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)0182(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 03 Rhagfyr 2012 Information further to OAQ(4)0182(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 03 December 2012

At/To Eluned Parrott:

During Plenary on 21 November I said that I would write to you concerning progress on the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Housing Action Plan and larger affordable family housing being built in Cardiff.

Equality and inclusion are at the heart of Welsh Government policy-making. Core principles underpinning the Programme for Government include creating sustainable development and sustainable communities. Equality and inclusion are integral to these aims.

The Equality Act 2010 introduced a new duty on the public sector. Public sector bodies in Wales, including the Welsh Government have a statutory duty to publish equality objectives and to develop a Strategic Equality Plan. This plan has superseded the BME Action Plan to which you refer.

A copy of the Strategic Equality Plan and Objectives for 2012-16 can be found by following this link: Strategic Equality Plan 2012-16.pdf. The Welsh Government produces an annual Report on Equality which sets out the action to meet commitments in the Welsh Government's Equality Plan. A copy of the 2010-11 report can be found at the following link: 2010-11 Equality Annual Report

In relation to the availability of affordable housing in Cardiff I have already announced that, over the term of our administration, I am committed to increasing the supply of homes, making certain we provide the right type of quality housing and provide more choice for people in housing need.

Between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2012, a total of 2,489 additional affordable housing units were delivered, of which, 417 were in Cardiff representing 17% of the total number of units delivered. I understand from Cardiff Council that 135 larger family homes have been built since 2003.

I hope you find this information useful.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0188(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 03 Rhagfyr 2012 Information further to OAQ(4)0188(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 03 December 2012

At/To Elin Jones:

At Plenary on 21 November, I said I would write to you regarding the Cylch Caron initiative.

This scheme is an exciting initiative as it promotes a new and innovative model of care in Tregaron and the surrounding areas, involving partnerships with the Local Health Board, GPs the local authority and the third sector.

To demonstrate my commitment to this initiative and in recognition that it is a priority I have advised the Minister for Health and Social Services that I will contribute £100,000 towards the development of the next stage of the business case model. The funding for the extra care element of the Cylch Caron initiative will also be met from the Social Housing Grant budget.

Hywel Dda Local Health Board has issued its consultation document, *Your Health, Your Future - Consulting our Communities* and is now considering the responses from the public and stakeholders. The Minister for Health and Social Services has confirmed that the business case will be progressed as a priority subject to a positive response to the consultation.

Gwybodaeth ychwanegol at OAQ(4)0188(HRH) a gyhoeddwyd gan Huw Lewis, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, ar 03 Rhagfyr 2012 Information further to OAQ(4)0188(HRH) issued by Huw Lewis, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, on 03 December 2012

At/To Angela Burns:

At plenary on 21 November, I said I would write to you with details of the current position in terms of affordable housing in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

The amount of affordable housing delivered in Pembrokeshire Coastal National Park (PCNP) has varied over the last few years. No affordable homes were delivered in 2011- 2012, three affordable homes were delivered in 2010-2011 and twelve were delivered in 2009-2010. Fifteen homes are currently under construction.

A combination of factors impact on the delivery of affordable housing in the PCNP such as land availability, housing need and build costs. In terms of land availability, there is limited land available in the PCNP and this has an impact on the price of land. For housing need, 85% of the need in the county lies outside the PCNP and although building costs can be more expensive due to specific planning requirements, where affordable housing schemes are supported through Social Housing Grant (SHG), these costs are fully supported.

I stated in plenary that in 2012-2013 we have made funding available of £1.7m in Pembrokeshire for affordable housing through the SHG programme, with an indicative budget allocation of £1.5m in 2013-2014. Local Authorities are responsible for deciding which affordable housing schemes are a priority for this funding and which housing associations take forward the schemes for development, as SHG is only payable to housing associations.

PCNP has an adopted Local Development Plan (LDP). Pembrokeshire County Council has just completed the formal hearing sessions into their LDP, with adoption of the plan anticipated in March/April 2013. Both plans have identified a level of affordable housing requirement over the plan period to meet both the existing unmet and new housing need arising over the plan period. Both plans also contain policies seeking a proportion of affordable housing from market housing to best address the housing need, although in both cases the quantity delivered through the planning system is unable to meet the overall level of need due to financial viability issues.

Welsh Government officials appear at all LDP examinations to maximise the delivery of affordable housing. The Welsh Government made representations on both plans seeking to maximise the delivery of affordable housing, driving down thresholds, looking for commuted sums and supporting the level of provision sought through development by the local planning authorities. However, the level of affordable housing provision is based on the financial viability of development. Welsh Government officials have used all planning means to maximise delivery, although the reducing totals reflect the increasing challenges around diminishing financial viability of housing developments.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.