

Atebion i Gwestiynau nas cyrhaeddwyd yn y Cyfarfod Llawn
Answers to Questions not reached in Plenary
01/05/2013

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

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

[R] yn nodi bod yr Aelod wedi datgan buddiant/signifies that the Member has declared an interest.

[W] yn nodi bod y cwestiwn wedi'i gyflwyno yn Gymraeg/signifies that the question was tabled in Welsh.

Cwestiynau i Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth
Questions to the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport

Grant Gwasanaethau Trafnidiaeth
Rhanbarthol

Regional Transport Service Grant

4. David Rees: *A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad cynnydd ynghylch yr effaith ar gymunedau yn sgîl cyflwyno'r Grant Gwasanaethau Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol? OAQ(4)0261(EST) Trosglwyddwyd i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig*

4. David Rees: *Will the Minister provide a progress report on the impact on communities following the introduction of the Regional Transport Service Grant? OAQ(4)0261(EST) Transferred for written answer*

The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport (Edwina Hart): The regional transport service grant commenced on 1 April, and I will provide further information in due course.

Diweithdra Ymhlith Ieuenctid

Youth Unemployment

13. Ann Jones: *Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i fynd i'r afael â diweithdra ymhlith ieuenctid yn Nyffryn Clwyd? OAQ(4)0250(EST) Trosglwyddwyd i'w ateb yn Ysgrifenedig gan y Dirprwy Weinidog Sgiliau a Thechnoleg*

13. Ann Jones: *What plans does the Minister have to tackle youth unemployment in the Vale of Clwyd? OAQ(4)0250(EST) Transferred for Written Answer by the Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology*

The Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology (Jeff Cuthbert): Getting young people into work quickly and to engage in educational opportunities is a key priority for the Welsh Government. Our absolute priority in these tough times is to create jobs and enable growth. To take this important agenda forward, a number of key measures have been put in place. A new youth engagement and employment division has been created within the Department for Education and Skills. The division will focus primarily upon the causes and responses to disengagement and unemployment for young people.

As part of our key commitments in our programme for government, we established a number of employability programmes that are available pan-Wales, to aid the individual entering sustained employment. In April 2012, the Jobs Growth Wales programme was established. Jobs Growth Wales is a £75 million scheme and aims to create 12,000 jobs over three years of delivery for unemployed young people aged 16 to 24. The programme provides a package of support to assist job-ready young people aged 16 to 24 into employment for a period of six months, paid at or above the national minimum wage for a minimum of 25 hours per week. A

total of 265 job opportunities have been created across Denbighshire, and 181 young people have entered employment. We are unable to provide a breakdown for Clwyd within the time frame.

In August 2011, the traineeships programme commenced. This programme is for 16 to 18-year-olds and aims to support the development of young people by building confidence, improving employment skills and offering valuable work experience with a view to the individual entering sustained employment. It also allows for the delivery of NVQ qualifications up to level 1 in the learner's chosen field, and elements of NVQ level 2 delivery as well as the delivery of essential and basic skills.

We have the Welsh Government apprenticeship programme. This programme provides a high-level, approved and accredited vocational training route into employment. This includes the delivery of accredited qualifications. Recently, we outlined key commitments in relation to increasing apprenticeship opportunities for young people.

The Welsh Government is working relentlessly to encourage employers to recruit new apprentices via its Pathways to Apprenticeships programme, the Young Recruits programme, engagement with anchor and regionally important companies and via its apprenticeship matching service.

The budget agreement has allowed Wales to increase investment in our all-age apprenticeship programme to deliver intermediate, advanced and higher level apprenticeships, but with increasing emphasis on providing opportunities for under-25s to address youth unemployment. We are investing an additional £40 million over the next two years. The Welsh Government is currently developing a new youth engagement and progression framework to ensure young people are engaged in education and training and can progress into sustained employment. We will be implementing the framework in September 2013. The framework has been developed with local authorities across Wales.