

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES' BUDGET PLANNING ROUND 2001
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING			NB: £20 million reserve ringfenced for immediate pressures in the ELL MEG
2.1	We will unite pre and post 16 Education under one Assembly Committee and one Assembly Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning.	Yes	Completed
2.2	We will work to provide nursery education to all children from the age of 3 years, whose parents want it, developing proposals in 2001-2002, with a view to implementation from 2002-2003. We will ensure that the role of the voluntary organisations, such as the Welsh medium ysgolion meithrin, is respected.	Yes	Budget 2001 makes provision for an additional £6.0 in 2002-2003. In 2003-2004 a further £4.0 is added to the baseline of £12.00 giving a new baseline of £16.000. An audit of places is underway and the sectors are being engaged through an early years advisory panel
2.3	We will recruit more teachers in order to reduce class sizes for children aged eight, nine, ten and eleven. We will, as a first step, provide an additional £65m (over and above existing plans) over the next three years, to recruit these additional teachers, including an extra £20m in 2001-/02 which would, for example, enable the recruiting of up to 700 additional teachers. This will extend the reduction of class sizes for five, six and seven year olds to 30 or under, with a view to reaching the target of reducing all primary school class sizes to 25 or fewer within the second term of the National Assembly.	Yes	Budget 2000 made provision for an additional £77 million for additional school revenue to allow authorities to reduce junior class sizes and tackle performance at key stage 3. (This was in addition to the £15 million allocated to local authorities through special grant report in 2001-2002 for schools for any purpose but particularly in respect of raising school standards and assisting teachers' continuing professional development
2.4	We will fully fund training grants for new primary school teachers by increasing the total training budget to £8m in 2001/2002 and £12m 2002-2003.	Yes	Provision in baselines from 2001-2002.
2.5	We will make available £200m over the next three years for investment in the upgrade of school buildings into a "School Buildings Upgrade Fund" in order to begin the urgent task of reducing the backlog of school repairs in Wales. In particular we pledge to phase out all substandard mobile classrooms as part of our drive to bring school buildings in Wales up to a standard fit for the 21 st Century.	Yes	Provision in baselines from 2001-2002 to 2003-2004 amounts to around £291 million (£83.9/£100.1/£107.1 million). . Local authorities are developing asset management plans and these will inform future budget assessments. We have said that we are committed to funding to bring school buildings to a good standard by 2010.'

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2.6	We recognise the vital role played by schools in the nutritional development of the child. We recognise also the link between balanced diet and the ability to learn. We will therefore implement a comprehensive strategy to extend the provision of breakfasts in schools and the existing fruit tuck shop scheme to schools in Wales. As part of our wider commitment to nutritional development, and subject to legal confirmation, we will re-introduce free school milk for all pupils at key stage one from January 2001, with an up-front budget provision of £1.3m.	Yes	Healthy School Schemes in each local authority area. This includes the performance criterion of increasing the number of fruit tuck shops, setting them up on a cost-recovery basis. All LEAs participating from April 2001. 3 breakfast clubs are supported by grants to community food initiatives during 2001-2002. Research has been commissioned into the provision and barriers to provision of breakfasts by LEA catering services – the research is due to be completed during 2001-2002.
2.7	We will establish a rural schools policy designed to encourage federation; IT networking and other methods of support for smaller schools.	Yes	Draft 2001 budget makes additional provision of £2.5/£4.0/£4.0 million to encourage innovative ways of working including, for small or isolated schools such as federation, clustering etc. as well as reduction of administrative burdens, and to encourage wider community use of school premises.
2.8	We will provide an e-mail address for every school pupil in Wales by July 2001, as part of our commitment to ensure that every child leaving school in Wales is computer literate.	No	In the light of concerns about individuals' security, the Cabinet has decided to refocus this initiative and to pursue the objective of an email address for every school in Wales.
2.9	Working with the UK Government, we will seek to improve teachers' pay and conditions in order to attract and retain good teachers in the profession. We will design an improved Performance Management Pay Scheme for teachers, decoupled from pupils' exam performance. We will free up teachers' time to teach, by reducing the burden of paperwork.	Yes	The Assembly has promised (at Ministerial level) that it will provide funding for the full cost of teachers passing the threshold. Resources have been placed in the revenue support grant for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 but with the promise of specific top-up funds if the actual costs prove to be higher than that already provided. Provision in baseline from 2001-2002 includes resources to meet costs of training and support for new arrangements for performance management for teachers. Budget 2001 provides £5.6 million in respect of the anticipated shortfall on 2001-2002

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			threshold that will fall into 2002-2003. The anticipated shortfall from 2000-2001 will fall into this financial year and is being managed in-year. Thereafter funding would be contained within the revenue support grant to local authorities.
2.10	We will pilot a new qualification – a Welsh Baccalaureate, which will provide equal recognition to academic and vocational qualifications – as a potential improvement of the post-16 examination system. In the first instance, we will ensure that those students who study for the new qualification will be entered, via the International Baccalaureate, so as to protect their position in the developing qualification market.	Yes	The Welsh Baccalaureate contract has been let to the WJEC. Provision for the pilot is in the baseline provision for Curriculum Support. Budget 2001 makes provision for an additional £0.600/£0.500/£0.500 million to be added to the baseline for this and in respect of school sport.
2.11	We will establish a strong future for Welsh universities by producing a ten-year strategy for adequately funded development and expansion. We will encourage the universities to nurture entrepreneurship within Wales.	In progress	The ELL Committee review of Higher Education is in progress; we will take account of its conclusions in developing a ten-year strategy for HE. Decisions about funding will be taken in the light of Cabinet consideration of the outcome of the Review. In addition to the Knowledge Exploitation Fund that seeks to assist HE and FE Institutions in commercialising research, Budget 2001 allocates £0.050 million to explore the possibility of a Wales Research Institute.
2.12	We are committed to a further increase in funding to tackle student poverty in Wales. As a first step we will increase the amount of money available for access funds to at least £11.5 million in the coming year. This provides an initial increase of 15%.	Yes	Budget 2001 provides an increase in Student Hardship Funds of £7.9/£7.9/£7.9 million over the next 3 years giving a baseline of £20 million.
2.13	At the same time, we will institute an immediate independent investigation into the issue of student hardship and funding in Wales, dealing with those issues covered in the Scottish 'Cubie Report' which fall within the Assembly's remit. The investigation will report on the options for tackling problems inherent in the current system of student maintenance and support including those faced by mature students and those studying on a part-	Yes	The Independent Report was welcomed and resources for hardship grants immediately increased to £20 million – this increase is being maintained. The remaining recommendations are being considered both in the context of securing any necessary legislation and the outcome of Spending Review 2002.

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	time basis. The investigation will address these issues within the context of the need to widen participation in Higher and Further Education, particularly from groups currently under-represented in the sectors. The investigation will be completed by the Spring of 2001.		
2.14	We will work with local authorities to ensure that the educational needs of asylum seekers receive the necessary attention and that sufficient resources are secured to meet these needs.	Yes	No provision has been made in Budget 2001 but resources will be made available in-year according to need
3. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE			
3.1	We will implement the NHS Human Resources Development Strategy so as to recruit and train more doctors and nurses, improve hospital bed availability, and so reduce waiting times for consultation and treatment. We will develop and implement the Assembly's waiting times strategy. We will consider setting maximum waiting times for both inpatients and outpatients.	Yes	Targets for improving staff retention rates and reducing staff shortages will be set for March 2002. The 5% year on year increases in training places for non medical health care staff will start in 2001 and be fully implemented by 2003 Budget 2001 provides additional resources for nurse and PAMs training, and for the health costs (capital and revenue) of expanding Clinical Education.
3.2	Budget decisions agreed by the Partnership Government will produce substantial spending in health over the next three years. Our budgets will provide an extra £150 million in 2001-02; £400 million in 2002-03 and £665 million in 2003-04 in order to make immediate progress in improving the NHS and cutting waiting times.	Yes	On-going. The emphasis continues to move to improving waiting times in priority areas. Waits for routine heart surgery will be cut to 12 months by the end of March 2002 and waits for orthopaedic services reduced to a maximum of 18 months by July 2002. For cancer services, all patients to be assured that for at least four cancer types, including breast cancer, any patient referred with suspected cancer and considered urgent by the specialist will be seen by a specialist within 10 days of the hospital receiving the GP's referral. In Budget 2001 the recurrent revenue provision for health authorities and Trusts is increased by an additional £24.5/£31.0 million

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3.3	In order to tackle the problem of NHS staff retention and to reduce the burden on the acute services, we will introduce services staffed by professionals wishing to work in school-term time only; to provide planned treatment for those with chronic disease. These services could also take on much of the prospective screening and surveillance work currently done by over-stretched acute service professionals.	Yes	This is ongoing work in developing innovative working practice and employment arrangements
3.4	As part of our drive to introduce greater flexibility into the working practices, and again through working with the Service, we would introduce a flexible retirement plan for senior health care professionals to allow greater freedom for training and supervision without being subject to the acute pressures of out of hours work. This would also facilitate the movement of highly skilled professionals into areas of most acute health need.		This is not a devolved issue. The outcome of this initiative is dependent on the NHS Pensions Agency.
3.5	We recognise the urgent need to increase the capacity of the NHS in Wales in order to provide consistent, efficient, high quality care into the 21 st century. We will therefore restore the capital programme for the NHS in Wales by investing £200m over the next three years to enable Health Authorities and Trusts to meet their growing health and safety obligations and to begin the process of improving long-term clinical capacity.	Yes	The baseline meets this commitment. However, as part of Budget 2001 an additional £78.7 million of EYF has been made available to support capital projects in 2001-2002 and over the next two years. £40 million is available in 2001-2002.
3.6	We will initiate pilot projects to pioneer innovative solutions to the problem of delayed discharge. These pilots will be implemented through Local Health Groups that will be empowered and funded to purchase primary care and mandated to improve co-ordination between health and social services, to ensure best value in the NHS.	On-going	This will be supported by the Innovations in care team. Also, Budget 2001 makes provision in EYF of £0.500 million in 2002-2003 for a Rapid Response Programme relating to home adaptations to speed discharge where necessary.
3.7	We will also set about the rapid implementation of the report of the Winter Pressures Group; funding 25 ITU and HTU beds, and 400 General Medical Beds to be commissioned and staffed throughout Wales.	Yes	In tandem with significant increases in the capital programme to fund the expansion of built facilities in NHS Wales, additional capital and recurrent revenue will be required to expand the bed stock in the acute and intermediate sectors to increase critical care capacity. Within the additional

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			£24.5/£31.0 million (see 3.2 above) we have sustained the current year's additional investment in building capacity.
3.8	<p>The Partnership Government is committed to the principle of universal health care provision, accessible to all irrespective of circumstance. We are committed therefore to provide additional funding which is targeted at groups of greatest social and health need where our legal powers permit.</p> <p>We will immediately freeze the cost of all prescription charges in Wales, with a view to extending exemptions for those who remain most in need, and those who currently have most difficulty paying; starting with particular consideration to 16-25 year olds. For these purposes there is budgetary provision of £3 million over the next two years.</p> <p>We will also seek to reduce remaining prescription charges across the board, during the lifetime of this Assembly in close consultation with the relevant medical professionals.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Completed April 2001</p> <p>Cost of prescription charges frozen at £6.00</p>
3.9	<p>We will continue the work of the Health and Social Services Committee in relation to eye tests, considering access to free tests on an evidence-based foundation. In relation to dentistry, we will extend the availability of an annual free dental check to individuals aged 18-25 and those over 60. This programme will be phased in over two years beginning in April 2001, at an annual cost of £3m.</p>	Yes	<p>The Eye Care Initiative is being rolled out. Budget 2001 makes provision for examinations for 'at risk' groups, the diabetic retinopathy and a low-vision aid service strategy for Wales at up to £7 million within EYF for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. Increased availability of free dental checks for 18-24 and over 60 groups introduced from April 2001.</p>
3.10	<p>We will develop and implement a tele-medicine strategy for Wales. We will invest in increasing the use of information technology throughout the NHS to release staff from the burdens of unnecessary bureaucracy, working towards the early introduction of a computerised booking service for the NHS.</p>	Yes	<p>In addition to funding in baselines, the increase of recurrent revenue provision for health authorities and Trusts made available in Budget 2001, includes additional resources for ICT, as does the extra £40 million EYF in 2001-2002.</p>
3.11	<p>We will seek a period of organisational stability within the health services in Wales to allow staff to prioritise the delivery of better health care.</p>		<p>Restructuring announced in <i>Improving Health in Wales</i></p>

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3.12	We will ensure that investment in the Ambulance Trust is properly funded. We will halt the recent trend of cuts and are investing £5m as part of our commitment to enable it to meet its performance targets, and to satisfactorily complete recent structural and organisational changes. This investment will enable us to improve response times, working conditions for crews.	Yes	<p>Main actions completed.</p> <p>Funding arrangements for the ambulance service are being considered by the Resource Allocation Review. Results of a study have identified a need for further investment of £10 million, recurring, to match progress in England.</p> <p>The Ambulance Service will receive budget uplift as part of the general budget increases for health authorities and Trusts. In addition, Budget 2001 provides EYF of £5.3 million (within the £40 million – see 3.5 above) for capital expenditure in 2001-2002.</p>
3.13	We will tackle inequalities in health provision, by re-assessing the formula for allocating resources to health authorities, and by appointing salaried GPs in areas where recruitment is difficult.	On-going	Townsend report recommendations planned to issue on consultation on 12 October.
3.14	Over the lifetime of the Partnership Government, we will ensure that suitable accommodation in the community is made available for people with learning disabilities currently living in long-stay hospitals.	On-going	
3.15	We will appoint a Children's Commissioner to protect, inform and advocate on behalf of young people throughout Wales. We will increase the Commissioner's existing draft budget from £100,000 to £700,000 to ensure that her or his office can adequately fulfil that mandate. We will continue to press Westminster for the Commissioner to have a more comprehensive range of statutory powers.	Yes	Completed
4. ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
4.1	We will continue to work to ensure the effective delivery and provision of all European Structural Funds due to Wales (see below).	On-going	

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4.2	We will ensure that money is available through the Welsh Development Agency to promote the Regional Technology Plan, to support community enterprises, and to develop entrepreneurship.	Yes	Support for the Regional Technology Plan continues whilst Steering Committee seeks a new Chair to give the initiative fresh impetus and direction following the untimely death of former Chair Ian Spratling. Funding is available within the WDA baselines to support community enterprises and develop entrepreneurship, supplemented by Objective 1 funding.
4.3	We will establish a "Business Birth-Rate Strategy" for Wales to support new businesses and help them to grow.	Yes	Budget 2001 makes provision for £1.0/£4.0 over the next 2 years
4.4	We recognise the important contribution played by the Assembly in the development of the Welsh economy through the distribution of RSA and other business support grants. We will ensure, in the light of our statutory obligations, value for money considerations and the best independent advice available, that no high-quality jobs in Wales are put at risk because of the Assembly's policy on RSA. We will implement measures to monitor the way in which the distribution of such grants reflects the regional diversity and economic needs of all areas of Wales.	Yes	The RSA budget for 2001-02 is £44.6m against spend of £35.6m in 2000-01 but we have also made a commitment that resources would be found for viable projects even if that meant that the RSA budget were exceeded. We are now collecting data on the distribution of grants broken down by local authority area.
4.5	We will promote closer links between business, further and higher education, seeking to develop high calibre clusters of academic and entrepreneurial excellence. We will ensure that a proportion of the increased funding we will provide the HE and FE sector will be released to facilitate these developments alongside European Grants from the EU Structural Funding programmes.	Yes	Proposals being developed to establish a National Technology Institute (working title only). £1.77m over 3yrs to fund the WDA's Centres of Excellence programme, launched on 18 Sept (CETICs). As part of Budget 2001, an extra £13.1m for the WDA to develop a number of key strategic projects, including the extension of the successful Swansea Technium project across Wales. Plans well advanced to revamp the former Corus Technology Centre at Port Talbot Knowledge Exploitation Fund (KEF)- budget of £4m in 2000-01 & £10m in 2001-02 (£10m carried forward through 2003-04). Intention - two-thirds of KEF targeted on institutions within Objective 1 area. In the rest of Wales, preference will be given to projects <u>delivered</u> in the Objective 1 area.

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4.6	We will nurture service industries and new high-technology industries, ensuring that the increased levels of European Funding are made available to enhance indigenous supply chain development for the larger companies in the Welsh manufacturing sector.	Yes	Various initiatives (eg Technium centres, Accelerate Wales) are being taken forward using a mix of funding from P2P, WDA and structural funds.
4.7	We will move to implement the Assembly's decision to establish a Community Investment Authority to channel funding to community and voluntary enterprises and help to secure longer-term finance.	On-going	Under active consideration by Ministers
4.8	As part of developing entrepreneurship in the curriculum and alongside our commitment to the wider citizenship agenda, we will encourage school and 6 th form college students to become involved in discussions on the utilisation of European Structural Funds.	Yes	This is Key Action 2 strand 2 in the Entrepreneurship Action Plan
4.9	We will develop a strategy for the encouragement of credit unions, as a means of promoting local economic development and of providing access to financial services for those currently excluded from them.	Yes	Assembly is supporting a 3-year project to extend take-up of credit unions
4.10	In the light of the current European Funding Programmes, we will increase by £60 million per annum funding to the WDA, WTB and other bodies in order to enable them to fully meet their respective match funding requirements.	Yes	A specific match funding pot has been established to support projects by WDA, WTB, WTI, enterprise agencies and the private sector
4.11	Alongside a baseline increase in the budget of the Wales Tourist Board of £4.5m in 2001-2002, we will take the necessary steps to assist it in reaching a target for tourism to represent 10% of Wales' GDP by 2004.	Yes	An extra £2.2m is being provided from EYF to the WTB for 2002-2003, on top of the increasing baseline to assist with marketing and developing the industry. Tourism targets are being reviewed in the light of Foot and Mouth Disease and the terrorism issues.
4.12	Increased funding for the WDA will be targeted in order to develop a 'second wave' of higher skill, high value Foreign Direct Investment built around existing SME supply chain provision and developed within a framework or strengthening Wales' overseas marketing capacity.	Yes	Extra £1m allocated to WDA for 2001-02.

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4.13	We will establish a funded partnership between the Assembly, Business and Higher Education sectors to undertake research and evaluation into the impact of the Assembly's economic policy activities to improve our understanding of the workings of the wider Welsh economy.	Yes	Ministers are currently considering options on this and proposals will be brought forward in the context of the NEDS.
European Structural Funding			
4.14	We are committed to ensuring that Wales fully benefits from all European funding currently available through the current European Structural Funding programmes (2000-2006). The Partnership Agreement could not work effectively without the delivery of such a commitment and to that end welcomes the Chancellor of the Exchequer's agreement through the Comprehensive Spending Review of 2000-2003, to provide full Public Expenditure Cover for the EU funding programme over and above the traditional Barnett Block worth £421m over three years.	Yes	Programmes, Strategies and Partnerships have been established for Objectives 1, 2 and 3 as well as LEADER+ and EQUAL. Single Programming Documents for INTERREG and URBAN will be approved soon.
4.15	The Partnership Government affirms its belief that the benefits of Structural Funds receipts must not be delivered at the cost of existing core budgets financed from the Welsh block. We will continue, therefore, to press the UK Government to ensure that adequate Public Expenditure Cover and match funding is in place for the second half of the structural funding programme, which follows the expiry of the UK Government's current spending plans in 2003.	Yes	This will be taken forward in the context of Spending Review 2002
4.16	We will also seek provision from the UK Government for the appropriate additional resources that may, from time to time, be necessary to ensure that we are able to draw down the full available amount of EU structural funding. In order to ensure clarity about the level of these requirements, we will establish a full ongoing audit of the European Funding process. Any significant shortfall identified by the audit could lead to an in-year bid on the Treasury Reserve.	Yes	This is subject to on-going monitoring
	We will ensure that the implementation strategy for the European Structural Funding programmes will be robust and swiftly delivered. We will review the arrangements and	Yes	The recommendations of the Objective 1 Task and Finish Report have been implemented. The Mid Term Review for Objective 1 will be commissioned

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4.18	In order to achieve the maximum impact of Objective 1 status during the programming period we will rigorously pursue the scope for fiscal variations and other special measures which can exploit to the full the benefits of the regional state aid status give to West Wales and the Valleys.	Yes	Implementing Action Plan on fiscal variations.
5. RURAL AFFAIRS AND AGRICULTURE			
5.1	We will introduce a package of Farming and Rural support worth £60m over the next three years, designed to alleviate the needs of some of Wales' most hard-pressed rural communities and to secure investment in the future of Welsh agriculture and food production.	Yes	Already in baselines
5.2	We will take measures to protect post offices, shops and other businesses that supply vital services to our rural communities, promoted through a specialist unit in the Wales Co-operative centre. We will increase funding provision for rates relief in order to help keep such outlets in business. We will investigate ways to allow many more shops and post offices	Yes (1) scoping study into WCC underway (2) rates relief progressing through legislative process	Funding for Wales Co-operative Centre scoping study allocated, together with rates relief.
5.3	The Partnership Government recognises the difficulties faced by farmers in upland areas of Wales. In particular we recognise the impact of recent changes in Tir Mynydd (HLCA grant payments). Although this matter is not wholly within the control of the National Assembly, we will direct the assistance that is available through our agricultural programmes to farmers in this situation. In particular we will provide £10m over the next three years to alleviate the effects of recent Tir Mynydd changes, to assist in income maximisation measures for individuals and families in	Yes	Resources of at least £10m over 3 years will be provided through Farming Connect to farmers in upland areas for business planning advice and income maximisation measures

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	these circumstances, including an advisory and information service dedicated to this purpose. We will take advantage of the annual opportunity to review the scheme with a view to providing a better deal for hill farmers.		
5.4	We will press the UK Government for access to a fairer share of Agri-money compensation from the EU.	Yes – UK Govt pressed to apply for maximum available amount	Fully funded by EU and UK Exchequer
5.5	Working alongside the established priorities of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, we will invest £46m to ensure 26% agri-environment/organic conversion by 2006, based on a market analysis of the capacity for expansion.	Yes	Already in baselines
5.6	We will increase the current investment in the Tir Gofal scheme over the next three years to a cumulative total of almost £40m ensuring that rural communities across Wales can benefit by an additional investment worth well in excess of £10m a year. We will also review and expand the scheme in line with the Assembly's priorities; seeking to drive down the burden of administration associated with the scheme and prioritise investment to working family farms.	Yes	Already in baselines
5.7	We will create an independent appeals mechanism, a Panel (or 'Ombudsman'), to adjudicate in disputes between government and farmers with an initial up-front investment of £300,000. We will work with the Panel to seek genuine reductions in the paperwork burden on farmers.	Yes	Budget 2001 provides for an Appeals mechanism to created at an estimated cost of £0.015 million p.a.
5.8	We will press the UK Government for further reductions in meat hygiene costs and help for small processing units.	Yes	Already in baselines
5.9	We will actively investigate, in consultation with the UK Government, proposals to allow for direct elections to National Park Authorities in the course of the Partnership's first year.	Yes – under consideration by Ministers	No immediate financial implications – primary legislation required

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5.10	We will press for a moratorium on all GM crop trials in Wales in line with the Assembly's desire to operate the most restrictive policy possible within the context of existing EU legislation, on future commercial GM crop development within Wales. We will also seek to exploit the marketing opportunities of identifying Welsh agricultural produce as GM-free.	Yes – prohibition notice served re separation distances; promoting organic etc as part of agri-food	No funding implications re moratorium; agri-food strategy already in baselines
5.11	We will develop a Wales biomass strategy to exploit forest residues and short-rotation coppice in order to fuel local heat and power production plants, drawing on experiments already underway in other parts of the UK.	In progress	Funding for development of strategy provided as part of Rural Recovery Plan
5.12	The Partnership Government will establish 'Farming Connect', based on Business Connect and centred on local enterprise agencies, but strengthened by formal links with agricultural colleges. Farming Connect will provide a free advisory service for farmers for a minimum three-year period.	Yes – launched on 17 September	In baselines plus additional funding provided as part of Rural Recovery Plan
5.13	We will develop new crop and livestock product opportunities for farmers, incorporating non-food as well as food products. We will seek the development of rural job creation through the introduction of new products from primary agriculture and forestry, facilitated by the provision of long-term loans through Finance Wales.	In progress	Funding for development of strategy provided as part of Rural Recovery Plan
5.14	We will continue to market Welsh produce and seek to expand processing capacity in Wales.	Yes	Already in baselines
6. ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND PLANNING			
6.1	Following the outcome of the Environment, Transport and Planning Committee's ongoing Inquiry into public transport in Wales, we will explore the case for the establishment of a Welsh Passenger Transport Authority to improve and better integrate transport throughout Wales. If that case is established we will press the UK Government to provide powers to the Assembly to	EPT Review is still on-going	Await outcome of EPT Review

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	bring such an Authority into being. We strongly support the establishment of the Wales and the Borders Rail Franchise. Over time, we want to see better rail transport in Wales, including improvement of the North-South rail links, electrification of the North Wales line and the re-opening of railway lines and stations as part of a single rail franchise.		
6.2	We will encourage walking and cycling through 'safe routes to school' schemes coupled with increased investment in Wales' network of cycle and footpaths.	Yes	In baselines
6.3	We will seek the power for the Assembly to appoint a representative to the Strategic Rail Authority (SRA), press for the SRA to have an office in Wales and develop the case for seeking the power to direct the SRA in relation to a single Welsh franchise.		Welsh representative appointed to SRA: DTLR made appointment after consulting with the Assembly. No SRA office in Wales. Have successfully influenced SRA in franchise process, with all-Wales franchise to be included.
6.4	Taking into account safety and local environmental quality considerations, we will concentrate new road building on reducing congestion points on the existing trunk road network, rather than on new large-scale road building.	Yes	As part of Budget 2001, some £3.0 million of EYF has been made available in 2001-2002 and a further £4.0 million in 2002-2003.
6.5	We will work towards a reduction in road use in Wales in harmony with a Wales-wide public transport strategy. As part of this strategy, we will increase investment in bus subsidy schemes, particularly in rural areas by £6m over the next three years.	Yes	Reduction in road use is a long term objective. Increase in bus subsidy achieved.
6.6	We will continue discussions with the UK Government regarding the scope for "landfill tax credits" to fund recycling schemes.		Not a funding issue for the Assembly
6.7	We will seek to implement a waste strategy to promote minimisation of packaging, re-use and recycling and using incineration and land fill methods only to a minimum extent.	Yes	As part of Budget 2001, some £2.0 million of EYF has been allocated to capital projects in 2002-2003 together with Supplementary Credit Approvals for local authorities of £3.0m in 2002-2003 and £5.0 million in 2003-2004.
6.8	We will develop an air quality strategy with strengthened powers for the Environment Agency and with higher standards.		Not a funding issue. Action continues on improvements to air quality standards. EA powers will be revisited if necessary with UK Government

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6.9	Within the regional planning context, we will seek to create green spaces around urban centres across Wales.	Yes	This covers 6.9-6.12: Draft Planning Policy Wales includes strengthened policy. This is targeted to issue in final form by March 2002. Further development of policy, technical and spatial guidance is supported by planning research, provided for within baselines
6.10	We will support a strong presumption in planning regulations against out-of-town shopping centres.	Yes	See 6.9
6.11	We will issue changed requirements to local planning authorities in relation to the siting of mobile telephone masts, in the light of the recommendations of the Stewart Report. Practical guidance will be developed by the Partnership Government, dealing with planning applications in such circumstances.	Yes	See 6.9
6.12	We will encourage the development of brown-field sites wherever possible. Practical mechanisms will be developed to assist local authorities in acting in accordance with this presumption by discouraging green-field development where suitable brown-field alternatives exist.	Yes	See 6.9
6.13	The level of fuel duty is not a matter for the National Assembly for Wales. We recognise, however, the widespread concerns about travel costs and public transport provision in rural Wales and will develop policies to address this.	Yes	Provision for Bus Fuel Duty Rebate is already in baselines. Budget 2001 provides for a further £1.5 million in each of the next 3 years.
6.14	Within the framework of the Assembly's Sustainable Development Strategy, we will establish a 'green audit' of the Assembly's policies and current spending commitments, maintaining our constitutional commitment to the environment and projecting Wales as a world leader in environmental best practice. We will introduce quality of life indicators.	Yes	Resources already in baseline
6.15	We will introduce a bus concessionary fare scheme for pensioners and disabled people which gives half price fares and a free pass from April 2001 and free fares from April 2002 for local bus services.	Yes	Already built into the RSG settlement.
6.16	We will develop a strategic spatial plan for the whole of Wales.	Yes	Provision for planning research to support development of Spatial Plan is already in baselines.

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INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
6.17	We will respect our European obligations on the environment including biodiversity.	Yes	Not funding issue
7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING			
7.1	We will seek to reinvigorate local government in Wales by promoting greater decentralisation of decision-making, more openness and additional public involvement in decision-making processes. We will promote the establishment of town and community councils; encourage Unitary Authorities to delegate powers where there is a local demand for them; and ensure that they give full consideration to the option of delegating responsibilities to community councils in their best value reviews of all local services.	Scoping study	Funded in 2001-02 from existing resources.
7.2	We will initiate a full independent review into possible voting systems for Local Government elections in Wales, including those which would achieve greater proportionality in the representation of political parties. We will press the UK Government to bring forward Assembly sponsored legislation to implement the Assembly's conclusions from the review.	Yes	Funded in 2001-2002. Budget 2001 makes provision for residual funding of £0.1 million in 2002-2003.
7.3	We will introduce an 'Assembly Local Government Bill' – a programme of secondary legislation and statutory guidance – to implement in a co-ordinated and systematic fashion, the new primary legislative framework established by the Local Government Act 2000.	Yes	Administrative costs met within existing provision.
7.4	Within this programme of legislation, we will require Council cabinets to meet in the open under the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act; encourage the formation of Area Committees with delegated powers and budgets; and offer Councils a fourth option of adopting a modernised committee structure with enhanced scrutiny powers in place of the Cabinet system.	Yes	Administrative costs met within existing provision.
7.5	As part of our commitment to re-invigorate local democracy, we will encourage local authorities to ensure that all councillors in Wales have publicly available email addresses by July 2001.	Addressed in e-govt strategy for local govt	see 7.6

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INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
7.6	Furthermore, we will ensure that all local authorities have formulated plans by July 2001 for the widespread application of ICT in their communications with suppliers and customers.	Addressed in e-govt strategy for local govt – IEG statements	Budget 2001 provides £4.375 million AME for 2002-03 and £5,325 million AME for 2003-04
7.7	We recognise that council tax increases should be primarily a matter for local authorities. We will, however, provide sufficient funds for local authorities to maintain service levels and contain council tax increases to within an average increase of 3% in the coming financial year, within the context of the ongoing review of local government funding.	YES	Increase in RSG last year was above consequentials received from SR 2000, and sufficient to allow an average increase of 3% in council tax in 2001-02. In the event, authorities chose to set council taxes which gave an average 6% increase across Wales
7.8	Low quality housing is one of the foremost indicators of social disadvantage. As part of our commitment to tackle the causes of disadvantage, we will invest £21m in improving the quality of housing in Wales over the next three years.	Yes	The Assembly is making an additional £40m capital available for housing over the next 3 years.
7.9	We share a commitment to the achievement of good quality housing for all people in Wales and will investigate the establishment of a Wales-wide Housing Commission working on a task and finish basis to make urgent recommendations to achieve our objectives for housing.	The Homelessness Commission submitted its report to the Minister in August 2001	Funded through existing running costs budget
7.10	We will provide more resources for renovation and disabled facility grants, targeted at the worst properties worth £15m over the next three years.	Yes	Part of the additional £40m capital for housing the Assembly is making available over the next 3 years.

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INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
7.11	We will move to integrate the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme with other grant regimes so as to ensure better targeting of available resources.	On-going	Budget 2001 makes provision for a further £1.0 million to be added to the baseline in 2003-2004 making a total provision over the next 3 years (2002-2003 to 2004-2005) some ££37 million. Regular liaison meetings between Assembly and other organisations working in the field of fuel poverty to ensure that HEES and related initiatives are complementary. Agreement reached with the main energy suppliers over the principle of integrating fuel poverty elements of the proposed Energy Efficiency Commitment (2002/05) with HEES.
7.12	We will encourage all local authorities in Wales to develop a homelessness strategy with a designated homelessness co-ordinator. We will introduce legislation extending the categories of people recognised to be in need of priority housing ensuring the provision of appropriate needs assessment and tenancy support. We will increase funding to local authorities by £3m over the next three years to meet the costs of such support.	Draft guidance will be issued for consultation in early 2002	Already in baselines but Budget 2001 makes provision for an additional £1.3 million in 2002-2003.
7.13	We will maintain a capital investment fund for local authorities to bid for new facilities to assist in eradicating homelessness and to develop initiatives for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). We will substantially increase S180 funding in real terms over the next three years, by investing an additional £3m throughout the lifetime of this Assembly.	Yes	Funding provision made available in 2000-2001 and in 2001-2002 financial years
7.14	We will improve the standard of private rented accommodation through a Housing in Multiple Occupation strategy. We will seek powers to extend the remit of the Social Housing Ombudsman to cover private rented housing.	On-going	Strategy being drawn together.
7.15	We will participate in the ongoing review of the capital finance of council housing and ensure that there are appropriate community regeneration strategies developed alongside the strategies for ensuring the future financing of the housing stock.	On-going	Will be taken forward as part of the National Housing Strategy.

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INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
8. ARTS, CULTURE AND SPORT – CELEBRATING WALES			
8.1	We will create a new Assembly Secretary for the Arts, Culture, Language and Sport in order to reflect the importance of the cultural sector within Welsh life.	Yes	Completed
8.2	We will give full consideration to the recommendations of the current Assembly Arts and Culture Review. In particular, we will investigate ways of streamlining the lines of accountability across Assembly Sponsored Bodies within the Cultural Sector under the co-ordination of the Assembly Secretary and scrutiny of the Assembly Committee for Arts, Culture, Language and Sport.	Yes	Culture Minister has published a draft Culture Strategy. Lines of accountability have been streamlined by the establishment of Cymru'n Creu, chaired by the Culture Minister. Culture Committee calls ASPBs to provide evidence and presentations.
8.3	We will broaden the ongoing review of the Arts Council to include further work on developing adequate funding for the arts. On completion of the review we will discuss and determine a new budget for the arts, which reflects the high value we place on the cultural life of Wales.	Yes	Increased budgets for the arts secured in both Budget 2000 and Budget 2001.
8.4	We will press the UK government to designate St David's Day as a national bank holiday for Wales.	On-going	
8.5	We will strengthen the voice of leading artists and arts organisations to assist in drawing up and implementing a long-term strategy for the arts in Wales.	Yes	Incorporated in the draft Culture Strategy.
8.6	We will require the Arts Council to establish an Arts Database for Wales and a website for the Welsh arts to include details of arts companies and events.	Yes	Budget 2001 makes provision for this.
8.7	We will encourage and develop the cultural industries in Wales, with a view to enabling them to draw down EU funding as part of our drive to raise GDP, create employment and tackle social exclusion. In particular, we will investigate the establishment of a Welsh Film Fund, to foster and promote cinematic excellence through the medium of Welsh and English.	Yes	The Culture Minister is considering the establishment of a Film Fund. Funding will be made available subject to the completion of a satisfactory business case and Objective One approval.
8.8	We will ensure adequate support for local mentrau iaith to promote community usage of the Welsh language.	Yes	BPR 2000 provided the Welsh Language Board with a 50% increase in provision for Mentrau iaith, to enable all counties to be served by a Menter iaith by 2003-04.

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INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONED	FUNDED/NOT FUNDED
8.9	We will restore the place of sport in schools and improve standards of training, particularly in primary schools. In particular we will seek to build on and extend the existing partnerships between the Sports Council for Wales, WRU, FAW and other interested bodies to revitalise the teaching and participation of sports at all levels of the Welsh school curriculum.	Yes	The Government is following up the report of a Task Force, on PE in Schools (established by the Education Minister). Additional funds for development of school sport were announced at the beginning of 2001-02.