



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru  
(Y Cofnod Swyddogol)**

**The National Assembly for Wales  
(The Official Record)**

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**Wednesday, 7 July 2004**

**Cynnwys**  
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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y Siambr.  
Yn y golofn dde, cynhwyswyd cyfieithiad o'r areithiau hynny.

In the left-hand column, the proceedings are recorded in the language in which they were  
spoken in the Chamber. In the right-hand column, a translation of those speeches has been  
included.

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2.00 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.  
The Assembly met at 2.00 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

## **Cwestiynau ar Lywodaeth Leol i'r Gweinidog Cyllid Questions on Local Government to the Finance Minister**

### **Cyflawni Gwasanaethau Llywodraeth Leol Delivery of Local Government Services**

**Q1 Mark Isherwood:** Would the Minister make a statement on the delivery of local government services in 2004-05? (OAQ36754)

**The Finance Minister (Sue Essex):** I expect progress made towards the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective local government services to continue in 2004-05. The Wales programme for improvement and other initiatives will continue to support local authorities in Wales as they strive to deliver quality services that are responsive to the needs of citizens and communities. Close working between local authorities and their regulators in considering the annual joint risk assessment will highlight problems with service delivery, and will result in positive action to drive forward service improvements.

**Mark Isherwood:** Why is a child with special educational needs in one part of Wales receiving a significantly lower level of funding than a child with the same needs elsewhere in Wales? I would be grateful if you could focus your answer on Welsh Assembly Government policy rather than local government delivery.

**Sue Essex:** Clearly, there is a list of indicators and we want children and citizens throughout Wales to get the same service delivery, or delivery within certain margins, depending perhaps on access and other issues. I know that Jane Davidson, as Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, is keen to ensure that that is achieved in the education sector.

**Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** Mae'n debyg eich bod yn ymwybodol bod tua hanner cyllid llywodraeth lleol yn cael ei roi i'r

**C1 Mark Isherwood:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y ddarpariaeth o wasanaethau llywodraeth leol yn 2004-05? (OAQ36754)

**Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex):** Disgwyliaf i'r cynnydd a wneir o ran darparu gwasanaethau llywodraeth leol cost-effeithiol o safon dda barhau yn 2004-05. Bydd rhaglen Cymru ar gyfer gwella a mentrau eraill yn parhau i roi cymorth i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru wrth iddynt ymdrechu i ddarparu gwasanaethau o safon sy'n ymateb i anghenion dinasyddion a chymunedau. Bydd gweithio agos rhwng awdurdodau lleol a'u cyrff rheoleiddio wrth ystyried yr asesiad risg blynyddol ar y cyd yn fodd i amlygu problemau gyda'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir, a bydd yn arwain at gamau gweithredu cadarnhaol i wella gwasanaethau.

**Mark Isherwood:** Pam mae plentyn ag anghenion addysgol arbennig mewn un rhan o Gymru yn cael tipyn llai o arian na phlentyn â'r un anghenion mewn rhan arall o Gymru? Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech ganolbwyntio ar bolisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn hytrach nag ar ddarpariaeth llywodraeth leol yn eich ateb.

**Sue Essex:** Yn amlwg, mae rhestr o ddangosyddion ac yr ydym am i blant a dinasyddion ledled Cymru gael yr un ddarpariaeth, neu ddarpariaeth debyg o fewn terfynau penodol, yn dibynnu ar fynediad a materion eraill o bosibl. Gwn fod Jane Davidson, fel y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, yn awyddus i sicrhau y cyflawnir hyn yn y sector addysg.

**The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** You are no doubt aware that around half of local government funding is given to local authorities in order for them to provide

awdurdodau lleol er mwyn iddynt ddarparu gwasanaethau addysg. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain yn cynnig bod ysgolion yn Lloegr yn cael eu hariannu yn uniongyrchol gan y Llywodraeth, yn hytrach na thrwy awdurdodau addysg. Beth yw'ch barn ar hynny?

**Sue Essex:** I support what Jane Davidson has done in standing by putting the money through local authorities and delivering through special grants. We really need to concentrate on outcomes; there is a lot of talk about funding, where it goes and how, and what its level is, but in Wales we are keen on outcomes, and ensuring that we improve standards. We can be proud of the outcomes in Wales, certainly in terms of educational standards. We should not be complacent, but we should be proud. Our system has been shown to work.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** O dan y rheoliadau y bydd y Cynulliad wedi eu mabwysiadu, ariennir y chweched dosbarth nid drwy awdurdodau lleol ond Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru. Onid ydych yn gweld hynny yn agor drws i fwy a mwy o arian gael ei sianeli i'r ysgolion drwy'r Llywodraeth yn hytrach na thrwy awdurdodau lleol?

**Sue Essex:** I do not think that you should read that into the decision about ELWa. We had this discussion last week. The reason for bringing sixth-form funding in with local colleges is to ensure that youngsters can choose the course that they want to pursue. We have co-ordination at that level to give children choice within their locality. I endorse that, but I think that you cannot read into that implications for the rest of the education sector.

**The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne):** I sympathise with the Minister. It seems that not only have the people of Wales been let down by Labour, she has as well. I do not know where all the Labour Members are. *[Interruption.]* The cavalry are arriving. What tangible alterations in service quality can you point to, given that councils have been forced to massively increase council tax, because of starvation of funding from the centre? In Powys, for example, there has been a 57 per cent

education services. The Government in London is proposing that schools in England be funded directly by the Government, instead of through education authorities. What is your view on that?

**Sue Essex:** Cefnogaf yr hyn a wnaeth Jane Davidson wrth benderfynu parhau i roi arian drwy awdurdodau lleol a chyflawni drwy grantiau arbennig. Mae gwir angen inni ganolbwyntio ar ganlyniadau; mae llawer o sôn am gyllid, ble mae'n mynd a sut, a faint a roddir, ond canlyniadau sy'n bwysig inni yng Nghymru, a sicrhau ein bod yn gwella safonau. Gallwn ymfalchïo yn y canlyniadau yng Nghymru, yn sicr o ran safonau addysgol. Ni ddylem fod yn hunanfodlon, ond dylem ymfalchïo. Mae prawf bod ein system yn gweithio.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Under the regulations that the Assembly has adopted, sixth forms will be funded not through local authorities but via Education and Learning Wales. Do you not see that as opening the door to more and more money being channelled to schools through the Government rather than through local authorities?

**Sue Essex:** Ni chredaf y dylech ddod i'r casgliad hwnnw ar sail y penderfyniad ar ELWa. Cawsom y drafodaeth hon yr wythnos diwethaf. Y rheswm dros ariannu'r chweched dosbarth gyda cholegau lleol yw sicrhau y gall pobl ifanc ddewis y cwrs y maent am ei ddilyn. Yr ydym yn cydlynu ar y lefel honno er mwyn rhoi dewis i blant o fewn eu hardal leol. Cefnogaf hynny, ond ni chredaf y gallwch gasglu bod goblygiadau i weddill y sector addysg.

**Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne):** Cydymdeimlaf â'r Gweinidog. Ymddengys nad pobl Cymru yn unig sydd wedi'i siomi gan Lafur, ond hithau hefyd. Ni wn ble mae'r holl Aelodau Llafur. *[Torri ar draws.]* Dyma hwy'n dod. Pa newidiadau sylweddol o ran ansawdd gwasanaeth y gallwch eu nodi, o gofio bod cynghorau wedi gorfod cynyddu'r dreth gyngor yn sylweddol, oherwydd prinder arian o'r canol? Ym Mhowys, er enghraifft, bu cynnydd o 57 y cant yn y dreth gyngor ers 1999 oherwydd

increase in council tax since 1999 because of a shortage of funds to meet obligations passed on by the Assembly Government.

**Sue Essex:** I do not agree with your analysis. We have seen an average increase in council tax of 4.5 per cent this year, excluding the police precept. I think that that is the lowest on record, Nick. Your assertion that authorities have been starved of cash does not hold water: £3.1 million has gone into the revenue support grant. That is outside of the grants that have gone through. Improvements in services are measured through the Audit Commission, and the Wales programme for improvement. Although there are some concerns, their response is that there is tangible evidence of improvement across Wales.

**Nick Bourne:** The Minister will know, although she dodged the question, that I was talking about obligations that have been passed on by the Government not being fully funded, not the headline figure. That is quite different; you need to look behind the headline figure to see whether obligations such as those on teachers' pensions are being fully funded. I used the example of Powys, because it is the one that I know best. The Crossroads charity, which provides carers with secure funding, has had to cut back on its work, there has been an increase in the cost of meals on wheels, and there have been school closures and so on because of a lack of proper funding from the Assembly Government. We know that next year, which is not an election year for local government, we will be looking at far greater rises. They tried to hold them off this year, as it was an election year. Can you deal with the point that I made on full funding?

**Sue Essex:** Again, I disagree with you on full funding. Local authorities all over Wales make choices as to how they spend their money. It is not our job to fund every initiative that a local authority chooses to introduce. They make their own choices—they have always done so, and they always will. Waste management is a good practical example of how we are providing full funding and making a difference in service delivery. There has been a huge improvement in the level of recycling, through a

prinder arian i fodloni rhwymedigaethau a drosglwyddwyd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad.

**Sue Essex:** Ni chytunaf â'ch dadansoddiad. Mae'r dreth gyngor wedi cynyddu 4.5 y cant eleni ar gyfartaledd, heb gynnwys praeseptau'r heddlu. Credaf mai hwn yw'r cynnydd lleiaf erioed, Nick. Nid yw eich haerriad bod awdurdodau'n brin o arian yn dal dŵr: rhoddwyd £3.1 miliwn yn y grant cynnal refeniw. Mae hynny yn ychwanegol at y grantiau a roddwyd. Mesurir gwelliannau mewn gwasanaethau drwy'r Comisiwn Archwilio a rhaglen Cymru ar gyfer gwella. Er bod rhai pryderon, eu hymateb yw bod tystiolaeth glir o welliant ledled Cymru.

**Nick Bourne:** Fe wŷr y Gweinidog, er iddi osgoi ateb y cwestiwn, fy mod yn sôn am achosion lle nad oedd rhwymedigaethau a drosglwyddwyd gan y Llywodraeth wedi'u hariannu'n llawn, nid y prif ffigur. Mae hynny yn hollol wahanol; mae angen ichi edrych y tu hwnt i'r prif ffigur i weld a yw rhwymedigaethau megis pensiynau athrawon yn cael eu hariannu'n llawn. Defnyddiais enghraifft Powys, gan mai Powys sy'n fwyaf cyfarwydd imi. Bu'n rhaid i'r elusen, Croesffyrdd, sy'n rhoi cyllid sicr i ofalwyr, gwtogi ar ei gwaith, bu cynnydd yng nghost prydau a ddarperir gan y gwasanaeth pryd ar glud, ac mae ysgolion wedi cau ac ati oherwydd diffyg cyllid priodol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Gwyddom y flwyddyn nesaf, nad yw'n flwyddyn etholiad i lywodraeth leol, y gallwn ddisgwyl cynnydd llawer mwy. Bu iddynt geisio ei ohirio eleni, gan ei bod yn flwyddyn etholiad. A allwch ymdrin â'r pwynt a wneuthum ynglŷn ag ariannu llawn?

**Sue Essex:** Unwaith eto, anghytunaf â chi o ran ariannu llawn. Mae awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru yn dewis sut y maent yn gwario eu harian. Nid ein gwaith ni yw ariannu pob menter y mae awdurdod lleol yn dewis ei chyflwyno. Maent yn gwneud eu dewisiadau eu hunain—dyna maent wedi ei wneud erioed, a dyna a wnânt fyth. Mae rheoli gwastraff yn enghraifft ymarferol dda o'r ffordd yr ydym yn ariannu rhwymedigaethau'n llawn ac yn gwneud gwahaniaeth o ran darparu gwasanaethau. Bu

combination of our money going directly to local authorities, and our working with those authorities and supporting exemplar authorities. That demonstrates that money, along with determination, leads to service improvement. Do not shake your head, Nick—the figures prove it.

**The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German):** The people of Wales have spoken about how they want their services to be delivered by local government, which has led to some changes. Some local authorities now wish to see a more open form of government than the style of government that we have been used to in some parts of south Wales. What barriers exist to the introduction of the so-called fourth option, which would mean a more open approach? What barriers do you have to overcome in order to allow them to introduce this new system?

**Sue Essex:** In terms of changing from one system to another, we need to bring regulations before the Assembly. There will be a process of consultation on those regulations, as usual. Given a fair wind and the support of Assembly Members, I hope that that will go through in November or December of this year, before the end of the next term. The other requirement, which I believe is reasonable—I am sure that Members would support this—is that there needs to be a degree of public consultation before councils of whatever disposition make such a change. If councils then use the fourth option, they will know that the public support that change.

**Michael German:** This is the age-old referendum question of whether the vote itself was a decision by people to change the style of their councils. However, I will set that aside. I welcome your decision to move forward as rapidly as possible. Would you like to hazard a guess as to whether local authorities wishing to change their procedures can do so by the end of the year?

**Sue Essex:** I am surprised that you seem negative about public consultation on such a change in a local authority. I believe that

gwelliant sylweddol o ran faint o wastraff a ailgylchir, drwy gyfuniad o roi arian yn uniongyrchol i awdurdodau lleol, a gweithio gyda'r awdurdodau hynny a chefnogi awdurdodau enghreifftiol. Dengys hynny fod arian, ynghyd â phenderfyniad, yn arwain at well gwasanaeth. Peidiwch ag ysgwyd eich pen, Nick—mae'r ffigurau yn profi hynny.

**Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German):** Mae pobl Cymru wedi dweud sut y maent am i'w gwasanaethau gael eu darparu gan lywodraeth leol, sydd wedi arwain at rai newidiadau. Erbyn hyn mae rhai awdurdodau lleol am weld llywodraeth fwy agored na'r math o lywodraeth yr ydym wedi bod yn gyfarwydd â hi mewn rhannau o'r De. Beth yw'r rhwystrau i gyflwyno'r pedwerydd opsiwn fel y'i gelwir, a fyddai'n golygu ymagwedd fwy agored? Pa rwystrau y mae'n rhaid ichi eu goresgyn er mwyn iddynt gyflwyno'r system newydd hon?

**Sue Essex:** O ran newid o un system i'r llall, mae angen inni gyflwyno rheoliadau gerbron y Cynulliad. Bydd ymgynghoriad ar y rheoliadau hynny, yn ôl ein harfer. A bwrw bod rhwydd hynt a bod Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn eu cefnogi, gobeithiaf y derbynir y rheoliadau hynny ym mis Tachwedd neu ym mis Rhagfyr eleni, cyn diwedd y tymor newydd. Y gofyniad arall, sy'n rhesymol yn fy marn i—yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Aelodau yn cefnogi hyn—yw bod angen rhywfaint o ymgynghori â'r cyhoedd cyn i gynghorau waeth pa blaid sy'n eu rheoli wneud newid o'r fath. Os bydd cynghorau wedyn yn defnyddio'r pedwerydd opsiwn, fe wyddant fod y cyhoedd yn cefnogi'r newid hwnnw.

**Michael German:** Dyma'r hen gwestiwn sy'n codi o hyd ynghylch refferenda, sef a oedd y bleidlais ei hun yn benderfyniad gan bobl i newid dull llywodraethu eu cynghorau. Fodd bynnag, rhoddaf y mater hwnnw o'r neilltu am y tro. Croesawaf eich penderfyniad i fwrw ymlaen mor fuan â phosibl. A hoffech roi amcan a fydd awdurdodau lleol sydd am newid eu gweithdrefnau yn gallu gwneud hynny erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn?

**Sue Essex:** Ymddengys eich bod yn negyddol ynglŷn ag ymgynghori â'r cyhoedd ar newid o'r fath mewn awdurdod lleol a

consultation is important. A change in party political representation is not the same as a change of structure, and we must differentiate between the two. I am surprised that you think that public consultation is not essential; I think that it is. In terms of when will we be able to get the regulations through the Assembly, I have given my assurance to councils wishing to do this that we will do our best to get it through as quickly as possible, bearing in mind the procedures that we have within the Assembly. I assume that the committee would want to take a view on the regulations, and it depends what the Assembly's view is on this matter. We can expedite matters and use the executive procedure, but if the committee, and Members, want a full discussion on the regulations, there is a timescale to that. As for all regulations, we would also wish to go out to consultation. I have been fairly clear in saying that we hope to get the regulations through before the end of the next term. It will be largely in your hands. The instruction has gone out to officials to do this, but we try to work with all Members, so that, in some ways, is what will determine how long it will take.

synnaf at hynny. Credaf fod ymgynghori yn bwysig. Nid yw newid mewn cynrychiolaeth plaid wleidyddol yr un peth â newid strwythur, a rhaid inni wahaniaethu rhwng y ddau. Synnaf eich bod yn credu nad oes yw ymgynghori â'r cyhoedd yn angenrheidiol; credaf ei fod. O ran pryd y byddwn yn gallu cyflwyno'r rheoliadau yn y Cynulliad, yr wyf wedi sicrhau'r cynghorau sydd am wneud hyn y byddwn yn gwneud ein gorau glas i basio'r rheoliadau mor fuan â phosibl, o gofio'r gweithdrefnau sydd gennym yn y Cynulliad. Cymeraf yn ganiataol y byddai'r pwyllgor am fynegi barn ar y rheoliadau, ac mae'n dibynnu beth yw barn y Cynulliad ar y mater hwn. Gallwn wneud pethau yn gynt a defnyddio'r weithdrefn weithredol, ond os yw'r pwyllgor, a'r Aelodau, am gael trafodaeth lawn ar y rheoliadau, mae amserlen i'w dilyn. Fel yn achos pob rheoliad, byddem hefyd am ymgynghori. Yr wyf wedi bod yn weddol glir wrth ddweud ein bod yn gobeithio cyflwyno'r rheoliadau cyn diwedd y tymor nesaf. Eich penderfyniad chi fydd hynny i raddau helaeth. Rhoddwyd y cyfarwyddyd i swyddogion wneud hyn, ond ceisiwn weithio gyda phob Aelod, felly bydd hynny, i ryw raddau, yn penderfynu faint o amser a gymer.

2.10 p.m.

### **Byrddau Rheoli mewn Llywodraeth Leol Management Boards in Local Government**

**Q2 Brynle Williams:** Would the Minister make a statement on management boards in local government? (OAQ36729)

**C2 Brynle Williams:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar fyrddau rheoli o fewn llywodraeth lleol? (OAQ36729)

**Sue Essex:** I assume that you are referring to council boards, in line with the discussion that we have just had. That is often referred to as the fourth option, and is an alternative to the executive structures laid down in the Local Government Act 2000. It involves the creation of a committee, known as a board, which must be politically balanced and is responsible for most council functions. All councils make their choice of executive or board structures following public consultation.

**Sue Essex:** Cymeraf yn ganiataol eich bod yn cyfeirio at fyrddau cynghorau, fel y drafodaeth yr ydym newydd ei gael. Cyfeirir at hynny yn aml fel y pedwerydd opsiwn, a gellir ei ddewis yn lle'r strwythurau gweithredol a nodwyd yn Neddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000. Mae'n golygu creu pwyllgor a elwir yn fwrdd, y mae'n rhaid iddo fod yn wleidyddol gytbwys ac mae'n gyfrifol am y mwyafrif o swyddogaethau'r cyngor. Mae pob cyngor yn dewis rhwng strwythur gweithredol neu strwythur bwrdd yn dilyn ymgynghoriad â'r cyhoedd.

**Brynle Williams:** In a council where there is no overall control, would you support all

**Brynle Williams:** Mewn cyngor lle nad oes gan yr un blaid fwyafrif i'w reoli, a fydddech

parties working together using either the fourth option or a board structure?

**Sue Essex:** They are the same. It is not for me—and this is important—to prescribe what a local authority's executive structure should be. Mike alluded earlier to the considerable changes following the local government elections, and perhaps some councils are now in a political situation that they had not anticipated. I understand that delicate discussions need to take place, together with much negotiation and perhaps some changes of culture and views. I am receptive to whatever proposals come forward from local government, if an authority feels that a certain pattern is right for its local authority, bearing in mind that, if it wants to make a change, it must be on the back of public consultation.

yn cefnogi'r opsiwn lle mae pob plaid yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd gan ddefnyddio naill y pedwerydd opsiwn neu strwythur bwrdd?

**Sue Essex:** Yr un peth ydynt. Nid fy lle i—ac mae hyn yn bwysig—yw pennu beth ddylai strwythur gweithredol awdurdod lleol fod. Cyfeiriodd Mike yn gynharach at y newidiadau sylweddol yn dilyn etholiadau llywodraeth leol, ac efallai fod rhai cynghorau bellach mewn sefyllfa wleidyddol nad oeddent wedi ei rhagweld. Deallaf fod angen cynnal trafodaethau sensitif, y bydd llawer o negodi, ac efallai rhai newidiadau o ran diwylliant a safbwyntiau. Yr wyf yn barod i ystyried pa gynigion bynnag a gyflwynir gan lywodraeth leol, os teimla awdurdod fod patrwm penodol yn iawn i'w awdurdod lleol, o gofio bod rhaid wrth ymgynghoriad â'r cyhoedd os yw am wneud newidiadau.

### **Cydweithio rhwng Awdurdodau Lleol Collaboration between Local Authorities**

**Q3 Christine Chapman:** What action has the Welsh Assembly Government taken to encourage local authorities to work collaboratively in Wales? (OAQ36757)

**Sue Essex:** This is a key issue for local government. We have led and supported the development of regional transport consortia, regional waste groups and regional economic fora. Community strategies and supporting strategies such as those on children and young people and health and social care, are based on partnership and joint working. We have obtained powers in primary legislation to require collaboration on special educational needs. The Children Bill includes new powers to require bodies to collaborate on children's services, and proposed powers in the Transport Bill will enable the Assembly to ensure that local authority areas work together on transport issues.

**Christine Chapman:** Would you agree that, geographically, areas of regeneration do not necessarily recognise local authority boundaries? With the development of

**C3 Christine Chapman:** Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'u cymryd er mwyn annog awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i gydweithio? (OAQ36757)

**Sue Essex:** Mae hwn yn fater allweddol i lywodraeth leol. Yr ydym wedi arwain ac wedi cefnogi'r gwaith o ddatblygu consortia trafndiaeth rhanbarthol, grwpiau gwastraff rhanbarthol a fforymau economaidd rhanbarthol. Mae strategaethau cymunedol a strategaethau rhoi cymorth, megis y rhai i blant a phobl ifanc ac ym maes iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, yn seiliedig ar bartneriaeth a chydweithio. Yr ydym wedi cael pwerau mewn deddfwriaeth sylfaenol i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau gydweithredu o ran anghenion addysgol arbennig. Mae'r Mesur Plant yn cynnwys pwerau newydd i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i gyrff gydweithredu ar wasanaethau plant, a phwerau arfaethedig yn y Mesur Trafnidiaeth a fydd yn galluogi'r Cynulliad i sicrhau bod ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithio ar faterion trafndiaeth.

**Christine Chapman:** A gytunech nad yw ardaloedd adfywio o reidrwydd yn cydnabod ffiniau awdurdodau lleol? Gyda datblygiad strategaethau cymunedol ar gyfer ardaloedd



community strategies for local authority areas, regional economic strategies, the roll-out of sub-regional regeneration plans, and the Wales spatial plan, it is vital that local authorities now embrace a new culture of collaborative working for mutual prosperity. You will be aware, Minister, that I am particularly keen on initiatives for the Heads of the Valleys area, where the need is greatest. We need much more team work to address that.

**Sue Essex:** That is vital, particularly in areas such as south Wales, where we have a multiplicity of local authorities. People rarely live their lives within local authority boundaries, particularly in terms of economic activity. They often undertake long journeys to work and sometimes travel long distances for education. If we are to conquer economic inactivity, people's ability to search out jobs and training is vital. I commend the Heads of the Valleys initiative, because it is a good example of local authorities coming together across a considerable geographical area, with a common purpose. It can focus on dualling the Heads of the Valleys road and other key investments. I intend to reflect that through the spatial plan.

**David Lloyd:** Oes gennych stratgaeth benodol i hyrwyddo mwy o gydweithio rhwng awdurdodau lleol ynteu ar hap a damwain y bydd hyn yn digwydd?

**Sue Essex:** That is an interesting question, because we have some initiatives that are really intent on collaboration, such as the procurement initiative and the use of e-technology. I am considering whether we can play a more active role in giving support. There are a variety of models: there can be lead authorities or geographical groupings, as Christine mentioned. If you look at what happened in the five counties affected by the Corus problems in Llanwern, there was a model of sub-regional collaboration which seemed to work well. We will pursue that more over time. It will come through legislation, through the use of grants such as the regional waste grant, which will ensure that collaboration, and in some cases through technical support and advice.

awdurdodau lleol, strategaethau economaidd rhanbarthol, cyflwyno cynlluniau adfywio is-ranbarthol a chynllun gofodol Cymru, mae'n hollbwysig bod awdurdodau lleol bellach yn croesawu diwylliant newydd o gydweithio er mwyn i bawb ffynnu. Fe wyddoch, Weinidog, fy mod yn frwd iawn dros fentrau ar gyfer ardal Blaenau'r Cymoedd, lle mae'r angen mwyaf. Mae angen llawer mwy o waith tîm i fynd i'r afael â hynny.

**Sue Essex:** Mae hynny yn hollbwysig, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd megis y De, lle mae nifer o awdurdodau lleol. Anaml y mae pobl yn byw eu bywydau o fewn ffiniau awdurdodau lleol, yn enwedig o ran gweithgarwch economaidd. Maent yn aml yn teithio'n bell i gyrraedd eu gwaith ac weithiau maent yn teithio'n bell i gael addysg. Os ydym yn mynd i drechu anweithgarwch economaidd, mae gallu pobl i ddod o hyd i swyddi a hyfforddiant yn hollbwysig. Cymeradwyaf fenter Blaenau'r Cymoedd, gan ei bod yn enghraifft dda o awdurdodau lleol yn dod ynghyd ar draws ardal ddaeryddol fawr, gyda phwrpas cyffredin. Gall ganolbwyntio ar waith deuoli ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd a buddsoddiadau allweddol eraill. Bwriadaf adlewyrchu hynny drwy'r cynllun gofodol.

**David Lloyd:** Do you have a specific strategy to promote more collaboration between local authorities, or will this happen on an arbitrary basis?

**Sue Essex:** Mae hynny yn gwestiwn diddorol, am fod gennym rai mentrau lle y mae bwriad pendant i gydweithredu, megis y fenter gaffael a'r defnydd o e-dechnoleg. Yr wyf yn ystyried a allwn chwarae rhan fwy gweithgar wrth roi cymorth. Ceir amrywiaeth o fodelau: gallwch gael awdurdodau arweiniol neu grwpiau daeryddol, fel y soniodd Christine. Os edrychwch ar yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yn y pum sir yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan broblemau Corus yn Llanwern, yr oedd model o gydweithredu is-ranbarthol a weithiodd yn dda i bob golwg. Byddwn yn ystyried hynny ymhellach dros amser. Fe ddaw drwy ddeddfwriaeth, drwy'r defnydd o grantiau megis y grant gwastraff rhanbarthol, a fydd yn sicrhau'r cydweithrediad hwnnw, ac mewn rhai achosion drwy gymorth a

chyngor technegol.

**Glyn Davies:** No subject is more important than waste management when it comes to collaborative working. You have referred to the regional waste groups. The new regulations will be coming through next week and the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside has confirmed that there will be no hazardous waste sites in Wales and that there is not enough capacity in England. There will be a huge problem after next week. What discussions have you had with local government to ensure that it works collaboratively—that is the only way that this can work—and comes forward with some sites before all our lay-bys are stacked high with hazardous waste, which is what will happen in the immediate future?

**Sue Essex:** I am not sure that it will happen in the way that you describe. However, collaboration must happen. I am not as close to the regional waste groups as I was a year ago. However, I will discuss this issue further with Carwyn. One reason for setting up the regional groups was to deal with the problem that you have highlighted. I thought that there had been more progress on that. I will speak to Carwyn to see whether there is a real problem, as you suggest there is, and I will do all that I can to get try to ensure collaboration.

**Glyn Davies:** Nid oes yr un pwnc yn bwysicach na rheoli gwastraff o safbwynt cydweithio. Bu ichi gyfeirio at y grwpiau gwastraff rhanbarthol. Daw'r rheoliadau newydd i rym yr wythnos nesaf ac mae'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad wedi cadarnhau na fydd safleoedd gwastraff peryglus yng Nghymru ac nad oes digon o gapasiti yn Lloegr. Cyfyd problem enfawr ar ôl yr wythnos nesaf. Pa drafodaethau yr ydych wedi'u cael gyda llywodraeth leol i sicrhau ei bod yn cydweithio—dyna'r unig ffordd y gall hyn weithio—ac yn cynnig rhai safleoedd cyn bod gwastraff peryglus yn cael ei waredu ym mhob cilfach barcio, sef yr hyn a fydd yn digwydd yn y dyfodol agos?

**Sue Essex:** Nid wyf yn siŵr y bydd yn digwydd fel yr ydych newydd ei ddisgrifio. Fodd bynnag, rhaid wrth gydweithio. Nid wyf yn cael cymaint o gysylltiad â'r grwpiau gwastraff rhanbarthol ag yr oeddwn flwyddyn yn ôl. Fodd bynnag, trafodaf y mater hwn ymhellach â Carwyn. Un rheswm dros sefydlu'r grwpiau rhanbarthol oedd ymdrin â'r broblem yr ydych wedi'i nodi. Meddyliais fod mwy o gynnydd wedi ei wneud yn hynny o beth. Siaradaf â Carwyn i weld a oes problem wirioneddol, fel yr awgrymwch, a gwnaf bopeth o fewn fy gallu i sicrhau cydweithio.

### **Cyflawni Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus yn Nhor-faen The Delivery of Public Services in Torfaen**

**Q4 Lynne Neagle:** What action has the Minister taken to improve the delivery of public services in Torfaen since 2003? (OAQ36716)

**Sue Essex:** The Assembly Government has taken specific action to support improvement with regard to education, social care, planning, waste management, procurement and equality of opportunity to name but a few areas. In terms of financial support to Torfaen County Borough Council, revenue funding for 2004-05 increased by 5.2 per cent over the previous year. Other funding available includes £0.9 million in performance incentive grants and £0.4 million in deprivation grants.

**C4 Lynne Neagle:** Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cymryd er mwyn gwella'r ddarpariaeth o wasanaethau cyhoeddus yn Nhor-faen ers 2003? (OAQ36716)

**Sue Essex:** Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cymryd camau penodol i gefnogi gwelliannau ym maes addysg, gofal cymdeithasol, cynllunio, rheoli gwastraff, caffael a chyfle cyfartal i enwi ond ychydig o feysydd. O ran cymorth ariannol i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Tor-faen, cynyddodd cyllid refeniw ar gyfer 2004-05 5.2 y cant o gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Ymhlith y cyllid arall sydd ar gael mae £0.9 miliwn mewn grantiau cymell perfformiad a £0.4 miliwn mewn grantiau amddifadedd.

**Lynne Neagle:** The high levels of delayed transfers of care in Torfaen continue to have a significant impact on health services locally, resulting in long waiting times, which are a cause of considerable concern to me and my constituents. I welcome the significant additional investment that the Assembly Government is providing to tackle this issue, but it is crucial that that investment is matched by delivery. What assurances can you give my constituents that the Assembly Government is taking steps to ensure that the investment provided will be matched by outcomes?

**Sue Essex:** I understand your concern, which I and Jane Hutt share. Torfaen is not hitting the delayed transfers of care targets, which is hurting your constituents. This is an important issue, and Jane and I are looking to perhaps have a meeting with Torfaen council to consider the issues with a hope of ensuring that the additional funding leads to the improvements that you want to see.

**William Graham:** You will know that the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has indicated that Torfaen is among the top five in the hall of fame in terms of care homes. You are a bit late in coming forward with resources. Vulnerable people need help now. What are you going to do about it?

**Sue Essex:** I am a bit at a loss with regard to what you just said. In terms of resources, I allocated an additional £19.5 million to support the care homes sector after Christmas, following Gordon Brown's announcement, to help with the issues that you mentioned. If my memory serves me right, you voted against that. Therefore, I do not understand the nature of your argument.

**Lynne Neagle:** Mae'r oedi mawr cyn trosglwyddo gofal yn Nhor-faen yn parhau i gael cryn effaith ar wasanaethau iechyd yn lleol, gan arwain at amseroedd aros hir, sy'n achos pryder mawr i mi a'm hetholwyr. Croesawaf y buddsoddiad ychwanegol sylweddol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, ond mae'n hollbwysig bod y buddsoddiad hwnnw yn arwain at ddarpariaeth well. Pa sicrwydd y gallwch ei roi i'm hetholwyr bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithredu i sicrhau bod y buddsoddiad yn arwain at ganlyniadau gwell?

**Sue Essex:** Deallaf eich pryder, a rennir gennyf fi a Jane Hutt. Nid yw Tor-faen yn cyflawni'r targedau o ran oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, sy'n cael effaith andwyol ar eich etholwyr. Mae hwn yn fater pwysig, ac mae Jane a minnau'n ystyried trefnu cyfarfod â chyngor Tor-faen er mwyn edrych ar y materion gyda'r bwriad o sicrhau bod yr arian ychwanegol yn arwain at y gwelliannau yr ydych am eu gweld.

**William Graham:** Fe wyddoch fod Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree wedi nodi bod Tor-faen ymhlith y pump amlycaf o ran cartrefi gofal. Mae braidd yn hwyr ichi gynnig adnoddau yn awr. Mae angen cymorth ar bobl ddiamddiffyn yn awr. Beth ydych yn mynd i'w wneud ynglŷn â hyn?

**Sue Essex:** Nid wyf yn deall yr hyn yr ydych newydd ei ddweud. O ran adnoddau, dyrennais £19.5 miliwn ychwanegol i gefnogi'r sector cartrefi gofal ar ôl y Nadolig, yn dilyn cyhoeddiad Gordon Brown, i helpu gyda'r problemau a grybwyllwyd gennych. Os cofiaf yn iawn, bu ichi bleidleisio yn erbyn hynny. Felly, ni ddeallaf natur eich dadl.

**Budd-dal y Dreth Gyngor  
Council Tax Benefit**

**Q5 Val Lloyd:** Would the Minister make a statement on any discussions she has held with colleagues in Government concerning the take-up of council tax benefit? (OAQ36710)

**C5 Val Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar unrhyw drafodaethau y mae hi wedi'u cael â'i chydweithwyr o fewn y Llywodraeth ynghylch nifer y bobl sy'n derbyn budd-dal y dreth gyngor? (OAQ36710)

**Sue Essex:** We have asked for more support on council tax benefits but, along with the Welsh Local Government Association, we have strongly supported the Department for Work and Pensions' recent campaign to encourage greater take-up of this benefit. Moreover, in our response to the balance of funding review, we argue strongly for immediate council tax benefit reform. I will be meeting Nick Raynsford next week and I will make these points to him forcefully.

**Sue Essex:** Yr wyf wedi gofyn am ragor o gymorth o ran budd-dal y dreth gyngor ond, ynghyd â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, yr ydym wedi cefnogi ymgyrch ddiweddar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i annog mwy o bobl i hawlio'r budd-dal hwn. At hynny, yn ein hymateb i'r adolygiad o gydbwysedd cyllid, dadleuwn yn gryf dros ddiwygio budd-dal y dreth gyngor ar unwaith. Byddaf yn cyfarfod â Nick Raynsford yr wythnos nesaf a gwnaf y pwyntiau hyn yn rymus.

**Val Lloyd:** That is encouraging. I am sure that you will agree that it is important to get the message out to those in need that we have made these benefits available. I remain concerned that around 30 per cent of elderly people, who are often the most vulnerable people, are not claiming what they are entitled to. Can you assure me that you will continue to ensure that older people are aware of, and claim, the council tax benefit to which they are entitled?

**Val Lloyd:** Mae hynny yn galonogol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch ei bod yn bwysig cyfleu'r neges i'r rhai mewn angen yr ydym wedi darparu'r budd-dal hwn ar eu cyfer. Mae'n achos pryder o hyd imi nad yw tua 30 y cant o bobl oedrannus, sef y bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yn amlach na pheidio, yn hawlio'r hyn y mae ganddynt hawl iddo. A allwch roi sicrwydd imi y byddwch yn parhau i sicrhau bod pobl hŷn yn ymwybodol o fudd-dal y dreth gyngor y mae ganddynt hawl iddo ac yn ei hawlio?

2.20 p.m.

**Sue Essex:** I am concerned about this and am considering how to increase awareness and take-up of the benefit. The take-up rate is lower than it is for other benefits. Changing requirements such as the need to reclaim the benefit annually has encouraged people to take up the benefit. This is important, as is the removal, from this year, of the upper council tax band. We are also considering the nature of the application form. I know that DWP has worked with local government to consider best practice, on which it is introducing a guide. Working together, local government, citizens advice groups and voluntary organisations such as Age Concern could have a big impact. It is pensioners, in particular, who do not know how to claim, or

**Sue Essex:** Mae hyn yn achos pryder imi ac yr wyf yn ystyried sut i godi ymwybyddiaeth a chynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n hawlio'r budd-dal. Mae canran lai o bobl yn hawlio'r budd-dal hwn na budd-daliadau eraill. Yn sgîl newid gofynion megis yr angen i ailhawlio'r budd-dal yn flynyddol, ysgogwyd pobl i ddechrau hawlio'r budd-dal. Mae hyn yn bwysig, yn ogystal â'r penderfyniad i ddileu band uchaf y dreth gyngor o'r flwyddyn hon ymlaen. Yr ydym hefyd yn ystyried natur y ffurflen gais. Gwn fod yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau wedi gweithio gyda llywodraeth leol i ystyried arferion gorau ac y mae'n bwriadu cyflwyno canllawiau arnynt. Gan weithio gyda'i gilydd, gallai llywodraeth leol, grwpiau cyngor ar bopeth a mudiadau

seem to be concerned about this and reluctant to claim. This work is vital, and I wish to see reform so that more people become eligible for council tax benefit.

gwirfoddol megis Age Concern gael effaith fawr. Pensiynwyr, yn arbennig, sydd ymhlith y rhai na wyddant sut i hawlio'r budd-dal, neu sy'n pryderu ynglŷn â hyn ac yn amharod i'w hawlio. Mae'r gwaith hwn yn hollbwysig, a hoffwn weld y system yn cael ei diwygio fel y gall mwy o bobl fod yn gymwys i hawlio budd-dal y dreth gyngor.

**Mick Bates:** Your answer to Val Lloyd highlights the injustice and unfairness that accompanies council tax. The Welsh Liberal Democrats' policy would rationalise this system through local income tax. What work have you undertaken to identify the impact of local income tax on people on fixed incomes who suffer badly as a result of council tax charges?

**Mick Bates:** Yn eich ateb i Val Lloyd amlygir anghyfiawnder ac annhegwch y dreth gyngor. Byddai polisi Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn ad-drefnu'r system hon drwy dreth incwm leol. Pa waith yr ydych wedi'i wneud i nodi effaith treth incwm leol ar bobl ar incwm sefydlog sy'n dioddef lawer o ganlyniad i'r dreth gyngor a godir?

**Sue Essex:** I refer you to our balance of funding report. The reality, Mick—as people in your party have acknowledged—is that evidence has shown that if someone decided to introduce local income tax tomorrow, it would take several years to implement. Val was talking about the here and now, and about people who are eligible for benefits but do not claim them for various reasons. I am sure that Members would agree that this is not a satisfactory situation. We need to work with pensioner groups and local authorities to ensure that the take-up process is easier. I would like to see a different range of benefits to make sure that more people become eligible.

**Sue Essex:** Fe'ch cyfeiriat at ein hadroddiad ar gydbwysedd cyllid. Y gwir yw, Mick—fel y cydnabu pobl yn eich plaid—bod tystiolaeth wedi dangos pe bai rhywun yfory yn penderfynu cyflwyno treth incwm leol y byddai'n cymryd sawl blwyddyn i'w rhoi ar waith. Yr oedd Val yn sôn am y sefyllfa sydd ohoni, ac am bobl sy'n gymwys i gael budd-daliadau ond nad ydynt yn eu hawlio am wahanol resymau. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Aelodau yn cytuno nad yw hon yn sefyllfa foddhaol. Mae angen inni weithio gyda grwpiau pensiynwyr ac awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau ei bod yn haws hawlio budd-daliadau. Hoffwn weld ystod wahanol o fudd-daliadau er mwyn sicrhau bod mwy o bobl yn gymwys.

### **Adolygiad Cydbwysedd Cyllido The Balance of Funding Review**

**C6 Alun Ffred Jones:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar yr adolygiad cydbwysedd cyllido? (OAQ36761)

**Q6 Alun Ffred Jones:** Would the Minister make a statement on the balance of funding review? (OAQ36761)

**Sue Essex:** This relates to the answer I gave in response to Mick's question. The Welsh Assembly Government has, following a consultation exercise, submitted a paper to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on the balance of funding review. The paper was considered by the Local Government and Public Services Committee before being submitted.

**Sue Essex:** Mae a wnelo hyn â'r ateb a roddais mewn ymateb i gwestiwn Mick. Ar ôl ymgynghoriad mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cyflwyno papur i Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ar yr adolygiad o gydbwysedd cyllid. Ystyriwyd y papur gan y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus cyn iddo gael ei gyflwyno.

**Alun Ffred Jones:** Bydd yr ailfandio

**Alun Ffred Jones:** The proposed rebanding

arfaethedig yn golygu bod rhai pobl ar gyflog isel yn gorfod talu cannoedd o bunnoedd yn fwy. A yw hyn yn deg, a beth yr ydych yn bwriadu ei wneud ynghylch y sefyllfa?

**Sue Essex:** That does not automatically follow. We will have the rebanding figures in September. Many people will stay in the same band and others will move down a band. It is difficult to draw general conclusions.

**Mark Isherwood:** Does the Welsh Assembly Government share the UK Government's cold feet on reform of its balance of funding review after Labour's poor showing in the local and European elections, as credited to Nick Raynsford?

**Sue Essex:** You seem to be wrongly informed. We showed well in the European elections, and Labour in Wales had the highest vote of any area in the UK. I do not understand your question. We have put back the balance of funding report, which sets out our view. Following extensive consultation, committee had an opportunity to include its views, as did all Members from all political parties. This considered response has now been submitted.

will mean that some people on low incomes will have to pay hundreds of pounds more in council tax. Is this fair, and what do you intend to do about the situation?

**Sue Essex:** Ni fydd hynny yn digwydd o reidrwydd. Bydd gennym y ffigurau ailfandio ym mis Medi. Bydd llawer o bobl yn aros yn yr un band a bydd eraill yn symud i fand is. Mae'n anodd dod i gasgliadau cyffredinol.

**Mark Isherwood:** A yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, fel Llywodraeth y DU, yn amharod bellach i ddiwygio ei adolygiad o gydbwysedd cyllid ar ôl canlyniadau gwael Llafur yn yr etholiadau lleol ac Ewropeaidd, fel y dywedodd Nick Raynsford, yn ôl pob sôn?

**Sue Essex:** Ymddengys eich bod wedi cael gwybodaeth anghywir. Cawsom ganlyniad da yn yr etholiadau Ewropeaidd, a chafodd Llafur yng Nghymru y bleidlais uchaf o bob rhanbarth yn y DU. Nid wyf yn deall eich cwestiwn. Yr ydym wedi gohirio'r adroddiad ar gydbwysedd cyllid, sy'n nodi ein safbwynt. Ar ôl ymgynghori eang, cafodd y pwyllgor gyfle i gynnwys ei safbwyntiau, fel y gwnaeth pob Aelod o'r pleidiau gwleidyddol. Mae'r ymateb ystyriol hwn wedi ei gyflwyno erbyn hyn.

## **Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon Questions to the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport**

### **Gwerth Amgueddfeydd The Value of Museums**

**Q1 Val Lloyd:** Can the Minister make a statement on the value of museums to Wales? (OAQ36687)

**The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh):** Museums make a big contribution to cultural life in Wales. The six sites of the National Museums and Galleries of Wales are among over 100 museum collections in Wales, 83 of which are registered museums. They provide opportunities for children and adults alike to appreciate and learn from our heritage and culture.

**C1 Val Lloyd:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar werth amgueddfeydd i Gymru? (OAQ36687)

**Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh):** Mae amgueddfeydd yn gwneud cyfraniad mawr i fywyd diwylliannol Cymru. Mae'r chwe safle o eiddo Amgueddfeydd ac Orielau Cenedlaethol Cymru ymhlith mwy na 100 o gasgliadau amgueddfeydd yng Nghymru, y mae 83 y cant ohonynt yn amgueddfeydd cofrestredig. Maent yn rhoi cyfleoedd i blant ac oedolion fel ei gilydd werthfawrogi a dysgu oddi wrth ein treftadaeth a'n

diwylliant.

**Val Lloyd:** The National Waterfront Museum in Swansea has been described as one of the most exciting museum developments in Britain. You may be aware that there are plans to link it with the redevelopment of the nearby Dylan Thomas theatre and the heritage sites along the banks of the river Tawe. Do you agree that it is important to link those other developments to the prestigious national museum so as to maximise their benefit to those who will visit? Do you also agree that that will contribute greatly to the current regeneration in Swansea?

**Alun Pugh:** I certainly agree with the verdict regarding the waterfront museum. I was last there on 23 June with the First Minister and it is a great project. In the Culture, Sport and Welsh Language Committee we hear a great deal of evidence on the roles that sport and, particularly, culture play in regeneration. Swansea is well-placed to take advantage of that.

**Lisa Francis:** The Auditor General for Wales's report recently revealed that only one-third of the National Museums and Galleries of Wales's collection is held on computerised records. It is sad enough that we do not have adequate display areas for many artefacts, works of art and items of historical interest, but what are you and your Government doing, in the light of this report, to ensure that Wales's valuable collections are held on computerised records?

**Alun Pugh:** You will know that it is inappropriate for me to comment on that report until the Committee has formally presented its findings to the Assembly Government.

**Val Lloyd:** Mae Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau yn Abertawe wedi cael ei disgrifio yn un o'r datblygiadau mwyaf cyffrous ym myd amgueddfeydd ym Mhrydain. Fe wyddoch fod bwriad i'w chysylltu ag ailddatblygiad theatr Dylan Thomas gerllaw, a'r safleoedd treftadaeth ar hyd glannau afon Tawe. A gytunwch ei bod yn bwysig cysylltu'r datblygiadau eraill hynny â'r amgueddfa genedlaethol nodedig er mwyn rhoi'r budd mwyaf posibl i ymwelwyr? A gytunwch hefyd y bydd yn cyfrannu'n fawr at y gwaith adfywio sy'n mynd rhagddo yn Abertawe?

**Alun Pugh:** Yn sicr, cytunaf â'r disgrifiad o amgueddfa genedlaethol y glannau. Bûm yno ddiwethaf ar 23 Mehefin gyda'r Prif Weinidog ac mae'n brosiect gwych. Yn y Pwyllgor Diwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon, clywn gryn dipyn o dystiolaeth ynglŷn â'r rhan y gall chwaraeon, a diwylliant yn arbennig, ei chwarae i adfywio lleoedd. Mae Abertawe mewn sefyllfa dda i fanteisio ar hynny.

**Lisa Francis:** Yn adroddiad Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru yn ddiweddar datgelwyd mai dim ond un rhan o dair o gasgliad Amgueddfeydd ac Oriolau Cenedlaethol Cymru a ddelir ar gofnodion cyfrifiadurol. Mae'n ddigon gwael nad oes gennym ddigon o fannau arddangos i nifer fawr o hen bethau, gweithiau celf ac eitemau o ddiddordeb hanesyddol, ond beth ydych chi a'ch Llywodraeth yn ei wneud, yng ngoleuni'r adroddiad hwn, i sicrhau bod casgliadau gwerthfawr Cymru yn cael eu dal ar gofnodion cyfrifiadurol?

**Alun Pugh:** Fe wyddoch ei bod yn amhriodol imi wneud sylwadau ar yr adroddiad hwnnw nes bod y Pwyllgor wedi cyflwyno ei ganfyddiadau yn ffurfiol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad.

### **Pêl Fâs Cymru Welsh Baseball**

**C2 Owen John Thomas:** Pa gamau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cymryd i ddefnyddio pêl fâs Cymreig er mwyn hyrwyddo'r broses o adfywio mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn

**Q2 Owen John Thomas:** What steps has the Minister taken to use Welsh baseball to promote the process of revival in Communities First areas? (OAQ36655)

Gyntaf? (OAQ36655)

**Alun Pugh:** Gofynnais i Gyngor Chwaraeon Cymru gyfarfod â swyddogion Undeb Pêl Fâs Cymru i drafod posibiliadau ehangu'r gêm drwy Gymru.

**Alun Pugh:** I have asked the Sports Council for Wales to meet officials from the Welsh Baseball Union to discuss the possibilities of expanding the game throughout Wales.

**Owen John Thomas:** Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod ardaloedd difreintiedig fel Pillgwenlly yng Nghasnewydd, Llanrhymni, Y Sblot, Caerau a Threlai yng Nghaerdydd hefyd yn gartrefi i bêl fâs. Gobeithiaf y byddwch yn tynnu sylw'r Gweinidog Cyllid at hynny, er mwyn i ni ddarparu mwy o arian tuag at hybu'r gêm yn hytrach na'i ganiatáu i fod yn bolisi papur yn unig.

**Owen John Thomas:** I am sure that you are aware that deprived areas such as Pillgwenlly in Newport, Llanrhymney, Splott, Caerau and Ely in Cardiff are also homes to baseball. I hope that you will draw the Finance Minister's attention to this so that we can provide more funding to promote the game rather than simply allowing it to be a policy on paper only.

**Alun Pugh:** It is fair to say that the amount of direct support that the sports council gives baseball is reasonably modest, but in addition to direct sports council funding, there have been a number of lottery grants. Baseball teams from Ely and Caerau, which are both in Communities First areas, have received lottery funding through the sports council's Sportlot fund for kit and equipment.

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'n deg dweud mai swm cymharol fach o gymorth uniongyrchol a roddir i bêl fâs gan y cyngor chwaraeon, ond yn ogystal ag arian uniongyrchol y cyngor chwaraeon, bu nifer o grantiau'r loteri. Mae timau pêl fâs o Drelái a Chaerau, y mae'r ddau ohonynt yn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, wedi cael arian o'r loteri drwy gronfa Sportlot y cyngor chwaraeon ar gyfer dillad chwaraeon ac offer chwaraeon.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Are you confident that there are sufficient sporting opportunities for the disabled in Communities First areas?

**Laura Anne Jones:** A ydych yn hyderus fod digon o gyfleoedd chwaraeon i bobl anabl yn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf?

**Alun Pugh:** I am not confident that we have sufficient facilities for disabled sport, not just in Communities First areas, but throughout Wales. That is why support for the disabled athlete is a key feature of 'Climbing Higher'.

**Alun Pugh:** Nid wyf yn hyderus bod gennym ddigon o gyfleusterau i chwaraeon i'r anabl, nid dim ond yn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ond ledled Cymru. Dyna pam mae cymorth i athletwyr anabl yn nodwedd allweddol o 'Dringo'n Uwch'.

### **Y Gronfa Loteri Fawr The Big Lottery Fund**

**Q3 Jenny Randerson:** Will the Minister make a statement on the merger of the new opportunities fund and the community fund into the big lottery fund? (OAQ36698)

**C3 Jenny Randerson:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar uno'r gronfa cyfleoedd newydd a'r gronfa gymunedol i greu'r gronfa loteri fawr? (OAQ36698)

**Alun Pugh:** The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has announced its intention to merge the new opportunities fund and the community fund. The creation of this new body, to be known as the big lottery fund, will be a key feature of the forthcoming Lottery Bill.

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'r Adran dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon wedi cyhoeddi ei bod yn bwriadu uno'r gronfa cyfleoedd newydd a'r gronfa gymunedol. Bydd y corff newydd hwn a grëir, sef y gronfa loteri fawr fel y bwriedir ei galw, yn nodwedd allweddol o'r Mesur Loteri arfaethedig.



**Jenny Randerson:** I welcome the commitment already given by the big lottery fund to maintain the proportion of funding that it will give to community groups. However, we are all interested in the hard cash. How much have the two existing funds spent this year in total in Wales? How much do you expect the big lottery fund to have to spent in its first full year of operation in Wales, and exactly what proportion of the money does it plan to allocate to community groups?

**Jenny Randerson:** Croesawaf yr ymrwymiad a roddwyd eisoes gan y gronfa loteri fawr i gadw'r gyfran o arian y bydd yn ei rhoi i grwpiau cymunedol. Fodd bynnag, mae gan bob un ohonom ddiddordeb yn yr arian ei hun. Faint y mae'r ddwy gronfa bresennol wedi'i wario gyda'i gilydd eleni yng Nghymru? Faint y disgwyliwch y bydd gan y gronfa loteri fawr i'w wario yn y flwyddyn lawn gyntaf ar ôl dod yn weithredol yng Nghymru, a pha ganran yn union o'r arian y mae'n bwriadu ei dyrannu i grwpiau cymunedol?

2.30 p.m.

**Alun Pugh:** The precise distribution of funds is currently out to public consultation. I know that the big lottery fund is holding events throughout Wales, and it has held some informal meetings with party groups in the Assembly. We should therefore await the outcome of the consultation before making any final statement on funding priorities, but I agree that support for community groups must be a key feature of future big lottery fund allocations.

**Alun Pugh:** Cynhelir ymgynghoriad â'r cyhoedd ar hyn o bryd ynghylch sut yn union y dylid dosbarthu'r arian. Gwn fod y gronfa loteri fawr yn cynnal digwyddiadau ledled Cymru, ac mae wedi cynnal cyfarfodydd anffurfiol â grwpiau'r pleidiau yn y Cynulliad. Felly dylem aros am ganlyniad yr ymgynghoriad cyn gwneud unrhyw ddatganiad terfynol ar flaenoriaethau ariannu, ond cytunaf fod yn rhaid i gymorth i grwpiau cymunedol fod yn nodwedd allweddol o'r arian a ddosberthir gan y gronfa loteri fawr yn y dyfodol.

### **Rygbi yng Nghymoedd y De Rugby in the South Wales Valleys**

**Q4 Irene James:** Will the Minister make a statement on the future of rugby in the south Wales Valleys? (OAQ36657)

**C4 Irene James:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar ddyfodol rygbi yng Nghymoedd y De? (OAQ36657)

**Alun Pugh:** Rugby has a special place in the sporting life of the Valleys. I enjoyed playing senior rugby for Ystrad Rhondda many years ago, and I enjoyed my visit to Caerphilly rugby club with Jeff Cuthbert last season. The latest figures show a growth in the number of young players, which bodes well for the future.

**Alun Pugh:** Mae i rygbi le arbennig ym mywyd chwaraeon y Cymoedd. Mwynheais chwarae rygbi i brif dîm Ystrad Rhondda flynyddoedd lawer yn ôl, a mwynheais fy ymweliad â chlwb rygbi Caerffili gyda Jeff Cuthbert y tymor diwethaf. Dengys y ffigurau diwethaf fod twf yn nifer y chwaraewyr ifanc, sy'n argoeli'n dda ar gyfer y dyfodol.

**Irene James:** You obviously agree that rugby has an important place in the hearts and minds of the Welsh people and in Valleys culture. However, following the move by the Welsh Rugby Union to a regional set-up, professional rugby has been lost from the Gwent Valleys, and, following

**Irene Jones:** Mae'n amlwg eich bod yn cytuno bod rygbi yn agos iawn at galonnau pobl Cymru ac mae iddo le pwysig yn niwylliant y Cymoedd. Fodd bynnag, yn sgîl penderfyniad Undeb Rygbi Cymru i sefydlu timau rhanbarthol, nid oes timau rygbi proffesiynol yng nghymoedd Gwent bellach,

the recent demise of the Celtic Warriors, there is now no professional rugby north of the M4. That is a matter of serious concern for me and many of my constituents, especially when you consider the important role that sport, and rugby in particular, plays in our most deprived communities. Will you use your influence to impress upon the WRU the importance of rugby in the south Wales Valleys to ensure that this important part of Valleys culture is not lost?

**Alun Pugh:** There has been much discontent about the Celtic Warriors, and as the Minister, and a former player in Wales, I want to see a successful national team. We need a strong and senior professional tier that generates a large and passionate following at home, and which makes a real impact for Wales across Europe and the rest of the world. It is crucial that the player base is well-nurtured and allowed to thrive at all levels.

**Alun Cairns:** In the light of how the WRU has simply pulled out of Bridgend and Pontypridd, I hope that you will now treat any funding application that it makes with the same respect and show it the door, as it has shown those communities the door.

**Alun Pugh:** The future of the Celtic Warriors is a matter for the WRU as the national governing body, as well as for the owner of the regional team. However, we look to future funding applications with great interest.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** Will you consider how you may be able to help Caerphilly rugby football club and Bedwas rugby football club to maintain their positions as premier league clubs while they continue to remain outside the regional structure?

**Alun Pugh:** Those are matters of detail for the WRU, the relevant governing body, but, from my visit to Caerphilly last year, I know that rugby is in good shape there and it retains a special place in the heart of the community.

**David Lloyd:** Ni wnafl olrhain a chymharu ein gorffennol fel chwaraewyr rygbi, ond gan

ac, yn dilyn tranc y Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd yn ddiweddar, nid oes yr un tîm rygbi proffesiynol i'r gogledd o'r M4. Mae hynny yn achos pryder mawr i mi ac i lawer o'm hetholwyr, yn enwedig o gofio'r rhan bwysig y mae chwaraeon, a rygbi yn arbennig, yn ei chwarae yn ein cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig. A ddefnyddiwch eich dylanwad i sicrhau bod yr Undeb yn deall pa mor bwysig yw rygbi yng nghymoedd y De er mwyn sicrhau na chaiff y rhan bwysig hon o ddiwylliant y Cymoedd ei cholli?

**Alun Pugh:** Bu cryn anfodlonrwydd ynglŷn â'r Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd, ac fel y Gweinidog, ac fel cyn-chwaraewr yng Nghymru, yr wyf am weld tîm cenedlaethol llwyddiannus. Mae angen uwch haen broffesiynol gref sy'n ennyn llawer o gefnogaeth angerddol yng Nghymru, sy'n cael effaith wirioneddol dros Gymru ledled Ewrop a gweddill y byd. Mae'n hollbwysig bod y sylfaen chwarae yn cael ei meithrin yn dda ac yn cael cyfle i ffynnu ar bob lefel.

**Alun Cairns:** O ystyried sut y mae'r undeb wedi ymadael â Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Phontypridd, gobeithiaf y byddwch yn trin unrhyw gais am arian a wna yn awr gyda'r un parch a'i wrthod, fel y mae ef wedi ymwrthod â'r cymunedau hynny.

**Alun Pugh:** Mater i'r undeb fel y corff llywodraethu cenedlaethol, yn ogystal â pherchennog y tîm rhanbarthol, yw dyfodol y Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd. Fodd bynnag, disgwyliwn geisiadau am arian yn y dyfodol gyda diddordeb mawr.

**Jeff Cuthbert:** A ystyriwch sut y gallwch helpu clwb rygbi Caerffili a chlwb rygbi Bedwas i gadw eu safleoedd fel clybiau'r uwch gynghair tra eu bod yn parhau i fod y tu allan i'r strwythur rhanbarthol?

**Alun Pugh:** Manylion i'r undeb, y corff llywodraethu perthnasol, benderfynu arnynt yw'r rhain, ond, o gofio fy ymweliad â Chaerffili y llynedd, gwn fod rygbi yn ffynnu yno a bod iddo le arbennig yn y gymuned o hyd.

**David Lloyd:** I will not trace and compare our pasts as rugby players, but given that the

fod y Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd yn awr wedi'u diddymu, mae hyn yn fater difrifol, ac mae'n gywilyddus bod plant yn y Cymoedd wedi'u hamddifadu o arwyr rygbi proffesiynol. Beth yn hollol ydych am ei wneud ynghylch hyn?

**Alun Pugh:** It is essential that we nurture grass-roots rugby throughout Wales, and it is important that large numbers of boys and girls take up one of our most important national sports. The number of people playing rugby at a professional level will always be small, but there must be a clear pyramid structure so that talented people, regardless of their background and of where they live in Wales, have an opportunity to progress to a professional level.

**Leighton Andrews:** I do not know about your rugby playing, but you have one thing in common with Lyn Howells, in that both your mothers are constituents of mine in the Rhondda. If the WRU applies for public funding from the Assembly, will you ensure that, in any funding applications that are granted, obligations are placed upon it to ensure the development of rugby in the Valleys?

**Alun Pugh:** That is relevant not only for rugby, but for all sports.

Celtic Warriors have how been disbanded, this is a serious issue, and it is shameful that children in the Valleys are deprived of professional rugby heroes. What exactly are you going to do about this?

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn meithrin clybiau rygbi ar lawr gwlad ledled Cymru, ac mae'n bwysig bod niferoedd mawr o fechgyn a merched yn ymgymryd ag un o'n campau cenedlaethol pwysicaf. Bydd nifer y bobl sy'n chwarae rygbi'n broffesiynol bob amser yn fach, ond rhaid bod strwythur pyramid clir fel y gall pobl dalentog, waeth beth fo'u cefndir, a waeth ble yng Nghymru y maent yn byw, gael cyfle i fynd yn eu blaenau i chwarae rygbi proffesiynol.

**Leighton Andrews:** Ni wn ryw lawer am eich gallu fel chwaraewr rygbi, ond yr ydych yn rhannu un peth yn gyffredin â Lyn Howells, yn yr ystyr bod eich mamau yn etholwyr imi yn y Rhondda. Os bydd yr undeb yn gwneud cais am arian cyhoeddus gan y Cynulliad, a sicrhewch, mewn unrhyw geisiadau am arian a gymeradwyir, fod rhwymedigaeth arno i sicrhau datblygiad rygbi yn y Cymoedd?

**Alun Pugh:** Mae hynny yn berthnasol nid yn unig i rygbi, ond i bob camp.

### Canolfannau Hamdden Awdurdodau Lleol Local Authority Leisure Centres

**Q5 David Davies:** What is the Minister doing to encourage more people to use local authority leisure centres? (OAQ36691)

**Alun Pugh:** The Welsh Assembly Government's free swimming initiative is attracting vastly increased numbers of children and young people into our leisure centres to take part in swimming and other leisure activities, which, in the longer term, can only benefit the health of our nation.

**David Davies:** I agree with your last point. I take you back to my pet project of a universal admission card for leisure centres across Wales—I have discussed this with you previously and your response is always positive. Have you had a chance to take this up with the Welsh Local Government

**C5 David Davies:** Beth y mae'n ei wneud i annog mwy o blant i ddefnyddio canolfannau hamdden awdurdodau lleol? (OAQ36691)

**Alun Pugh:** Mae menter nofio am ddim Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn annog llawer iawn mwy o blant a phobl ifanc i ddefnyddio ein canolfannau hamdden i nofio ac i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau hamdden eraill, na fydd, yn y tymor hwy, ond yn beth da o ran iechyd y genedl.

**David Davies:** Cytunaf â'ch pwynt olaf. Hoffwn eich cyfeirio at fy hoff brosiect i sef cerdyn mynediad i bawb i bob canolfan hamdden ledled Cymru—yr wyf wedi trafod hyn gyda chi o'r blaen ac mae eich ymateb bob amser yn gadarnhaol. A ydych wedi cael cyfle i godi'r mater hwn gyda Chymdeithas

Association? Do you agree that, in theory at least, it is a good idea, and one that is worth pursuing? Is there any way that we can overcome the bureaucracy that always accompanies such ideas, and allow anyone living in Wales to use any leisure centre in Wales, provided that they satisfy the relevant admission criteria?

**Alun Pugh:** Yes, it seems to be a good idea in principle. I have asked the group of chief leisure officers to consider the issue of induction courses in local authority gyms. Obviously health and safety must come first, but it seems to be a good idea in principle and I will write to you on this in due course.

**Carl Sargeant:** We are always looking to promote the use of leisure centres, and groups ranging from ballet classes to pigeon fanciers use my local leisure centre. Minister, will you join me in congratulating Terry Hands and his team at Clwyd Theatr Cymru on bringing *Brassed Off* to every region in Wales, using leisure centres?

**Alun Pugh:** That is an enormously exciting tour. Terry Hands has a tremendous reputation for high-quality productions and I look forward to those productions taking place not only in your constituency, Carl, but in places such as Caerphilly, Newport, and the Rhondda.

Llywodraeth Leol Cymru? A gytunwch ei fod yn syniad da, mewn egwyddor o leiaf, ac yn werth ei ystyried ymhellach? A oes modd inni oresgyn y fiwrocratiaeth sydd bob amser yn mynd law yn llaw â syniadau o'r fath, a chaniatáu i unrhyw un sy'n byw yng Nghymru ddefnyddio unrhyw ganolfan hamdden yng Nghymru, ar yr amod eu bod yn bodloni'r meini prawf mynediad perthnasol?

**Alun Pugh:** Cytunaf. Ymddengys ei fod yn syniad da mewn egwyddor. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i grŵp o brif swyddogion hamdden ystyried cyrsiau sefydlu yng nghampfeydd awdurdodau lleol. Yn amlwg, rhaid rhoi blaenoriaeth i iechyd a diogelwch, ond ymddengys ei fod yn syniad da mewn egwyddor ac ysgrifennaf atoch ar y mater hwn maes o law.

**Carl Sargeant:** Yr ydym bob amser yn chwilio am ffyrdd o hyrwyddo'r defnydd o ganolfannau hamdden, ac mae grwpiau sy'n amrywio o ddsbarthiadau bale i golomenwyr yn defnyddio fy nghanolfan hamdden leol. Weinidog, a ymunwch â mi i longyfarch Terry Hands a'i dîm yng Nghlwyd Theatr Cymru am berfformio *Brassed Off* ym mhob rhanbarth yng Nghymru, drwy ddefnyddio canolfannau hamdden?

**Alun Pugh:** Mae honno'n daith hynod gyffrous. Mae enw arbennig o dda gan Terry Hands am gynyrchiadau o safon ac edrychaf ymlaen at y cynyrchiadau hynny yn cael eu cynnal nid yn unig yn eich etholaeth chi, Carl, ond mewn lleoedd megis Caerffili, Casnewydd a'r Rhondda.

### Cais Llundain am Gemau Olympaidd 2012 London's Bid for the 2012 Olympics

**Q6 Janet Davies:** What discussions has the Minister had regarding the effect of London's bid for the 2012 Olympics on Wales? (OAQ36779)

**Alun Pugh:** The UK sports cabinet meets twice a year, and the Olympic bid is a standing item on its agenda. The position of the Welsh Assembly Government is clear—we support the bid to bring the Olympics to the United Kingdom. In your supplementary

**C6 Janet Davies:** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael ynglyn ag effaith cais Llundain ar gyfer Gemau Olympaidd 2012 ar Gymru? (OAQ36779)

**Alun Pugh:** Mae cabinet chwaraeon y DU yn cyfarfod ddwywaith y flwyddyn, ac mae'r cais am y Gemau Olympaidd yn eitem sefydlog ar ei agenda. Mae barn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn glir—cefnogwn y cais i gynnal y Gemau Olympaidd yn y Deyrnas

question, perhaps you will clear up the ambiguity in Plaid Cymru's position.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. The Minister has no responsibility for the policies of other parties. Supplementary questions are about seeking information, asking questions of Ministers, and scrutiny.

**Janet Davies:** Thank you, Llywydd. I will ask my own supplementary, not the Minister's.

Figures show that Scotland could lose over £30 million that would otherwise have been earmarked for sport, and £40 million in lottery funding that would have been used for other good causes. How much money will Wales lose out on? To what extent, if any, will there be an overspill of activities from London to Wales to compensate, and can you quantify them? Were you aware of this, possibly through the UK sports cabinet, before any announcement was made?

**Alun Pugh:** It is impossible to make that call, because much will depend on the sale of lottery tickets, including special Olympic lottery tickets, between now and 2012—if, indeed, the bid is successful. It is certain, however, that Welsh athletes support this bid, and I hope that you will do so.

**Eleanor Burnham:** I am particularly concerned about my constituents in north Wales. How do they figure in this equation? Will they lose a considerable amount, or will they benefit from some kind of Olympic events in north Wales?

**Alun Pugh:** Nothing would please me more than if a British and Welsh athlete, based in north Wales, were to win a gold medal in London in 2012.

**David Melding:** Do you agree that it would be splendid news for the whole of Britain if London succeeded in winning the bid to hold the Olympics in 2012? Do you agree that we could make bids to hold some sporting activities in Wales? Would it not be marvellous if the soccer finals were held in

Unedig. Yn eich cwestiwn atodol, efallai y gallwch egluro'r amwyster ynglŷn â barn Plaid Cymru.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid oes gan y Gweinidog gyfrifoldeb dros bolisiau pleidiau eraill. Mae a wnelo cwestiynau atodol â gofyn am wybodaeth, holi Gweinidogion, a chraffu.

**Janet Davies:** Diolch ichi, Lywydd. Gofynnaf fy nghwestiwn atodol fy hun, nid un y Gweinidog.

Dengys ffigurau y gallai'r Alban golli dros £30 miliwn a fyddai fel arall wedi'i glustnodi ar gyfer chwaraeon, a £40 miliwn o ran arian y loteri a fyddai wedi cael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer achosion da eraill. Faint o arian y bydd Cymru yn ei golli? I ba raddau, os o gwbl, y bydd gweithgareddau yn dod i Gymru o Lundain i wneud iawn am hynny, ac a allwch nodi faint? A wyddech am hyn, drwy gabinet chwaraeon y DU o bosibl, cyn i unrhyw gyhoeddiad gael ei wneud?

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'n amhosibl dweud, oherwydd bydd llawer yn dibynnu ar faint o docynnau'r loteri a werthir, gan gynnwys tocynnau arbennig Gemau Olympaidd y loteri, rhwng heddiw a 2012—os yw'r cais yn llwyddiannus, wrth gwrs. Fodd bynnag, un peth sy'n sicr yw bod athletwyr Cymru yn cefnogi'r cais hwn a gobeithiaf y byddwch chithau hefyd.

**Eleanor Burnham:** Pryderaf yn arbennig am fy etholwyr yn y Gogledd. Beth fydd yn digwydd iddynt hwy? A gollant swm mawr, neu a fyddent yn elwa ar rai digwyddiadau Olympaidd yn y Gogledd?

**Alun Pugh:** Ni fyddai dim yn rhoi mwy o bleser imi na gweld athletwr o Gymru neu o Brydain, sydd wedi'i leoli yn y Gogledd, yn ennill medal aur yn Llundain yn 2012.

**David Melding:** A gytunwch y byddai'n newyddion gwych i Brydain gyfan pe bai cais Llundain i gynnal y Gemau Olympaidd yn 2012 yn llwyddiannus? A gytunwch y gallem wneud ceisiadau i gynnal rhai gweithgareddau yng Nghymru? Oni fyddai'n wych pe bai rownd derfynol pêl-droed yn

the Millennium Stadium, for example? Perhaps we could also get rugby on the Olympic timetable by then.

**Alun Pugh:** Thank you for your clear expression of support. Wales will benefit from the games in many ways. Our millennium stadium will act as a key venue in the football tournament, and I am hopeful that we can secure many training camps in Wales. Our investment in national facilities, from the national pool in Swansea to the national velodrome in Newport, will put us in good stead in that regard.

cael ei chynnal yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm, er enghraifft? Efallai y gallem gael rygbi ar amserlen y Gemau Olympaidd erbyn hynny.

**Alun Pugh:** Diolch ichi am fynegi eich cefnogaeth bendant. Bydd Cymru yn elwa ar y gemau mewn sawl ffordd. Bydd stadiwm y mileniwm yn lleoliad allweddol yn y bencampwriaeth pêl-droed, a gobeithiaf y gallwn sicrhau llawer o wersylloedd hyfforddi yng Nghymru. Mae ein buddsoddiad mewn cyfleusterau cenedlaethol, o'r pwll nofio cenedlaethol yn Abertawe i'r felodrom cenedlaethol yng Nghasnewydd, o gymorth mawr yn hynny o beth.

2.40 p.m.

### **Gweithgareddau Chwareuon a Diwylliannol yn y Cymoedd Sporting and Cultural Activities in the South Wales Valleys**

**Q7 Lynne Neagle:** Will the Minister make a statement on how the Assembly Government is supporting sporting and cultural activities in the south Wales Valleys? (OAQ36689)

**C7 Lynne Neagle:** A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad yn nodi sut y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cefnogi gweithgareddau chwaraeon a diwylliannol yng Nghymoedd y De? (OAQ36689)

**Alun Pugh:** I would get into trouble with the Llywydd if I were to give you the full answer, because it would be so long. Briefly, through 'Climbing Higher' we are developing and implementing regeneration projects in deprived areas, and we have the free swimming initiative, the uptake of which is particularly strong in Valleys communities. We have provided £5 million to local authorities for the arts, plus £485,000 for eight Valleys-based arts organisations. There is also Clwyd Theatr Cymru's tour, £8 million of improvements at Big Pit in Blaenafon, and substantial investment in the ironworks in Torfaen, your constituency.

**Alun Pugh:** Byddai'r Llywydd yn ddig wrthyf pe bawn yn rhoi'r ateb llawn, gan y byddai mor hir. Yn gryno, drwy 'Dringo'n Uwch', yr ydym yn datblygu ac yn gweithredu prosiectau adfywio mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig, heb sôn am y fenter nofio am ddim, y mae nifer fawr o blant yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd yn arbennig yn manteisio arni. Yr ydym wedi darparu £5 miliwn i awdurdodau lleol ar gyfer y celfyddydau, ynghyd â £485,000 ar gyfer wyth sefydliad yn ymwneud â'r celfyddydau yn y Cymoedd. Ceir taith Clwyd Theatr Cymru hefyd, gwelliannau gwerth £8 miliwn i'r Pwll Mawr ym Mlaenafon, a buddsoddiad sylweddol yn y gwaith haearn yn Nhor-faen, yn eich etholaeth chi.

**Lynne Neagle:** Pigeon racing is enjoyed by many individuals in Valleys communities, and I thank you for meeting representatives of pigeon racing groups recently, following representations from me and other AMs. However, it is still extremely difficult for pigeon racing groups to access funding, and the Communities First trust fund is only an option for those in Communities First wards.

**Lynne Neagle:** Mae rasio colomennod yn gamp y mae llawer o unigolion yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd yn ei mwynhau a diolchaf ichi am gyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr grwpiau rasio colomennod yn ddiweddar, ar ôl imi ac ACau eraill gyflwyno sylwadau. Fodd bynnag, mae'n hynod anodd i grwpiau rasio colomennod gael arian a dim ond wardiau yn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf

Pigeon racers' frustrations are increased by the fact that, in England, pigeon racing groups have had funding from Awards for All. Will you look at this matter again, Minister, particularly in relation to Awards for All, to ensure that the scheme is genuinely inclusive and that more avenues can be opened to fund pigeon racing groups?

**The Presiding Officer:** I call Laura Anne Jones.

**Alun Pugh:** Shall I answer the question, then?

**The Presiding Officer:** Oh, have you not answered it?

**Alun Pugh:** No, I have not.

**The Presiding Officer:** We have already spent one minute and 18 seconds on this question. I call Lynne Neagle.

**Alun Pugh:** Lynne has already asked her supplementary question, which I have yet to answer.

**The Presiding Officer:** Get on with it, then. [*Laughter.*]

**Alun Pugh:** Thank you, Llywydd.

There is some debate about whether pigeon racing is a sport, but I know that many people value it as a social activity. It has a particularly important place in many Valleys communities, and I will certainly reconsider the matter.

**Laura Anne Jones:** It is extremely important that the Assembly supports sporting activities across Wales and those who participate in sport at all levels. I am concerned that those who take part in activities that are perhaps a little more strenuous than pigeon racing can often suffer injuries that do not receive adequate attention. Will you make a statement on the support and advice available to non-professional sportsmen and sportswomen in relation to sporting injuries?

sy'n gallu gwneud cais i gronfa ymddiriedolaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae raswyr colomennod yn teimlo mwy o rwystredigaeth byth am fod grwpiau rasio colomennod yn Lloegr wedi cael arian o dan Arian i Bawb. A wnewch chi ailystyried y mater hwn, Weinidog, yn enwedig o ran Arian i Bawb, er mwyn sicrhau bod y cynllun yn wirioneddol gynhwysol ac y gellir dod o hyd i fwy o gyfleoedd i ariannu grwpiau rasio colomennod?

**Y Llywydd:** Galwaf ar Laura Anne Jones.

**Alun Pugh:** A ddylwn i ateb y cwestiwn?

**Y Llywydd:** O, nid ydych wedi ei ateb?

**Alun Pugh:** Nac ydwyf.

**Y Llywydd:** Yr ydym eisoes wedi treulio un funud a 18 eiliad ar y cwestiwn hwn. Galwaf ar Lynne Neagle.

**Alun Pugh:** Mae Lynne eisoes wedi gofyn ei chwestiwn atodol, nad wyf wedi ei ateb eto.

**Y Llywydd:** Felly, ffwrdd â chi. [*Chwerthin.*]

**Alun Pugh:** Diolch yn fawr, Lywydd.

Mae cryn ddadl ai camp yw rasio colomennod, ond gwn fod llawer o bobl yn ei gwerthfawrogi fel gweithgaredd cymdeithasol. Mae llawer o gymunedau'r Cymoedd yn ystyried ei fod yn weithgaredd pwysig, a byddaf yn sicrhau yn ailystyried y mater.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Mae'n hynod bwysig bod y Cynulliad yn cefnogi gweithgareddau chwaraeon ledled Cymru a'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon ar bob lefel. Pryderaf y gall y rhai sy'n cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau sydd ychydig yn fwy corfforol na rasio colomennod gael anafiadau nad ydynt yn cael sylw digonol. A wnewch chi ddatganiad ar y cymorth a'r cyngor sydd ar gael i chwaraewyr nad ydynt yn broffesiynol o ran anafiadau a geir drwy

chwaraeon?

**Alun Pugh:** We want to encourage more people to participate in sports, and, of course, in some sports there is a significant element of contact, or other ways in which participants can get hurt. We should be engaging in the development of a stronger infrastructure for sports medicine, and we are doing that as part of the 'Climbing Higher' process.

**Alun Pugh:** Yr ydym am annog mwy o bobl i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon, ac, wrth gwrs, mae rhai campau yn cynnwys elfen gorfforol amlwg, neu ffyrdd eraill o gael anaf. Dylem fod yn rhan o'r broses o ddatblygu seilwaith cryfach ar gyfer meddygaeth chwaraeon ac yr ydym yn gwneud hynny fel rhan o broses 'Dringo'n Uwch'.

### 'Iaith Pawb'

**C8 Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cael â Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg yn ddiweddar ynglŷn â 'Iaith Pawb'? (OAQ36771)

**Q8 Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** What discussions has the Minister had with the Welsh Language Board recently regarding 'Iaith Pawb'? (OAQ36771)

**Alun Pugh:** I meet the Welsh Language Board regularly to discuss several issues, chief among them being the implementation of 'Iaith Pawb'. I last met the chair and chief executive of the Welsh Language Board on 22 June. The discussion covered several issues relating to the implementation of its plans.

**Alun Pugh:** Cyfarfyddaf â Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg yn rheolaidd i drafod sawl mater, a'r pwysicaf yn eu plith yw rhoi 'Iaith Pawb' ar waith. Cyfarfûm â chadeirydd a phrif weithredwr Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg ddiwethaf ar 22 Mehefin. Trafodwyd sawl mater yn ymwneud â gweithredu ei gynlluniau.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Ymysg y pynciau a drafodwyd gennych chi a chadeirydd a phrif weithredwr Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, yr wyf yn siŵr, oedd eu cred gref mai'r unig ffordd o greu twf ieithyddol yng Nghymru yw drwy strategaeth genedlaethol ar addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg i sicrhau bod mwy o blant yn cael addysg ddwyieithog ac felly yn datblygu'n ddinasyddion dwyieithog. A dderbyniwch mai dyna yw sail twf ieithyddol? Beth yw ymrwymiad y Llywodraeth a chithau i sicrhau strategaeth genedlaethol ar gyfer darparu addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg i bob plentyn?

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** I am sure that among the issues you discussed with the chair and chief executive of the Welsh Language Board was their firm belief that the only way to create linguistic growth in Wales is by means of a national strategy for Welsh-medium education to ensure that more children receive a bilingual education and thus develop into bilingual citizens. Do you accept that this is the basis for linguistic growth, and what commitment have you and your Government made to ensuring a national strategy to provide Welsh-medium education for every child?

**Alun Pugh:** You will forgive me if I do not stray into discussing what is the responsibility of my colleague, Jane Davidson, as Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, but I agree that the Twf project, which aims to encourage parents to bring up their children through the medium of both of our national languages, is important. That is why the Welsh Language Board's grant has been increased from £7.3 million in 2002-03 to £12.3 million in 2004-05, which is a 41 per cent increase.

**Alun Pugh:** Maddeuwch imi am beidio â thrafod cyfrifoldebau fy nghyd-Weinidog, Jane Davidson, fel y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, ond cytunaf fod prosiect Twf, sydd â'r nod o annog rhieni i fagu eu plant drwy gyfrwng ein dwy iaith genedlaethol, yn bwysig. Dyna pam y mae grant Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg wedi cynyddu o £7.3 miliwn yn 2002-03 i £12.3 miliwn yn 2004-05, sef cynnydd o 41 y cant. Mae trosglwyddo'r iaith rhwng cenedlaethau yn elfen allweddol o strategaeth 'Iaith Pawb'.



Intergenerational language transmission is a key element of the 'Iaith Pawb' strategy.

**Lisa Francis:** Can you give me more information on your meetings with representatives of the Welsh Language Board's regional offices? If you do not intend to develop a proper strategy, what are your meetings with them all about? Could you embellish on that?

**Lisa Francis:** A allweh roi mwy o wybodaeth imi am eich cyfarfodydd gyda chynrychiolwyr o swyddfeydd rhanbarthol Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg? Os na fwriadwch ddatblygu strategaeth briodol, beth yw diben eich cyfarfodydd â hwy? A allech chi ymhelaethu ar hynny?

**Alun Pugh:** It is important that we develop a strong regional presence for the Welsh Language Board, and I look forward to attending the formal openings of its regional offices in the next few weeks.

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn datblygu presenoldeb rhanbarthol cryf i Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, ac edrychaf ymlaen at fynychu agoriadau swyddogol ei swyddfeydd rhanbarthol yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf.

### Swyddogion yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol National Eisteddfod Officials

**C9 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael â swyddogion Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru ynghylch cynlluniau i foderneiddio'r ŵyl? (OAQ36772)

**Q9 Ieuan Wyn Jones:** What discussions has the Minister had with officials of the National Eisteddfod of Wales about schemes to modernise the festival? (OAQ36772)

**Alun Pugh:** I have had several meetings with Eisteddfod officials during the last year. The latest meeting took place on 23 June, and it was an opportunity for Eisteddfod officials to update me on the current position in relation to implementing the recommendations of the Stevens and Associates report.

**Alun Pugh:** Cefais sawl cyfarfod â swyddogion yr Eisteddfod yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Cynhaliwyd y cyfarfod diwethaf ar 23 Mehefin, ac yr oedd yn gyfle i swyddogion yr Eisteddfod roi'r diweddaraf imi ynglŷn â gweithredu argymhellion adroddiad Stevens and Associates.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Gwyddoch ei bod yn hynod o bwysig i gorff fel yr Eisteddfod apelio i gynulleidfa ifanc, a'n bod yn annog diddordeb yr ieuenctid yn yr ŵyl. Un ffordd y mae'r Eisteddfod yn ceisio gwneud hynny yw drwy sicrhau bod mwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â gweithgareddau a chanlyniadau'r Eisteddfod yn cael eu rhoi ar y we. Hefyd, cynhaliwyd cynllun peilot y llynedd i sicrhau ei bod y bosibl gwyllo ar y we y grwpiau sydd yn chwarae yn y babell ieuenctid. Mae hwn yn gyfle inni ddatblygu'r ŵyl ymhellach. Mae'n debyg eich bod yn gwybod nad yw cyrff cyhoeddus fel Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yn fodlon, yn anffodus, ariannu'r math hwn o weithgaredd er gwaetha'r ffaith y byddai'n galluogi'r Eisteddfod i ddatblygu. A fydddech yn fodlon rhoi eich cefnogaeth i ddatblygu hyn ymhellach, ac os felly, a fydddech yn cael gair

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** You know that it is vital for an organisation such as the Eisteddfod to appeal to a young audience and that we encourage young people to take an interest in the festival. One way in which the Eisteddfod is trying to do that is by ensuring that more information on Eisteddfod activities and results are posted on the web. Also, a pilot scheme was undertaken last year to ensure that the groups that play in the youth tent are sbroadcast on the web. This is an opportunity for us to develop the festival further. You will probably be aware that public bodies such as the Welsh Language Board and the Arts Council of Wales are, unfortunately, unwilling to fund this kind of activity, despite the fact that it would enable the Eisteddfod to develop. Would you be willing to support the further development of this aspect and, if so, would you have a word with these

â'r cyrff hyn i weld a ydynt yn fodlon cynorthwyo?

**Alun Pugh:** It is important that the Eisteddfod develops its young audience. That is critical. It is not fair to say that there has been a lack of financial support. The Eisteddfod received £300,000 in 2002-03 and will receive £360,000 in funding in the current year. Therefore, over a third of £1 million, which is a substantial amount of public support, is going into the Eisteddfod, and I look forward to visiting the maes in Newport.

**Brynle Williams:** Members have no doubt read in the media of the problems surrounding funding the National Eisteddfod in recent years. This event brings immense benefits to Wales and should be nurtured and supported. I read in the report from the National Eisteddfod that it feels that one of the reasons for the lack of interest in it and its funding difficulties is a lack of awareness. What more can we do, as a body, to support the Eisteddfod and raise awareness of it?

**Alun Pugh:** There is no lack of support from the Assembly Government. I will not go through all those figures again, but the fact that we are putting £360,000 into the Eisteddfod this year is ample evidence of our support. Ultimately, the attractiveness of the festival is a matter for the Eisteddfod's leaders.

organisations to see if they are willing to help?

**Alun Pugh:** Mae'n bwysig bod yr Eisteddfod yn datblygu ei chynulleidfa ifanc. Mae hynny'n hollbwysig. Nid yw'n deg dweud bod diffyg cymorth ariannol. Cafodd yr Eisteddfod £300,000 yn 2002-03 a chaiff £360,000 o gyllid yn y flwyddyn gyfredol. Felly, mae'r Eisteddfod yn cael bron i draean o £1 filiwn, sy'n swm sylweddol o arian cyhoeddus, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ymweld â'r maes yng Nghasnewydd.

**Brynle Williams:** Mae'r Aelodau yn ddi-au wedi darllen yn y cyfryngau am y problemau'n ymwneud ag ariannu'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae'r digwyddiad hwn o fudd mawr i Gymru a dylid ei feithrin a'i gefnogi. Darllenais yn yr adroddiad gan yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ei bod yn teimlo mai un o'r rhesymau dros y diffyg diddordeb a'r anawsterau ariannu yw diffyg ymwybyddiaeth. Beth arall y gallwn ei wneud, fel sefydliad, i gefnogi'r Eisteddfod a chodi ymwybyddiaeth ohoni?

**Alun Pugh:** Nid oes diffyg cefnogaeth o du Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Ni roddaf yr holl ffigurau hynny eto, ond mae'r ffaith ein bod yn rhoi £360,000 i'r Eisteddfod eleni yn dystiolaeth ddigonol o'n cefnogaeth. Mater i arweinwyr yr Eisteddfod yn y pen draw yw pa mor atyniadol yw'r wyl.

### **Cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ Questions to the House Committee**

**Y Llywydd:** Nid oes cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ i'w hateb ar lafar gan fod yr unig gwestiwn wedi'i drosglwyddo ar gyfer ateb ysgrifenedig.

**The Presiding Officer:** There are no questions to the House Committee for oral answer, as the only question has been transferred for written answer.

### **Datganiad ar Adroddiad Interim y Gweithgor Gofal Plant Statement on the Childcare Working Group Interim Report**

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt):** I am pleased to introduce the interim report of the childcare working group, chaired by Brian Gibbons.

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt):** Mae'n bleser gennyf gyflwyno adroddiad interim y gweithgor gofal plant, a gadeirir gan Brian Gibbons.

The work of this group builds on the childcare action plan that the Assembly Government published in 2002. We have implemented that plan. We worked with the new opportunities fund to create more than 24,000 new out-of-school childcare places. We introduced the Cymorth grant scheme, so that childcare is supported in an innovative programme, which considers the needs of children in the round, especially in our disadvantaged areas. We have increased Cymorth funding this year to more than £42 million. New children's information services are being created in every local authority, and we are working with the Welsh European Funding Office to make the most of the opportunity provided by European social funds. The action plan also commissioned original research into the particular needs of childcare businesses. On receiving that research, the Assembly Government decided to review progress, and support further implementation of the childcare action plan by creating the childcare working group. That working group has now submitted its interim report, and I am launching a public consultation on it. The consultation will continue until the end of September.

2.50 p.m.

The group's interim report provides a summary of the group's work to date. The group has discussed a wide range of issues, both social and economic, that are relevant to childcare. The group recognises that we must keep children at the centre of our thinking in making childcare policy, with all action rooted in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It received a presentation on regulation from the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales, as well as contributions from ELWa, Jobcentre Plus and the Welsh Development Agency.

We have engaged the Daycare Trust to draft the group's reports and keep us informed of emerging good practice. The resulting report sets out the key issues affecting childcare in Wales as identified by the members. Within

Mae gwaith y gweithgor hwn yn adeiladu ar y cynllun gweithredu gofal plant a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn 2002. Yr ydym wedi rhoi'r cynllun hwnnw ar waith. Bu inni weithio gyda'r gronfa cyfleoedd newydd i greu mwy na 24,000 o leoedd gofal plant newydd y tu allan i'r ysgol. Cyflwynwyd cynllun grant Cymorth gennym, er mwyn sicrhau y cynhelir gofal plant mewn rhaglen arloesol, sy'n ystyried anghenion y plant yn eu cyfanrwydd, yn arbennig yn ein hardaloedd difreintiedig. Yr ydym wedi cynyddu arian Cymorth eleni i fwy na £42 miliwn. Crëir gwasanaethau gwybodaeth newydd i blant ym mhob awdurdod lleol, ac yr ydym yn gweithio gyda Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y cyfle a gynigir gan gronfeydd cymdeithasol Ewrop. Yn ogystal, comisiynodd y cynllun gweithredu ymchwil wreiddiol i anghenion penodol busnesau gofal plant. Wedi derbyn yr ymchwil honno, penderfynodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad adolygu cynnydd, a chynorthwyo'r broses o weithredu cynllun gweithredu gofal plant ymhellach drwy greu'r gweithgor gofal plant. Erbyn hyn mae'r gweithgor wedi cyflwyno ei adroddiad interim, ac yr wyf yn lansio ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus arno. Bydd yr ymgynghoriad yn parhau tan ddiwedd mis Medi.

Mae adroddiad interim y gweithgor yn rhoi crynodeb o waith y gweithgor hyd yma. Mae'r gweithgor wedi trafod amrywiaeth eang o faterion, rhai cymdeithasol ac economaidd, sy'n berthnasol i ofal plant. Mae'r gweithgor yn cydnabod bod yn rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar blant wrth lunio polisiau gofal plant, gyda phob cam gweithredu yn deillio o Gonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn. Rhoddwyd cyflwyniad ar reoleiddio iddo gan Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru, yn ogystal â chyfraniadau gan ELWa, Canolfan Byd Gwaith ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru.

Yr ydym wedi cyflogi'r Ymddiriedolaeth Gofal Dydd i lunio drafft o adroddiadau'r gweithgor ac i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am arferion da sy'n cael eu datblygu. Mae'r adroddiad a ddilynodd yn nodi'r

each of the key areas identified, questions are incorporated for consultation. This provides an opportunity for all those involved with childcare in any way to share their views and contribute towards the group's final report.

I am impressed with the breadth of this report, and congratulate Dr Gibbons for taking the childcare plan forward in this way. The report invites the public to take a fresh look at how we underpin quality within childcare, and whether we are using regulation in the right way and with the right balance. It also asks important strategic questions about the balance between support to parents through tax credits, and Assembly support for the childcare market.

The report highlights the challenges that we face in supporting the childcare workforce: improving skills, recruitment and retention, and the differing roles of local partnerships and ELWa. The report also discusses the part that childcare plays in economic regeneration and helping parents access work and training. At the same time it asks how economic agencies can better support childcare businesses.

Finally, the report draws out important links between our education programmes and childcare. Our schools are a tremendous resource and we must ensure that the opportunity provided for childcare by my colleague, Jane Davidson's, community-focused schools programme is fully taken up. The childcare working group will receive oral evidence at the group's meetings in the autumn, and will be offering relevant Assembly committees the opportunity to discuss this interim report. The group must submit its final report to the Assembly Government by the end of December. Following receipt of the final report, there will be a chance for a debate in Plenary before the Assembly Government publishes its response and forward strategy.

The Assembly Government sees the interim

materion allweddol sy'n effeithio ar ofal plant yng Nghymru fel y nodwyd gan yr aelodau. O fewn pob un o'r meysydd allweddol a nodwyd, ymgorfforir cwestiynau i'w codi mewn ymgynghoriad. Rhydd hyn y cyfle i bawb sy'n gysylltiedig â gofal plant mewn unrhyw ffordd i rannu eu syniadau a chyfrannu tuag at adroddiad terfynol y gweithgor.

Mae ehangder yr adroddiad hwn wedi gwneud argraff arnaf, a llongyfarchaf Dr Gibbons am ddatblygu'r cynllun gofal plant yn y modd hwn. Mae'r adroddiad yn gofyn i'r cyhoedd edrych o'r newydd ar y ffordd yr ydym yn ategu ansawdd ym maes gofal plant, a pha un a ydym yn defnyddio rheoliadau yn y ffordd gywir a chyda'r cydbwysedd cywir. Hefyd, mae'n gofyn cwestiynau strategol pwysig am y cydbwysedd rhwng cymorth i rieni drwy greydau treth, a chymorth gan y Cynulliad i farchnad gofal plant.

Mae'r adroddiad yn amlygu'r heriau yr ydym yn eu hwynebu wrth gynorthwyo'r gweithlu gofal plant: gwella sgiliau, recriwtio a chadw staff, a gwahanol rolau partneriaethau lleol ac ELWa. Hefyd, mae'r adroddiad yn trafod y rhan y mae gofal plant yn ei chwarae ym maes adfywio economaidd a helpu rhieni i gael mynediad i waith a hyfforddiant. Ar yr un pryd, mae'n gofyn sut y gall asiantaethau economaidd gynorthwyo busnesau gofal plant yn well.

Yn olaf, mae'r adroddiad yn nodi cysylltiadau pwysig rhwng ein rhaglenni addysg a gofal plant. Mae ein hysgolion yn adnodd ardderchog, a rhaid inni sicrhau y manteisir i'r eithaf ar y cyfle a roddir ar gyfer gofal plant gan raglen ysgolion bro fy nghydweiniad, Jane Davidson. Bydd y gweithgor gofal plant yn cael tystiolaeth lafar yng nghyfarfodydd y gweithgor yn ystod yr hydref, a bydd yn cynnig y cyfle i bwyllgorau perthnasol y Cynulliad drafod ei adroddiad interim. Bydd yn rhaid i'r gweithgor gyflwyno ei adroddiad terfynol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad erbyn diwedd mis Rhagfyr. Ar ôl i'r adroddiad terfynol ddod i law, bydd cyfle i gynnal dadl yn y Cyfarfod Llawn cyn i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gyhoeddi ei hymateb a'i strategaeth.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ystyried yr

report and public consultation as an important move forward in developing a childcare strategy. It is an example of policy making that brings together a wide range of ministerial portfolios, Assembly sponsored public bodies, local government and voluntary sector partners. I hope that many organisations and individuals will take this chance to give us their views. We can thus ensure that our children and families get the best childcare, in the right place, in the future.

**Lynne Neagle:** Like you, Minister, I welcome this report, which makes an important contribution to a debate on an important topic. I also congratulate Brian Gibbons on his work on this issue and look forward to the consultation ahead.

I will raise two issues. The report highlights the fact that childcare provision is worst in deprived communities, which, it appears from the report, are mainly south Wales Valleys communities, as well as some others. Those are also the communities that most need the opportunities that can come with high-quality childcare. How do you see the Assembly Government taking this report forward? It is important that we are driven by social justice values and that, as we seek to improve childcare throughout Wales, the biggest focus and the most priority is put on having those childcare places in the areas where they are most needed.

The report also recognises the importance of childcare in early years learning. It is important that we see childcare in the round, not just as something that enables parents to go out to work, but as something which can play a vital role in supporting families and young children. As you know, the Westminster Government has announced an ambitious programme to roll out around 1,700 children's centres. There will be a centre in every deprived ward in England. What are your initial thoughts on whether it is likely that we will match that commitment in Wales, which is vital for the communities in question?

**Jane Hutt:** There are strong links in this report to the report on child poverty that we

adroddiad interim a'r ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus fel cam pwysig wrth ddatblygu strategaeth gofal plant. Mae'n enghraifft o broses gwneud polisiau sy'n dwyn ynghyd amrywiaeth eang o bortffolios gweinidogol, cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad, llywodraeth leol a phartneriaid yn y sector gwirfoddol. Gobeithiaf y bydd llawer o sefydliadau ac unigolion yn manteisio ar y cyfle hwn i roi eu sylwadau inni. Yna, gallwn sicrhau y caiff ein plant a'n teuluoedd y gofal plant gorau, yn y lle cywir, yn y dyfodol.

**Lynne Neagle:** Fel chi, Weinidog, yr wyf yn croesawu'r adroddiad hwn, sy'n gwneud cyfraniad pwysig i ddadl ar bwnc pwysig. Yr wyf hefyd am longyfarch Brian Gibbons ar ei waith ar y mater hwn ac edrychaf ymlaen i'r ymgynghoriad sydd o'n blaenau.

Codaf ddau bwynt. Mae'r adroddiad yn amlygu'r ffaith bod gofal plant ar ei waethaf mewn cymunedau difreintiedig, y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn gymunedau yng Nghymoedd y De, yn ogystal â rhai eraill, yn ôl yr adroddiad. Dyma'r cymunedau sydd â'r angen mwyaf am gyfleoedd a all ddeillio o ofal plant o safon dda. Sut y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithredu ar yr adroddiad hwn, yn eich barn chi? Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cael ein hysgogi gan werthoedd cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, ac, wrth inni geisio gwella gofal plant ledled Cymru, ein bod yn canolbwyntio ac yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i sicrhau bod y lleoedd gofal plant hynny ar gael lle y bo'r angen mwyaf.

Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd gofal plant ym maes dysgu blynyddoedd cynnar. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn ystyried gofal plant yn ei gyfanrwydd, ac nid fel rhywbeth i alluogi rhieni i fynd i weithio yn unig, ond fel rhywbeth a all fod yn rhan hanfodol wrth gynorthwyo teuluoedd a phlant ifanc. Fel y gwyddoch, mae Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi cyhoeddi rhaglen uchelgeisiol i gyflwyno tua 1,700 o ganolfannau plant. Bydd canolfan ym mhob ward ddifreintiedig yn Lloegr. Yn eich barn chi, a yw'n debygol y gallwn efelychu'r ymrwymiad hwnnw yng Nghymru, sy'n hanfodol i'r cymunedau dan sylw?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae cysylltiadau cryf rhwng yr adroddiad hwn a'r adroddiad ar dlodi plant a

recently debated. Consultations on both reports will be held in parallel throughout the summer months and I hope that they will draw from each other. I urged that at the launch held this lunchtime, with key partners in the childcare sector. It is clear that targeting the most disadvantaged communities is vital if the Assembly is to address the social justice agenda. In 2003-04, approximately £5.4 million of the £42 million Cymorth grant was allocated for childcare. Cymorth can be linked to Sure Start investment, which has strong links with providing accessible and affordable childcare by providing training opportunities for parents and play opportunities for children. That also links to the points that you rightly made about early years learning and ensuring that children are at the centre of the opportunities that we wish to provide in order to give them a flying start in life. The development of integrated centres, in conjunction with Jane Davidson, is key to this. In conjunction with the big lottery fund, formerly known as the new opportunities fund, we are developing at least one integrated centre in each local authority area. They will provide early years education, childcare, community training opportunities and open-access play. The Assembly Government and the big lottery fund have approved 16 proposals to date, and disadvantage has been considered as part of that. We have already developed the programme for those integrated centres, but we will look to the Chancellor's announcement on the children's centres to be opened in the 20 per cent most deprived wards in England in order to see what we can learn and apply in Wales.

draffodwyd gennym yn ddiweddar. Cynhelir ymgynghoriadau ar y ddau adroddiad ar yr un pryd yn ystod misoedd yr haf a gobeithiaf y byddant yn dylanwadu ar ei gilydd. Pwysleisiais hynny yn ystod y lansiad a gynhaliwyd amser cinio heddiw â phartneriaid allweddol yn y sector gofal plant. Mae'n amlwg bod targedu'r cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig yn hanfodol os yw'r Cynulliad yn bwriadu mynd i'r afael ag agenda cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Yn 2003-04, dyrannwyd tua £5.4 miliwn o'r £42 miliwn o grant Cymorth i ofal plant. Gellir cysylltu Cymorth â buddsoddiad Cychwyn Cadarn, sydd â chysylltiadau cryf â darparu gofal plant hygyrch a fforddiadwy drwy roi cyfleoedd hyfforddiant i rieni a chyfleoedd chwarae i blant. Mae hyn hefyd yn gysylltiedig â'r pwyntiau a wnaethpwyd gennych, yn ddigon teg, am ddysgu blynyddoedd cynnar a sicrhau bod plant wrth wraidd y cyfleoedd yr ydym am eu rhoi er mwyn eu gosod ar y trywydd iawn. Mae datblygu canolfannau integredig, ar y cyd â Jane Davidson, yn allweddol i hyn. Ar y cyd â'r gronfa loteri fawr, a adwaenwyd gynt fel y gronfa cyfleoedd newydd, yr ydym yn datblygu o leiaf un ganolfan integredig ym mhob ardal awdurdod lleol. Byddant yn darparu addysg blynyddoedd cynnar, gofal plant, cyfleoedd hyfforddiant cymunedol, a mynediad agored i chwarae. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r gronfa loteri fawr wedi cymeradwyo 16 o gynigion hyd yn hyn, ac ystyriwyd anfantais fel rhan o hyn. Yr ydym eisoes wedi datblygu'r rhaglen ar gyfer y canolfannau integredig hynny, ond byddwn hefyd yn disgwyl cyhoeddiad y Canghellor ar agor y canolfannau plant yn yr 20 y cant o wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig yn Lloegr a gweld beth y gallwn ei ddysgu a'i gymhwysu yng Nghymru.

### **Pwyntiau o Drefn Points of Order**

**Lisa Francis:** Point of order. During questions today, Alun Pugh said that it would be inappropriate for him to comment on the issue that I raised in question 1 and in my supplementary question. The Auditor General has previously given advice to the Audit Committee, which has been accepted, that the Minister is not precluded from commenting

**Lisa Francis:** Pwynt o drefn. Yn ystod y cwestiynau heddiw, dywedodd Alun Pugh y byddai'n amhriodol iddo gynnig sylwadau ar y mater a godais yng nghwestiwn 1 ac yn fy nghwestiwn atodol. Mae'r Pwyllgor Archwilio wedi derbyn cyngor yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol fod rhwydd hynt i Weinidogion gynnig sylwadau ar faterion

on issues under consideration.

**Janet Davies:** Further to that point of order, a similar situation arose previously, and the Audit Committee asked the Auditor General for firm advice, which he gave in writing. He said that Ministers were in no way prevented from responding to questions in Plenary on issues being discussed by the Audit Committee. Can you advise us on how acceptable it is for Ministers to continue to refuse to comment and to hide behind the Audit Committee?

**The Presiding Officer:** Ministers are responsible for their own answers at all times and in all places, particularly in the Chamber. Unfortunately, the Minister is no longer in his seat, therefore he is unable to respond at this point. However, he will read the Record. I have always followed with interest the advice given by the Auditor General, both to the Audit Committee and to the Assembly. His advice as an independent Auditor General, answerable to the Assembly, is valuable. His close relationship with the Audit Committee is one that I hope will continue. The Minister has just entered the Chamber and I hope that he heard the exchange and may wish to reflect on my comments.

**The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh):** I missed at least half of the exchange, but I will respond as soon as possible.

**The Presiding Officer:** I am grateful to the Minister for indicating that he will respond to a fair point raised by Lisa Francis and Janet Davies. He may respond in writing if that is more appropriate.

3.00 p.m.

**Mark Isherwood:** Point of order. I raise this in relation to comments made by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning in Plenary on 22 June 2004 during her response to the debate on the School Organisation Proposals by the National Council for Education and Training for Wales Regulations 2004. During the debate, the

sy'n cael eu hystyried gan y pwyllgor.

**Janet Davies:** Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, cododd sefyllfa debyg o'r blaen, a gofynnodd y Pwyllgor Archwilio i'r Archwilydd Cyffredinol am gyngor cadarn, a roddodd ar ffurf ysgrifenedig. Dywedodd na rwystrir Gweinidogion mewn unrhyw ffordd rhag ymateb i gwestiynau mewn Cyfarfod Llawn ar faterion sy'n cael eu trafod gan y Pwyllgor Archwilio. A allwch ddweud wrthym sut y mae'n dderbyniol i Weiniogion barhau i wrthod cynnig sylwadau a chuddio y tu ôl i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio?

**Y Llywydd:** Mae Gweinidogion yn gyfrifol am eu hatebion eu hunain ar bob adeg ac ym mhobman, yn enwedig yn y Siambr. Yn anffodus, nid yw'r Gweinidog yn ei sedd mwyach ac felly ni all ymateb ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, bydd yn darllen y Cofnod. Mae gennyf ddiddordeb bob amser yn y cyngor a roddir gan yr Archwilydd Cyffredinol, i'r Pwyllgor Archwilio ac i'r Cynulliad. Mae ei gyngor fel Archwilydd Cyffredinol annibynnol, sy'n atebol i'r Cynulliad, yn werthfawr. Gobeithiaf y bydd ei gydberthynas agos â'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yn parhau. Mae'r Gweinidog newydd ddychwelyd i'r Siambr a gobeithiaf iddo glywed y drafodaeth. Efallai y bydd am ystyried fy sylwadau.

**Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh):** Collais o leiaf hanner y drafodaeth, ond byddaf yn ymateb cyn gynted â phosibl.

**Y Llywydd:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am nodi y bydd yn ymateb i bwynt teg a godwyd gan Lisa Francis a Janet Davies. Gall ymateb yn ysgrifenedig os bydd hynny'n fwy priodol.

**Mark Isherwood:** Pwynt o drefn. Codaf hyn mewn perthynas â sylwadau a wnaed gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 22 Mehefin 2004 yn ystod ei hymateb i'r ddadl ar Reoliadau Cynigion Trefniadaeth Ysgolion gan Gyngor Cenedlaethol Cymru dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant 2004. Yn ystod y ddadl,

Minister said:

'I had a meeting with the National Training Federation for Wales yesterday, during which it congratulated ELWa on the way in which it had undertaken its work on work-based tenders.'

I have received a copy of the letter from the chair of the National Training Federation, which disputes the account given by the Minister to Plenary. The letter states:

'I have noted your recent comments in the wind-up debate on sixth forms, during which you referred to our recent meeting. The statement you made regarding our views on the work-based learning tendering process currently being undertaken by ELWa'—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I do not believe that letters sent to the Minister by external bodies can be points of order for me. The Minister will have heard your reference to the record of this debate. I do not see the Minister rushing to respond to this point of order. This is not a matter for me. As I said earlier, Ministers are responsible for what they say at all times, especially in Plenary. I have noticed you to be a Member of some ingenuity since your election to the Assembly, therefore I am sure that you will find ways of raising this issue.

**Nick Bourne:** Justice.

**The Presiding Officer:** On a genuine point of order, I need no help from the leader of the Welsh Conservatives in answering points of order.

I am sure that Mark Isherwood will be able to raise this issue either through a statement of opinion or further questions, or during a future meeting of the committee.

dywedodd y Gweinidog:

'Cefais gyfarfod â Ffederasiwn Hyfforddiant Cenedlaethol Cymru ddoe, a longyfarchodd ELWa ar y modd y gwnaeth ei waith ar dendrau sy'n seiliedig ar waith.'

Cefais gopi o'r llythyr gan gadeirydd y Ffederasiwn Hyfforddiant Cenedlaethol, sy'n anghytuno â'r hyn a ddywedwyd gan y Gweinidog yn y Cyfarfod Llawn. Noda'r llythyr:

Yr wyf wedi nodi eich sylwadau diweddar yn y drafodaeth ar ddirwyn darpariaeth chweched dosbarth i ben, lle y bu ichi gyfeirio at ein cyfarfod diweddar. Mae'r datganiad a wnaethoch ynghylch ein barn ar broses dendro dysgu seiliedig ar waith a gyflawnir gan ELWa ar hyn o bryd—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Ni chredaf y gall llythyrau a anfonwyd at y Gweinidog gan gyrrff allanol fod yn bwyntiau o drefn i mi. Bydd y Gweinidog wedi clywed eich cyfeiriad at gofnod y ddatl hon. Ni welaf y Gweinidog yn rhuthro i ymateb i'r pwynt o drefn hwn. Nid yw hwn yn fater i mi. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae Gweinidogion yn gyfrifol am yr hyn a ddywedant ar bob adeg, yn enwedig mewn Cyfarfodydd Llawn. Yr wyf wedi sylwi eich bod yn Aelod eithaf dyfeisgar ers ichi gael eich ethol i'r Cynulliad ac felly yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn dod o hyd i ffyrdd o godi'r mater hwn.

**Nick Bourne:** Cyfiawnder.

**Y Llywydd:** A chodi pwynt o drefn dilys, nid oes angen cymorth arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru arnaf i ateb pwyntiau o drefn.

Yr wyf yn siŵr y gall Mark Isherwood godi'r mater hwn naill ai drwy ddatganiad barn neu gwestiynau pellach, neu yn ystod cyfarfod o'r pwyllgor yn y dyfodol.



**Cymeradwyo Rheoliadau Taliadau Colli Cartref (Symiau Rhagnodedig)  
(Cymru) 2004  
Approval of the Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (Wales)  
Regulations 2004**

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones):** Cynigiaf fod  
**The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones):** I propose that

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Rheoliadau Taliadau Colli Cartref (Symiau Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2004 y gosodwyd copi ohonynt yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 29 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2044)*  
*the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (Wales) Regulations 2004, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 29 June 2004. (NDM2044)*

Cynigiaf fod

I propose that

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Taliadau Colli Cartref (Symiau Rhagnodedig) (Cymru) 2004 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 29 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2045)*  
*the National Assembly for Wales approves that the Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (Wales) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 29 June 2004. (NDM2045)*

**William Graham:** The Welsh Conservatives welcome this measure. The Minister will know that no amount of money is ever enough in these circumstances, but this is a welcome increase. The amount will hopefully be reviewed on a more regular basis. The cut-off date can aggravate people who feel that they fall so close to it, yet are outside it. However, we welcome the measure and are grateful to the Minister for bringing it forward.

**William Graham:** Mae Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn croesawu'r mesur hwn. Gŵyr y Gweinidog nad oes unrhyw swm o arian byth yn ddigon yn yr amgylchiadau hyn, ond croesewir y cynnydd hwn. Gobeithiwn y caiff y swm ei adolygu'n fwy rheolaidd. Gall y dyddiad terfyn wylltio pobl sy'n teimlo eu bod mor agos ato, ond eto y tu allan iddo. Fodd bynnag, croesawn y mesur ac yr ydym yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ei gyflwyno.

**Y Llywydd:** Gan nad yw'r Gweinidog yn dymuno ymateb, awn yn syth i bleidlais.

**The Presiding Officer:** Given that the Minister does not wish to respond, we will move to a vote.

*Cynnig (NDM2044): O blaid 49, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2044): For 49, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew

Davies, David  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Isherwood, Mark  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2045): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2045): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William

Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Idris Jones, Denise  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 James, Irene  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Melding, David  
 Mewies, Sandy  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.*

*Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Deddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol 2001 (Cychwyn Rhif 7) (Cymru) 2004 a Rheoliadau Gofal Cymunedol, Gwasanaethau ar gyfer Gofalwyr a Gwasanaethau Plant (Taliadau Uniongyrchol) (Cymru) 2004  
 Approval of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Commencement No. 7) (Wales) Order 2004 and the Community Care, Services for Carers and Children's Services (Direct Payments) (Wales) Regulations 2004**

**Y Llywydd:** Oni bai bod gwrthwynebiad, trafodir y ddwy eitem nesaf gyda'i gilydd. Gwelaf nad oes gwrthwynebiad.

**The Presiding Officer:** Unless there are any objections, the next two items will be debated together. I see that there are none.

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt):** I propose that

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt):** Cynigiaf fod

*the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Commencement No. 7) (Wales) Order 2004, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2004. (NDM2046)*

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru y ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Deddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol 2001 (Cychwyn Rhif 7) (Cymru) 2004, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2046)*

I propose that

Cynigiaf fod

*the National Assembly for Wales approves*

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn*

*that the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Commencement No. 7) (Wales) Order 2004 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2004. (NDM2047)*

I propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales considers the principle of the Community Care, Services for Carers and Children's Services (Direct Payments) (Wales) Regulations 2004, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2004. (NDM2048)*

I propose that

*the National Assembly for Wales approves that the Community Care, Services for Carers and Children's Services (Direct Payments) (Wales) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 28 June 2004. (NDM2049)*

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Byddwn yn cefnogi'r rheoliadau hyn. Talaf deyrnged i Mike German am ddod â'r achos hwn gerbron y Cynulliad, a da yw gweld bod y Llywodraeth wedi ymateb yn gadarnhaol am unwaith i'r hyn a ddywedodd.

**Michael German:** I must first say 'well done' to Jane Hutt. The direct payments scheme is an inspired policy, as I am sure you all would agree. I am grateful that she is bringing forward these regulations today. She must feel inspired to come up with these wonderful new ideas, but why have we had to wait so long for these regulations? There have been unnecessary delays, which we must note. It must be nine months since my debate on this in the Chamber and that needs to be explained by the Minister. Why has there been such a delay?

In the Minister's answer to my WAQ29883, she said:

'I propose that the necessary commencement Order and direct payments regulations be made during July next year. Making the offer

*cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Deddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol 2001 (Cychwyn Rhif 7) (Cymru) 2004 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2047)*

Cynigiau fod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ystyried egwyddor Rheoliadau Gofal Cymunedol, Gwasanaethau ar gyfer Gofalwyr a Gwasanaethau Plant (Taliadau Uniongyrchol) (Cymru) 2004, y gosodwyd copi ohonynt yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2048)*

Cynigiau fod

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Gofal Cymunedol, Gwasanaethau ar gyfer Gofalwyr a Gwasanaethau Plant (Taliadau Uniongyrchol) (Cymru) 2004 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Mehefin 2004. (NDM2049)*

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** We will support these regulations. I pay tribute to Mike German for bringing this issue before the Assembly, and it is pleasing to see that the Government has, for once, responded positively to what he has said.

**Michael German:** Yn gyntaf, rhaid imi longyfarch Jane Hutt. Mae'r cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol yn bolisi ysbrydoledig, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai pob un ohonoch yn cytuno. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ei bod yn cyflwyno'r rheoliadau hyn heddiw. Rhaid ei bod wedi'i hysbrydoli i feddwl am y syniadau newydd gwych hyn, ond pam y bu'n rhaid inni aros cyhyd i gael y rheoliadau hyn? Bu oedi diangen, a rhaid inni nodi hynny. Rhaid bod naw mis wedi mynd heibio ers fy nadl ar hyn yn y Siambr ac mae angen i'r Gweinidog egluro'r rheswm dros hynny. Pam y bu cymaint o oedi?

Yn ateb y Gweinidog i'm WAQ29883, dywedodd:

'Bwriadaf i'r gorchymyn cychwyn angenrheidiol a'r rheoliadau taliadau uniongyrchol gael eu gwneud yn ystod mis

of direct payments mandatory for existing eligible groups should then come into effect from August 2004. The extension of the direct payments scheme to all people with assessed care needs who are aged 65 or over should come into effect from December 2004.'

That was the declared intention when the draft guidance was issued for consultation last January. We are debating these regulations according to the timetable, but why has the rest of the process been delayed by three months? The Business Minister's letter, dated 22 June 2004, revealed that making the offer of direct payments mandatory for existing eligible groups would not come into effect until November 2004, while the extension of the direct payment scheme for all people with assessed care needs, aged 65 and over, would not happen until March 2005.

When this scheme eventually gets underway—and the Assembly should apologise to all those who could have taken advantage of this scheme during the last 12 months or more—will the Minister ensure that the scheme is properly promoted? Direct payments require the support of those—*[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I wish to listen to Mike German's speech, even if other Members appear not to.

**Michael German:** If this scheme is to work, it is essential that local authorities and others are given the tools to ensure that they promote it properly. Despite being out-of-date, the statistic given to the Health and Social Services Committee revealed that only 359 people had taken up the direct payment scheme. We know that, for many more people, that is the best and most appropriate route. It is important that the Minister tells us what measures she will take to ensure that local authorities increase that current low level of take-up.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation, to which I

Gorffennaf y flwyddyn nesaf. Dylai'r drefn i'w gwneud yn orfodol cynnig taliadau uniongyrchol i'r grwpiau sy'n gymwys ar hyn o bryd ddod i rym wedyn o fis Awst 2004. Dylai'r cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol gael ei ymestyn i bawb sy'n 65 neu'n hyn, yr aseswyd bod ganddynt anghenion gofal, ddod i rym o fis Rhagfyr 2004.'

Dyna oedd y bwriad a nodwyd pan gyhoeddwyd y canllawiau drafft i ymgynghori arnynt fis Ionawr diwethaf. Yr ydym yn cynnal dadl ar y rheoliadau hyn yn unol â'r amserlen, ond pam y bu oedi o dri mis o ran gweddill y broses? Nododd llythyr y Trefnydd, dyddiedig 22 Mehefin 2004, na fyddai'n orfodol cynnig taliadau uniongyrchol i grwpiau cymwys presennol tan fis Tachwedd 2004, tra na fyddai'r cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol yn cael ei ymestyn i bawb yr aseswyd bod ganddynt anghenion gofal, sy'n 65 oed ac yn hyn, tan fis Mawrth 2005.

Pan gaiff y cynllun hwn ei roi ar waith o'r diwedd—a dylai'r Cynulliad ymddiheuro i'r rhai a allai fod wedi manteisio ar y cynllun hwn yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf neu fwy—a fydd y Gweinidog yn sicrhau y caiff y cynllun ei hyrwyddo'n briodol? Mae taliadau uniongyrchol yn gofyn am gymorth y—*[Torri ar draws.]*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Hoffwn wrando ar araith Mike German, hyd yn oed os ymddengys nad yw Aelodau eraill am wneud hynny.

**Michael German:** Er mwyn i'r cynllun hwn weithio, mae'n hanfodol rhoi'r offer i awdurdodau lleol ac eraill er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn ei hyrwyddo'n briodol. Er gwaethaf y ffaith nad yw'n gyfredol, datgelodd yr ystadegyn a roddwyd i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol mai dim ond 359 o bobl a oedd wedi ymuno â'r cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol. Gwyddom mai dyna'r llwybr gorau a mwyaf priodol i lawer mwy o bobl. Mae'n bwysig bod y Gweinidog yn dweud wrthym pa fesurau y bydd yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn cynyddu'r nifer fach o bobl sy'n ymuno â'r cynllun ar hyn o bryd.

Dywedodd Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree, y

referred in my debate last October, said that it was crucial for support services to be put in place to enable older people to use direct payments. Part of the problem, as we already know, is that people with responsibility for the money need to account for it properly. Therefore, those support mechanisms are crucial. We need to ensure that local authorities make the scheme available and that there is a choice for those who will become eligible for it. It is also important that those companies in a position to provide these services—four already offer this type of scheme in Wales—are given the opportunity to engage with those affected by the scheme.

We need to take advice on how we can progress this matter. I would like to be able to respond to a debate on this in 12 months' time and learn that instead of just several hundred people taking up and benefiting from this scheme, there were 4,000 to 5,000. This is a crucial scheme to enable and empower people in Wales, who are currently suffering because they do not have the services that they desire or need. It is an essential tool to ensure that people have the correct level of care in their homes. I am grateful that this has now been introduced, but I am sorry for the people who have had to face such a long delay.

**Jonathan Morgan:** We are happy to support these regulations. We also put on record our thanks and congratulations to Mike German. No doubt the Minister will be equally gracious in congratulating him when she replies, and we look forward to that.

3.10 p.m.

I raise one particular concern with regard to the regulations—we discussed it in committee, but we did not get far. Jocelyn Davies and I raised the point, which relates to the appeals mechanism, or the lack of it, although there is an opportunity, through advocacy and arbitration, should a local authority decide not to award direct payments to an individual. If that individual disagrees with that decision, there is an arbitration procedure and advocacy is available. However, it does not specifically state that a local authority, through the appeals process,

cyfeiriaais ato yn fy nadl fis Hydref diwethaf, ei bod yn hanfodol sefydlu gwasanaethau cymorth i alluogi pobl hŷn i ddefnyddio taliadau uniongyrchol. Rhan o'r broblem, fel y gwyddom eisoes, yw bod angen i bobl sy'n gyfrifol am yr arian roi cyfrif cywir amdano. Felly, mae'r dulliau cymorth hynny yn hollbwysig. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn darparu'r cynllun a bod dewis i'r rhai a fydd yn gymwys i ymuno ag ef. Mae'n bwysig hefyd y rhoddir y cyfle i'r cwmnïau hynny sy'n gallu darparu'r gwasanaethau hyn—mae pedwar yn cynnig y math hwn o gynllun yng Nghymru eisoes—gysylltu â'r rhai y mae'r cynllun yn effeithio arnynt.

Mae angen inni geisio cyngor ar sut y gallwn fwrw ymlaen â'r mater hwn. Hoffwn allu ymateb i ddadl ar hyn ymhen 12 mis a chael gwybod bod 4,000 i 5,000 o bobl wedi manteisio ar y cynllun hwn, yn hytrach na dim ond rhai cannoedd. Mae'r cynllun hwn yn hollbwysig i alluogi a grymuso pobl yng Nghymru, sy'n dioddef ar hyn o bryd am nad oes ganddynt y gwasanaethau a ddymunant neu sydd eu hangen arnynt. Mae'n ddull hanfodol o sicrhau bod pobl yn cael y lefel gywir o ofal yn eu cartrefi. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar bod hyn wedi'i gyflwyno bellach, ond mae'n drueni gennyf dros y bobl y mae'n rhaid iddynt wynebu cymaint o oedi.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Yr ydym yn fodlon cefnogi'r rheoliadau hyn. Cofnodwn hefyd ein diolchiadau a'n llongyfarchiadau i Mike German. Yn ddiamau bydd y Gweinidog yr un mor raslon wrth ei longyfarch pan fydd yn ymateb, ac edrychwn ymlaen at hynny.

Codaf bryder penodol o ran y rheoliadau hyn—bu inni ei drafod yn y pwyllgor, ond ni wnaed llawer o gynnydd. Codwyd y pwynt gan Jocelyn Davies a minnau, sy'n ymwneud â'r dull apelio, neu ddiffyg dull apelio, er bod cyfle, drwy eiriolaeth a chyflafareddu, pe bai awdurdod lleol yn penderfynu peidio â rhoi taliadau uniongyrchol i unigolyn. Os bydd yr unigolyn hwnnw yn anghytuno â'r penderfyniad hwnnw, ceir gweithdrefn gyflafareddu ac mae eiriolaeth ar gael. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n nodi'n benodol y gellid darbwyllo neu orfodi awdurdod lleol, drwy'r

could be persuaded or forced to change its mind. If the local authority still wishes not to provide direct payments for that individual, then, presumably, the local authority could stick with its original decision. I hope that the Minister can address that when she responds to the debate, because it is a clear problem. If local authorities make questionable decisions, which individuals feel have not been properly thought through and the results of which are not favourable, there needs to be a mechanism that ensures that local authorities change their minds, so that as many individuals as possible benefit from this scheme. I would be grateful if the Minister responded to those particular points when she replies.

**The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt):** I am glad that you have congratulated me, Mike, on this Welsh Labour Government policy. Had we implemented your policy—do not forget that it was narrowly constructed—it would only have benefited people aged over 65. My intention is to promote these changes to direct payments for all service users. I know that you will be pleased with that, Mike, because it takes us far beyond your narrowly constructed motion. This motion will promote changes to direct payments for all service users in Wales, and that takes us further than any other part of the UK. The last phase of change to the scope of our direct payments will place Wales ahead of other countries because we will consult on further changes to remove the adults disability link, which will bring all adults with assessed care needs, who qualify for services under the direct payment scheme, into the fold.

I will clarify some of Mike and Jonathan's other points. You know that this scheme will offer individuals more flexibility in how they meet assessed care needs. It offers cash payments for service users to purchase their own care. There is poor take-up at present, as other Members have highlighted. All local authorities currently have the discretion to offer direct payments, but they do not have a mandatory obligation to do so. These regulations mean that they must offer it.

broses apelio, i newid ei feddwl. Os bydd yr awdurdod lleol am barhau i beidio â rhoi taliadau uniongyrchol i'r unigolyn hwnnw, yna, cymeraf y gallai'r awdurdod lleol lynu wrth ei benderfyniad gwreiddiol. Gobeithiaf y gall y Gweinidog ymdrin â hynny pan fydd yn ymateb i'r ddadl, am ei bod yn broblem amlwg. Os bydd awdurdodau lleol yn gwneud penderfyniadau amheus, lle y mae unigolion yn teimlo nad ydynt wedi cael ystyriaeth briodol ac nad yw'r canlyniadau yn ffafriol, mae angen dull sy'n sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn newid eu meddwl, fel y gall cymaint o unigolion â phosibl fanteisio ar y cynllun hwn. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai'r Gweinidog yn ymateb i'r pwyntiau penodol hynny pan fydd yn ymateb.

**Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt):** Yr wyf yn falch ichi fy llongyfarch, Mike, ar un o bolisiau Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru. Pe baem wedi rhoi eich polisi chi ar waith—peidiwch ag anghofio mai polisi cul ydoedd—dim ond pobl dros 65 oed a fyddai wedi elwa arno. Bwriadaf hyrwyddo'r newidiadau hyn i daliadau uniongyrchol i bob defnyddiwr gwasanaeth. Gwn y byddwch yn falch o glywed hynny, Mike, am ei fod yn llawer ehangach na'ch cynnig cul chi. Bydd y cynnig hwn yn hyrwyddo newidiadau i daliadau uniongyrchol i bob defnyddiwr gwasanaeth yng Nghymru, ac mae hynny'n ddarpariaeth ehangach nag mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU. Bydd cam olaf y newidiadau i gwmpas ein taliadau uniongyrchol yn sicrhau bod Cymru ar y blaen i wledydd eraill am ein bod yn ymgynghori ar newidiadau pellach i ddileu'r cyswllt anabled oedolion, a fydd yn cynnwys pob oedolyn yr aseswyd bod ganddo anghenion gofal, sy'n gymwys i gael gwasanaethau o dan y cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol.

Byddaf yn rhoi eglurhad ynglŷn â rhai o bwyntiau eraill Mike a Jonathan. Gwyddoch y bydd y cynllun hwn yn cynnig mwy o hyblygrwydd i unigolion o ran sut y maent yn diwallu anghenion gofal a aseswyd. Cynigia daliadau arian parod i ddefnyddwyr gwasanaethau brynu eu gofal eu hunain. Nid yw llawer o bobl yn rhan o'r cynllun ar hyn o bryd, fel y nododd Aelodau eraill. Ar hyn o bryd mae disgresiwn gan bob awdurdod lleol i gynnig taliadau uniongyrchol, ond nid yw'n

orfodol iddynt eu cynnig. Mae'r rheoliadau hyn yn golygu bod yn rhaid iddynt gynnig y cynllun.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** I am giving you the opportunity to congratulate Mike German and to show a little grace in responding to his initiative.

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Rhoddaf y cyfle ichi longyfarch Mike German a bod ychydig yn raslon wrth ymateb i'w fenter ef.

**Jane Hutt:** Mike will be pleased that this Welsh Labour policy extends his motion far beyond what is in place in any other part of the UK. I will make an important point about the timing of these issues. It is strange that Jenny Randerson was concerned last week that I had disappplied part of the standard procedure. The point, as was explained clearly in a report to committee, is that I want to get on with the policy and implement it. However, during consultation, local authorities were concerned about my original implementation timetable and they wanted to defer it even further. We have provided £700,000 this year to help them take this forward and prepare and plan it to ensure that it is properly implemented.

**Jane Hutt:** Bydd Mike yn falch bod y polisi hwn o eiddo Llafur Cymru yn ymestyn ei gynnig ymhell y tu hwnt i'r hyn sydd ar gael mewn unrhyw ran arall o'r DU. Gwnaf bwynt pwysig ynghylch amseriad y materion hyn. Mae'n rhyfedd bod Jenny Randerson yn pryderu yr wythnos diwethaf fy mod wedi datgymhwysio rhan o'r weithdrefn safonol. Y pwynt, fel yr eglurwyd mewn adroddiad i'r pwyllgor, yw fy mod am fynd ati i weithredu'r polisi. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad, yr oedd sawl awdurdod lleol yn pryderu ynghylch fy amserlen weithredu wreiddiol ac yr oeddent am ei gohirio hyd yn oed ymhellach. Yr ydym wedi darparu £700,000 eleni i'w helpu i ddatblygu hyn a'i baratoi a'i gynllunio er mwyn sicrhau y caiff ei weithredu'n briodol.

**Jenny Randerson:** Do you not think that it is a bit rich of you to complain about wanting to get on with it when it has been nine months since Mike German first put this idea into your head? In that time, you have had two exceedingly lengthy consultation periods. The reason given was that you wanted to give local authorities certainty, but you could have given them that by writing to tell them of your intention, which had cross-party support in the Chamber. Are you not being a little mealy-mouthed this afternoon in your response to Rhodri Glyn?

**Jenny Randerson:** Oni chredwch ei bod yn eithaf hyf ichi gwyno eich bod am fynd ati i weithredu'r cynllun pan fo naw mis wedi mynd heibio ers i Mike German roi'r syniad hwn yn eich pen yn gyntaf? Yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, cynhaliwyd dau gyfnod ymgynghori hirfaith. Y rheswm a roddwyd oedd eich bod am roi sicrwydd i awdurdodau lleol, ond gallech fod wedi rhoi hynny iddynt drwy ysgrifennu atynt i'w hysbysu o'ch bwriad, a gafodd gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol yn y Siambr. Onid ydych yn osgoi nodi pethau fel y maent y prynhawn yma yn eich ymateb i Rhodri Glyn?

**Jane Hutt:** The fact that local authorities must prepare the way to implement this new policy is important, and that is why we consulted on it and why, if Mike German's motion had been carried, it would have been impractical and difficult to implement. We need a planned and supported approach. As I said, we made £700,000 available through the revenue support grant to support the development of a direct payment scheme and to meet the additional costs of implementing it. Also, as I said, the authorities were

**Jane Hutt:** Mae'r ffaith bod yn rhaid i awdurdodau lleol baratoi i weithredu'r cynllun newydd hwn yn bwysig, a dyna pam y bu inni ymgynghori arno a dyna pam, pe bai cynnig Mike German wedi'i dderbyn, y byddai wedi bod yn anymarferol ac yn anodd ei weithredu. Mae angen ymagwedd wedi'i chynllunio ac wedi'i chefnogi. Fel y dywedais, neilltuwyd £700,000 gennym drwy'r grant cynnal refeniw i ategu'r broses o ddatblygu cynllun taliadau uniongyrchol ac i dalu'r costau ychwanegol o weithredu'r



concerned that I was rushing it, and that is why we had to ensure that we gave support and a timescale.

**Nick Bourne:** The Minister is not normally churlish and lacking in grace, but she should acknowledge that Mike German put this on the agenda. Had it not been for his action, we would not be here today. As you said, the proposal has been extended, but I give the Minister one more opportunity to be a little more gracious than she has been, and acknowledge that the leader of the Liberal Democrat group put this on the agenda.

**Jane Hutt:** The important point is that the whole Assembly must sign up to the direct payments that we are extending, in which Mike German played his part by stimulating debate. The people of Wales want to know that we are delivering this scheme, with an extended scope. If we had kept the scheme as one to be delivered only for people aged over 65, we would have missed an opportunity, and that is why it is important that we do this in a strategic way. Jonathan made an important point, on which we have already had a debate in the Assembly.

**Carl Sargeant:** This situation is incredible—the opposition parties have a new pact, and want to pat Mike German on the back for the no-meat-on-the-bone policy that he developed a few months ago. I am pleased that Welsh Labour has developed this policy and extended it. Mike German may have planted a seed, but we have flourished it in the Labour Party.

**Jane Hutt:** A seed was planted, Mike, and we have watered it and delivered on it.

**Michael German:** I hope that you will ask Carl Sargeant to eat his words because he said that this scheme was half-baked, presumably, therefore, he will not vote for it. The only change that you have made to this policy is to extend the groups of eligible people to include disabled persons with parental responsibilities. According to Karen Sinclair's letter, that is your only extension to the motion that I proposed, which was so

cynllun. Yn ogystal, fel y dywedais, yr oedd yr awdurdodau yn pryderu fy mod yn ei gyflwyno'n rhy gyflym, a dyna pam y bu'n rhaid inni sicrhau inni roi cymorth ac amserlen.

**Nick Bourne:** Nid yw'r Gweinidog yn anfoesgar ac yn ddi-serch fel arfer, ond dylai gydnabod mai Mike German a roddodd hyn ar yr agenda. Pe na bai wedi gweithredu, ni fyddem yma heddiw. Fel y dywedasoch, mae'r cynnig wedi'i ymestyn, ond rhoddaf gyfle arall i'r Gweinidog fod ychydig yn fwy graslon nag y bu, a chydabod mai arweinydd grŵp y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a roddodd hyn ar yr agenda.

**Jane Hutt:** Y pwynt pwysig yw bod yn rhaid i'r Cynulliad cyfan gymeradwyo'r taliadau uniongyrchol a ymestynnwn, y chwaraeodd Mike German ei ran ynddynt drwy ysgogi'r drafodaeth. Mae pobl Cymru am wybod ein bod yn rhoi'r cynllun hwn ar waith, gyda chwmpas estynedig. Pe bai'r cynllun wedi aros yn gynllun ar gyfer pobl dros 65 oed yn unig, byddem wedi colli cyfle, a dyma pam y mae'n bwysig inni wneud hyn mewn ffordd strategol. Gwnaeth Jonathan bwynt pwysig, ac yr ydym wedi cynnal dadl arno eisoes yn y Cynulliad.

**Carl Sargeant:** Mae'r sefyllfa hon yn anhygoel—mae cytundeb newydd gan y gwrthbleidiau, ac maent am ganmol Mike German am y polisi heb sylwedd a ddatblygwyd ganddo ychydig fisoedd yn ôl. Yr wyf yn falch bod Llafur Cymru wedi datblygu'r polisi hwn a'i ymestyn. Efallai fod Mike German wedi plannu'r hedyn, ond yr ydym ni yn y Blaid Lafur wedi gwneud iddo ffynnu.

**Jane Hutt:** Plannwyd hedyn, Mike, ac yr ydym wedi ei ddyfrio a gofalu amdano.

**Michael German:** Gobeithiaf y byddwch yn gofyn i Carl Sargeant lyncu ei eiriau oherwydd dywedodd mai cynllun rhywsut-rywsut ydyw ac felly mae'n debyg na fydd yn pleidleisio o'i blaid. Yr unig newid a wnaethoch i'r polisi hwn yw ymestyn y grwpiau o bobl gymwys i gynnwys pobl anabl â chyfrifoldebau fel rhieni. Yn ôl llythyr Karen Sinclair, dyna'r unig ffordd yr ydych wedi ymestyn y cynnig a gynigiais, a

narrowly defeated last October.

**Jane Hutt:** This scheme has been extended so that there is a duty on local authorities to offer direct payments to all people who are potentially eligible to receive them. Let us face the truth—that is a dramatic increase compared with the original motion. We have already said that you sowed a seed, and the Welsh Labour Government has extended it and delivered on it.

**David Melding and Jenny Randerson** *rose—*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I cannot have a situation—especially now that my red button is falling off, but it still works—where Members are trying to intervene serially. I would like the Minister to indicate her order of preference for giving way.

**Jane Hutt:** I will respond to Jonathan's point, if that is alright, Llywydd.

**The Presiding Officer:** The Minister is not giving way.

**Jane Hutt:** I will answer Jonathan's point, which was raised in committee, and it is important to remember that we had an opportunity to amend and debate this policy in committee. We received no amendments, and there was only one point of clarification. However, the point that Jonathan and Jocelyn raised concerned the arrangements that are in place if an individual wants to challenge a local authority's decision not to offer direct payments.

3.20 p.m.

Just to clarify that point further, Jonathan, in addition to there being access to the social services complaints procedure—and I know that you recognise that as an opportunity—and the local government ombudsman, the guidance on direct payments proposes that authorities should consider developing local arbitration procedures to help resolve such difficulties. Local arbitration procedures, as a result of the advice contained in the guidance, will emerge and develop. We must return to the fact that we are going further in this

gafodd ei wrthod o drwch blewyn fis Hydref diwethaf.

**Jane Hutt:** Mae'r cynllun hwn wedi'i ymestyn fel bod dyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i gynnig taliadau uniongyrchol i bawb sy'n gymwys i'w cael o bosibl. Gadewch inni wynebu'r gwir—mae hynny'n gynnydd mawr o gymharu â'r cynnig gwreiddiol. Yr ydym eisoes wedi dweud i chi hau hedyn, a bod Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru wedi ymestyn y cynllun a gweithredu arno.

**David Melding a Jenny Randerson** *a gododd—*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Ni allaf ganiatáu sefyllfa—yn enwedig pan fo fy motwm coch ar fin dod yn rhydd, ond mae'n dal i weithio—lle y mae Aelodau yn ceisio ymyrryd dro ar ôl tro. Hoffwn i'r Gweinidog nodi ei dewis ar gyfer ildio.

**Jane Hutt:** Ymatebaf i bwynt Jonathan, os bydd hynny'n iawn, Lywydd.

**Y Llywydd:** Nid yw'r Gweinidog yn ildio.

**Jane Hutt:** Atebaf bwynt Jonathan, a godwyd yn y pwyllgor, ac mae'n bwysig cofio inni gael cyfle i ddiwygio a thrafod y polisi hwn yn y pwyllgor. Ni chawsom unrhyw ddiwygiadau, a dim ond un pwynt yr oedd angen ei egluro. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd a wnelo'r pwynt a gododd Jonathan a Jocelyn â'r trefniadau sydd ar waith os bydd unigolyn am herio penderfyniad awdurdod lleol i beidio â chynnig taliadau uniongyrchol.

Er mwyn egluro'r pwynt hwnnw ymhellach, Jonathan, yn ogystal â gweithdrefn gwyno'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—a gwn eich bod yn cydnabod hynny fel cyfle—a'r ombwdsmon llywodraeth leol, mae'r canllawiau ar daliadau uniongyrchol yn cynnig y dylai awdurdodau lleol ystyried datblygu gweithdrefnau cyflafareddu lleol i helpu i ddatrys anawsterau o'r fath. Bydd gweithdrefnau cyflafareddu lleol, o ganlyniad i'r cyngor a gynhwysir yn y canllawiau, yn datblygu. Rhaid inni ddychwelyd at y ffaith

regard than any other part of the UK.

**David Melding:** I am grateful to you for giving way on this point, because I tabled a written question to you a short while ago about the Welsh Assembly Government's definition of a disabled person. In your reply, which you have not subsequently updated, you said that you did not have a legal definition of a disabled person, that you were seeking legal advice, and that the legal advice was confidential at that point. Does your Government now have a definition of a disabled person so that you can, according to your boast, 'extend this policy'?

**Jane Hutt:** This relates to the discussions taking place with the working group and members of the coalition on charging issues with regard to the community care charges. With regard to direct payments guidance, which is what I am talking about today, I am sure that that will be key with regard to when an individual might challenge an authority's decision. I will certainly take back and consider that in relation to the ongoing work on the definitions of disabled people. It will relate to different issues, and, in terms of direct payments guidance, it will be clear that it relates to those who are potentially eligible to receive direct payments as a result of assessment. We will take that back and consider it in terms of the local arbitration procedures that I have already indicated are in the direct payments guidance.

Finally, some good work has been done over the past year to prepare the way for these direct payments. It has not been a simple matter. In areas such as Cardiff and the Vale, where the Cardiff and Vale Coalition of Disabled People has managed the scheme, much has been learned. The £700,000 that we provided to local authorities to help to pave the way is important. The Standing Conference of Voluntary Organisations, for example, has created a video on direct payments for people with learning disabilities. It is key that we reach those people, and SCOVO has taken that on board. One-day workshops and conferences have been organised by Disability Wales, and the voluntary sector widely welcomes our taking an extra step to move beyond discretionary

ein bod yn gwneud mwy yn hyn o beth nag unrhyw ran arall o'r DU.

**David Melding:** Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am ildio ar y pwynt hwn, am imi gyflwyno cwestiwn ysgrifenedig ichi ychydig amser yn ôl ynghylch diffiniad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o berson anabl. Yn eich ateb, nad ydych wedi'i ddiweddarau, bu ichi ddweud nad oedd gennych ddiffiniad cyfreithiol o berson anabl, eich bod yn ceisio cyngor cyfreithiol, a bod y cyngor cyfreithiol yn gyfrinachol bryd hynny. A oes gan eich Llywodraeth ddiffiniad o berson anabl erbyn hyn fel y gallwch 'ymestyn y polisi hwn', yn ôl eich ymffrost?

**Jane Hutt:** Mae hyn yn ymwneud â'r trafodaethau a gynhelir gyda'r gweithgor ac aelodau'r coalisiwn ynghylch materion codi ffi o ran y ffioedd gofal cymunedol. O ran y canllawiau ar daliadau uniongyrchol, sef yr hyn yr wyf yn sôn amdano heddiw, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n allweddol o ran pryd y gallai unigolyn herio penderfyniad awdurdod. Yn sicr, byddaf yn ystyried hynny mewn perthynas â'r gwaith sy'n mynd rhagddo ar y diffiniadau o bobl anabl. Bydd yn ymwneud â materion gwahanol ac, o ran y canllawiau ar daliadau uniongyrchol, bydd yn amlwg eu bod yn ymwneud â'r rhai sy'n gymwys o bosibl i gael taliadau uniongyrchol o ganlyniad i asesiad. Byddwn yn ystyried hynny o ran y gweithdrefnau cyflafareddu lleol sydd yn y canllawiau ar daliadau uniongyrchol, fel y nodais eisoes.

I gloi, gwnaed gwaith da dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf i baratoi ar gyfer y taliadau uniongyrchol hyn. Ni fu'n syml. Mewn ardaloedd megis Caerdydd a'r Fro, lle y mae Clymblaid Pobl Anabl Caerdydd a'r Fro wedi rheoli'r cynllun, dysgwyd llawer. Mae'r £700,000 a roddwyd gennym i awdurdodau lleol i helpu i baratoi ar gyfer hyn yn bwysig. Mae Cynhadledd Sefydlog Mudiadau Gwirfoddol, er enghraifft, wedi creu fideo ar daliadau uniongyrchol i bobl ag anableddau dysgu. Mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn cyrraedd y bobl hynny, ac mae SCOVO wedi mynd i'r afael â hynny. Trefnwyd gweithdai undydd a chynadleddau gan Anabledd Cymru, ac mae'r sector gwirfoddol yn croesawu'r ffaith ein bod yn cymryd cam ychwanegol i symud o'r trefniadau dewisol i

arrangements to mandatory ones. As I said, this will result in Wales being ahead of the rest of the UK. Many have sown seeds in this debate and in getting us to this point of the policy, but a Welsh Labour Government is delivering it.

rai gorfodol. Fel y dywedais, bydd hyn yn golygu bod Cymru ar y blaen i weddill y DU. Mae llawer wedi hau hadau yn y ddadl hon ac er mwyn cyrraedd y pwynt hwn o'r polisi, ond Llywodraeth Lafur Cymru sy'n gweithredu arno.

*Cynnig (NDM2046): O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2046): For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Isherwood, Mark  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2047): O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2047): For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Isherwood, Mark  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Melding, David  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2048): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.*

*Motion (NDM2048): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Idris Jones, Denise  
Isherwood, Mark  
James, Irene  
Jones, Alun Ffred  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Lloyd, Val  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM2049): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2049): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
 Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Bourne, Nick  
 Burnham, Eleanor  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Cuthbert, Jeff  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
 Essex, Sue  
 Francis, Lisa  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Idris Jones, Denise  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 James, Irene  
 Jones, Alun Ffred  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Mewies, Sandy  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion carried.*

### **Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order**

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Point of order. During the debate, Carl Sargeant had the good grace to concede that Mike German was the originator of the seed for this concept, but he went on to tell us that the Welsh Assembly Government had ‘flourished’ the seed. Could he enlighten those of us who are mystified by this statement? What was in his mind when

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas:** Pwynt o drefn. Yn ystod y ddadl, bu Carl Sargeant yn ddigon graslon i gyfaddef mai Mike German oedd wedi hau hedyn y cysyniad hwn, ond aeth yn ei flaen i ddweud wrthym mai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru oedd wedi gwneud i'r hedyn ‘ffynnu’. A allai oleuo'r rhai hynny ohonom sydd wedi ein drysu gan y datganiad

he was talking about 'flourishing' a seed?

hwn? Beth oedd mewn golwg ganddo pan soniodd am wneud i hedyn 'ffynnu'?

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. For the third time this afternoon, I will say that Members, including Ministers and opposition spokespersons, are responsible for what they say in this Chamber. Whether they use florid language or not is a matter for them.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Am y trydydd tro y prynhawn yma, dywedaf mai'r Aelodau, yn cynnwys y Gweinidogion a llefarwyr y gwrthbleidiau, sy'n gyfrifol am yr hyn a ddywedant yn y Siambr hon. Eu penderfyniad hwy yw pa un a ydynt yn defnyddio iaith flodeuog ai peidio.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.27 p.m.  
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.27 p.m.*

### **Pedwerydd Adroddiad Blynyddol Cynllun y Sector Gwirfoddol The Fourth Annual Report on the Voluntary Sector Scheme**

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** I have selected amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

**The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart):** I propose that

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart):** Cynigiad fod

*the National Assembly for Wales welcomes the actions taken to implement the voluntary sector scheme in the period up to 31 March 2004 and agrees to publish the annual report. (NDM2050)*

*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn croesawu'r camau a gymerwyd i weithredu cynllun y sector gwirfoddol yn y cyfnod hyd at 31 Mawrth 2004 ac yn cytuno i gyhoeddi'r adroddiad blynyddol. (NDM2050)*

I will try not to use florid language when going into the detail of the annual report of the voluntary sector, which describes, in some detail, the achievements of the last year. The report clearly demonstrates, once again, the enormous contribution that the voluntary and community sector makes to the social and economic wellbeing of Wales. There are around 30,000 voluntary organisations in Wales, the vast majority of which work at a local level, and help to improve the lives of individuals and communities. I am sure that all Members would like me to congratulate the volunteers from across the sector. They truly provide a service and the level of activities and work that they undertake are an inspiration to many.

Ceisias beidio â defnyddio iaith flodeuog pan af i fanylion am adroddiad blynyddol y sector gwirfoddol, sy'n disgrifio, yn eithaf manwl, gyflawniadau'r flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Mae'r adroddiad yn dangos, unwaith eto, y cyfraniad enfawr a wna'r sector gwirfoddol a chymunedol i les cymdeithasol ac economaidd Cymru. Mae tua 30,000 o fudiadau gwirfoddol yng Nghymru, y mae'r mwyafrif ohonynt yn gweithio yn lleol, ac yn helpu i wella bywydau unigolion a chymunedau. Yr wyf yn siŵr yr hoffai pob Aelod longyfarch y gwirfoddolwyr sydd yn y sector. Darparant wasanaeth gwirioneddol werthfawr ac mae lefel y gweithgareddau a'r gwaith a wnânt yn ysbrydoliaeth i lawer.

On this year's achievements, there have been a considerable number of meetings between the Welsh Assembly Government, Assembly sponsored public bodies and the relevant

O ran cyflawniadau eleni, bu nifer sylweddol o gyfarfodydd rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad a'r grwpiau perthnasol o'r sector



voluntary sector groups to discuss areas of concern. I welcome the development of such meetings, and I have been pleased, as Minister, to have been able to convene these meetings with fellow Ministers, to take up the voluntary sector's issues and concerns about engagement with Assembly sponsored public bodies. There has also been additional funding, the achievements for the partnership capacity building fund, and the criminal records unit has been launched. It is important that we have been able to finance to assist the voluntary sector in that regard. We have also had the revised community facilities and activities programme funding stream.

As part of all of this, I have welcomed the voluntary sector's views on the review of the Communities First programme, the publication of research into partnerships between the public, private and voluntary sector, and the publication of the first survey of relationships between local government and the voluntary sector, which are key. As Members will know, the voluntary sector is keen to have good and consistent arrangements with local government across Wales, and an understanding of local government funding processes.

This year, I established an independent commission to review the voluntary sector. As Members will know, the consultation on that ended on 28 June, and we have received 52 replies. At the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council meeting next week, we will discuss how we take the issues raised in the commission's report forward. I will report the results of the consultation to the Assembly, and it will be important that I take them to the first meeting of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee when we return in September, so that Members can see consultees' views and, perhaps, advise me on how to take matters forward.

I place on record my thanks to members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee for the work that they have done in engaging with the voluntary sector and for the discussions that we have had on the various reports. I thank them especially for their help and assistance in trying to improve the report and for their suggestions for the

gwirfoddol i drafod yr hyn sy'n achosi pryder. Croesawaf ddatblygiad cyfarfodydd o'r fath, a bûm yn falch, fel Gweinidog, o allu trefnu'r cyfarfodydd hyn gyda chyd-Weinidogion, i ystyried materion y sector gwirfoddol a phryderon am ymgysylltu â chyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad. Cafwyd arian ychwanegol hefyd, y cyflawniadau ar gyfer y gronfa meithrin gallu partneriaeth, a lansiwyd yr uned cofnodion troseddol. Mae'n bwysig ein bod wedi gallu rhoi arian i helpu'r sector gwirfoddol yn hynny o beth. Yr ydym hefyd wedi diwygio ffrwd ariannu'r rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol.

Yn rhan o hyn i gyd, yr wyf wedi croesawu safbwyntiau'r sector gwirfoddol ar adolygiad y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, cyhoeddiad yr ymchwil i bartneriaethau rhwng y sector cyhoeddus, preifat a gwirfoddol, a chyhoeddiad yr arolwg cyntaf o gydbertnasau rhwng llywodraeth leol a'r sector gwirfoddol, sy'n allweddol. Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, mae'r sector gwirfoddol yn awyddus i gael trefniadau da a chyson gyda llywodraeth leol ledled Cymru, a dealltwriaeth o brosesau ariannu llywodraeth leol.

Eleni, sefydlais gomisiwn annibynnol i adolygu'r sector gwirfoddol. Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, daeth yr ymgynghoriad hwnnw i ben ar 28 Mehefin, a chawsom 52 o atebion. Yng nghyfarfod Cyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol yr wythnos nesaf, byddwn yn trafod sut i weithredu ar y materion a godwyd yn adroddiad y comisiwn. Byddaf yn cyflwyno canlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad i'r Cynulliad, a bydd yn bwysig imi fynd â hwy i gyfarfod cyntaf y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio pan ddychwelwn ym mis Medi, fel y gall Aelodau weld safbwyntiau'r ymgynghoreion, a'm cynghori efallai, ar sut i weithredu.

Hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i aelodau'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio am y gwaith a wnaethant wrth ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol ac am y trafodaethau a gawsom ar yr adroddiadau amrywiol. Diolchaf iddynt yn enwedig am eu cymorth wrth geisio gwella'r adroddiad ac am eu hawgrymiadau ar gyfer y dyfodol.

future.

3.30 p.m.

The commission has examined the whole issue of funding, and I must start to consider the issues regarding grant allocations. In September 2003, I announced that the recipients of core funding under the support for voluntary intermediary services grant scheme, and project funding under the active communities initiative, would receive further funding for one year only because the commission was doing its work. However, given the timetable of the commission's report and consultation, it will be difficult to get good recommendations on the financial aspects quickly enough to help these organisations. I am acutely aware that they need to know that their funding will continue. Therefore, I will agree continued funding for these organisations until the new funding arrangements are in place. I appreciate that organisations that are not funded will be disappointed. However, I need to take into account all the replies that I have received on the funding issues around the commission to ensure that we do not have any of the funding difficulties that we have had in the past with the voluntary sector.

This report gives us a rounded picture of what is going on in the voluntary sector. However, there is always room for improvement in terms of reports, and I know that the committee will have views in that regard. I would also be interested in Members' views. We have a good partnership with the voluntary sector, of which we should be proud. However, we should also be able to illustrate through the partnership what added value the Assembly has given the voluntary sector and what added value it has given us in Government through its involvement. I would be delighted to hear Members' comments on the report and any suggestions for future improvements. I believe that parties across the Assembly value the voluntary sector. We have an excellent engagement with it, and we must build productively on the work over the last five years.

**Leanne Wood:** I propose the following

Mae'r comisiwn wedi archwilio'r maes ariannu'n llwyr, a rhaid imi ddechrau ystyried y materion o ran dyraniadau grant. Ym mis Medi 2003, cyhoeddais y byddai'r rhai sy'n derbyn arian craidd o dan gynllun grant cymorth i wasanaethau cyfryngol gwirfoddol, ac arian prosiect o dan y fenter cymunedau byw, yn cael arian pellach am flwyddyn yn unig am fod y comisiwn yn gwneud ei waith. Fodd bynnag, o gofio amserlen adroddiad ac ymgynghoriad y comisiwn, bydd yn anodd cael argymhellion da ar yr agweddau ariannol yn ddigon cyflym i helpu'r mudiadau hyn. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn bod angen iddynt wybod y bydd eu harian yn parhau. Felly, cytunaf i barhau i ariannu'r mudiadau hyn nes bod y trefniadau ariannu newydd ar waith. Gwerthfawrogaf y bydd y mudiadau na chânt eu hariannu yn siomedig. Fodd bynnag, mae angen imi ystyried yr holl atebion a gefais ar y materion ariannu o ran y comisiwn i sicrhau na chawn unrhyw rai o'r anawsterau ariannu a gawsom yn y gorffennol gyda'r sector gwirfoddol.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhoi darlun cyflawn inni o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y sector gwirfoddol. Fodd bynnag, mae lle i wella o hyd o ran adroddiadau, a gwn y bydd gan y pwyllgor ei farn ar hynny. Byddai diddordeb gennyf glywed barn yr Aelodau hefyd. Mae gennym bartneriaeth dda â'r sector gwirfoddol, y dylem fod yn falch ohoni. Fodd bynnag, dylem hefyd fod yn gallu dangos drwy'r bartneriaeth y gwerth ychwanegol y mae'r Cynulliad wedi ei roi i'r sector gwirfoddol a pha werth ychwanegol y mae wedi ei roi i ni fel Llywodraeth drwy'r rhan y mae'n ei chwarae. Byddwn yn falch o glywed sylwadau'r Aelodau ar yr adroddiad ac unrhyw awgrymiadau ar gyfer gwella yn y dyfodol. Credaf fod y pleidiau ar draws y Cynulliad yn gwerthfawrogi'r sector gwirfoddol. Mae gennym gydberthynas ragorol â'r sector, a rhaid inni adeiladu'n gynhyrchiol ar y gwaith a wnaed dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf.

**Leanne Wood:** Cynigïaf y gwelliannau

amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 1: delete 'welcomes' and replace with 'notes'.

I propose amendment 2. Add as a new point at the end of the motion:

*calls on the Government to ensure that delays in funding and the standstill budget, which caused insecurity and confusion in the sector in 2003-04, do not happen again.*

I will explain the context and reasoning behind Plaid Cymru's amendments. The voluntary sector in Wales has had difficulties this year. I hope the Minister will be prepared to acknowledge that and to ensure that they never happen again. Voluntary sector organisations were asked to submit bids for section 29 grants—support for voluntary intermediary services and the active communities programme—for three years on 30 November last year. That was a Sunday. Organisations were told in writing that a decision would be made on 29 December, and that letters would be issued to them the following week. For some reason, which I have been unable to get to the bottom of, that 29 December deadline was missed by six weeks. Not only that, instead of organisations being granted three-year funding as promised, they were only allocated one year's funding, on a no-inflation, standstill budget.

The active communities programme had already been rolled over for the previous financial year, so those organisations had had a no-inflation budget for two years, which amounts to a pay cut in a sector that is generally unable to pay its employees well. Organisations were therefore faced with a dilemma: should they not give a pay rise to take account of inflation to their workers, or should they make cuts elsewhere in order to fund that pay rise? I know of voluntary organisations that had to leave vacancies unfilled to provide those basic pay awards. The uncertainty that the delays in funding have caused in the voluntary sector in Wales have been enormous. Staff have left their posts, leaving organisations to face additional recruitment and training costs. People will be aware how difficult it is to recruit someone for a post that has only one year's funding.

canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 1: dileu 'yn croesawu'r' a rhoi 'yn nodi'r' yn ei le.

Cynigiaf welliant 2. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

*yn galw ar y Llywodraeth i sicrhau na fydd yr oedi o ran cyllido a'r gyllideb ddigyfnewid, a achosodd ansicrwydd a dryswch yn y sector yn 2003-04, yn digwydd eto.*

Egluraf y cyd-destun a'r rhesymu y tu ôl i welliannau Plaid Cymru. Cafodd y sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru anawsterau eleni. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn barod i gydnabod hynny ac i sicrhau na fyddant yn digwydd eto. Gofynnwyd i fudiadau'r sector gwirfoddol gyflwyno cynigion ar gyfer grantiau adran 29—cymorth i wasanaethau cyfryngol gwirfoddol a'r rhaglen cymunedau byw—am dair blynedd ar 30 Tachwedd y llynedd. Dydd Sul oedd hwnnw. Dywedwyd wrth y mudiadau mewn llythyr y byddai penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud ar 29 Rhagfyr, ac y byddai'r llythyrau yn cael eu hanfon atynt yr wythnos ganlynol. Am ryw reswm, nad wyf wedi gallu ei ddirnad, methwyd y terfyn amser hwnnw o 29 Rhagfyr o chwe wythnos. Ar ben hynny, yn lle rhoi arian ar gyfer tair blynedd i'r mudiadau fel yr addawyd, dim ond arian am flwyddyn a ddyrannwyd iddynt, gyda chyllideb ddigyfnewid, dim chwyddiant.

Yr oedd y rhaglen cymunedau byw eisoes wedi ei throsglwyddo o'r flwyddyn ariannol flaenorol, felly yr oedd y mudiadau hynny wedi cael cyllideb dim chwyddiant am ddwy flynedd, sy'n gyfystyr â thoriad mewn cyflog mewn sector nad yw fel arfer yn gallu talu ei gyflogaion yn dda. Felly yr oedd mudiadau yn wynebu cyfyng-gyngor: a ddylent beidio â rhoi codiad cyflog i'w gweithwyr i ystyried chwyddiant, neu a ddylent wneud toriadau mewn lleoedd eraill er mwyn ariannu'r codiad cyflog hwnnw? Gwn am fudiadau gwirfoddol a oedd yn gorfod gadael swyddi heb eu llenwi er mwyn darparu'r cyflogau sylfaenol hynny. Bu'r ansicrwydd a achoswyd gan yr oedi cyn ariannu yn y sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru yn enfawr. Mae staff wedi gadael eu swyddi, gan adael mudiadau i wynebu costau recriwtio a hyfforddi ychwanegol. Bydd pobl yn gwybod

By the time that the funding information was given to organisations—six weeks late—redundancy notices were on the verge of being issued.

I am sure that we would all agree that the services provided by the voluntary sector in Wales are essential. Workers work hard in difficult circumstances and do not deserve to be treated in this shoddy manner. I am aware that the voluntary sector commission met throughout this period, but the timescale for that commission was well-known from the beginning. Therefore, three-year funding should never have been promised, so that these problems never arose.

I have attempted on several occasions to get to the bottom of the reasons for the problems that I have outlined today, but without success. I hope that we can have some answers on these matters today, and assurances that these problems will not arise again. Will the Minister consider writing to those organisations to see how much money they have lost as a result of these problems, with a view to compensating them for their losses?

Finally, I have been told previously that the Minister has not received any complaints from the sector on these issues. The reasons for this are simple: people fear that if they air their concerns in public, they will be ignored in future funding rounds. I hope that this situation will not prevent the problem being acknowledged or the Minister from giving a commitment that these problems will never occur again.

**Janice Gregory:** I welcome this fourth annual report on the voluntary sector scheme and the actions taken to implement the scheme up to 31 March 2004. There is now an unprecedented relationship between the voluntary sector and the Assembly Government. The recent commission established to review the voluntary sector scheme stated quite emphatically that the scheme is working. It is fit for purpose, but it is work in progress and there is always room

pa mor anodd ydyw i recriwtio rhywun ar gyfer swydd nad oes ond blwyddyn o arian ar ei chyfer. Erbyn i'r wybodaeth ariannu gael ei rhoi i'r mudiadau—chwe wythnos yn hwyr—yr oedd hysbysiadau diswyddo ar fin cael eu cyhoeddi.

Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddem oll yn cytuno bod y gwasanaethau a ddarperir gan y sector gwirfoddol yng Nghymru yn hanfodol. Mae gweithwyr yn gweithio'n galed o dan amgylchiadau anodd ac nid ydynt yn haeddu cael eu trin yn wael fel hyn. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol i gomisiwn y sector gwirfoddol gyfarfod drwy gydol y cyfnod hwn, ond yr oedd yr amserlen ar gyfer y comisiwn hwnnw yn hysbys o'r dechrau. Felly, ni ddylid byth fod wedi addo arian ar gyfer tair blynedd, ac ni fyddai'r problemau hyn byth wedi codi felly.

Ar sawl achlysur, yr wyf wedi ymdrechu i ddirnad y rhesymau dros y problemau a amlinellais heddiw, ond yn ofer. Gobeithiaf y gallwn gael rhai atebion ar y materion hyn heddiw, a sicrwydd na fydd y problemau hyn yn codi eto. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ystyried ysgrifennu at y mudiadau hynny i weld faint o arian a gollasant o ganlyniad i'r problemau hyn, gyda'r bwriad o'u digolledu?

I gloi, dywedwyd wrthyf o'r blaen nad yw'r Gweinidog wedi cael unrhyw gŵynion gan y sector ar y materion hyn. Mae'r rhesymau dros hyn yn syml: mae pobl yn ofni y cânt eu hanwybyddu yng nghylchoedd ariannu'r dyfodol, os mynegant eu pryderon yn gyhoeddus. Gobeithiaf na fydd y sefyllfa hon yn atal y broblem rhag cael ei chydabod nac yn atal y Gweinidog rhag rhoi ymrwymiad na fydd y problemau hyn byth yn codi eto.

**Janice Gregory:** Croesawaf y pedwerydd adroddiad blynyddol hwn ar gynllun y sector gwirfoddol a'r camau a gymerwyd i weithredu'r cynllun hyd at 31 Mawrth 2004. Mae cydberthynas ddigynsail yn awr rhwng y sector gwirfoddol a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Nododd y comisiwn a sefydlwyd yn ddiweddar i adolygu cynllun y sector gwirfoddol yn eithaf pendant fod y cynllun yn gweithio. Mae'n addas i'r diben, ond mae'n waith sydd ar y gweill ac mae lle bob

for improvement. This report details the action being taken by the Assembly Government to develop its policy tools in order to facilitate greater transparency in policy-making. I endorse this approach of placing the voluntary sector at the heart of our policy-making processes. I hope that we will see an even stronger working relationship between the voluntary sector and Assembly Government divisions, and I look forward to seeing all those divisions fully embrace the principles of the scheme.

Voluntary sector organisations often play an important front-line role in helping to deliver Assembly Government policies and initiatives, such as the rapid response adaptations programme and our fuel poverty initiatives. We rely on the voluntary sector to help us to deliver, and it is only proper that we give due credit and recognition to it for this support. This report also highlights the issue of relationships between ASPBs and the voluntary sector. It notes that the importance of positive relationships was highlighted through the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council in 2003-04. I welcome the Minister's commitment to address those relationships through compacts and remit letters.

On the relationship between local government and the voluntary sector, I welcome the guide that was published jointly by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action and the WLGA. I am glad that robust indicators have been developed alongside this guide to ensure that joint-working at a local level operates to maximum effectiveness. I hope that local government will seize the initiative and look to emulate the same degree of partnership, openness, and responsiveness in its relationship with the voluntary sector that the Assembly Government espouses.

On voluntary sector funding, local groups in my constituency are quite emphatic that they need clear, concise and accessible information on funding and that they need funding to be delivered in an appropriate, stable and timely manner. They also need support while trying to access this funding, but they tell me that the information and

amser i wella. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhoi manylion y camau sy'n cael eu cymryd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i ddatblygu ei dulliau polisi er mwyn gwneud y broses o lunio polisiau yn fwy tryloyw. Cymeradwyaf y dull hwn o osod y sector gwirfoddol wrth wraidd ein prosesau llunio polisiau. Gobeithiaf y gwelwn gydberthynas hyd yn oed yn gryfach rhwng y sector gwirfoddol ac is-adrannau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ac edrychaf ymlaen at weld yr holl is-adrannau hynny yn ymgorffori egwyddorion y cynllun yn llwyr.

Mae mudiadau'r sector gwirfoddol yn aml yn chwarae rhan rheng flaen bwysig i helpu i gyflawni polisiau a mentrau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, fel y rhaglen addasiadau ymateb brys a'n mentrau tlodi tanwydd. Dibynnwn ar y sector gwirfoddol i'n helpu i gyflawni, ac mae'n iawn ein bod yn rhoi clod a chydabyddiaeth ddyledus iddo am y cymorth hwn. Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd yn tynnu sylw at y cydberthnasau rhwng CCNC a'r sector gwirfoddol. Noda i bwysigrwydd cydberthnasau cadarnhaol gael ei amlygu drwy Gyngor Partneriaeth y Sector Gwirfoddol yn 2003-04. Croesawaf ymrwymiad y Gweinidog i fynd i'r afael â'r cydberthnasau hynny drwy gompactau a llythyrau cylch gwaith.

O ran y gydberthynas rhwng llywodraeth leol a'r sector gwirfoddol, croesawaf y canllaw a gyhoeddwyd ar y cyd gan Gyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru a CLILC. Yr wyf yn falch bod dangosyddion cadarn wedi eu datblygu ochr yn ochr â'r canllaw hwn i sicrhau bod y cydweithio yn lleol yn gweithredu mor effeithiol â phosibl. Gobeithiaf y bydd llywodraeth leol yn manteisio ar y fenter ac yn ceisio efelychu'r un math o bartneriaeth, natur agored, ac ymatebolrwydd yn ei chydberthynas â'r sector gwirfoddol y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu harddel.

O ran ariannu'r sector gwirfoddol, mae grwpiau lleol yn fy etholaeth yn eithaf pendant bod angen gwybodaeth glir, cryno a hygyrch arnynt ar ariannu a bod angen i'r arian gael ei roi mewn ffordd briodol, sefydlog ac amserol. Mae angen cefnogaeth arnynt hefyd tra'n ceisio cael gafael ar yr arian hwn, ond dywedant wrthyf nad yw'r

support is still not as readily available as they would like it to be. I support the idea that there should be a minimum three-year period for grants, and I also welcome the publication of the guide to voluntary sector grants. However, this guide must be constantly updated to include third-party sources and funding from non-devolved sources. An outdated or less-than-complete guide will only serve to hinder the work of local groups. Smaller organisations need better communication, information and support. I look forward to the Assembly Government responding to the challenge of delivering this support with minimum bureaucracy and maximum effectiveness.

**William Graham:** I echo the Minister's tribute to the authors of the report; it has been well received. However, we wish to express some concerns, particularly regarding the jargon used in the report—we have highlighted this issue in committee—and the short consultation period, although I welcome the Minister's earlier commitment in that regard. When we debated the report earlier this month, the Minister congratulated the commission on a high-quality report, which was written in plain English. However, page 21 of the fourth annual report states that

'the teething problems encountered in the early days of the financial data'—

that may be a printing error—

'capture system have now been resolved and further to give a "diversity breakdown".'

I would appreciate it if the Minister could interpret that for me.

In previous debates, we have acknowledged that approximately 30,000 volunteers work throughout Wales. This indicates the complexity of the voluntary sector. The organisations range from those that cover all-Wales issues to those that deal with the specific requirements of one community. This annual report details a wide spectrum of the organisations that undertake a range of activities that reach every aspect of family and community life. As we all know,

wybodaeth a'r gefnogaeth ar gael mor hawdd ag yr hoffent iddynt fod. Cefnogaf y syniad y dylai fod isafswm cyfnod o dair blynedd ar gyfer grantiau, a chroesawaf hefyd gyhoeddiad y canllaw i grantiau'r sector gwirfoddol. Fodd bynnag, rhaid diweddarau'r canllaw hwn yn gyson i gynnwys ffynonellau trydydd parti ac arian o ffynonellau annatganoledig. Ni fydd hen ganllaw neu ganllaw nad yw'n gyflawn ond yn rhwystro gwaith grwpiau lleol. Mae angen gwell dulliau cyfathrebu, gwybodaeth a chefnogaeth ar fudiadau llai. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymateb i'r her o sicrhau'r cymorth hwn gyda chyn lleied o fiwrocratiaeth â phosibl ac mewn ffordd mor effeithiol â phosibl.

**William Graham:** Atefaf deyrnged y Gweinidog i awduron yr adroddiad; cafodd ei groesawu'n dda. Fodd bynnag, hoffem fynegi rhai pryderon, yn enwedig o ran y jargon a ddefnyddiwyd yn yr adroddiad—yr ydym wedi tynnu sylw'r pwyllgor at hyn—a'r cyfnod ymgynghori byr, er imi groesawu ymrwymiad cynharach y Gweinidog yn hynny o beth. Pan drafodwyd yr adroddiad yn gynharach y mis hwn, bu i'r Gweinidog longyfarch y comisiwn ar adroddiad o safon, a ysgrifennwyd mewn Saesneg clir. Fodd bynnag, noda tudalen 21 y pedwerydd adroddiad blynyddol

efallai mai camgymeriad argraffu yw hynny—

work is underway on breaking figures down

Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai'r Gweinidog yn gallu dehongli hynny imi.

Mewn dadleuon blaenorol, yr ydym wedi cydnabod bod tua 30,000 o wirfoddolwyr yn gweithio ledled Cymru. Mae hyn yn dangos cymhlethdod y sector gwirfoddol. Mae'r mudiadau yn amrywio o'r rhai sy'n cwmpasu materion Cymru gyfan i'r rhai sy'n delio â gofynion penodol un gymuned. Mae'r adroddiad blynyddol hwn yn manylu ar rychwant eang o'r mudiadau sy'n ymgymryd ag ystod o weithgareddau sy'n cyrraedd pob agwedd ar fywyd teuluol a chymunedol. Fel y

communities do not exist in isolation. The independent sector has made, and still seeks to make, an investment to enhance the environment and quality of life throughout Wales. We should all acknowledge this, and ensure a wider engagement between the Assembly and the independent and voluntary sectors.

3.40 p.m.

We welcome the report and hope that the work of the voluntary sector will be enhanced by the future publication, in plain English, of strategies that incorporate the recommendations of the independent commission's review of the voluntary sector scheme and the wider benefits of proper engagement with the independent sector.

**Sandy Mewies:** In welcoming the report, which covers the period from April 2003 to March 2004, I will refer to some of the key achievements involving this sector, which undertakes valuable work throughout Wales, particularly in my constituency of Delyn. The scheme has been reviewed, the partnership capacity building fund has been increased, the criminal record unit has been launched and Communities First has been reviewed. This is just some of the work undertaken. The report looks at how stakeholders meet and work in partnership, including the work of the voluntary sector partnership council and the meetings between the Minister and voluntary sector representatives. The report recognises the importance of this communication and, of course, the review consultation suggested methods of improvement. I must stress the need for communication to be embedded in our partnership with the voluntary sector.

Reference is made throughout the report to the excellent work of organisations in supporting the aims of the Welsh Assembly Government, including the administration of the rural stress scheme and supporting organisations to apply for funding. It highlights the work of the sector and reflects its importance as a partnership organisation. As a result, I hope that the Assembly will continue and enhance our support for the sector, implementing fully the

gŵyr pob un ohonom, nid yw cymunedau yn bodoli ar eu pennau eu hunain. Mae'r sector annibynnol wedi gwneud, ac yn dal i geisio gwneud, buddsoddiad i wella'r amgylchedd ac ansawdd bywyd ledled Cymru. Dylem oll gydnabod hyn, a sicrhau ymgysylltiad ehangach rhwng y Cynulliad a'r sectorau annibynnol a gwirfoddol.

Croesawn yr adroddiad a gobeithiwn y bydd gwaith y sector gwirfoddol yn gwella drwy gyhoeddi strategaethau yn y dyfodol, mewn Saesneg clir, sy'n ymgorffori argymhellion adolygiad y comisiwn annibynnol o gynllun y sector gwirfoddol, a buddiannau ehangach ymgysylltu'n briodol â'r sector annibynnol.

**Sandy Mewies:** Wrth groesawu'r adroddiad, sy'n cwmpasu'r cyfnod rhwng Ebrill 2003 a Mawrth 2004, cyfeiriai at rai o'r cyflawniadau allweddol a wnaeth y sector hwn, sy'n gwneud gwaith gwerthfawr ledled Cymru, yn arbennig yn fy etholaeth i sef Delyn. Adolygwyd y cynllun, cynyddwyd y gronfa meithrin gallu partneriaeth, lansiwyd yr uned cofnodion troseddol ac adolygwyd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Dyma beth o'r gwaith a wnaed. Mae'r adroddiad yn ystyried sut y mae rhanddeiliaid yn cyfarfod ac yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth, gan gynnwys gwaith cyngor partneriaeth y sector gwirfoddol a'r cyfarfodydd rhwng y Gweinidog a chynrychiolwyr y sector gwirfoddol. Mae'r adroddiad yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd y cyfathrebu hwn ac, wrth gwrs, awgrymodd ymgynghoriad yr adolygiad ddulliau o wella. Rhaid imi bwysleisio'r angen i gyfathrebu gael ei ymgorffori yn ein partneriaeth â'r sector gwirfoddol.

Cyfeirir drwy gydol yr adroddiad at waith rhagorol mudiadau yn cefnogi nodau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, gan gynnwys gweinyddu'r cynllun straen gwledig a chefnogi mudiadau i wneud cais am arian. Mae'n amlygu gwaith y sector ac yn adlewyrchu ei bwysigrwydd fel mudiad partneriaeth. O ganlyniad, gobeithiaf y bydd y Cynulliad yn parhau ac yn gwella y cymorth a roddwn i'r sector, gan weithredu'n llawn argymhellion yr adolygiad o gynllun y

recommendations of the review of the voluntary sector scheme, which include: a 12-week minimum consultation period; adopting a three-year funding cycle for grants; considering core funding for organisations with a strategic role; and making a commitment to providing long-term core funding to volunteer bureaux. I welcome the Minister's commitment to continuing to examine funding and some of the problems caused in the past.

By ensuring sufficient and timely funding, I am sure that we can look forward to future reports that will continue to highlight the benefits that arise from the Assembly working with, and supporting, a vibrant voluntary sector.

**Peter Black:** I welcome the fourth annual report. In discussing each year's report, we all refer to the valuable work of the voluntary sector in our communities. All Members who contribute also raise the issue of funding. However, without the Assembly, the voluntary sector would not have the prominence that it enjoys at present. Devolution and the National Assembly for Wales have had a huge impact on the way in which the sector works and interacts with Government. Organisations now have enhanced access to Government Ministers in order to influence policy decisions. That in itself justifies the establishment of the National Assembly, as well as justifying the voluntary sector scheme.

I listened carefully to the Minister's comments on funding. We must all acknowledge that huge steps have been taken to address this issue, but we have a long way to go. The review of the voluntary sector scheme highlighted a number of funding issues, particularly in relation to the minimum three-year period for grant awards to voluntary organisations. This is not being achieved in a number of areas, therefore the Assembly needs to take the lead in addressing the problem. However, this is not just an Assembly problem; it is a problem for local government, ASPBs and other organisations. We can take the lead, but others must listen to us and take on board the voluntary sector's concerns that we raise. We

sector gwirfoddol, sy'n cynnwys: cyfnod ymgynghori gofynnol o 12 wythnos; mabwysiadu cylch ariannu o dair blynedd ar gyfer grantiau; ystyried arian craidd ar gyfer mudiadau â rôl strategol; a gwneud ymrwymiad i ddarparu arian craidd hirdymor i ganolfannau gwirfoddoli. Croesawaf ymrwymiad y Gweinidog i barhau i ymchwilio i faterion ariannu a rhai o'r problemau a achoswyd yn y gorffennol.

Drwy sicrhau digon o arian ac arian amserol, yr wyf yn siŵr y gallwn edrych ymlaen at adroddiadau yn y dyfodol a fydd yn parhau i amlygu'r buddiannau sy'n deillio o waith y Cynulliad gyda sector gwirfoddol bywiog a'i gefnogaeth iddo.

**Peter Black:** Croesawaf y pedwerydd adroddiad blynyddol. Wrth drafod adroddiad pob blwyddyn, cyfeiriwn oll at waith gwerthfawr y sector gwirfoddol yn ein cymunedau. Mae'r holl Aelodau sy'n cyfrannu hefyd yn codi pwnc ariannu. Fodd bynnag, heb y Cynulliad, ni fyddai'r sector gwirfoddol yn mwynhau'r amlygrwydd sydd ganddo ar hyn o bryd. Mae datganoli a Chynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru wedi cael effaith enfawr ar y ffordd y mae'r sector yn gweithio ac yn rhyngweithio â'r Llywodraeth. Mae'n haws yn awr i fudiadau gael gafael ar Weinidogion y Llywodraeth er mwyn dylanwadu ar benderfyniadau polisi. Mae hynny ynddo'i hun yn cyfiawnhau sefydlu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn ogystal â chyfiawnhau cynllun y sector gwirfoddol.

Gwrandewais yn ofalus ar sylwadau'r Gweinidog ar ariannu. Rhaid inni oll gydnabod y camau enfawr a gymerwyd i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, ond mae ffordd bell i fynd. Amlygodd yr adolygiad o gynllun y sector gwirfoddol nifer o faterion ariannu, yn arbennig mewn perthynas â'r cyfnod gofynnol o dair blynedd ar gyfer dyfarniadau grant i fudiadau gwirfoddol. Nid yw hyn yn cael ei gyflawni mewn nifer o feysydd, felly mae angen i'r Cynulliad fod ar flaen y gad wrth ymdrin â'r broblem. Fodd bynnag, nid problem i'r Cynulliad yn unig mo hon; mae'n broblem i lywodraeth leol, CCNC a mudiadau eraill. Gallwn fod ar flaen y gad, ond rhaid i eraill wrando arnom ac ystyried pryderon y sector gwirfoddol a godir



must ensure that the code of funding for the voluntary sector is vigorously applied across all Government departments.

We have concerns in relation to Assembly sponsored public bodies. I acknowledge that the Minister has discussed with Assembly Government Ministers how we can ensure that ASPBs and local authorities start to deal with the voluntary sector in the same way as we have been dealing with it. We need to secure continuity of funding and access to the decision-making process. Until this is achieved, we cannot claim that we have completed the necessary revolution with regard to how the voluntary sector is treated in Wales. Again, a perennial issue in terms of funding and applying for grants—not just Assembly grants, but those of other organisations, such as lottery grants—is that of lengthy application processes, huge amounts of red-tape and bureaucracy and onerous monitoring procedures, with which the voluntary sector is not equipped to cope. The Government may be equipped to cope with that, but when those voluntary organisations, run by one or two individuals at the lowest level, try to access funding, they find that they are unfairly penalised by those funding requirements. I hope that we can deal with that.

On the eight-week minimum consultation period, which was highlighted in the independent review, the problem was that 26 per cent of Assembly consultations were not adhering to that timetable. Again, I know that the Minister has committed to tackling that, but all Ministers need to address this issue—it is not just a matter for Edwina Hart. It is important, particularly in terms of her portfolio, to adopt a cross-cutting approach so that all Ministers and Assembly departments can deal with these issues on a like-for-like basis, tackling them together and not just leaving them to be championed by one Minister, who would, effectively, have to knock on the doors of the other Ministers.

Finally, I raise an issue highlighted in Swansea recently, namely the volunteer bureaux, particularly the citizens advice

gennym. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod y cod ariannu ar gyfer y sector gwirfoddol yn cael ei gymhwyso'n llym ar draws pob adran yn y Llywodraeth.

Mae gennym bryderon mewn perthynas â chyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad. Cydnabyddaf fod y Gweinidog wedi trafod gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad sut y gallwn sicrhau bod CCNC ac awdurdodau lleol yn dechrau delio â'r sector gwirfoddol yn yr un ffordd ag y buom ni yn delio ag ef. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod yr arian yn parhau i fod ar gael a'i bod yn bosibl dylanwadu ar y broses gwneud penderfyniadau. Hyd nes y cyflawnir hyn, ni allwn honni ein bod wedi cwblhau'r chwyldro angenrheidiol o ran sut y caiff y sector gwirfoddol ei drin yng Nghymru. Unwaith eto, mater parhaol o ran ariannu a gwneud cais am grantiau—nid grantiau'r Cynulliad yn unig, ond grantiau mudiadau eraill, megis grantiau'r loteri—yw'r prosesau gwneud cais hirfaith, llawer iawn o fiwrocraetiaeth a gweithdrefnau monitro beichus, nad oes gan y sector gwirfoddol y gallu i ymdopi â hwy. Efallai y gall y Llywodraeth ymdopi â hynny, ond pan fydd y mudiadau gwirfoddol hynny, a gaiff eu rhedeg gan un neu ddau o unigolion ar y lefel isaf, yn ceisio cael arian, cânt eu cosbi'n annheg gan y gofynion ariannu hynny. Gobeithiaf y gallwn ddelio â hynny.

O ran y cyfnod ymgynghori gofynnol o wyth wythnos, a amlygwyd yn yr adolygiad annibynnol, y broblem oedd nad oedd 26 y cant o ymgynghoriadau'r Cynulliad yn cadw at yr amserlen honno. Unwaith eto, gwn fod y Gweinidog wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â hynny, ond mae angen i Weinidogion ymdrin â'r mater hwn—nid yw'n fater i Edwina Hart yn unig. Mae'n bwysig, yn arbennig o ran ei phortffolio, i fabwysiadu ymagwedd drawsbynciol fel y gall pob Gweinidog a phob un o adrannau'r Cynulliad ddelio â'r materion hyn ar yr un sail, gan fynd i'r afael â hwy gyda'i gilydd a pheidio â'u gadael i gael eu hyrwyddo gan un Gweinidog yn unig, a fyddai, yn y bôn, yn gorfod mynd ar ofyn y Gweinidogion eraill.

I gloi, codaf fater a amlygwyd yn Abertawe yn ddiweddar, sef y canolfannau gwirfoddoli, yn arbennig y canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth.

bureaux. They are a valuable part of the voluntary sector, delivering an important service to many in terms of independent advice and assistance. Yet, the level of core funding for these bureaux remains dangerously low. Many of them still struggle to make ends meet and cannot maintain a five-day-a-week, eight-hour service for people who need their help. Most of them rely on local authority grants to deal with those needs. I urge the Minister to consider whether or not the Assembly Government can assist local authorities to fund these bureaux locally. Otherwise, the increasing burdens on local government's budget, which grow every year, may well lead to further cuts in this sector. The Assembly Government needs to undertake a proper review of how the citizens advice bureaux are coping in this regard.

**Carl Sargeant:** First, I welcome this annual report. Although brief, my contribution will look at what we can take forward from it.

We all agree that the voluntary sector makes an invaluable contribution to our economy as well as our society because of the amount of unpaid work undertaken. The sector complements a number of different subject areas, criss-crossing portfolios from health and social services to the environment and local regeneration. It is certain that without volunteers, our society would not be a pleasant place in which to live.

The Assembly has continually recognised the importance of volunteering to our society and these annual reports show us how the Assembly Government, in partnership with the sector, is working to develop and improve that Welsh experience.

Two important reviews have been undertaken: one on Communities First and the other by the independent commission into the voluntary sector scheme. The consultation and debate on both reviews have led to innovative and sensible recommendations which, when implemented, will benefit the voluntary sector for years to come.

Maent yn rhan werthfawr o'r sector gwirfoddol, gan ddarparu gwasanaeth pwysig i lawer o ran cyngor a chymorth annibynnol. Ac eto, erys lefel yr arian craidd ar gyfer y canolfannau hyn yn beryglus o isel. Mae llawer ohonynt yn dal i gael anhawster i gael deupen llinyn ynghyd ac ni allant gynnal gwasanaeth pum diwrnod yr wythnos, wyth awr y dydd i bobl y mae angen eu help arnynt. Mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn dibynnu ar grantiau awdurdod lleol i ddelio â'r anghenion hynny. Anogaf y Gweinidog i ystyried pa un a all Llywodraeth y Cynulliad helpu awdurdodau lleol i ariannu'r canolfannau hyn yn lleol. Fel arall, gall y beichiau cynyddol ar gyllideb llywodraeth leol, sy'n tyfu bob blwyddyn, arwain at doriadau pellach yn y sector hwn. Mae angen i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad gynnal adolygiad priodol o'r ffordd y mae canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth yn ymdopi yn hyn o beth.

**Carl Sargeant:** Yn gyntaf, croesawaf yr adroddiad blynyddol hwn. Er yn fyr, bydd fy nghyfraniad yn edrych ar yr hyn y gallwn ei gymryd ohono i weithredu arno.

Cytunwn oll fod y sector gwirfoddol yn gwneud cyfraniad gwerthfawr i'n heconomi yn ogystal ag i'n cymdeithas oherwydd yr holl waith di-dâl a wneir. Mae'r sector yn ategu nifer o feysydd pwnc gwahanol, gan gris-croesi portffolios o iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i'r amgylchedd ac adfywio lleol. Yn sicr heb wirfoddolwyr, ni fyddai ein cymdeithas yn lle plerusus i fyw.

Mae'r Cynulliad wedi parhau i gydnabod pwysigrwydd gwirfoddoli i'n cymdeithas a dengys yr adroddiadau blynyddol hyn sut y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, mewn partneriaeth â'r sector, yn gweithio i ddatblygu a gwella'r profiad Cymreig hwnnw.

Cynhaliwyd dau adolygiad pwysig: un ar y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf a'r llall gan y comisiwn annibynnol i gynllun y sector gwirfoddol. Mae'r ymgynghoriad a'r drafodaeth ar y ddau adolygiad wedi arwain at argymhellion arloesol a synhwyrol a fydd yn fuddiol i'r sector gwirfoddol am flynyddoedd i ddod, pan gânt eu gweithredu.

To enable the voluntary sector to thrive and continue to provide a worthwhile future to so many people in Wales, certain issues need to be addressed. For example, funding remains a major concern for my constituents. Flintshire local voluntary council claims to have recently lost its funding officer due to uncertain and intermittent funding. Longer-term funding for three years would enable the sector to plan strategically like never before, which is something that the private sector has always enjoyed. The public sector is only just starting to follow its lead. I hope that future developments, if adopted, will lead to the growth of a more sustainable funding system.

Er mwyn galluogi'r sector gwirfoddol i ffynnu a pharhau i ddarparu dyfodol gwerth chweil i gymaint o bobl yng Nghymru, mae angen ymdrin â sawl mater. Er enghraifft, erys ariannu yn bryder mawr i'm hetholwyr. Mae cyngor gwirfoddol lleol sir y Fflint yn haeru iddo golli ei swyddog ariannu yn ddiweddar oherwydd arian ansicr ac ysbeidiol. Byddai arian tymor hwy am dair blynedd yn galluogi'r sector i gynllunio'n strategol yn well nag erioed o'r blaen, sef rhywbeth y mae'r sector preifat wedi gallu ei wneud erioed. Newydd ddechrau dilyn ei esiampl y mae'r sector cyhoeddus. Gobeithiaf y bydd datblygiadau'r dyfodol, os cânt eu mabwysiadu, yn arwain at dwf system ariannu fwy cynaliadwy.

Concerns about the future of volunteering have also been raised with me and I hope that the Assembly Government will examine how best to promote volunteering to the public. Can the Minister inform me of the work undertaken with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to promote volunteering in the classroom for schoolchildren? More young volunteers, taking pride in their local communities, will hopefully make the voluntary sector more sustainable, as they take their social contribution into adulthood.

Codwyd pryderon am ddyfodol gwirfoddoli gennyf hefyd a gobeithiaf y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn archwilio i ganfod y ffordd orau o hyrwyddo gwirfoddoli i'r cyhoedd. A all y Gweinidog sôn wrthyf am y gwaith a wnaed gyda'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes i hyrwyddo gwirfoddoli yn yr ystafell ddosbarth i blant ysgol? Gobeithiaf y bydd mwy o wirfoddolwyr ifanc, sy'n ymfalchïo yn eu cymunedau lleol, yn gwneud y sector gwirfoddol yn fwy cynaliadwy, wrth iddynt barhau i gyfrannu'n gymdeithasol ar ôl tyfu'n oedolion.

3.50 p.m.

Greater opportunities for training and support for volunteers should further incentivise the sector, while providing necessary skills. I look forward to seeing how the Welsh Assembly Government proposes to take this forward.

Dylai gwell cyfleoedd ar gyfer hyfforddiant a mwy o gymorth i wirfoddolwyr ysgogi'r sector ymhellach, tra'n darparu'r sgiliau angenrheidiol. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld sut y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn bwriadu gweithredu ar hyn.

To conclude, the Welsh Assembly Government, working in partnership with the sector, recognises the importance of volunteering to the fabric of Welsh society. Further partnership working will ensure that the sector remains sustainable well into the future.

I gloi, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, gan weithio mewn partneriaeth â'r sector, yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd gwirfoddoli i gymdeithas Cymru. Bydd mwy o waith partneriaeth yn sicrhau bod y sector yn parhau i fod yn gynaliadwy ymhell i'r dyfodol.

**Mark Isherwood:** We can be proud that the voluntary sector scheme is unique to Wales, when no other such statutory scheme exists elsewhere in the United Kingdom. The report is therefore right to say that it represents a

**Mark Isherwood:** Gallwn ymfalchïo yn y ffaith bod cynllun y sector gwirfoddol yn unigryw i Gymru, ac nad oes cynllun statudol tebyg yn bodoli yn unman arall yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Felly mae'r adroddiad yn iawn i

major step in the way that the Assembly works with the voluntary sector. However, the challenge must be to ensure that the scheme delivers the aims of the Government of Wales Act 1998, and that it promotes and supports the interests of voluntary organisations at all levels in Wales. That means turning words into action.

We welcome the recommendations of the independent commission's review of the voluntary sector scheme, and particularly those that apply to minimum three-year core and project funding and putting voluntary bureaux on a secure funding footing. However, will there now be greater clarity for organisations on their eligibility for funding from various sources? In order to deliver longer sustainable funding structures, has the Minister considered whether the sector is likely to see the start of five or six-year funding cycles?

Can the sector expect to be treated in the same way as local authorities, with a certain percentage of funding effectively guaranteed year-on-year? Will the sector be given the minimum six months' notice when funding streams are changed, reconfigured or removed? When will we see the proposals implemented, and what mechanism will be established to monitor implementation once they are in operation? How will we ensure real partnership between public, voluntary and private sectors—a partnership based on equality rather than local and national government control? How will we deliver Communities First against the backdrop of Labour housing cuts, when housing should surely be a key vehicle for social justice and regeneration? Although housing associations are clearly voluntary, non-profit making bodies, I share the concern expressed to me by the Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham, that funding figures of £116 million on page 22 of this report look substantial until one realises that that figure includes the £68.5 million of Welsh Assembly Government funding for social housing. AVOW would also like an explanation of how the Welsh Development Agency allocates the £11.32 million to the sector, which is shown on page 23 of the report when

ddweud ei fod yn gam mawr ymlaen yn y ffordd y mae'r Cynulliad yn gweithio gyda'r sector gwirfoddol. Fodd bynnag, yr her yw sicrhau bod y cynllun yn cyflawni nodau Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, a'i fod yn hyrwyddo a chefnogi buddiannau'r mudiadau gwirfoddol ar bob lefel yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n golygu troi geiriau yn weithredoedd.

Croesawn argymhellion adolygiad y comisiwn annibynnol o gynllun y sector gwirfoddol, ac yn arbennig y rhai sy'n gymwys ar gyfer arian craidd gofynnol o dair blynedd ac arian prosiect a rhoi canolfannau gwirfoddoli ar sail gadarn. Fodd bynnag, a fydd mwy o eglurder yn awr i fudiadau o ran eu hawl i gael arian o ffynonellau amrywiol? Er mwyn cyflawni strwythurau ariannu cynaliadwy hwy, a yw'r Gweinidog wedi ystyried pa un a yw'r sector yn debygol o weld dechrau cylchoedd ariannu pum neu chwe blynedd?

A all y sector ddisgwyl gael ei drin yn yr un ffordd ag awdurdodau lleol, gyda chanran benodol o arian wedi ei gwarantu yn y bôn flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn? A roddir y rhybudd gofynnol o chwe mis pan fydd ffrydiau ariannu yn cael eu newid, eu hailgyflunio neu eu dileu? Pryd y gwelwn y cynigion yn cael eu gweithredu, a pha fecanwaith a sefydlir i fonitro'r broses weithredu unwaith y byddant ar waith? Sut y byddwn yn sicrhau partneriaeth wirioneddol rhwng y sectorau cyhoeddus, gwirfoddol a phreifat—partneriaeth yn seiliedig ar gydraddoldeb yn hytrach na rheolaeth llywodraeth leol a chenedlaethol? Sut y cyflawnwn Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn erbyn cefndir o doriadau tai gan y blaidd Lafur, pan ddylai mater tai fod yn gyfrwng allweddol ar gyfer cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio? Er bod cymdeithasau tai yn amlwg yn gyrrff gwirfoddol nad ydynt yn gwneud elw, rhannaf y pryder a fynegwyd imi gan y Gymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol yn Wrecsam, fod ffigurau ariannu o £116 miliwn ar dudalen 22 yr adroddiad hwn yn edrych yn sylweddol nes bod rhywun yn sylweddoli bod y ffigur hwnnw yn cynnwys y £68.5 miliwn o arian Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer tai cymdeithasol. Hoffai Cymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol Wrecsam gael esboniad o sut y mae Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn dyrannu'r

£11.32 miliwn i'r sector, a ddangosir ar dudalen 23 yr adroddiad pan

'there is no real evidence of any kind of significant funding in Wrexham. I have also not found any colleague who has WDA funding spent directly on the sector in their areas'.

nad oes unrhyw dystiolaeth wirioneddol o unrhyw fath o arian sylweddol yn Wrecsam. Nid wyf ychwaith wedi dod o hyd i unrhyw gydweithwyr sy'n gallu dweud bod arian y WDA yn cael ei wario'n uniongyrchol ar y sector yn eu hardaloedd hwy.

Referring to page 26 of the report, AVOW added that

Gan gyfeirio at dudalen 26 yr adroddiad, ychwanegodd Cymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol Wrecsam bod y

'The Volunteer Bureaux which have received one year funding under the Active Communities initiative are very appreciative but would like a clear time table laid down by the Minister, outlining the future proposals for 2004/05. Due to the lateness of deciding the funding over the past two years we have lost two support workers who could not stay in post due to uncertainty of funding. In a sector that has difficulty recruiting we cannot afford to have uncertainty as all this does is encourage staff to look elsewhere for employment. I appreciate many decisions have been delayed due to the Review but the time scale is a matter of urgency'.

canolfannau gwirfoddoli a gafodd arian am flwyddyn o dan y fenter cymunedau byw yn werthfawrogol iawn ond hoffent gael amserlen glir wedi ei phennu gan y Gweinidog, yn amlinellu'r cynigion ar gyfer 2004-05. Oherwydd i'r penderfyniad ynghylch arian gael ei wneud mor hwyr dros y ddwy flynedd diwethaf, yr ydym wedi colli dau weithiwr cymorth na allent aros yn y swydd oherwydd yr ansicrwydd ynghylch y cyllid. Mewn sector sy'n cael trafferth i recriwtio, ni allwn fforddio cael ansicrwydd gan mai'r cyfan a wna hyn yw annog staff i edrych yn rhywle arall am gyflogaeth. Gwerthfawrogaf fod llawer o benderfyniadau wedi cael eu gohirio oherwydd yr adolygiad ond mae'r amserlen yn fater o frys.

With reference to page 30 of the report, it adds that it is currently in the last year of a three-year period of county voluntary council funding. The problems outlined in relation to active communities apply equally to the core funding delivered via WCVA for the local voluntary sector funding to support the county voluntary council work.

Gan gyfeirio at dudalen 30 yr adroddiad, mae'n ychwanegu ei fod ar hyn o bryd ym mlwyddyn olaf cyfnod o dair blynedd o dderbyn cyllid gan gyngor gwirfoddol sirol. Mae'r problemau a amlinellwyd mewn perthynas â chymunedau byw yr un mor gymwys i'r arian craidd a roddir drwy CGGC ar gyfer arian y sector gwirfoddol lleol i gefnogi gwaith y cyngor gwirfoddol sirol.

How will we meet the many practical concerns raised in the public consultation on the social enterprise action plan? Mantell Gwynedd said that assistance is not tailored to the needs of social enterprises and that there is a lack of clarity with regard to who provides what support. It further suggests that services must be harmonised far more effectively and that there is a lack of continuity and assistance. Plenty of agencies are willing to provide help in setting up enterprises, but the follow-up can be inconsistent. A Flintshire local voluntary

Sut y byddwn yn ateb y pryderon ymarferol niferus a godwyd yn yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar y cynllun gweithredu mentrau cymdeithasol? Dywedodd Mantell Gwynedd nad yw cymorth wedi ei deilwra i anghenion mentrau cymdeithasol a bod diffyg eglurder o ran pwys sy'n darparu pa gymorth. Awgryma hefyd fod yn rhaid cysoni gwasanaethau yn llawer mwy effeithiol a bod diffyg parhad a chymorth. Mae digon o asiantaethau yn barod i roi cymorth i sefydlu mentrau, ond y gall y cymorth dilynol fod yn anghyson. Dywedodd cynrychiolydd cyngor gwirfoddol lleol sir y

council representative, in commenting on the involvement of the wider sector, stated that it is disappointing to note that, apart from the involvement of social enterprises, the other active participants, namely the Welsh Assembly Government and the WDA, all play a strategic and/or regional role in the delivery of the plan, with the exception of the procurement issue where local authorities are mentioned. There is a danger that this initiative will be seen as a top-down approach, whereas the comments in the document indicate that the will is for a bottom-up approach, thus overcoming the perception that this strategy is being imposed on the community at large.

We suggest that, during this consultation, the plan should be rewritten to include greater involvement by organisations such as the voluntary councils, given their support for social enterprises to date. While it is important that the strategy is framed and delivered consistently across Wales, it is critical that local bodies actively participate in the delivery of the action plan.

Carl Sargeant was right to draw attention to the loss of the funding officer in Flintshire. I have also been made aware of the fact that Denbighshire and Wrexham voluntary councils have similar concerns. I am sure that these concerns also apply across Wales.

Finally, Denbighshire voluntary council told me that, following the recommendations in the voluntary sector scheme review, the two areas that would see immediate benefits are funding and compliance. Please, Minister, let us make it happen.

**Mick Bates:** Many have said this, but I begin by reiterating that this scheme embodies many principles that all Members believe in, namely that we should encourage social inclusion in Wales and volunteering. The voluntary sector represents the pinnacle of what we want to achieve in Wales. This report would not have been written had the Assembly not been created, and we need to remind many people of that, especially the political party that opposed its establishment. On volunteering, it is important that we look

Fflint, wrth roi ei sylwadau ar y rhan a chwaraeir gan y sector ehangach, ei bod yn siomedig nodi, ar wahân i'r rhan a chwaraeir gan fentrau cymdeithasol, fod y cyfranogwyr gweithredol eraill oll, sef Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r WDA, yn chwarae rhan strategol a/neu ranbarthol wrth gyflawni'r cynllun, ac eithrio'r mater caffael lle y sonnir am awdurdodau lleol. Mae perygl yr ystyrir bod y fenter hon yn cael ei rhoi ar waith o'r brig i lawr, tra bod y sylwadau yn y ddogfen yn awgrymu mai'r ymagwedd o'r gwaelod i fyny a ddymunir, gan oresgyn y canfyddiad, felly, fod y strategaeth hon yn cael ei gorfodi ar y gymuned yn gyffredinol.

Awgrymwn, yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad hwn, y dylid ailysgrifennu'r cynllun i gynnwys y mudiadau, megis y cynghorau gwirfoddol, yn fwy o gofio eu cefnogaeth i fentrau cymdeithasol hyd yma. Er ei bod yn bwysig bod y strategaeth yn cael ei llunio a'i chyflwyno'n gyson ledled Cymru, mae'n hollbwysig bod cyrff lleol yn chwarae rhan weithredol wrth gyflwyno'r cynllun gweithredu.

Yr oedd Carl Sargeant yn iawn i dynnu sylw at golli'r swyddog cyllid yn sir y Fflint. Tynnwyd fy sylw hefyd at y ffaith bod gan gynghorau gwirfoddol sir Ddinbych a Wrecsam bryderon tebyg. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod y pryderon hyn yn codi ledled Cymru.

Yn olaf, dywedodd cyngor gwirfoddol sir Ddinbych wrthyf mai'r ddau faes a fyddai'n gweld manteision ar unwaith, yn dilyn yr argymhellion yn yr adolygiad o gynllun y sector gwirfoddol, fyddai ariannu a chydymffurfio. Weinidog, gadewch inni sicrhau hynny.

**Mick Bates:** Mae llawer wedi dweud hyn, ond dechreuaf drwy ategu bod y cynllun hwn yn ymgorffori llawer o egwyddorion y mae pob Aelod yn credu ynddynt, sef y dylem annog cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yng Nghymru a gwirfoddoli. Mae'r sector gwirfoddol yn cynrychioli uchafbwynt yr hyn yr ydym am ei gyflawni yng Nghymru. Ni fyddai'r adroddiad hwn wedi cael ei ysgrifennu pe na bai'r Cynulliad wedi ei greu, ac mae angen inni atgoffa llawer o bobl o hynny, yn enwedig y blaid wleidyddol a

towards the Wales active volunteering initiative to ensure that there are always volunteers coming forward who work for free, and from many motives. In this debate, we seem to have avoided the issue that people give their time for free, but it is important that we recognise that, and ensure that there are programmes in all communities to build capacity. We must not lose sight of the importance of delivering such programmes through individual organisations and local authorities.

I will concentrate on issues that relate directly to rural Wales and particularly on the role of the rural recovery plan, which built up capacity to deal with rural stress. This was stimulated by the foot and mouth disease epidemic that hit parts of rural Wales. An immense amount of good work was undertaken during that period to cater for the increased anxiety and stress surrounding the disease. A great deal of capacity was built up through the rural stress initiative and the rural outreach programmes. These cross Ministers' portfolios and, unfortunately, it appears to many in the field, and I work closely with these organisations, that there is a lack of communication affecting the continuity of the capacity that has been built in rural Wales. Will you talk to the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside about this, both of whom provide some of the funding for such initiatives? The rural recovery plan money finished in March this year, but the rural stress programme has been extended. I started by commending those who volunteer because volunteers must have someone who supports them in a sustainable way, rather than someone who says that the money will be pooled.

On developing co-operation through the voluntary sector, most of us have been involved with the voluntary sector for years, and it always brings two important features with it: an independent thought process—away from the civil service that can sometimes be a slowing-down process, others would go further and say that the civil service uses a bit of the old dead hand stuff—and it provides much innovation. Many of us have

oedd yn wrthwynebus i'w sefydlu. O ran gwirfoddoli, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn dibynnu ar fenter gwirfoddoli gweithredol Cymru i sicrhau bod gwirfoddolwyr bob amser ar gael sy'n gweithio am ddim, ac am sawl rheswm. Yn y ddadl hon, ymddengys ein bod wedi osgoi'r ffaith bod pobl yn rhoi o'u hamser am ddim, ond mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod hynny, ac yn sicrhau bod rhaglenni ym mhob cymuned i feithrin gallu. Ni ddylem golli golwg ar bwysigrwydd cyflwyno rhaglenni o'r fath drwy fudiadau unigol ac awdurdodau lleol.

Canolbwyntiaf ar faterion sy'n uniongyrchol berthnasol i Gymru wledig, ac yn arbennig ar rôl y cynllun adfer cefn gwlad, a wnaeth feithrin gallu i ddelio â straen gwledig. Ysgogwyd hyn gan yr epidemig clwy'r traed a'r genau a effeithiodd ar rannau o Gymru wledig. Gwnaed llawer iawn o waith da yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw i ymdrin â'r pryder a'r straen cynyddol mewn perthynas â'r clefyd. Gwellwyd gallu cymunedau yn fawr drwy'r fenter straen gwledig a'r rhaglenni allgymorth gwledig. Mae'r rhain yn croesi portffolios Gweinidogion ac, yn anffodus, ymddengys i lawer yn y maes, a gweithiaf yn agos gyda'r mudiadau hyn, fod diffyg cyfathrebu yn effeithio ar barhad y gallu a gafodd ei feithrin yng nghefn gwlad Cymru. A siaradwch â'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad ynglŷn â hyn, y mae'r ddau ohonynt yn rhoi peth o'r arian ar gyfer mentrau o'r fath? Daeth arian y cynllun adfer cefn gwlad i ben ym mis Mawrth eleni, ond ymestynnwyd y rhaglen straen gwledig. Dechreuais drwy ganmol y rhai sy'n gwirfoddoli gan fod yn rhaid i wirfoddolwyr gael rhywun sy'n eu cynnal mewn ffordd gynaliadwy, yn hytrach na rhywun sy'n dweud y caiff yr arian ei gyfuno.

O ran datblygu cydweithrediad drwy'r sector gwirfoddol, bu'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn gysylltiedig â'r sector gwirfoddol ers blynnyddoedd, ac mae bob amser yn cyflwyno dwy nodwedd bwysig: proses annibynnol o feddwl—i ffwrdd o'r gwasanaeth sifil a all weithiau fod yn broses sy'n arafu, byddai eraill yn mynd ymhellach ac yn dweud bod y gwasanaeth sifil yn mynnu cadw at yr hen drefn—a chryn arloesedd. Mae llawer

seen the Wales Co-operative Centre's report about the formation of co-ops and here, again, there is an economic dimension that we should grab hold of, in terms of community regeneration, and ensure that the rural regeneration programme does not go the same way as the rural recovery plan, which has seen its money pooled.

On general issues, through your leadership, Minister, the Government has engaged with the voluntary sector to bring it into the funding and planning process. However, this is not true of all our Assembly sponsored public bodies—there are many issues where the voluntary sector is almost excluded from their empire, if I may use that word. They appear to have a divine right to run their affairs and not engage with the voluntary sector. This, of course, is a great shame because, in local government, many voluntary sector compacts work well.

4.00 p.m.

The other issues, to which Members have referred are about core funding for such bodies as the citizens advice bureaux, which has always delivered what I consider to be a statutory requirement. That advisory service needs to examine core funding. Also, I know that you are well on board on this matter, but with regard to the sustainability of funding, we should consider a minimum three-year funding cycle. However, often, when the funding body runs its programme, it is on a three-year cycle, and if that ends, and there is not an adequate exit strategy, those seeking funding can fall foul, landing between two funding streams. It is important to insist that bodies have an exit strategy in the voluntary sector so that they can provide their own sustainability in this regard.

Finally, on the issue of funding applications, if you could provide a single portal for advice on funding applications, it would help to resolve many of the complicated issues in this regard.

ohonom wedi gweld adroddiad Canolfan Gydweithredol Cymru ynglŷn â ffurfio cwmnïau cydweithredol ac yma, unwaith yn rhagor, mae dimensiwn economaidd y dylem ddal ein gafael ynndo, o ran adfywio cymunedol, gan sicrhau nad yw'r rhaglen adfywio gwledig yn mynd yr un ffordd â'r cynllun adfer cefn gwlad, y bu i'w arian gael ei gyfuno

O ran materion cyffredinol, drwy eich arweinyddiaeth, Weinidog, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol i'w gynnwys yn y broses ariannu a chynllunio. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hyn yn wir am ein holl gyrff a noddir gan y Cynulliad—mae sawl mater lle y caiff y sector gwirfoddol ei eithrio bron o'u hymerodraeth, os gallaf ddefnyddio'r gair hwnnw. Ymddengys fod ganddynt hawl ddwyfol i weithredu'n annibynnol a pheidio ag ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol. Mae hyn, wrth gwrs, yn drueni mawr oherwydd, mewn llywodraeth leol, mae llawer o gompactau'r sector gwirfoddol yn gweithio'n dda.

Mae'r materion eraill, y cyfeiriodd Aelodau atynt, yn ymwneud ag arian craidd ar gyfer cyrff megis canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth, sydd bob amser wedi cyflwyno'r hyn a ystyriaf yn ofyniad statudol. Mae angen i'r gwasanaeth cynghori hwnnw archwilio arian craidd. Hefyd, gwn eich bod yn gweithredu ar y mater hwn, ond o ran cynaliadwyedd ariannu, dylem ystyried cylch ariannu gofynnol o dair blynedd. Fodd bynnag, yn aml, pan fydd y corff ariannu yn rhedeg ei raglen, fe wna hynny ar gylch tair blynedd, ac os daw hwnnw i ben, ac os nad oes strategaeth ymadael ddigonol, gall y rhai sy'n ceisio cael arian fethu gofynion y ddwy ffrwd ariannu. Mae'n bwysig mynnu bod gan gyrff strategaeth ymadael yn y sector gwirfoddol fel y gallant ddarparu eu cynaliadwyedd eu hunain yn hyn o beth.

I gloi, o ran ceisiadau ariannu, pe gallech ddarparu un ffynhonnell ar gyfer cyngor ar geisiadau ariannu, byddai'n helpu i ddatrys llawer o'r materion cymhleth yn hyn o beth.



**The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart):** Some general themes have emerged from this afternoon's debate. Mick said that we have engaged with the voluntary sector, but I am not sure that we have engaged with it fully. We engage with parts of it, mainly the large or well-organised sections, but we do not engage with many parts at a local level. I was saddened by Leanne's point that people do not feel able to complain. That shows that we have not engaged fully as people lack the confidence to write in about issues. That is a concern, and I hope that, during the next 12 months, we can give thought to how we engage with those tiny organisations on the ground that are not part of the mainstream voluntary sector and to how we can give them security and an understanding that the scheme exists for them and that the Government exists to support them. That is important.

There are big issues about who delivers what with regard to the voluntary sector, and I am pleased by Members' comments that it is not just my responsibility under my social justice portfolio, but that it is a cross-portfolio responsibility that also goes across budget lines in terms of the support that we give. Our current work to try to analyse the support given is worthwhile, and I was grateful for the committee's response on that as more work is needed in portfolios to assess what support is given to the voluntary sector. That leads into some interesting funding areas, because there is no confidence about their funding regimes, and I accept that. They are fearful of what will happen as, although three-year funding is ideal, five-year funding is also ideal with regard to the proposals it allows them to make.

There is happiness about some compacts with local government, but also great unhappiness about others as they are nothing more than pieces of paper. Also, there are all sorts of issues about their relationship, as was noted, with Assembly sponsored public bodies, and I hope that the meetings that I have held with

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart):** Mae rhai themâu cyffredinol wedi deillio o'r ddadl y prynhawn yma. Dywedodd Mick ein bod wedi ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol, ond nid wyf yn siŵr ein bod wedi ymgysylltu ag ef yn llawn. Ymgysylltwn â rhannau ohono, yn bennaf yr adrannau mawr neu'r adrannau trefnus, ond nid ydym yn ymgysylltu â llawer o'r rhannau yn lleol. Yr oedd yn flin gennyf glywed pwynt Leanne pan ddywedodd nad yw pobl yn teimlo y gallant gwyno. Dengys hynny nad ydym wedi ymgysylltu'n llawn gan nad oes gan bobl yr hyder i gysylltu â ni os oes problemau. Mae hynny'n achos pryder, a gobeithiaf y gallaf, dros y 12 mis nesaf, ystyried sut yr ymgysylltwn â'r mudiadau bach iawn hynny ar lawr gwlad nad ydynt yn rhan o'r sector gwirfoddol prif ffrwd a sut y gallwn roi sicrwydd iddynt a sicrhau eu bod yn deall bod y cynllun yn bodoli ar eu cyfer hwy a bod y Llywodraeth yn bodoli i'w cynnal hwy. Mae hynny'n bwysig.

Mae materion mawr ynglŷn â phwy sy'n cyflawni beth o ran y sector gwirfoddol, ac yr wyf yn falch o glywed Aelodau yn sôn nad fy nghyfrifoldeb i yn unig ydyw o dan fy mhortffolio cyfiawnder cymdeithasol, ond mai cyfrifoldeb ar draws portffolios ydyw sydd hefyd yn mynd ar draws llinellau cyllideb o ran y cymorth a roddwn. Mae ein gwaith presennol o geisio dadansoddi'r cymorth a roddir yn werthfawr, ac yr oeddwn yn ddiolchgar am ymateb y pwyllgor ar hynny gan fod angen gwneud mwy o waith o ran portffolios i asesu pa gymorth a roddir i'r sector gwirfoddol. Mae hynny'n arwain at rai meysydd ariannu diddorol, gan nad oes unrhyw hyder ynglŷn â'u cyfundrefnau ariannu, a derbyniaf hynny. Maent yn ofni'r hyn a fydd yn digwydd, oherwydd, er bod arian am dair blynedd yn ddelfrydol, mae arian am bum mlynedd hefyd yn ddelfrydol o ran y cynigion y mae'n caniatáu iddynt eu gwneud.

Mae boddhad ynghylch rhai compactau a wneir gyda llywodraeth leol, ond mae anfodddhad mawr ynghylch eraill hefyd gan nad ydynt yn fwy na darnau o bapur. Hefyd, mae pob math o faterion yn codi ynghylch eu cydberthynas, fel y nodwyd, â chyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad, a

the voluntary sector are starting to tackle some of those issues. It is interesting that they say that they are giving certain support to the voluntary sector, but is that support real, and what type of support is it? Those are some of the issues that we have to flesh out.

We must also recognise what volunteers are, which refers to Carl's point. Much valuable work is being done in education, but I do not want the voluntary sector to undermine permanent full-time jobs or work in the public sector or anywhere else. This should be an added-value aspect that includes a dimension of work that perhaps is not dealt with anywhere else. We do not, however, want for it to replace existing provision. We must be aware that others regard the voluntary sector as people who can perform jobs in the public sector at a cheaper rate. I do not want that mentality to creep into our discussions on the voluntary sector.

Mick, I will read the Record on your points on rural issues, and I will raise them, if necessary, with my colleagues. I would not want the experience gained during that process to be lost, particularly in terms of volunteering. Having read the Wales Co-operative Centre's report today, I think that you make a good point about co-operation in the voluntary sector and the wider co-operative movement. The economic dimension of the voluntary sector and how it can lever in is important. In real terms, on your point about application forms, we have tried, on some of the Community First forms, to produce a straightforward application form. I will address those issues.

Mark, had you been in committee when we discussed these issues, I could have answered all the points that you raised on that agenda. However, I will read the Record for the specific points that you make on the funding issues across portfolios and I will probably write to you. To other Members, and Janice, the funding issues are key. Leanne also alluded to the funding issues in her contribution.

gobeithiaf fod y cyfarfodydd a gynhaliats gyda'r sector gwirfoddol yn dechrau mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion hynny. Mae'n ddi-ddorol eu bod yn nodi eu bod yn rhoi rhywfaint o gymorth i'r sector gwirfoddol, ond ai cymorth go iawn ydyw, a pha fath o gymorth ydyw? Dyna rai o'r materion y mae'n rhaid inni eu datblygu.

Rhaid inni gydnabod hefyd beth yw gwirfoddolwyr, sy'n cyfeirio at bwynt Carl. Mae llawer o waith gwerthfawr yn cael ei wneud ym maes addysg, ond nid wyf am i'r sector gwirfoddol danseilio swyddi amser llawn parhaol na gwaith yn y sector cyhoeddus nag yn unman arall. Dylai hyn fod yn agwedd gwerth ychwanegol sy'n cynnwys dimensiwn ar waith nad ymdrinnir ag ef yn unman arall efallai. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym am iddo ddisodli'r ddarpariaeth bresennol. Rhaid inni fod yn ymwybodol bod eraill yn ystyried y sector gwirfoddol yn bobl a all gyflawni swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus yn rhatach. Nid wyf am i'r feddylfryd honno ymdreiddio i'n trafodaethau ar y sector gwirfoddol.

Mick, darllenaf y Cofnod ar eich pwyntiau ar faterion gwledig, ac fe'u codaf, os bydd angen, gyda'm cyd-Aelodau. Ni fyddwn am i'r profiad a gafwyd yn ystod y broses honno fynd yn ofer, yn arbennig o ran gwirfoddoli. Ar ôl darllen adroddiad Canolfan Gydweithredol Cymru heddiw, credaf ichi wneud pwynt da am gydweithredu yn y sector gwirfoddol a'r mudiad cydweithredol ehangach. Mae dimensiwn economaidd y sector gwirfoddol a'r modd y gall gael dylanwad yn bwysig. Mewn termau gwirioneddol, o ran eich pwynt ynglŷn â ffurflenni cais, yr ydym wedi ceisio cynhyrchu ffurflen gais syml, ar rai o ffurflenni Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Ymdriniaf â'r materion hynny.

Mark, pe baech wedi bod yn y pwyllgor pan drafodasom y materion hyn, gallwn fod wedi ateb yr holl bwyntiau a godwyd gennych ar yr agenda honno. Fodd bynnag, darllenaf y Cofnod ar gyfer y pwyntiau penodol a wnewch ar y materion ariannu ar draws portffolios ac mae'n siŵr yr ysgrifennaf atoch. I Aelodau eraill, ac i Janice, mae'r materion ariannu yn allweddol. Cyfeiriodd Leanne hefyd at y materion ariannu yn ei

chyfraniad.

At the beginning of September 2003, we set out the bidding round, starting on support for voluntary and intermediate service and the active community. I did not announce the establishment of the commission until the end of October. I could be accused of not using joined-up Government, however, the idea of a commission came after we dealt with the issues of the bidding process because I was so concerned as to how I could review the voluntary sector. I recognise that the bidding process was exceptionally difficult for those organisations. That is why I will take my time during the summer to assess the comments of the commission and of all the organisations which have spoken to me about funding in reference to the consultation, along with the views that I receive from representatives of the partnership council next week, before I make decisions about the funding agenda. Like the Members who have spoken on this matter, I recognise that the key issue is to get the funding patterns right, so that organisations understand where they are to go. I am also concerned about the issues that Peter raised about citizens advice bureaux, which I believe are key. Local authorities should fund citizens advice bureaux to provide advice services. However, this raises issues about what core activities local authorities might give to others and where they see their priorities. I am happy to explore that wider issue during the coming months.

It is also important—and this has come out of some of the issues raised today—that we are all of the same mind regarding how we want to see the voluntary sector moving forward. If I can get the outcome of the commission's report into working order, we will see real improvements in some of the funding issues and in the dialogue with the voluntary sector, which I want to take forward.

It is important that we recognise that it is not only us who have to engage with the voluntary sector; it is important that our other partners engage with it properly too. How everybody engages with and regards the voluntary sector has been a problem in some

Ar ddechrau Medi 2003, nodwyd y cylch ceisiadau gennym, gan ddechrau ar gymorth i'r gwasanaeth gwirfoddol a chyfryngol a'r gymuned fyw. Ni wneuthum gyhoeddiad ynghylch sefydlu'r comisiwn tan ddiwedd mis Hydref. Gellid fy nghyhuddo o beidio â defnyddio Llywodraeth gydgysylltiedig, fodd bynnag, daeth y syniad o gomisiwn ar ôl inni ddelio â materion y broses gwneud cais oherwydd yr oeddwn yn gofidio cymaint sut y gallwn adolygu'r sector gwirfoddol. Cydnabyddaf fod y broses gwneud cais yn eithriadol o anodd i'r mudiadau hynny. Dyna pam y cymeraf fy amser dros yr haf i asesu sylwadau'r comisiwn a'r holl fudiadau sydd wedi siarad â mi ynglŷn ag ariannu mewn perthynas â'r ymgynghoriad, ynghyd â'r safbwyntiau a gaf gan gynrychiolwyr y cyngor partneriaeth yr wythnos nesaf, cyn imi wneud penderfyniadau ar yr agenda ariannu. Fel yr Aelodau sydd wedi siarad ar y mater hwn, cydnabyddaf mai'r prif nod yw cael y patrymau ariannu yn gywir, fel bod mudiadau yn deall i ble y dylent fynd. Pryderaf hefyd ynglŷn â'r materion a gododd Peter am ganolfannau cyngor ar bopeth, sy'n allweddol yn fy marn i. Dylai awdurdodau lleol ariannu canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth i ddarparu gwasanaethau cynghori. Fodd bynnag, cyfyd hyn faterion ynglŷn â pha weithgareddau craidd y gallai awdurdodau lleol eu rhoi i eraill a beth yw eu blaenoriaethau. Yr wyf yn fodlon ymchwilio i'r mater ehangach hwnnw dros y misoedd i ddod.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig—ac mae hyn yn deillio o rai o'r materion a godwyd heddiw—ein bod yn unfryd ynglŷn â sut yr ydym am weld y sector gwirfoddol yn datblygu. Os gallaf roi canlyniad adroddiad y comisiwn ar waith, fe welwn welliannau gwirioneddol yn rhai o'r materion ariannu ac yn y deialog gyda'r sector gwirfoddol, yr wyf am ei hyrwyddo.

Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod nad ni yn unig sy'n gorfod ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol; mae'n bwysig i'n partneriaid eraill ymgysylltu ag ef mewn ffordd briodol hefyd. Bu'r ffordd y mae pawb yn ymgysylltu â'r sector gwirfoddol ac yn ei ystyried yn

parts of Wales, and we need to do much more work during the coming 12 months to strengthen these relationships and to get good working patterns.

I am also considering service-level agreements to protect voluntary organisations, as it may be that they should have such agreements with local authorities and local health boards. I am considering what that should include and whether organisations should also have agreements with us if they are doing things for us. That would offer voluntary organisations and their funding streams much greater protection.

Therefore, there is room for innovation out there. I am not saying that everything is perfect, but I think that it is going reasonably well. I take Members' comments on board. Some Members have said that we would not even be discussing this if it were not for the National Assembly. Sometimes, we have to praise ourselves, cross-party, as an Assembly and say, 'If we were not here, these issues would not be discussed like this, these organisations would not have a voice, and volunteers out there would have nobody to go to, write to, or moan to.' Therefore, we should tell ourselves that devolution has been a good thing for the voluntary sector.

broblem mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru, ac mae angen inni wneud llawer mwy o waith dros y 12 mis nesaf i atgyfnerthu'r cydberthnasau hyn a chael patrymau gweithio da.

Yr wyf hefyd yn ystyried cytundebau lefel gwasanaeth i ddiogelu mudiadau gwirfoddol, oherwydd efallai y dylent gael cytundebau o'r fath gydag awdurdodau lleol a byrddau iechyd lleol. Yr wyf yn ystyried beth y dylent ei gynnwys ac a ddylai mudiadau gael cytundebau gyda ni hefyd os ydynt yn gwneud pethau inni. Byddai hynny'n cynnig llawer mwy o ddiogelwch i fudiadau gwirfoddol a'u ffrydiau ariannu.

Felly, mae lle i fod yn arloesol. Nid wyf yn dweud bod popeth yn berffaith, ond credaf fod pethau'n mynd yn eithaf da. Byddaf yn ystyried sylwadau'r Aelodau. Dywedodd rhai Aelodau na fyddem hyd yn oed yn trafod hyn oni bai am y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Weithiau, rhaid inni ganmol ein hunain, ar draws y pleidiau, fel Cynulliad a dweud, 'Pe na baem yma, ni fyddai'r materion hyn yn cael eu trafod fel hyn, ni fyddai gan y mudiadau hyn lais, ac ni fyddai gan wirfoddolwyr neb i fynd ato, i ysgrifennu ato, neu i gwyno wrtho.' Felly, dylem ddweud wrth ein hunain bod datganoli wedi bod yn beth da i'r sector gwirfoddol.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 14, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 32.  
Amendment 1: For 14, Abstain 0, Against 32.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Bourne, Nick  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Francis, Lisa  
Graham, William  
Isherwood, Mark  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lloyd, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Ryder, Janet  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:  
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Ann

Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, Val  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 19, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 27.  
Amendment 2: For 19, Abstain 0, Against 27.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Francis, Lisa  
German, Michael  
Graham, William  
Isherwood, Mark  
Jones, Laura Anne  
Lloyd, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Williams, Brynle  
Wood, Leanne

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:  
The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Cuthbert, Jeff  
Davies, Andrew  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
Essex, Sue  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hart, Edwina  
Idris Jones, Denise  
James, Irene  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, Val  
Mewies, Sandy  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Pugh, Alun  
Sargeant, Carl  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment defeated.*

*Cynnig (NDM2050): O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion (NDM2050): For 46, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:  
The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton  
Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Burnham, Eleanor

Butler, Rosemary  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Cuthbert, Jeff  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet  
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin  
 Essex, Sue  
 Francis, Lisa  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Idris Jones, Denise  
 Isherwood, Mark  
 James, Irene  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Laura Anne  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Lloyd, Val  
 Mewies, Sandy  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Pugh, Alun  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sargeant, Carl  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Williams, Brynle  
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion carried.*

4.10 p.m.

### **Dadl Fer Short Debate**

#### **Hiliaeth yng Nghymoedd De Cymru Racism in the South Wales Valleys**

**Christine Chapman:** I have had requests to speak from Leanne Wood, Lorraine Barrett, Laura Anne Jones and Jenny Randerson; I hope that there will be time for them to contribute later.

**Christine Chapman:** Cefais geisiadau i siarad gan Leanne Wood, Lorraine Barrett, Laura Anne Jones a Jenny Randerson; gobeithiaf y bydd amser iddynt gyfrannu yn nes ymlaen.

Just imagine what it must be like to go about your daily life constantly feeling uneasy and having to look over your shoulder, your children getting agitated when you are trying to get them to school because they are afraid

Dychmygwch sut deimlad ydyw byw eich bywyd mewn gofid a gorfod edrych dros eich ysgwydd bob awr o'r dydd, gyda'ch plant yn cynhyrfu pan geisiwch eu cael yn barod i fynd i'r ysgol am fod ofn arnynt y bydd pobl

about being called names and physically abused on a regular basis. Just imagine also having to remove graffiti from your property—graffiti that is daubed on your house, but not your neighbours'. Imagine that that this is not a rare occurrence, but the norm. Why are you being treated this way? It is simply because of the colour of your skin.

This is happening in the south Wales Valleys, where I grew up. We often regard the Valleys, with a sense of pride, as a place where everyone knows everyone else and looks out for each other. There are elements of truth in that that we cannot deny. Who could forget, for example, the camaraderie of the miners' strike, when communities were held together against the odds by acts of unsurpassed selflessness? However, for every fond image that we have of the Valleys there is a sinister underbelly of racism that we ignore at our peril. It is as real as the myth and stereotype of miners singing on their way home from work are unreal.

I have been troubled for a long time about racism in the Valleys, because it has no place in modern Wales. That concern came to a head during the June elections when several perfectly respectable-looking people whom I met while canvassing came out with the most vile racist comments. I am also troubled because we are far too complacent—a view that is also expressed in Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's race equality scheme.

This complacency is rooted in the perception that, in the Valleys, racism is not a problem. With over 99 per cent of the Valleys population classified as white, and about 1 per cent from other ethnic backgrounds, many people question the need for concern over racism. However, if one considers the official statistics, the reality is that some areas of the Valleys have unacceptably high rates of racist abuse. This complacency is also exacerbated because of the sense of isolation experienced by many minority ethnic people living in the Valleys. What is the evidence for this? I am grateful for the support of the Valleys Race Equality

yn galw enwau arnynt ac y cânt eu cam-drin yn gorfforol yn rheolaidd. Dychmygwch hefyd orfod cael gwared â graffiti oddi ar waliau eich cartref—graffiti a gaiff ei beintio ar eich tŷ chi, ond nid ar dŷ eich cymdogion. Dychmygwch nad digwyddiad prin yw hyn, ond yr hyn sy'n digwydd fel mater o drefn. Pam y cewch eich trin yn y ffordd hon? Dim ond oherwydd lliw eich croen.

Mae hyn yn digwydd yng Nghymoedd y De, lle y cefais fy magu. Yn aml, ystyriwn, gyda balchder, fod y Cymoedd yn ardal lle y mae pawb yn adnabod ei gilydd ac yn gofalu am ei gilydd. Ceir rhywfaint o wirionedd yn hynny na allwn ei wadu. Pwy a allai anghofio, er enghraifft, gyfeillach streic y glowyr, pan ddaliwyd cymunedau at ei gilydd er gwaethaf pob disgwyl gan weithredoedd o anhunanoldeb digyffelyb? Fodd bynnag, ar gyfer pob delwedd dda sydd gennym o'r Cymoedd, mae hiliaeth arswydus a anwybyddwn ar berygl i ni ein hunain. Mae mor real ag y mae'r myth a'r stereoteip o lowyr yn canu ar eu ffordd adref o'r gwaith yn afreal.

Bûm yn pryderu ers amser maith am hiliaeth yn y Cymoedd, am nad oes lle iddi yn y Gymru fodern. Daeth y pryder hwnnw yn amlwg yn ystod yr etholiadau ym mis Mehefin pan wnaed y sylwadau hiliol mwyaf ffiaidd gan sawl unigolyn a oedd yn edrych yn hollol barchus y cyfarfûm â hwy tra'r oeddwn yn canfasio. Pryderaf hefyd ein bod yn llawer rhy hunanfodlon—barn a fynegir hefyd yng nghynllun cydraddoldeb hiliol Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Mae'r hunanfodlonrwydd hwn â'i wreiddiau yn y canfyddiad nad yw hiliaeth yn broblem yn y Cymoedd. Mae dros 99 y cant o boblogaeth y Cymoedd wedi'u dosbarthu'n bobl wyn, a daw tua 1 y cant o gefndiroedd ethnig eraill ac felly mae llawer o bobl yn amau a oes angen pryderu ynghylch hiliaeth. Fodd bynnag, os ystyriwch yr ystadegau swyddogol, y gwir amdani yw bod gan rai ardaloedd o'r Cymoedd gyfraddau o gam-drin hiliol sy'n annerbyniol o uchel. Caiff yr hunanfodlonrwydd hwn ei waethygu hefyd oherwydd yr ymdeimlad o arwahanrwydd a deimlir gan lawer o bobl o leiafrifoedd ethnig sy'n byw yn y Cymoedd. Beth yw'r

Council, which, since 1997, has done tremendous work in the Valleys and, in particular, for the report compiled by Andrew Jones. I have also spoken to people who have experienced racism, and their stories are a cause for concern.

What are we talking about here? We are talking about families having their property damaged and people trespassing into their homes. We are talking about children being bullied, being called racist names, having things thrown at them and being attacked outside their school. Shopkeepers are a common target for racist abuse. Abusers will come into the shop one or two at a time and abuse shop staff. Shopkeepers have had their shop windows broken and have been attacked. White people have been targeted if they work in a shop that is run by a minority ethnic person. While walking home they have been called racist names and have been attacked. We also know that Asian doctors, who are prevalent in the Valleys and who have been the backbone of the health service there for many years, have more complaints made against them and are more likely to be involved in disciplinary action. This finding was highlighted again at last week's British Medical Association meeting in Llandudno.

If we are to eradicate racism, what should we do? Racism thrives on ignorance and fear. The Valleys have the highest concentration of people, and, currently, the highest levels of deprivation, in Wales. Additionally, the Valleys suffer from low levels of educational achievement, and poverty. This potent mix of circumstances creates fertile ground for the likes of the British National Party to take root in. Several pretty nasty far-right organisations currently operate in the Valleys. We must be watchful, because such views will flourish where there is ignorance. The agencies have also reported an increase in racial attacks on white English, white Irish and white Scottish people in the Valleys communities. While I have not concentrated on that today, I would like to flag up that issue for debate another day.

dystiolaeth am hyn? Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am gymorth Cyngor Cydraddoldeb Hiliol y Cymoedd sydd wedi gwneud gwaith ardderchog yn y Cymoedd er 1997 ac, yn benodol, am yr adroddiad a luniwyd gan Andrew Jones. Yr wyf hefyd wedi siarad â phobl sydd wedi wynebu hiliaeth, ac mae eu hanesion yn peri pryder.

Am beth yr ydym yn sôn yma? Sôn yr ydym am deuluoedd y caiff eu tai eu difrodi ac y mae pobl yn tresmasu ar eu cartrefi. Sôn yr ydym am blant yn cael eu bwlio, am eraill yn galw enwau hiliol arnynt, yn taflu pethau atynt ac yn ymosod arnynt y tu allan i'w hysgol. Mae siopwyr yn darged cyffredin o ran cam-drin hiliol. Bydd camdrinwyr yn dod i mewn i'r siop fesul un neu ddau ac yn diffrïo staff y siop. Mae ffenestri siopau wedi'u torri ac ymosodwyd ar y siopwyr. Mae pobl wyn wedi'u targedu os ydynt yn gweithio mewn siop a redir gan unigolyn o leiafrif ethnig. Wrth iddynt gerdded adref, galwyd enwau hiliol arnynt ac ymosodwyd arnynt. Gwyddom hefyd y gwneir mwy o gwynion yn erbyn meddygon Asiaidd, y mae nifer ohonynt yn y Cymoedd ac a fu'n asgwrn cefn y gwasanaeth iechyd yno ers blynnyddoedd lawer, ac maent yn fwy tebygol o wynebu camau disgyblu. Tynnwyd sylw at y canfyddiad hwn unwaith eto yng nghyfarfod Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain a gynhaliwyd yn Llandudno yr wythnos diwethaf.

Er mwyn inni ddileu hiliaeth, beth y dylem ei wneud? Mae hiliaeth yn ffynnu ar anwybodaeth ac ofn. Mae gan y Cymoedd y nifer fwyaf o bobl mewn ardal ac, ar hyn o bryd, y lefelau uchaf o amddifadedd, yng Nghymru. Yn ogystal, yn y Cymoedd ceir cyflawniad addysgol isel, a thlodi. Mae'r cymysgedd cryf hwn o amgylchiadau yn creu tir ffrwythlon i bobl fel Plaid Genedlaethol Prydain wreiddio. Mae sawl sefydliad asgell dde eithafol gweddol gas yn gweithredu yn y Cymoedd ar hyn o bryd. Rhaid inni fod yn wyliadwrus, oherwydd bydd safbwyntiau o'r fath yn ffynnu lle y ceir anwybodaeth. Mae asiantaethau hefyd wedi nodi cynnydd yn yr ymosodiadau hiliol ar Saeson gwyn, Gwyddelod gwyn ac Albanwyr gwyn yng nghymunedau'r Cymoedd. Er nad ydym wedi canolbwyntio ar hynny heddiw, hoffwn nodi'r mater hwnnw fel pwnc i gynnal dadl arno ryw bryd arall.



The ignorance does not stop there, as there are some confusing myths relating to asylum seekers. Dangerous assumptions are being made about them in the Valleys, where, ironically, there are few, if any, asylum seekers. I believe that the rise in racism is partly linked to the utter irresponsibility of the right-wing press in fanning the flames of prejudice and ignorance, which threatens to destroy centuries of the finest Welsh traditions of tolerance. I also believe—and this is borne out from conversations with my constituents—that international events, such as the war on terror, have given rise to a much more hostile environment, with black and minority ethnic people reporting increased incidences of racist insults.

The comprehensive report by Andrew Jones in 2002, based on data supplied by 200 black and minority ethnic people from Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Caerphilly, indicated that 55 per cent of respondents had suffered racial harassment. This included damage to property, physical assaults, racist hate mail, verbal abuse, graffiti and threats. We also know that many incidents go unreported, because people regard them as a normal part of life. That is unacceptable. Therefore, let us explode the myth that racism is not a problem in the Valleys. The problem is as real there as it is anywhere else in Wales. If those families who make up the 1 per cent of the population in the Valleys with an ethnic background are being racially abused, the fact that there are fewer of them does not make it better; their experiences may be worse, because the families are isolated and vulnerable. However, there is evidence of Valleys' communities banding together against perpetrators to help individuals who are being targeted for abuse, and that should be acknowledged. It is not a completely pessimistic picture.

What can be done? Education has a real part to play, and I welcome the work of the Valleys Race Equality Council, which regularly visits schools to talk to children and teachers about racism issues. However, we

Ac mae mwy o anwybodaeth byth, am fod rhai mythau dryslyd o ran ceiswyr lloches. Gwneir rhagdybiaethau peryglus yn eu cylch yn y Cymoedd, lle nad oes ond ychydig o geiswyr lloches, os o gwbl, sy'n eironig. Credaf fod y cynnydd mewn hiliaeth yn gysylltiedig yn rhannol ag anghyfrifoldeb llwyr gwasg yr adain dde sy'n ysgogi rhagfarn ac anwybodaeth, sy'n bygwth dinistrio canrifoedd o'r traddodiadau Cymreig gorau o ran goddefgarwch. Credaf hefyd—a chadarnheir hyn mewn sgrysiâu â'm hetholwyr—fod digwyddiadau rhyngwladol, megis y rhyfel yn erbyn terfysgaeth, wedi arwain at amgylchedd llawer mwy gelyniaethus, ac mae mwy o achosion o ddiffriö pobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig yn hiliol yn cael eu cofnodi.

Nododd yr adroddiad cynhwysfawr gan Andrew Jones yn 2002, a oedd yn seiliedig ar ddata a roddwyd gan 200 o bobl dduon a phobl o leiafrifoedd ethnig o Ferthyr Tudful, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chaerffili, fod 55 y cant o'r rhai a ymatebodd wedi wynebu aflonyddu hiliol. Yr oedd hyn yn cynnwys difrod i eiddo, ymosodiadau corfforol, llythyrau cas hiliol, difriö, graffiti a bygythiadau. Gwyddom hefyd nad yw llawer o bobl yn hysbysu'r heddlu o achosion o'r fath, am eu bod yn eu hystyried yn rhan arferol o fywyd. Nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol. Felly, gadewch inni chwalu'r myth nad yw hiliaeth yn broblem yn y Cymoedd. Mae'r broblem yr un mor amlwg yno ag y mae mewn unrhyw ran arall o Gymru. Os yw'r teuluoedd hynny sy'n rhan o'r 1 y cant o'r boblogaeth yn y Cymoedd sydd â chefnidir ethnig yn wynebu hiliaeth, nid yw'r ffaith bod llai ohonynt yn golygu bod y sefyllfa yn well; efallai fod eu profiadau yn waeth, am fod y teuluoedd wedi'u hynysu ac yn agored i niwed. Fodd bynnag, ceir tystiolaeth o gymunedau yn y Cymoedd yn dod at ei gilydd yn erbyn y rhai sy'n cyflawni'r hiliaeth er mwyn helpu'r unigolion a gaiff eu cam-drin yn rheolaidd, a dylid cydnabod hynny. Nid yw'r darlun yn hollol ddu.

Beth y gellir ei wneud? Mae gan addysg ran wirioneddol i'w chwarae, a chroesawaf waith Cyngor Cydraddoldeb Hiliol y Cymoedd, sy'n ymweld ag ysgolion yn rheolaidd i siarad â phlant ac athrawon am faterion sy'n

also need to take a more holistic view as far as the curriculum is concerned. As a historian, I believe that schools could take a far more radical stance in teaching black history to children, and, in particular, teach about the contribution that black and ethnic minority people have made to British and Welsh society. One history advisor told me that it is recognised that more could be done. We have had the Paul Robeson exhibition in the Valleys, but there are other resources that schools could draw upon. I have been impressed by the work of Glenn Jordan at the Butetown History and Arts Centre, for example. We have a responsibility to give our young people a full picture of the diversity in Wales. When young people realise that black and ethnic minority people fought for their country and were a part of British history, it will give them tools to reject racist views based largely on ignorance. I had a fairly lively debate with an elderly constituent recently who categorically denied that black and ethnic minority people served in His Majesty's forces during the second world war.

Education does not stop with the young, therefore. From my discussions with agencies working with young people, I believe that we need to work with parents and grandparents if we are to counter racism. The work of local government and political parties is also pivotal. At a time when the British National Party is on the rise—the BNP polled over 5,000 votes in Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf in June—it is important that democratic parties show their unequivocal commitment to representing the whole of our population and show real commitment to tackling the root causes of racism.

I hope that I have made a case for the Welsh Assembly Government to continue to show a commitment to the Valleys and to acknowledge that we have a problem that must be dealt with. In the coming months, there will be moves for a new commission for equality and human rights to be established. When that happens, I hope that the diversity councils that may emerge locally will have

ymwneud â hiliaeth. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni fabwysiadu ymagwedd fwy cyfannol o ran y cwricwlwm. Fel hanesydd, credaf y gallai ysgolion fod yn llawer mwy radical wrth ddysgu hanes pobl dduon i blant, ac yn benodol, ddysgu am y cyfraniad y mae pobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig wedi'i wneud i gymdeithas Cymru a Phrydain. Dywedodd un cynghorydd hanes wrthyf fod cydnabyddiaeth y gellir gwneud mwy. Cawsom arddangosfa Paul Robeson yn y Cymoedd, ond mae adnoddau eraill y gallai ysgolion eu defnyddio. Mae gwaith Glenn Jordan yng Nghanolfan Hanes a Chelfyddydau Butetown, er enghraifft, wedi creu argraff arnaf. Mae cyfrifoldeb arnom i roi darlun llawn o'r amrywiaeth yng Nghymru i'n pobl ifanc. Pan fydd pobl ifanc yn sylweddoli i bobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig ymladd dros eu gwlad a'u bod yn rhan o hanes Prydain, bydd yn eu galluogi i wrthod safbwyntiau hiliol sy'n seiliedig ar anwybodaeth i raddau helaeth. Cefais drafodaeth eithaf tanbaid gydag etholwr oedranus yn ddiweddar a wadodd yn llwyr fod pobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig yn rhan o luoedd Ei Mawrhydi yn ystod yr ail ryfel byd.

Felly, nid pobl ifanc yn unig y mae'n rhaid eu haddysgu. O'm trafodaethau ag asiantaethau sy'n gweithio gyda phobl ifanc, credaf fod angen inni weithio gyda rhieni a'u rhieni hwythau er mwyn gwrthsefyll hiliaeth. Mae gwaith llywodraeth leol a'r pleidiau gwleidyddol yn ganolog hefyd. Ar adeg pan fo Plaid Genedlaethol Prydain ar gynnydd—cafodd y Blaid dros 5,000 o bleidleisiau ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Caerffili, Merthyr Tudful a Rhondda Cynon Taf ym mis Mehefin—mae'n bwysig bod pleidiau democrataidd yn dangos eu hymrwymiad pendant i gynrychioli ein poblogaeth gyfan ac yn dangos ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i fynd i'r afael â'r prif achosion hiliaeth.

Gobeithiaf fy mod wedi cyflwyno dadl o blaid bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn parhau i ddangos ymrwymiad i'r Cymoedd a chydabod bod problem gennym y mae'n rhaid delio â hi. Yn ystod y misoedd i ddod, bydd gweithredu i sefydlu comisiwn cydraddoldeb a hawliau dynol newydd. Pan ddigwydd hynny, gobeithiaf y caiff y cynghorau amrywiaeth a fydd yn datblygu'n

adequate support so that the excellent work being done in the Valleys continues and is built upon.

4.20 p.m.

**Leanne Wood:** I thank Christine Chapman for raising this important issue and I concur with the points made. In canvassing for the recent elections, I noticed an increase in racist attitudes, particularly, as Christine said, in relation to asylum seekers. It was exhausting and depressing to have to keep challenging the myths being peddled. It is a serious concern when people in poverty read the tabloids and assume that asylum seekers get preferential treatment. This breeds resentment and, subsequently, helps to encourage fascism. All Members must realise that doing nothing is not an option. We all have a responsibility to challenge the myths and attitudes head on. We should not allow any statements to go unchallenged, particularly those made by fellow politicians.

**Lorraine Barrett:** I would like to invite some of Christine's constituents to come to meet some Somalis who fought for our country; there are more than a few in Butetown. I thank Christine for raising this important matter. For too long, people have assumed that racism exists only in areas with large black and minority ethnic populations. This is not the case, as Christine explained. As someone born and bred in Rhondda, I do not recognise the picture described; things have obviously changed since my childhood. The message of zero tolerance must be conveyed throughout Wales, from Mardy to Monmouth, and from Cardiff to Carmarthen.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Racism can be found in every corner of Wales and, for many people, it remains a constant source of anguish. I was recently made aware of a case concerning a constituent in Abergavenny. This Muslim pensioner has suffered years of racial harassment and, since moving to an estate in the town, he has experienced a number of incidents. The most serious and unpleasant

lleol o bosibl ddigon o gymorth fel bod y gwaith ardderchog a wneir yn y Cymoedd yn parhau ac yn cael ei ddatblygu.

**Leanne Wood:** Diolchaf i Christine Chapman am godi'r mater pwysig hwn a chytunaf â'r pwyntiau a wnaed. Wrth ganfasio ar gyfer yr etholiadau diweddar, sylwais fod cynnydd mewn agweddau hiliol, yn enwedig, fel y dywedodd Christine, mewn perthynas â cheiswyr lloches. Yr oedd yn flinderus ac yn ddiflas gorfod herio'r mythau a oedd ar led. Mae'n achos pryder difrifol pan fydd pobl mewn tlodi yn darllen y papurau newydd tabloid ac yn cymryd yn ganiataol y caiff ceiswyr lloches eu trin yn well na phawb arall. Mae hyn yn gwneud i bobl ddigio ac, o ganlyniad, mae'n helpu i annog ffasgiaeth. Rhaid i bob Aelod sylweddoli na allem ddewis gwneud dim. Mae cyfrifoldeb ar bob un ohonom i herio'r mythau a'r agweddau yn uniongyrchol. Ni ddylem ganiatáu i unrhyw ddatganiadau aros yn ddi-her, yn enwedig y rhai a wneir gan gyd-wleidyddion.

**Lorraine Barrett:** Hoffwn wahodd rhai o etholwyr Christine i ddod i gyfarfod â rhai Somaliaid sydd wedi ymladd dros ein gwlad; mae mwy nag ychydig yn Butetown. Diolchaf i Christine am godi'r mater pwysig hwn. Ers gormod o amser, mae pobl wedi cymryd yn ganiataol mai dim ond mewn ardaloedd â phoblogaethau mawr o bobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig y mae achosion o hiliaeth. Nid yw hynny'n wir, fel yr eglurodd Christine. A minnau wedi cael fy magu yn y Rhondda, nid wyf yn adnabod y darlun a ddisgrifiwyd; mae'n amlwg bod pethau wedi newid ers imi fod yn blentyn. Rhaid cyfleu neges dim goddefgarwch ledled Cymru, o Faerdy i Fynwy, ac o Gaerdydd i Gaerfyrddin.

**Laura Anne Jones:** Ceir hiliaeth ym mhob cwr o Gymru ac, i lawer o bobl, mae'n parhau i beri gofid parhaus. Cefais fy hysbysu'n ddiweddar o achos yn ymwneud ag etholwr yn y Fenni. Mae'r pensiyonwr Moslemaidd hwn wedi dioddef blynyddoedd o aflonyddu hiliol ac, ers symud i ystad yn y dref, mae wedi wynebu nifer o sefyllfaoedd anodd. Yn yr un fwyaf difrifol a mwyaf

involving slogans sprayed on walls near his home and the placing of a pig's head in his garden. This case has highlighted several issues that need to be addressed. It was pointed out at the time that the police investigating the case did not understand how insulting it was for a Muslim to have a pig's head placed in his garden. It would seem that our society is still ignorant of the many diverse cultures and religions in Wales. We fail to recognise that what may not be offensive to one person may be extremely offensive to another. Another point raised was that although the gentleman concerned had nothing but praise for the help provided by victim support, he was concerned about the level of support offered by the South East Wales Racial Equality Council. He believes that there should be greater liaison between bodies such as this and the police so that victims can get support quickly.

Racism is intolerable and makes people's lives a misery. I seek certainty that the various bodies involved in tackling the problem will work together and serve the people who have to endure the words and actions of racists every day.

**Jenny Randerson:** Many Members will know that I raised the issue of racism before the recent elections and placed a strong emphasis on the importance of political parties uniting against the BNP and any other racist party. I am sure that Members shared my horror at the BNP leaflet distributed to houses as part of the European elections campaign. I could not believe that this was legal. I was also saddened to receive a leaflet issued under the auspices of the Cardiff Labour Party, which I considered to be racist and have therefore referred to the Commission for Racial Equality. The views expressed in this leaflet, which was distributed in one of the wards in my constituency, reflect the views of the average Labour Party member, but it certainly did not reflect the views of my Assembly colleagues. I hope that the Labour Party does its best to ensure that such aberrations do not occur in future.

annymunol, cafodd sloganau eu chwistrellu ar waliau ger ei gartref a gosodwyd pen mochyn yn ei ardd. Amlygodd yr achos hwn sawl mater y mae angen ymdrin â hwy. Nodwyd ar y pryd nad oedd yr heddlu a oedd yn ymchwilio i'r achos yn deall pa mor sarhaus oedd rhoi pen mochyn yng ngardd Moslem. Ymddengys nad yw ein cymdeithas o hyd yn deall y diwylliannau a'r crefyddau amrywiol yng Nghymru. Ni chydnabyddwn y gall yr hyn nad yw'n sarhaus i rywun fod yn sarhaus iawn i rywun arall. Er i'r dyn dan sylw ganmol y cymorth a roddwyd gan gymorth i ddiodefwyr, un o'r pwyntiau eraill a gododd oedd ei fod yn pryderu ynghylch faint o gymorth a gynigiwyd gan Gyngor Cydraddoldeb Hiliol De-ddwyrain Cymru. Cred y dylid sicrhau cyswllt gwell rhwng cyrff fel hyn a'r heddlu fel y gall diodefwyr gael cymorth yn gyflym.

Mae hiliaeth yn annioddefol ac mae'n golygu bod bywydau pobl yn ddiffas iawn. Gofynnaf am sicrwydd y bydd y cyrff gwahanol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r dasg o fynd i'r afael â'r broblem yn cydweithio ac yn gwasanaethu'r rhai y mae'n rhaid iddynt ddiodef geiriau a gweithredoedd hilwyr bob dydd.

**Jenny Randerson:** Bydd llawer o'r Aelodau yn gwybod imi godi mater hiliaeth cyn yr etholiadau diweddar gan roi pwyslais cryf ar bwysigrwydd sicrhau bod y pleidiau gwleidyddol yn uno yn erbyn Plaid Genedlaethol Prydain ac unrhyw blaid hiliol arall. Yr wyf yn siŵr i daflen Plaid Genedlaethol Prydain a ddsbarthwyd i dai fel rhan o ymgyrch etholiadau Ewrop godi braw ar yr Aelodau, fel y gwnaeth arnaf fi. Ni allwn gredu fod hynny'n gyfreithiol. Yr oedd yn drist hefyd gael taflen a ddsbarthwyd o dan nawdd Plaid Lafur Caerdydd. Yr oedd y daflen yn hiliol yn fy marn i ac felly yr wyf wedi'i chyfeirio at y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol. Mae'r safbwyntiau a nodwyd yn y daflen hon, a ddsbarthwyd yn un o'r wardiau yn fy etholaeth i, yn adlewyrchu safbwyntiau aelod cyffredin o'r Blaid Lafur, ond yn sicr nid adlewyrchodd safbwyntiau fy nghyd-Aelodau yn y Cynulliad. Gobeithiaf y gwna'r Blaid Lafur ei gorau glas i sicrhau nad yw ymddygiad cyfeiliornus o'r fath yn digwydd yn y dyfodol.

**The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart):** I am pleased that Christine chose this topic, because it gives us an opportunity to highlight our concerns about racism. Racism is the product of fear, ignorance and a lack of confidence in many areas. We must recognise that many people across Wales feel that they are at the bottom of the pile, lack self-esteem and feel that they need someone to look down upon because society looks down upon them. We need to tackle these issues by developing people's skills and by ensuring that they have worthwhile jobs and that high achievers stay within communities to incentivise others. We need to rebuild communities by enabling community activists, investing in infrastructure, improving their environment, enhancing solidarity between people and reducing the emphasis on individualism, but it would be naive to imagine that rising prosperity, jobs and better street cleaning would eradicate racism. However, we live in a nation-state and we have to accept that our recent history is one of ruthless exploitation of the colonies at the point of a bayonet. This country, Laura Anne, was, until seven years ago, run by an expressly xenophobic Government, and the newspapers routinely seek to foster racial hatred. It is hardly surprising that racism is deeply ingrained in our society.

Racism is a diversion from the real problems in our society. The idea that life would be better if there were no immigration or asylum seekers is, frankly, irrational. However, the well of resentment that exists in many communities against what they see as harmful change means that they look for scapegoats rather than rational solutions. The difficulty of dealing with this irrationality does not absolve us of the need to try to deal with it. We must point out that a racist response to the problems of the Valleys is a dead-end. Eighteen years of the Tories promoting the politics of resentment means that for every person in the Valleys who resents a few quid going towards the meagre subsistence payments of asylum seekers, there are 10 obscenely wealthy drones in the south-east who resent any money going into

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart):**

Yr wyf yn falch i Christine ddewis y pwnc hwn, am ei fod yn rhoi cyfle inni amlygu ein pryderon ynghylch hiliaeth. Mae hiliaeth yn deillio o ofn, anwybodaeth a diffyg hyder mewn llawer o ardaloedd. Rhaid inni gydnabod bod llawer o bobl ledled Cymru yn teimlo mai hwy yw'r bobl leiaf pwysig, nid oes hunan-dyb ganddynt ac maent yn teimlo bod angen iddynt ddirmygu rhywun am fod cymdeithas yn eu dirmygu hwy. Mae angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hyn drwy ddatblygu sgiliau pobl a thrwy sicrhau bod ganddynt swyddi gwerthfawr a bod y rhai sy'n cyflawni llawer yn aros mewn cymunedau er mwyn cymell pobl eraill. Mae angen inni ailadeiladu cymunedau drwy alluogi gweithredwyr cymunedol, buddsoddi mewn seilwaith, gwella eu hamgylchedd, gwella cydgefnogaeth rhwng pobl a lleihau'r pwyslais ar unigoliaeth, ond byddai'n naif meddwl y byddai ffyniant cynyddol, swyddi a strydoedd glân yn dileu hiliaeth. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn byw mewn cenedl-wladwriaeth a rhaid inni dderbyn bod ein hanes diweddar yn cynnwys ymelwa'n ddiostur ar y gwladfeydd a hynny trwy rym arfau. Cafodd y wlad hon ei rhedeg gan Lywodraeth senoffobig bur tan saith mlynedd yn ôl, Laura Anne, ac mae'r papurau newydd yn ceisio meithrin casineb hiliol drwy'r amser. Nid yw'n syndod bod hiliaeth wedi'i gwreiddio'n ddwfn yn ein cymdeithas.

Mae hiliaeth yn tynnu sylw oddi ar y problemau gwirioneddol yn ein cymdeithas. Mae'r syniad y byddai bywyd yn well heb fewnfudo a heb geiswyr lloches yn afresymegol, a dweud y lleiaf. Fodd bynnag, mae'r drwgdeimlad a geir mewn llawer o gymunedau yn erbyn newid niweidiol, yn eu barn hwy, yn golygu eu bod yn chwilio am fychod dihangol yn hytrach nag atebion rhesymegol. Nid yw'r ffaith ei bod yn anodd delio â'r afresymoldeb hwn yn golygu nad oes angen inni geisio delio ag ef. Rhaid inni nodi bod ymateb hiliol i broblemau'r Cymoedd yn ddi-werth. Mae'r ffaith i'r Toriaid hyrwyddo gwleidyddiaeth atgasedd am ddeunaw mlynedd yn golygu, am bob unigolyn yn y Cymoedd sy'n digio am fod ychydig o bunnoedd yn cael eu gwario ar daliadau cynhiliaeth pitw i geiswyr lloches,

the Valleys. Getting into the game of who deserves help will lead us down the road to disaster.

We should also point out that the history of the Valleys is one of immigration. They were sparsely populated at the beginning of the nineteenth century, but were able to prosper in Victorian times due to immigration on a massive scale from rural, mid and west Wales, south-west England, Ireland, Italy and Spain. Those immigrants were absorbed into the community and many became prominent and important figures. The integration was not without pain and there was plenty of conflict. Often the driving force of integration was the need to band together to resist the exploitation of labour by the coal owners and ironmasters. While the coal owners and ironmasters are now long gone and have been replaced by the bankers and speculators who seek to squeeze every last drop of profit out of us, there is a need for greater solidarity among the working class to drive out racism.

We should also point out immigrants' positive contribution to Wales and welcome their future contribution to our country. As a Government, we reject the idea that black and ethnic minority people, or anyone else who comes to our country, pose a problem. We have pledged to fight racism and promote the spirit of human solidarity that has created the Wales in which we live today and will lead to a prosperous and creative future.

On Jenny Randerson's point, we could talk about the election leaflets sent out by many parties, but what is important is that the Assembly has agreed across parties not to tolerate racism. Politicians should recognise—and the media must also become responsible towards asylum in this context—that asylum is not a political football for scoring political points, nor is it a measure of one's street credibility, in terms of who is the hardest and who is the most vulnerable. Those engaged in this political game legitimise discrimination and provide a

fod 10 o bobl gyfoethog iawn yn neddwyrain Lloegr sy'n byw ar gefn eraill ac sy'n anffodlon bod unrhyw arian yn mynd i'r Cymoedd. Os dechreuwn geisio penderfynu pwy sy'n haeddu help gall arwain at sefyllfa drychinebus.

Dylem nodi hefyd i fewnfudo fod yn rhan o hanes y Cymoedd erioed. Nid oedd llawer o bobl yn byw yno ar ddechrau'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg, ond gallent ffynnu yn ystod cyfnod Fictoria oherwydd mewnfudo ar raddfa fawr o Gymru wledig, y Canolbarth a'r Gorrlewin, de-orllewin Lloegr, Iwerddon, yr Eidal a Sbaen. Daeth y mewnfudwyr hynny yn rhan o'r gymuned a daeth llawer ohonynt yn bobl amlwg a phwysig. Ni chyflawnwyd y broses integreiddio yn ddi-boen ac yr oedd llawer o wrthdaro. Yn aml yr hyn a ysgogodd y broses integreiddio oedd yr angen i ddod at ei gilydd i sicrhau nad oedd perchnogion glo a meistri haearn yn ymelwa ar eu gweithlu. Er nad oes perchnogion glo a meistri haearn yn bodoli mwyach a bod y bancwyr a'r hapfasnachwyr yn eu lle yn ceisio sicrhau'r elw mwyaf posibl oddi wrthym, mae angen mwy o gydgefnogaeth ymhlith y dosbarth gweithiol er mwyn dileu hiliaeth.

Dylem nodi cyfraniad cadarnhaol mewnfudwyr i Gymru hefyd a chroesawu eu cyfraniad i'n gwlad yn y dyfodol. Fel Llywodraeth, gwrthodwn y syniad bod pobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, neu unrhyw un arall sy'n dod i'n gwlad, yn peri problem. Yr ydym wedi addo ymladd hiliaeth a hyrwyddo'r ysbryd o gydgefnogaeth ymhlith pobl sydd wedi creu'r Gymru sydd ohoni ac a fydd yn arwain at ddyfodol ffyniannus a chreadigol.

O ran pwynt Jenny Randerson, gallem sôn am y taflenni ar gyfer yr etholiadau a ddosbarthwyd gan sawl plaid, ond yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw bod y Cynulliad wedi cytuno'n drawsbleidiol i beidio â goddef hiliaeth. Dylai gwleidyddion gydnabod—a rhaid i'r cyfryngau fod yn gyfrifol o ran lloches yn y cyd-destun hwn—nad yw lloches yn gêm wleidyddol i wneud pwyntiau pleidiol, ac nid yw'n fesur o hygredd rhywun, o ran pwy yw'r caletaf a phwy sydd fwyaf agored i niwed. Mae'r rhai sy'n chwarae'r gêm wleidyddol hon yn ei gwneud

licence for others to discriminate, isolate and abuse those seeking sanctuary. That has to be challenged and stopped.

yn ddilys i wahaniaethu ac yn rhoi rhwydd hynt i eraill wahaniaethu, ynysu a cham-drin y rhai sy'n ceisio lloches. Rhaid herio ac atal hynny.

It is no surprise to me that battered and bruised communities, like those of asylum seekers, demonstrate their views through hunger strikes and burning themselves. They seem to accept violence, because of what has happened to them. Therefore, where is the social justice for those downtrodden, dispossessed individuals, who seek the most treasured of all things that a civilised society can offer—sanctuary? When a civilised society loses the ability to recognise and provide that sanctuary, it loses sight of its other responsibilities on fairness and justice. This short debate is about fairness and justice.

Nid yw'n fy synnu bod cymunedau sydd wedi'u niweidio, megis cymunedau ceiswyr lloches, yn mynegi eu barn drwy streiciau newyn a thrwy losgi eu hunain. Ymddengys eu bod yn derbyn trais, oherwydd yr hyn a ddigwyddodd iddynt. Felly, ymhle mae'r cyfiawnder cymdeithasol i'r unigolion gorthrymedig a dieiddo hynny, sy'n chwilio am y peth mwyaf gwerthfawr y gall cymdeithas wâr ei gynnig—lloches? Pan fo cymdeithas wâr yn colli'r gallu i gydnabod a rhoi'r lloches honno, mae'n colli golwg ar ei chyfrifoldebau eraill o ran tegwch a chyfiawnder. Tegwch a chyfiawnder yw themâu'r ddadl fer hon.

**The Deputy Presiding Officer:** That concludes today's business.

**Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 4.30 p.m.  
The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m.*

#### **Aelodau a'u Pleidiau Members and their Parties**

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)  
Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)  
Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)  
Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)  
Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)  
Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)  
Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)  
Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)  
Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)  
Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)  
Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)  
Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)  
Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)  
Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)  
Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)  
Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)  
Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)

Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)  
Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)  
Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Law, Peter (Llafur – Labour)  
Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)  
Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)  
Marek, John (Annibynnol – Independent)  
Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)  
Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)  
Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)  
Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)  
Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)  
Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)  
Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)  
Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)  
Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)  
Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)  
Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)