

Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary 7 May 2002

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

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

Questions to the First Minister

Commonwealth Games

Q11 Eleanor Burnham: Will the First Minister make a statement on what discussions he has had regarding Cardiff hosting the commonwealth games? (OAQ17277)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): There are no proposals at present for Cardiff to host the Commonwealth Games, and therefore no discussions.

Member Status of the European Union

Q12 Phil Williams: What discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales regarding the ability of component nations of the UK to apply for full member status of the EU in their own right? (OAQ17278)

The First Minister: None. The European Union is constructed by treaty as an association of independent sovereign states.

Denu Busnesau a Chwmnïau i Ogledd Cymru

C13 Gareth Jones: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad ar sut y mae'r Llywodraeth yn denu busnesau a chwmnïau i ogledd Cymru? (OAQ17273) [W]

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwymo i greu hinsawdd sy'n caniatáu i fusnesau ledled Cymru ffynnu. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a phartneriaid Tîm Cymru yn cynnig cymorth cynhwysfawr i fusnesau. Yr ydym yn ceisio gwella'r gwasanaethau a gynigir gennym yn gyson, er enghraifft, ychwanegwyd grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad a lanswyd yn ddiweddar, sydd ar gael i fusnesau bach a chanolig eu maint ledled Cymru. Mae rhan helaeth iawn o'r Gogledd yn gallu elwa o statws haen 1 ardal a gynorthwyr, ac mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad swyddfa ym Mae Colwyn i hybu mewnfuddsoddi a buddsoddiadau mewn busnesau cynhenid.

Attracting Businesses and Companies to North Wales

Q13 Gareth Jones: Will the First Minister make a statement on how the Government attracts businesses and companies to north Wales? (OAQ17273) [W]

The First Minister: The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to creating a climate in which businesses flourish throughout Wales. The Assembly Government and its Team Wales partners offer comprehensive support to business. We constantly seek to improve the services that we offer, for example, we have added the recently launched Assembly investment grant, which is available to small and medium-sized enterprises throughout Wales. A very extensive area of north Wales benefits from tier 1 assisted area status, and the Assembly Government has an office in Colwyn Bay to promote inward and home-grown investment.

Commitments made in 'Plan for Wales 2001'

Q14 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the First Minister make a statement on the progress towards fulfilling commitments made in the 'Plan for Wales 2001' strategic document? (OAQ17270)

The First Minister: We are making good progress toward fulfilling the commitments contained in 'Plan for Wales 2001'. I will report again formally in my annual report in October.

Long Term Prosperity for the Rhondda

Q15 Geraint Davies: How does the First Minister co-ordinate Assembly policies to ensure long-term prosperity for the Rhondda? (OAQ17249)

The First Minister: The Welsh Assembly Government monitors and evaluates the impacts of all its programmes to ensure that they are having the targeted effect in improving services and conditions for all the people of Wales, including those in the Rhondda.

For example, the findings of the People in Communities programme were fed into the development of the programmes for the 100 Communities First areas, 17 of which are in Rhondda Cynon Taff, and a monitoring and evaluation strategy is currently being developed.