

### **Questions to the First Minister**

#### **European Union's White Paper on Governance**

**Q11 Phil Williams:** What discussions has the First Minister had with colleagues from other devolved administrations regarding the European Union's White Paper on governance? (OAQ15440)

**The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan):** I have had no formal discussions with colleagues from other devolved administrations on the White Paper. There have been regular discussions at official level with the other UK devolved administrations. The Assembly Government has also been represented at official level in a network of European regional governments looking at the White Paper.

#### **The Railway Service in Wales**

**Q12 Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** What recent discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales regarding the railway service in Wales? (OAQ15441)

**The First Minister:** I have regular meetings with the Secretary of State for Wales to discuss a wide range of transport issues. I have already had the opportunity of meeting the new chairman of the Strategic Rail Authority, Richard Bowker, and impressed on him the importance that we attach to achieving the new Wales and Borders rail franchise.

#### **Cabinet Reshuffle**

**Q13 Jocelyn Davies:** Will the First Minister comment on any plans that he has to reshuffle his Cabinet? (OAQ15456)

**The First Minister:** I have no plans to reshuffle my Cabinet.

#### **Vale of Clwyd**

**Q14 Ann Jones:** In his role as policy co-ordinator for north Wales, what plans does the First Minister have to visit the Vale of Clwyd to highlight the delivery of Welsh Assembly Government policy in north Wales? (OAQ15438)

**The First Minister:** I make every effort to visit north Wales regularly, including the Vale of Clwyd, and to attend North Wales Regional Committee meetings as frequently as I can. I also endeavour to ensure that the impacts on all parts of Wales are considered in the Welsh Assembly Government's policies and decisions.

#### **Devolving More Functions to the National Assembly for Wales**

**Q15 Dafydd Wigley:** What discussions has the First Minister had this year with Tony Blair on devolving more functions to the National Assembly for Wales? (OAQ15425)

**The First Minister:** I last discussed this matter with the Prime Minister when he visited the Assembly at the end of October last year.