

**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)0208(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y
Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 29 Ionawr 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0208(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for
Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 29 January 2013**

At/To Suzy Davies:

I am writing to follow up your question in the Chamber on 16 January regarding the change of use procedures for historic buildings and the outcome of the stakeholder engagement on the Heritage Bill.

During 2012, Cadw undertook a wide-ranging engagement exercise with heritage specialists, stakeholders and the general public to inform the development of my Historic Environment Strategy and the Heritage Bill. The change of use procedures, as they might impact on historic buildings, were not highlighted as a particular issue during this process. However, as part of the review of heritage protection, Cadw is looking at how it can introduce greater flexibility into the system for managing change to listed buildings without having a detrimental effect on historic significance.

The headline action plan that accompanies my Historic Environment Strategy makes a commitment for Cadw to prepare guidance for the conservation, care, and conversion or modification of places of worship, including historic chapels. Cadw will also be reviewing the additional guidance that local authorities may require to accompany the Heritage Bill.

I will keep Assembly Members informed of progress with the development of the Heritage Bill and I intend to launch the White Paper consultation in the late spring of 2013.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0207(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y
Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 29 Ionawr 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0207(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for
Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 29 January 2013**

At/To Mohammad Asghar:

I am writing in response to the supplementary question you raised during Plenary on 16 January about the steps being taken to build on the renewed interest in cycling in Wales, following the success of British cycling during last year's Olympic Games. I said that I would write to you with details of Sustrans Cymru's initiative to encourage school children to cycle to and from school.

In 2012, schools across Wales working with Sustrans Cymru, have seen a trebling of the number of pupils arriving at school by bike on a regular basis. The 42 schools in Wales who joined the charity's 'Bike It' programme this year; which is supported financially by the Welsh Government, saw 27% of pupils arrive by bike once a week, up from just 9% at the

start of the school year. These journeys are replacing trips previously made by car, with the number of children saying they get a lift at least once a week falling from 63 to 53%.

Sustrans' involvement with the schools includes working with staff, parents and pupils to encourage more cycling to school through activities such as bike maintenance, route planning, cycle skills and the installation of facilities like bike racks in partnership with the local authority.

I hope that you will agree that this is an interesting way of increasing participation in cycling within communities.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0199(ESD) a gyhoeddwyd gan John Griffiths,
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy, ar 30 Ionawr 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0199(ESD) issued by John Griffiths, the Minister for
Environment and Sustainable Development, on 30 January 2013**

At/To Andrew R.T. Davies:

I am writing to you as promised following my answer to OAQ(4)0199 on 16 January.

I am not aware that anything outside of the usual local air quality management (LAQM) regime has taken place.

Under LAQM, Local Authorities must carry out regular reviews and assessments of air quality in their area against standards and objectives in the National Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Where these standards and objectives are unlikely to be met authorities must designate air quality management areas (AQMAs) and prepare and implement remedial air quality action plans.

Across Cardiff pollutant concentrations have complied with relevant air quality standards. However, there are a few localised areas where air pollution is problematic as a result of road traffic emissions. At these locations AQMAs have been declared by the local authority. AQMAs have been declared at St. Mary Street, Stephenson Court and Ely Bridge. Two other areas in Cardiff are currently under consultation for AQMAs, namely, Westgate Street and Llandaff.

In order to tackle these problems Air Quality Action Plans have been produced by Cardiff Council for St. Mary's Street and Ely Bridge. An action plan for Stephenson Court is under development.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0205(ESD) a gyhoeddwyd gan John Griffiths,
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy, ar 30 Ionawr 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0205(ESD) issued by John Griffiths, the Minister for
Environment and Sustainable Development, on 30 January 2013**

At/To Christine Chapman:

In plenary on 16 January you raised an issue around the hesitancy of the Home Office to agree the future funding arrangements for the UK National Wildlife Crime Unit beyond the current financial year. I offered to pursue that matter with the Home Secretary on your behalf. I am pleased to inform you that on 23 January, the Home Office committed to carry on funding the UK National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) which will ensure that the crucial role the Unit plays in tackling wildlife crime in the UK will continue.

**Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0199(ESD) a gyhoeddwyd gan John Griffiths,
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy, ar 5 Chwefror 2013
Information further to OAQ(4)0199(ESD) issued by John Griffiths, the Minister for
Environment and Sustainable Development, on 5 February 2013**

At/To Bethan Jenkins:

I am writing to you as promised following my answer to OAQ(4)0199 on 16 January.

Due to the many and varied influences on health and wellbeing, particularly respiratory and cardiovascular conditions where there are numerous risk factors, it is often difficult to quantify the proportion of illness that may be attributed to air pollutant exposures. However estimates of the fraction of mortality attributable to long-term exposure to 2010 levels of anthropogenic PM_{2.5} for each local authority and Health Board area in Wales are to be published in spring 2013 via the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants.

Air quality in Neath Port Talbot is recognised as a priority area for collaborative working. In 2008 the Welsh Government issued a Short Term Competent Authority Action Plan for particulate matter below 10 microns (PM₁₀) in the Swansea urban area, which includes Neath Port Talbot. Since then my officials have commissioned an independent study by the University of the West of England to review the work undertaken with respect to PM₁₀ pollution in Port Talbot. The study also provided advice to Welsh Ministers on further measures to pinpoint the sources of the pollution. In addition my officials asked the Air Quality Expert Group (AQEG) to provide advice on approaches needed to further the evidence base in order to assess the impact of the different particle sources within the Port Talbot area on the resultant particulate matter concentration levels in the local area. The Welsh Government, the regulators (Environment Agency and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council) and local industry are working in partnership to implement the recommendations from these reviews. In light of these reviews my officials have revised the 2008 action plan to produce the Clean Air for Port Talbot Short Term Action Plan, for which the public consultation period has recently closed. The role of the plan is to show the actions, over and above the day to day existing activities, that will be taken where there is a risk of the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010 PM₁₀ limits being exceeded.

A pilot initiative air quality alert system, called airAware, has recently been implemented in Port Talbot. The system sends texts or phone alerts to vulnerable people (with pre-existing respiratory or cardiovascular conditions) when air quality is poor, informing them of the appropriate action to take to minimise their exposure. The project aims to empower people to proactively manage their health and minimise their need to make contact with NHS services. A formal quantitative and qualitative review will be undertaken jointly by NPT CBA, Public Health Wales and Swansea University.