

**Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol at y Cyfarfod Llawn
Information Further to Plenary**

Cyhoeddir ymatebion yn yr iaith y'u darparwyd, gyda chyfieithiad Saesneg o ymatebion yn y Gymraeg.

Responses are published in the language in which they are provided, with a translation into English of responses provided in Welsh.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0221(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y
Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 08 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0221(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for
Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 08 March 2013**

At/To Llyr Huws Gruffydd:

During Plenary on 20 February I undertook to review your suggestion to consider supporting the creation of a comprehensive database of Welsh-language dramas and dramatists so that amateur dramatic companies, such as in Bethania chapel, can identify and encourage new material.

Whilst I understand that the Arts Council of Wales does not hold a database of either Welsh or English language dramatists, I am aware that other sources of information and support are available to our amateur dramatic societies.

For example the first port of call for these societies should be their umbrella body, the Drama Association of Wales. As this organisation holds one of the largest libraries of scripts, they should be able to assist their members in this connection. Further sources of information include the Theatre in Wales website (<http://www.theatre-wales.co.uk/index.asp>) which in addition to holding information on amateur dramatic groups also lists a number of Welsh dramatists, as does the website of Literature Wales.

Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru, the Welsh language theatre, can and does provide advice to amateur dramatic groups through a full time Participation Officer. Again a resource that can be utilised.

The information provided above will be of use to groups such as those located in Bethania chapel and although I am sympathetic to your suggestion, I am not in a position to provide any direct funding. Welsh Government arts funding, from my portfolio, is channelled through the Arts Council of Wales (ACW), working within the strategic framework that the Welsh Government sets. In accordance with the arms-length funding principle, I am not in a position to intervene in the individual funding decisions of the ACW. It is for the ACW to determine its own priorities and how much funding organisations or individuals might receive, taking into account competing demands on its budget.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0217(ESD) a gyhoeddwyd gan John Griffiths,
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy, ar 01 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0217(ESD) issued by John Griffiths, the Minister for
Environment and Sustainable Development, on 01 March 2013**

At/To Suzy Davies:

I am writing in response to the question you asked in plenary on 20 February regarding the installation of solar panels between railway tracks.

I have been informed that Network Rail has no current plans to install solar panels between rail tracks. However, a solar panel array has been installed in the Wales Rail Operating Centre. I have been advised that further installation of solar panels would be dependent on a business case.

As outlined in Energy Wales we will make further improvements to the planning system aimed at simplifying and streamlining low carbon energy development where responsibility is devolved. Details will be set out in our Planning White Paper and Draft Bill later this year.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0213(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y
Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 12 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0213(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for
Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 12 March 2013**

At/To Mike Hedges:

In my Oral Assembly Questions session on 20 February, you asked me whether I see any merit in producing a religious building heritage train across Wales, colour co-ordinated by denomination. I promised to write to you.

There is a range of activity under way to promote Wales religious heritage, much of which is supported by Cadw.

My *Historic Environment Strategy for Wales* charges Cadw with the delivery of the Heritage Tourism Plan (HTP), a £19m EU-funded project to maximise the economic value of heritage to Wales. Through HTP, work has already been undertaken at a number of sites within this strand. At Strata Florida, the HTP has funded a complete overhaul of the visitor centre, as well as extensive external interpretive and presentation improvement works all aimed at helping visitors to understand and appreciate better this iconic Welsh abbey. At St David's Bishops Palace, work is under way to design and install the new interpretative package by the end of this month. Plans are also being developed for the future remodelling of the existing visitor centre. On Anglesey, Menter Mon, through its Mona Antiqua initiative, aims to present the island as an integrated heritage tourism destination. Work has been completed on a number of schemes including conservation work on Llanddwyn Island, strongly associated with St. Dwynwen.

As part of HTP, in December 2011, I announced that a number of heritage projects across Wales would be benefiting from a £2.4m funding boost from the Welsh Government. Two of the schemes were linked to the religious landscapes theme:

Funding of £137,000 has been given to Treftadaeth Llandre to create a *Ceredigion Churches Trail*, a discovery trail of unique and interesting churches and chapels within the landscapes of mid-west Wales. This will be achieved through the development of a multi-site package, comprising an interpretation programme of themes linking churches and chapels. A visitor centre in St. Michael's Church, Llandre will act as an information hub and focal point to guide visitors to the trail. There are 10 participating churches and attractions.

Funding of £1m has been given towards a project led by Gwynedd and Conwy local authorities to support a number of collaborative schemes including development and interpretation of a *north Wales Pilgrims Trail*, a linking route from Denbighshire through to Bardsey Island; and create a hub and cluster series linking key physical pilgrim sites with virtual 'pilgrim points'.

In August 2012, as part of Cadw's *Cauldrons & Furnaces* project, storyteller and guide Andrew Dugmore recreated the ambitious pilgrim trek across south Wales to St David's. In partnership with the Ramblers Association the trail is now available online as a legacy from this Cultural Olympiad project. Visitors can walk from Llanthony Priory, pass ancient sites, holy wells and Cadw castles to St David's and the Bishop's Palace. My officials in Cadw are in discussion later this month with colleagues from Churches Tourism Network Wales and local representation from Pembrokeshire to look at proposals to develop this into an annual event.

The *Historic Environment Strategy for Wales* which I presented to the National Assembly in October 2012, charges Cadw to deliver the *Pan-Wales Heritage Interpretation Plan*. The Heritage Interpretation Plan provides support and leadership to promote access to and appreciation of the stories tied up in historic places, engaging the public through interpretation and creativity.

One of the story strands identified in this process is 'Spiritual and Inspirational Landscapes / Sacred Places'. In this case the interpretation plan covers the period from the Anglo-Norman conquest to the present day and from the monastic movements of the medieval period to the rise of Methodism, Non-Conformism and religious revivals. The plan outlines means by which the impacts of the distinctive Welsh religious movements on the people and landscapes of Wales can be interpreted through visitor oriented packages. For example, linked by a specific 'icon' (that is colour-coded), the Spiritual and Inspirational Landscapes story uses sites such as St David's Bishop's Palace as gateways to similar sites across Wales, encouraging a broader contextual interpretation. I am keen to support this with an engaging and compelling programme of events, as stated in my *Historic Environment Strategy for Wales*.

Each September the Civic Trust for Wales co-ordinates the *Open Doors* programme which is funded by Cadw. This is part of the European Heritage Days programme and promotes physical and intellectual access to historic or interesting built heritage that may not normally be open to the public or that may normally charge for entry. A number of churches and chapels have taken part in this programme and opened their properties, sometimes with an added level of interpretation which may be by a local historian or simply an information sheet. This generally takes place on a day or over a series of days in September.

The Civic Trust for Wales and Cadw are keen to help encourage greater participation by religious buildings to create tours and trails including heritage sites along the way.

The Saints and Stones trails in Pembrokeshire were set up some years ago now to give both holiday visitors and residents in the county access to the deep spiritual qualities of these ancient places of worship, access to some of its more remote and beautiful corners and thereby bringing in some small tourist trade to benefit the rural communities.
<http://www.saintsandstones/co.uk/>

You might also wish to be aware that Cadw has also designed a number of themed heritage walks, including one titled "Walking with princes, saints and legends" in south-west Wales
<http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/daysout/HeritageWalks/?lang=en>

Finally my officials and the Churches Tourism Network are working with Visit Wales to ensure faith tourism is incorporated within the *Tourism 2020* strategy. I have passed on your suggestion for a colour coded denominational set of trails, but at this stage the approach is largely regional, chronological and multi-denominational.
I hope this is helpful.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0212(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 08 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0212(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 08 March 2013

At/To Suzy Davies:

In my Oral Assembly Questions session on 20 February I promised to write to you with the details of activities in your area relating to the *Changing Cultures* programme.

I am pleased to advise you of the following events, and although the date of the first one at Neath Abbey has passed, there are more events and activities planned at that monument:

Neath Abbey Hands on Heritage Project:

Creative poetry/writing workshops for local schools -7 February 2013

- Local school-Ynys Fach Primary School, Neath
- Creative writing workshops led by Dylan Adams

Cardiff University and Cadw 'Hands on Heritage' pilot partnership- 15 March 2013

- An Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) award has been given to Cardiff University in conjunction with Cadw to develop a new 'Heritage Communication' module in 2014. A pilot project at Neath Abbey will form the work undertaken in 2013.
- A tour of Neath Abbey with Cadw's Bill Zajac on the **15 March**, along with support from the Cadw Lifelong Learning and Events Team to outline the students role in delivering toolkits/activities/resources at the main event on 6 July 2013 (see below).

Swansea Metropolitan Universtiy

- Creating stained glass panels as a prize for school for taking part in the creative writing project – presented to the school at the 6 July event.

Main 'Hands-on-Heritage' Event –A traditional crafts and conservation event showcasing a range of heritage skills – 6 July 2013.

Heritage Graffiti Project

Mid-to late March 2013 (dates to be confirmed shortly) – Heritage Graffiti project with young people at Her Majesty's Prison & Youth Offenders Institute, Parc, Bridgend. Cadw's Community Archaeologist with the Education and Skills Manager at Parc Prison are undertaking a heritage-based art learning project which encourages disengaged young people to discover their heritage. This will also enable these young people to work towards personal goals, giving them the opportunity to develop their self esteem, learn to work in a team and take ownership and learn about responsibility. The project will enable them to tell their own story in a graffiti mural to be displayed in the prison.

There will also be *Changing Cultures* activities in museums, archives and libraries across Wales. The following activities will take place in the South West Wales region:

Libraries in Neath Port Talbot, Swansea and Carmarthenshire will be delivering activities around World Book Day on 7 March. The activities will include storytimes, author visits and workshops, craft activities and all aimed at widening access to our culture and heritage.

Swansea Museum will be working with teaching staff to develop a new resource for children and staff. The resource will give children tools to research, handy tips and guidelines on different ways of presenting and interpreting information on exploring immigration in Swansea.

The successful School Transport Subsidy Pilot Scheme at Glamorgan Archives has demonstrated the value of providing support to enable groups of school children to visit archive services to study the history of their local communities from original archival sources. *Changing Cultures* will extend the opportunity to participate in this scheme to the whole of Wales, while also facilitating the development of new approaches to engage young people with their history and heritage. In addition, Archives and Records Council Wales will enable archive services across Wales to participate in *Changing Cultures*, extending and developing the work that they already do with local schools and groups.

There will be further projects added to the *Changing Cultures* programme throughout the year and details will be posted when they are confirmed. I attach the link to the Welsh Government and Cadw websites here, where you can also see the fuller details of the programme so far:

Cadw:

<http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/about/partnershipsandpojects/projectsfundedcadw/changing-cultures/?lang=en>

Welsh Government:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/changingcultures/:isessionid=A6A1E2927BB2E7F9C343C92D59A7ACC1?lang=en>

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0216(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 08 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0216(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 08 March 2013

At/To Rebecca Evans:

I write further to your supplementary question to OAQ(4)0216(HRH) Western Valleys Regeneration Area, asked on 20 February.

I am pleased to advise that applications seeking funding assistance from my Regeneration Areas are required to give due consideration to community benefit opportunities and that this must be addressed in the application for support.

In respect of the three recent project approvals in the Amman and Gwendraeth valleys Carmarthenshire County Council as the grant recipient has indicated its intention to secure community benefits through the procurement of delivery contracts for the projects. In doing so it is recognised that benefits will be appropriate to the size and nature of the project being delivered.

It is anticipated therefore that the delivery of these projects will bring wider benefits to businesses and residents of the Amman and Gwendraeth valleys.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0216(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y
Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 08 Mawrth 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0216(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for
Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 08 March 2013**

At/To Byron Davies:

I write further to your 'supplementary' question to OAQ(4)0216(HRH)-Western Valleys Regeneration Area, asked on 20 February.

I am advised by my officials that the commission to consider the physical regeneration of Glynneath town centre is complete and was adopted by the council on 1 February. As part of the commission the consultants have held two public consultation events out in the community as well as two stakeholder workshops; I am advised that these events were well attended and gave local representatives and residents the opportunity to engage in the process and contribute to the plan.

The relevant contacts in respect of the commission are:

- Neath Port Talbot Council- Gareth Nutt Head of Property and Regeneration, The Quays, Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park, Neath SA11 2GG.
- Western Valleys Regeneration Area team- Gillian McGregor, Regeneration Manager, Llys y Ddraig, Penllergaer Business Park, Penllergaer, Swansea SA4 9NX.