



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Cofnod y Trafodion**

**The National Assembly for Wales
The Record of Proceedings**

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Cynnwys
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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynnddi 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 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio Questions to the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration

Camddefnyddio Alcohol Alcohol Abuse

Q1 Alun Cairns: Will the Minister make a statement on the impact of changes in licensing laws on the level of alcohol abuse in Wales? OAQ0401(SJR)

C1 Alun Cairns: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am effaith newidiadau yn y deddfau trwyddedu ar lefel camddefnyddio alcohol yng Nghymru? OAQ0401(SJR)

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): Licensing law is not a devolved matter.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Nid yw trwyddedu yn fater datganoledig.

Alun Cairns: I am grateful to the Minister for her brevity. Does she recognise that if local authorities are to reject any application for extended hours, they need a valid reason? Among those reasons can be an objection from the police authority. Given the large number of applications being received by local authorities to extend licensing hours within a particular area, police resources are sometimes stretched. What discussions has the Minister had with police authorities and chief constables to establish whether sufficient resources are in place, and, if not, what action can be taken to correct that?

Alun Cairns: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am fod yn gryno. A yw'n cydnabod, os bydd awdurdodau lleol yn bwriadu gwrthod unrhyw gais am oriau estynedig, y bydd angen rheswm dilys arnynt? Gall gwrthwynebiad gan awdurdod yr heddlu fod ymhlith y rhesymau hynny. O ystyried y nifer fawr o geisiadau a gaiff awdurdodau lleol i ymestyn oriau trwyddedu o fewn ardal benodol, weithiau bydd adnoddau'r heddlu dan bwysau mawr. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gydag awdurdodau heddlu a phrif gwnstabiliaid er mwyn cadarnhau a oes adnoddau digonol ar waith, ac os nad ydynt, pa gamau gweithredu y gellir eu cymryd er mwyn unioni hynny?

Edwina Hart: I have discussed the new arrangements with the police authorities and the senior police officers in Wales. There are issues. The Home Office is carrying out research into the impact of the changes in licensing and there will be an interim report in March 2007, I believe. I will raise your points in my next regular meeting with the police authorities in Wales and the chief constables and report back.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf wedi trafod y trefniadau newydd gydag awdurdodau'r heddlu ac uwch swyddogion yr heddlu yng Nghymru. Mae yna faterion i'w hystyried. Mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn cynnal ymchwil i effaith y newidiadau trwyddedu, a chaiff adroddiad interim ei gyhoeddi ym mis Mawrth 2007, mi gredaf. Byddaf yn codi eich pwyntiau yn fy nghyfarfod rheolaidd nesaf gydag awdurdodau'r heddlu yng Nghymru a'r prif gwnstabiliaid ac yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar hynny.

Janet Ryder: Licensing may not be a devolved matter, but treating alcohol abuse falls under your domain, and I know that you are extremely concerned about the issue. The

Janet Ryder: Efallai nad yw trwyddedu yn fater datganoledig, ond mae trin achosion o gamddefnyddio alcohol o fewn eich cylch gwaith, a gwn eich bod yn pryderu'n fawr am

Public Health Association Cymru has warned that this change in the licensing laws will lead to more alcohol abuse and a rise in drink-related health problems and violence. Will you put in place structures to monitor the changes that might come about as a result of the new licensing laws?

Edwina Hart: The advisory panel on substance misuse is reviewing the evidence from existing research into the social impacts and costs of alcohol misuse in Wales. I will be taking an active interest in this to see whether there is any change in the patterns. I have been particularly concerned about the lobbying that I have had on issues around domestic abuse, and, as the changes impact on Wales, I will be looking at whether we need to do anything further in this regard.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): I know that the Minister shares my concerns about alcohol abuse and she will be aware that there are over 3 million people in the UK who are alcohol dependent. Also, there is not just an issue about violence in the home, real though that is, but violence against NHS staff, which cost £6 million last year. What representations is the Minister making to her Westminster colleagues, bearing in mind that this is not a devolved issue, on the review of these new arrangements? Many people, perhaps the Minister included, have grave concerns about how this will work out in terms of continued abuse.

Edwina Hart: I share your concerns about all those in front-line public services who, as a result of alcohol abuse, have a very rough time indeed. I will take these matters up with the Wales Office so that it can take them forward with the Westminster Government.

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 2, OAQ0398(SJR), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig gan y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad.

y mater. Mae Cymdeithas Iechyd y Cyhoedd Cymru wedi rhybuddio y bydd y newid hwn yn y deddfau trwyddedu yn arwain at fwy o achosion o gamddefnyddio alcohol, a chynnydd mewn problemau iechyd a thrais sy'n gysylltiedig ag yfed alcohol. A fyddwch yn rhoi strwythurau ar waith i fonitro'r newidiadau a allai godi o ganlyniad i'r deddfau trwyddedu newydd?

Edwina Hart: Mae'r panel cynghori ar gamddefnyddio sylweddau yn adolygu'r dystiolaeth o ymchwil bresennol i effeithiau a chostau cymdeithasol camddefnyddio alcohol yng Nghymru. Byddaf yn cymryd diddordeb mawr yn hyn i weld a oes unrhyw newid yn y patrymau. Yr wyf wedi bod yn bryderus iawn am y lobio a gefais ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â cham-drin yn y cartref, a chan fod y newidiadau'n effeithio ar Gymru, byddaf yn ystyried a oes angen inni wneud unrhyw beth pellach yn hyn o beth.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Gwn fod y Gweinidog, fel finnau, yn pryderu am gamddefnyddio alcohol, a bydd yn gwybod bod dros 3 miliwn o bobl yn y DU yn ddibynnol ar alcohol. Yn ogystal, nid mater ynglŷn â thrais yn y cartref yn unig yw hwn, er bod hwnnw'n fater real iawn, ond trais yn erbyn staff y GIG, a chostiodd hynny £6 miliwn y llynedd. Pa sylwadau y mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cyflwyno i'w chyd-Weinidogion yn San Steffan, gan gofio nad yw hwn yn fater datganoledig, am yr adolygiad o'r trefniadau newydd hyn? Mae nifer o bobl, ac efallai fod y Gweinidog ymhlith y rheini, yn pryderu'n fawr am yr effaith a gaiff hyn o ran camddefnyddio parhaus.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf fi, fel chithau, yn pryderu am yr holl bobl hynny mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus rheng flaen sydd, o ganlyniad i gamddefnyddio alcohol, yn cael amser anodd iawn. Byddaf yn codi'r materion hyn gyda Swyddfa Cymru er mwyn iddi allu gweithredu arnynt gyda Llywodraeth San Steffan.

The Presiding Officer: Question 2, OAQ0398(SJR), has been transferred for written answer by the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside.

Camddefnyddio Alcohol a Chyffuriau Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Q3 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on alcohol and drug abuse in Wales? OAQ0408(SJR)

C3 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gamddefnyddio alcohol a chyffuriau yng Nghymru? OAQ0408(SJR)

Edwina Hart: We are tackling drug and alcohol misuse through the delivery of our national strategy. Full details of the work being carried out to implement this strategy are contained in my report to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on 28 September, which is available on the intranet.

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym yn mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol drwy weithredu ein strategaeth genedlaethol. Mae manylion llawn am y gwaith a wneir i roi'r strategaeth hon ar waith wedi'u cynnwys yn fy adroddiad i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ar 28 Medi, sydd ar gael ar y fewnwyd.

Lisa Francis: Heroin addiction is a huge problem in three towns in my constituency: Blaenau Ffestiniog, Aberystwyth and Llandrindod Wells. I understand that heroin is more readily available and cheaper on the streets than cocaine, which may be a reason for that. What work is the Welsh Assembly Government undertaking to ensure that the children of heroin abusers receive help and protection?

Lisa Francis: Mae bod yn gaeth i heroin yn broblem enfawr mewn tair tref yn fy etholaeth: Blaenau Ffestiniog, Aberystwyth a Llandrindod. Deallaf fod heroin ar gael yn haws ac yn rhatach ar y strydoedd na chocên, a all fod yn un o'r rhesymau dros hynny. Pa waith y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod plant pobl sy'n camddefnyddio heroin yn cael cymorth a'u hamddiffyn?

Edwina Hart: You will be aware of the report, 'Hidden Harm', which deals with the children of drug addicts. We are taking the implementation work of that report through, and I will report back to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee on that shortly.

Edwina Hart: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r adroddiad, 'Niwed Cudd', sy'n ymdrin â phlant pobl sy'n gaeth i gyffuriau. Yr ydym yn rhoi'r adroddiad hwnnw ar waith, a byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar hynny yn fuan i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio.

John Griffiths: Edwina, alcohol abuse causes a great number of problems, as we know, including a great deal of violence. I know that we have spoken before about moves to create greater responsibility within the industry, such as ending the irresponsible promotions that allow people to pay a sum of money and then drink as much as they like over a period of time. Are we making any progress on that front?

John Griffiths: Edwina, mae camddefnyddio alcohol yn peri nifer fawr o broblemau, fel y gwyddom, gan gynnwys llawer iawn o drais. Gwn ein bod wedi siarad o'r blaen am gamau i greu mwy o gyfrifoldeb o fewn y diwydiant, megis rhoi terfyn ar y digwyddiadau hyrwyddo anghyfrifol sy'n caniatáu i bobl dalu swm o arian ac yna yfed faint a fynnant dros gyfnod. A ydym yn gwneud unrhyw gynnydd gyda hynny?

Edwina Hart: I continue to lobby on the issue of alcohol advertising, and on whether we should do something about happy-hour promotions. I feel very strongly, and I am sure that I have cross-party support on this, that we need to tackle some of these issues. We deal with what happens after the event, do we not? It would be very nice to have some measures in place that could start to

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn dal i lobïo ar hysbysebu alcohol, ac ar y cwestiwn a ddylem wneud rhywbeth ynglŷn â digwyddiadau gwerthu diodydd yn rhad. Teimlaf yn gryf iawn, ac yr wyf yn siŵr fod gennyf gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol ar hyn, fod yn rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion hyn. Delio â'r hyn sy'n digwydd ar ôl y digwyddiad ydym ni, onide? Byddai'n braf

have an impact before such events occur.

Jenny Randerson: Minister, you will be aware, because I have written to you about this, that there is a hostel in my constituency that cares for young women with children who have drug and alcohol addiction problems. Under the new regulations, the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales has said that it does not think that the hostel should register as a care home, but it feels that it needs to do so. Do you share my grave concerns that it will no longer have to register? Staff at the home are greatly concerned, because they believe that that threatens their credibility as people who can care safely for young children. Staff will no longer be required to undergo Criminal Records Bureau checks, for instance. Do you share my concerns, and will you please undertake to hold a dialogue with the CSIW or with the UK Government Minister about this hole in the law?

Edwina Hart: I fully understand the Member's concerns and would be happy to take those matters forward.

Catherine Thomas: Minister, do you agree that if we are really going to tackle drug and alcohol misuse we need the resources to develop tailor-made individual plans for each person who comes forward for help? With that in mind, would you like to support the work undertaken by Alan Andrews and his team in the Choose Life Drug and Alcohol Intervention Service project in Llanelli, which I know that you have visited and supported in the past? They are really making a difference to so many of my constituents, especially as the programmes that the project runs are open-ended and are not down to a laid-out timescale; they appreciate that each case is very different.

Edwina Hart: I was delighted to visit the Choose Life project with you, Catherine. I very much value the work of Alan Andrews and the team there. They recognise that you may require help at any point along the path. If you are on a 10-week programme, and you require help within those 10 weeks, that is

iawn sicrhau bod rhai mesurau ar waith a allai ddechrau cael effaith cyn digwyddiadau o'r fath.

Jenny Randerson: Weinidog, fe wyddoch, gan fy mod wedi ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â hyn, fod hostel yn fy etholaeth sy'n gofalu am famau ifanc sydd â phroblemau cyffuriau ac alcohol. O dan y rheoliadau newydd, dywedodd Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru nad yw'n credu y dylai'r hostel gofrestru fel cartref gofal, ond mae'r hostel yn teimlo bod angen iddynt wneud hynny. A ydych chi, fel finnau, yn pryderu'n fawr na fydd yn rhaid iddynt gofrestru mwyach? Mae staff yn y cartref yn pryderu'n fawr, oherwydd credant fod hynny'n bygwth eu hygyrdd fel pobl a all ofalu am blant ifanc yn ddiogel. Ni fydd yn ofynnol mwyach i staff gael gwiriadau gan y Swyddfa Cofnodion Troseddol, er enghraifft. A ydych yn pryderu, fel finnau, ac a wnewch ymrwymo i gael trafodaeth gydag ASGC neu gyda Gweinidog Llywodraeth y DU ynglŷn â'r man gwan hwn yn y gyfraith?

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn deall pbryderon yr Aelod yn llawn, a byddwn yn fwy na pharod i ymdrin â'r materion hynny.

Catherine Thomas: Weinidog, a gytunwch fod angen yr adnoddau arnom i ddatblygu cynlluniau unigol wedi'u teilwra ar gyfer pob unigolyn sy'n gofyn am gymorth, er mwyn inni fynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio cyffuriau ac alcohol? Gan gofio hynny, a hoffech gefnogi'r gwaith a wneir gan Alan Andrews a'i dîm yn y prosiect Gwasanaeth Ymyriad Cyffuriau ac Alcohol *Choose Life* yn Llanelli, lle yr ydych, ni wn, eisoes wedi ymweld ag ef a'i gefnogi yn y gorffennol? Maent yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i gynifer o'm hetholwyr, yn arbennig gan fod y rhaglenni a gynhelir gan y prosiect yn benagored a heb eu trefnu yn ôl amserlen benodol; maent yn sylweddoli bod pob achos yn wahanol iawn.

Edwina Hart: Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o ymweld â'r prosiect *Choose Life* gyda chi, Catherine. Yr wyf yn gwerthfawrogi gwaith Alan Andrews a'r tîm yno yn fawr iawn. Maent yn cydnabod y gall fod angen help arnoch ar unrhyw adeg ar hyd y daith. Os byddwch yn dilyn rhaglen 10 wythnos, a bod

okay, but you may actually require it in week 13 or 14. It is very important that organisations such as that have support and continue to work well in your constituency.

angen cymorth arnoch yn ystod y 10 wythnos hynny, mae hynny'n iawn. Ond efallai y bydd angen y cymorth arnoch yn wythnos 13 neu 14. Mae'n bwysig iawn i sefydliadau o'r fath gael cymorth a pharhau i weithio'n dda yn eich etholaeth.

The Presiding Officer: Question 4, OAQ0373(SJR), is withdrawn.

Y Llywydd: Tynnwyd cwestiwn 4, OAQ0373(SJR), yn ôl.

Cyllid ar gyfer Prosiectau â'u Gwreiddiau yn y Gymuned Funding for Community Based Projects

Q5 Val Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Assembly Government funding for community based projects? OAQ0394(SJR)

C5 Val Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gyllid Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer prosiectau sydd â'u gwreiddiau yn y gymuned? OAQ0394(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The Welsh Assembly Government directly funds community-based projects across Wales through several programmes, including Communities First, the community facilities and activities programme, and the Communities First trust fund. We are supporting social and economic regeneration through the social enterprise strategy and initiatives to combat financial exclusion and debt.

Edwina Hart: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ariannu prosiectau sydd â'u gwreiddiau yn y gymuned ledled Cymru yn uniongyrchol drwy nifer o raglenni, gan gynnwys Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, y rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol, a chronfa ymddiriedolaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Yr ydym yn cefnogi adfywio cymdeithasol ac economaidd drwy'r strategaeth mentrau cymdeithasol a mentrau i fynd i'r afael ag allgau ariannol a dyled.

Val Lloyd: Thank you for that comprehensive reply. I am sure that you are aware that October is Black History Month, celebrating the culture and contributions of the black community not just here in Wales but nationwide. Last week, I had the pleasure of attending the opening of the new African centre in Swansea, which provides a community focus encouraging citizenship and participation. It is often groups from ethnic minorities such as that which find it difficult to access and benefit from the available funding and support. Could you please tell us what you are doing to ensure that community funding programmes are accessible to more marginalised groups?

Val Lloyd: Diolch am yr ateb cynhwysfawr hwnnw. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol mai Mis Hanes Pobl Dduon yw mis Hydref, sy'n dathlu diwylliant a chyfraniadau'r gymuned pobl dduon yma yng Nghymru a ledled Prydain. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cefais y pleser o fynychu agoriad y ganolfan Affricanaidd newydd yn Abertawe, sy'n darparu ffocws cymunedol gan annog dinasyddiaeth a chyfranogiad. Grwpiau lleiafrifoedd ethnig o'r fath yn aml sy'n ei chael yn anodd cael yr arian a'r cymorth sydd ar gael a manteisio arnynt. A allech ddweud wrthym beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod rhaglenni ariannu cymunedol yn hygyrch i grwpiau sydd ar y cyrion?

Edwina Hart: I very much hope that the community facilities and activities programme is accessible to all groups. I think that some of the recent funding decisions indicate that it is accessible to groups that are normally on the fringes, in terms of looking for cash, so I want to continue with that. However, I think that you make a valid point

Edwina Hart: Gobeithiaf yn fawr fod y rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol yn hygyrch i bob grŵp. Credaf fod rhai o'r penderfyniadau ariannu'n ddiweddar yn dangos ei bod yn hygyrch i grwpiau sydd fel rheol ar y cyrion, o ran chwilio am arian parod, felly dymunaf barhau â hynny. Fodd bynnag, credaf fod gennyh

on this issue, and it is something that perhaps I could take up with the Wales Council for Voluntary Action as regards further work that it could do in that respect.

Brynle Williams: Despite the fantastic work done by many community-based projects across Wales, you will be aware of the problems that they face when it comes to securing suitable meeting places. Locations such as chapels and village halls are often made available, but are deemed to be unacceptable due to a failure to meet the demands of health and safety regulations. What plans does the Welsh Assembly Government have to help community-based projects in this respect, to enable the continuity of their good work?

2.10 p.m.

Edwina Hart: Village halls, chapels, church halls and so on are good community vehicles. They are sometimes the only places where groups can meet. We have tried, via CFAP, to encourage all such organisations to apply for funding for health and safety improvements and disability access. Slowly but surely, people are applying and are receiving cash assistance. However, there will never be enough money in the system to do up all the halls in Wales that need doing up.

Jeff Cuthbert: Kids in Caerphilly Krazee—or KICK, as it is commonly known—is a voluntary organisation that works with young people, offering advice and support on issues such as housing and sexual health. Recently, with the support of the borough council and the Assembly, it tried to create and open a skateboard park for local young people, but, for reasons largely beyond its control, this proved to be impossible, and it had to hand the project over to the council. Do you share my irritation that, rather than offering to help KICK, a political organisation in Caerphilly has gone to the media complaining about our support for the organisation? Do you agree that we should always be vigilant about using public money, but that we should also support local organisations like KICK, even if things do not work out quite as it was

bwynt dilys ar y mater hwn, ac efallai ei fod yn rhywbeth y gallwn ei godi gyda Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru o ran gwaith pellach y gallai ei wneud yn y cyswllt hwnnw.

Brynle Williams: Er gwaethaf y gwaith gwych a wneir gan nifer o brosiectau sydd â'u gwreiddiau yn y gymuned ledled Cymru, byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r problemau a wynebant wrth geisio sicrhau mannau cyfarfod addas. Mae lleoliadau megis capeli a neuaddau pentref yn aml ar gael, ond bernir eu bod yn annerbyniol oherwydd methu bodloni gofynion rheoliadau iechyd a diogelwch. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i helpu prosiectau sydd â'u gwreiddiau yn y gymuned yn hyn o beth, i alluogi eu gwaith da i barhau?

Edwina Hart: Mae neuaddau pentref, capeli, neuaddau eglwysi ac ati yn ganolfannau cymunedol da. Weithiau dyna'r unig leoedd lle gall grwpiau gyfarfod. Yr ydym, drwy'r rhaglen cyfleusterau a gweithgareddau cymunedol, wedi ceisio annog pob sefydliad o'r fath i wneud cais am arian ar gyfer gwelliannau iechyd a diogelwch a mynediad i'r anabl. Yn raddol, mae pobl yn gwneud cais ac yn cael cymorth ariannol. Fodd bynnag, ni fydd byth digon o arian yn y system i adnewyddu pob neuadd yng Nghymru y mae angen ei hadnewyddu.

Jeff Cuthbert: Mae Kids in Caerphilly Krazee—neu KICK, fel y'i gelwir—yn sefydliad gwirfoddol sy'n gweithio gyda phobl ifanc, yn cynnig cyngor a chymorth ar faterion megis tai ac iechyd rhyw. Yn ddiweddar, gyda chymorth y cyngor bwrdeistref a'r Cynulliad, ceisiodd greu ac agor parc sgrialu i bobl ifanc leol. Ond am resymau y tu hwnt i'w reolaeth yn bennaf, yr oedd hynny'n amhosibl, a bu'n rhaid iddo drosglwyddo'r prosiect i ddwylo'r cyngor. A ydych chi, fel finnau, yn ddig fod sefydliad gwleidyddol yng Nghaerffili, yn hytrach na chynnig cymorth i KICK, wedi cysylltu â'r cyfryngau i gwyno am ein cymorth i'r sefydliad? A ydych yn cytuno y dylem fod yn ofalus bob amser ynghylch defnyddio arian cyhoeddus, ond y dylem hefyd gefnogi sefydliadau lleol fel KICK, hyd yn oed os na

hoped that they would?

Edwina Hart: You have outlined properly what Communities First is about. It is about communities taking responsibility for their own regeneration by trying to get projects off the ground. At the end of the day, we must be prepared to accept the risk that things do not always work out as planned; groups do not always get on in our towns and villages, and do not achieve agreement. It is important that we recognise that that is the basis of Communities First. As long as there is no financial irregularity, we have to live with the fact that not all projects will be successful, and move on. The experience gained allows us to run better projects.

fydd pethau'n mynd fel yr oeddent wedi gobeithio?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydych wedi amlinellu'n gywir beth yw hanfod Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae'n ymwneud â chymunedau'n cymryd cyfrifoldeb dros adfywio'u hunain drwy geisio sefydlu prosiectau. Yn y pen draw, rhaid inni fod yn barod i dderbyn y risg nad yw pethau bob amser yn mynd fel y bwriadwyd; nid yw grwpiau bob amser yn cytuno yn ein trefi a'n pentrefi, ac nid ydynt yn dod i gytundeb. Mae'n bwysig inni gydnabod mai dyna sail Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Cyn belled nad oes afreoleidd-dra ariannol, rhaid inni dderbyn y ffaith na fydd pob prosiect yn llwyddo, a symud ymlaen. Mae'r profiad yn sgîl hynny yn ein galluogi i redeg gwell prosiectau.

Gwirfoddoli Volunteering

Q6 Sandy Mewies: What is the Welsh Assembly Government doing to encourage volunteering in Wales? OAQ0357(SJR)

C6 Sandy Mewies: Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i hybu gwirfoddoli yng Nghymru? OAQ0357(SJR)

Edwina Hart: This year, 2005, is the UK Year of the Volunteer. We have mounted a national media campaign to encourage more people to volunteer. We have established a new one-stop phonenumber for volunteering, which builds on the success of the existing national volunteering website.

Edwina Hart: Eleni, sef 2005, yw Blwyddyn y Gwirfoddolwyr. Yr ydym wedi lansio ymgyrch genedlaethol yn y cyfryngau i annog rhagor o bobl i wirfoddoli. Yr ydym wedi sefydlu llinell ffôn un cam newydd i bobl sy'n gwirfoddoli, sy'n adeiladu ar lwyddiant y wefan wirfoddoli genedlaethol bresennol.

Sandy Mewies: You and I have visited Flintshire Local Voluntary Council on several occasions and seen the exciting work that goes on there, including the work of its volunteer bureau. Among other things, the bureau helps those who need support to enter the volunteering field. It is now keen to encourage people to work with health organisations, in areas such as mental health advocacy, and to work with older people; that was brought about, in part, by the publication of the older people's strategy. What can the Welsh Assembly Government do to encourage and support these aims?

Sandy Mewies: Yr ydych chi a minnau wedi ymweld â Chyngor Gwirfoddol Lleol Sir y Fflint lawer gwaith ac wedi gweld y gwaith cyffrous a wneir yno, gan gynnwys gwaith ei ganolfan gwirfoddolwyr. Ymysg pethau eraill, mae'r ganolfan yn helpu'r rhai y mae angen cymorth arnynt i weithio yn y maes gwirfoddol. Mae bellach yn awyddus i annog pobl i weithio gyda sefydliadau iechyd, mewn meysydd fel eiriolaeth iechyd meddwl, a gweithio gyda phobl hŷn; deilliodd hynny'n rhannol o gyhoeddi'r strategaeth ar gyfer pobl hŷn. Beth y gall Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei wneud i annog y nodau hyn a'u cefnogi?

Edwina Hart: It is important that we support those aims in all our actions, and that we properly facilitate things. The voluntary bureau is doing an excellent job, but we must

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig inni gefnogi'r nodau hynny ymhob peth a wnawn, a hwyluso pethau'n briodol. Mae'r ganolfan wirfoddol yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog, ond

demonstrate what we do as an Assembly Government, and lead by example. As you know, we decided this year to promote volunteering more widely within the Assembly. We have a volunteering secondments manager, who is on a 12-month secondment, who will need to work with people to deal with the issues that arise. Part of the manager's role will be to promote employee volunteering within the Assembly and in other public bodies. The Assembly is putting its own house in order on volunteering, which sets a good example for other public bodies.

Eleanor Burnham: You are probably aware of the Rural Stress Information Network; its representatives were talking to me this morning. It is one of many groups suffering from stress and strain because of well-intentioned short-term initiatives as opposed to long-term core funding. What will you do to help with this kind of activity and group?

Edwina Hart: We now have agreements on funding with the voluntary sector, which will allow long-term funding. Three years is nice, but it would be nice to go even further with our agreements. I hope that that will help to alleviate the position in the long term.

David Melding: You may know that the Bobath is an exemplary voluntary organisation; representatives are here in the Assembly today to show its services for children with cerebral palsy. You were good enough to visit the organisation earlier today. Large voluntary organisations that provide specialised tertiary services on an all-Wales basis often have a funding problem, as they have to apply to 22 local health boards or local authorities. Is there anything we can do to develop a more centralised strategy for the funding of these excellent organisations?

Edwina Hart: I do not think that these are the only bodies that will be affected, and, after my discussions, I am minded to raise the matter with the Minister for Health and Social Services.

rhaid inni ddangos yr hyn a wnawn fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, a dangos esiampl. Fel y gwyddoch, eleni penderfynwyd y byddem yn hybu gwirfoddoli'n ehangach yn y Cynulliad. Mae gennym reolwr secondiadau gwirfoddoli, sydd ar secondiad am 12 mis. Bydd angen iddo weithio gyda phobl i ymdrin â'r problemau sy'n codi. Rhan o rôl y rheolwr fydd hyrwyddo gwirfoddoli ymysg pobl sy'n cael eu cyflogi yn y Cynulliad a chyrrff cyhoeddus eraill. Mae'r Cynulliad yn rhoi trefn ar ei faterion ei hun o ran gwirfoddoli, sy'n gosod esiampl dda i gyrrff cyhoeddus eraill.

Eleanor Burnham: Mae'n siŵr eich bod yn gwybod am y Rhwydwaith Gwybodaeth Gofid Cefn Gwlad. Bu ei gynrychiolwyr yn siarad â mi y bore yma. Mae'n un o nifer o grwpiau sy'n dioddef gofid a straen oherwydd mentrau byrdymor sy'n llawn bwriadau da yn hytrach nag arian craidd hirdymor. Beth fyddwch yn ei wneud i helpu gyda'r math hwn o weithgarwch a'r math hwn o grŵp?

Edwina Hart: Mae gennym bellach gytundebau ar ariannu gyda'r sector gwirfoddol a fydd yn caniatáu cyllid hirdymor. Mae tair blynedd yn braf, ond byddai'n braf mynd hyd yn oed ymhellach gyda'n cytundebau. Gobeithio y bydd hynny o gymorth i liniaru'r sefyllfa yn yr hirdymor.

David Melding: Efallai y gwyddoch fod Bobath yn sefydliad gwirfoddol rhagorol; mae ganddo gynrychiolwyr yma yn y Cynulliad heddiw i ddangos ei wasanaethau ar gyfer plant sydd â pharlys yr ymennydd. Buoch yn ymweld â'r sefydliad yn gynharach heddiw. Mae gan sefydliadau gwirfoddol mawr sy'n darparu gwasanaethau trydyddol arbenigol i Gymru gyfan broblem ariannu yn aml, gan fod yn rhaid iddynt wneud cais i 22 o fyrddau iechyd lleol neu awdurdodau lleol. A oes unrhyw beth y gallwn ei wneud i ddatblygu strategaeth fwy canolog i ariannu'r sefydliadau gwych hyn?

Edwina Hart: Nid wyf yn credu mai'r rhain yw'r unig sefydliadau yr effeithir arnynt, ac ar ôl fy nhrafodaethau, mae'n fwriad gennyf godi'r mater gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Tai Cymdeithasol ar gyfer Pobl Hŷn
Social Housing for Older People

Q7 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of social housing for older people? OAQ0404(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The provision of social housing for older people is one of the key bidding themes under the social housing grant programme. In 2005-06, we have allocated approximately £7.7 million under this theme and expect to allocate at least £10 million in 2006-07 and £20 million in 2007-08 to meet priorities identified in the Wanless report.

Lisa Francis: You will know about the Homes Mobility scheme, which can be used to help elderly people move to another area, for example, if they are sick and need to be closer to relatives. Could this scheme be available to senior citizens who live in a house on which there exists a property covenant, or must each case be assessed on its individual merit?

Edwina Hart: I will take advice from officials, and seek legal advice on the covenant issue, and come back to you.

Catherine Thomas: Do you share my concerns with regard to the lack of sensitive letting in the housing policies of many local authorities? This can lead to stressful situations for many of our older people. I refer to instances in my constituency of Llanelli, especially in Communities First wards, where older people live next door to individuals with acute alcohol or drug problems and who need help; because of their anti-social behaviour, they make life extremely stressful for older citizens.

Edwina Hart: This theme has been brought to my attention through correspondence from many Assembly Members. There are concerns about how to allocate places in council property, and other property. I am looking at this matter, Catherine, and I have discussed with officials the need to look at whether people applying for housing have family support networks and whether this should be part of the decision on housing

C7 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddarparu tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer pobl hŷn? OAQ0404(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae darparu tai cymdeithasol ar gyfer pobl hŷn yn un o'r themâu allweddol wrth wneud cais dan y rhaglen grantiau tai cymdeithasol. Yn 2005-06, yr ydym wedi neilltuo tua £7.7 miliwn dan y thema hon, a disgwyliwn neilltuo o leiaf £10 miliwn yn 2006-07 ac £20 miliwn yn 2007-08 i fodloni blaenoriaethau a nodwyd yn adroddiad Wanless.

Lisa Francis: Fe wyddoch am y cynllun symud HOMES, y gellir ei ddefnyddio i helpu pobl oedrannus i symud i ardal arall, er enghraifft, os ydynt yn sâl ac os bydd angen iddynt fod yn nes at berthnasau. A allai'r cynllun hwn fod ar gael i bensynwyr sy'n byw mewn tŷ lle mae cyfamod eiddo, neu a oes rhaid asesu pob achos yn ôl ei deilyngdod ei hun?

Edwina Hart: Byddaf yn gofyn am gyngor gan swyddogion, a chael cyngor cyfreithiol ar y cyfamod, a rhoi ateb ichi.

Catherine Thomas: A ydych chi, fel finnau, yn pryderu ynghylch y diffyg sensitifrwydd wrth osod tai ym mholisiau tai nifer o awdurdodau lleol? Gall hyn arwain at sefyllfaoedd sy'n achosi straen i nifer o'n pobl hŷn. Cyfeirïaf at enghreifftiau yn fy etholaeth i yn Llanelli, yn enwedig yn y wardiau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, lle mae pobl hŷn yn byw drws nesaf i unigolion sydd â phroblemau alcohol neu gyffuriau difrifol ac mae angen cymorth arnynt; oherwydd eu hymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol maent yn gwneud bywyd yn anodd iawn i bobl hŷn.

Edwina Hart: Tynnwyd fy sylw at y thema hon drwy ohebiaeth gan nifer o Aelodau Cynulliad. Mae pryderon ynghylch sut i ddyrannu lleoedd o ran eiddo cynghorau, ac mewn eiddo arall. Yr wyf yn ymchwilio i'r mater hwn, Catherine, ac yr wyf wedi trafod gyda swyddogion yr angen am ystyried a oes gan bobl sy'n gwneud cais am dai rwydweithiau cymorth teulu, ac a ddylai hyn fod yn rhan o'r penderfyniad i roi tai iddynt a

them and where to house them. These issues are part of ongoing discussions, and I will report shortly on developments to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee.

Peter Black: Vast amounts of Assembly funding for new housing is spent on social housing built by housing associations. However, many local authorities are finding it difficult to get housing associations to tie in with their agendas in relation to the allocation of housing. This issue relates to homeless people and other applicants. Although local authorities have, in many instances, 50 per cent nomination rights, housing associations are picking and choosing when it comes to allowing people to join their waiting lists and the allocation of housing. In your role as Minister and regulator of housing associations, are you able to take action to address this problem?

Edwina Hart: I welcome your question, Peter. As a result, I will ask my officials to look at the position throughout Wales to gain an impression of what is going on before I take any decisions on the matter.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Weinidog, gwn eich bod wedi ymdrechu i gynnal archwiliad o dai cymdeithasol drwy Gymru gyfan. Faint o lwyddiant a gawsoch yn gyffredinol, ac yn benodol o ran tai i bobl hŷn? A yw rhai awdurdodau lleol yn parhau i beidio â rhoi'r wybodaeth hon ichi?

Edwina Hart: We are starting to establish quite a good relationship with local authorities in terms of the provision of information. I think that a lot more interest in providing housing for older people is emerging. I have had many discussions recently with local government about projects for older people, and I look forward to the bids coming through in terms of the Wanless money.

ble i roi tai iddynt. Mae'r materion hyn yn rhan o drafodaethau sy'n parhau, a byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad ar y datblygiadau cyn bo hir i'r Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio.

Peter Black: Gwerir llawer iawn o arian y Cynulliad ar gyfer tai newydd ar dai cymdeithasol wedi'u codi gan gymdeithasau tai. Fodd bynnag, mae nifer o awdurdodau lleol yn ei chael yn anodd cael cymdeithasau tai i ddilyn eu agenda o ran dyrannu tai. Mae'r mater hwn yn berthnasol i bobl ddigartref ac ymgeiswyr eraill. Er bod gan awdurdodau lleol, mewn llawer achos, hawl i wneud 50 y cant o'r enwebiadau, bydd cymdeithasau tai yn dewis a dethol wrth ganiatáu i bobl ymuno â'u rhestrau aros a dyrannu tai. Yn eich swyddogaeth chi fel Gweinidog a rheoleiddiwr cymdeithasau tai, a allwch weithredu i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon?

Edwina Hart: Croesawaf eich cwestiwn, Peter. O ganlyniad, byddaf yn gofyn i'm swyddogion edrych ar y sefyllfa ledled Cymru er mwyn cael argraff o'r hyn sy'n digwydd, cyn imi wneud penderfyniad ar y mater.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Minister, I am aware of your attempts to conduct an audit of social housing throughout Wales. How successful have you been in this regard in general, but particularly in relation to housing for older people? Is it the case that the information is still not forthcoming from some local authorities?

Edwina Hart: Yr ydym yn dechrau sefydlu perthynas eithaf da gydag awdurdodau lleol o ran darparu gwybodaeth. Credaf fod llawer mwy o ddiddordeb yn awr mewn darparu tai i bobl hŷn. Yr wyf wedi cael llawer trafodaeth yn ddiweddar gyda llywodraeth leol ynghylch prosiectau i bobl hŷn, ac edrychaf ymlaen at weld y ceisiadau'n cael eu cyflwyno ar gyfer arian Wanless.

Dyfodol Ariannu Cymunedau yn Gyntaf The Future Funding of Communities First

Q8 The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Will the Minister make a statement on the future

C8 Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol

funding of Communities First?
OAQ0386(SJR)

Edwina Hart: In the 2005-06 financial year, just over £34 million has been allocated to Communities First, with indicative levels of £39 million in 2006-07 and just over £55 million in 2007-08.

Michael German: The new index of multiple deprivation gives you some opportunity to extend the programme in different areas. One of the big problems that sometimes occurs—and I can think of numerous wards where it happens—is that part of a ward is eligible for a Communities First route but is not adjacent to another Communities First ward, and, therefore, it is difficult to see it in isolation. What is your policy on allowing parts of wards in this position to be part of the Communities First programme?

Edwina Hart: I have made it clear that I welcome the publication of the new index, but there is a huge amount of work, some of which you have alluded to, that I must assess before I make up my mind on how to take forward these issues.

2.20 p.m.

You will, therefore, have to hang on and watch this space from my point of view, because I will not be rushed into decisions. I have indicated to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee that we need to have a full discussion on the index, and think about how we are going to work things through. It is also important that I consult with communities within those local authority areas. People give me examples of wealthy areas that are in and poor areas that are not; the fact that one area has money, while another does not, does not mean that it is not a community. Therefore, we have to make careful decisions on this. I will not be rushed, and will probably be considering it well into the new year, if I am also to consult outside.

Lorraine Barrett: You will be aware, given the comments that you have just made, that, unfortunately, Butetown no. 2 ward, in my

ariannu Cymunedau yn Gyntaf?
OAQ0386(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Yn y flwyddyn ariannol 2005-06 neilltuwyd ychydig dros £34 miliwn i Gymunedau yn Gyntaf, gyda lefelau dangosol o £39 miliwn yn 2006-07 ac ychydig dros £55 miliwn yn 2007-08.

Michael German: Mae'r mynegai amddifadedd lluosog newydd yn rhoi ychydig gyfle ichi ymestyn y rhaglen mewn gwahanol feysydd. Un o'r problemau mawr sy'n codi weithiau—a gallaf feddwl am lawer ward lle mae hynny'n digwydd—yw bod rhan o ward yn gymwys i ddilyn llwybr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ond nad yw'r ward gyfagos yn ward Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac o'r herwydd mae'n anodd ei hystyried ar wahân. Beth yw eich polisi ar ganiatáu i rannau o wardiau yn y sefyllfa hon fod yn rhan o'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf?

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf wedi pwysleisio fy mod yn croesawu cyhoeddi'r mynegai newydd, ond mae llawer iawn o waith, c yr ydych wedi cyfeirio at ryw faint ohono, y mae'n rhaid imi ei asesu cyn penderfynu sut i fwrw ymlaen â'r materion hyn.

Bydd yn rhaid ichi, felly, aros i weld pethau o'm safbwynt i, oherwydd nid wyf am ruthro i wneud penderfyniadau. Yr wyf wedi dweud wrth y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio ei bod yn rhaid inni gael trafodaeth lawn ar y mynegai, a meddwl sut i ddatrys pethau. Mae'n bwysig hefyd imi ymgynghori â chymunedau yn ardaloedd yr awdurdodau lleol hynny. Mae pobl yn rhoi enghreifftiau imi o ardaloedd cyfoethog sydd yn y wardiau hynny ac ardaloedd tlawd nad ydynt; nid yw'r ffaith fod arian gan un ardal, ac ardal arall heb ddim, yn golygu nad yw'n gymuned. Felly, rhaid inni wneud penderfyniadau gofalus ar hyn. Nid wyf am ruthro, ac mae'n fwy na thebyg y byddaf yn parhau i'w ystyried yn ystod y flwyddyn newydd, os ydwyf hefyd i ymgynghori'n allanol.

Lorraine Barrett: Gwyddoch, o gofio'r sylwadau yr ydych newydd eu gwneud, fod ward Butetown rhif 2, yn fy etholaeth i, wedi

constituency, achieves the highest overall deprivation score in Wales in the new index of multiple deprivation. Will you give a commitment to review the Communities First programme to ensure that resources can be targeted at communities like Butetown, and do your utmost to protect funding against any potential cut as a result of the opposition's uncosted budget wish lists?

Edwina Hart: I hope that my budget remains in my Communities First line, and that no changes are made to it. I already have enough projects on line to spend the money available. In terms of any additions to what we may do, it is too soon to say how we will deal with it. It is important to recognise that we have given a funding commitment to some communities, telling them that it would be a 10-year commitment. They will also have to work through their programmes, and we will then have to look at what we are going to put on from the new index. I have not made up my mind about this. That is why I have decided to consult the communities and stakeholders concerned, to get their views on how we structure it. In order to have a genuine community focus on this, it is important that communities are involved in the discussion about what we might do as a Government.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Nodais, gyda diddordeb, eich ple ynglŷn â'ch cyllideb chi yn y trafodaethau ar y gyllideb ddrafft, ond rhoddaf hynny o'r neilltu am eiliad. Yr oeddwn yn gwranddo'n ofalus ar eich ateb i Mike German ar y mynegai amddifadedd lluosog. Byddwch yn ymwybodol fod nifer o bartneriaethau cymunedol ym Môn, er enghraifft, yn hynod bryderus ynglŷn â'u cynlluniau. Er ein bod yn croesawu'r ffaith y byddwch yn edrych ar y mater yn ofalus, bydd y pryder hwnnw'n parhau hyd nes y gallwch wneud datganiad clir. Mae'r cyrff hyn wedi cysylltu'n uniongyrchol â mi, ond a ydych chi, fel Gweinidog, yn ymwybodol o'r pryder hwnnw? Tra'ch bod yn ystyried y mater yn fwy gofalus, pa wybodaeth neu sicrwydd a allwch ei roi iddynt ynglŷn â'u cynlluniau ariannol?

cael y sgôr amddifadedd uchaf yng Nghymru yn y mynegai amddifadedd lluosog newydd, yn anffodus. A wnewch ymrwymo i adolygu'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf er mwyn sicrhau y gellir targedu adnoddau ar gyfer cymunedau fel Butetown, ac i wneud eich gorau glas i ddiogelu cyllid rhag unrhyw doriadau posibl oherwydd y rhestr dymuniadau gan y gwrthbleidiau sydd heb eu costio ar y gyllideb?

Edwina Hart: Gobeithio y bydd fy nghyllideb yn aros yn fy llinell Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac na chaiff ei newid. Mae gennyf ddigon o brosiectau ar y gweill eisoes i wario'r holl arian sydd ar gael. O ran unrhyw ychwanegiadau at yr hyn y gallem ei wneud, mae'n rhy gynnar dweud sut y byddwn yn ymdrin â hynny. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod ein bod wedi ymrwymo i roi arian i rai cymunedau, gan ddweud wrthynt y byddai'n ymrwymiad 10 mlynedd. Bydd yn rhaid iddynt hefyd weithio drwy eu rhaglenni, ac yna bydd yn rhaid inni edrych ar yr hyn y byddwn yn ei ychwanegu o'r mynegai newydd. Nid wyf wedi penderfynu ar hyn. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi penderfynu ymgynghori â'r cymunedau a'r rhanddeiliaid dan sylw, er mwyn cael eu barn am y ffordd y byddwn yn ei strwythuro. Er mwyn cael ffocws cymunedol gwirioneddol i hyn, mae'n bwysig i gymunedau gymryd rhan yn y drafodaeth am yr hyn y gallwn yn ei wneud fel Llywodraeth.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): I noted, with interest, your plea about your budget in the discussions on the draft budget, but I will put that to one side for now. I listened carefully to your response to Mike German on the index of multiple deprivation. You will know that many community partnerships in Anglesey, for example, are extremely concerned about their schemes. Although we welcome the fact that you are to look at this in detail, that concern will continue until you are able to make a clear statement. These organisations have contacted me directly, but are you, as Minister, aware of that concern? While you consider this in more detail, what assurance and information can you give them about their financial plans?

Edwina Hart: When we agreed on the Communities First programme, notwithstanding the ins and outs of the programme, there was general consensus across the four parties that it was good to have this type of focus. We said that this would be for a 10-year period, and I am not moving away from that position. I now have to consider what will happen with any new bits that may come in from the new index. There are many communities—such as the ones in Anglesey—which are quite worried. At the end of the day, the 10-year commitment was given to them on day one.

Leighton Andrews: I also urge you to withstand any attempts to cut your budget in favour of other places. This is an important budget, that we see working well in communities like Treherbert, which has an excellent food scheme, and Maerdy, where an excellent new health advice scheme has started. We see Communities First groups now running community facilities, as they are doing in Clydach Vale. However there are issues about some communities that were not included in the scheme. Rhondda Cynon Taf, under the previous administration, failed to include areas like Ynyswen and Blaenllechau in the scheme, even though they might have qualified as part wards had they been properly examined. I urge you, as you look again at the scheme, to think about whether it is possible to make adjustments in those areas.

Edwina Hart: I will be looking across the whole scheme, and I will be consulting my partners elsewhere on what I need to look at in terms of communities. You are right that some communities kicked off from day one with hard work. It is amazing what they are now achieving in terms of Communities First projects.

William Graham: Minister, would you look again at the criteria in respect of repeater wards?

Edwina Hart: You are probably concerned about the number of wards that seem to be

Edwina Hart: Pan gytnwyd ar y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, er gwaethaf manylion y rhaglen, yr oedd cytundeb barn cyffredinol ar draws y pedair plaid fod cael y math hwn o ffocws yn beth da. Dywedasom y byddai hyn yn digwydd am gyfnod o 10 mlynedd, ac nid wyf am newid y safbwynt hwnnw. Rhaid imi ystyried yn awr beth fydd yn digwydd gydag unrhyw geisiadau newydd a all ddod i mewn o'r mynegai newydd. Mae nifer o gymunedau—fel y rhai ym Môn—yn eithaf pryderus. Yn y pen draw, rhoddwyd yr ymrwymiad 10 mlynedd iddynt o'r cychwyn cyntaf.

Leighton Andrews: Erfyniaf finnau arnoch hefyd i wrthsefyll unrhyw ymgais i gwtogi eich cyllideb er budd manau eraill. Mae hon yn gyllideb bwysig, ac fe'i gwelwn yn gweithio'n dda mewn cymunedau fel Treherbert, sydd â chynllun bwyd ardderchog, a'r Maerdy, lle mae cynllun cyngor iechyd newydd ardderchog wedi cychwyn. Mae grwpiau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf erbyn hyn yn rhedeg cyfleusterau cymunedol, fel y gwneir yng Nghwm Clydach. Fodd bynnag, mae yna broblemau o ran rhai cymunedau nad oeddent wedi eu cynnwys yn y cynllun. Methodd Rhondda Cynon Taf, o dan y weinyddiaeth flaenorol, â chynnwys ardaloedd fel Ynys-wen a Blaenllechau yn y cynllun, er y gallent fod yn gymwys fel wardiau rhannol pe baent wedi eu harchwilio'n iawn. Erfyniaf arnoch, wrth ichi ailedrych ar y cynllun, i ystyried a yw'n bosibl gwneud addasiadau yn y manau hynny.

Edwina Hart: Byddaf yn edrych ar yr holl gynllun, a byddaf yn ymgynghori â'm partneriaid mewn lleoedd eraill ynghylch yr hyn y mae angen imi ei ystyried o ran cymunedau. Yr ydych yn gywir i ddweud bod rhai cymunedau wedi mynd ati i weithio'n galed o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Mae'r hyn maent yn ei gyflawni o ran prosiectau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn rhyfeddol.

William Graham: Weinidog, a wnewch edrych eto ar y meini prawf ar gyfer wardiau eildro?

Edwina Hart: Mae'n debyg eich bod yn pryderu am nifer y wardiau sydd fel pe baent

going in for similar types of work.

William Graham: Yes.

Edwina Hart: When we look at preparatory funding and other bids, we try to provide initial funding before going on into workers and so on. However, I am more than happy to pick up your point to see whether there are any unnecessary strands in that.

yn gwneud cais am waith tebyg.

William Graham: Ydwyf.

Edwina Hart: Wrth edrych ar gyllido paratoadol a cheisiadau eraill, byddwn yn ceisio darparu cyllid cychwynnol cyn ymdrin â gweithwyr, ac ati. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i fynd ar drywydd eich pwynt i weld a oes unrhyw feysydd diangen yn hynny.

Gorchmynion Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol Anti-social Behaviour Orders

Q9 Helen Mary Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the number of anti-social behaviour orders issued in Wales? OAQ0378(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The number of anti-social behaviour orders in Wales has risen steadily, but the uptake is still below that in England at 3 per cent of the total for England and Wales. This reflects the greater use here of other measures that curb nuisance behaviour before the last resort of an ASBO is implemented.

Helen Mary Jones: What are you doing to monitor the re-offending rates of individuals—particularly young people, but not necessarily only young people—who are issued with ASBOs? How are you ensuring that those people get access to opportunities such as training and education, which will hopefully prevent re-offending and reduce nuisance?

Edwina Hart: I cannot recall seeing any recent statistics on this, but I will have a look, with my officials, to see whether we have anything on re-offending on ASBOs, and put that in the Members' Library.

Jonathan Morgan: Do you think that the police should make more use of curfew orders in particular communities in Wales—and I am thinking of various parts of Cardiff—where anti-social behaviour has got to a level that they feel that their hands are

C9 Helen Mary Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am nifer y gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol sydd wedi eu cyhoeddi yng Nghymru? OAQ0378(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae nifer y gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yng Nghymru wedi codi'n gyson, ond mae llai'n cael eu defnyddio yma nag yn Lloegr o hyd, sef 3 y cant o'r cyfanswm ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu defnyddio yna fwy o fesurau eraill sy'n atal ymddygiad niwsans cyn gweithredu gorchymyn ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol pan fetho popeth arall.

Helen Mary Jones: Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i fonitro cyfradd aildroseddu unigolion—pobl ifanc yn arbennig, ond nid pobl ifanc yn unig, o reidrwydd—sy'n cael gorchymyn ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol? Sut yr ydych yn sicrhau bod y bobl hynny'n cael cyfleoedd fel hyfforddiant ac addysg, a fydd, gobeithio, yn eu rhwystro rhag aildroseddu ac yn lleihau niwsans?

Edwina Hart: Ni chofiaf weld unrhyw ystadegau diweddar ar hyn, ond byddaf yn edrych, gyda'm swyddogion, i weld a oes gennym unrhyw beth ar aildroseddu yn ystod gorchmynion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, ac yn rhoi hynny yn Llyfrgell yr Aelodau.

Jonathan Morgan: A ydych yn credu y dylai'r heddlu ddefnyddio gorchmynion cyrffyw yn amlach mewn cymunedau penodol yng Nghymru—ac yr wyf yn meddwl am wahanol rannau o Gaerdydd—lle mae ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol wedi

tied? Examples of curfew orders elsewhere have shown that they have reduced the instances of anti-social behaviour, and people feel much safer living in their communities.

Edwina Hart: This is a matter for the police; it will be an operational matter for them to consider. They have not told me that they feel that they have insufficient powers—if they did, I would make the appropriate representations. However, as you have raised it with me, I will raise it with the chief constables.

cyrraedd y fath lefel fel eu bod yn teimlo bod eu dwylo wedi eu clymu? Mae enghreifftiau o orchmynion cyrffiw mewn lleoedd eraill wedi dangos eu bod wedi lleihau nifer yr achosion o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, a bod pobl yn teimlo lawer yn fwy diogel yn byw yn eu cymunedau.

Edwina Hart: Mater i'r heddlu yw hwn; bydd yn fater gweithredol iddynt hwy ei ystyried. Nid ydynt wedi dweud wrthyf eu bod yn teimlo bod eu pwerau yn annigonol—pe baent yn dweud hynny, byddwn yn cyflwyno'r sylwadau priodol. Fodd bynnag, gan eich bod wedi codi hyn gyda mi, fe'i codaf gyda'r prif gwnstabiliaid.

Prif Lwyddiannau ym Maes Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio Main Achievements in the Field of Social Justice and Regeneration

Q10 Lynne Neagle: Will the Minister outline the Welsh Assembly Government's main achievements in the field of social justice and regeneration? OAQ0407(SJR)

C10 Lynne Neagle: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu prif lwyddiannau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ym maes cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio? OAQ0407(SJR)

Edwina Hart: 'Wales: A Better Country' has made a significant impact for social justice and regeneration. For example, 137 Communities First partnerships have been established, as well as 22 community safety partnerships; there are currently 51 active and completed renewal areas in Wales.

Edwina Hart: Mae 'Cymru: Gwlad Well' wedi cael effaith sylweddol o ran cyfiawnder cymdeithasol ac adfywio. Er enghraifft, mae 137 o bartneriaethau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf wedi eu sefydlu, yn ogystal â 22 o bartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol; ar hyn o bryd mae 51 o ardaloedd adnewyddu ar waith ac wedi eu cwblhau yng Nghymru.

Lynne Neagle: Following the recent publication of the index of multiple deprivation, what priorities have you identified for taking forward the Assembly Government's regeneration work in the Valleys?

Lynne Neagle: Yn dilyn cyhoeddi'r mynegai amddifadedd lluosog yn ddiweddar, pa flaenoriaethau yr ydych wedi eu nodi ar gyfer bwrw ymlaen â gwaith adfywio Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn y Cymoedd?

Edwina Hart: I am looking closely at the index and its implications, not only for my portfolio, but for other ministerial portfolios. My ministerial colleagues are also looking at the index, because it affects some of their work, and I will consult with various communities about how we can take issues forward.

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn edrych yn ofalus ar y mynegai a'i oblygiadau, nid yn unig i fy mhortffolio i, ond i bortffolio Gweinidogion eraill. Mae fy nghyd-Weinidogion hefyd yn edrych ar y mynegai, oherwydd mae'n effeithio ar rywfaint o'u gwaith hwy, a byddaf yn ymgynghori ag amrywiol gymunedau am y ffordd y gallwn fwrw ymlaen â'r materion hyn.

Leanne Wood: Members will be aware that there are due to be changes in the Supporting People budget. I am chair of a women's aid

Leanne Wood: Bydd Aelodau'n gwybod bod newidiadau i gael eu gwneud yn y gyllideb Cefnogi Pobl. Yr wyf yn gadeirydd

group in the Cynon valley, so I need to declare an interest. Our group—Cwm Cynon Women's Aid—and plenty of others like it, spend a large proportion of our Supporting People money. The group has no idea how much that will be cut by, or how it will plug the gap. How will you ensure that such groups can continue to provide the vital services that they already provide, and are you prepared to provide any transitional funding to enable those services to be provided while the new system comes into place?

Edwina Hart: On Supporting People, as you know, we have delayed transferring this to local government. I hope that that will give some necessary reassurance to the voluntary sector, which was concerned about what happened with the transfer of various issues. Therefore, I am monitoring this. Yours is not the first representation—directly or indirectly—that I have had from a women's aid group about concerns. On Supporting People, it was disappointing that we did not have the resources that we were going to have from the Treasury, and that has impacted across the sector. However, I hope that some of the measures that I am currently considering will assist.

grŵp cymorth i fenywod yng nghwm Cynon, felly, mae angen imi ddatgan buddiant. Mae ein grŵp ni—Cymorth i Fenywod Cwm Cynon—a digon o rai eraill tebyg iddo, yn gwario cyfran uchel o'n harian Cefnogi Pobl. Nid oes syniad gan y grŵp i ba raddau y bydd yr arian hwnnw'n cael ei gwtogir na sut y bydd y grŵp yn llenwi'r bwlch. Sut y byddwch yn sicrhau bod grwpiau o'r fath yn gallu parhau i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hanfodol y maent eisoes yn eu darparu, ac a ydych yn barod i ddarparu unrhyw gyllid pontio er mwyn galluogi darparu'r gwasanaethau hynny tra bydd y system newydd yn cael ei sefydlu?

Edwina Hart: O ran Cefnogi Pobl, fel y gwyrddoch, yr ydym wedi oedi cyn trosglwyddo hyn i lywodraeth leol. Gobeithio y bydd hynny'n rhoi rhyw sicrwydd angenrheidiol i'r sector gwirfoddol, a oedd yn poeni am yr hyn a ddigwyddodd wrth drosglwyddo amrywiol faterion. O'r herwydd, yr wyf yn monitro hyn. Nid eich sylw chi yw'r cyntaf imi ei gael—yn uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol—gan grŵp cymorth i fenywod ynghylch pryderon. O ran Cefnogi Pobl, yr oedd yn siom na chawsom yr adnoddau yr oeddem i'w cael gan y Trysorlys, ac mae hynny wedi cael effaith ar draws y sector. Fodd bynnag, gobeithio y bydd rhai o'r mesurau yr wyf yn eu hystyried ar hyn o bryd o gymorth.

Cynllun Cefnogi Pobl The Supporting People Initiative

Q11 Laura Anne Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the Supporting People initiative in Wales? OAQ0399(SJR)

C11 Laura Anne Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynllun Cefnogi Pobl yng Nghymru? OAQ0399(SJR)

Edwina Hart: The Supporting People initiative provides accommodation support, and includes services for a range of vulnerable people. Support provision is intended to allow the user to obtain and maintain independent accommodation by assisting to develop or maintain the necessary skills and confidence to live independently.

Edwina Hart: Mae'r fenter Cefnogi Pobl yn darparu cefnogaeth llety, ac yn cynnwys gwasanaethau i amrywiaeth o bobl fregus. Bwriedir darparu cefnogaeth i ganiatáu i'r defnyddiwr gael llety annibynnol a'i gynnal drwy gynorthwyo i ddatblygu neu gynnal y sgiliau a'r hyder angenrheidiol i fyw'n annibynnol.

Laura Anne Jones: This service provides vulnerable people with the chance to independently live at home. However, following the Labour Party's announcement to cut funds to this initiative, Newport City

Laura Ann Jones: Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn rhoi cyfle i bobl fregus fyw'n annibynnol gartref. Fodd bynnag, yn dilyn cyhoeddiad y Blaid Lafur y caiff cyllid i'r fenter hon ei gwtogi, cwtogwyd £677,000 oddi ar gyllid

Council, for example, had a massive £677,000 cut in funding for this initiative. How is the Assembly supporting local authorities every time the UK Treasury makes decisions that have an adverse impact on their budget?

2.30 p.m.

Edwina Hart: Let us get a few facts into my answer, which will be helpful. There was a large increase in the Supporting People budget, but it was not as large as we wanted from the Treasury; we believed that we were going to get £141 million, but we received £125 million. However, that is still far more than the fund had in the beginning, so we have put massive increases in, but the sum is just not as large as it could be. Local government is working within these resources, and it has not raised any issues with me recently about this matter. I am not sure whether my colleague, Sue Essex, has heard anything, but I believe that local government authorities can successfully manage the programme within the resources that they have. Like everyone else, they will always want more.

Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd, er enghraifft, ar gyfer y fenter hon. Sut y mae'r Cynulliad yn cefnogi awdurdodau lleol bob tro pan fydd Trysorlys y DU yn gwneud penderfyniadau sy'n cael effaith niweidiol ar eu cyllideb?

Edwina Hart: Rhoddaf ychydig o ffeithiau ichi yn fy ateb, a fydd yn ddefnyddiol. Cafwyd cynnydd mawr yn y gyllideb Cefnogi Pobl, ond nid oedd mor fawr ag yr oeddem wedi ei ddymuno gan y Trysorlys; yr oeddem yn disgwyl cael £141 miliwn, ond cawsom £125 miliwn. Fodd bynnag, mae hynny'n dal lawer yn fwy nag a oedd yn y gronfa ar y dechrau. Felly, yr ydym wedi cynyddu'r arian yn sylweddol, ond nid yw'r swm mor fawr ag y gallai fod. Mae llywodraeth leol yn gweithio o fewn yr adnoddau hyn, ac nid yw wedi codi unrhyw fater gyda mi yn ddiweddar ar y pwnc hwn. Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw fy nghyd-Aelod, Sue Essex, wedi clywed unrhyw beth, ond credaf y gall awdurdodau llywodraeth leol reoli'r rhaglen yn llwyddiannus o fewn yr adnoddau sydd ganddynt. Fel pawb arall, byddant bob amser am gael mwy.

Safon Ansawdd Tai Cymru The Welsh Housing Quality Standard

Q12 Christine Chapman: Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh housing quality standard? OAQ0381(SJR)

C12 Christine Chapman: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am safon ansawdd tai Cymru? OAQ0381(SJR)

Edwina Hart: All social landlords are well aware of the requirement to achieve the Welsh housing quality standard by 2012 and maintain it thereafter. My officials are in contact with local authorities and housing associations to ensure that their business plan proposals demonstrate achievement of the standard.

Edwina Hart: Mae pob landlord cymdeithasol yn ymwybodol iawn o'r gofyniad i sicrhau safon ansawdd tai Cymru erbyn 2012 ac i'w chynnal wedi hynny. Mae fy swyddogion mewn cysylltiad ag awdurdodau lleol a chymdeithasau tai er mwyn sicrhau bod y cynigion yn eu cynllun busnes yn dangos y gellir cyflawni'r safon.

Christine Chapman: I very much welcome the ambitious vision of the Welsh housing quality standard, which shows that we should not accept second best in terms of housing for people in Wales. How is the Welsh Assembly Government being proactive in supporting local authorities to achieve the standard, and, in particular, how are you promoting the community housing mutual model, which

Christine Chapman: Yr wyf yn croesawu'n fawr y weledigaeth uchelgeisiol yn safon ansawdd tai Cymru, sy'n dangos na ddylem dderbyn ail orau o ran tai ar gyfer pobl yng Nghymru. Sut mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cymryd camau rhagweithiol i gefnogi awdurdodau lleol i gyrraedd y safon, ac, yn benodol, sut yr ydych yn hyrwyddo'r model tai cymunedol cydfuddiannol, sy'n

serves to ensure that the economic benefits of any stock transfer remain under the control of the immediate community, and strongly binds this process to community regeneration?

Edwina Hart: When we are asked to go out, we very much promote that model, if that is what local authorities want. However, some local authorities have still not formally responded to some of the requests for details and information. Some are in discussions with my officials, and some of them are making good progress. There is a very mixed response across Wales, and that indicates that, although people shout a lot about housing, perhaps some local authorities in Wales do not take it as seriously as it deserves to be taken.

sicrhau bod buddiannau economaidd unrhyw stoc a drosglwyddir yn aros dan reolaeth y gymuned leol, ac yn cysylltu'r broses hon yn gadarn ag adfywio cymunedol?

Edwina Hart: Pan ofynnir inni fynd allan, byddwn yn hyrwyddo'r model hwnnw yn weithgar, os dyna yw dymuniad awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw rhai awdurdodau lleol wedi ymateb yn ffurfiol eto i rai o'r ceisiadau am fanylion a gwybodaeth. Mae rhai yn cael trafodaethau gyda'm swyddogion, ac mae rhai ohonynt yn gwneud cynnydd da. Mae ymateb cymysg iawn ar draws Cymru, ac mae hynny'n awgrymu, er bod pobl yn rhoi llawer o sylw i dai, efallai nad yw rhai awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn trin y mater mor ddifrifol ag y mae'n ei haeddu.

Gwirfoddoli Volunteering

Q13 Val Lloyd: Will the Minister make a statement on volunteering? OAQ0395(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Volunteering remains at the forefront of Assembly policy in 2005, which is the UK Year of the Volunteer, and, in partnership with the voluntary sector, we are arranging a programme of events carefully tailored to complement existing initiatives, as well as creating a number of events specifically celebrating the Year of the Volunteer.

Val Lloyd: Organisations that utilise volunteers often find it difficult to access sufficient funding, especially as and when the take-up of their services increases. One such organisation is Citizens Advice. Will you comment on the access to funding of this voluntary organisation?

Edwina Hart: Historically, Citizens Advice has always enjoyed funding from local government, and it has suffered as a result of cutbacks by local government to the voluntary sector.

C13 Val Lloyd: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am wirfoddoli? OAQ0395(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Mae gwirfoddoli yn dal yn flaenllaw ym mholisi'r Cynulliad yn 2005, sef Blwyddyn y Gwirfoddolwyr yn y DU, ac mewn partneriaeth â'r sector gwirfoddol yr ydym yn trefnu rhaglen o ddigwyddiadau wedi'i theilwra'n ofalus i ategu mentrau presennol, yn ogystal â chreu nifer o ddigwyddiadau penodol i ddathlu Blwyddyn y Gwirfoddolwyr.

Val Lloyd: Mae sefydliadau sy'n defnyddio gwirfoddolwyr yn aml yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael gafael ar arian digonol, yn enwedig pan fydd nifer y rhai sy'n defnyddio'u gwasanaethau yn cynyddu. Un sefydliad felly yw'r Ganolfan Cyngor ar Bopeth. A allwch wneud sylwadau ar y ffordd y mae'r sefydliad gwirfoddol hwn yn gallu cael arian?

Edwina Hart: Yn hanesyddol, mae'r Ganolfan Cyngor ar Bopeth wedi cael arian gan lywodraeth leol, ac mae wedi dioddef o ganlyniad i doriadau gan lywodraeth leol wrth ariannu'r sector gwirfoddol.

Lefelau Dyled Levels of Indebtedness

Q14 Mick Bates: Will the Minister make a

C14 Mick Bates: A wnaiff y Gweinidog

statement on levels of indebtedness in Wales?
OAQ0365(SJR)

Edwina Hart: I am concerned about the levels of personal debt in Wales, which is why the review of overindebtedness was undertaken by my Deputy Minister, Huw Lewis. The review made 10 specific recommendations for taking forward work in Wales, which were accepted, and the work is now focusing on an action plan to implement the recommendations.

Mick Bates: I am aware of the good work undertaken by Huw Lewis in this respect. However, educating young people in good financial management remains one of the best long-term investments. My local credit union, the Robert Owen Montgomeryshire Credit Union Ltd union based in Newtown, does tremendous work in primary schools, where saving takes place. However, once children move to secondary schools, there is a loss of enthusiasm for the principles of saving and good financial management. Will you find some funding that would help credit unions to go into secondary schools to assist young people in good financial management?

Edwina Hart: It is important that young people understand good financial management, which is why it is essential that it is taught in schools so that they can understand the benefits of saving. This is a budgetary matter to do with schools, and therefore, it is a matter for my colleague, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning.

ddatganiad am lefelau dyled yng Nghymru?
OAQ0365(SJR)

Edwina Hart: Yr wyf yn pryderu ynglŷn â lefelau dyledion personol yng Nghymru, a dyna pam y gwnaed yr adolygiad o orddyled gan fy Nirprwy Weinidog, Huw Lewis. Gwnaeth yr adolygiad 10 argymhelliad penodol ar gyfer datblygu gwaith yng Nghymru. Derbyniwyd yr argymhellion, ac mae'r gwaith bellach yn canolbwyntio ar gynllun gweithredu i roi'r argymhellion ar waith.

Mick Bates: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r gwaith da a wnaed gan Huw Lewis yn y cyswllt hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae addysgu pobl ifanc i reoli eu harian yn dda yn dal yn un o'r buddsoddiadau hirdymor gorau. Mae fy undeb credyd lleol, sef Undeb Credyd Robert Owen Sir Drefaldwyn Cyf yn y Drenewydd, yn gwneud gwaith ardderchog mewn ysgolion cynradd, lle mae cynilo yn digwydd. Fodd bynnag, ar ôl i blant symud i ysgolion uwchradd, collir y brwdfrydedd dros egwyddorion cynilo a rheoli arian yn dda. A wnewch chi ddod o hyd i ychydig arian a fyddai'n helpu undebau credyd i ymweld ag ysgolion uwchradd i gynorthwyo pobl ifanc i reoli arian yn dda?

Edwina Hart: Mae'n bwysig i bobl ifanc ddeall rheoli arian yn dda, a dyna pam mae'n hanfodol i hyn gael ei addysgu mewn ysgolion, fel y gallant ddeall manteision cynilo. Mater cyllidebol sy'n ymwneud ag ysgolion yw hwn, ac felly, mater i'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, ydyw.

Polisiâu Adfywio Regeneration Policies

Q15 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister provide an update on how her regeneration policies are helping mid Wales? OAQ0367(SJR)

Minister, we have been in correspondence on the Beth Shan drug and drink rehabilitation unit, and I know that you are as keen on these institutions as I am, but I encourage you to have a look at this, because it appears as though its funding has been cut specifically

C15 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r sefyllfa ddiweddaraf am y ffordd y mae ei pholisïau adfywio'n helpu canolbarth Cymru? OAQ0367(SJR)

Weinidog, yr ydym wedi bod yn gohebu ynghylch uned adsefydlu cyffuriau ac alcohol Beth Shan, a gwn eich bod mor frwdfrydig â minnau ynghylch y sefydliadau hyn. Ond fe'ch anogaf i edrych ar hyn, oherwydd ymddengys fod yr arian sydd ar gael iddo

because it is a Christian organisation. If it is open and accountable to all, I would argue that that is not a good reason for withdrawing funding from something that is doing so much good for the community.

Edwina Hart: We must be clear that the funding was withdrawn by Ceredigion County Council in June 2005. There is correspondence between us, so I have probably seen something on it. Leave the matter with me, Nick.

The Presiding Officer: Minister, I cannot think of any other questions that you might like to answer, and so we will move on to the next item: questions to the Minister for Economic Development and Transport.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Beat that.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Each Minister answers questions in his or her own way.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Are you ready, Minister?

The Presiding Officer: Order. That applies to supplementary questions from Members, as well. Let us move on and get on with it.

wedi'i leihau'n benodol oherwydd ei fod yn sefydliad Cristnogol. Os yw'n agored ac yn atebol i bawb, byddwn yn dadlau nad yw hynny'n rheswm da dros dynnu arian yn ôl oddi wrth rywbeth sydd mor fuddiol i'r gymuned.

Edwina Hart: Rhaid inni fod yn glir fod yrr arian wedi ei dynnu'n ôl gan Gyngor Sir Ceredigion ym Mehefin 2005. Mae gohebiaeth rhyngom, felly, mae'n debyg fy mod wedi gweld rhywbeth amdano. Gadewch y mater gyda mi, Nick.

Y Llywydd: Weinidog, ni allaf feddwl am unrhyw gwestiynau eraill y gallech fod am eu hateb, ac felly symudwn ymlaen i'r eitem nesaf: cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Dyna'r orau eto.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae pob Gweinidog yn ateb cwestiynau yn ei ffordd ei hun.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Ydych chi'n barod, Weinidog?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Mae hynny'n berthnasol i gwestiynau atodol gan Aelodau hefyd. Gadewch inni symud ymlaen a bwrw ati.

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth Questions to the Minister for Economic Development and Transport

Datblygu Ffordd Liniaru'r M4 M4 Relief Road Developments

Q1 Laura Anne Jones: Will the Minister provide an update on M4 relief road developments? OAQ0474(EDT)

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): The new M4 Magor to Castleton scheme is in phase 2 of the trunk road forward programme, which means that it could be ready to start by April 2010, subject, of course, to the completion of the necessary statutory procedures and the availability of finance.

Laura Anne Jones: I have brought to your attention many a time my concerns that this

C1 Laura Anne Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddatblygu ffordd liniaru'r M4? OAQ0474(EDT)

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Mae cynllun newydd yr M4 o Fagwyr i Gas-bach yng nghan 2 yn y flaenraglen cefnffyrdd, sy'n golygu y gallai fod yn barod erbyn mis Ebrill 2010, yn amodol, wrth gwrs, ar gwblhau'r gweithdrefnau statudol angenrheidiol a bod cyllid ar gael.

Laura Anne Jones: Yr wyf wedi sôn wrthy ch droeon am fy mhryderon na fydd y

relief road will not be ready by 2010, and you have just confirmed that it will not even start until 2010. What plans do you have in place to prepare Newport and the surrounding area for the Ryder Cup and the sheer volume of traffic that it is expected to bring in 2010? I am sure that you will agree that this needs to be treated with some degree of urgency, as the traffic infrastructure will have a huge bearing on the success of the event.

Andrew Davies: First of all, on the building of the new M4 link road, it was always made clear—such as when I made my statement last December on the revised transport programme—that this would be ready to start in 2010. It has always been clear, as we have to go through strategy procedures and consultation, and there is the possibility of a public inquiry. So, there is nothing new there, there is no foot-dragging and no delay.

On the Ryder Cup, we have always made it clear—and that is why we joined the Team Wales bid for it—that this is a huge opportunity for Wales. We are determined to maximise the opportunities not just for the south-east of Wales but for the whole of Wales, including the north and the south-west. My transport officials and I are working with Newport Unlimited, the local authority and others to handle the increased traffic that is expected during the Ryder Cup. As an aside, all sorts of doom and gloom were alleged about traffic flows at the eisteddfod in north-west Wales this year, but we took a pro-active role in that, I instructed my officials to engage with local stakeholders, and we managed the traffic flows on that occasion. I am confident that we will do so at the Ryder Cup as well.

Janet Davies: The Highways Agency published a report recently, which may well have relevance to your transport programme. It points out that the volume of traffic on both the M6 and the M6 toll road has doubled since the toll road was built, with the M6 carrying the same amount of traffic as it did previously, as well as queues building up at

ffordd liniaru hon yn barod erbyn 2010, ac yr ydych newydd gadarnhau na fydd hyd yn oed yn dechrau tan 2010. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych ar waith i baratoi Casnewydd a'r cyffiniau ar gyfer y Cwpan Ryder a'r traffig anferth a ddisgwylir yn sgîl hynny yn 2010? Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod angen mynd i'r afael â hyn ar fyrder, gan y bydd y seilwaith traffig yn dylanwadu'n fawr ar lwyddiant y digwyddiad.

Andrew Davies: Yn gyntaf oll, o ran adeiladu ffordd gyswllt newydd yr M4, eglurwyd o'r cychwyn-er enghraifft, pan wneuthum fy natganiad fis Rhagfyr diwethaf ar y rhaglen drafndiaeth ddiwygiedig-y byddai'r gwaith hwn yn barod i ddechrau yn 2010. Y mae wedi bod yn glir o'r cychwyn, gan fod angen inni fynd drwy weithdrefnau strategaeth ac ymgynghori, ac mae posibilrwydd cynnal ymchwiliad cyhoeddus. Felly, nid oes unrhyw dim yn newydd yn hyn: nid oes unrhyw lusgo traed nac oedi.

O ran y Cwpan Ryder, yr ydym wedi gwneud yn glir o'r cychwyn-a dyna pam y bu inni ymuno â chais Tîm Cymru am y gystadleuaeth-fod hwn yn gyfle enfawr i Gymru. Yr ydym yn benderfynol o wneud y gorau o'r cyfleoedd, nid ar gyfer y de-ddwyrain yn unig, ond ar gyfer Cymru gyfan, gan gynnwys y gogledd a'r de-orllewin. Mae fy swyddogion trafndiaeth a minnau'n gweithio gyda Newport Unlimited, yr awdurdod lleol ac eraill i fynd i'r afael â'r cynnydd yn y traffig a ddisgwylir yn ystod y Cwpan Ryder. Ar wahân i hynny, honnwyd y byddai pob math o drafferthion gyda llif y traffig yn yr eisteddfod yn y gogledd-orllewin eleni. Ond yr oedd gennym rôl weithredol yn hynny, rhoddais gyfarwyddyd i'm swyddogion i ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid lleol, a rheolwyd llif y traffig gennym ar yr achlysur hwnnw. Yr wyf yn hyderus y gwnawn hynny pan gynhelir y Cwpan Ryder hefyd.

Janet Davies: Cyhoeddwyd adroddiad gan yr Asiantaeth Priffyrdd yn ddiweddar, a allai fod yn berthnasol i'ch rhaglen drafndiaeth chi. Mae'n dweud bod y traffig ar yr M6 a thollffordd yr M6 wedi dyblu ers i'r dollffordd gael ei hadeiladu, gyda'r un faint draffig yn teithio ar hyd yr M6 ag a welid gynt, a rhesi o draffig yn crynhoi wrth y

the toll booth. In light of this, are you still convinced that the M4 relief road will be of real value to traffic through southern Gwent?

Andrew Davies: Very much so. The business case for it is as relevant, if not more so, as it was when I made it last December. Traffic growth in Wales is exceeding that in the UK generally, largely down to the success of our economic policies and the fact that more people have access to cars, and are using them more often. The problems of congestion in south-east Wales are the most acute in the whole of Wales, notwithstanding those in north-east Wales. Clearly, we have to deal with that issue.

As I said at the time of my statement last December and as I have reported to committee, the UK Government and the Secretary of State for Transport, Alistair Darling, have consulted on the issue of road pricing, so it may well be that, by the time the M4 is built and operational, we will have a national scheme of road pricing. The new M4 and the rest of the trunk road network in Wales may well be central to the delivery of that scheme.

dollfa. Yng ngoleuni hyn, a ydych yn dal wedi'ch argyhoeddi y bydd ffordd liniaru'r M4 o werth gwirioneddol i draffig sy'n teithio drwy dde Gwent?

Andrew Davies: Yn bendant. Mae'r achos busnes yr un mor berthnasol, os nad yn fwy perthnasol, ag ydoedd pan gyflwynais ef fis Rhagfyr diwethaf. Mae twf traffig yng Nghymru yn fwy na'r twf yn y DU yn gyffredinol, a hynny'n bennaf o ganlyniad i lwyddiant ein polisiau economaidd a'r ffaith fod mwy o bobl yn gallu defnyddio ceir, ac yn eu defnyddio'n amlach. Problemau tagfeydd yn y de-ddwyrain yw'r rhai mwyaf difrifol yng Nghymru, heb sôn am y rheini yn y gogledd-ddwyrain. Yn amlwg, rhaid inni ddelio â'r mater hwnnw.

Fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad fis Rhagfyr diwethaf, ac fel yr wyf wedi sôn wrth y pwyllgor, mae Llywodraeth y DU a'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth, Alistair Darling, wedi ymgynghori ar fater codi ffioedd am ddefnyddio ffyrdd. Felly, mae'n ddigon tebygol, pan fydd yr M4 wedi'i hadeiladu ac yn gweithio, y bydd gennym gynllun cenedlaethol ar gyfer codi ffioedd am ddefnyddio ffyrdd. Mae'n ddigon tebygol y bydd yr M4 newydd a gweddill y rhwydwaith cefnffyrdd yng Nghymru yn ganolog er mwyn cyflawni'r cynllun hwnnw.

Priffyrdd yng Nghaernarfon Trunk Roads in Caernarfon

C2 Alun Ffred Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am briffyrdd yng Nghaernarfon? OAQ0452(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The A487 trunk road through Caernarfon has two major improvements in the trunk road forward programme. The Porthmadog to Tremadog improvement is in phase 2 and the Caernarfon to Bontnewydd improvement in phase 3. A major maintenance scheme is to start shortly to refurbish the Caernarfon inner relief road flyover.

2.40 p.m.

Alun Ffred Jones: Gan gyfeirio at yr A487 o gwmpas Caernarfon yn benodol, ym mis Mai 2004, dywedodd Robin Shaw, eich

Q2 Alun Ffred Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on trunk roads in Caernarfon? OAQ0452(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Mae dau welliant mawr ar gefnffordd yr A487 drwy Gaernarfon wedi'u cynnwys yn y flaenraglen cefnffyrdd. Mae'r gwelliant rhwng Porthmadog a Thremadog yng nghanam 2 a'r gwelliant rhwng Caernarfon a'r Bontnewydd yng nghanam 3. Bydd cynllun cynnal a chadw mawr yn dechrau'n fuan i ailwampio'r drosffordd ar ffordd liniaru fewnol Caernarfon.

Alun Ffred Jones: With reference to the A487 around Caernarfon specifically, in May 2004, Robin Shaw, your transport director,

cyfarwyddwr trafniadaeth, bod y rhan hon o'r A487 wedi ei hadnabod fel lle a fydd yn dioddef o 'traffic stress'—beth bynnag yw hwnnw—erbyn 2012. Yn ôl y rhaglen, fel yr ydych newydd ei nodi, nid oes gwaith i fod i ddechrau yn yr ardal hyd nes 2010 ond, hyd y gwn i, nid oes gwaith rhagbaratoi wedi digwydd o gwbl hyd yn hyn. A wnewch chi addo y bydd astudiaeth ddichonoldeb yn cael ei gwneud yn fuan er mwyn rhoi'r broses ar waith i gyrraedd targed 2012?

Andrew Davies: Looking at the transport needs across Wales, including those in your constituency, as a Minister, I have to balance all sorts of pressures, not only in terms of traffic growth and congestion, but also finance. One issue that I have made clear on numerous occasions is the degree to which the transport grant programme is severely overprogrammed. I have said in the Chamber and in the Economic Development and Transport Committee that many road programmes, largely because of inflation costs, are now coming in two or three times over the current initial budget. I have to look at all developments in the round and decide in terms of each business case and the available finance which programmes will go ahead and which are justified in terms of Assembly Government finance. At this stage, I am not in a position to say that we will be going ahead with any particular road programme until I am able to look at the situation in the round.

Brynle Williams: On trunk roads, do you have any plans to realign certain parts of the A470 between Newtown and Llyswen, Brecon? I think that it could feasibly be done. I am not looking for a major scheme, but I think that this could go a long way towards aiding transportation from the north to the south and addressing the psychological barrier. Have you any plans to look at this sort of development? It is a matter of simple realignment in many areas.

Andrew Davies: The A470 is a priority, and 14 infrastructure improvement projects are in the trunk road forward programme. I will have to write to you on that specific one, but there are plans to upgrade the A470 to improve north-south road links.

said that this part of the A487 had been identified as an area that would suffer from 'traffic stress', whatever that may be, by 2012. According to the programme, as you have just outlined, work is not expected to start in the area until 2010. But as far as I am aware no preparatory work has yet been undertaken. Will you pledge to hold a feasibility study soon, so that the process may begin, with the aim of achieving the 2012 target?

Andrew Davies: O edrych ar yr anghenion trafniadaeth ar draws Cymru, gan gynnwys y rhai yn eich etholaeth chi, fel Gweinidog, rhaid imi sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng pob math o bwysau, nid yn unig o ran twf traffig a thagfeydd traffig, ond cyllid hefyd. Un mater yr wyf wedi'i bwysleisio droeon yw'r ffaith fod y rhaglen grant trafniadaeth wedi'i gor-raglennu'n ddifrifol. Yr wyf wedi dweud yn y Siambr ac yn y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth fod nifer o raglenni ffyrdd, oherwydd costau chwyddiant yn bennaf, yn awr yn cael eu cyflwyno ddwywaith neu dair yn uwch na'r gyllideb gychwynol gyfredol. Rhaid imi edrych ar yr holl ddatblygiadau yn gyffredinol a phenderfynu, o ran pob achos busnes a'r cyllid sydd ar gael, pa raglenni a fydd yn mynd rhagddynt a pha rai y gellir eu cyfiawnhau o ran cyllid Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Ar hyn o bryd, nid wyf mewn sefyllfa i ddweud y byddwn yn bwrw ymlaen ag unrhyw raglen ffyrdd benodol nes imi edrych ar y sefyllfa'n gyffredinol.

Brynle Williams: O ran cefnffyrdd, a oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i alinio rhannau penodol o'r A470 rhwng y Drenewydd a Llys-wen, Aberhonddu? Credaf y gellid gwneud hynny'n ymarferol. Nid wyf yn sôn am gynllun mawr, ond credaf y byddai hyn o gymorth mawr i hwyluso cludiant o'r gogledd i'r de a mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystr seicolegol. A oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i edrych ar y math hwn o ddatblygiad? Mater syml o alinio ydyw mewn llawer ardal.

Andrew Davies: Mae'r A470 yn flaenoriaeth, ac mae 14 o brosiectau gwella seilwaith wedi'u cynnwys yn y flaenraglen cefnffyrdd. Bydd yn rhaid imi ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r prosiect penodol hwnnw, ond mae yna gynlluniau i uwchraddio'r A470

i wella cysylltiadau rhwng y gogledd a'r de.

**Seilwaith Trafnidiaeth Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr
Carmarthen East and Dinefwr Transport Infrastructure**

C3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am seilwaith trafndiaeth Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr? OAQ0468(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The Assembly Government is continuing to invest in transport infrastructure throughout Wales, including in your constituency, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, in line with the vision set out in 'Wales: A Better Country' and the Wales spatial plan. I am determined to maintain this investment, which is why I announced my £8 billion, 15-year transport programme last December.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn falch i'ch clywed yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd y strwythur trafndiaeth o ran economi ardaloedd a hwylustod ar gyfer y bobl sy'n byw yno. Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at sefyllfa benodol yn Abergorlech. Mae pont yn y pentref sy'n ei gysylltu â phlwyf cyfagos. Mae'r bont honno yn hen bont yng ngofal Cadw ond erbyn hyn, mae'n rhy gul i lorïau ac offer amaethyddol i deithio ar ei hyd hi. A fydddech yn barod i dderbyn fy ngwahoddiad i ddod i'r ardal i drafod â chynghorau cymuned Abergorlech a Llanfynydd y broblem economaidd sy'n eu hwynebu oherwydd y bont hon?

Andrew Davies: I would be delighted to visit your constituency, as I would any other Member's, Rhodri Glyn. If time allows, I am more than happy to accept your invitation. On the specific issue that you outlined, I will ask officials to follow that up, and I will write to you on the current position.

Glyn Davies: Over recent years, Minister, the economic prospects of Pembroke Dock and Milford Haven have been transformed. What steps have you taken to change your investment plans to take account of the transformation of the area, and the consequence of the increased demand for connection to the motorway network that it

Q3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on transport infrastructure in Carmarthen East and Dinefwr? OAQ0468(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn dal i fuddsoddi yn y seilwaith trafndiaeth ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys yn eich etholaeth chi, Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr, yn unol â'r weledigaeth sydd wedi ei gosod allan yn 'Cymru: Gwlad Well' a chynllun gofodol Cymru. Yr wyf yn benderfynol o gynnal y buddsoddiad hwn, a dyna pam y cyhoeddais fy rhaglen drafndiaeth 15 mlynedd gwerth £8 biliwn fis Rhagfyr diwethaf.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I am pleased to hear you emphasise the importance of the transport infrastructure to the economy of areas and in terms of convenience for the people who live there. I refer you to a specific situation in Abergorlech. There is a bridge in the village linking it to a neighbouring parish. It is an old bridge in the care of Cadw, but by now it is too narrow for lorries and agricultural equipment to cross. Would you be prepared to accept my invitation to come to the area to meet the community councils of Abergorlech and Llanfynydd to discuss the economic problem facing them because of this bridge?

Andrew Davies: Byddai'n bleser gennyf ymweld â'ch etholaeth chi, fel etholaeth unrhyw Aelod arall, Rhodri Glyn. Os bydd amser yn caniatáu, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i dderbyn eich gwahoddiad. Ar y mater penodol a amlinellwyd gennych, gofynnaf i swyddogion fynd ar ei drywydd, ac ysgrifennaf atoch ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa bresennol.

Glyn Davies: Dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, Weinidog, trawsnewidiwyd rhagolygon economaidd Doc Penfro ac Aberdaugleddau. Pa gamau yr ydych wedi'u cymryd i newid eich cynlluniau buddsoddi i ystyried trawsnewid yr ardal, a chanlyniad y galw cynyddol am ei chysylltu â'r rhwydwaith priffyrdd y bydd hyn yn anochel yn ei olygu?

will inevitably mean?

Andrew Davies: You are quite right. There will be a transformation of the Pembrokeshire economy. We calculate that something like £2 billion will be invested in the liquid natural gas development in Milford Haven. Clearly, transport access is a huge issue. However, it is not just about Pembrokeshire, or even Carmarthenshire; it is about the whole of the M4, A48, A40 corridor, and not just to Pembrokeshire, but connecting to southern Ireland also. That is why, in the transport statement that I made last December, I announced plans to upgrade the A40 with the Llanddewi Velfrey and Robeston Wathen bypasses. That will significantly improve both access, and the transport infrastructure in south-west Wales.

Andrew Davies: Yr ydych yn hollol gywir. Bydd economi sir Benfro yn cael ei thrawsnewid. Amcangyfrifwn y bydd oddeutu £2 biliwn yn cael ei fuddsoddi yn y datblygiad nwy naturiol hylifol yn Aberdaugleddau. Yn amlwg, mae mynediad i drafnidiaeth yn broblem enfawr. Fodd bynnag, nid mater am sir Benfro na hyd yn oed sir Gaerfyrddin yn unig yw hwn; mae'n ymwneud â choridor cyfan yr M4, yr A48 a'r A40, ac nid sir Benfro yn unig, ond hefyd y cysylltiad â de Iwerddon. Dyna pam, yn y datganiad am drafnidiaeth a wneuthum fis Rhagfyr diwethaf, y cyhoeddais gynlluniau i uwchraddio'r A40 drwy ffyrdd osgoi yn Landdewi Felfrey a Robeston Wathen. Bydd hynny'n gwella mynediad a seilwaith trafnidiaeth yn y de-orllewin gryn dipyn.

Cymorth Rhanbarthol Dewisol Regional Selective Assistance

Q4 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on the level of regional selective assistance take-up by businesses in north Wales? OAQ0464(EDT)

C4 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am lefel y cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol a gafodd busnesau yn y Gogledd? OAQ0464(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Since the inception of the Assembly in 1999, 169 offers of RSA have been taken up, worth over £51 million, in north Wales. These offers are expected to create or safeguard over 7,500 jobs and lever in an additional £221 million of capital expenditure.

Andrew Davies: Ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad yn 1999, derbyniwyd 169 o gynigion cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, sy'n werth dros £51 miliwn, yn y gogledd. Disgwylir i'r cynigion hyn greu neu ddiogelu dros 7,500 o swyddi a denu £221 miliwn yn ychwanegol o wariant cyfalaf.

Janet Ryder: On the list published today of the top 55 companies that will get fast-track public support from the knowledge bank for business, only seven are in the north. Of those seven, only two—one in Bangor and one in Llanberis—are outside the Wrexham and Deeside area. In light of that, how do you intend to meet your obligation to increase the number of businesses operating throughout Wales, but particularly in north Wales, in relation to this, and to increase the number and diversity of jobs in the region?

Janet Ryder: Ar y rhestr a gyhoeddwyd heddiw o'r 55 o gwmnïau gorau a fydd yn cael cymorth cyhoeddus carlam o'r banc gwybodaeth ar gyfer busnesau, dim ond saith sydd yn y gogledd. O'r saith hynny, dim ond dau-un ym Mangor ac un yn Llanberis-sydd y tu allan i ardal Wrecsam a Glannau Dyfrdwy. Yng ngoleuni hynny, sut y bwriadwch gyflawni eich rhwymedigaeth i gynyddu nifer y busnesau sy'n gweithredu ledled Cymru, ond yn arbennig yn y gogledd, mewn cysylltiad â hyn, ac i gynyddu nifer ac amrywiaeth swyddi yn y rhanbarth?

Andrew Davies: You must bear in mind that the 42 companies that have been published on the list are just the companies that have

Andrew Davies: Rhaid ichi gadw mewn cof mai dim ond y cwmnïau a nodwyd ar y cychwyn, drwy amryw ffynonellau

been identified initially, through a variety of public and private sources, as companies with high-growth potential. As the knowledge bank grows and becomes more successful, the number of companies that will be assisted will increase. I am sure that many other companies in north Wales will benefit. We must bear in mind that the biggest company of all those named is Airbus, which makes a huge contribution to the north Wales economy, as well as the whole Welsh economy. That is not to say that other companies in north Wales or any other part of Wales will not be able to benefit from other services, regional selective assistance or Assembly investment grant over and above the knowledge bank support.

Brynle Williams: There was an announcement in north Wales at the beginning of the week of the loss of 100 jobs at Longslow Dairies. That is due in part to the decline of the dairy industry and its profitability as a whole. Can you assure me that all possible help will be afforded to these people? Is there a possibility that the building of the new Assembly offices in north Wales could be speeded up, because jobs like this are hard to come by? Can you give me some details on when this will begin?

Andrew Davies: On the dairy closure at Mochdre, I have been working with Carwyn Jones and, with our officials in the Welsh Development Agency, we will respond, as we do to any significant job loss announcement, with all the targeted support that we can provide. We have done it before, and we will do it again.

On the north Wales office, the challenge is for the opposition parties. In one of the debates on the budget last week, a cut in administration costs was proposed. If that is to be carried out by the opposition parties in a united form, there is a big question mark over both the north Wales and the mid Wales offices. I am sure that the newly elected Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Ceredigion will have a view on the attitude of his party in this Chamber.

cyhoeddus a phreifat fel cwmnïau sydd â photensial twf mawr, yw'r 42 o gwmnïau sydd wedi eu cyhoeddi ar y rhestr. Wrth i'r banc gwybodaeth dyfu a dod yn fwy llwyddiannus, bydd nifer y cwmnïau a gaiff gymorth yn cynyddu. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd nifer o gwmnïau eraill yn y gogledd yn elwa. Rhaid inni gadw mewn cof mai'r cwmni mwyaf o'r holl gwmnïau a enwyd yw Airbus, sy'n gwneud cyfraniad aruthrol i economi'r gogledd, yn ogystal ag economi Cymru gyfan. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na fydd cwmnïau eraill yn y gogledd neu unrhyw ran arall o Gymru yn gallu elwa o wasanaethau eraill, cymorth rhanbarthol dewisol neu grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad yn ychwanegol at gefnogaeth y gronfa wybodaeth.

Brynle Williams: Cyhoeddwyd yn y gogledd ar ddechrau'r wythnos fod 100 o swyddi yn cael eu colli yn Hufenfa Longslow. Y rheswm dros hyn yn rhannol yw'r crebachu yn y diwydiant llaeth a'i broffidoldeb yn gyffredinol. A allwch roi sicrwydd imi y rhoddir pob cymorth posibl i'r bobl hyn? A oes modd i'r gwaith o adeiladu swyddfeydd newydd y Cynulliad yn y gogledd ddechrau ynghynt, oherwydd mae'n anodd dod o hyd i swyddi fel y rhain? A allwch roi ychydig fanylion imi ynglŷn â phryd y bydd hyn yn dechrau?

Andrew Davies: O ran cau'r hufenfa ym Mochdre, yr wyf wedi bod yn gweithio gyda Carwyn Jones, a chyda'n swyddogion yn Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru byddwn yn ymateb, fel y gwnawn i unrhyw gyhoeddiad am golli nifer fawr o swyddi, drwy roi'r holl gymorth wedi'i dargedu ag y gallwn ei ddarparu. Yr ydym wedi gwneud hynny o'r blaen, a byddwn yn gwneud hynny eto.

O ran y swyddfa yn y gogledd, i'r gwrthbleidiau y mae'r her. Yn un o'r dadleuon ar y gyllideb yr wythnos diwethaf, cynigiwyd torri costau gweinyddu. Os bwriada'r gwrthbleidiau weithredu hynny'n unedig, bydd ansicrwydd mawr ynglŷn â'r swyddfa yn y gogledd a'r swyddfa yn y canolbarth. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd barn gan Aelod Seneddol y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol dros Geredigion ar agwedd ei blaid yn y Siambr hon.

**The Welsh Development Agency Merger Process
Proses Uno Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru**

C5 Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am broses uno Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru? OAQ0447(EDT)

Q5 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will the Minister provide an update on the WDA merger process? OAQ0447(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Good progress is being made on the merger of the Assembly sponsored public bodies.

Andrew Davies: Mae cynnydd da gyda'r broses uno cyrff cyhoeddus a noddir gan y Cynulliad.

2.50 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Tynnaf eich sylw at ddatganiad ynglŷn â newid a geir ym mholsi economaidd a diwydiannol y Llywodraeth yn sgîl yr uno, a'r pwyslais a ddaw ar gwmnïau sydd â'r potensial mwyaf i dyfu. Fe'ch llongyfarchaf ar y symudiad hwn gan ei fod yn bolisi clir ym maniffesto Plaid Cymru yn 2003, ac yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn ystyried bod gwerth yn ei gynnwys yn rhaglen y Llywodraeth. Er hynny, a dod yn ôl at bwynt Janet Ryder, o edrych ar y cwmnïau a grybwyllwyd yn barod, mae'r mwyafrif ohonynt naill ai o gwmpas yr M4 neu yn y de-ddwyrain a'r gogledd-ddwyrain. Prin yw'r cwmnïau sydd yn y gorllewin a'r gogledd-orllewin. Byddwch yn derbyn bod angen gweld hybu'r economi ym mhob rhan o Gymru. Pa addewid y gallwch ei roi y bydd y meini prawf a ddefnyddir gan y banc gwybodaeth yn sicrhau dosbarthiad tecach?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I draw your attention to a statement about a change that will occur in the Government's economic and industrial policy following the merger, and the emphasis then on companies with the greatest potential for growth. I congratulate you on this move as it was a clearly stated policy in the Plaid Cymru 2003 manifesto, and I am pleased you consider it worthy of inclusion in the Government's programme. However, to return to Janet Ryder's point, looking at the companies already been mentioned, the majority of them are either along the M4 corridor or in the south-east or the north-east. There are few companies in the west and the north-west. You will accept that there is a need to see the economy promoted in all parts of Wales. What promise can you give that the criteria used by the knowledge bank will ensure fairer distribution?

Andrew Davies: As a Government, we are absolutely committed to spreading prosperity across the whole of Wales. Having said that, if you look at the spatial distribution of businesses, it largely reflects population densities, and, ipso facto, you therefore get a greater density of companies and businesses in south-east and north-east Wales, which is where the largest concentrations of population are. However, as I said to Janet Ryder, notwithstanding that, these 42 companies have been identified by a range of organisations and companies in the private and public sectors. They are the initial 42 companies that have been identified as part of the pathfinder stage of the knowledge bank. I am confident that, when it is successful, the number of companies that will benefit from the commercially-focused support of the knowledge bank will increase and include

Andrew Davies: Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym wedi ymrwymo'n llwyr i ledaenu ffyniant ar draws Cymru gyfan. Wedi dweud hynny, os edrychwch ar ddsbarthiad gofodol busnesau, mae'n adlewyrchu dwyseddau'r boblogaeth i raddau helaeth, ac felly mae mwy o gwmnïau yn y de-ddwyrain a'r gogledd-ddwyrain, sef yr ardaloedd lle mae'r boblogaeth fwyaf. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais wrth Janet Ryder, er gwaethaf hynny, mae'r 42 o gwmnïau hyn wedi eu nodi gan amrywiaeth o sefydliadau a chwmnïau yn y sector preifat a'r sector cyhoeddus. Dyma'r 42 cwmni cyntaf i gel eu nodi fel rhan o gam arloesi'r banc gwybodaeth. Yr wyf yn ffyddiog, pan fydd yn llwyddiannus, y bydd nifer y cwmnïau a fydd yn elwa o gefnogaeth fasnachol y banc gwybodaeth yn cynyddu ac y byddant yn cynnwys llawer iawn mwy o gwmnïau yn y gogledd-orllewin, y de-

many more companies in north-west, south-west and, indeed, mid Wales.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod yn drysu'r cyhoedd wrth sôn am y ffigyrau hyn, ond mae'n bwysig pwysleisio'r ffaith eich bod yn dweud bod y dosbarthiad yn adlewyrchu'r boblogaeth, ond nid ydyw, Weinidog. Mae 20 y cant o boblogaeth Cymru yn y gogledd a 12 y cant o'r cwmnïau sydd yno. Felly, nid yw'n cyfateb â'r hyn yr ydych yn ei awgrymu. Yn sicr, mae poblogaeth y canolbarth a'r gorllewin yn llawer yn uwch na'r ganran o gwmnïau sydd yno. Peth arall sydd yn fy mhoeni yw ein bod yn gorfod edrych ar ardal Amcan 1, sef y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Os ydym i weld codi lefelau CMC y pen yn sylweddol yn yr ardal honno, rhaid hybu'r cwmnïau yno i dyfu, creu gwaith, a chryfhau'r economi. A ydych yn derbyn bod rhaid inni bwysleisio hynny yn y polisi newydd?

Andrew Davies: You say that it was your party's position to develop high-growth potential businesses, and, presumably, you would have done that on a commercial basis, and according to the business cases of companies, irrespective of where they were in Wales. You cannot have it both ways, and you will have to come to terms with that, Ieuan. We are looking at those companies with high-growth potential. We are not applying geographical spread as a criterion. That does not mean that other companies that have not been identified as being able to benefit from the focused commercial support of the knowledge bank will not be able to benefit from other Assembly Government, or Welsh public service support, be that funding or general business support. Indeed, these may well be companies in one of the technium centres: they will still get a focused support, it is just that they will not get that from the knowledge bank, at least not at this initial stage.

Leighton Andrews: One of the companies mentioned in the *Western Mail's* list of those to be potentially supported by the knowledge bank is Protecta Group Ltd in Williamstown in my constituency, and I was pleased to visit the company over the summer. The company has a very dedicated management and

orllewin ac, yn wir, y canolbarth.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am sure we are confusing the public by talking about these figures, but it is important to stress the fact that you say the distribution reflects the population. But it does not, Minister. Twenty per cent of the population of Wales is in the north and only 12 per cent of the companies are based there. Therefore, that does not correspond to what you are suggesting. Indeed, the population of mid Wales and the west is much higher than the percentage of companies located there. Another issue that concerns me is that we have to look at the Objective 1 region, west Wales and the Valleys. If we are to see a significant rise in GDP per capita in that region, then the companies located there must be encouraged to grow, create work, and strengthen the economy. Do you accept that we must emphasise that in the new policy?

Andrew Davies: Dywedwch mai safbwynt eich plaid oedd datblygu busnesau gyda photensial twf mawr, ac mae'n debyg y byddech wedi gwneud hynny ar sail fasnachol, ac yn ôl achosion busnes y cwmnïau, waeth ble yr oeddent yng Nghymru. Ni allwch gael y naill beth a'r llall, a bydd yn rhaid ichi ddod i delerau â hynny, Ieuan. Yr ydym yn edrych ar y cwmnïau hynny sydd â photensial twf mawr. Nid ydym yn defnyddio dosbarthiad daearyddol fel maen prawf. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na fydd cwmnïau na nodwyd fel rhai a fyddai'n gallu elwa o gefnogaeth fasnachol o'r banc gwybodaeth yn gallu elwa o gefnogaeth arall gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, neu gefnogaeth arall gan wasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, boed yn arian neu'n gefnogaeth fusnes gyffredinol. Yn wir, mae'n ddigon posibl fod y rhain yn gwmnïau yn un o'r canolfannau technium: byddant yn dal i gael cefnogaeth benodol, ond nid o'r banc gwybodaeth, o leiaf nid yn y cam cyntaf hwn.

Leighton Andrews: Un o'r cwmnïau a enwyd yn rhestr y *Western Mail* o gwmnïau a allai efallai gael eu cefnogi gan y banc gwybodaeth yw Protecta Group Cyf yn Williamstown yn fy etholaeth i, ac yr oedd yn bleser gennyf ymweld â'r cwmni dros yr haf. Mae gan y cwmni reolwyr a gweithlu

workforce. Can I encourage you to ensure that companies such as this one, which are in the Objective 1 area in the Valleys and which are seeking to expand, receive the support that they need?

Andrew Davies: I can give that commitment. As I said in to Ieuan Wyn Jones and Janet Ryder, we will support all companies wherever we are able to—within the law, obviously—with the knowledge bank. Initially, there are only 42 companies, but I am confident that the number will grow substantially. That does not mean, however, that other companies, many of which are in your constituency, Leighton, will not be able to benefit from other Assembly Government programmes.

Michael German: Minister, it was reported today that you propose to scrap the WDA brand name in the merger process. Can you confirm whether that is the case, and, if so, what are your reasons for doing so?

Andrew Davies: We have made it very clear that the brand is Wales, and not a particular organisation, whether the Assembly Government, WDA, Wales Tourist Board or Education and Learning Wales. One of the problems that we have at the moment—as a former Minister, you will know this from your visits overseas—is that when you are on an overseas visit, the brand is Wales; it is not an organisation, a logo or an organisational identity. That is the driving force behind what we are doing. We are trying to promote and brand Wales, and not a particular organisation.

Michael German: I suppose that you could say that ‘Welsh Assembly Government’ does not have quite the same ring to it as ‘Welsh Development Agency’. While it is right that you are trying to promote Wales, there is widespread agreement—particularly in the overseas market—that the WDA is well-known and much appreciated as a brand. Surely there must some way to use the brand name to continue the good work that it has brought to Wales, without losing the objective of promoting Wales. Are the two not reconcilable?

ymroddedig iawn. A allaf eich annog i sicrhau bod cwmnïau fel hwn, sydd yn ardal Amcan 1 yn y Cymoedd ac sy'n ceisio ehangu, yn cael y gefnogaeth y mae arnynt ei hangen?

Andrew Davies: Gallaf roi'r ymrwymiad hwnnw. Fel y dywedais wrth Ieuan Wyn Jones a Janet Ryder, byddwn yn cefnogi pob cwmni ble bynnag y gallwn—o fewn y gyfraith, wrth reswm—gyda'r banc gwybodaeth. Ar y dechrau, dim ond 42 o gwmnïau sydd, ond yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd y nifer yn tyfu'n sylweddol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n golygu na fydd cwmnïau eraill, nifer ohonynt yn eich etholaeth chi, Leighton, yn gallu elwa o raglenni eraill Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Michael German: Weinidog, cyhoeddwyd heddiw eich bod yn bwriadu cael gwared ag enw brand WDA yn ystod y broses uno. A allwch gadarnhau bod hynny yn wir, ac os felly, beth yw eich rhesymau dros wneud hynny?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym wedi gwneud yn hollol glir mai Cymru yw'r brand, nid rhyw sefydliad penodol, boed yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, WDA, Bwrdd Croeso Cymru neu Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru. Un o'r problemau sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd—fel cyn-Weinidog, fe wyddoch hyn o'ch ymweliadau tramor—yw pan fyddwch ar ymweliad tramor, Cymru yw'r brand; nid sefydliad, logo neu hunaniaeth sefydliadol ydyw. Dyna sy'n ysgogi'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud. Yr ydym yn ceisio hyrwyddo a brandio Cymru, nid sefydliad penodol.

Michael German: Mae'n debyg y gallech ddweud nad yw 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' hanner mor fachog ag 'Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru'. Er ei bod yn briodol ichi geisio hyrwyddo Cymru, mae yna gytundeb yn gyffredinol—yn enwedig yn y farchnad dramor—fod WDA yn adnabyddus iawn ac yn cael ei werthfawrogi'n fawr fel brand. Rhaid bod rhyw ffordd o ddefnyddio'r enw brand i barhau'r gwaith da y mae wedi ei ddenu i Gymru, heb golli'r amcan o hyrwyddo Cymru. Onid oes modd cysoni'r ddau?

Andrew Davies: You could make the same argument about tourism: I have heard the argument from the opposition that the brand is the Wales Tourist Board and that we should protect it. It is not, and even the Wales Tourist Board would argue that. The brand is Wales. I hold to what I have said to you before. The WDA and the Wales Tourist Board and ELWa have done some extremely good work, but in terms of a new Welsh public service, a focus on promoting Wales overseas, and branding what we do within the UK and Wales, the brand is Wales, and not a particular organisational name or logo.

Michael German: If the brand is Wales, how will you use the word 'Wales' when you talk to companies? Do you say, 'I am from Wales'? Perhaps you could explain it a bit more.

Andrew Davies: I am trying to make a distinction between the brand and the name or logo. I know that you are struggling with this concept, Mike, but that is the fundamental difference. When you were a Minister on an overseas visit, you did not promote a particular organisation. For example, in America you did not promote Wales as a location for inward investors—you sold or promoted the benefits of Wales—an excellent world-class workforce within the European Union—or you promoted Wales to visitors as a unique country with a unique culture. The overall brand is Wales, but the messages below that about the qualities that we can offer will be part of the marketing that we will devise.

Andrew Davies: Gallech roi'r un ddadl o ran twristiaeth. Yr wyf wedi clywed y ddadl gan y gwrthbleidiau mai Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yw'r brand ac y dylem ei ddiogelu. Nid yw hynny'n wir, a byddai hyd yn oed Bwrdd Croeso Cymru yn dadlau o blaid hynny. Cymru yw'r brand. Cadwaf at yr hyn a ddywedais wrthyhych o'r blaen. Mae WDA a Bwrdd Croeso Cymru ac ELWa wedi gwneud gwaith hynod dda. Ond o ran gwasanaeth cyhoeddus newydd i Gymru, ffocws ar hyrwyddo Cymru dramor, a brandio'r hyn a wnawn yn y DU ac yng Nghymru, Cymru yw'r brand, nid enw na logo sefydliadol penodol.

Michael German: Os Cymru yw'r brand, sut y byddwch yn defnyddio'r gair 'Cymru' pan fyddwch yn siarad â chwmnïau? A fyddwch yn dweud, 'Yr wyf yn dod o Gymru'? Efallai y gallech esbonio hynny'n fanylach?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn ceisio gwahaniaethu rhwng y brand a'r enw neu'r logo. Gwn eich bod yn cael trafferth gyda'r cysyniad hwn, Mike, ond dyna'r gwahaniaeth sylfaenol. Pan oeddech chi'n Weinidog ar ymweliad tramor, nid hyrwyddo sefydliad penodol y byddech. Er enghraifft, yn America, nid oeddech yn hyrwyddo Cymru fel lleoliad i fewnfuddsoddwyr—yr oeddech yn gwerthu neu'n hyrwyddo manteision Cymru—gweithlu ardderchog o'r radd flaenaf o fewn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd—neu'n hyrwyddo Cymru i ymwelwyr fel gwlad unigryw gyda diwylliant unigryw. Cymru yw'r brand cyffredinol, ond bydd y negeseuon islaw hynny am y rhinweddau y gallwn eu cynnig yn rhan o'r ymgyrch farchnata y byddwn yn ei llunio.

Diogelwch ar y Ffyrdd Road Safety

Q6 William Graham: Will the Minister outline his plans to improve safety on roads in Wales? OAQ0441(EDT)

Andrew Davies: We are committed to improving all areas of road safety in Wales. Since 2000 we have allocated over £35 million to local authorities to help them deliver local road safety initiatives and take forward action from the road safety strategy

C6 William Graham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei gynlluniau i wella diogelwch ar y ffyrdd yng Nghymru? OAQ0441(EDT)

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wella pob agwedd ar ddiogelwch ar y ffyrdd yng Nghymru. Ers 2000 yr ydym wedi dyrannu dros £35 miliwn i awdurdodau lleol i'w helpu i ddarparu mentrau diogelwch ar y ffyrdd yn lleol a gweithredu'r strategaeth

for Wales. Funding is allocated each year for improvements to the trunk road network.

William Graham: Why does the Government appear to have a policy of setting a threshold of at least four crashes involving death or serious injury before the safety camera partnerships enforce speed limits using fixed speed cameras? There must be two such crashes to use a mobile camera or a red light camera. Should not this body-count approach be abandoned?

Andrew Davies: We work within the UK guidelines on this issue, but I share some of your reservations. I will be taking up with officials the degree of latitude we have in exercising the guidelines and operations. A chief constable has expressed similar views, and I have some sympathy with them.

Christine Chapman: There is strong evidence of a relationship between child pedestrian casualty rates and areas of social deprivation. We know that children from social class 5 are five times more likely to die as pedestrians in a road accident than children from social class 1. I am pleased that the Welsh Assembly Government's road safety strategy recognises the link, identifying a relationship between tackling social disadvantage and improving road safety. Can you provide an update on how the implementation of the strategy has focused on this connection and whether it includes encouraging local authorities to aim to reduce the number of casualties in their most deprived areas at a greater rate than across the council area as a whole?

3.00 p.m.

Andrew Davies: I will write to you with an update. When he was my deputy, my Cabinet colleague, Brian Gibbons, took a close interest in this area, and we are now looking, with local authorities, at the bids for Safe Routes to School having a much closer

diogelwch ar y ffyrdd i Gymru. Caiff cyllid ei ddyrannu bob blwyddyn ar gyfer gwella'r rhwydwaith cefnffyrdd.

William Graham: Pam mae'n ymddangos bod gan y Llywodraeth bolisi o bennu trothwy o bedair damwain o leiaf, sy'n cynnwys marwolaeth neu anaf difrifol, cyn i'r partneriaethau camerâu diogelwch orfodi terfynau cyflymder gan ddefnyddio camerâu cyflymder sefydlog? Rhaid i ddwy ddamwain o'r fath ddigwydd cyn defnyddio camera symudol neu gamera golau coch. Oni ddylid rhoi'r gorau i'r polisi hwn o wneud penderfyniadau ar sail cyfrif cyrff?

Andrew Davies: Yr ydym yn gweithio o fewn canllawiau'r DU ar y mater hwn, ond, fel chithau, yr wyf yn amheus ynglŷn â rhai pethau. Byddaf yn trafod gyda swyddogion faint o ryddid sydd gennym o ran gweithredu'r canllawiau a'r gweithrediadau. Mae un prif gwnstabl wedi mynegi barn debyg, ac yr wyf yn cytuno â honno i raddau.

Christine Chapman: Mae tystiolaeth gref fod perthynas rhwng cyfraddau damweiniau ymhlith plant sy'n cerdded ac ardaloedd cymdeithasol ddifreintiedig. Gwyddom fod plant o ddsbarth cymdeithasol 5 bum gwaith yn fwy tebygol o farw mewn damwain ffordd fel cerddwyr na phlant o ddsbarth cymdeithasol 1. Yr wyf yn falch fod strategaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynglŷn â diogelwch ar y ffyrdd yn cydnabod y cysylltiad hwnnw, gan nodi perthynas rhwng mynd i'r afael ag anfantais gymdeithasol a gwella diogelwch ar y ffyrdd. A allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y ffordd y mae gweithredu'r strategaeth wedi canolbwyntio ar y cysylltiad hwn, ac a yw'n cynnwys annog awdurdodau lleol i anelu at ostwng nifer y rhai sy'n cael damwain yn eu hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig yn gyflymach nag ar draws ardal gyfan y cyngor?

Andrew Davies: Ysgrifennaf atoch i roi'r newyddion diweddaraf. Pan oedd yn ddirprwy imi, yr oedd gan fy nghyd-Weinidog yn y Cabinet, Brian Gibbons, ddiddordeb mawr yn y maes hwn. Bellach, gydag awdurdodau lleol, yr ydym yn edrych

correlation with the criteria that you raise. There is a clear correlation, and we see tackling social exclusion and road safety as a priority. However, I will write to you on the wider issue.

Nick Bourne: I endorse what William Graham said and what you appear to agree with on the body-count approach. I would like you to take that up with Westminster as it seems wholly wrong, and, as the Road Safety Bill is going through Parliament, this might be a suitable juncture at which to put it right.

I led on a short debate some time ago, which you responded to. Have you had the opportunity to discuss with Westminster colleagues the possibility of taking measures in the Road Safety Bill, particularly in terms of restricting young people from driving faster cars for a year or two years after passing their test? This would seem to be a suitable opportunity to feed that into the Road Safety Bill, if we can, as it is going through Parliament.

Andrew Davies: Following the short debate, I discussed this matter with officials, and they will be coming forward with advice shortly on that matter. If I can, I will keep you briefed on it.

John Griffiths: Returning to the matter of deprived areas, there are many streets and roads on our council estates and in other urban areas where there is double parking. Children play on the street and it is so easy for a child to run from behind a parked car, chasing a ball or whatever, and to get knocked down. That has happened in my constituency and I am sure that it has happened in many others. Will you continue to push 15 mph or 20 mph speed limits on roads of that nature as one way of tackling the problem?

Andrew Davies: Certainly. I am meeting the spokesperson on transport for the Welsh Local Government Association next week, and one of the issues that I want to discuss

ar y posibilrwydd i'r ceisiadau Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol gydberthynas agosach o lawer â'r meini prawf yr ydych yn eu codi. Mae yna gydberthynas amlwg, a chredwn fod mynd i'r afael ag allgau cymdeithasol a diogelwch ar y ffyrdd yn flaenoriaeth. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r mater ehangach.

Nick Bourne: Ate gaf yr hyn a ddywedodd William Graham a'r hyn y mae'n ymddangos eich bod yn cytuno ag ef am y dull cyfrif cyrff. Hoffwn ichi drafod hynny gyda San Steffan gan ei fod yn ymddangos yn hollol anghywir. Ac wrth i'r Mesur Diogelwch y Ffyrdd fynd drwy'r Senedd, gallai fod yn amser addas i'w gywiro.

Arweiniais ddadl fer ychydig amser yn ôl a chithau'n ymateb iddi. A gawsoch gyfle i drafod gyda chyd-aelodau yn San Steffan y posibilrwydd o gael mesurau yn y Mesur Diogelwch ar y Ffyrdd, yn benodol o ran atal pobl ifanc rhag gyrru cerbydau cyflymach am flwyddyn neu am ddwy flynedd ar ôl llwyddo yn eu prawf gyrru? Mae hwn yn ymddangos yn gyfle addas i gynnwys hynny yn y Mesur Diogelwch ar y Ffyrdd, os gallwn, wrth iddo fynd drwy'r Senedd.

Andrew Davies: Yn dilyn y ddadl fer, trafodais y mater hwn gyda swyddogion, a byddant yn rhoi cyngor ar y mater hwnn cyn bo hir. Os gallaf, byddaf yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ichi amdano.

John Griffiths: I ddychwelyd at fater ardaloedd difreintiedig, mae nifer o strydoedd a ffyrdd yn ein hystadau cyngor ac mewn ardaloedd trefol eraill lle mae parcio dwbl. Bydd plant yn chwarae ar y stryd, ac mae mor hawdd i blentyn redeg o'r tu ôl i gerbyd wedi ei barcio, ar ôl pêl neu beth bynnag, a chael ei daro i lawr. Mae hynny wedi digwydd yn fy etholaeth i, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod wedi digwydd mewn llawer yn arall. A fyddwch yn parhau i bwysu am gyfyngiadau cyflymder o 15 milltir neu 20 milltir yr awr ar ffyrdd tebyg i'r rhain fel un ffordd i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem?

Andrew Davies: Yn sicr. Byddaf yn cyfarfod â'r llefarydd ar drafndiaeth ar ran Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yr wythnos nesaf, ac un o'r materion yr wyf am

with him is what we can do to follow up these issues of road safety, particularly children's safety. Following the short debate that Nick Bourne initiated a few weeks ago, we will be looking at the whole area of what we can do to increase road safety and reduce accidents among young people.

Elin Jones: Ar yr A487 yn Aberystwyth, mae cylchfan newydd wedi'i chodi yn ystod yr haf, ac mae llawer o gondemnio wedi bod ar gynllun y gylchfan. Un broblem sydd wedi codi ac sydd o bosibl yn peryglu diogelwch yw'r ffaith bod croesfannau ar y pedair heol sydd yn mynd at y gylchfan. Codwyd y cwestiwn hwn y bore yma gan ddisgyblion Ysgol Uwchradd Penglais a oedd yn ymweld â'r Siambr. A ydych yn credu ei bod yn iawn i roi pedair croesfan yn agos at y gylchfan hon, sydd ar gefnffordd ac sydd mewn man prysur yng nghanol tref Aberystwyth?

Andrew Davies: Thank you for bringing that to my attention. I will follow it up and ask officials to investigate. We will look at the extent to which we are responsible for that infrastructure or whether it is a matter for the local authority, and we will come back to you.

Kirsty Williams: On Thursday last week, 17-year-old Alice Robertshaw, the deputy head girl of Brecon High School, became the latest casualty on the roads of Brecon and Radnorshire when she was killed when her car left the road. We will have more deaths in Brecon and Radnorshire this year than we had last year. That picture is repeated across Wales. What are you doing in the field of education enforcement and engineering to stop this tragic loss of young life?

Andrew Davies: My thoughts are with the family and those who have been affected by that tragedy. We discussed this issue in the short debate a few weeks ago, and found that many Assembly Members had lost family members and loved ones at a young age through traffic accidents. This is a priority in terms of education campaigns and I will be working with my colleague, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, Jane Davidson, to see what more we can do in

eu trafod gydag ef yw beth y gallwn ei wneud i ddatblygu'r materion hyn o ddiogelwch ar y ffyrdd, yn arbennig diogelwch plant. Yn dilyn y ddadl fer a gyflwynwyd gan Nick Bourne ychydig wythnosau'n ôl, byddwn yn edrych ar holl faes yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i wella diogelwch ar y ffyrdd a lleihau damweiniau ymysg pobl ifanc.

Elin Jones: A new roundabout was constructed during the summer on the A487 in Aberystwyth, and the design of the roundabout has received much condemnation. One problem that has arisen and which may affect safety is that there are crossings on the four roads approaching the roundabout. Pupils from Pen-glais Comprehensive School who were visiting the Chamber raised this question this morning. Do you believe it is right to place four crossings close to this roundabout, which is on a trunk road and in a busy place in Aberystwyth town centre?

Andrew Davies: Diolch ichi am dynnu fy sylw at hynny. Af ar ôl y mater a gofyn i swyddogion ymchwilio. Byddwn yn edrych ar y graddau yr ydym yn gyfrifol am y seilwaith hwnnw neu a yw'n fater i'r awdurdod lleol, a down yn ôl atoch.

Kirsty Williams: Ddydd Iau diwethaf, Alice Robertshaw, merch 17 oed a dirprwy brif ferch yn Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu, oedd y diweddaraf i ddioddef ar ffyrdd Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed, pan gafodd ei lladd ar ôl i'w char fynd oddi ar y ffordd. Byddwn mwy o farwolaethau ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed eleni nag a fu y llynedd. Mae'r un sefyllfa'n codi ledled Cymru. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud ym maes gorfodi addysg a pheirianeg i atal colli bywydau ifanc yn drasig fel hyn?

Andrew Davies: Yr wyf yn meddwl am y teulu a'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y drasiedi honno. Trafodwyd y mater hwn yn y ddadl fer ychydig wythnosau'n ôl, a chafwyd bod nifer o Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi colli aelodau o'r teulu ac anwyliaid yn ifanc iawn oherwydd damweiniau traffig. Mae hyn yn flaenoriaeth o ran ymgyrchoedd addysg, a byddaf yn gweithio gyda fy nghyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, Jane Davidson, i weld a oes mwy y gallwn ei

terms of taking this forward and raising awareness of the dangers of using roads, particularly in terms of the safe use of cars.

wneud o ran datblygu hyn a gwneud pobl yn fwy ymwybodol o beryglon defnyddio ffyrdd, yn arbennig o ran defnyddio ceir yn ddiogel.

Yr AA
The AA

Q7 Lorraine Barrett: What discussions has the Welsh Assembly Government had with representatives of the AA regarding proposed job losses in Cardiff? OAQ0417(EDT)

C7 Lorraine Barrett: Pa drafodaethau a fu rhwng Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a chynrychiolwyr yr AA o ran y posibilrwydd o golli swyddi yng Nghaerdydd? OAQ0417(EDT)

Andrew Davies: The Welsh Contact Centre Forum Ltd and the Welsh Development Agency have been in discussions with the AA. Furthermore, the Assembly Government, and our Team Wales partners in Jobcentre Plus, the WDA and Education and Learning Wales, as ever, stand ready to help mitigate and manage any job losses.

Andrew Davies: Mae Fforwm Canolfan Gyswilt Cymru Cyf ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru wedi bod yn trafod gyda'r AA. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, a'n partneriaid Tîm Cymru yn y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith, WDA a Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, yn barod, fel erioed, i helpu lleddfu a rheoli unrhyw swyddi a gaiff eu colli.

Lorraine Barrett: Will you join me and the GMB union in calling on the AA to reconsider these job losses and to stop advertising for call-centre jobs, as it has done in today's *South Wales Echo*, which I find a bit galling when it is still talking about potential job losses?

Lorraine Barrett: A ymunwch â mi ac undeb GMB i alw ar yr AA i ailystyried y colli swyddi hyn a rhoi'r gorau i hysbysebu am swyddi mewn canolfannau galw, fel y maent yn ei wneud yn y *South Wales Echo* heddiw. I mi, mae hyn ychydig yn sarhaus a hwythau'n dal i sôn am bosiblwydd colli swyddi?

Andrew Davies: I have certainly not been approached by the GMB specifically on this, but, following your questions, I will contact it and work with it to see what can be done on this.

Andrew Davies: Yn bendant, nid yw GMB wedi cysylltu â mi'n uniongyrchol ynglŷn â hyn. O i ddilyn eich cwestiynau, byddaf yn cysylltu â hwy ac yn cydweithio â hwy i weld beth y gellir ei wneud.

Jenny Randerson: There is a great deal of concern in Cardiff about the potential job losses at the AA, but another important employer in Cardiff is the WDA, which you are about to obliterate. Fifteen months down the road from your snap announcement, I assume that the plans are in place. For the sake of some of my concerned constituents, can you confirm your previous statement that there will be no job losses? Can you tell us whether the WDA jobs currently based in Cardiff will continue to be based there once the WDA brand goes and the jobs are brought in-house?

Jenny Randerson: Mae llawer o bryder yng Nghaerdydd am bosiblwydd colli swyddi yn yr AA. Ond cyflogwyr pwysig arall yng Nghaerdydd yw WDA, sydd ar fin cael ei ddileu gennych. Bymtheg mis ar ôl eich cyhoeddiad sydyn, yr wyf yn cymryd yn ganiataol fod y cynlluniau ar waith. Er lles rhai o'm hetholwyr pryderus, a allwch gadarnhau eich datganiad blaenorol na fydd swyddi'n cael eu colli? A allwch ddweud wrthym p'un a fydd y swyddi yn WDA sydd yng Nghaerdydd ar hyn o bryd yn parhau yno ar ôl dileu'r brand WDA ac ar ôl i'r swyddi ddod dan adain y Cynulliad?

The Presiding Officer: Order. It seems to

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Ymddengys imi fod y

me that the question is about the AA rather than the WDA. We had a previous question about the WDA. I call on Owen John Thomas.

Owen John Thomas: I have also contacted the AA on this matter. I understand that 650 people are employed by the company in Cardiff, and that, throughout the whole of the UK, 100 jobs will be lost. Hopefully, most of the employees who lose their jobs will go through early retirement or redundancy. Another issue is that new staff are not being given the opportunity to join a pension scheme, which will make the working conditions poorer than they were previously. When you speak to the AA on the general matter of employment there, could you also raise that matter?

Andrew Davies: That is a matter for the AA, its employees and the trade unions, as it is a negotiating point relating to terms and conditions. It is not a matter on which the Government can intervene.

cwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r AA yn hytrach na WDA. Cawsom gwestiwn eisoes am WDA. Galwaf ar Owen John Thomas.

Owen John Thomas: Yr wyf fi hefyd wedi cysylltu â'r AA am y mater hwn. Deallaf fod 650 o bobl yn cael eu cyflogi gan y cwmni yng Nghaerdydd, ac y caiff 100 o swyddi eu colli ledled y DU. Y gobaith yw y bydd y rhan fwyaf o'r cyflogeion a fydd yn colli eu swyddi yn gadael drwy ymddeol yn gynnar neu eu diswyddo. Mater arall yw na chaiff staff newydd y cyfle i ymuno â chynllun pensiwn, a fydd yn gwneud yr amodau gwaith yn waeth nag yr oeddynt gynt. Pan fyddwch yn siarad â'r AA am y mater cyffredinol o gyflogaeth yno, a allwch godi'r mater hwnnw hefyd?

Andrew Davies: Mater i'r AA, eu cyflogeion a'r undebau llafur yw hynny, gan mai pwnc negodi ydyw yn ymwneud â thelerau ac amodau. Nid yw'n fater y gall y Llywodraeth ymyrryd ynddo.

Cwestiynau i'r Trefnydd ar ei Chyfrifoldebau heblaw am Fusnes Questions to the Business Minister on her Responsibilities other than for Business

Cefnogi Pobl Anabl Supporting Disabled People

Q1 Leanne Wood: Will the Minister make a statement on how the Welsh Assembly Government is able to support disabled people? OAQ0123(BM)

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): In 2002, the Welsh Assembly Government adopted the social model of disability as the foundation for all its work on disability. The Assembly Government has agreed to fund the Equality in Action project, to develop knowledge, skills and values concerning the social model across the Assembly Government.

Leanne Wood: I have raised this issue with you several times over the last few days, but I feel that I have yet to receive an adequate response. In order to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, public organisations, and, in particular, educational

C1 Leanne Wood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ffordd y gall Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gefnogi pobl anabl? OAQ0123(BM)

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Yn 2002, mabwysiadodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru y model cymdeithasol o anabledd fel y sail ar gyfer ei holl waith ar anabledd. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cytuno i ariannu'r prosiect Cydraddoldeb ar Waith, i ddatblygu dealltwriaeth, sgiliau a gwerthoedd yn ymwneud â'r model cymdeithasol ar draws Llywodraeth y Cynulliad.

Leanne Wood: Yr wyf wedi codi'r mater hwn gyda chi droeon dros yr ychydig ddyddiau diwethaf, ond teimlaf nad wyf eto wedi cael ymateb digonol. Er mwyn cydymffurfio â Deddf Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Anabledd 2005, bydd angen llawer o

organisations, schools and colleges, will need huge public investment. How much money will your Government provide, and when can we expect all educational establishments in Wales to be fully accessible to disabled people?

Jane Hutt: You know that responsibility for disability legislation is not devolved; it is the responsibility of the Department of Work and Pensions. The Assembly Government is part-funding a post in the Disability Rights Commission to provide guidance to public bodies in Wales on their requirements under the Act. I am sure that you will be interested to know that the Arts Council of Wales will receive £200,000 from the Assembly to implement the requirements of the Act and to support arts venues. Other important issues relating to schools, which you raised, relate to our considerable increased input into capital, which is rising to £143.561 million in 2005-06 for the school building programme and which will help them to fulfil their duties.

3.10 p.m.

Christine Chapman: The European Commission has announced that 2007 will be the European year of equal opportunities for all, as part of its effort to promote equality and non-discrimination in the EU. The four key themes for the year will be rights, representation, recognition, and respect and tolerance. At this admittedly early stage, what input do you think the National Assembly for Wales can have into this, and what will the Welsh Assembly Government do to encourage disabled people and relevant stakeholder groups in Wales to become involved in what will be an important year for equal opportunities?

Jane Hutt: One of the important points about the public sector duty is that we will have to develop a disability equality scheme, and all public authorities that have that duty will have to engage with disabled people to devise those schemes. That will not only apply to the Assembly Government, but to all of our partners in the public sector. In terms of the forthcoming European year of equal

fuddsoddi cyhoeddus ar sefydliadau cyhoeddus, ac yn benodol ar sefydliadau addysgol, ysgolion a cholegau. Faint o arian a gaiff ei ddarparu gan eich Llywodraeth, a phryd y gallwn ddisgwyl i bob sefydliad addysgol yng Nghymru fod yn hollol hygyrch i bobl anabl?

Jane Hutt: Gwyddoch nad yw cyfrifoldeb dros ddeddfwriaeth anabledd wedi ei ddatganoli; cyfrifoldeb yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau ydyw. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhannol yn ariannu swydd yn y Comisiwn Hawliau Anabledd er mwyn cynnig arweiniad i gyrff cyhoeddus yng Nghymru ar eu gofynion dan y Ddeddf. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd gennych ddiddordeb clywed y bydd Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru yn cael £200,000 gan y Cynulliad i weithredu gofynion y Ddeddf ac i gefnogi canolfannau celfyddydau. Mae materion pwysig eraill sy'n ymwneud ag ysgolion ac a godwyd gennych yn ymwneud â'n cyfraniad cynyddol sylweddol o gyfalaf, sy'n codi i £143.561 miliwn yn 2005-06, ar gyfer y rhaglen adeiladau ysgolion ac a fydd yn eu helpu i gyflawni eu dyletswyddau.

Christine Chapman: Cyhoeddodd y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd y bydd 2007 yn flwyddyn Ewropeaidd cyfle cyfartal i bawb, fel rhan o'i ymdrech i hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb a pheidio â gwahaniaethu yn yr UE. Pedair prif thema'r flwyddyn fydd hawliau, cynrychiolaeth, cydnabyddiaeth, a pharch a goddefgarwch. Er ei bod yn gynnar eto, pa gyfraniad y credwch y gallai Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru ei wneud, a beth fydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei wneud i annog pobl anabl a grwpiau rhanddeiliaid perthnasol eraill yng Nghymru i gymryd rhan yn yr hyn a fydd yn flwyddyn bwysig o ran cyfle cyfartal?

Jane Hutt: Un o'r pwyntiau pwysig ynglŷn â dyletswydd y sector cyhoeddus yw y bydd yn rhaid inni ddatblygu cynllun cydraddoldeb anabledd, a bydd yn rhaid i bob awdurdod cyhoeddus sydd â'r ddyletswydd honno ymgysylltu â phobl anabl i ddyfeisio'r cynlluniau hynny. Bydd hynny'n berthnasol i bob un o'n partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus, yn ogystal â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. O ran

opportunities, I was pleased to speak to the European Disability Forum on 1 October in Cardiff. Over 20 countries came to discuss these issues, and I was glad that there was a positive response to the progress being made in Wales.

David Melding: Minister, many disabled children with cerebral palsy rely on the services of Bobath. I hope that you will discuss with your colleagues, particularly the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, how voluntary organisations that serve the whole of Wales, and provide specialist support, can be effectively funded. At the moment, the fragmented commissioning process is a considerable hurdle for them to overcome.

Jane Hutt: I visited Bobath in my previous capacity as Minister for Health and Social Services. I know that this has been raised with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration. It is key that we look at this from an all-Wales perspective in terms of specialist needs. The children's specialist needs project, under Health Commission Wales, will look at these issues, and the voluntary sector will be part of that framework.

blwyddyn Ewropeaidd cyfle cyfartal sydd ar ddod, yr oeddwn yn falch o annerch y Fforwm Anabledd Ewropeaidd ar 1 Hydref yng Nghaerdydd. Daeth dros 20 o wledydd ynghyd i drafod y materion hyn, ac yr oeddwn yn falch fod ymateb cadarnhaol i'r cynnydd yng Nghymru.

David Melding: Weinidog, mae nifer o blant anabl sy'n dioddef gan barlys yr ymennydd yn dibynnu ar wasanaethau Bobath. Gobeithio y byddwch yn trafod gyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion, yn arbennig y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, sut y gellir ariannu'n effeithiol sefydliadau gwirfoddol sy'n gwasanaethu Cymru gyfan ac sy'n cynnig cymorth arbenigol. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r broses gomisiynu ddarniog yn broblem sylweddol iddynt ei goresgyn.

Jane Hutt: Ymwelais â Bobath yn fy swydd flaenorol fel Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Gwn fod hyn wedi cael ei godi gyda'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Mae'n allweddol inni ystyried hyn o safbwynt Cymru gyfan o ran anghenion arbenigol. Bydd y prosiect anghenion arbennig plant, dan Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru, yn ystyried y materion hyn, a bydd y sector gwirfoddol yn rhan o'r fframwaith hwnnw.

Gwasanaethau Plant Children's Services

C2 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y mae hi'n cydlynu polisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru er mwyn gwella gwasanaethau plant? OAQ0125(BM)

Q5 Leanne Wood: What recent discussions has the Minister held regarding the co-ordination of Welsh Assembly Government policies to improve the delivery of children's services? OAQ0126(BM)

Jane Hutt: I chair the Cabinet sub-committee on children and young people to co-ordinate ministerial action across portfolios on policies impacting on children. Last month, I gave evidence on behalf of all Ministers to Gwenda Thomas's review on

Q2 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on how she is co-ordinating the Welsh Assembly Government's policies in order to improve children's services? OAQ0125(BM)

C5 Leanne Wood: Pa drafodaethau a gafodd y Gweinidog yn ddiweddar ynghylch cydlynu polisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru er mwyn gwella darpariaeth gwasanaethau plant? OAQ0126(BM)

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn cadeirio is-bwyllgor y Cabinet ar blant a phobl ifanc i gydlynu gweithgareddau gweinidogol ar draws y portffolios ar bolisiau sy'n ymwneud â phlant. Fis diwethaf, rhoddais dystiolaeth ar ran yr holl Weinidogion i adolygiad Gwenda

safeguarding vulnerable children.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Hoffwn eich cyfeirio at un maes penodol—maes y mae gennych ddiddordeb personol ynndo—sef plant sy'n dioddef o awtistiaeth. Fel y gwyrddoch, bydd y strategaeth yn destun ymgynghoriad yn y dyfodol agos, er nad oes gennym ddyddiad pendant hyd yn hyn. A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryder fod eich ymrwymiad i roi adnoddau ariannol ychwanegol ar gyfer y strategaeth bellach wedi ei dynnu yn ôl? A ydych hefyd yn rhannu fy mhryder y bydd yn anodd cael strategaeth gynhwysfawr a fydd yn sicrhau bod y plant hyn yn cael y gwasanaethau sydd eu hangen arnynt heb ymrwymiad ariannol oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru?

Jane Hutt: You know that I met Hugh Morgan twice over the summer months, as Minister with responsibility for children, in order to hear his concerns about the progress of the strategy. It is a pioneering strategy, and the full commitment of the Welsh Assembly Government to that strategy, with the support of both the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, is clear. They both met Autism Cymru in the last couple of weeks to look at ensuring that the principles of the strategy are forthcoming in the consultation. I can assure you that we are working together to deliver on this important strategy, and that the consultation will deliver an important impact on how we take this forward.

Leanne Wood: In this morning's meeting of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity Committee, we discussed your Government's response to the Stonewall Cymru research. Stonewall and the Clywch inquiry identified the need for counsellors for children to deal with issues arising from bullying or abuse. We urgently need some joined-up Government thinking on this issue. Can you tell us when you expect every child in Wales to have access to a counsellor, should they need it?

Jane Hutt: We had a good discussion this morning, which was also related to the issues around tackling bullying in Wales, because this week is Respecting Others Week. There

Thomas ar ddiogelu plant diamddiffyn.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I should like to refer you to one specific area—an area in which you have a personal interest—namely children who suffer from autism. You will be aware that the strategy is the subject of consultation in the near future, although we do not have a specific date as yet. Do you share my concern that your commitment to providing additional financial resources for the strategy has now been withdrawn? Do you also share my concern that it will be difficult to put in place a comprehensive strategy which will ensure that these children receive the services that they need without financial commitment by the Government of Wales?

Jane Hutt: Gwyddoch imi gwrdd â Hugh Morgan ddwywaith yn ystod misoedd yr haf, fel Gweinidog sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros blant, i glywed ei bryderon am y cynnydd gyda'r strategaeth. Mae'n strategaeth arloesol, ac mae ymrwymiad llawn Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i'r strategaeth honno, gyda chefnogaeth y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, yn amlwg. Cyfarfu'r ddau ag Awtistiaeth Cymru yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf i ystyried sicrhau y caiff egwyddorion y strategaeth eu diogelu yn yr ymgynghori. Gallaf eich sicrhau ein bod yn cydweithio i weithredu ar y strategaeth bwysig hon, ac y caiff yr ymgynghori effaith bwysig ar y ffordd y byddwn yn ei datblygu.

Leanne Wood: Yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal y bore yma, buom yn trafod ymateb eich Llywodraeth i waith ymchwil Stonewall Cymru. Yr Stonewall ac ymchwiliad Clywch yn nodi bod angen cynghorwyr ar gyfer plant i ymdrin â materion yn ymwneud â bwlio neu gam-drin. Mae angen i'r Llywodraeth roi ystyriaeth gydynol ar frys i'r mater hwn. A allwch ddweud wrthym pryd y disgwylwch y gall pob plentyn yng Nghymru gael gwasanaeth cynghorydd, os bydd ei angen arnynt?

Jane Hutt: Cawsom drafodaeth dda y bore yma, a oedd hefyd yn ymwneud â'r materion sy'n gysylltiedig â bwlio yng Nghymru, gan fod hon yn Wythnos Parchu Eraill.

have been a number of events to raise awareness, which the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning has been taking forward. A key point, in terms of the involvement of Stonewall Cymru, is the Welsh anti-bullying network and the importance of counselling. We are awaiting a response from the Red Kite project which is mapping the need for counselling in schools in response to the Clywch inquiry. We will report back on that in due course.

Catherine Thomas: As it is likely that the domestic abuse strategy will cause an increased workload and new training needs for children's services' staff who implement it, what discussions have you had on that issue with the Minister for Health and Social Services?

Jane Hutt: There is a resource manual for health professionals in relation to domestic violence. The domestic abuse strategy was a mainstreaming approach to bringing together health, social services, community safety, housing, education and lifelong learning. Out of that came this resource manual for health professionals. We will have to ensure that this is implemented through the local health boards and through the NHS trusts across Wales. I will take this up with the Minister for Health and Social Services.

Jonathan Morgan: In answer to a previous question, you referred to the excellent work done by Bobath Cymru in Cardiff, providing a key specialist therapy service to children and young people with cerebral palsy. I know that you have visited the site and that you recognise the importance of its work, but do you think that you might be able to encourage your successor, Dr Brian Gibbons, to also visit the facility? So far, he has failed to do so. Perhaps you could encourage him to visit the facility in Whitchurch, Cardiff—as, I am sure, is his wish—so that he can have a fuller understanding of the excellent work that Bobath does.

Cynhaliwyd nifer o ddiwyddiadau i wneud pobl yn fwy ymwybodol, ac mae'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn gweithredu arnynt. Un pwynt allweddol, o ran cyfranogiad Stonewall Cymru, yw rhwydwaith gwrth-fwlio Cymru a phwysigrwydd cynghori. Yr ydym yn aros am ymateb gan brosiect y Barcud Coch, sy'n nodi patrwm yr angen am gwrsela mewn ysgolion mewn ymateb i ymchwiliad Clywch. Byddwn yn adrodd yn ôl ar hynny maes o law.

Catherine Thomas: Gan ei bod yn debygol y bydd y strategaeth cam-drin yn y cartref yn golygu llwyth gwaith trymach ac anghenion hyfforddi newydd i staff gwasanaethau plant sy'n ei gweithredu, pa drafodaethau a fu rhyngoch chi a'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol am y mater hwnnw?

Jane Hutt: Mae llawlyfr adnoddau ar gael i weithwyr proffesiynol iechyd mewn perthynas â thrais yn y cartref. Yr oedd y strategaeth cam-drin yn y cartref yn ymagwedd brif ffrydio i ddod â meysydd iechyd, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, diogelwch cymunedol, tai, addysg a dysgu gydol oes at ei gilydd. O'r hynny deilliodd y llawlyfr adnoddau hwn i weithwyr proffesiynol iechyd. Bydd yn rhaid inni sicrhau y caiff hyn ei roi ar waith drwy'r byrddau iechyd lleol a thrwy ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG ledled Cymru. Byddaf yn trafod hyn gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Jonathan Morgan: I ateb cwestiwn blaenorol, cyfeiriasoch at y gwaith ardderchog a wneir gan Bobath Cymru yng Nghaerdydd, sy'n darparu gwasanaeth therapi arbenigol allweddol i blant a phobl ifanc sydd â pharlys yr ymennydd. Gwn eich bod wedi ymweld â'r safle a'ch bod yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd ei waith. Ond a ydych yn credu y gallech annog eich olynnydd, Dr Brian Gibbons, i ymweld â'r cyfleuster hefyd? Hyd yn hyn, mae wedi methu â gwneud hynny. Efallai y gallech ei annog i ymweld â'r cyfleuster yn yr Eglwys Newydd, Caerdydd—fel y dymuna, mae'n siŵr—fel y gall ddeall yn well y gwaith ardderchog a wna Bobath.

Jane Hutt: It is important to look at the issues arising from the commissioning of services, which was David's earlier question, for organisations for children with cerebral palsy. Organisations such as Bobath Cymru are important. I know that Sue Essex is visiting Bobath Cymru; we have a ministerial interest as well as an Assembly Member interest in this as the visitors from Bobath Cymru today demonstrate in terms of their presence in the Assembly. It is a key specialist service. As I told David, I will discuss with my colleague, Brian Gibbons, how we can support Bobath Cymru through the voluntary sector and the commissioning route.

Jane Hutt: Mae'n bwysig edrych ar y materion sy'n deillio o gomisiynu gwasanaethau, sef cwestiwn David yn gynharach, i sefydliadau i blant sydd â pharlys yr ymennydd. Mae sefydliadau fel Bobath Cymru yn bwysig. Gwn fod Sue Essex yn ymweld â Bobath Cymru; mae gennym ddi-ddordeb gweinidogol yn ogystal â diddordeb Aelod Cynulliad yn hyn, fel y mae'r ymwelwyr o Bobath Cymru yn ei ddangos heddiw drwy fod yn bresennol yn y Cynulliad. Mae'n wasanaeth arbenigol allweddol. Fel y dywedais wrth David, byddaf yn trafod gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Brian Gibbons sut y gallwn gefnogi Bobath Cymru drwy'r sector gwirfoddol a'r llwybr comisiynu.

Ymgyrch Mae Plant yn Ddiguero Children are Unbeatable Campaign

Q3 John Griffiths: Will the Minister make a statement on the equality perspective of the Children are Unbeatable campaign? OAQ0117(BM)

C3 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr agwedd gydraddoldeb ar yr ymgyrch Mae Plant yn Ddiguero? OAQ0117(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to the abolition of all forms of physical punishment of children. We fund the Children are Unbeatable campaign and, during 2006-07, we will be working with the campaign organisers on a booklet on positive parenting that will be distributed to all new parents in Wales.

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwymo i ddileu pob math o gosb gorfforol i blant. Yr ydym yn ariannu'r ymgyrch Mae Plant yn Ddiguero, ac yn ystod 2006-07 byddwn yn gweithio gyda threfnwyr yr ymgyrch i gynhyrchu llyfryn am rianta cadarnhaol a ddosberthir i bob rhiant newydd yn gyfnewid.

John Griffiths: That is encouraging. I ask that you continue to give your full support to the campaign so that we have legislation protecting children against being hit, as adults currently enjoy. Support for parents is crucial and I am pleased that you are taking those steps. Could you reinforce those steps with other measures? I know that parents often want to have alternative methods of discipline rather than hitting their children, but they are often unclear as to the best way of achieving that.

John Griffiths: Mae hynny'n galonogol. Gofynnaf ichi barhau i roi eich cefnogaeth lawn i'r ymgyrch fel y gallwn gael deddfwriaeth sy'n amddiffyn plant rhag cael eu bwrw, fel sydd i oedolion ar hyn o bryd. Mae cefnogaeth i rieni yn hanfodol, ac yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn cymryd y camau hynny. A allech atgyfnerthu'r camau hynny gan fesurau eraill? Gwn fod rhieni yn aml am gael dulliau disgyblu amgen yn lle bwrw eu plant, ond maent yn aml yn ansicr sut orau i gyflawni hynny.

Jane Hutt: You know that I hosted a successful cross-party event a few weeks ago where these issues were discussed. We had a positive response and a presentation from the children voluntary sector and the Children are Unbeatable campaign.

Jane Hutt: Gwyddoch imi gynnal digwyddiad trawsbleidiol llwyddiannus ychydig wythnosau'n ôl lle trafodwyd y materion hyn. Cawsom ymateb cadarnhaol, a chyflwyniad gan y sector gwirfoddol plant a'r ymgyrch Mae Plant yn Ddiguero.

I think that our parenting action plan is the

Credaf mai ein cynllun gweithredu rianta

way forward. It has recently been out for public consultation. It will be the main vehicle for promoting the principles of positive parenting. A key action for that plan is the enhanced provision of support, advice and information to parents. I have described the booklet that we would like to be issued to all new parents. The final version of the parenting plan will be available at the end of November.

Mark Isherwood: The report of the national working group on child protection and disability in 2003 highlighted that there is still a commonly held belief that disabled children are not abused, and that there is a lack of awareness about the increased vulnerability of this group of children. What steps are you and your department taking to raise awareness of this vulnerability and to provide front-line professionals with training that promotes the safeguarding of disabled children and responds effectively to specific child protection concerns relating to them?

3.20 p.m.

Jane Hutt: Those are important issues that were discussed when I gave evidence to the safeguarding vulnerable children review. The children's national service framework is the route and the vehicle for us to ensure that the standards and the key actions, which all the agencies have to sign up to, deliver in terms of safeguarding vulnerable children—particularly disabled children. It was important for the First Minister and me, on the day that we launched the NSF, to meet the young children from Rhondda Cynon Taf who had helped with the input into the NSF. They produced their own orange book, where disabled children can record their needs so that they do not have to keep repeating their health circumstances to professionals.

yw'r ffordd ymlaen. Ymgynghorwyd arno yn gyhoeddus yn ddiweddar. Dyma fydd y brif ffordd i hyrwyddo egwyddorion rhianta cadarnhaol. Un pwynt gweithredu allweddol ar gyfer y cynllun hwnnw yw'r ddarpariaeth well o ran cefnogaeth, cyngor a gwybodaeth i rieni. Yr wyf wedi disgrifio'r llyfryn yr hoffem ei roi i bob rhiant newydd. Bydd fersiwn derfynol y cynllun rhianta ar gael ddiwedd mis Tachwedd.

Mark Isherwood: Yr oedd adroddiad y gweithgor cenedlaethol ar amddiffyn plant ac anabledd yn 2003 yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith fod pobl yn dal i gredu'n gyffredinol nad yw plant anabl yn cael eu cam-drin, a bod diffyg ymwybyddiaeth o ran y ffaith fod y grŵp hwn o blant yn fwy agored i niwed. Pa gamau yr ydych chi a'ch adran yn eu cymryd i wneud pobl yn fwy ymwybodol o hyn ac i ddarparu hyfforddiant i weithwyr proffesiynol rheng flaen sy'n hyrwyddo'r broses o ddiogelu plant anabl, ac sy'n ymateb yn effeithiol i bryderon penodol am amddiffyn plant sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy?

Jane Hutt: Mae'r materion hynny yn rhai pwysig a drafodwyd pan roddais dystiolaeth i'r adolygiad o ddiogelu plant sy'n agored i niwed. Y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer plant yw'r ffordd a'r cyfrwng inni sicrhau bod y safonau a'r camau gweithredu allweddol, y mae'n rhaid i bob asiantaeth gytuno iddynt, yn gwneud gwahaniaeth o ran diogelu plant sy'n agored i niwed—yn enwedig plant anabl. Yr oedd yn bwysig i'r Prif Weinidog a minnau, ar y diwrnod y lanswyd y Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol, gyfarfod â'r plant ifanc o Rhondda Cynon Taf a oedd wedi cyfrannu at y fframwaith. Cynhyrchwyd eu llyfr oren eu hunain ganddynt lle gall plant anabl gofnodi eu hanghenion, fel nad oes yn rhaid iddynt ailadrodd eu hamgylchiadau iechyd wrth weithwyr proffesiynol.

Y Mesur Cydraddoldeb The Equality Bill

Q4 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the implementation of the recent equalities Act in Wales? OAQ0111(BM)

C4 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am roi'r Ddeddf cydraddoldebau ddiweddar ar waith yng Nghymru? OAQ0111(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Equality Bill has reached the Report Stage at Westminster. I am in an ongoing dialogue with the UK Government Minister for Women and Equality in the Department of Trade and Industry to ensure that Welsh interests are represented.

Ann Jones: You will know of the good work done in the equal pay campaign involving the Assembly and its partners—the trade union movement and business. We need to keep this high on our list of priorities, and we also need to ensure that the background work bears fruit for those women that we are trying to move up the ladder. Women still feel that there is much to be done; will you assure us that this remains high on your list of priorities throughout this next term?

Jane Hutt: At the meeting of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity today we heard a report back from last week's equal pay summit, which I chaired. There will now be a cross-party equal pay group to take forward the Close the Pay Gap campaign. This is crucial as we are 30 years on from the implementation of the Equal Pay Act 1970. We are focusing on the public sector because 70 per cent of the public sector workforce are women, and this is going to be key in terms of the new role of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights in ensuring that equal pay is delivered.

Helen Mary Jones: You will be aware that one of the many concerns about the proposed introduction of the single equalities commission is whether or not that commission will still be able to provide advice to individuals who feel that they have suffered from discrimination. Could you update us on what discussions you have recently had with Ministers in London to try to ensure that this is still part of the remit and that the new commission in Wales is sufficiently resourced to provide such advice?

Jane Hutt: I have met and corresponded with Meg Munn, the Minister for Women and Equality, and I have raised this issue. It is also a question of the capacity of our advice

Jane Hutt: Mae'r Mesur Cydraddoldeb wedi cyrraedd Cyfnod yr Adroddiadau yn San Steffan. Byddaf yn trafod yn barhaus gyda Gweinidog dros Fenywod a Chydraddoldeb Llywodraeth y DU yn yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant er mwyn sicrhau y caiff buddiannau Cymru eu cynrychioli.

Ann Jones: Fe wyddoch am y gwaith da a wnaed yn yr ymgyrch cyflog cyfartal yn cynnwys y Cynulliad a'i bartneriaid—mudiad yr undebau llafur a busnes. Mae angen inni barhau i roi blaenoriaeth uchel i hyn, ac mae angen hefyd inni sicrhau y bydd y gwaith cefndir yn dwyn ffrwyth ar gyfer y menywod hynny yr ydym yn ceisio'u symud i fyny'r ysgol. Mae menywod yn dal i deimlo bod llawer i'w wneud; a wnewch ein sicrhau y byddwch yn parhau i roi blaenoriaeth uchel i hyn drwy gydol y tymor nesaf hwn?

Jane Hutt: Yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal heddiw, clywsom adroddiad ar yr uwchgynhadledd cyflog cyfartal yr wythnos diwethaf a gadeiriwyd gennyf fi. Caiff grŵp cyflog cyfartal trawsbleidiol ei sefydlu yn awr i ddatblygu'r ymgyrch Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog. Mae hyn yn hanfodol am fod 30 mlynedd wedi mynd heibio ers gweithredu Deddf Cyflog Cyfartal 1970. Yr ydym yn canolbwyntio ar y sector cyhoeddus am fod 70 y cant o weithlu'r sector cyhoeddus yn fenywod. Bydd hynny'n allweddol o ran rôl newydd y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol wrth sicrhau bod cyflog cyfartal yn cael ei wireddu.

Helen Mary Jones: Fe wyddoch mai un o'r pryderon niferus ynghylch y cam arfaethedig i gyflwyno'r comisiwn cydraddoldebau unigol yw a all y comisiwn hwnnw barhau i roi cyngor i unigolion sy'n teimlo eu bod wedi dioddef oherwydd gwahaniaethu. A allech roi'r newyddion diweddaraf inni am ba drafodaethau a gawsoch yn ddiweddar gyda Gweinidogion yn Llundain, i geisio sicrhau bod hyn yn dal yn rhan o'r cylch gwaith ac y caiff y comisiwn newydd yng Nghymru ddigon o adnoddau i ddarparu cyngor o'r fath?

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf wedi gohebu â Meg Munn, y Gweinidog dros Fenywod a Chydraddoldeb, ac wedi cyfarfod â hi ac wedi codi'r mater hwn. Mae hwn hefyd yn

sector in Wales. I met with Wales Trades Union Congress, the Commission for Racial Equality and the Equal Opportunities Commission today, and we recognise that there is now a changing roles; for example, law centres now take on more responsibility. There is work to be done in terms of a new training course, with a legal framework of equality, in the workplace to ensure that trade unions representatives have those opportunities. It is a big issue for the equality Bill; I will be meeting Meg Munn shortly and I will raise it again.

William Graham: You will know that, under this Equality Bill, the needs of disabled people are also dealt with. How can you ensure that there will be adequate budgeting, given that so much more responsibility will be placed on local authorities and all kinds of groups throughout Wales?

Jane Hutt: That goes back to the Disability Discrimination Act and the responsibility on public authorities to ensure that they deliver on specific and general duties. I have already commented on the resource implications, but it is clear, through the Welsh Local Government Authority's equalities unit, that there is a commitment. We now have WLGA-supported equality champions in each local authority, whom I will meet shortly. We need to ensure that the public sector duty in terms of disabled people is taken on board, in the same way that race equality schemes have been taken on board across Wales.

gwestiwn o allu ein sector cyngori yng Nghymru. Cyfarfûm â Chyngres Undebau Llafur Cymru, y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol a'r Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal heddiw, a chydabyddwn fod rolau'n newid bellach; er enghraifft, mae canolfannau'r gyfraith yn cymryd mwy o gyfrifoldeb. Mae gwaith i'w wneud o ran cwrs hyfforddi newydd yn y gweithle, gyda fframwaith cyfreithiol o gydraddoldeb, er mwyn sicrhau bod gan gynrychiolwyr undebau llafur y cyfleoedd hynny. Mae'n fater mawr i'r Mesur cydraddoldeb; byddaf yn cyfarfod â Meg Munn yn fuan a chodaf y mater eto.

William Graham: Fe wyddoch, dan y Mesur Cydraddoldeb hwn, yr ymdrinnir ag anghenion pobl anabl hefyd. Sut y gallwch sicrhau y bydd cyllideb ddigonol, o gofio y bydd gan awdurdodau lleol, a phob math o grwpiau ledled Cymru, lawer mwy o gyfrifoldeb?

Jane Hutt: Mae hynny'n mynd yn ôl i'r Ddeddf Gwahaniaethu ar sail Anabledd a'r cyfrifoldeb sydd gan awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau eu bod yn cyflawni eu dyletswyddau penodol a chyffredinol. Yr wyf eisoes wedi gwneud sylwadau am y goblygiadau o ran adnoddau, ond mae'n amlwg, drwy uned gydraddoldeb Awdurdod Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, fod yna ymrwymiad. Mae gennym bellach hyrwyddwyr cydraddoldeb a gefnogir gan CLILC ym mhob awdurdod lleol, a byddaf yn cyfarfod â hwy yn fuan. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod dyletswydd y sector cyhoeddus o ran pobl anabl yn cael ei chyflawni, fel y mae cynlluniau cydraddoldeb hiliol wedi eu cyflawni ledled Cymru.

Y Bwlch Rhwng y Ddau Ryw The Gender Gap

Q6 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on the gender gap in terms of workplace prospects? OAQ0110(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Assembly Government is actively working to address the gender gap through its Close the Pay Gap campaign. Last week, I chaired the equal pay summit, which brought together key employers from the public sector.

C6 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y bwlch rhwng y ddau ryw o ran eu rhagolygon yn y gweithle? OAQ0110(BM)

Jane Hutt: Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wrthi'n mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch rhwng y ddau ryw drwy ei hymgyrch Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cadeiriais yr uwchgynhadledd cyflog cyfartal, a oedd yn dod â chyflogwyr allweddol y sector cyhoeddus at ei gilydd.

Eleanor Burnham: I used to be involved with that; it was impressive. Let us hope that progress is being made. However, we still have difficulties, such as the 14 per cent pay gap between men and women in Wales. Are you confident that we are addressing that in the Assembly, as a start? In the NHS, for instance, only 20 per cent of consultants are women. What can you and the Welsh Assembly Government do to address those points?

Jane Hutt: 'Agenda for Change' was heralded last week at the equal pay summit as a vehicle for change in the NHS, particularly in terms of the low paid in the NHS, who are principally women. However, the Close the Pay Gap campaign will have an impact on recruitment and retention for women at a consultant level, and across the board; over 50 per cent of medical students are now women, who will move through the system. It is clear that there is commitment, because it is a business, as well as a moral, imperative that equal pay is on employers' agendas. Vice chancellors, chief executives, the police, the fire service, higher education, and representatives from across the board, were all there to give their support to the summit last week.

Janet Ryder: To develop that theme, it is a fact that women are more likely to get promoted into managerial positions at an earlier age than men, but they are also more likely to resign. That is probably linked to the at least £6,000 lower wage that a woman would earn in a comparable position to a man. I know that the Committee on Equality of Opportunity in the past has tried to use some of its procurement contracts to affect companies that it works with. Are you intent on using that kind of mechanism to ensure that companies that the National Assembly contracts with are trying to address that gender gap and are trying to offer women a comparable remuneration to a man in a similar position?

Jane Hutt: I am sure that that will emerge from the discussions as a result of the equal

Eleanor Burnham: Arferwn fod yn rhan o honno; yr oedd yn feistrolgar. Gadewch inni obeithio bod cynnydd yn digwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym anawsterau o hyd, megis y bwlch cyflog o 14 y cant rhwng dynion a menywod yng Nghymru. A ydych yn hyderus ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â hynny yn y Cynulliad, i ddechrau? Yn y GIG, er enghraifft, dim ond 20 y cant o'r meddygon ymgynghorol sy'n fenywod. Beth allwch chi a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r pwyntiau hynny?

Jane Hutt: Cyhoeddwyd 'Agenda ar gyfer Newid' yr wythnos diwethaf yn yr uwchgynhadledd cyflog cyfartal fel cyfrwng newid yn y GIG, yn enwedig o ran pobl ar gyflog isel yn y GIG, sy'n fenywod yn bennaf. Fodd bynnag, caiff yr ymgyrch Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog effaith ar recriwtio a chadw menywod ar lefel meddygon ymgynghorol ac yn gyffredinol; mae dros 50 y cant o fyfyrwyr meddygol yn fenywod erbyn hyn, a fydd yn symud drwy'r system. Mae'n amlwg fod yna ymrwymiad, oherwydd ei fod yn ofyniad busnes, yn ogystal â gofyniad moesol, fod cyflog cyfartal ar agendâu cyflogwyr. Yr oedd is-gangellorion, prif weithredwyr, yr heddlu, y gwasanaeth tân, addysg uwch a chynrychiolwyr o bob maes i gyd yno i ddangos eu cefnogaeth i'r uwchgynhadledd yr wythnos diwethaf.

Janet Ryder: I ddatblygu'r thema honno, mae'n ffaith fod menywod yn fwy tebygol o gael eu dyrchafu i swyddi rheoli yn iau na dynion, ond maent hefyd yn fwy tebygol o ymddiswyddo. Mae'n debyg fod hynny'n gysylltiedig â'r cyflog is o £6,000 o leiaf y byddai menyw yn ei ennill mewn swydd debyg i ddyn. Gwn fod y Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal wedi ceisio defnyddio rhai o'i gontractau caffael yn y gorffennol i ddylanwadu ar gwmnïau y mae'n gweithio gyda hwy. A ydych yn bwriadu defnyddio'r math hwnnw o ddull i sicrhau bod cwmnïau y mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn contractio gyda hwy yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r bwlch rhwng y ddau ryw, ac yn ceisio cynnig i fenyw gyflog tebyg i gyflog dyn mewn swydd debyg?

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n deillio o'r trafodaethau o ganlyniad i'r

pay campaign. We are focusing on the public sector, which is where the majority of low-paid women are employed. However, I am sure that that issue about compliance and contracting will come up.

Lisa Francis: Did your Government respond to the DTI consultation document, 'Work and Families: Choice and Flexibility'? What was your Government's view on whether mothers taking maternity leave should be required to confirm their return date to work with their employers in advance?

Jane Hutt: We responded to that commission's report. We are concerned about the Equal Opportunities Commission's research, which reveals a huge amount of discrimination against pregnant women. We are trying to address that, which means that we have to look at the rights of women in this situation, in terms of gender equality and discrimination, first.

ymgyrch cyflog cyfartal. Yr ydym yn canolbwyntio ar y sector cyhoeddus, lle mae'r rhan fwyaf o fenywod ar gyflog isel yn cael eu cyflogi. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y mater hwnnw ynghylch cydymffurfio a chontractio yn codi.

Lisa Francis: A ymatebodd eich Llywodraeth i ddogfen ymgynghori'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant, 'Gwaith a Theuluoedd: Dewis a Hyblygrwydd'? Beth oedd barn eich Llywodraeth am y cwestiwn a ddylai fod yn ofynnol i famau sy'n absennol oherwydd mamolaeth gadarnhau eu dyddiad dychwelyd i'r gwaith gyda'u cyflogwyr ymlaen llaw?

Jane Hutt: Cyflwynwyd ateb gennym i adroddiad y comisiwn hwnnw. Yr ydym yn pryderu ynghylch ymchwil y Comisiwn Cyfle Cyfartal, sy'n datgelu llawer o wahaniaethu yn erbyn menywod beichiog. Yr ydym yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â hynny, sy'n golygu bod yn rhaid inni edrych yn gyntaf ar hawliau menywod yn y sefyllfa hon, o ran cydraddoldeb rhwng y ddau ryw a gwahaniaethu.

Cynllun Cydraddoldeb Hiliol 2005 The Race Equality Scheme 2005

Q7 John Griffiths: Will the Minister give a progress report on the Race Equality Scheme 2005? OAQ0118(BM)

Jane Hutt: I launched the Race Equality Scheme in Wrexham on 1 July. I met with the Commission for Racial Equality to discuss the progress made by the Assembly Government at the end of July.

John Griffiths: Will you ensure that the ministerial remit letter looks ahead, and includes all major organisations in Wales that currently have, and will have, a major role to play in delivering the scheme's objectives?

Jane Hutt: We work in partnership with the Commission for Racial Equality on this. You know that, earlier this year, in June, the commissioner for Wales, Cherry Short, had to tell the public sector that this is not a paper exercise in ticking boxes and archiving statistics—this is about creating a level

C7 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi adroddiad cynnydd ar y Cynllun Cydraddoldeb Hiliol 2005? OAQ0118(BM)

Jane Hutt: Lansiais y Cynllun Cydraddoldeb Hiliol yn Wrecsam ar 1 Gorffennaf. Cyfarfûm â'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol ddiwedd mis Gorffennaf i drafod y cynnydd a wnaed gan Lywodraeth.

John Griffiths: A wnewch sicrhau bod llythyr cylch gwaith y Gweinidog yn edrych ymlaen, ac yn cynnwys pob sefydliad mawr yng Nghymru sydd â rhan bwysig ar hyn o bryd ac a fydd â rhan bwysig yn y gwaith o gyflawni amcanion y cynllun?

Jane Hutt: Yr ydym yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth â'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol ar y mater hwn. Fe wyddoch, yn gynharach eleni, ym mis Mehefin, fod comisiynydd Cymru, Cherry Short, wedi gorfod dweud wrth y sector cyhoeddus nad ymarfer papur yw hwn i dicio blychau ac

playing field for all, and ensuring that public money spent in Wales is done so on the basis of equality. That is the kind of message that we need to get through. I will discuss ministerial remit letters with my colleagues.

archifo ystadegau—mae'n golygu darparu chwarae teg i bawb, a sicrhau y caiff arian cyhoeddus ei wario yng Nghymru ar sail cydraddoldeb. Dyna'r math o neges y mae angen inni ei chyfleu. Byddaf yn trafod y llythyrau cylch gwaith gweinidogol gyda'm cyd-Weinidogion.

Darpariaeth Gwasanaethau Plant mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig The Delivery of Children's Services in Rural Areas

Q8 Mark Isherwood: Will the Minister make a statement on what action she is taking to co-ordinate Welsh Assembly Government policies to improve the delivery of children's services in rural areas? OAQ0113(BM)

C8 Mark Isherwood: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i gydylynu polisiau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru er mwyn gwella darparu gwasanaethau plant mewn ardaloedd gwledig? OAQ0113(BM)

Jane Hutt: The Children Act 2004 will strengthen current partnership arrangements for planning and delivering services for children and young people across Wales, whether rural or urban.

Jane Hutt: Bydd Deddf Plant 2004 yn atgyfnerthu trefniadau partneriaethau presennol ar gyfer cynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc ledled Cymru, boed mewn ardaloedd gwledig neu drefol.

Mark Isherwood: No nationally based research has been conducted on the pros and cons of small primary schools since the late 1970s. However, we have seen growing controversy about the future of small, mostly rural, primary schools, despite the role that they can play in preserving links and networks within a community, stopping the erosion of the Welsh language, and in adding value to children's social and emotional development. What action will the Welsh Assembly Government take, therefore, to initiate research that will look at school catchment areas to see how small schools are doing in the delivery of co-ordinated services to children in rural areas?

Mark Isherwood: Nid oes unrhyw ymchwil genedlaethol wedi ei gwneud ers diwedd y 1970au ar fanteision ac anafanteision ysgolion cynradd bach. Fodd bynnag, gwelsom ddadlau cynyddol am ddyfodol ysgolion cynradd bach, rhai gwledig yn bennaf, er gwaethaf y rôl y gallant ei chwarae i gynnal cysylltiadau a rhwydweithiau mewn cymuned, rhwystro'r iaith Gymraeg rhag erydu, ac ychwanegu gwerth at ddatblygiad cymdeithasol ac emosïynol plant. Pa gamau y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn eu cymryd, felly, i gychwyn gwaith ymchwil a fydd yn edrych ar ddalgylchoedd ysgolion a'u i weld sut mae ysgolion bach yn llwyddo wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau cydgysylltiedig i blant mewn ardaloedd gwledig?

3.30 p.m.

Jane Hutt: This is being undertaken by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning. It is a current policy issue that is being looked at closely, and local education authorities who are the lead in this respect are, with our guidance, considering these issues.

Jane Hutt: Mae hyn yn cael ei wneud gan y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes. Mae'n fater polisi cyfredol sydd dan y chwyddwydr, ac mae awdurdodau addysg lleol, sy'n arwain ar y cyswllt hwn, gyda'n harweiniad ni, yn ystyried y materion hyn.

Gwahaniaethu ar Sail Oedran Age Discrimination

Q9 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on age discrimination in Wales? OAQ0112(BM)

Jane Hutt: Ageism is not acceptable and the Welsh Assembly Government is committed to tackling it. We are developing initiatives aimed at tackling age discrimination, and age regulations will be introduced by the UK Government in October 2006.

Ann Jones: Like me, I am sure that you welcome the Department of Trade and Industry's consultation on plans to outlaw age discrimination. Tackling age discrimination is good for business, good for individuals and good for society as a whole. However, we must be aware of the worries of workers on low incomes, or those in arduous-task jobs, such as nurses who must perform heavy-lifting duties, or firefighters aged 60 or over who may have to respond to calls in the early hours of the morning. While those people can enjoy working longer, we must ensure that their pension rights are protected, so that they can have the same quality of life as those who take early retirement. Could you assure me that we will look at these issues, so that no-one will be discriminated against in any form?

Jane Hutt: Yes. We are working with the DTI on these issues. Obviously, some of the issues are not devolved, but issues around health are key.

C9 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am wahaniaethu ar sail oedran yng Nghymru? OAQ0112(BM)

Jane Hutt: Nid yw gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran yn dderbyniol ac mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael ag ef. Yr ydym yn datblygu mentrau sy'n anelu at fynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran, a chaiff rheoliadau oed eu cyflwyno gan Lywodraeth y DU ym mis Hydref 2006.

Ann Jones: Fel finnau, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn croesawu'r ymgynghoriad yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant ar gynlluniau i wahardd gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran. Mae mynd i'r afael â gwahaniaethu ar sail oedran yn dda i fusnesau, yn dda i unigolion ac yn dda i gymdeithas gyfan. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni fod yn ymwybodol o bryderon gweithwyr ar incwm isel, neu'r rheini sydd mewn swyddi corfforol anodd, fel nyrsys sydd â dyletswyddau codi pwysau trwm, neu ddiffoddwyr tân 60 oed neu hŷn sy'n gorfod ymateb i alwadau yn oriau mân y bore. Er y gall y bobl hynny fwynhau gweithio'n hwy, rhaid inni sicrhau y caiff eu hawliau pensiwn eu diogelu fel y cânt yr un ansawdd bywyd â'r rheini sy'n ymddeol yn gynnar. A allwch fy sicrhau y byddwn yn edrych ar y materion hyn i sicrhau na fydd gwahaniaethu yn erbyn neb mewn unrhyw ffordd?

Jane Hutt: Gallaf. Yr ydym yn gweithio gyda'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant ar y materion hyn. Wrth reswm, mae rhai o'r materion heb eu datganoli, ond mae materion iechyd yn allweddol.

Gwasanaethau Plant ym Mhowys Children's Services in Powys

Q10 Kirsty Williams: Will the Minister make a statement on the actions that she is taking to co-ordinate Welsh Assembly Government policies on children's services in Powys? OAQ0106(BM)

Jane Hutt: The co-ordination of planning and delivering services for children and young people in each local authority area is the responsibility of the children and young people's framework partnerships.

C10 Kirsty Williams: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y camau y mae'n eu cymryd i gydgyssylltu polisiâu Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar wasanaethau plant ym Mhowys? OAQ0106(BM)

Jane Hutt: Cyfrifoldeb partneriaethau fframwaith plant a phobl ifanc yw cydgysylltu'r gwaith o gynllunio a darparu gwasanaethau i blant a phobl ifanc ym mhob ardal awdurdod lleol. Mae'r gwaith

Consultation has just ended on draft guidance to strengthen these arrangements under the Children Act 2004.

Kirsty Williams: You will be aware that Powys social services department has recently undergone a joint review inspection, which will be published in December. We are already aware of the damning contents of that report. One problem in Powys is the inability to recruit and retain qualified social work staff. What can the Assembly Government do to aid local authorities to ensure that Powys has the right number of social work staff with the right qualifications, to protect children and do the kind of preventative social work that they would like to do, rather than engaging with families when they are already in crisis?

Jane Hutt: This, again, is a key issue and, during the safeguarding review, I answered questions about the social workforce, particularly for children. We are looking at the childcare workforce with our colleagues in the UK Government, because it is clear that we must invest in a childcare workforce to ensure that we can do the vital, preventative work that will come through in the Flying Start initiative for the early years, which is about to go out to consultation.

ymgyngori newydd orffen ar ganllawiau drafft i gryfhau'r trefniadau hyn dan Ddeddf Plant 2004.

Kirsty Williams: Gwyddoch fod arolygiad adolygu ar y cyd wedi digwydd yn adran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol Powys yn ddiweddar, a chaiff hwnnw ei gyhoeddi ym mis Rhagfyr. Yr ydym eisoes yn ymwybodol o gynnwys damniol yr adroddiad hwnnw. Un broblem ym Mhowys yw'r anallu i recriwtio a chadw staff sydd â chymwysterau mewn gwaith cymdeithasol. Beth all Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ei wneud i gynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod gan Bowys y nifer cywir o staff gwaith cymdeithasol sydd â'r cymwysterau cywir i amddiffyn plant ac i wneud y math o waith cymdeithasol ataliol y byddent yn hoffi ei wneud, yn hytrach nag ymgysylltu â theuluoedd pan fyddant eisoes mewn sefyllfa argyfyngus?

Jane Hutt: Unwaith eto, mae hwn yn fater allweddol, ac yn ystod yr adolygiad diogelu atebais gwestiynau ynglŷn â'r gweithlu cymdeithasol, yn enwedig yng nghyd-destun plant. Yr ydym yn edrych ar y gweithlu gofal plant gyda'n cyd-aelodau yn Llywodraeth y DU, oherwydd mae'n amlwg ei bod rhaid inni fuddsoddi mewn gweithlu gofal plant i sicrhau y gallwn wneud y gwaith ataliol hanfodol a ddaw yn y fenter Dechrau'n Deg ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar, sydd ar fin mynd allan i ymgynghori arni.

Datganiad Busnes Diwygiedig Revised Business Statement

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I come forward with a revised business statement for the next three weeks, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 5.4 and 5.5. The draft statement can be found on the Chamberweb under 'supporting documents'. I have looked very carefully at our schedule over the next three weeks and, as Members will appreciate, opposition requests for items made each week since the Assembly resumed in September mean that the schedule is already very crowded with business, which the Government has worked hard to accommodate. Given the amount of business already coming forward, it has not been possible to find time in today's revised

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cyflwynaf ddatganiad busnes diwygiedig ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 5.4 a 5.5. Mae'r datganiad drafft i'w weld ar we'r Siambr dan 'dogfennau ategol'. Yr wyf wedi edrych yn ofalus ar ein hamserlen dros y tair wythnos nesaf, ac fel y bydd Aelodau yn sylweddoli, mae ceisiadau gan y gwrthbleidiau am eitemau bob wythnos ers i'r Cynulliad ailymgynnull fis Medi yn golygu bod yr amserlen eisoes yn llawn iawn o fusnes. Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ymdrechu'n galed i ddarparu ar gyfer hyn. O gofio faint o fusnes sydd eisoes yn dod o'n blaen, ni fu'n bosibl cael amser yn ystod datganiad diwygiedig heddiw am drafodaeth

statement for a discussion on ambulance night-time cover or nutrition in schools. However, I am continuing to look for time when it may be possible to schedule these matters, and I will continue to discuss further with my Cabinet colleagues the case for bringing these items forward, and if appropriate, the time to do so.

Y Llywydd: A oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes diwygiedig? Gwelaf fod o leiaf 10 gwrthwynebiad. Felly, yr wyf yn gofyn i'r Trefnydd gynnig y datganiad busnes diwygiedig yn ffurfiol. Yna, galwaf ar Aelod o bob grŵp gwleidyddol i ymateb yn fyr.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales adopts the revised business statement.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Minister, I think that you are being rather creative with the term 'revised'. You have not revised the statement at all, apart from adding two lots of regulations to it that we did not ask for. I remind you of the words of the Finance Minister, who said that politics is not about winning votes, but about doing the right thing. Surely, when a business statement has been rejected in Plenary, you have an obligation to come back with at least one of the requests made by the opposition parties. You have given us a vague commitment that you will see whether there is any opportunity in the forward look to consider the issues of 24-hour ambulance cover and nutritional school meals. We hope, Minister, that you will find room for them, though we have had no certainty from you.

I remind you that we have also previously asked for an opportunity to discuss the future role of community hospitals. You also undertook to hold a debate on 'Designed for Life', but that has disappeared from the forward look. Therefore, one of the commitments that you gave in the past has disappeared and we have no certainty that the new items that you are looking at will be included. There is no way that we can support this so-called 'revised' business statement, because you have not considered

ar staff ambiwlans i weithio yn ystod y nos, neu faeth mewn ysgolion. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn parhau i edrych am amser lle gall fod yn bosibl amserlennu'r materion hyn. Byddaf yn parhau i drafod ymhellach gyda'm cyd-aelodau yn y Cabinet yr achos dros gyflwyno'r eitemau hyn, ac os bydd yn briodol, yr adeg i wneud hynny.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the revised business statement? I see that there are at least 10 objections. Therefore, I ask the Business Minister to formally propose the revised business statement. I will then call upon a Member from each political group to respond briefly.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn derbyn y datganiad busnes diwygiedig.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Weinidog, credaf eich bod yn gwneud defnydd braidd yn greadigol o'r term 'diwygiedig'. Nid ydych wedi diwygio'r datganiad o gwbl, ar wahân i ychwanegu dwy gyfres o reoliadau ato na fu ofynnwyd amdanynt. Fe'ch atgoffaf o eiriau'r Gweinidog Cyllid, a ddywedodd nad ennill pleidleisiau yw diben gwleidyddiaeth, ond gwneud yr hyn sy'n iawn. Onid oes rheidrydd arnoch i fodloni o leiaf un o'r ceisiadau a wnaed gan y gwrthbleidiau pan fydd datganiad busnes wedi'i wrthod mewn Cyfarfod Llawn? Yr ydych wedi rhoi ymrwymiad amhendiant inni y byddwch yn edrych i weld a oes cyfle yn y rhagolwg i ystyried materion staff ambiwlans 24-awr a phrydau ysgol maethlon. Gobeithio, Weinidog, y byddwch yn eu cynnwys, er na chawsom unrhyw sicrwydd gennych.

Fe'ch atgoffaf ein bod wedi gofyn am gyfle hefyd cyn hyn i drafod rôl ysbytai cymuned yn y dyfodol. Addawsoch hefyd i gynnal dadl ar 'Gynllun Oes', ond mae hynny wedi diflannu o'r rhagolwg. Felly, mae un o'r ymrwymadau a wnaethoch yn y gorffennol wedi diflannu ac nid oes gennym unrhyw sicrwydd y caiff yr eitemau newydd yr ydych yn edrych arnynt eu cynnwys. Ni allwn gefnogi'r datganiad busnes 'diwygiedig' honedig hwn o gwbl, oherwydd nid ydych wedi ystyried unrhyw un o'r ceisiadau a

any of the requests that we made.

Presiding Officer, when you have had time to look at the business statement that was offered yesterday and this so-called 'revised' business statement, I ask you to give some consideration as to whether, when a business statement has been turned down, the Business Minister has an obligation to come back fulfilling at least one request from the opposition parties.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Are you asking me to rule on this matter as a point of order?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I am asking you to have a look at both statements at your leisure, and to come to a decision.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Presiding officers have no leisure. [*Laughter.*] I will express my ruling on this matter when the contributions from the party groups are completed, and before we come to vote on this matter.

David Melding: Minister, your party seems incapable of grasping the fact that it is in a minority here. It is a great honour to form a Government, and my party would dearly wish to do so at some point, but I dare say that we will have to do a lot of work before we are in that position. However, it is a great honour. When you are in a minority position, you are in a potentially fragile situation and your business can be denied. It is appropriate for you to respond with more generosity than you have done on this occasion. It is pointless to pretend, like Gerhard Schröder did in Germany, that you somehow won the election. You had 40 per cent of the vote, and you are now down to 29—[*Interruption.*] No, including the constituency vote, you polled 40 per cent at the last Assembly elections. You are already in a minority position as far as the electorate is concerned, and you are now in a minority in terms of your seats as well.

Far from acting modestly—though this probably does not apply to you, I grant—the First Minister has come up with this bizarre

wnaethom.

Lywydd, pan fyddwch wedi cael cyfle i edrych ar y datganiad busnes a gynigiwyd ddoe, a'r datganiad busnes 'diwygiedig' honedig hwn, gofynnaf ichi ystyried a oes rheidrwydd ar y Trefnydd i fodloni o leiaf un cais gan y gwrthbleidiau pan fydd datganiad busnes wedi'i wrthod.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. A ydych yn gofyn imi wneud penderfyniad ar y mater hwn fel pwynt o drefn?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn gofyn ichi edrych ar y ddau ddatganiad pan fydd gennych funud neu ddau, ac i ddod i benderfyniad.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid oes gan Lywyddion funud neu ddau. [*Chwerthin.*] Byddaf yn cyhoeddi fy mhenderfyniad ar y mater hwn pan fydd y cyfraniadau gan y pleidiau wedi'u cwblhau, a chyn inni bleidleisio ar y mater hwn.

David Melding: Weinidog, ymddengys na all eich plaid amgyffred y ffaith ei bod mewn lleiafrif yma. Mae ffurfio Llywodraeth yn fraint fawr, a byddai fy mhlaid i wrth ei bodd yn gwneud hynny ar ryw adeg, ond mentraf ddweud y bydd yn rhaid inni wneud cryn dipyn o waith cyn y byddwn yn y sefyllfa honno. Fodd bynnag, mae'n fraint fawr. Pan fyddwch mewn sefyllfa leiafrifol, yr ydych mewn sefyllfa a all fod yn fregus a gellir gwrthod eich busnes. Mae'n briodol i chi ymateb gyda mwy o haelioni nag a wnaethoch y tro hwn. Nid oes diben esgus, fel y gwnaeth Gerhard Schröder yn yr Almaen, eich bod rywsut wedi ennill yr etholiad. Cawsoch 40 y cant o'r bleidlais, a bellach yr ydych i lawr i 29—[*Torri ar draws.*] Na, gan gynnwys y bleidlais etholaethol, cawsoch 40 y cant yn etholiadau diwethaf y Cynulliad. Yr ydych eisoes mewn sefyllfa leiafrifol cyn belled ag y mae'r etholwyr yn y cwestiwn, ac yr ydych bellach mewn lleiafrif o ran eich seddi hefyd.

Yn hytrach na bod yn ddiymhongar—er yr wyf yn derbyn nad yw hyn yn berthnasol i chi—mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi mabwysiadu

Ukrainian practice of nobbling the electoral system.

The Presiding Officer: Order. David Melding, we are discussing the business statement, not the results of elections in the Ukraine or Germany.

David Melding: I am most grateful for that guidance, but I was coming to the fact that we want a debate on what the Electoral Commission has said about the Labour Party's partisan, flawed and peculiar policies on voting reform. What arrogance for a minority party to come up with trash like that. The people of Wales expect it to be debated, and debated soon. We will not support a business statement until there is movement on this crucial issue.

Kirsty Williams: I regret the fact that the Business Minister, to date, has not been able to find time in the programme for what the Welsh Liberal Democrat group regards to be very important topics. The ambulance crews will remove their overnight services from Saturday of this week, depriving many communities of significant overnight emergency cover. I am sure that you will agree that that is a serious situation, and so we need the opportunity to discuss it in the National Assembly, to find out what your Government intends to do, in partnership with the ambulance trust, to ensure that all communities have adequate emergency cover.

3.40 p.m.

It is true to say that the Minister's announcements to the press earlier this week, about her intentions with regard to nutritional standards in school foods, also deserve the attention of the Assembly. We have had many occasions when Ministers have found the time to talk to the press, but have not afforded the Assembly the courtesy of discussing those plans here. It is a matter of regret to us that we cannot support the business statement, until some way is found to accommodate these issues.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Before I call

arfer rhyfedd yr Wcráin o ymyrryd yn y system etholiadol.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. David Melding, yr ydym yn trafod y datganiad busnes, nid canlyniadau etholiadau'r Wcráin na'r Almaen.

David Melding: Yr wyf yn hynod ddiolchgar am yr arweiniad hwnnw, ond yr oeddwn ar fin sôn ein bod am gael dadl ar yr hyn y mae'r Comisiwn Etholiadol wedi ei ddweud ynglŷn â pholisïau pleidiol, diffygiol a rhyfedd y Blaid Lafur ar ddiwygio'r system bleidleisio. Trahauster ar ran plaid leiafrifol yw siarad sothach felly. Mae pobl Cymru yn disgwyl i'r mater gael ei drafod, a'i drafod yn fuan. Ni fyddwn yn cefnogi datganiad busnes nes bydd gweithredu ar y mater allweddol hwn.

Kirsty Williams: Gresynaf at y ffaith na fu modd i'r Trefnydd, hyd yma, ddod o hyd i amser yn y rhaglen ar gyfer yr hyn yr ystyria grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn bynciau pwysig iawn. Bydd y criwiau ambiwlans yn dod â'u gwasanaethau dros nos i ben ar ôl dydd Sadwrn yr wythnos hon, gan amddifadu llawer cymuned o wasanaeth brys dros nos. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod hon yn sefyllfa ddifrifol, ac felly mae angen cyfle arnom i drafod y mater yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, er mwyn cael gwybod beth y mae eich Llywodraeth yn bwriadu'i wneud, mewn partneriaeth â'r ymddiriedolaeth ambiwlans, i sicrhau bod gwasanaeth brys digonol gan bob cymuned.

Mae'n wir dweud bod datganiadau'r Gweinidog i'r wasg yn gynharach yr wythnos hon, am ei chynlluniau o ran safonau maeth mewn bwydydd ysgol, hefyd yn haeddu sylw'r Cynulliad. Droeon y mae Gweinidogion wedi dod o hyd i'r amser i siarad â'r wasg, ond heb roi i'r Cynulliad y cwrteisi o drafod y cynlluniau hynny yn y fan hon. Gresynwn na allwn gefnogi'r datganiad busnes oni ddeuir o hyd i ryw ffordd o ddelio â'r materion hyn.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Cyn imi alw ar y

the Minister, I have had the opportunity to read both business statements, to refresh my memory, and to take further advice. This, as often happens these days, is a case of having been here before. A request was made on 4 June 2003 for me to respond as to whether a business statement was sufficiently revised to reflect points made when the original statement was rejected. At that time, I ruled that it was not a matter for me to question the extent of the revision of a business statement but simply whether it had been revised. I would like to indicate, however, that if a revision were simply verbal—that is, a matter of the order of words or the punctuation—I would not regard that as a revision. A revision, by definition, should be a limited reordering of a statement with some new material. That is my view and that is the position that we are in today.

Carl Sargeant: Minister, we welcome the revised business statement that you have delivered today. It is true to say that we were in a vulnerable situation yesterday, but there is no doubt about the fact that the people of Wales have given us a mandate to govern, and govern we will.

I would like you to consider economic development and the way in which that success has been delivered in Wales, particularly with the announcement of the A350 project last week at the Airbus factory in my constituency. It would also be appropriate if we were to discuss sports policy in Wales—and I wish all the best to the Wales team and to John Toshack as they take on Azerbaijan this evening. Finally, Minister, I would welcome a debate on the electoral arrangements of the National Assembly for Wales, as would my colleague, David Melding. It is true to say that 10 of the 11 Members from the Conservative Party did not win an election to become a directly elected Assembly Member—although perhaps we can now count Peter Law as a new member of the Tory party.

Jane Hutt: Thank you, Llywydd, for your ruling on this issue. Rhodri Glyn, I have brought forward a revised business statement; I have also said quite a few things about recognising my position and hoping that we can have responsible opposition. This is

Gweinidog, yr wyf wedi cael cyfle i ddarllen y ddau ddatganiad busnes, i atgoffa fy hun ac i ofyn am gyngor pellach. Fel sy'n digwydd yn aml y dyddiau hyn, mae hwn yn achos o droedio hen lwybr. Gwnaed cais ar 4 Mehefin 2003 imi ymateb i'r cwestiwn a oedd datganiad busnes wedi'i ddiwygio'n ddigonol i adlewyrchu pwyntiau a wnaed pan wrthodwyd y datganiad gwreiddiol. Bryd hynny, dyfernais nad mater i mi oedd cwestiynu hyd a lled diwygiad datganiad busnes, ond yn syml a oedd wedi'i ddiwygio ai peidio. Hoffwn nodi, fodd bynnag, pe byddai diwygiad yn un geiriol yn unig—hynny yw, trefn geiriau neu atalnodi—ni fyddwn wedi ystyried hwnnw'n ddiwygiad. Yn ôl y diffiniad, dylai diwygiad gael ei gyfyngu i ad-drefnu datganiad gyda rhywfaint o ddeunydd newydd. Dyna fy marn, a dyna'r sefyllfa sy'n ein hwynebu heddiw.

Carl Sargeant: Weinidog, yr ydym yn croesawu'r datganiad busnes diwygiedig a gyflwynwyd gennych heddiw. Mae'n wir dweud ein bod mewn sefyllfa fregus ddoe, ond nid oes amheuaeth ynglŷn â'r ffaith fod pobl Cymru roi mandad inni lywodraethu, a llywodraethu a wnawn.

Hoffwn ichi ystyried datblygiad economaidd a'r modd y gwelwyd y llwyddiant hwnnw yng Nghymru, yn enwedig gyda chyhoeddi'r prosiect A350 yr wythnos diwethaf yn ffatri Airbus yn fy etholaeth i. Byddai hefyd yn briodol pe baem yn trafod polisi chwaraeon yng Nghymru—a dymunaf bob llwyddiant i dîm Cymru ac i John Toshack wrth iddynt wynebu Azerbaijan heno. Yn olaf, Weinidog, byddwn yn croesawu dadl ar drefniadau etholiadol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, fel fy nghyd-Aelod, David Melding. Mae'n wir dweud nad enillodd 10 o'r 11 Aelod o'r Blaid Geidwadol etholiad i gael eu hethol yn uniongyrchol yn Aelod Cynulliad—er y gallwn bellach, efallai, gyfrif Peter Law yn aelod newydd o'r Blaid Geidwadol.

Jane Hutt: Diolch, Lywydd, am ddyfarnu yn y mater hwn. Rhodri Glyn, yr wyf wedi cyflwyno datganiad busnes diwygiedig; yr wyf hefyd wedi dweud ychydig bethau ynglŷn â chydabod fy sefyllfa gan obeithio y cawn wrthwynebiad cyfrifol. Mae hyn yn

about scheduling time, and it is difficult because, over the past few weeks, I have constantly taken on board requests from opposition parties, so we have debates on affordable housing, looked-after children, and on council tax—a debate that we hope is about to commence. David made a point and I recognise that this is about us trying to accommodate requests, where possible. The point is that you cannot always fit a quart into a pint pot. As the business statement was rejected yesterday, I am working with my colleagues. As I said yesterday, Kirsty, there will be a statement on nutrition in schools—Jane Davidson, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, has said that she will accommodate that, so you will get your statement on nutrition in schools.

Equally, on ambulance cover, I have sought an opportunity to talk to Brian Gibbons and we have agreed that, when it is appropriate, we must bring this matter back to the Assembly and to committee. There are industrial negotiations at this time.

David, the point that has been made is surely about how we accommodate that within the timing and flexibility that we have.

In conclusion, Carl, thank you for your comments. There is some good news there that we would like to debate. This does come back to the fact that 29 of us are sitting here, as we do every Tuesday and Wednesday, and I hope that we will move forward and get this revised business statement carried, given the promises that I have made of statements in due course on the points that you have made.

ymwneud ag amserlennu, ac mae'n anodd oherwydd fy mod, yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf, yn gyson wedi derbyn ceisiadau gan y gwrthbleidiau. Felly, mae gennym ddadleuon ar dai fforddiadwy, plant sy'n cael gofal a threth gyngor—dadl y gobeithiwn sydd ar fin digwydd. Gwnaeth David bwynt, ac yr wyf yn cydnabod bod hyn yn ymwneud â'n hymgais i fodloni ceisiadau lle mae'n bosibl. Y pwynt yw na allwch bob amser roi chwarter mewn pot peint. Oherwydd i'r datganiad busnes gael ei wrthod ddoe, yr wyf yn gweithio gyda'm cyd-Aelodau. Fel y dywedais ddoe, Kirsty, bydd datganiad ar faeth mewn ysgolion—mae Jane Davidson, y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes wedi dweud y bydd yn sicrhau hynny, felly cewch eich datganiad ar faeth mewn ysgolion.

Yn yr un modd, ynglŷn â gwasanaethau ambiwlans, yr wyf wedi ceisio cael cyfle i siarad â Brian Gibbons ac yr ydym wedi cytuno bod yn rhaid inni ddod â'r mater hwn yn ôl i'r Cynulliad ac i'r pwyllgor pan fydd yn briodol. Mae trafodaethau diwydiannol yn mynd rhagddynt ar hyn o bryd.

David, onid y pwynt a wnaed yw sut y byddwn yn sicrhau hynny o fewn yr amserlen a'r hyblygrwydd sydd gennym?

I gloi, Carl, diolch ichi am eich sylwadau. Mae yna rywffaint o newyddion da yr hoffem eu trafod. Daw hyn yn ôl at y ffaith fod 29 ohonom yn eistedd yma, fel y gwnawn bob dydd Mawrth a dydd Mercher, a gobeithio y byddwn yn symud ymlaen ac yn derbyn y datganiad busnes diwygiedig hwn, o ystyried yr addewidion yr wyf wedi eu gwneud o ddatganiadau maes o law ar y pwyntiau a wnaed gennyh.

Cynnig: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 24.

Motion: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 24.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun

Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Datganiad: Y Newyddion Diweddaraf ar E.coli yn Ne Cymru Statement: Update on the E.coli Outbreak in South Wales

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw'r Gweinidog i siarad, mae gennyf ddatganiad. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r heddlu wedi cyhoeddi yn sgîl marwolaeth drychinebus Mason Jones, y bachgen bach pum mlwydd oed, y cynhelir ymchwiliad swyddogol i'r achosion o E.coli. Hyd y gwn i, ni chychwynwyd achos troseddol. Golyga hyn nad yw'r egwyddor ynghylch drafod materion sub judice a nodir yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.12 yn gymwys. Er hynny, o dan yr amgylchiadau presennol, yr wyf o'r farn y dylai ysbryd y rheol sub judice fod yn gymwys yn yr achos hwn. Felly, dylai'r Aelodau fod yn ymwybodol na ddylent ddweud unrhyw beth yn y trafodion a gellir dweud ei fod yn niweidio ymchwiliad yr heddlu, yn arbennig o ran unrhyw ddatganiad y gellir honni ei fod yn cyfeirio, yn uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol, at atebolrwydd troseddol neu sifil posibl unrhyw berson.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): As of the latest report from the outbreak control team, the total number of cases in the E.coli outbreak now stands at 156. This has principally been an outbreak in children, with a few cases in adults in the community. Secondary cases

The Presiding Officer: Before I call the Minister to speak, I have an announcement to make. As you know, the police have announced, following the tragic death of Mason Jones, the little five-year-old boy, that an official inquiry is to be held into the E.coli outbreak. As far as I am aware, no criminal case has been brought. This means the principle relating to the discussion of sub judice matters noted in Standing Order No. 7.12 does not apply. However, given the present circumstances, I am of the view that the spirit of the sub judice rule should apply in this case. Therefore, Members should be aware that they should not say anything in the proceedings that could be construed as harmful to the police investigation, especially any statement that could be claimed to make reference, directly or indirectly, to the possible criminal or civil liability of any individual.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Yn ôl yr adroddiad diweddaraf gan y tîm rheoli achosion, 156 yw cyfanswm yr achosion o E.coli erbyn hyn. Achosion ymysg plant yw'r rhain yn bennaf, gydag ambell achos ymysg oedolion yn y gymuned. Mae achosion

have usually been through household contact. While cases continue to pop up and be investigated, let me remind you that the last school-related case through contact with implicated food occurred on 27 September, over two weeks ago. To date, there have been no secondary cases as a result of cross-infection in schools. With regard to the recent incident in Glenboi Primary School, children will return to school as they are cleared of any active infection, and the outbreak control team will undoubtedly keep us informed through press releases of progress in this regard.

Assembly Members will be aware that the BBC has reported

‘fears that the south Wales E.coli outbreak has spread to an old people’s home after a worker contracted the illness and was told to stay away’.

Members will note, however, that the BBC’s website report of 11 October shows that the person involved in this case developed symptoms 11 days previously. This is consistent with the outbreak curve and exposure prior to controls being put in place. The outbreak control team has confirmed that a member of staff at Tŷ Clyd Residential Home in Bargoed has tested positive for the E.coli 0157 infection. The employee has been off work since the symptoms first developed, and environmental health officers have been working closely with the home to ensure that appropriate steps are being taken to limit the risk of further infection. Anyone in a caring role who has the E.coli infection is treated as a high risk and would be excluded from work. Such people are allowed to return to work only when they are symptom-free and have had two negative tests 48 hours apart. The exclusion of a member of staff combined with enhanced cleaning and the reinforcement of the need for good hygiene practices provides a safe environment for residents. Although it is understandable that people would be concerned in such a situation, there is no evidence from previous experience that this should cause alarm.

eilaidd wedi digwydd fel rheol drwy gyswllt yn y cartref. Er bod achosion yn parhau i godi a phobl yn parhau i ymchwilio iddynt, gadewch imi eich atgoffa bod yr achos diwethaf a oedd yn ymwneud ag ysgolion drwy gyswllt â bwyd cysylltiedig wedi digwydd ar 27 Medi, dros bythefnos yn ôl. Hyd yma, ni chafwyd unrhyw achosion eilaidd o ganlyniad i drawsheintio mewn ysgolion. O ran y digwyddiad yn ddiweddar yn Ysgol Gynradd Glen-boi, bydd plant yn dychwelyd i’r ysgol wrth iddynt gael eu clirio o unrhyw haint weithredol, a bydd y tîm rheoli achosion yn ddiâu yn rhoi gwybod inni drwy ddatganiadau i’r wasg am gynnydd yn y cyswllt hwn.

Bydd Aelodau’r Cynulliad yn ymwybodol bod y BBC wedi adrodd bod

ofnau bod yr achosion o E.coli yn y de wedi lledaenu i gartref henoed ar ôl i weithiwr ddal y salwch ac wedi ei orchymyn i gadw draw.

Fodd bynnag, bydd aelodau’n sylwi bod adroddiad ar wefan y BBC ar 11 Hydref yn dangos bod y sawl sy’n gysylltiedig â’r achos hwn wedi datblygu symptomau 11 diwrnod cyn hynny. Mae hyn yn gyson â chromlin ac amlygiad yr achosion cyn rhoi rheolaethau ar waith. Mae tîm rheoli’r achosion wedi cadarnhau bod aelod o’r staff yng Nghartref Preswyl Tŷ Clyd ym Margod wedi cael canlyniad positif am yr haint E.coli 0157. Mae’r cyflogai wedi bod i ffwrdd o’r gwaith ers i’r symptomau ddatblygu gyntaf, ac mae swyddogion iechyd yr amgylchedd wedi bod yn gweithio’n agos gyda’r cartref i sicrhau bod cymryd camau priodol i gyfyngu risg haint pellach. Ymdrinnir ag unrhyw un mewn gwaith gofal sy’n dioddef gan yr haint E.coli fel rhywun sy’n risg uchel, a byddai’n cael ei wahardd o’r gwaith. Dim ond pan na fydd ganddynt symptomau a phan gânt ddau ganlyniad negatif 48 awr ar wahân y caniateir i bobl felly ddychwelyd i’r gwaith. Mae gwahardd aelod o’r staff ynghyd â gwell systemau glanhau ac atgyfnerthu’r angen am arferion glanweithdra da yn darparu amgylchedd diogel i breswylwyr. Er y gellir deall y byddai pobl yn bryderus mewn sefyllfa o’r fath, nid oes tystiolaeth ar sail profiad blaenorol y dylai hyn beri braw.

I am aware that the parents of Mason Jones from Deri, who, sadly, died during this outbreak, have complained about aspects of his treatment by the NHS when he became ill. This matter is under investigation, and therefore I do not think it appropriate to comment further at this stage.

3.50 p.m.

The Chief Medical Officer for Wales has started his review of the arrangements in place for the protection of public health before and during the outbreak of E.coli in south Wales, commencing September 2005. As the review progresses, he will advise me immediately of any changes required. The CMO will include in his review such matters as current regulation, extant planning guidance, monitoring and enforcement regimes, trigger mechanisms for action, public information, the resources available, and inter-agency working.

A small task group has been established to assist with this work and its members will be fully aware of the findings and recommendations from Professor Pennington's report on the outbreak in Scotland in 1996. I am confident that the chief medical officer is able to draw on expertise of the highest quality, and am pleased to say that Professor Stephen Palmer, professor of public health at Cardiff University, has agreed to serve as a member of the task group.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod gennym faich gwaith eithaf trwm y prynhawn yma, felly ceisiaf ofyn cwestiynau penodol.

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r datganiad pellach hwn a hefyd ymchwiliad y prif swyddog meddygol. Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol imi godi cwestiwn ynghylch rôl y prif swyddog meddygol yn y math hwn o sefyllfa, a byddwn yn falch pe bai'r Gweinidog yn rhoi ystyriaeth i hynny, ond ni wn a y gall wneud hynny y prynhawn yma. Mae'n bwysig bod gennym lais ac wyneb sy'n gyfarwydd i'r cyhoedd ac sy'n cyhoeddi gydag awdurdod mewn materion fel hyn er mwyn cynnal hyder y cyhoedd o ran yr hyn

Yr wyf yn ymwybodol fod rhieni Mason Jones o'r Deri, a fu farw, yn anffodus, yn ystod yr achosion hyn, wedi cwyno am agweddau ar ei driniaeth gan y GIG pan aeth yn sâl. Ymchwilir i'r mater hwn ar hyn o bryd, ac felly ni chredaf ei bod yn briodol gwneud rhagor o sylwadau ar hyn o bryd.

Mae Prif Swyddog Meddygol Cymru wedi dechrau ei adolygiad o'r trefniadau sydd ar waith i ddiogelu iechyd y cyhoedd cyn ac yn ystod yr achosion o E.coli yn y de, gan ddechrau ym mis Medi 2005. Wrth i'r adolygiad ddatblygu, bydd yn rhoi gwybod imi ar unwaith am unrhyw newidiadau y bydd eu hangen. Bydd y prif swyddog meddygol yn cynnwys yn ei adolygiad faterion megis rheoliadau presennol, canllawiau cynllunio sy'n bodoli, cyfundrefnau monitro a gorfodi, dulliau sbarduno ar gyfer gweithredu, gwybodaeth gyhoeddus, yr adnoddau sydd ar gael, a gweithio rhwng asiantaethau.

Sefydlwyd grŵp gorchwyl bach i gynorthwyo gyda'r gwaith hwn, a bydd ei aelodau'n hollol ymwybodol o ddarganfyddiadau ac argymhellion adroddiad yr Athro Pennington ar yr achosion yn yr Alban yn 1996. Yr wyf yn hyderus fod y prif swyddog meddygol yn gallu manteisio ar arbenigedd o'r safon uchaf, ac mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud bod yr Athro Stephen Palmer, athro ym maes iechyd cyhoeddus ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, wedi cytuno i wasanaethu fel aelod o'r grŵp gorchwyl.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I am aware that we have a fairly heavy workload this afternoon, so I will try to be specific in my questions.

I welcome this further statement and also the chief medical officer's inquiry. The Minister will be aware that I asked a question about the chief medical officer's role in this type of situation, and I would appreciate it if the Minister would consider that, but I do not know whether he can do so this afternoon. It is important that we have a voice and a face who is familiar to the public, and who makes authoritative statements on matters such as this in order to maintain public confidence in what is happening.

sy'n digwydd.

Yr wyf yn canmol Dr Roland Salmon a'i dîm am eu gwaith arbennig yn rheoli'r sefyllfa o dan bwysau mawr, ac nid ein lle ni fel gwleidyddion yw cwestiynu unrhyw benderfyniadau a wnaethant, hyd yn oed pan fo'r penderfyniadau yn gallu bod yn ddadleuol.

Yr ydych yn cyfeirio at yr Athro Pennington yn yr Alban, ond a ydych chi neu'ch adran wedi bod mewn cysylltiad gydag ef i weld pa awgrymiadau neu gyngor y gall ei roi o ran yr ymchwiliad y bydd y Cynulliad yn ei gynnal i'r digwyddiad, gan iddo wneud gwaith tebyg yn yr Alban?

Fe'ch cyfeiriau hefyd at y sylwadau a briodolir i'r comisiynydd plant mewn papur newydd heddiw. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi cael cyfle i weld yr hyn a ddywedodd, neu'r hyn mae'r papur yn honni iddo ddweud. Awgrymaf eich bod yn edrych ar y sylwadau, gan fod beirniadaeth lem o'r sefyllfa ac mae pryderon mawr yn cael eu codi ganddo. Nid wyf yn cytuno'n llwyr â phob un o'r pryderon a godir ganddo, ond mae ei ddatganiad yn tanlinellu eto bod angen inni gael ymchwiliad llawn, annibynnol a thryloyw cyn gynted ag y bo modd er mwyn i'r cyhoedd fod yn hyderus bod y Cynulliad a'r Llywodraeth yn cymryd y mater o ddifrif, ac y caiff bob elfen o'r sefyllfa ei harchwilio'n fanwl, ac y caiff bob gwers ei dysgu.

Gofynnwn am sicrwydd y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn sicrhau y bydd y pwyllgor a sefydlwyd a'r ymchwiliad yn meddu ar y pwerau angenrheidiol i wneud y gwaith yn effeithiol a chyflym—mae hynny'n bwysig. Y peth olaf yr ydym am ei weld yw'r broses yn cael ei harafu gan nad yw'r pwerau digonol wedi eu dirprwyo i'r pwyllgor yn y lle cyntaf ac yna i'r ymchwiliad. Yr ydym hefyd am gael gwarant y bydd adnoddau ariannol digonol ar gael fel bod modd i'r ymchwiliad gyflawni'r gwaith y mae'r cyhoedd yn disgwyl iddo wneud.

Brian Gibbons: The chief medical officer has a very important and responsible job, not just as a member of the health community, but as the chief source of independent

I praise Dr Roland Salmon and his team for their excellent work in managing the situation under considerable pressure. It is not our place as politicians to question any decisions they have made, even when the decisions may be controversial.

You refer to Professor Pennington in Scotland. But have you or your department contacted him to see whether he can give any suggestions or advice on the inquiry which the Assembly is to hold into the outbreak, given that he undertook similar work in Scotland?

I also refer you to the comments attributed to the children's commissioner in a newspaper today. I am sure you have had the opportunity to see what he said, or what the newspaper claims that he said. I suggest you look at the comments, because there is harsh criticism of the situation and he raises major concerns. I do not entirely agree with every concern that he raises, but his statement again underlines that we must have a full, independent and transparent inquiry as soon as possible so that the public can be confident that the Assembly and the Government are taking the issue seriously, that every aspect of the situation will be explored in detail, and that every lesson will be learned.

We ask for assurance that the Welsh Assembly Government will ensure that the committee which has been established and the inquiry will have the necessary powers to undertake the work effectively and quickly—that is important. The last thing we want to see is the process being slowed down because adequate powers have not been delegated first to the committee and then to the inquiry. We also want assurance that adequate financial resources will be available so that the inquiry can do the work which the public expects it to do.

Brian Gibbons: Mae gan y prif swyddog meddygol swydd bwysig a chyfrifol iawn, nid yn unig fel aelod o'r gymuned iechyd, ond fel prif ffynhonnell cyngor meddygol

medical advice to all Assembly departments. He is not only a servant of the NHS, but of the Assembly in general. The role of the chief medical officer, and his advice, whether in education, economic development, rural affairs or whatever, is very important. We have not been in direct contact with Professor Pennington. Some of those involved in giving us advice and assistance are familiar with the work and report of Professor Pennington. Some of those people will be involved in the audit and review that the chief medical officer will be undertaking.

The chief medical officer has complete independence, in line with his professional standing and opinion, to pursue what matters he feels to be appropriate. That is in line with what I said in my statement. I have no concerns about the extent and scope of his work. Having looked at the calibre of the people involved in supporting him in the task group, I think that the Assembly has every reassurance that there is a very expert team doing this work.

Unfortunately, I have not had the luxury of reading this morning's papers. Therefore, I am at a disadvantage in that I have not read what the children's commissioner said. To the best of my knowledge, he has not been in contact with my office to convey his concerns, so there is nothing more that I can say on that except that if I get a few minutes later this evening I will read the newspaper to see what he had to say.

Jonathan Morgan: I welcome this statement, and I thank the Minister for the update on the small task group that has been established to work with the acting chief medical officer on the work that you have asked him to undertake. On the role of the acting chief medical officer, I draw your attention to the role of the CMO in Scotland during the Pennington inquiry. In that case, the CMO in Scotland, along with the CMO from the Department of Health in London, it being pre-devolution, had quite an influential role, because of the expert advice that they were able to offer. I am keen to ensure that the acting CMO contributes not only to the work that you have asked him to undertake

annibynnol i holl adrannau'r Cynulliad. Nid gwas y GIG yn unig mohono, ond y Cynulliad yn gyffredinol. Mae rôl y prif swyddog meddygol, a'i gyngor, boed ym maes addysg, datblygu economaidd, materion gwledig neu beth bynnag, yn bwysig iawn. Nid ydym wedi cysylltu'n uniongyrchol â'r Athro Pennington. Mae rhai o'r bobl sy'n gysylltiedig â'r gwaith o roi cyngor a chymorth inni yn gyfarwydd â gwaith ac adroddiad yr Athro Pennington. Bydd rhai o'r bobl hynny yn gysylltiedig â'r archwiliad a'r adolygiad y bydd y prif swyddog meddygol yn ymgymryd â hwy.

Mae gan y prif swyddog meddygol annibyniaeth lwyr, yn unol â'i safle a'i farn broffesiynol, i weithredu ar y materion y cred eu bod yn briodol. Mae hynny'n cyd-fynd â'r hyn a ddywedais yn fy natganiad. Nid wyf yn pryderu am faint a chwmpas ei waith. Ar ôl edrych ar ansawdd y bobl sy'n ei gefnogi yn y grŵp gorchwyl, credaf fod gan y Cynulliad sicrwydd llwyr fod tîm arbenigol iawn yn cyflawni'r gwaith hwn.

Yn anffodus, nid oeddwn mor ffodus â chael cyfle i ddarllen y papurau y bore yma. Felly, yr wyf o dan anfantais gan nad wyf wedi darllen yr hyn a ddywedodd y comisiynydd plant. Hyd y gwn i, nid yw wedi cysylltu â'm swyddfa i gyfleu ei bryderon. Felly, nid oes unrhyw beth arall y gallaf ei ddweud am hynny heblaw dweud, os caf ychydig funudau yn ddiweddarach heno, y byddaf yn darllen y papur newydd i weld yr hyn a ddywedodd.

Jonathan Morgan: Croesawaf y datganiad hwn, a diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y grŵp gorchwyl bach a sefydlwyd i weithio gyda'r prif swyddog meddygol dros dro, i gyflawni'r hyn yr ydych wedi gofyn iddo'i wneud. O ran rôl y prif swyddog meddygol dros dro, tynnaf eich sylw at rôl y prif swyddog meddygol yn yr Alban yn ystod ymchwiliad Pennington. Yn yr achos hwnnw, yr oedd gan y prif swyddog meddygol yn yr Alban, ynghyd â phrif swyddog meddygol yr Adran Iechyd yn Llundain, a hynny cyn y datganoli, rôl gymharol ddylanwadol, oherwydd y cyngor arbenigol y gallent ei gynnig. Yr wyf yn awyddus i sicrhau bod y prif swyddog

with the task group, but to the public inquiry when it is established.

I understand that you have been unable to appoint a new chief medical officer. Can you assure me that the failure to do so and the ongoing process will not hinder the ability of the acting chief medical officer and his department in any way to advise you in the role that you have requested, and that it will not hinder his role in advising the public inquiry once it is established? I hope that the role of chief medical officer is one that we will retain in Wales, because past experience demonstrates that it is a valuable role for us to maintain.

On the lack of contact with Professor Pennington, and his work from 1996, has your team or the CMO's team examined the terms of reference that were established for that inquiry, with a view to making recommendations for the terms of reference in Wales? I know that we need to look at the specific circumstances that are pertinent to what has happened in Wales, but there may be lessons to be learned from what was established through those terms of reference.

Can you provide some further information as to the exact role of the small task group that will assist the acting chief medical officer? I am delighted that Professor Stephen Palmer is to be involved. Once again, it demonstrates the importance of getting expertise involved in the process. The task group will have a role to play, and the public inquiry will have a role to play, so can you assure me that there will not be any duplication? For how long do you anticipate the task group working? Will it continue alongside the public inquiry, or will it cease before that? Obviously we do not want to two separate inquiries with two separate outcomes. We need to have one, definite, focused inquiry, with all resources aimed at that particular outcome. I would be grateful for your assurances on those matters.

Brian Gibbons: The acting chief medical officer has an outstanding professional

meddygol dros dro yn cyfrannu nid yn unig at y gwaith yr ydych wedi gofyn iddo'i wneud gyda'r grŵp gorchwyl, ond at yr ymchwiliad cyhoeddus hefyd pan gaiff ei sefydlu.

Deallaf nad ydych wedi llwyddo i benodi prif swyddog meddygol newydd. A allwch fy sicrhau na fydd methu â gwneud hynny, a'r broses sy'n mynd rhagddi, yn atal y prif swyddog meddygol dros dro a'i adran mewn unrhyw ffordd rhag rhoi cyngor ichi yn y rôl yr ydych wedi gofyn amdani, ac na fydd yn ei atal rhag rhoi cyngor i'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus ar ôl i hwnnw gael ei sefydlu? Gobeithio y bydd rôl y prif swyddog meddygol yn un y byddwn yn ei chadw yng Nghymru, oherwydd mae profiad yn y gorffennol yn dangos ei bod yn rôl werthfawr inni ei chadw.

O ran y diffyg cyswllt â'r Athro Pennington, a'i waith o 1996, a yw eich tîm neu dîm y prif swyddog meddygol wedi archwilio'r cylch gorchwyl a sefydlwyd ar gyfer yr ymchwiliad hwnnw, er mwyn gwneud argymhellion ar gyfer y cylch gorchwyl yng Nghymru? Gwn fod angen inni edrych ar yr amgylchiadau penodol sy'n berthnasol i'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd yng Nghymru, ond efallai fod gwersi i'w dysgu o'r hyn a sefydlwyd drwy'r cylch gorchwyl hwnnw.

A allwch roi rhagor o wybodaeth am union rôl y grŵp gorchwyl bach a fydd yn cynorthwyo'r prif swyddog meddygol dros dro? Yr wyf wrth fy modd fod yr Athro Stephen Palmer i gymryd rhan. Unwaith eto, mae'n dangos pwysigrwydd cynnwys arbenigedd yn y broses. Bydd rôl gan y grŵp gorchwyl, a bydd rôl gan yr ymchwiliad cyhoeddus. Felly, a allwch fy sicrhau na fydd unrhyw ddyblygu? Am ba hyd yr ydych yn rhagweld y bydd y grŵp gorchwyl yn gweithio? A fydd yn parhau ochr yn ochr â'r ymchwiliad cyhoeddus, neu a fydd yn dod i ben cyn hynny? Yn amlwg, nid ydym am gael dau ymchwiliad ar wahân gyda dau ganlyniad ar wahân. Mae angen inni gael un ymchwiliad penodol gyda ffocws pendant a'r holl adnoddau'n hanelu at y canlyniad penodol hwnnw. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am eich sicrwydd ar y materion hynny.

Brian Gibbons: Mae gan y prif swyddog meddygol dros dro enw proffesiynol

reputation. There is no reason to have any concerns about his capacity and ability to move this agenda forward. More than anyone, he is aware of the need for a smooth transition, so there is no issue there.

4.00 p.m.

I have seen the terms of reference of the Pennington inquiry. Obviously, it is one of the things that we would look at in light of the outbreak. From what I remember, they were fairly simple and not extremely exhaustive. The simplicity and directness of those terms of reference might commend themselves to the committee, should the committee that we have established wish to look at them, so there may be some virtue in that.

The small task group that has been established will review and audit what has taken place already and will consider current arrangements, regulations and procedures. It will not do what other organisations, whether that is the police, the Food Standards Agency or any other organisation, will already be doing. It will have a much narrower terms of reference in terms of identifying how the processes worked and whether the tools that we have at present are fit for purpose. The task group's processes are not rigid and, as issues are thrown up by the work that it is doing, I will be informed so that, if there are decisions to be taken or actions to be instigated, they will be immediately drawn to my attention. There will not be any need for it to work its way through to a definitive conclusion and produce definitive recommendations in a formal sense. If there are issues that need fairly urgent action, in the light of the information and expertise of the task group, we will be moving on those issues as they are brought to light. I do not believe that there will be a concern in relation to duplication because it is our intention that the work that the task group does will be available to the inquiry so that when the inquiry is able to start its work, one of the first things that it will have on the table, hopefully, will be the outcome of the chief medical officer's review and audit, and the inquiry will be able to start its work on that evidence. Therefore, hopefully, the inquiry

rhagorol. Nid oes unrhyw reswm i bryderu am ei fedrusrwydd a'i allu i ddatblygu'r agenda hon. Yn anad neb, mae'n ymwybodol fod angen trawsnewid yn llyfn, felly nid os problem.

Yr wyf wedi gweld cylch gorchwyl ymchwiliad Pennington. Yn amlwg, mae'n un o'r pethau y byddem yn edrych arno yng ngoleuni'r achosion. O'r hyn yr wyf yn ei gofio, yr oeddent yn gymharol syml heb fod yn eithriadol o drwyadl. Mae'n bosibl y byddai symlrwydd ac uniongyrchedd y cylch gorchwyl hwnnw yn peri i'r pwyllgor ei gymeradwyo, pe byddai'r pwyllgor a sefydlwyd gennym yn awyddus i edrych arno. Felly, gall fod rhywfaint o rinwedd yn hynny.

Bydd y grŵp gorchwyl bach a sefydlwyd yn adolygu ac yn archwilio'r hyn sydd eisoes wedi digwydd, a bydd yn ystyried y trefniadau, y rheoliadau a'r gweithdrefnau presennol. Ni fydd yn gwneud yr hyn y bydd sefydliadau eraill yn ei wneud, sef yr heddlu, yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd neu unrhyw sefydliad arall. Bydd ganddo gylch gorchwyl llawer culach o ran nodi'r modd yr oedd y prosesau'n gweithio ac a yw'r dulliau sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd yn addas at y diben. Nid yw prosesau'r grŵp gorchwyl yn llym, ac wrth i faterion gael eu codi gan y gwaith y mae'n ei wneud, byddaf yn cael gwybod. Felly, os bydd angen gwneud penderfyniadau neu gychwyn camau gweithredu, bydd rhywun yn tynnu fy sylw atynt ar unwaith. Ni fydd angen dod i gasgliad terfynol a chynhyrchu argymhellion pendant a hynny mewn ystyr ffurfiol. Os oes materion y mae angen gweithredu arnynt ar fyrder, yng ngoleuni gwybodaeth ac arbenigedd y grŵp gorchwyl, byddwn yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion hyn wrth iddynt ddod i'r amlwg. Nid wyf o'r farn y bydd pryder o ran dyblygu, oherwydd bwriadwn i'r gwaith a wneir gan y grŵp gorchwyl fod ar gael i'r ymchwiliad. Felly pan fydd yr ymchwiliad yn gallu dechrau ei waith, un o'r pethau cyntaf a fydd ganddo ar y bwrdd, gobeithio, fydd canlyniad adolygiad ac archwiliad y prif swyddog meddygol, a bydd yr ymchwiliad yn gallu dechrau gweithio ar y dystiolaeth honno. Felly, gobeithio y bydd yr

will incorporate what the chief medical officer has done.

It is difficult to be definitive about how long it will take, but I think that it will be in the order of months. I would be surprised if it was still working by the summer; I think that it will be much shorter than that. As the task group has not sat down and started its work, it would be rash to give a deadline, but I think that we are looking at months rather than anything else. It will focus on what needs to be done immediately and it will then look at the situation more exhaustively. However, if there are glaring issues that need to be revisited in the light of the work that the task group will do, we will not have to wait two or three years or whatever for action to be taken.

Jenny Randerson: Thank you for bringing further information to us today; we are grateful for it. I would like some clarification on the second and third paragraphs of your statement. Do they mean that the tests at Glenboi Primary School are now complete and that the situation has been cleared, or do they mean that the tests are ongoing but that no E.coli infection has so far been found?

I am also grateful for the details of the review and the small task group that you refer to. We now have a police investigation, a chief medical officer's review, and the Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust's investigation into the tragic death of Mason Jones, and, as has already been referred to, in today's edition of the *Western Mail*, the Children's Commissioner for Wales states that he would be prepared to undertake a review if he felt that the Assembly's inquiry was not wide enough. You said earlier that you have not had the opportunity to read the article and have not had contact with the commissioner. Do you share my view that it would be appropriate for the inquiry committee here to contact the children's commissioner to test out what he thinks are the issues that should be investigated?

As Jonathan Morgan has just mentioned, we now have a plethora of reviews, inquiries and

ymchwiliad yn ymgorffori'r hyn y mae'r prif swyddog meddygol wedi ei wneud.

Mae'n anodd bod yn bendant ynglŷn â faint o amser y bydd hyn yn ei gymryd, ond credaf mai mater o fisoedd fydd hi. Byddwn yn synnu pe bai'n dal i weithio erbyn yr haf; credaf y bydd yn cymryd llawer llai o amser na hynny. Gan nad yw'r grŵp gorchwyl wedi dechrau ei waith, byddai'n fyrbwyll gosod terfyn amser, ond credaf ein bod yn meddwl am fisoedd yn hytrach nag unrhyw beth arall. Bydd yn canolbwyntio ar yr hyn y mae angen ei wneud ar unwaith, ac yna bydd yn edrych ar y sefyllfa'n fwy trylwyr. Fodd bynnag, os bydd materion amlwg y mae angen inni eu hailstyried yng ngoleuni'r gwaith y bydd y grŵp gorchwyl yn ei wneud, ni fydd angen inni aros am ddwy neu dair blynedd, neu faint bynnag, er mwyn cymryd camau gweithredu.

Jenny Randerson: Diolch am roi rhagor o wybodaeth inni heddiw; yr ydym yn ddiolchgar amdani. Hoffwn gael rhywfaint o eglurhad ar ail a thrydydd paragraff eich datganiad. A ydynt yn golygu bod y profion yn Ysgol Gynradd Glen-boi bellach wedi eu cwblhau a bod y broblem wedi ei datrys? Neu a ydynt yn golygu bod y profion yn mynd rhagddynt ond na ddarganfuwyd unrhyw haint E.coli hyd yn hyn?

Yr wyf hefyd yn ddiolchgar am fanylion yr adolygiad a'r grŵp gorchwyl bach y cyfeiriwch ato. Bellach, mae gennym ymchwiliad yr heddlu, adolygiad y prif swyddog meddygol ac ymchwiliad Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent i farwolaeth drasig Mason Jones. Ac fel y cyfeiriwyd eisoes, yn rhifyn heddiw o'r *Western Mail* dywed Comisiynydd Plant Cymru y byddai'n fodlon cynnal adolygiad pe byddai o'r farn nad oedd ymchwiliad y Cynulliad yn ddigon eang. Yr oeddech yn dweud yn gynharach na chawsoch y cyfle i ddarllen yr erthygl ac nad yw'r comisiynydd wedi cysylltu â chi. A gytunwch â mi y byddai'n briodol i bwyllgor yr ymchwiliad yma gysylltu â'r comisiynydd plant i ofyn beth, yn ei farn ef, yw'r materion y dylid ymchwilio iddynt?

Fel y mae Jonathan Morgan newydd ei ddweud, mae gennym doreth o adolygiadau,

investigations. It is important that we see those narrower reviews and inquiries as pieces of a jigsaw. When the inquiry is set up by the Assembly, we must ensure that it acts as an umbrella under which we can put all the pieces of the jigsaw together, along with other information. Given the efforts that we have made to ensure that this is the fullest inquiry possible and that it has breadth and depth, it would be a great pity if we then faced a situation whereby an important and well-respected figure such as the children's commissioner was able to say that we did not do the whole job. I would be grateful on your views on that issue and your reassurance that we will be in a position to act in that sort of way when the inquiry committee recommends its terms of reference.

Brian Gibbons: In relation to Glenboi Primary School, you probably know that the outbreak control team and environmental health officers tried to contact every pupil, and I think that that initial contact has taken place. The vast majority of the samples that have come back are negative. However, one or two asymptomatic carriers have been identified, and, again, the outbreak control team is carrying out the necessary investigations. It is important to emphasise, however, that, as long as the asymptomatic carriers are sufficiently mature to engage in normal hygiene activities and are not part of certain risk groups, they are not a risk to the population. This has been well established. Therefore, the asymptomatic carriers are not a risk, but those who have symptoms are. The caveat to that is that the asymptomatic carriers must be able to engage in normal hygiene activities. I hope that that deals with the concerns that you raised in that regard.

As I have not read what the children's commissioner has said, and I am not aware that he has contacted my office, I do not want to try to second-guess what is on his mind. However, the best way forward might be for me to ask the Chief Medical Officer for Wales to contact the children's commissioner's office to see whether he has a particular underlying concern. We need to be aware that the task group that I have

ymholiadau ac ymchwiliadau erbyn hyn. Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried yr adolygiadau a'r ymchwiliadau culach hynny fel darnau o jig-so. Pan gaiff yr ymchwiliad ei sefydlu gan y Cynulliad, rhaid inni sicrhau ei fod yn gweithredu fel ymbarél y gallwn roi holl ddarnau'r jig-so at ei gilydd tano, ynghyd â gwybodaeth arall. O ystyried yr ymdrechion a wnaethom i sicrhau mai hwn yw'r ymchwiliad llawnaf posibl a'i fod yn eang ac yn ddwfn, byddai'n drueni mawr pe baem wedyn yn wynebu sefyllfa lle gallai ffigwr pwysig, uchel ei barch fel y comisiynydd plant ddweud na wnaethom y gwaith i gyd. Byddem yn ddiolchgar am eich sylwadau am y mater hwnnw, a'ch sicrwydd y byddwn mewn sefyllfa i weithredu mewn ffordd fel hynny pan fydd pwyllgor yr ymchwiliad yn argymhell ei gylch gorchwyl.

Brian Gibbons: Ynglŷn ag Ysgol Gynradd Glen-boi, mae'n siŵr eich bod yn gwybod bod y tîm rheoli achosion a swyddogion iechyd yr amgylchedd wedi ceisio cysylltu â phob disgybl, a chredaf fod y cyswllt cychwynnol hwnnw wedi ei wneud. Mae mwyafrif helaeth y samplau a ddaeth yn ôl yn negyddol. Fodd bynnag, nodwyd un neu ddau gludydd asymptomatig, ac unwaith eto mae'r tîm rheoli achosion yn gwneud yr ymchwiliadau angenrheidiol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig pwysleisio, cyhyd ag y bydd y cludwyr asymptomatig yn ddigon aeddfed i gyflawni gweithgareddau glanweithdra arferol a heb fod yn rhan o grwpiau risg penodol, nid ydynt yn achosi risg i'r boblogaeth. Sefydlwyd hyn yn dda. Felly, nid yw'r cludwyr asymptomatig yn achosi risg, ond mae'r rheini sy'n dioddef symptomau yn achosi risg. Y rhybudd, felly, yw bod yn rhaid i'r cludwyr asymptomatig allu cyflawni gweithgareddau glanweithdra arferol. Gobeithio bod hynny'n ymdrin â'r pryderon a godwyd gennych yn y cyswllt hwnnw.

Gan nad wyf wedi darllen yr hyn a ddywedodd y comisiynydd plant a chan nad wyf yn ymwybodol iddo gysylltu â'm swyddfa, nid wyf am geisio rhag-weld yr hyn sydd ar ei feddwl. Fodd bynnag, efallai mai'r ffordd orau ymlaen fyddai imi ofyn i Brif Swyddog Meddygol Cymru gysylltu â swyddfa'r comisiynydd plant i weld a oes ganddo bryder sylfaenol penodol. Mae angen inni fod yn ymwybodol nad bwriad y grŵp

established is not meant to replicate the whole inquiry. Therefore, some of his concerns may not be relevant to the work that the CMO will be doing. However, if he is concerned about a particular issue that would come within the scope of what the chief medical officer is proposing, there would be no reason why it could not be taken on board. Perhaps the easiest way to proceed would be to ask him to contact the children's commissioner to see whether there is a particular item of concern.

Leighton Andrews: As we have all said, this has been a serious outbreak. It affected my constituency from the first day that the revelations came about that E.coli had spread among Valleys communities, as a school in my constituency was affected. I want to raise an issue that I have mentioned to you privately, namely that it is important that lessons are learnt quickly and that we do not wait for the outcomes of inquiries. There are lessons that can be learnt from what has happened in the last few weeks. In particular, some concerns were raised with me by the family of one of the children affected in my constituency relating to the response of a local GP practice, and the out-of-hours service, which I will raise when I meet my local health board next week. Is this also something that the chief medical officer could look at in his report to you? I am talking about the way in which particular organisations within the health service responded on the ground in the context of this crisis.

4.10 p.m.

Brian Gibbons: The whole point of the task and finish group is to get the lessons that are apparent at an early stage into legislation or proper process and practice. In terms of being judicious in learning the preliminary lessons, the chief medical officer's audit and review will hopefully deliver that for us. In the list of areas that he is likely to look at—and the list was not meant to be exhaustive, but seemed to be fairly comprehensive—the out-of-hours issue does not feature. This is a difficult one. If people feel that the out-of-hours service did not operate effectively, they must formally complain themselves or, possibly,

gorchwyl a sefydlwyd gennyf yw dyblygu'r ymchwiliad cyfan. Felly, mae'n bosibl nad yw rhai o'i bryderon yn berthnasol i'r gwaith y bydd y Prif Swyddog Meddygol yn ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, os yw'n pryderu am fater penodol a fyddai'n dod o fewn cwmpas yr hyn y mae'r prif swyddog meddygol yn ei fwriadu, nid oes rheswm pam na ellid ei fabwysiadu. Efallai mai'r ffordd hawsaf i fynd ymlaen fyddai gofyn iddo gysylltu â'r comisiynydd plant i weld a oes eitem benodol sy'n peri pryder.

Leighton Andrews: Fel y mae pob un ohonom wedi ei ddweud, mae'r rhain wedi bod yn achosion difrifol. Effeithiwyd ar fy etholaeth i o'r diwrnod cyntaf pan ddatgelwyd bod E.coli wedi lledaenu ymhlith cymunedau'r Cymoedd, oherwydd effeithiwyd ar ysgol yn fy etholaeth. Yr wyf am godi mater yr wyf wedi sôn wrthyfch amdano yn breifat, sef ei bod yn bwysig dysgu gwersi'n gyflym ac na fyddwn yn aros am ganlyniadau ymchwiliadau. Gellir dysgu gwersi o'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Yn arbennig, mynegwyd rhai pryderon wrthyf gan deulu un o'r plant yr effeithiwyd arno yn fy etholaeth o ran ymateb practis meddygon teulu lleol, a'r gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau swyddfa. Byddaf yn codi'r materion hyn pan fyddaf yn cwrdd â'm bwrdd iechyd lleol yr wythnos nesaf. A yw hyn hefyd yn rhywbeth y gallai'r prif swyddog meddygol ei ystyried yn ei adroddiad i chi? Yr wyf yn sôn am y ffordd yr ymatebodd sefydliadau penodol yn y gwasanaeth iechyd ar lawr gwlad yng nghyd-destun yr argyfwng hwn.

Brian Gibbons: Holl ddiben y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen yw cael y gwersi sy'n amlwg yn gynnwys ar y llyfr statud neu'n broses ac arfer priodol. O ran bod yn bwyllog wrth ddysgu'r gwersi rhagarweiniol, bydd archwiliad ac adolygiad y prif swyddog meddygol, gobeithio, yn gwneud hynny inni. Yn y rhestr o feysydd y mae'n debygol o edrych arnynt—ac nid diben y rhestr oedd bod yn drwyadl, er ei bod yn ymddangos yn lled gynhwysfawr—nid yw mater gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau swyddfa wedi ei gynnwys. Mae hwn yn fater anodd. Os yw pobl yn teimlo nad oedd y gwasanaeth y tu allan i

through your good offices seek an explanation from the local health board. We need this sort of feedback.

I will refer this to the chief medical officer and seek his view on it. If there is prima facie case that there have been inappropriate responses, then that would be something that would have to be looked at. We would need to see evidence. If we were to take everything on board without a strong evidence base, I would be worried that the speed of the response that you asked for in your first question might be compromised by trying to cover everything in what is essentially an audit and review exercise. If something does turn up either through your own representations or—if it is within the timescale—from Mason Jones's family, which suggests that there is a deficiency, then that will have to be considered as well.

William Graham: Minister, returning to the time of the initial outbreak, particularly in relation to schools, how do you react to a charge of secrecy and to the charge that there was a lack of vital information for parents? You will know that this has already been voiced, and I would welcome your remarks on that. I would also like to hear how you will restore confidence, particularly among parents and children, in schools that have nursery provision.

Brian Gibbons: If there was an outbreak in a nursery, you would expect nurseries to close, because the children there would not be able to undertake the necessary hygiene precautions that an older child could. I find it difficult to imagine that a nursery would remain open if, for some reason, it had food that was compromised in any way. That would be the answer to the point about nurseries.

I do not quite understand the purpose of the question relating to secrecy. Everyone has been as open as they could be. There have been regular press releases, virtually on a daily basis, from the Food Standards Agency explaining what has been happening. Anyone who has been in south Wales will know that

oriau swyddfa yn gweithio'n effeithiol, rhaid iddynt gwyno'n ffurfiol eu hunain neu, efallai, drwy eich cymwynasgarwch chi geisio esboniad gan y bwrdd iechyd lleol. Mae angen y math hwn o adborth arnom.

Byddaf yn cyfeirio hyn at y prif swyddog meddygol ac yn gofyn ei farn am y mater. Os oes achos prima facie fod ymatebion wedi bod yn amhriodol, yna byddai hynny'n rhywbeth y byddai'n rhaid edrych arno. Byddai angen inni weld tystiolaeth. Pe baem yn mynd i'r afael â phopeth heb sail dystiolaeth gadarn, byddwn yn bryderus y gallai cyflymder yr ymateb yr oeddech yn gofyn amdano yn eich cwestiwn cyntaf gael ei beryglu drwy geisio cwmpasu popeth mewn ymarfer sydd yn y bôn yn ymarfer archwilio ac adolygu. Os bydd rhywbeth yn dod i'r amlwg naill ai drwy eich sylwadau chi neu—os yw o fewn y terfyn amser—gan deulu Mason Jones, sy'n awgrymu bod diffyg, yna bydd yn rhaid ystyried hynny hefyd.

William Graham: Weinidog, i ddychwelyd at adeg yr achosion cychwynnol, yn arbennig o ran ysgolion, sut yr ydych yn ymateb i'r honiad am gyfrinachedd a'r honiad fod diffyg gwybodaeth hanfodol i rieni? Fe wyddoch fod hyn eisoes wedi cael ei leisio, a byddwn yn croesawu eich sylwadau am hynny. Byddwn hefyd yn awyddus i glywed sut y byddwch yn adfer hyder, yn arbennig ymhlith rhieni a phlant, mewn ysgolion sy'n darparu meithrinfa.

Brian Gibbons: Pe bai achosion mewn meithrinfa, byddech yn disgwyl i'r feithrinfa gau, gan na fyddai'r plant yn gallu cyflawni rhagofalon glanweithdra angenrheidiol y gallai plentyn hŷn ymgymryd â hwy. Y mae'n anodd gennyf ddychmygu y byddai meithrinfa'n aros ar agor os oedd yno fwyd, am ryw reswm, a oedd wedi ei beryglu mewn unrhyw ffordd. Dyna fyddai'r ateb i'r pwynt am feithrinfeydd.

Nid wyf yn deall diben y cwestiwn yn ymwneud â chyfrinachedd. Mae pawb wedi bod mor agored ag y gallent fod. Cafwyd datganiadau rheolaidd i'r wasg, bob dydd fwy neu lai, gan yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd yn esbonio'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd. Bydd unrhyw un sydd wedi bod yn y de yn gwybod

various members of the National Public Health Service for Wales and the outbreak control team have been on television or radio if not daily then every other day. The environmental health officers and the outbreak control team have been in contact with the schools, and have engaged with the schools. In Glenboi school, there were two public meetings and a subsequent meeting with people who did not turn up at the public meetings.

I am a little mystified as to where the concern about secrecy is. If there is a particular issue, maybe you could write to me. People have tried to be open and frank. As was shown on last night's television programme, this is a situation where, if people do not have the correct information, there is no doubt that incorrect information will end up in the public domain. That creates unnecessary alarm and concern. It is in everyone's interest that as much of the correct information as possible is in the public domain from day one.

Huw Lewis: As we move towards these various investigations into what has happened, after the E.coli outbreak, it is important that we maintain that the most important aspect is the experience of pupils and parents affected by this outbreak. Professional perspectives are important and should be a part of it; the perception of communities and of schools is important and should be a part of it; but, the most important experience and evidence will come from the children and the parents.

There are two aspects to this. The first—where professionals are absolutely crucial—will be to discover the source of this outbreak, how it spread, and how we combat that in the future. The second aspect, which is absolutely crucial and cannot be under-rated in terms of its importance, is, if you are a parent, what was your experience of the NHS care and support that your child was offered once he or she was affected?

I echo some of the concerns that Leighton Andrews has put to you today. Comments are reaching me, as a constituency Assembly Member, about the out-of-hours service in the Merthyr and Gwent valleys. As you say,

bod amrywiol aelodau o Wasanaeth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cenedlaethol Cymru a'r tîm rheoli achosion wedi bod ar y teledu neu'r radio os nad yn ddyddiol, yna bob yn ail ddydd. Mae swyddogion iechyd yr amgylchedd a'r tîm rheoli achosion wedi cysylltu â'r ysgolion, ac wedi gweithio gyda'r ysgolion. Yn ysgol Glen-boi, cynhaliwyd dau gyfarfod cyhoeddus a chyfarfod dilynol ar gyfer pobl nad oeddent yn y cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus.

Yr wyf ychydig yn ddryslyd ynglŷn â'r am gyfrinachedd. Os oes mater penodol, efallai y gallech ysgrifennu ataf. Mae pobl wedi ceisio bod yn agored ac onest. Fel y dangoswyd ar y rhaglen deledu neithiwr, mae hon yn sefyllfa lle nad oes amheuaeth, os na fydd pobl yn cael y wybodaeth gywir, y bydd y wybodaeth anghywir yn cael ei rhyddhau i'r cyhoedd. Mae hynny'n achosi ofn a phryder diangen. Mae o fudd i bawb fod cymaint â phosibl o'r wybodaeth gywir yn cael ei rhyddhau i'r cyhoedd o'r dechrau.

Huw Lewis: Wrth inni symud tuag at yr amrywiol ymchwiliadau i'r hyn a ddigwyddodd, ar ôl yr achosion o E.coli, mae'n bwysig inni fynnu mai'r agwedd bwysicaf yw profiad disgyblion a rhieni yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan yr achosion hyn. Mae safbwyntiau proffesiynol yn bwysig a dylent fod yn rhan o'r ystyriaeth; mae canfyddiad cymunedau ac ysgolion yn bwysig a dylai fod yn rhan o'r ystyriaeth; ond gan y plant a'r rheini y ceir y profiad a'r dystiolaeth bwysicaf.

Mae dwy agwedd ar hyn. Yn gyntaf—a dyma ble mae'r arbenigwyr yn hollbwysig—darganfod tarddiad y firws, sut y lledaenodd, a sut y gallwn atal hynny yn y dyfodol. Yr ail agwedd, sy'n hollol hanfodol ac na ellir tanbrizio ei phwysigrwydd, yw, os ydych yn rhiant, beth oedd eich profiad o'r gofal a'r cymorth a gynigiwyd i'ch plentyn gan y GIG ar ôl iddo i'r afiechyd effeithio arno?

Ate gaf rai o'r pryderon a godwyd gan Leighton Andrews heddiw. Mae sylwadau yn fy nghyrraedd, fel Aelod Cynulliad etholaethol, am y gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau arferol yng nghymoedd Merthyr a

this is no time to alarm people; this is no time to get into a flap about issues that need to be thoroughly investigated; we need proof and evidence if anything like that is to happen. In my experience as an Assembly Member, I have never heard a constituent praise the out-of-hours service in my constituency. The chief medical officer should be aware of, and be alert to, these kinds of concerns. The actual infection of the child is just half of the story; the second half is the NHS care and what happened post-infection. That is just as important if you are the parent or the child. It may not be of as much interest to an epidemiologist, but it is of great interest to parents.

Brian Gibbons: Huw has touched on an important point. It is easy for professionals, who are, in some ways, case-hardened in dealing with these issues, not to realise the level of people's uncertainty and worry. It probably takes a personal incident to remind the most hardened professionals that there is always an element of worry and concern.

Following on from what I said to Leighton, it might be better for local health boards, rather than the chief medical officer, to review their performance on this; the chief medical officer could then liaise with the local health boards in terms of the response. I am concerned about whether the task group that will be set up would have the capacity to be able to respond judiciously to the key messages in this. The list of areas that it will cover will not be exhaustive, so I will draw the chief medical officer's attention to the concerns that you and Leighton have raised and see if he, with colleagues, can take a view on that so that he will have considered this. In view of the concerns that you and Leighton have expressed, I will ask the local health boards to audit it.

4.20 p.m.

Having said that, if people feel, on an individual basis, that the service did not respond properly, it is important that they convey that to their local health board, either through formal mechanisms or through the offices of Assembly Members. Unless we

Gwent. Fel y dywedwch, nid dyma'r amser i godi ofn ar bobl; nid dyma'r amser i gynhyrfu ynglŷn â materion y mae angen ymchwilio iddynt yn fanwl; mae angen tystiolaeth a phrawf arnom os bydd unrhyw beth felly i ddigwydd. Yn fy mhrofiad i fel Aelod Cynulliad, ni chlywais etholwr erioed yn canmol y gwasanaeth y tu allan i oriau arferol yn fy etholaeth i. Dylai'r Prif Swyddog Meddygol fod yn ymwybodol o bryderon felly ac yn effro iddynt. Dim ond hanner y stori yw heintio plentyn; yr ail hanner yw gofal y GIG a'r hyn a ddigwyddodd ar ôl yr heintio. Mae hynny lawn mor bwysig os chi yw'r rhiant neu'r plentyn. Efallai nad yw o ddiddordeb mawr i epidemiologydd, ond mae o ddiddordeb mawr i rieni.

Brian Gibbons: Mae Huw wedi gwneud pwynt pwysig. Mae'n hawdd i bobl broffesiynol sydd, mewn rhai ffyrdd, wedi caledu wrth ymdrin â'r materion hyn, beidio â sylweddoli mor ansicr a phryderus yw pobl. Mae'n debygol o gymryd digwyddiad personol i atgoffa'r gweithiwr proffesiynol caletaf fod elfen o bryder bob amser.

Yn dilyn o'r hyn a ddywedais wrth Leighton, efallai y byddai'n well i fyrddau iechyd lleol, yn hytrach na'r prif swyddog meddygol, adolygu eu perfformiad yn hyn; yna gallai'r prif swyddog meddygol gysylltu â'r byrddau iechyd lleol o ran yr ymateb. Yr wyf yn pryderu a fyddai'r tasglu a gaiff ei sefydlu yn gallu ymateb yn ddoeth i'r negeseuon allweddol yn hyn. Nid yw rhestr y meysydd y bydd yn eu cwmpasu yn gynhwysfawr. Felly, byddaf yn tynnu sylw'r prif swyddog meddygol at y pryderon a godwyd gennych chi a Leighton i weld a all ef, gyda chydweithwyr, roi barn am hynny er mwyn sicrhau y bydd wedi ystyried hyn. Yng ngoleuni'r pryderon a fynegwyd gennych chi a Leighton, byddaf yn gofyn i'r byrddau iechyd lleol ei archwilio.

Wedi dweud hynny, os yw pobl yn teimlo, ar sail unigol, nad ymatebodd y gwasanaeth yn briodol, mae'n bwysig iddynt gyfleu hynny i'w bwrdd iechyd lleol, naill ai drwy fecanweithiau ffurfiol neu drwy swyddfeydd Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Oni chawn yr adborth

have that feedback, there are no checks and balances in the system. I would urge Assembly Members to do that if those types of concerns are being brought to their attention.

hwnnw, ni fydd cydbwysedd yn y system. Byddwn yn annog Aelodau'r Cynulliad i wneud hynny os daw'r mathau hynny o bryderon i'w sylw.

Datganiad am Salwch Meddwl Statement on Mental Health

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): On Monday, 10 October—World Mental Health Day—the Welsh Assembly Government launched its revised adult mental health national service framework and action plan for Wales, called 'Raising the Standard'. This updates and strengthens the original framework published in May 2002. Since the original NSF was published, there have been major changes in the way that health services are commissioned in Wales. Performance management systems and inspectorate arrangements have changed, so the framework needed to be brought up to date to reflect these changes.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Ddydd Llun, 10 Hydref—Diwrnod Iechyd Meddwl y Byd—lansiodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ei fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol diwygiedig a'i gynllun gweithredu i ddarparu gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion yng Nghymru, sef 'Codi'r Safon'. Mae hwn yn diweddarau ac yn atgyfnerthu'r fframwaith gwreiddiol a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Mai 2002. Ers cyhoeddi'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol gwreiddiol, bu newidiadau sylweddol yn y modd y comisiynir gwasanaethau iechyd yng Nghymru. Mae systemau rheoli perfformiad a threfniadau arolygiaeth wedi newid, felly, yr oedd angen diweddarau'r fframwaith i adlewyrchu'r newidiadau hyn.

Mental health has been an area of health much neglected worldwide, and the Assembly Government was determined to tackle many of the deep-rooted problems that have existed for many years. We therefore commissioned a number of reports to provide a thorough and comprehensive assessment of our adult mental health services.

Mae iechyd meddwl yn faes sydd wedi'i anwybyddu'n fawr ledled y byd, ac yr oedd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn benderfynol o fynd i'r afael â nifer o'r problemau dwfn sydd wedi bodoli ers blynyddoedd lawer. Felly, comisiynwyd nifer o adroddiadau gennym i wneud asesiad trylwyr a chynhwysfawr o'n gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion.

In 2003, we commissioned the then Audit Commission in Wales—now the Wales Audit Office—to undertake a baseline review of all adult mental health services across the country. We asked it to provide us with an all-Wales baseline to review each of the 22 local health board areas and provide an assessment for each one. In 2004, following concerns raised in a number of reports by the Commission for Health Improvement, we asked the Wales Collaboration for Mental Health to carry out a review of priority risk areas in NHS adult mental health services.

Yn 2003 comisiynwyd y Comisiwn Archwilio yng Nghymru bryd hynny—Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru bellach—i wneud adolygiad sylfaenol o'r holl wasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion ledled y wlad. Gofynnwyd iddo roi llinell sylfaen Cymru gyfan inni er mwyn adolygu pob un o'r 22 ardal byrddau iechyd lleol a rhoi asesiad o bob un ohonynt. Yn 2004, oherwydd pryderon a fynegwyd mewn nifer o adroddiadau gan y Comisiwn Gwella Iechyd, gofynnwyd i Gydweithrediaeth Cymru dros Iechyd Meddwl wneud adolygiad o feysydd risg blaenoriaeth mewn gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion yn y GIG.

The Assembly Government also asked for a review of mental health medium-secure units, following the inquiry into a homicide committed in Prestatyn. The main purpose of this review was to provide assurance on the adequacy or otherwise of the clinical governance arrangements in place within each of the four medium-secure units, and to assess the adequacy of discharge planning arrangements.

All three reports were published on 10 October, and each provides a set of recommendations on what needs to be done to reduce risk and improve the overall quality of our mental health services. Many encouraging examples of good practice were identified, but the overall message from these reports is that we have a long way to go to modernise and improve adult mental health services across Wales. I welcome these reports, and have taken account of their recommendations in framing the NSF and action plan. I am determined to ensure that mental health services will significantly improve and provide a high-quality, holistic and integrated programme of care, much needed by people suffering from poor mental health.

Alongside 'Raising the Standard', published on Monday, I also announced an additional £5 million annual revenue investment for adult mental health services. This funding is to ensure that the standards outlined in the national service framework and the action plan are implemented fully and that improvements to our services are made. This additional £5 million follows the £75 million capital expenditure that I previously announced for mental health services, and represents a major step forward.

The World Health Organisation has estimated that one person in four will be affected by a mental disorder at some stage of life. Its research has found that depression is a leading cause of disability worldwide, and is the fourth leading cause of the global burden of disease. It projects that, by 2020, the global burden of disease will increase, and that

Gofynnodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad hefyd am adolygiad o unedau iechyd meddwl lled-ddiogel, ar ôl i ddyd gael ei ladd ym Mhrestatyn. Prif bwrpas yr adolygiad hwn oedd rhoi sicrwydd ynghylch digonolrwydd neu annigonolrwydd y trefniadau llywodraethu clinigol sydd mewn grym ym mhob un o'r pedair uned led ddiogel, ac asesu digonolrwydd trefniadau ar gyfer cynllunio rhyddhau cleifion.

Cyhoeddwyd y tri adroddiad ar 10 Hydref, ac mae pob un yn darparu cyfres o argymhellion am yr hyn y mae angen ei wneud i leihau risg a gwella ansawdd cyffredinol ein gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl. Nodwyd llawer enghraifft galonogol o arfer da, ond y neges gyffredinol o'r adroddiadau hyn yw bod gennym lawer i'w wneud i foderneiddio a gwella gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion ledled Cymru. Yr wyf yn croesawu'r adroddiadau hyn, ac yr wyf wedi ystyried eu hargymhellion wrth lunio'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol a'r cynllun gweithredu. Yr wyf yn benderfynol o sicrhau y bydd gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yn gwella'n sylweddol ac yn darparu rhaglen o ofal cyfannol ac integredig o safon uchel. Y mae ei hangen yn ddirfawr ar bobl sy'n dioddef gan iechyd meddwl gwael.

Ochr yn ochr â 'Codi'r Safon', a gyhoeddwyd ddydd Llun, cyhoeddais hefyd £5 miliwn o fuddsoddiad refeniw ychwanegol ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion. Diben yr arian hwn yw sicrhau y caiff y safonau a amlinellir yn y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol a'r cynllun gweithredu eu gweithredu'n llawn ac y bydd gwelliannau yn ein gwasanaethau. Mae'r £5 miliwn ychwanegol hwn yn dilyn y £75 miliwn o wariant cyfalaf yr oeddwn wedi ei gyhoeddi gynt ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl, ac mae'n gam pwysig ymlaen.

Amcangyfrifodd Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd y bydd anhwylder meddwl yn effeithio ar un person o bob pedwar rywbryd yn ystod ei fywyd. Darganfu ei ymchwil mai iselder yw un o'r prif achosion anabledd ar draws y byd, a'r pedwerydd prif achos o faich afiechyd yn y byd. Mae'n rhag-weld y bydd y baich afiechyd byd eang erbyn 2020 yn cynyddu ac

‘depression will have the dubious distinction of becoming the second largest cause of the global disease burden’.

Y bydd iselder yn cael ei nodi fel yr ail achos mwyaf o’r baich afiechyd byd eang.

Unless we deal properly with this issue, and unless we take care of people who need our care and attention, there is not only a burden on people who are mentally ill, on their families and their communities, but also an economic burden on society. Only 24 per cent of adults with long-term mental health problems are in work—the lowest employment rate for any of the main disabled groups.

Onid awn i’r afael â’r mater hwn yn briodol, ac oni ofalwn am bobl sydd ag angen ein gofal a’n sylw, bydd baich nid yn unig ar bobl sydd â salwch meddwl, eu teuluoedd a’u cymunedau, ond bydd baich economaidd hefyd ar gymdeithas. Dim ond 24 y cant o oedolion sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl hirdymor sy’n gweithio—y gyfradd gyflogaeth isaf mewn unrhyw un o’r prif grwpiau anabled.

People with mental health problems are at more than double the risk of losing their jobs, compared with those who do not have such problems, and are nearly three times more likely to be in debt. People with, or recovering from, mental health problems find it extremely difficult to re-enter the workforce or to enjoy the full participation in society that so many of us take for granted. The consequences of this are that many people with mental health problems are permanently excluded in our communities. They frequently live in poverty, debt and poor housing, which hampers their ability to enjoy full citizenship and to recover their mental health.

Mae pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl ddwywaith yn fwy tebygol o golli’u swyddi, o’u cymharu â phobl sydd heb broblemau o’r fath, ac maent bron deirgwaith yn fwy tebygol o fod mewn dyled. Mae pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl neu sy’n gwella o hynny yn ei chael yn anodd dros ben i ailymuno â’r gweithlu, neu i gyfranogi’n llawn mewn cymdeithas y mae cynifer ohonom yn ei chymryd yn ganiataol. O ganlyniad i hyn, caiff nifer o bobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl eu hallgáu yn barhaol o’n cymunedau. Maent yn aml yn byw mewn tldi, mewn dyled ac mewn tai gwael, sy’n amharu ar eu gallu i fwynhau dinasyddiaeth lawn ac i adfer eu hiechyd meddwl.

Early intervention to help keep people in work and maintain social contacts significantly reduces these costs. Once a person has reached a crisis point, it is difficult and costly to restore their employment and social status. This is why initiatives such as the Healthy Minds at Work project are so important. This has brought together a range of stakeholders, including employers, trade unions, voluntary organisations, and other services, to provide workplace support to employees experiencing anxiety, stress or depressive disorders.

Mae ymyrryd yn gynnar i helpu cadw pobl mewn gwaith ac i gynnal cysylltiadau cymdeithasol yn lleihau’r costau hyn yn sylweddol. Pan fydd rhywun wedi cyrraedd pwynt argyfwng, mae’n anodd ac yn gostus adfer ei gyflogaeth a’i statws cymdeithasol. Dyna pam mae mentrau fel y prosiect Meddwl Iach yn y Gwaith mor bwysig. Mae hwn wedi dod ag ystod o randdeiliaid ynghyd, gan gynnwys cyflogwyr, undebau llafur, sefydliadau gwirfoddol, a gwasanaethau eraill i ddarparu cymorth yn y gweithle i gyflogeion sy’n dioddef oherwydd pryder, straen neu anhwylderau iselder.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Unwaith eto, croesawaf y datganiad hwn. Gwnewch nifer o ddatganiadau eithriadol o bwysig ynddo, gan gynnwys y gydnabyddiaeth na roddwyd digon o bwyslais, yn hanesyddol, ar y ddarpariaeth ar gyfer pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl, nid yn unig yng Nghymru,

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Once again, I welcome this statement. You make several exceptionally important statements in it, including the acknowledgement that not enough emphasis has been placed, historically, on the provision for people with mental health problems, not only in Wales

ond yn y Deyrnas Unedig, ac ar draws y byd. Dywedwch hynny yn eich datganiad, a chytunaf â hynny.

Ymunaf â chi hefyd i ddatgan ein pryder ynglŷn â'r anfanteision cymdeithasol a'r anfanteision o ran gwaith y mae pobl â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn eu hwynebu. Mae'r broblem hon yn deillio o ganfyddiad y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol o bobl sy'n dioddef problemau iechyd meddwl.

Cyfeiriwch at y digwyddiad trist hwnnw ym Mhrestatyn. Ni ddylem roi'r argraff bod pawb sy'n dioddef problemau iechyd meddwl yn fygythiad i'r cyhoedd. Gwn eich bod yn rhannu fy mhryder bod y cyfryngau, weithiau, yn rhoi'r neges i'r cyhoedd bod pawb â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn rhyw fath o fygythiad. Gwyddom nad yw mwyafrif y bobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl yn fygythiad—maent yn bobl sy'n disgwyl, ac yn haeddu, cefnogaeth y cyhoedd a'r gymdeithas yn gyffredinol.

Croesawaf hefyd eich ymrwymiadau ariannol. Gwn eich bod yn gweithio o fewn cyllideb benodol, ond apelïaf arnoch i edrych eto am gyfleoedd i fuddsoddi yn y gwasanaethau hyn; credaf ein bod i gyd yn cydnabod bod angen buddsoddiad ychwanegol, hyd yn oed at yr hyn yr ydych wedi ei gynnig heddiw.

I would like to raise several issues with you, Minister, but I realise how heavy a workload we face this afternoon. There is an important debate to follow, on council tax, and I know that there are some people in—

The Presiding Officer: Order. I have no intention of curtailing this important statement.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I was not suggesting that for a second, Presiding Officer. I want to raise some specific issues with the Minister, but I was highlighting the importance of the debate that is to follow.

You referred to the various reviews that you have commissioned, Minister. I will highlight some of the issues that have been raised in those reviews, and give you some extracts from them, which underline the serious issues

but also in the United Kingdom, and across the world. You say so in your statement, and I agree with that.

I also join with you in expressing our concern about the social disadvantages and the employment disadvantages that people with mental health problems face. This problem stems from the general public perception of people with mental health problems.

You refer to the sad incident at Prestatyn. We should not give the impression that everyone with mental health problems is a threat to the public. I know you share my concern that, sometimes, the media convey the message to the public that all people with mental health problems pose some kind of a threat. I know the majority of people with mental health problems are no—they are people who expect, and deserve, the support of the public and society generally.

I also welcome your financial commitments. I know that you work within a specific budget, but I appeal to you to look again for opportunities to invest in these services; I believe we all acknowledge the need for that additional investment, even in addition to what you have outlined today.

Hoffwn godi nifer o faterion gyda chi, Gweinidog, ond sylweddolaf ein bod yn wynebu llwyth gwaith trwm y prynhawn yma. Mae dadl bwysig i ddilyn, ar y dreth gyngor, a gwn fod rhai pobl mewn—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Nid wyf yn bwriadu cwtdogi'r datganiad pwysig hwn.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Nid oeddwn yn awgrymu hynny am eiliad, Lywydd. Yr wyf am godi rhai materion penodol gyda'r Gweinidog, ond yr oeddwn am dynnu sylw at bwysigrwydd y ddadl sydd i ddilyn.

Yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at yr amrywiol adolygiadau a gomisiynwyd gennych, Weinidog. Tynnaf sylw at rai o'r materion sydd wedi eu codi yn sgîl yr adolygiadau hynny, a rhoi rhai dyfyniadau ohonynt sy'n

that need to be addressed. These include:	pwysleisio'r materion difrifol y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hwy. Maent yn cynnwys:
'There are significant gaps in key elements of service delivery that are currently preventing full implementation of the NSF';	Mae bylchau sylweddol mewn elfennau allweddol mewn darparu gwasanaeth sy'n atal gweithredu'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol yn llawn ar hyn o bryd;
'There has been a limited focus on mental health promotion, tackling stigma and early intervention';	Cyfyngedig fu'r canolbwyntio ar hybu iechyd meddwl, mynd i'r afael â stigma ac ymyrryd yn gynnar;
'An integrated approach to workforce planning across health and social care is generally not in place to help address variations and potential shortfalls in staff resources';	Yn gyffredinol nid oes ymagwedd gyfannol tuag at gynllunio'r gweithlu ar draws iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol i helpu ymdrin ag amrywiadau a diffygion posibl mewn adnoddau staff;
'Mental health services are not always seen as a local priority'; and	Nid yw gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl bob amser yn cael eu hystyried yn flaenoriaeth leol; a
'The way in which mental health services are currently funded does not facilitate effective long term service planning and development'.	Nid yw'r modd y caiff gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl eu hariannu ar hyn o bryd yn hwyluso cynllunio a datblygu gwasanaeth hirdymor yn effeithiol.

4.30 p.m.

Those extracts clearly show what needs to be done. You will be aware that, over the weekend, Mind Cymru, Depression Alliance Cymru and Hafal have all said that the quality of service can depend on where you live, which means that we have a postcode provision in Wales. With regard to that, I will ask you two specific questions. There are a number of recommendations in these reviews, which the Welsh Assembly Government needs to address. Will you at some point, hopefully in the not-too-distant future, give us a timetable of when you will be able to address these recommendations and begin to implement them? Will you also clarify what assessment has been made of the resource implications of proposals contained within the highly criticised Mental Health Bill, and whether money announced this week will be swallowed up in trying to meet those requirements and not necessarily to address the deficiencies in the services that you identified in your report? Arguably, this is the kind of matter recommended by the report, which is to ensure that funding arrangements for adult mental health services in Wales are consistent with service

Mae'r dyfyniadau hynny'n dangos yn glir yr hyn y mae angen ei wneud. Byddwch yn ymwybodol, dros y penwythnos, fod Mind Cymru, Depression Alliance Cymru a Hafal wedi dweud y gall ansawdd y gwasanaeth ddibynnu ar ble yr ydych yn byw, sy'n golygu bod gennym ddarpariaeth yn ôl cod post yng Nghymru. Yn sgîl hynny, gofynnaf ddau gwestiwn penodol ichi. Mae nifer o argymhellion yn yr adolygiadau hyn y mae angen i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru fynd i'r afael â hwy. A wnewch chi rywbryd, cyn hir gobeithio, roi amserlen inni pryd y gallwch fynd i'r afael â'r argymhellion hyn a dechrau eu gweithredu? A wnewch chi hefyd egluro pa asesiad a wnaed o oblygiadau ariannol y cynigion sydd yn y Mesur Iechyd Meddwl sydd wedi ei feirniadu'n llym? Ac a fydd yr arian a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos hon yn cael ei lyncu wrth geisio bodloni'r gofynion hynny, ac nid o reidrwydd i fynd i'r afael â'r diffygion yn y gwasanaethau a nodwyd gennych yn eich adroddiad? Gellid dadlau mai dyma'r math o fater a argymhellir gan yr adroddiad, sef sicrhau bod trefniadau ariannu ar gyfer gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion yng Nghymru yn gyson â

priorities.

blaenoriaethau'r gwasanaeth.

Brian Gibbons: I will deal with some of your last points first. My predecessor, Jane Hutt, acknowledged that, if and when the Mental Health Bill becomes legislation, it will place severe financial duties on us in terms of putting the resources in place to meet the requirements and new standards that the Act would demand. Therefore, one of the purposes behind the £5 million is to begin to put the foundations in place that will allow us to be in a position to respond to the challenges of that Bill, if and when it becomes an Act.

The action plan has a fairly detailed table, which outlines the detailed chronology of when we would hope to deliver the certain standards. You are quite right to say that mental illness is not just an illness that afflicts people in isolation; it has wide social ramifications, and it affects people in terms of their rights as citizens. Equally, we need to address these social dimensions, because the more favourable the social milieu in which people with a mental illness live, the more therapeutic and supportive that social milieu is.

The level of investment in mental health services here in Wales is higher than that in England, but this extra £5 million, taken in conjunction with the £75 million capital expenditure, will be an additional support to allow us to make that necessary further investment. The fact that the reviews are so hard-hitting and uncompromising in their statement means that they have extra authority and place greater challenges on the Assembly Government to deliver a service that will further improve. Anyone who has been involved in mental health services over

Brian Gibbons: Ymdriniaf â rhai o'ch pwyntiau olaf yn gyntaf. Cydnabu fy rhagflaenydd, Jane Hutt, os a phan ddaw'r Mesur Iechyd Meddwl yn ddeddfwriaeth, y bydd yn gosod dyletswyddau ariannol difrifol arnom o ran rhoi'r adnoddau ar waith i fodloni'r gofynion a'r safonau newydd y byddai'r Ddeddf yn eu mynnu. Felly, un o ddibenion y £5 miliwn yw dechrau rhoi'r sylfeini ar waith i'n caniatáu i fod mewn sefyllfa i ymateb i heriau'r Mesur hwnnw, os a phan ddaw yn Ddeddf.

Mae yn y cynllun gweithredu dabl gweddol fanwl sy'n amlinellu'r gronoleg fanwl o ran pryd y byddem yn gobeithio cyflawni'r safonau penodol. Yr ydych yn iawn i ddweud bod salwch meddwl nid yn unig yn salwch sy'n cystuddio pobl ar eu pen eu hunain; mae iddo oblygiadau cymdeithasol eang, ac mae'n effeithio ar bobl o ran eu hawliau fel dinasyddion. Yn yr un modd, mae angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r dimensiynau cymdeithasol hyn, oherwydd po fwyaf ffafriol yw amgylchfyd cymdeithasol pobl sydd â salwch meddwl, y mwyaf therapiwtig a chefnogol yw'r amgylchfyd cymdeithasol hwnnw.

Mae lefel y buddsoddi mewn gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yng Nghymru yn uwch nag yn Lloegr, ond bydd y £5 miliwn ychwanegol hwn, a gymerir ar y cyd â'r £75 miliwn o wariant cyfalaf, yn gymorth ychwanegol i ganiatáu inni wneud y buddsoddiad pellach angenrheidiol hwnnw. Mae'r ffaith fod yr adolygiadau mor llym a digyfaddawd yn eu datganiad yn golygu bod iddynt awdurdod ychwanegol a'u bod yn gosod mwy o her i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ddarparu gwasanaeth a fydd yn gwella ymhellach. Ni fyddai neb sydd wedi bod yn gysylltiedig â

the last 10 or 15 years would not deny that they have improved out of all recognition, compared with what existed 15 years or so ago. However, as these reports show clearly, there is still a tremendous amount to be done, and we have a major challenge ahead of us in delivering everything that is enclosed in the review, as well as the values and aspirations encompassed in the national service framework.

Jonathan Morgan: I thank the Minister for his statement this afternoon. It is a timely statement in light of the fact that it was World Mental Health Day on Monday. As you are aware, the Health and Social Services Committee is due to launch the outcome of its review into mental health services some time next week, to which you have contributed. I am sure that you will agree that all members of the committee were rather shocked by the level of services that exists in Wales, the problems that carers and users of those services face daily, and the constraints that mental health professionals face, as individuals whom we expect to develop and deliver those services. I know that we were all taken aback by the evidence that we received.

I am delighted that you have been able to allude to the variety of reports that have been commissioned by you, and I have taken the time to review the 'Report of a Review of Adult Mental Health Medium Secure Units in Wales'. Recommendation 16 in that particular report is certainly the most significant recommendation with regard to the Welsh Assembly Government. It lists a number of suggestions for the Assembly Government to follow to improve the development of strategy and the guidance for the delivery of continuing services for patients. In your statement, you referred to the £5 million that you have made available for the provision of services, but recommendation 16 of the report calls for

'Clarity concerning funding and responsibility for patients throughout the stages of their care (including engagement of

gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl dros y 10 neu'r 15 mlynedd diwethaf yn gwadu eu bod wedi gwella y tu hwnt i adnabyddiaeth, o'u cymharu â'r hyn a oedd yn bodoli tua 15 mlynedd yn ôl. Fodd bynnag, fel y dengys yr adroddiadau hyn yn glir, mae llawer iawn i'w wneud o hyd, ac mae her fawr o'n blaenau i gyflawni popeth sydd wedi ei gynnwys yn yr adroddiad, yn ogystal â'r gwerthoedd a'r dyheadau sydd wedi eu cwmpasu yn y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol.

Jonathan Morgan: Yr wyf yn diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad y prynhawn yma. Mae'n ddatganiad amserol yng ngoleuni'r ffaith mai dydd Llun oedd Diwrnod Iechyd Meddwl y Byd. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn bwriadu lansio, rywbryd yr wythnos nesaf, ganlyniad ei adolygiad o wasanaethau iechyd meddwl y bu ichi gyfrannu ato. Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunwch fod holl aelodau'r pwyllgor wedi'u syfrdanu gan lefel y gwasanaethau sy'n bodoli yng Nghymru, y problemau y mae gofawyr a defnyddwyr y gwasanaethau hynny yn eu hwynebu bob dydd, a'r cyfyngiadau y mae gweithwyr iechyd meddwl proffesiynol yn eu hwynebu, fel unigolion y disgwyliwn iddynt ddatblygu a darparu'r gwasanaethau hynny. Gwn ein bod i gyd wedi'n syfrdanu gan y dystiolaeth a gawsom.

Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi gallu cyfeirio at yr amrywiaeth adroddiadau a gomisiynwyd gennych, ac yr wyf wedi rhoi o'm hamser i adolygu'r 'Adroddiad ar Adolygiad o Unedau Diogelwch Iechyd Meddwl Lled-Ddiogel i Oedolion yng Nghymru'. Argymhelliad 16 yn yr adroddiad penodol hwnnw yn bendant yw'r argymhelliad mwyaf arwyddocaol o ran Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Mae'n rhestru nifer o awgrymiadau i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad eu dilyn i wella'r gwaith o ddatblygu strategaeth a'r canllawiau ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau parhaus i gleifion. Yn eich datganiad yr oeddech yn cyfeirio at y £5 miliwn yr ydych wedi ei ddarparu ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau, ond mae argymhelliad 16 yn yr adroddiad yn galw am

Eglurder o ran arian a chyfrifoldeb dros gleifion drwy gydol eu cyfnodau gofal (gan gynnwys ymgysylltu â chomisïynwyr a

commissioners and the improvement of communication between organisations)'.
gwella cyfathrebu rhwng sefydliadau).

Clearly, there will be cost implications for implementing that recommendation, so can you inform us whether the £5 million additional resource that you have made available includes money to cover any of the cost implications contained in that recommendation?

I am also wondering about two of the principal concerns that I raised during the committee review. The first was the role of mental health professionals and the strain on individuals working in the system, in terms of the workload that they have to deal with daily. My concern was about the real lack of capacity, which appeared from the evidence that we took, with regard to the number of people working in the system and whether those professionals could cope with the daily management of cases. Have the reviews that have been commissioned so far addressed that particular concern?

My second concern was about the involvement of users and carers in the development of care plans. It was clear in that review that, in many cases, users were certainly competent to give an opinion on the development of their care plans, and their carers, members of their families, were also competent to give advice as to how those care plans should be delivered. I would be grateful for some further information on how you think that that will be taken forward in future. Specifically in light of the fact that we are launching the Health and Social Services Committee report next week—and you have been keen to say that you will be doing everything possible to incorporate the recommendations suggested in the reviews that you have commissioned, particularly in terms of developing and delivering the national service framework—could you give me an assurance that you will give equal priority and weight to the recommendations of the committee's report when it is published next week?

Brian Gibbons: The report of the Health and Social Services Committee will focus on user involvement. Two of the reviews pointed out in fairly unambiguous terms that, in a number

Yn amlwg, bydd goblygiadau o ran costau ar gyfer gweithredu'r argymhelliad hwnnw. Felly, a allwch ddweud wrthym a yw'r £5 miliwn ychwanegol yr ydych wedi ei ddarparu yn cynnwys arian i gwmpasu unrhyw rai o'r goblygiadau cost a gynhwysir yn yr argymhelliad hwnnw?

Yr wyf hefyd yn dyfalu am ddau o'r prif bryderon a godais yn ystod adolygiad y pwyllgor. Y cyntaf oedd rôl gweithwyr iechyd meddwl proffesiynol a'r straen ar unigolion sy'n gweithio yn y system, o ran y llwyth gwaith y mae'n rhaid iddynt ymdopi ag ef bob dydd. Yr oeddwn yn pryderu am y prinder adnoddau go iawn, a ddaeth i'r golwg o'r dystiolaeth a gasglwyd gennym, o ran nifer y bobl sy'n gweithio yn y system ac a allai'r gweithwyr proffesiynol hynny ymdopi â rheoli achosion o ddydd i ddydd. A yw'r adolygiadau a gomisiynwyd hyd yma wedi mynd i'r afael â'r pryder penodol hwnnw?

Fy ail bryder oedd rôl defnyddwyr a gofawyr wrth ddatblygu cynlluniau gofal. Yr oedd yn glir yn yr adolygiad hwnnw, mewn llawer achos, fod defnyddwyr yn sicr yn gallu rhoi barn am ddatblygiad eu cynlluniau gofal, ac yr oedd eu gofawyr, ac aelodau o'u teuluoedd, hefyd yn alluog i roi cyngor am y ffordd y dylid darparu'r cynlluniau gofal hynny. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am ragor o wybodaeth am y ffordd y credwch y gweithredir hynny yn y dyfodol. Yn benodol yng ngoleuni'r ffaith ein bod yn lansio adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yr wythnos nesaf-ac yr ydych wedi bod yn awyddus i ddweud y byddwch yn gwneud popeth posibl i ymgorffori'r argymhellion a awgrymwyd yn yr adolygiadau a gomisiynwyd gennych, yn enwedig o ran datblygu a darparu'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethola allwch roi sicrwydd imi y byddwch yn rhoi'r un flaenoriaeth a'r un pwyslais ar argymhellion adroddiad y pwyllgor pan gaiff ei gyhoeddi'r wythnos nesaf?

Brian Gibbons: Bydd adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn canolbwyntio ar gyfranogiad defnyddwyr. Yr oedd dau o'r adolygiadau yn dangos mewn

of areas and particularly at an operational level, as well as in terms of the personal care plans that were being developed for individual service users, the resources that individuals had were not being used. It was not happening to the extent that good practice would indicate. This is why one key feature of the national service framework and the action plan is the stress that we are placing on the care programme approach. The focus of that approach and the reason we want it to be extensively used across Wales is the key role that it plays in putting the patient at the centre of the assessment process, and its target of involving patients in developing the therapeutic responses to their particular problem. The care programme approach is an important structure and therapeutic philosophy in addressing some of the concerns that you have raised.

However, some of the reports also said that, at a certain level, the service has been fairly good at involving service users, particularly at the higher level of policy development. Therefore, it is not an entirely bleak picture, but at the care interface between the service and the service user, there is certainly a significant amount of work to be done. I hope that it will be done through various models of care, such as the focused approach, the care programme approach, the use of the Tidal Model, and the other things that we heard about in the evidence. If you look at the action plan and the national service framework, you will see that they are all clearly included in the programme that we would hope to see developed.

4.40 p.m.

One point on workload is that we have provided funding for a number of additional staff for our mental health services, but the problem has been in recruiting people to those posts. In many ways, the resources are there, but the challenge is to get people to work in these difficult and demanding jobs, as you described them in the introduction to your question. The challenge will be to make a career in mental health services attractive. On World Mental Health Day, I was at a

ffordd ddigon diamwys nad oedd yr adnoddau a oedd gan unigolion yn cael eu defnyddio mewn nifer o feysydd, ac yn enwedig ar lefel weithredol, yn ogystal ag o ran y cynlluniau gofal personol a oedd yn cael eu datblygu ar gyfer defnyddwyr gwasanaethau unigol. Nid oedd yn digwydd i'r graddau y byddai arfer da yn ei awgrymu. Dyna pam mai un nodwedd allweddol yn y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol a'r cynllun gweithredu yw'r straen yr ydym yn ei osod ar ymagwedd y rhaglen ofal. Ffocws yr ymagwedd honno a'r rheswm pam yr ydym am iddi gael ei defnyddio'n helaeth ledled Cymru yw'r rôl allweddol sydd iddi wrth osod y claf yng nghanol y broses asesu, a'i tharged o gynnwys cleifion wrth ddatblygu'r ymatebion therapiwtig i'w problem benodol. Mae ymagwedd y rhaglen ofal yn strwythur ac yn athroniaeth therapiwtig bwysig wrth fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r pryderon a godwyd gennych.

Fodd bynnag, yr oedd rhai o'r adroddiadau, ar lefel benodol, hefyd yn dweud bod y gwasanaeth yn gymharol dda wrth gynnwys defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, yn enwedig ar y lefel uwch wrth ddatblygu polisiau. Felly, nid yw'r darlun yn ddu i gyd, ond yn y rhyngwyneb gofal rhwng y gwasanaeth a defnyddiwr y gwasanaeth, mae'n sicr fod cryn dipyn o waith i'w wneud. Gobeithio y caiff ei wneud drwy amrywiol fodelau gofal, fel yr ymagwedd gyda ffocws, ymagwedd y rhaglen gofal, defnyddio'r 'Tidal Model', a'r pethau eraill y clywsom amdanynt yn y dystiolaeth. Os edrychwch ar y cynllun gweithredu a'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol, gwelwch eu bod oll wedi'u cynnwys yn glir yn y rhaglen y byddem yn gobeithio gweld ei datblygu.

Un pwynt am y llwyth gwaith yw ein bod wedi darparu arian ar gyfer nifer o staff ychwanegol ar gyfer ein gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl. Ond y broblem fu recriwtio pobl i'r swyddi hynny. Mewn llawer ffordd, mae'r adnoddau ar gael, ond yr her yw cael pobl i weithio yn y swyddi anodd a chaled hyn, fel yr oeddech yn eu disgrifio yn y cyflwyniad i'ch cwestiwn. Yr her fydd gwneud yrfa mewn gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yn ddeniadol. Ar Ddiwrnod Iechyd

presentation at which mental health nurses were in attendance. We, in the Assembly Government, have set up an awards ceremony and programme for mental health nurses to show that we appreciate their work and also to showcase the innovative and imaginative work that is going on.

I do not think that I agree with your statement that you were shocked by the evidence that you heard in committee. People who have worked in mental health services, in Victorian premises that are totally out of date, will recognise that, compared with where mental health services have come from, significant progress has been made. Undoubtedly, there is every reason to have major concern about how much further we need to go. However, I would not say that the work done by staff has not made a massive difference to the lives and wellbeing of people with mental health problems over the years, because I think that their situation has been dramatically improved. However, we have to do so much better, and that is the challenge. There are no grounds for complacency in this area, and there are massive gaps in the service that we will have to address.

Jenny Randerson: Thank you for your statement, Minister. I am relieved to hear you acknowledge that there are massive gaps in the service. You talked about progress, but from the perspective of my constituents, there has been very little progress, and it is those involved, the mental health professionals, who speak about the lack of progress and of their concerns for the service. The same is said by members of the local health board and the trust.

Your statement refers to three separate reports, which you published together, on the same day. While I can see the logic of doing that, there is a danger that Monday, 10 October will be seen as a good day for burying bad news—one bit of bad news under another. I can see the logic in terms of integrating their publication, but each of these reports refers to an important and significant part of the service. What worries me is that mental health services in Wales have been treated as cinderella services for

Meddwl y Byd, yr oeddwn mewn cyflwyniad lle yr oedd nyrsys iechyd meddwl yn bresennol. Yr ydym ni, yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, wedi sefydlu seremoni wobrwyo a rhaglen ar gyfer nyrsys iechyd meddwl i ddangos ein bod yn gwerthfawrogi eu gwaith, a hefyd i dynnu sylw at y gwaith arloesol a dychmygus sy'n mynd ymlaen.

Ni chredaf fy mod yn cytuno â'ch datganiad eich bod wedi'ch syfrdanu gan y dystiolaeth a glywsoch yn y pwyllgor. Bydd pobl sydd wedi gweithio ym maes gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl, mewn adeiladau oes Victoria sy'n gwbl hen ffasiwn, yn cydnabod, o'i chymharu â'r sefyllfa yn y gorffennol, fod cynnydd sylweddol wedi ei wneud. Yn ddiau, mae rheswm da dros bryderu'n fawr faint ymhellach y mae angen inni fynd. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddwn yn dweud nad yw'r gwaith a wnaed gan staff wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth enfawr i fywydau a lles pobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl dros y blynyddoedd, oherwydd credaf fod eu sefyllfa wedi gwella'n aruthrol. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni wneud gymaint yn well, a dyna'r her. Nid oes sail i laesu dwylo yn y maes hwn, ac mae yna fylchau enfawr yn y gwasanaeth y bydd yn rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â hwy.

Jenny Randerson: Diolch am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Mae'n rhyddhad clywed eich bod yn cydnabod bod bylchau enfawr yn y gwasanaeth. Soniech am gynnydd, ond o safbwynt fy etholwyr i, prin iawn fu'r cynnydd, a'r rheini sy'n gysylltiedig, y gweithwyr iechyd meddwl proffesiynol, sy'n siarad am y diffyg cynnydd ac am eu pryderon am y gwasanaeth. Mae aelodau'r bwrdd iechyd lleol a'r ymddiriedolaeth yn dweud yr un peth.

Mae eich datganiad yn cyfeirio at dri adroddiad ar wahân, a gyhoeddwyd gennych gyda'i gilydd, ar yr un diwrnod. Er y gallaf weld y rhesymeg dros wneud hynny, mae perygl yr ystyrir Dydd Llun, 10 Hydref fel diwrnod da ar gyfer cyflwyno newyddion drwg—un darn o newyddion drwg ynghudd o dan y llall. Gallaf weld y rhesymeg o ran integreiddio eu cyhoeddi, ond mae pob un o'r adroddiadau hyn yn cyfeirio at ran bwysig a sylweddol o'r gwasanaeth. Yr hyn sy'n fy mhoeni yw bod gwasanaethau iechyd

far too long and, by publishing the three reports together, you have reduced the impact and attention that each one would have received. Could you alleviate that problem by making a commitment today that we will have a proper, full debate on this issue, as opposed to just a statement? Many Members have concerns about mental health issues in their constituencies, and the issues are very different in different parts of Wales. We should have an opportunity for a debate.

Key failures in the system are pointed out by these reports, and they reveal a sorry situation in many parts. I will pick up on a specific statement that you made, namely that, once a person has reached crisis point, it is very difficult and costly to restore their employment and social status. This is a message that has been given to me time and again by those who work in the field.

They have grave concerns that the move from the traditional in-patient hospital situation to crisis teams developed in the community with additional needs supported housing is being impeded. It was the understanding of local authorities and LHBs that money would be ring-fenced for this initiative, and this appears now not to have come through. Although the £5 million is very welcome, where does it fit in? Is it your intention to use this money to support the development of crisis teams? For example, here in Cardiff, the council said that it had hoped to dovetail the development of crisis teams and the closure of Whitchurch Hospital, and to have an overlap. It will not be able to do that now; it will have to close the hospital and then start the crisis teams, with a dangerous gap in between in terms of service for those affected. So it would be helpful if you could clarify where the money fits in. We heard from the social workers involved at an event a few weeks ago, which I am pretty certain that you attended, that a pilot project in Carmarthenshire was being dismantled because the funding had not come through as they thought that it would.

meddwl yng Nghymru wedi cael eu trin fel gwasanaethau sinderela yn rhy hir, a thrwy gyhoeddi'r tri adroddiad gyda'i gilydd yr ydych wedi lleihau'r effaith a'r sylw y byddai pob un wedi ei gael. A allech liniaru'r broblem honno drwy wneud ymrwymiad heddiw y byddwn yn cael dadl briodol, lawn ar y mater hwn, yn hytrach na dim ond datganiad? Mae nifer o Aelodau yn pryderu am faterion iechyd meddwl yn eu hetholaethau, ac mae'r materion yn wahanol iawn mewn gwahanol rannau o Gymru. Dylai fod cyfle inni gael dadl.

Cyfeiria'r adroddiadau hyn at fethiannau allweddol yn y system, a datgelant sefyllfa druenus mewn llawer man. Cyfeiriaf at ddatganiad penodol a wnaethpwyd gennych, sef pan fydd rhywun wedi cyrraedd argyfwng, mae'n anodd ac yn gostus iawn adfer eu cyflogaeth a'u statws cymdeithasol. Mae hon yn neges a glywais dro ar ôl tro gan y rheini sy'n gweithio yn y maes.

Maent yn pryderu'n fawr fod y broses o newid o'r sefyllfa ysbyty draddodiadol i gleifion mewnol i dimau argyfwng yn cael eu datblygu yn y gymuned gyda thai cymorth ar gyfer anghenion arbennig yn cael ei rhwystro. Yn ôl yr hyn a oedd ar ddeall i awdurdodau lleol a BIL1, byddai'r arian hwnnw'n cael ei neilltuo ar gyfer y fenter hon, ac ymddengys bellach nad yw hyn wedi digwydd. Er ein bod yn croesawu'r £5 miliwn, beth yn union yw ei ddiben? A ydych yn bwriadu defnyddio'r arian hwn i gynorthwyo datblygu timau argyfwng? Er enghraifft, yma yng Nghaerdydd, dywedodd y cyngor ei fod wedi gobeithio cydblethu datblygu timau argyfwng a chau Ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd, a chael cyfnod o orgyffwrdd. Ni fydd yn gallu gwneud hynny mwyach; bydd yn rhaid iddo gau'r ysbyty ac yna dechrau'r timau argyfwng, gyda bwloch peryglus rhwng y ddau mewn gwasanaethau i'r rheini yr effeithir arnynt. Felly, byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe gallech egluro beth yn union yw diben yr arian. Clywsom gan y gweithwyr cymdeithasol a oedd yn cymryd rhan mewn digwyddiad ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, ac yr wyf bron yn siŵr eich bod chi yna, fod prosiect peilot yn sir Gaerfyrddin yn cael ei chwalo oherwydd nad oedd yr arian wedi dod fel yr oeddent wedi'i ddisgwyl.

I am pleased that the new mental health unit at Llandough hospital is open, but we still have Whitchurch Hospital, the closure date for which has now been put back until 2012, I believe. There are six old Victorian asylums left in the UK, five of which are in Wales, so we badly need that £75 million in capital expenditure, but the message that we are now getting is that the revenue implications of capital development are such that is beyond some LHBs and trusts to deliver. I would be grateful for your clarification of the revenue implications associated with spending that £75 million and how you will ensure that they are covered.

Finally, the picture from these reports is so complex and profound in terms of the problems faced, that I renew the call for there to be strong leadership from the centre and prompt action to ensure that improvements are delivered.

Brian Gibbons: There was a slight contradiction there in that there have been a significant number of closures of Victorian buildings. The people who had to work or stay in those Victorian buildings will realise that the change to the present estate in which care is provided is a vast step forward. The new facilities, whether in Haverford West, Llanelli, Carmarthen, Neath Port Talbot, Llantrisant or Llandough, are evidence of the investment that we are putting in to get rid of those old Victorian buildings. The fact that we have such a significant capital budget is an indication of our commitment to that. It will be for individual local health boards to apply for the £5 million, because, as you said, needs and the level of performance will vary across Wales. We are not being prescriptive about how individual local health boards should use the £5 million. However, we would expect them, in making their bids, to use that money to lever in that type of change. One, if not two, of the documents spoke about the need for pump-priming money, and I think that the same point was made by the British Association of Social Workers or Unison when they spoke to us. Hopefully, this will be the sort of pump-priming money that will create headroom through the efficiencies that can be generated by getting rid of the old premises, and which

Yr wyf yn falch fod yr uned iechyd meddwl newydd yn ysbyty Llandochau wedi'i hagor. Ond mae Ysbyty'r Eglwys Newydd ar agor o hyd ac mae'r dyddiad cau yn awr wedi'i ohirio tan 2012, mi gredaf. Mae chwech o hen lochesi o gyfnod Victoria yn y DU o hyd, a phump ohonynt yng Nghymru, felly, mae arnom angen y £75 miliwn o wariant cyfalaf yn ddybryd. Ond y neges a gawn yn awr yw bod goblygiadau refeniw datblygiadau cyfalaf yn golygu na all rhai BILl ac ymddiriedolaethau gyflawni. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar am eich eglurhad o'r goblygiadau refeniw sy'n gysylltiedig â gwario'r £75 miliwn hwnnw, a sut y byddwch yn sicrhau delio â hwy.

Yn olaf, mae'r darlun a geir o'r adroddiadau hyn mor gymhleth a dwys am y problemau a wynebir, a galwaf eto am arweinyddiaeth gref o'r canol a chmau gweithredu prydlon i sicrhau darparu gwelliannau.

Brian Gibbons: Yr oedd yna ychydig rhywfaint wrth-ddweud yn hynny, oherwydd mae nifer sylweddol o adeiladau o gyfnod Victoria wedi'u cau. Bydd y bobl a oedd yn gorfod gweithio neu aros yn yr adeiladau hynny o gyfnod Victoria yn sylweddoli bod y newid yn yr ystâd bresennol lle darperir gofal yn gam mawr ymlaen. Mae'r cyfleusterau newydd, boed yn Hwlfordd, Llanelli, Caerfyrddin, Castell-nedd Port Talbot, Llantrisant neu Llandochau, yn dystiolaeth o'n buddsoddiad i gael gwared ar yr hen adeiladau hynny o gyfnod Victoria. Mae'r ffaith fod gennym gyllideb gyfalaf mor fawr yn arwydd o'n hymrwymiad i hynny. Cyfrifoldeb byrddau iechyd lleol unigol fydd gwneud cais am y £5 miliwn, oherwydd, fel yr oeddech yn dweud, bydd anghenion a lefel perfformiad yn amrywio ledled Cymru. Nid ydym yn nodi'n benodol sut y dylai byrddau iechyd lleol unigol ddefnyddio'r £5 miliwn. Fodd bynnag, byddem yn disgwyl iddynt, wrth wneud eu cynigion, ddefnyddio'r arian hwnnw i ysgogi'r math hwnnw o newid. Yr oedd un, os nad dwy, o'r dogfennau'n sôn am yr angen am arian ysgogi, a chredaf fod Cymdeithas Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol Prydain neu Unsain wedi gwneud yr un pwynt wrth siarad â ni. Gobeithio y bydd y math hwn o arian ysgogi yn creu mwy o hyblygrwydd drwy'r arbedion

allow the necessary revenue streams to be available to allow the capital budget to deliver the dramatic improvement in services that we want to see.

4.50 p.m.

It is a matter of opinion as to when you publish documents but, having read the three documents in fairly close chronological sequence over the past couple of weeks. There was a lot of added value in reading them one after the other, because it really gives you the picture and certain messages were effectively reinforced, which gave greater weight to the particular point. It also showed the complexity and multi-faceted nature of the mental health challenge that we face. If these documents had been published two or three months apart, the cumulative impact would be lost. Some of the documents are substantial and require a lot of intense reading, and I doubt that people would go back and routinely read them again.

I do not disagree that we need to make significant progress. Hopefully, the framework and the action plan are now in place, the £5 million will help to create headroom and lever the change, and, when we monitor progress against the action plan, we will see further improvement.

The Presiding Officer: I will call Jeff Cuthbert and then we will close with the committee Chair.

Jeff Cuthbert: I want to mention just one aspect of the report—the difficulty faced by many people with mental health problems in returning to employment. Many local groups have contacted me about general policy issues and the problems faced by constituents who, given training and support, are perfectly capable of returning to work, but who are unable to do so because of perceptions among employers and fellow employees. Are you working with the Minister for Economic Development and Transport, for example, to ensure that the staff of JobCentre Plus are providing the right level of training and support for jobseekers who may have mental health problems and who need that extra

effeithlonrwydd y gellir eu sicrhau drwy gael gwared ar hen adeiladau, gan sicrhau bod y ffrydiau refeniw angenrheidiol ar gael i ganiatáu i'r gyllideb gyfalaf sicrhau'r gwelliant mawr mewn gwasanaethau yr ydym yn dymuno'i weld.

Mater o farn yw pryd y dylid cyhoeddi dogfennau, ond ar ôl darllen y tair dogfen yn weddol agos at ei gilydd dros yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf, yr oedd llawer o werth ychwanegol o'u darllen ar ôl ei gilydd, gan fod hynny yn ddiau yn rhoi'r darlun ichi a chafodd rhai negeseuon eu hatgyfnerthu'n effeithiol, gan roi mwy o bwysau ar y pwynt penodol. Yr oedd hefyd yn dangos natur gymhleth ac amlochrog yr her yr ydym yn ei hwynebu o ran iechyd meddwl. Pe bai'r dogfennau hyn wedi'u cyhoeddi ddau neu dri mis ar wahân, byddai'r effaith gronol wedi'i cholli. Mae rhai o'r dogfennau'n sylweddol ac yn gofyn am lawer o ddarllen dwys, ac mae'n amheus gennyf a fyddai pobl yn mynd yn ôl a'u darllen eto.

Nid wyf yn anghytuno bod angen inni wneud cynnydd sylweddol. Gobeithio, gyda'r fframwaith a'r cynllun gweithredu bellach ar waith, y bydd y £5 miliwn yn helpu creu lle ac ysgogi'r newid, a phan fyddwn yn monitro cynnydd yn erbyn y cynllun gweithredu, gobeithio y gwelwn welliant pellach.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar Jeff Cuthbert ac yna byddwn yn cloi gyda Chadeirydd y pwyllgor.

Jeff Cuthbert: Hoffwn sôn am un agwedd ar yr adroddiad—yr anhawster sy'n wynebu nifer o bobl sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl wrth ddychwelyd i'r gwaith. Mae nifer o grwpiau lleol wedi cysylltu â mi ynglŷn â materion polisi cyffredinol a'r problemau sy'n wynebu etholwyr sydd, ar ôl cael hyfforddiant a chymorth, yn gallu dychwelyd i'r gwaith, ond yn methu gwneud hynny oherwydd canfyddiadau ymhlith cyflogwyr a chydweithwyr. A ydych yn cydweithio â'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, er enghraifft, i sicrhau bod staff y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith yn rhoi'r hyfforddiant a'r cymorth cywir i geiswyr gwaith a allai fod â phroblemau

level of support? JobCentre Plus staff are in a position to work with employers to remove the false perceptions.

Brian Gibbons: I highlighted that important point in my statement. I know that you are aware of the Assembly Government's Want to Work programme, which we are supporting with Objective 1 money as well as mainstream Assembly money. JobCentre Plus is one of the crucial partners in the Want to Work scheme. It has played a massive role in trying to move the agenda forward in terms of getting people with disabilities or illnesses back into work. The Want to Work scheme is built on the Pathways to Work project, which was piloted in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Bridgend. One of the streams in Pathways to Work was the counselling dimension. It was recognised that people had mental health problems and disabilities that prevented them from getting back to work, and that the support and assistance needed was not there. It is a big challenge, but it is good that people with mental illness are able to be full and active citizens. From the therapeutic point of view, as I said in my statement, it also helps to provide people with a structure in their lives. That is good therapy.

David Melding: I welcome the statement. It is most apposite in the week in which we celebrated World Mental Health Day and have seen the publication of the auditor general's report on adult mental health services. I remind the Chamber that the condition of child and adolescent psychiatry is really worrying. Some of the most intractable waiting lists are in this area, and that needs to be in our minds when we are discussing mental health in general.

The message—from the various events that we have attended this week with those who provide mental health services and help people who have, or are recovering from, a condition, and from what the auditor general has said—is that a good commissioning system is at the heart of good mental health services. That means getting out there and ensuring that you know what is needed in the

iechyd meddwl ac angen y cymorth ychwanegol hwnnw arnynt? Mae staff y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith mewn sefyllfa i weithio gyda chyflogwyr i ddileu'r canfyddiadau ffug.

Brian Gibbons: Tynnais sylw at y pwynt pwysig hwnnw yn fy natganiad. Gwn eich bod yn ymwybodol o raglen Llywodraeth y Cynulliad Yn Awyddus i Weithio. Yr ydym yn ei chefnogi ag arian Amcan 1 yn ogystal ag arian prif ffrwd y Cynulliad. Mae'r Ganolfan Byd Gwaith yn un o bartneriaid allweddol y cynllun Yn Awyddus i Weithio. Mae wedi chwarae rôl fawr wrth geisio symud yr agenda yn ei blaen drwy helpu pobl ag anableddau neu salwch i ddychwelyd i'r gwaith. Mae'r cynllun Yn Awyddus i Weithio yn seiliedig ar y prosiect Llwybrau at Waith, y cynhaliwyd peilot ohono yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Un o'r ffrydiau yn Llwybrau at Waith oedd y dimensiwn cwnsela. Cydnabuwyd bod gan bobl broblemau iechyd meddwl ac anabledd a oedd yn eu rhwystro rhag dychwelyd i'r gwaith, ac nad oedd y gefnogaeth a'r cymorth angenrheidiol ar gael. Mae'n her fawr, ond mae'n dda bod pobl â salwch meddwl yn gallu bod yn ddinasyddion llawn a gweithredol. O safbwynt therapiwtig, fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, mae hefyd yn helpu rhoi strwythur i fywydau pobl. Mae hynny'n therapi da.

David Melding: Croesawaf y datganiad. Mae'n ddatganiad addas iawn mewn wythnos pan ddathlwyd Diwrnod Iechyd Meddwl y Byd a phan gyhoeddwyd adroddiad yr archwilydd cyffredinol ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl i oedolion. Hoffwn atgoffa'r Siambr fod cyflwr gwasanaethau seiciatreg i blant a'r glasod yn peri pryder mawr. Mae rhai o'r rhestri aros mwyaf anhydrin i'w gweld yn y maes hwn, ac mae angen inni gofio hynny wrth drafod iechyd meddwl yn gyffredinol.

Y neges—o'r amrywiol ddirgwyddiadau y buom ynddynt yr wythnos hon gyda'r rheini sy'n darparu gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl ac yn helpu pobl sydd â chyflwr iechyd meddwl, neu'n gwella ohono, ac o'r hyn a ddywedodd yr archwilydd cyffredinol—yw bod system gomisiynu dda wrth wraidd gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl da. Mae hynny'n golygu edrych y tu allan a sicrhau

community to support the whole person who is suffering from whatever the illness is. There are various models, such as the Tidal Model, which take the approach of putting the patient at the heart of the care programme. That is what we need to do. It takes a lot of local initiative and attention; it is not a case of medicating people and telling them to stay at home until they get better. It requires a huge amount of effort related to housing, back-to-work schemes, leisure facilities and so on.

I was very pleased that the auditor general emphasised the fact that health promotion needs to be much more vigorous in this area, so that good mental health and wellbeing is advanced, and the general public, whether ill or not, understands the issues around mental health better. Currently, only half of LHBs have effective mental health promotion strategies, and we need to improve on that.

Brian Gibbons: That follows on from Jeff Cuthbert's contribution. If people can be full and active citizens, it will make a real difference in terms of getting rid of the stigma. The report highlighted the problems in relation to child and adolescent mental health services. There is a difficulty with the transitional phase, and the poor interface that often exists for young people aged between 15 and 18. We are not managing the interface as well as we should. We are discussing an adult mental health national service framework, but it does recognise that there is an overlap, and that is one of the areas of focus.

I could not agree more in relation to the commissioning of services. You are quite right—it is a bit of a paradox. A number of reviews mentioned the positive work in relation to the health, social care and wellbeing strategies, in that they pick up mental health as an issue. However, somehow the connection is not always made between highlighting the issue at that level and ensuring that it happens at a commissioning level. Some joined-up government is needed in that regard. Part of the problem, which some of the reviews highlighted, is that the tools, expertise and

eich bod yn gwybod beth sydd ei angen yn y gymuned i roi cefnogaeth lawn i'r unigolyn sy'n dioddef o ba salwch bynnag. Mae yna amrywiol fodelau, fel y Model Llanw, sy'n rhoi'r claf wrth wraidd y rhaglen gofal. Dyna'r hyn y mae angen inni ei wneud. Mae'n golygu llawer o flaengaredd a sylw yn lleol; nid mater ydyw o roi meddyginiaeth i bobl a dweud wrthynt am aros gartref nes y byddant yn gwella. Mae'n gofyn am lawer iawn o ymdrech o ran tai, cynlluniau dychwelyd i'r gwaith, cyfleusterau hamdden, ac ati.

Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn fod yr archwilydd cyffredinol wedi pwysleisio'r ffaith fod angen i'r broses hybu iechyd fod lawer yn fwy trwyadl yn y maes hwn, er mwyn i iechyd meddwl da a lles wella, a'r cyhoedd, yn sâl neu beidio, ddeall materion iechyd meddwl yn well. Ar hyn o bryd, dim ond hanner y BILl sydd â strategaethau hybu iechyd meddwl effeithiol, ac mae angen inni wella hynny.

Brian Gibbons: Mae hynny'n ategu cyfraniad Jeff Cuthbert. Os gall pobl fod yn ddinasyddion llawn a gweithredol, bydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol o ran dileu'r stigma. Yr oedd yr adroddiad yn tynnu sylw at y problemau sy'n gysylltiedig â gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl i blant a'r glasoed. Mae anhawster gyda'r cyfnod trosiannol, a'r rhyngwyneb gwael sy'n aml yn bodoli ar gyfer pobl ifanc rhwng 15 a 18 oed. Nid ydym yn rheoli'r rhyngwyneb cystal ag y dylem. Yr ydym yn trafod fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol iechyd meddwl i oedolion, ond mae'n cydnabod bod gorgyffwrdd, a dyna un o'r meysydd ffocws.

Cytunaf yn llwyr â'r hyn a ddywedwyd mewn cysylltiad â chomisiynu gwasanaethau. Yr ydych yn hollol gywir—mae'n baradocs i ryw raddau. Soniai nifer o adolygiadau am y gwaith cadarnhaol mewn perthynas â strategaethau iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a lles, am eu bod yn nodi iechyd meddwl fel mater i'w ystyried. Fodd bynnag, rywsut nid yw'r cysylltiad yn cael ei wneud bob amser rhwng tynnu sylw at y mater ar y lefel honno a sicrhau ei fod yn digwydd ar lefel gomisiynu. Mae angen rhywfaint o lywodraeth gydgyssylltiedig yn hynny o beth. Rhan o'r broblem, y tynnwyd sylw ati gan rai

the skills needed for a proper needs assessment are not as good. Some of the reports make some recommendations in relation to moving towards regional commissioning and so forth. We need to look at this in the light of the new guidance on commissioning that we will, hopefully, publish in the spring.

o'r adolygiadau, yw nad yw'r offer, yr arbenigedd a'r sgiliau sy'n angenrheidiol i wneud asesiad cywir o anghenion gystal. Mae rhai o'r adroddiadau yn gwneud rhai argymhellion mewn perthynas â symud tuag at broses gomisiynu ranbarthol, ac yn y blaen. Mae angen inni edrych ar hyn yng ngoleuni'r canllawiau newydd ar gomisiynu y byddwn yn eu cyhoeddi, gobeithio, yn y gwanwyn.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Ann Jones: Point of order. The Presiding Officer has drawn my attention to a copy of part of yesterday's proceedings during the minority party debate. I would like to put on record that it was not my intention to put Peter Black, who was then in the Chair, in a difficult position. I was not attempting to challenge the authority of the Chair in any way. However, I understand that some of my remarks have been interpreted as such a challenge and therefore discourteous. I withdraw them accordingly.

Ann Jones: Pwynt o drefn. Mae'r Llywydd wedi tynnu fy sylw at gopi o ran o'r trafodion ddoe yn ystod y ddadl plaid leiafrifol. Hoffwn gofnodi nad oedd yn fwriad gennyf roi Peter Black, a oedd yn Gadeirydd ar y pryd, mewn sefyllfa anodd. Nid oeddwn yn ceisio herio awdurdod y Cadeirydd mewn unrhyw ffordd. Fodd bynnag, deallaf fod rhai o'm sylwadau wedi'u dehongli fel her ac felly yn anghwrtais. Tynnaf y sylwadau hynny yn ôl yn unol â hynny.

The Presiding Officer: Thank you. I am very grateful to you.

Y Llywydd: Diolch. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iawn ichi.

Cynnig Trefniadol Procedural Motion

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 6.19, extends today's Plenary meeting by 45 minutes.

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigaf fod

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.19, yn ymestyn Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw am 45 munud.

The Presiding Officer: I do not regard the proposal as an abuse of the Assembly's procedures. Are there 10 Members in support of the motion? I see that there are. I therefore call for a vote.

Y Llywydd: Nid wyf yn ystyried bod y cynnig yn camddefnyddio gweithdrefnau'r Cynulliad. A oes 10 Aelod o blaid y cynnig? Gwelaf fod. Felly, galwaf am bleidlais.

*Cynnig: O blaid 41, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 3.
Procedural: For 41, Abstain 0, Against 3.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter

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

Jones, Helen Mary
Lewis, Huw
Wood, Leanne

Burnham, Eleanor
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 4.58 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 4.58 p.m.*

Y Dreth Gyngor yng Nghymru Council Tax in Wales

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, amendments 2 and 7 in the name of Kirsty Williams and amendments 4, 5 and 6 in the name of David Melding.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, gwelliannau 2 a 7 yn enw Kirsty Williams a gwelliannau 4, 5 a 6 yn enw David Melding.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): I propose that

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Cynigiad fod

the National Assembly for Wales welcomes the support given to Welsh local government by the Welsh Assembly Government to contain the levels of council tax within Wales. (NDM2616)

I do not often refer to comparisons with England. We are a devolved Government, and I usually seek to justify our policies with reference to circumstances in Wales. However, for today's motion, England provides some useful benchmarks.

When people make comparisons with England and suggest that people in Wales pay more council tax, they should take time to study the facts. The average band D payment in Wales is £921, but the average band D payment in England is £1,214, 32 per cent more than in Wales. For instance, a band D household in Wrexham pays £931, but a band D household in Chester pays £1,238, which is more than £300 more.

5.00 p.m.

We need to look at recent history to get a true perspective. The Conservative Party introduced council tax in 1993 to replace the discredited poll tax. Between 1993 and 1997 under the Tories, council tax in Wales rose by an average of 12 per cent each year, with the most dramatic increase being in 1997, when it increased by a whopping 18 per cent. Since 1998 under Labour, the average increase has been just over 9 per cent. Even last year, when uninformed commentators accused us of making dramatic increases because of the revaluation exercise, the underlying increase in band D was the lowest since council tax was introduced, and the increase in council tax income remained more or less comparable with previous years, at just over 9 per cent.

Are we underfunding local government? The reality is that since 1999, the grant support to Welsh local government has increased by 55 per cent. The increases have averaged 7.6 per cent growth per year. That figure alone demonstrates the merit of our motion today.

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn croesawu'r cymorth a roddir i lywodraeth leol Cymru gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyfyngu ar y cynnydd yn lefelau'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru. (NDM2616)

Nid yn aml y byddaf yn cyfeirio at gymariaethau â Lloegr. Yr ydym yn llywodraeth sydd wedi ei datganoli, ac fel rheol byddaf yn ceisio cyfiawnhau ein polisiau drwy gyfeirio at amgylchiadau yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, ar gyfer y cynnig heddiw, mae Lloegr yn darparu rhai meincnodau defnyddiol.

Pan fydd pobl yn cymharu â Lloegr ac yn awgrymu bod pobl yng Nghymru yn talu mwy o dreth gyngor, dylent gymryd yr amser i astudio'r ffeithiau. Y taliad band D cyfartalog yng Nghymru yw £921, ond y taliad band D cyfartalog yn Lloegr yw £1,214, sef 32 y cant yn fwy nag yng Nghymru. Er enghraifft, mae cartref band D yn Wrecsam yn talu £931, ond mae cartref band D yng Nghaer yn talu £1,238, sydd dros £300 yn fwy.

Mae angen inni edrych ar hanes diweddar i gael darlun cywir. Cyflwynwyd y dreth gyngor gan y Blaid Geidwadol yn 1993 i ddisodli'r dreth y pen a oedd amhoblogaidd. Rhwng 1993 a 1997 o dan y Torïaid cynyddodd y dreth gyngor 12 y cant bob blwyddyn ar gyfartaledd, a gwelwyd y cynnydd mwyaf yn 1997, pan gafwyd cynnydd anferth o 18 y cant. Er 1998 dan Lafur, mae'r cynnydd wedi bod ychydig dros 9 y cant ar gyfartaledd. Hyd yn oed y llynedd, pan gyhuddwyd ni gan sylwebyddion anwybodus o wneud codiadau sylweddol oherwydd yr ymarfer ailbrisio, yr oedd y cynnydd sylfaenol ym mand D ar ei isaf ers cyflwyno'r dreth gyngor. Ac yr oedd y cynnydd yn yr incwm o'r dreth gyngor yr un faint ag mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol, fwy neu lai, sef ychydig dros 9 y cant.

A ydym yn tanariannu llywodraeth leol? Y gwir amdani yw bod y cymorth grant a roddir i lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru wedi cynyddu 55 y cant er 1999. Gwelwyd cynnydd o 7.6 y cant bob blwyddyn ar gyfartaledd. Mae'r ffigur hwnnw'n unig yn

At a time of low UK inflation, this is a substantial increase in real spending power for local authorities in Wales.

One of the opposition's amendments rehearses the old mantra that we have not matched the demands made on local authorities with new funding. That has no basis in reality because we have worked closely with Welsh local government to agree and to fund the costs of delivering local services. Mike German spends a large amount of his energy trying to stir up a rebellion from Welsh local government, but he is failing in this task. We have spent six years constructing a partnership, and local government values that partnership more than it is tempted to join some Liberal Democrat fantasy war. For those who are not present at the joint finance meeting with local government, I specifically asked the Welsh Local Government Association whether it had any concerns about how we are delivering on our concordat, which states that all new responsibilities must be fully funded before they are passed on to local government. Those present had not been warmed up to this question. There were members of the opposition there, as it was an open meeting. I asked them the question and I genuinely did not know what the answer would be, although I hoped that it would be positive. I was assured that local government is content that the arrangement is working and that it has no concerns. Therefore, it is not me saying this; it is Welsh local government. Therefore, no-one can deny that the process of assessing and responding to pressures in local government is not transparent.

Are we supporting local government well? Again, it is worth considering the comparison with England. The Assembly Government funds 82 per cent of local government expenditure in Wales. That is compared with a figure of only 77 per cent in England. To translate that into real money, if we funded at the lower, England level, it would mean around £165 million less each year for local government. You can see that comparison.

dangos rhinweddau ein cynnig heddiw. Ar adeg o chwyddiant isel yn y DU, mae hwn yn gynydd sylweddol ym mhŵer gwario gwirioneddol awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru.

Mae un o welliannau'r gwrthbleidiau yn ailadrodd yr hen fantra nad ydym wedi darparu cyllid newydd i gyd-fynd â'r galwadau ar awdurdodau lleol. Nid oes unrhyw sail wirioneddol i hynny, gan ein bod wedi gweithio'n agos gyda llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru i gytuno ar gostau darparu gwasanaethau lleol a'u hariannu. Mae Mike German yn defnyddio llawer o'i egni yn ceisio ysgogi gwrthryfel ymhlith llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, ond nid yw'n llwyddo i wneud hynny. Yr ydym wedi treulio chwe blynedd yn creu partneriaeth, ac mae llywodraeth leol yn gwerthfawrogi'r bartneriaeth honno yn fwy na'r graddau y mae'n cael ei themtio i ymuno â rhyw fath o ryfel dychmygol gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. I'r rhai nad ydynt yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod cyllid ar y cyd â llywodraeth leol, gofynnais i Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn benodol a oedd yn pryderu o gwbl am y ffordd yr ydym yn gweithredu ein concordat, sy'n dweud bod yn rhaid ariannu'r holl gyfrifoldebau newydd yn llawn cyn eu trosglwyddo i lywodraeth leol. Nid oedd y rhai a oedd yn bresennol wedi eu paratoi ar gyfer y cwestiwn hwn. Yr oedd aelodau o'r gwrthbleidiau yno, am mai cyfarfod agored ydoedd. Gofynnais y cwestiwn iddynt, ac o ddifrif ni wyddwn beth fyddai'r ateb, er imi obeithio y byddai'n gadarnhaol. Fe'm sicrhawyd bod llywodraeth leol yn fodlon bod y trefniant yn gweithio ac nad yw'n pryderu. Felly, nid myfi sy'n dweud hyn; llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru sy'n ei ddweud. Felly, ni all neb wadu bod y broses o asesu'r pwysau ar lywodraeth leol ac ymateb iddynt yn eglur.

A ydym yn cefnogi llywodraeth leol yn dda? Unwaith eto, mae'n werth ystyried y gymhariaeth â Lloegr. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ariannu 82 y cant o wariant llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n cymharu â ffigur o 77 y cant yn unig yn Lloegr. I droi hynny'n arian real, pe byddem yn rhoi llai o arian, fel sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr, byddai'n golygu tua £165 miliwn yn llai bob blwyddyn i lywodraeth leol. Gellir

The fact that we are funding at this level means a real difference in terms of money for Welsh local government.

Has the revaluation been fair? I have no doubt that revaluation was essential after 12 years. The system had become inherently unfair during that time. Those who understand the importance of regular revaluations have publicly welcomed our decision to ensure fairness to all taxpayers by keeping the values for council tax up to date by way of revaluation. For instance, David Magor, chief executive of the Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation, has stated that the decision to go ahead with the revaluation of council tax bands in Wales was a brave but necessary move to ensure that the incidence of the tax burden is fair.

On the implementation of the revaluation, once I saw the outcome in late August 2004, I resolved to introduce a transitional relief scheme. It was clear to me that those households going up more than one band would need some easing as they moved into the correct band. The Assembly Government introduced this, and it was not at the request of any opposition politician. You all supported the scheme and the phasing of the scheme that I introduced.

Has revaluation caused an increase in council tax? No. Let us be clear: it is the level of council-tax take that gives the rise in council tax, not the revaluation. Last year, Cardiff's Liberal Democrat council led the charge to take advantage of the revaluation, proposing an 8 per cent increase in its budget, with the incredible rises that that would mean in council tax. I intervened by laying down the principles for capping to stop that drift, and the Liberal Democrats here resisted that move. It is not revaluation but a council's spending plans that cause the rate of council tax to increase.

Yesterday, Nick Bourne requested that we either reverse or suspend—I do not think that he understood what he wanted—the

gweld y gymhariaeth honno. Mae'r ffaith ein bod yn ariannu ar y lefel hon yn golygu gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol o ran arian i lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru.

A fu'r broses ailbrisiu yn deg? Nid oes amheuaeth gennyf nad oedd ailbrisiu'n hanfodol ar ôl 12 mlynedd. Yr oedd y system wedi mynd yn annheg yn ei hanfod yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw. Mae'r rheini sy'n deall pwysigrwydd ailbrisiadau rheolaidd wedi croesawu'n gyhoeddus ein penderfyniad i sicrhau tegwch i bawb sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor drwy sicrhau bod y gwerthoedd ar gyfer y dreth gyngor yn gyfoes drwy ailbrisiu. Er enghraifft, mae David Magor, prif weithredwr y Sefydliad Ardrethu a Phrisio Refeniw, wedi dweud bod y penderfyniad i fynd ati i ailbrisiu bandiau'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru yn gam dewr ond angenrheidiol i sicrhau bod y baich treth yn deg.

O ran rhoi'r broses ailbrisiu ar waith, ar ôl imi weld y canlyniad ddiwedd mis Awst 2004, yr oeddwn yn benderfynol o gyflwyno cynllun rhyddhad trosiannol. Yr oedd yn amlwg imi y byddai angen rhyw fath o gymorth ar y cartrefi hynny a fyddai'n symud i fyny fwy nag un band wrth iddynt symud i'r band cywir. Cyflwynwyd hyn gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, ac nid oedd hynny ar gais unrhyw wleidydd o'r gwrthbleidiau. Cefnogwyd y cynllun gan bob un ohonoch, a chamau'r cynllun a gyflwynais.

A yw'r broses ailbrisiu wedi cynyddu'r dreth gyngor? Nac ydyw. Gadewch inni fod yn glir: yr incwm o'r dreth gyngor sy'n creu'r cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor, yn hytrach na'r broses ailbrisiu. Y llynedd, arweiniodd cyngor Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Caerdydd y ffordd i fanteisio ar ailbrisiu, gan gynnig cynnydd o 8 y cant yn ei gyllideb, gyda'r codiadau anhygoel y byddai hynny'n eu golygu yn y dreth gyngor. Ymyrrais drwy bennu'r egwyddorion ar gyfer capio i atal hynny rhag digwydd, a gwrthwynebwyd y cam hwnnw gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yma. Nid ailbrisiu ond cynlluniau gwario cyngor sy'n creu cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor.

Ddoe, gofynnodd Nick Bourne inni naill ai wrthdroi neu atal—ni chredaf ei fod yn deall yr hyn yr oedd am ei gael—y dasg o

completion of the re-evaluation in Wales, preventing any further band movement. This would maintain anomalies within the system for many years to come. How can that be fair? How can it be fair for those households that are currently paying 100 per cent of their council tax liability for the system to be stopped? Would you honestly wish to perpetuate such an unjust situation?

I recognise the limitation of council tax as a property tax. It is vital that those on low or fixed incomes are protected. Gordon Brown has recognised this by giving pensioner households an extra £200 this December to assist with council tax. I am continuing to press the UK Government to act with urgency to reform the council tax benefit scheme. Many of you will know how strongly I feel about this. It needs to be far less complicated, it needs to be treated as a tax credit and not a benefit, and it needs wider eligibility and a longer taper. In the meantime, I will continue to support action in Wales to improve the take-up of council tax benefit.

Finally, I wish to clarify the situation on appeals and the timescale for them to be heard. Mike German, only a few weeks ago, reiterated his stupid—and I use this word advisedly, but I cannot find a better one—statement that it would take 40 years to finalise all appeals in Wales. He has now reduced this figure by 37 years. I think that he must be some kind of time lord passing through time and space. Even his statement yesterday, during which he claimed that it would take three years, is wrong. The truth is that any appeal can be made up to September 2006. Therefore, it would be fair to say that the whole process is likely to be completed by the end of 2006.

I emphasise the point that the First Minister made yesterday, namely that we should encourage people to take forward appeals if they think that they have a just cause. Do not try to deter them with false figures. Let us encourage those who wish to appeal to make the system work. I urge you to support the

gwblhau'r ailbrisió yng Nghymru, gan atal unrhyw symudiadau pellach rhwng bandiau. Byddai hyn yn parhau anghysondebau yn y system am flynyddoedd i ddod. Sut y gall hynny fod yn deg? Sut y gall fod yn deg i'r cartrefi hynny sy'n talu 100 y cant o'u hatebolrwydd treth gyngor ar hyn o bryd a'r system ddod i ben? A fydddech am barhau sefyllfa mor annheg, i fod yn onest?

Yr wyf yn cydnabod cyfyngiad y dreth gyngor fel treth eiddo. Mae'n hanfodol diogelu'r rhai ar incwm isel neu incwm sefydlog. Mae Gordon Brown wedi cydnabod hyn drwy roi £200 ychwanegol i gartrefi lle mae pensynwyr fis Rhagfyr eleni i helpu talu'r dreth gyngor. Yr wyf yn dal i bwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU i weithredu ar frys i ddiwygio'r cynllun budd-dal treth gyngor. Bydd nifer ohonoch yn gwybod mor gryf yw fy nheimpladau ynghylch hyn. Mae angen iddo fod lawer yn llai cymhleth, mae angen ei drin fel credyd treth yn hytrach na budd-dal, mae angen i fwy o bobl fod yn gymwys ac mae angen tapr hirach. Yn y cyfamser, byddaf yn parhau i gefnogi camau gweithredu yng Nghymru i gynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n manteisio ar y budd-dal treth gyngor.

I gloi, hoffwn egluro'r sefyllfa o ran apelïadau a'r amserlen ar gyfer gwrando arnynt. Ailadroddodd Mike German, dim ond ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, ei ddatganiad hurt—a defnyddiaf y gair hwn yn bwylllog, ond ni allaf gael gair gwell—y byddai'n cymryd 40 mlynedd i gwblhau pob apêl yng Nghymru. Mae bellach wedi gostwng y ffigur hwn 37 mlynedd. Rhaid gennyf mai rhyw fath o arglwydd amser ydyw yn teithio drwy amser a gofod. Mae hyd yn oed ei ddatganiad ddoe, lle yr honnai y byddai'n cymryd tair blynedd, yn anghywir. Y gwir amdani yw y gellir gwneud unrhyw apêl hyd at fis Medi 2006. Felly, byddai'n deg dweud bod y broses gyfan yn debygol o gael ei chwblhau erbyn diwedd 2006.

Pwysleisiaf y pwynt a wnaed gan y Prif Weinidog ddoe, sef y dylem annog pobl i gyflwyno apelïadau os credant fod ganddynt reswm dilys dros wneud hynny. Ni ddylem geisio'u rhwystro rhag gwneud hynny drwy roi ffigurau anwir. Gadewch inni annog y rheini sydd am apelïo i wneud i'r system

motion.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 1: dileu popeth ar ôl ‘Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru’ ac yn ei le rhoi:

yn gresynu at y cymorth annigonol a roddir i Lywodraeth Leol yng Nghymru gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sydd wedi rhoi pwysau mawr ar lywodraeth leol i gynyddu'r dreth gyngor yn barhaus i lefelau anghynaliadwy;

yn credu bod y system treth gyngor bresennol a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Geidwadol ac y parhawyd â hi gan Lafur Newydd yn ffurf atchweliadol o drethu nad yw'n ystyried y gallu i dalu ac y dylid ei ddisodli gan dreth incwm leol.

Cynigiaf welliant 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Ychwanegu fel pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi gwneud tro pedol ar ailfandio'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer Lloegr.

Yr wyf yn hynod falch ein bod o'r diwedd yn cael y drafodaeth hon ar y dreth gyngor. Mae'n amlwg bod yr hyn a ddigwyddodd o ran ailfandio yng Nghymru, a'r penderfyniad i ohirio hynny yn Lloegr, wedi gwneud llawer o bobl yng Nghymru yn flin iawn, yn ogystal â'r ffaith nad yw'r Llywodraeth yn fodlon ymateb i'w pryderon.

Un peth eithaf difyr yw, er i ni ofyn i'r Llywodraeth am ddadl ar effaith ailfandio'r dreth gyngor, nid oes sôn am yr ailfandio yng nghynnig y Llywodraeth, sy'n rhyfeddol. Yr hyn a gawsom yw cynnig eithaf *bland* sy'n dweud y dylem groesawu'r gefnogaeth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei rhoi i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru er mwyn cyfyngu ar lefelau'r dreth gyngor. Ni chawn ymateb y Llywodraeth i'r cwestiwn a ofynasom, sef, os yw ailfandio'n cael ei ddiddymu yn Lloegr, pa gymorth a roddir i drethdalwyr yng Nghymru sydd wedi symud i fyny o leiaf un band? Mae 33 y cant o drethdalwyr Cymru wedi gweld eu tai yn symud i fyny o leiaf un band, ac mae rhai wedi symud i fyny dau, dri neu bedwar band, neu fwy, hyd yn oed. Dyna

weithio. Fe'ch anogaf i gefnogi'r cynnig.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 1: delete all after ‘National Assembly for Wales’ and replace with:

regrets the insufficient level of support given to Welsh Local Government by the Welsh Assembly Government which has placed great pressure on local government to continually increase council tax to unsustainable levels;

believes that the current council tax system introduced by a Conservative Government and perpetuated by New Labour is a regressive form of taxation which fails to take account of the ability to pay and should be replaced by a local income tax.

I propose amendment 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Add as a new point at the end of the motion:

notes that the UK Government has performed a u-turn on rebanding council tax for England.

I am extremely pleased that this debate on council tax is being held at last. It is obvious that what has happened in terms of rebanding in Wales, and the decision to delay that in England, has angered many people in Wales, as has the fact that the Government is not been willing to respond to their concerns.

One thing I find quite amusing is that, although we asked the Government for a debate on the impact of rebanding council tax, there is no mention of the rebanding in the Government's motion, which is amazing. What we have had is quite a bland motion which states that we should welcome the support which the Government gives to local authorities in Wales in order to contain council tax levels. We do not have the Government's response to the question that we have posed, namely that, if rebanding is to be abolished in England, what assistance will be given to taxpayers in Wales who have moved up at least one band? Thirty-three per cent of taxpayers in Wales have seen their houses move up at least one band, and some

yw'r mater mewn gwirionedd.

Yr oedd hefyd yn ddiddorol gwrando ar y Gweinidog yn ceisio dehongli o'r ffigurau ac yn dweud dro ar ôl tro nad pwrpas yr ailfandio oedd cynyddu'r dreth gyngor. Dywedodd eto heddiw nad dyna oedd y bwriad, ond dyna a ddigwyddodd.

The useful briefing provided by the Assembly Library tells us—and I will quote it in full as I do not want it to be misinterpreted in any way—that:

'Council tax income has increased by 10% for counties and 9% for police. This is met in part by the 4% increase in band D council tax and in part by properties moving up the banding system following revaluation. Band movers account for around 6% of the increase in council tax income.'

5.10 p.m.

That is the point. We have seen the moving of council tax payers up the bands leading to a substantial increase in council tax take last year. We were told that the whole thing would be neutral. We were also told that the rebanding would produce as many winners as losers. In other words, the same number of people would go down a band as would go up a band. If we look at the figures for Ynys Môn—the figures that I gave the First Minister the other day—what we find is that, of a total number of 32,000 properties, 10,804 have gone up at least one band. The Finance Minister was not able to give any help whatsoever to those going up a band last year, and they had a whopping increase of between 23 and 27 per cent in one year. The reason that they went up was not because their incomes had gone up 23 or 27 per cent, but because of the increase in the value of their properties. They have absolutely no influence over the increase in the value of their properties. These are the low-income families and the families on fixed incomes that the Finance Minister says should be helped.

have moved up by two, three or four bands, or even more. That is the real issue.

It was also interesting to listen to the Minister trying to interpret the figures and saying time and again that the intention of rebanding was not to increase council tax. She stated again today that that was not the intention, but that is what has happened.

Dywed y nodyn briffio defnyddiol a ddarparwyd gan Lyfrgell y Cynulliad wrthym—ac fe'i dyfynnaf yn llawn am nad wyf am iddo gael ei gamdehongli mewn unrhyw ffordd:

Mae'r incwm o'r dreth gyngor wedi cynyddu 10% i siroedd a 9% i'r heddlu. Gwneir hyn yn rhannol drwy'r cynnydd o 4% yn y dreth gyngor ym mand D, ac yn rhannol am fod cartrefi wedi symud i fyny'r system fandio ar ôl y broses ailbriso. Mae'r rhai sydd wedi symud bandiau yn cyfrif am tua 6% o'r cynnydd yn yr incwm o'r dreth gyngor.

Dyna'r pwynt. Mae'r ffaith bod pobl sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor wedi symud i fyny drwy'r bandiau wedi arwain at gynnydd sylweddol yn yr incwm o'r dreth gyngor y llynedd. Dywedwyd wrthym y byddai'r holl fater yn niwtral. Dywedwyd wrthym hefyd y byddai'r broses ailfandio yn golygu bod cynifer o bobl ar eu hennill ag a fyddai ar eu colled. Hynny yw, byddai'r un nifer o bobl yn mynd i lawr band ag a fyddai'n mynd i fyny band. Os edrychwn ar y ffigurau ar gyfer Ynys Môn—y ffigurau a roddais i'r Prif Weinidog y diwrnod o'r blaen—yr hyn a welwn yw bod 10,804 o gartrefi wedi symud i fyny o leiaf un band, o gyfanswm o 32,000 o gartrefi. Ni allai'r Gweinidog Cyllid roi unrhyw gymorth o gwbl i'r rhai a symudodd i fyny un band y llynedd, a chawsant gynnydd anferth o rhwng 23 a 27 y cant mewn blwyddyn. Yr oeddent yn symud i fyny, nid am fod eu hincwm wedi cynyddu 23 neu 27 y cant, ond oherwydd y cynnydd yng ngwerth eu cartrefi. Nid oes ganddynt unrhyw ddylanwad o gwbl dros y cynnydd yng ngwerth eu cartref. Hwyl yw'r teuluoedd ag incwm isel a'r teuluoedd ar incwm sefydlog y mae'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn dweud y dylid eu helpu.

Across Wales, the number of properties going up at least one band is 438,760, or 33 per cent of all households. We know that 8 per cent went down at least one band. Where is this fairness that the Finance Minister keeps talking about? The reality is that council tax payers have been hammered through rebanding, and that is why Tony Blair is now saying that council tax is unsustainable. He does not want rebanding in England. The Finance Minister was struggling to say how much better off we are in relation to England, but it is no comfort for the individual council tax payer to see his or her council tax bill going up by over 20 per cent in one year and to think, 'Oh well, we are still paying less than people in England'. That is no comfort to the individual tax payer in Wales, who is probably on a substantially lower income than his or her counterpart in England in any event.

Yr ydym yn dweud bod y system hwn yn annheg, a rhaid i'r Llywodraeth ymateb. Mae'n rhaid i'r Llywodraeth, yng nghyllideb eleni, sicrhau bod pobl sydd wedi gweld biliau'r dreth gyngor yn cynyddu'n sylweddol yn cael help. Dyna pam y cyflwynwyd y cynnig ar y gyllideb. I gloi, hoffwn gytuno gyda'r Gweinidog fod angen newid y drefn yn llwyr. Credwn ei bod yn gwbl deg i ofyn i'r Llywodraeth gyflwyno newidiadau i'r dreth gyngor i sicrhau ei bod yn seiliedig ar incwm pobl, a threth incwm lleol yw'r unig ffordd gall i symud ymlaen.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: More Members wish to speak than time will allow. I have to bring this debate to an end at 5.45 p.m.. I would welcome shorter speeches where possible.

Michael German: I propose the following amendments in the name of Kirsty Williams. Amendment 2: delete all after 'National Assembly for Wales' and replace with:

believes that council tax is a regressive tax, hitting hardest those who can least afford to pay it, and should be replaced with a local income tax.

Ledled Cymru, mae 438,760 o gartrefi wedi symud i fyny o leiaf un band, sef 33 y cant o'r holl gartrefi. Gwyddom fod 8 y cant wedi symud i lawr o leiaf un band. Ble mae'r tegwch y mae'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn sôn amdano drwy'r amser? Y gwir amdani yw bod y rheini sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor wedi cael ergyd galed yn sgîl y broses ailfandio, a dyna pam y mae Tony Blair bellach yn dweud nad yw'r dreth gyngor yn gynaliadwy. Nid yw am weld ailfandio yn Lloegr. Yr oedd y Gweinidog Cyllid yn cael anhawster i ddweud cymaint gwell ein byd yr ydym mewn perthynas â Lloegr. Ond nid yw o unrhyw gysur i'r unigolyn sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor ac sy'n gweld ei fil treth gyngor yn cynyddu dros 20 y cant mewn blwyddyn a meddwl, 'Wel, yr ydym yn dal i dalu llai na phobl yn Lloegr'. Nid yw hynny o unrhyw gysur i'r trethdalwr unigol yng Nghymru, sy'n debygol o fod ag incwm llawer is na'i gymar yn Lloegr beth bynnag.

We are saying that this system is unfair, and the Government must respond. The Government, in this year's budget, must ensure that people who have seen their council tax bills increase significantly should be helped. That is why we tabled the motion on the budget. Finally, I want to agree with the Minister that the system needs to be completely revamped. We believe it is entirely fair to ask the Government to introduce changes in the council tax to ensure that it is based on people's income, and a local income tax is the only sensible way to move forward.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae mwy o Aelodau am siarad nag y bydd amser ar eu cyfer. Bydd yn rhaid imi ddod â'r ddadl hon i ben am 5.45 p.m.. Byddwn yn croesawu areithiau byrrach lle bydd yn bosibl.

Michael German: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Kirsty Williams. Gwelliant 2: dileu popeth ar ôl 'Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru' a rhoi'r canlynol yn ei le:

yn credu bod y dreth gyngor yn dreth atchweliadol, sy'n effeithio fwyaf ar y rhai na allant fforddio ei thalu, ac y dylid ei disodli gyda threth incwm leol.

I propose amendment 7. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

believes that the Assembly Government have managed to make council tax even more unpopular due to its handling of revaluation; notes that the Government in England has seen the introduction of revaluation in Wales and decided to abandon a similar process for England.

I would like to start by relaying what I believe is the history of this whole sorry saga of the council tax. I will refer to a series of events; each event is like an episode in the challenge that Labour faces in Wales. Most of the problems faced by Labour in Wales are due to the situation that their partners in the UK Government has laid at its door. Episode 1: revaluation in Wales is agreed on the back of a guarantee that revaluation would go ahead in England a year later, and that there would be a review of the way that local government is financed in Wales. Episode 2: Nick Raynsford sets up the review, because we did not have the powers in Wales at the time to make the changes that might be important for local government finance in Wales. Episode 3: Nick Raynsford sets up a review of the review, and puts Sir Michael Lyons in charge. Episode 4: we have a general election. There were a number of comments from people in the Labour UK Government about the way that Wales handled the rebanding. You are all aware of the Nick Raynsford comment—it has been made here—and there have been others. Episode 5: after the general election, Tony Blair takes fright at the whole Welsh experience of rebanding and pushes the whole issue into the grass—not the long grass, but the grass that will grow after his retirement.

In episode 6, the compliant David Miliband institutes a review of the review of the review, to conclude at the end of 2006, which is four years since the start of the first review. The Layfield commission—a royal commission—which was set up to look at local government reform and financing in the 1970s, did the whole job in two years. It has now taken twice as long to get nowhere. If it

Cynigiaf welliant 7. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn credu bod Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi llwyddo i wneud y dreth gyngor yn fwy amhoblogaidd oherwydd y ffordd y bu iddi ymdrin â'r ailbrisió; yn nodi bod y Llywodraeth yn Lloegr wedi gweld yr ailbrisió'n cael ei gyflwyno yng Nghymru ac wedi penderfynu peidio â dilyn proses o'r fath yn Lloegr.

Hoffwn ddechrau drwy sôn am hanes y dreth gyngor, sy'n saga druenus yn fy marn i. Byddaf yn cyfeirio at gyfres o ddigwyddiadau; mae pob digwyddiad fel pennod yn yr her y mae Llafur yn ei hwynebu yng Nghymru. Mae mwyaftrif y problemau a wynebir gan Lafur yng Nghymru yn deillio o'r sefyllfa y mae ei phartneriaid yn Llywodraeth y DU wedi'i chreu iddi. Pennod 1: cytuno ar y broses ailbrisió yng Nghymru ar sail gwarant y byddai'r broses ailbrisió'n digwydd yn Lloegr flwyddyn yn ddiweddarach, ac y byddai adolygiad o'r ffordd yr ariennir llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru. Pennod 2: Nick Raynsford yn sefydlu'r adolygiad, am nad oedd gennym y pwerau yng Nghymru ar y pryd i wneud y newidiadau a allai fod yn bwysig o ran cyllid llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru. Pennod 3: Nick Raynsford yn sefydlu adolygiad o'r adolygiad, ac yn rhoi Syr Michael Lyons wrth y llyw. Pennod 4: cynnal etholiad cyffredinol. Yr oedd nifer o sylwadau gan bobl yn Llywodraeth Lafur y DU ynghylch y ffordd y deliwyd ag ailfandio yng Nghymru. Gwyddoch oll am sylw Nick Raynsford—mae wedi ei wnaed yma—a chafwyd sylwadau eraill. Pennod 5: ar ôl yr etholiad cyffredinol, Tony Blair yn cael braw oherwydd y profiad ailfandio yng Nghymru ac yn gwthio'r holl fater o'r neilltu—nid yn gyfan gwbl, dim ond nes iddo ymddeol.

Ym mhennod 6, yr ufudd David Miliband yn sefydlu adolygiad o'r adolygiad o'r adolygiad, i ddod i ben ddiwedd 2006, bedair blynedd ers dechrau'r adolygiad cyntaf. Gwnaeth comisiwn Layfield—comisiwn brenhinol—a sefydlwyd i edrych ar ddiwygio ac ariannu llywodraeth leol yn y 1970au yr holl waith mewn dwy flynedd. Erbyn hyn mae wedi cymryd dwywaith yr amser i

was not serious, this story would look like a soap opera, where you are always left hanging at the end of each episode and you know that the story cannot end at the end of the next episode because otherwise there will not be a programme left at the end.

Meanwhile, Wales has been given the role of being the guinea pig and is left to deal with an unfair and unjust system. In a speech in Swansea, the First Minister described the position of the UK Labour Government as inconvenient. I think that that was a slight understatement. I think that it is a slap in the face for the people of Wales.

The reality is that it is an unjust tax prolonged because Labour in London does not have the bottle to do something about it, and Wales is left hanging, saddled without the powers or the policy programme to do the right thing. So, what is Labour really up to in respect of local government finance?

The First Minister gave us a clue when he said that perhaps we could take teachers' salaries from local government expenditure; I understand that there is even thinking that we should take social services from local government. Think about it: this place would decide how many teachers there are in schools all over Wales, and how many social services care workers there are in Wales. That determination would take place here. The role of local government would then be much slimmer—back to a position where it did not have the responsibility for local education, for local schools, and did not have responsibility for social services. It is a debate that we have not heard yet, but it is certainly the flavour of the sounds being made in London and by the First Minister.

What we advocate is quite clear; we have been strong about it. You may not have thought that it was to our advantage, but we have certainly been strong in continuing our campaign for a local income tax, based on the people's ability to pay. It would tackle the problem of the soaring bills and give councils real discretion over what they charge.

wneud dim. Pe na bai'n bwnc difrifol, byddai'r stori hon yn edrych fel opera sebon, a chithau'n yn cael eich gadael yn ddisgwylgar ar ddiwedd pob pennod ac yn gwybod na all y stori ddod i ben ar ddiwedd y bennod nesaf, neu ni fydd rhaglen ar ôl yn y diwedd.

Yn y cyfamser, mae Cymru wedi bod yn destun arbrawf ac wedi ei gadael i ymdopi â system annheg ac anghyfiawn. Mewn araith yn Abertawe, dywedodd y Prif Weinidog fod sefyllfa Llywodraeth Lafur y DU yn anghyfleus. Credaf nad oedd hynny'n ddigon cryf. Credaf fod hyn yn ergyd galed i bobl Cymru.

Y gwir amdani yw ei bod yn dreth anghyfiawn sy'n parhau am nad yw Llafur yn Llundain yn ddigon dewr i wneud dim ynglŷn â'r peth, ac mae Cymru'n dal i aros, heb y pwerau na'r rhaglen bolisiau i wneud y peth cywir. Felly, beth mae Llafur yn ei wneud mewn gwirionedd mewn perthynas ag arian llywodraeth leol?

Rhoddodd y Prif Weinidog awgrym inni pan ddywedodd y gallem efallai gymryd cyflogau athrawon o afael llywodraeth leol; deallaf fod hyd yn oed awgrym y dylem gymryd gwasanaethau cymdeithasol o afael llywodraeth leol. Ystyriwch: y lle hwn fyddai'n penderfynu faint o athrawon sydd mewn ysgolion ledled Cymru, a faint o weithwyr gofal gwasanaethau cymdeithasol sydd yng Nghymru. Byddai'r penderfyniadau hynny'n cael eu gwneud yma. Byddai rôl llywodraeth leol lawer yn llai felly—byddai unwaith eto mewn sefyllfa lle na fyddai'n gyfrifol am addysg leol, ysgolion lleol, na gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae hon yn ddadl nad ydym wedi'i chlywed eto, ond yn sicr dyma'r math o awgrymiadau sy'n cael eu gwneud yn Llundain a chan Brif Weinidog Cymru.

Mae'r hyn yr ydym yn dadlau o'i blaid yn hollol glir; yr ydym wedi bod yn gadarn yn hynny o beth. Efallai na fyddwch wedi credu fod hyn o fantais inni, ond yr ydym wedi bod yn gadarn yn parhau ein hymgyrch dros dreth incwm leol, ar sail gallu pobl i dalu. Byddai'n mynd i'r afael â'r broblem o weld biliau'n codi o hyd, a byddai'n rhoi rhyddid gwirioneddol i gynghorau ynglŷn â faint y maent yn ei godi.

Jeff Cuthbert: The issue of a local income tax may have merit and should not be dismissed, but, in terms of your proposals as an advocate of local income tax, how would you calculate the ability to pay? For example, the Child Support Agency has had enormous difficulties in calculating what is disposable income. What sort of formula would you put forward for consideration?

Michael German: The same as you have on your income tax—pay as you earn. It is simple; you do it now and it is exactly the same. There will be no change for you, Jeff. You just pay an extra few pence to Caerphilly County Borough Council for its services, according to your ability to pay. If you think that the income tax rules are wrong, that is obviously a bigger debate to have.

This debate provides a real opportunity for us to hear from Labour what it really wants to do, and how it wants to reform and improve local government finance. You could keep going down the road of telling councils to be ever more efficient, and watch their council tax creep up by that several per cent above inflation. By the way, I remind Sue Essex that what she really told the Liberal Democrats in Cardiff council is that they must cut Mr Goodway's level of council tax because he got it wrong the previous year. Would she be prepared to say that to him when he was in charge? Not on your life. It was only when another party was in charge that she was prepared to say it. That is okay; it is fair enough. That is the point, and that is why council tax was cut in Cardiff.

We need to talk about fundamental principles: what we are trying to achieve, and when we are trying to achieve it. The people of Wales need help. We have put them in this hanging position and Labour in London has walked away from it. We need to give the people of Wales real help so that those who have been forced to pay these higher bills because of revaluation—with council tax rises imposed upon them because of revaluation—will not have to suffer any

Jeff Cuthbert: Efallai fod rhyw rinwedd mewn treth incwm leol ac ni ddylid ei diystyru. Ond o ran eich cynigion fel un sy'n dadlau o blaid treth incwm leol, sut y byddech yn cyfrifo'r gallu i dalu? Er enghraifft, mae'r Asiantaeth Cynnal Plant wedi cael anawsterau enbyd i gyfrifo beth yw incwm gwario. Pa fath o fformiwla y byddech yn ei chyflwyno i'w hystyried?

Michael German: Yr un fformiwla ag sydd gennych ar gyfer eich treth incwm—talu wrth ennill. Mae'n syml; mae hyn yn digwydd yn awr, ac mae'r un fath yn union. Ni fydd unrhyw newid i chi, Jeff. Byddwch yn talu ychydig geiniogau'n ychwanegol i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili am ei wasanaethau, yn ôl eich gallu i dalu. Os credwch fod y rheolau treth incwm yn anghywir, yn amlwg mae honno'n ddadl ehangach.

Mae'r ddadl hon yn gyfle gwirioneddol inni glywed gan Lafur beth y mae'n bwriadu ei wneud mewn gwirionedd, a sut y mae'n dymuno diwygio a gwella cyllid llywodraeth leol. Gallech barhau i ddweud wrth gynghorau am fod yn fwy effeithlon, gwylio eu treth gyngor yn cynyddu'n raddol lawer pwynt canran yn uwch na chwyddiant. Gyda llaw, hoffwn atgoffa Sue Essex mai'r hyn a ddywedodd wrth y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yng nghyngor Caerdydd mewn gwirionedd oedd bod rhaid iddynt dorri lefel treth gyngor Mr Goodway oherwydd iddo wneud camgymeriad y flwyddyn flaenorol. A fyddai hi'n barod i ddweud hynny wrtho pan oedd ef mewn grym? Dim o gwbl. Dim ond pan oedd plaid arall mewn grym yr oedd yn barod i ddweud hynny. Mae hynny'n iawn; mae'n ddigon teg. Dyna'r pwynt, a dyna pam y torrwyd y dreth gyngor yng Nghaerdydd.

Mae angen inni siarad am egwyddorion sylfaenol: beth yr ydym yn ceisio'i gyflawni, a phryd yr ydym yn ceisio cyflawni hynny. Mae angen help ar bobl Cymru. Yr ydym wedi eu gadael yn aros ac mae Llafur yn Llundain wedi troi cefn ar y sefyllfa. Mae angen inni roi help gwirioneddol i bobl Cymru fel na fydd yn rhaid i'r rheini sydd wedi eu gorfodi i dalu'r biliau uwch hyn oherwydd ailbrisio—a chynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yn cael ei orfodi arnynt oherwydd

more, while we wait for Labour to sort it out in London. Perhaps we can have powers here to do it for ourselves.

Brynle Williams: I propose the following amendments in the name of David Melding. Amendment 4: add new point at end of motion:

notes that the council tax burden has increased substantially in the last six years because the Welsh Assembly Government has not matched the extra demands placed on local authorities with adequate additional funding.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

notes the severe hardship inflicted on many pensioners and others on low incomes as a result of the Welsh Assembly Government's decision to increase the council tax burden.

I propose amendment 6. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

demands that local government be adequately funded so that the council tax burden is frozen or reduced over the next three years.

5.20 p.m.

These amendments encapsulate the failures of revaluation and the damaging impact that it has had on Wales. This revaluation has seen council tax rise by nearly 10 per cent this year, without any corresponding rise in the levels or quality of service to the public.

While the Welsh Assembly Government has increased obligations on local authorities, it has failed to give them the additional resources needed to fulfil them. This is despite six successive rises in average council tax bills—one for each year of the Assembly's existence. I recognise that changes brought in by the Welsh Assembly Government need to be adequately funded if they are to make a difference. However, an additional stealth tax is not the answer.

ailbriso—ddioddef dim mwy tra byddwn yn aros i Lafur fynd i'r afael â hyn yn Llundain. Efallai y gallwn gael pwerau yma i wneud hyn ein hunain.

Brynle Williams: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw David Melding. Gwelliant 4: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi bod baich y dreth gyngor wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol dros y chwe blynedd diwethaf gan nad yw Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi darparu cyllid ychwanegol digonol i gyfateb i'r gofynion ychwanegol sydd ar lywodraeth leol.

Cynigiaf welliant 5. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi'r caledi difrifol y mae llawer o bensynwyr ac eraill ar incwm isel yn ei wynebu o ganlyniad i benderfyniad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gynyddu baich y dreth gyngor.

Cynigiaf welliant 6. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynnu bod llywodraeth leol yn cael ei hariannu'n ddigonol er mwyn rhewi'r dreth gyngor neu leihau'r baich dros y tair blynedd nesaf.

Mae'r gwelliannau hyn yn crynhoi methiannau ailbriso a'r effaith andwyol a gafodd ar Gymru. O ganlyniad i'r ymarfer ailbriso hwn, cynyddodd y dreth gyngor bron 10 y cant eleni, heb unrhyw gynnydd cyfatebol yn lefelau nac ansawdd y gwasanaeth i'r cyhoedd.

Er bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi cynyddu rhwymedigaethau ar awdurdodau lleol, methodd â rhoi'r adnoddau ychwanegol sydd eu hangen i'w cyflawni, a hynny er gwaethaf chwe chynnydd yn olynol mewn biliau treth gyngor ar gyfartaledd—un am bob blwyddyn o fodolaeth y Cynulliad. Yr wyf yn cydnabod bod angen ariannu'r newidiadau a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ddigonol er mwyn iddynt wneud gwahaniaeth. Fodd bynnag, nid

treth lechwraidd ychwanegol yw'r ateb.

We need to look at those on fixed low incomes, worst affected by this rise, specifically the elderly—as you alluded to earlier, Minister. The elderly have seen no corresponding rise in their pensions to match the dramatic increase in the council tax burden. Such rises are unacceptable for those people who will never realise the inflated worth of the houses in which they live and have raised their families. Furthermore, the Welsh Assembly Government risks inflicting damaging psychological blows on the elderly by making them face the prospect of having to sell the homes that this revaluation is making it impossible for them to live in. These council tax increases effectively price low-income families out of the housing market. Similarly, young couples are left facing yet another barrier to simply getting one foot on the property ladder. Overall, Welsh rates may still be lower than those in England, but so too are Welsh average incomes, and the standard of living, which combine to make this increase all the more unreasonable for our taxpayers.

Looking at the bigger picture, it is clear that our experience in Wales has been little more than a test-run for England. The result is that England's revaluation, scheduled for 2007, has now been put off, for purely political reasons, until after the next general election. That decision that will need the amendment of the Local Government Act 2003. This aptly demonstrates the severity and inequality of the changes in Wales, which experienced its last revaluation some nine years ago, while England continues to use a 14-year-old valuation.

I call on the Welsh Assembly Government to freeze any further changes to the existing system, and take serious action to redress the failings that have unfairly targeted the most vulnerable. Promises of a revenue-neutral revaluation that would create as many winners as losers, have not come to pass, and the Welsh Assembly Government now has a

Mae angen inni ystyried pobl sy'n cael incwm isel sefydlog. Ac arnynt hwy y mae'r cynnydd hwn wedi effeithio fwyaf, yr henoed yn benodol—fel y cyfeiriwyd gennych yn gynharach, Weinidog. Nid yw'r henoed wedi gweld unrhyw gynnydd yn eu pensiynau i gyd-fynd â'r cynnydd sylweddol ym maich y dreth gyngor. Mae cynnydd o'r fath yn annerbyniol i'r bobl hynny na fyddant byth yn sylweddoli gwerth chwyddedig y cartrefi y maent yn byw ynddynt, a lle maent wedi magu eu teuluoedd. At hynny, mae perygl y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn rhoi ergyd seicolegol andwyol i'r henoed drwy eu gorfodi i wynebu'r posibilrwydd o orfod gwerthu'r cartrefi y mae'r ymarfer ailbrizio hwn yn ei gwneud yn amhosibl iddynt fyw ynddynt. Mae'r cynnydd hwn yn y dreth gyngor yn golygu na all teuluoedd ar incwm isel fforddio prynu tŷ. Yn yr un modd, mae parau ifanc yn gorfod wynebu rhwystr arall eto, i bob diben, rhag cael un droed ar yr ysgol eiddo. Yn gyffredinol, efallai fod cyfraddau yng Nghymru yn is na'r rhai yn Lloegr o hyd, ond mae hynny hefyd yn wir am incymau cyfartalog yng Nghymru, a'r safon byw, sy'n cyfuno i wneud y cynnydd hwn hyd yn oed yn fwy afresymol i'n trethdalwyr.

I edrych ar y darlun ehangach, mae'n amlwg mai rhyw ffug-ymarfer i Loegr oedd ein profiad ni yng Nghymru. O ganlyniad i hynny, gohiriwyd yr ymarfer ailbrizio yn Lloegr, a oedd wedi ei drefnu ar gyfer 2007, am resymau gwleidyddol yn unig, tan ar ôl yr etholiad cyffredinol nesaf. Bydd angen diwygio Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 2003 oherwydd y penderfyniad hwnnw. Mae hyn yn dangos i'r dim ddifrifoldeb ac annhegwch y newidiadau yng Nghymru, lle cafwyd yr ailbrizio diwethaf tua naw mlynedd yn ôl. Ond mae Lloegr yn dal i ddefnyddio prisiad a wnaed 14 mlynedd yn ôl.

Galwaf ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i rewi unrhyw newidiadau pellach yn y system bresennol, a chymryd camau difrifol i gywiro'r methiannau sydd wedi targedu'r rhai mwyaf diamddiffyn, a hynny'n annheg. Ni chyflawnwyd addewidion ailbrizio refeniw niwtral, lle byddai cymaint ar eu hennill ag a fyddai ar eu colled, ac mae gan

great responsibility to deliver urgent relief to Welsh taxpayers.

In conclusion, Minister, I hope that you will support these amendments and rectify the absurd position that we currently face.

David Lloyd: We are asked to welcome the support given to Welsh local government by the Welsh Assembly Government to contain the levels of council tax. Welsh people are not talking about ‘containing’ council tax, bearing in mind that it has increased 186 per cent since 1993. This Government motion is only before us because Labour lost the vote on the business statement a few weeks ago; we would not be discussing council tax otherwise. Therefore, I am a little disappointed that the minority Government motion, in such circumstances, and on such a potentially inflammatory subject, does not adopt a more conciliatory approach.

Council tax has become a hot topic once again, following New Labour’s decision in London to abandon any thoughts of rebanding in England. David Miliband, the New Labour Minister of Communities and Local Government, said that we were to be in no doubt that this was a ‘180 degrees, full U-turn’ on rebanding. Tony Blair said that council tax was unsustainable and that pushing through rebanding in England would bring ‘maximum pain for little gain’; England, by and large, is richer than Wales. Shelving rebanding in England has caused a furore in Wales fuelling the idea that Wales has been used as a test bed for rebanding, in much the same way as the Scots were used as a test bed for the poll tax some years ago—so much for the special relationship between Labour in Cardiff and Labour in London. We see the effects of this special relationship in this compliant test bed that Wales has become for rebanding. This special relationship has ended up with Labour here being completely hung out to dry on the matter of rebanding.

As I said, council tax has gone up 186 per cent since 1993, when the Conservatives

Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyfrifoldeb pwysig i roi rhyddhad ar frys i drethdalwyr yng Nghymru.

I gloi, Weinidog, gobeithio y byddwch yn cefnogi’r gwelliannau hyn ac yn unioni’r sefyllfa hurt yr ydym yn ei hwynebu ar hyn o bryd.

David Lloyd: Gofynnir inni groesawu’r cymorth a roddwyd i lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gadw’r dreth gyngor mor isel â phosibl. Nid yw pobl yng Nghymru yn sôn am gadw’r dreth gyngor mor isel â phosibl, o gofio ei bod wedi cynyddu 186 y cant er 1993. Yr unig reswm y mae’r cynnig hwn gan y Llywodraeth ger ein bron yw fod Llafur wedi colli’r bleidlais ar y datganiad busnes ychydig wythnosau’n ôl; ni fyddem yn trafod treth gyngor fel arall. Felly, yr wyf braidd yn siomedig nad yw cynnig y Llywodraeth leiafrifol dan amgylchiadau felly fath, ac ar bwnc a allai fod mor ymfflamychol, yn fwy cymodlon.

Mae’r dreth gyngor wedi dod yn bwnc llosg unwaith eto, ar ôl penderfyniad Llafur Newydd yn Llundain i beidio ag ystyried ailfandio yn Lloegr. Dywedodd David Miliband, Gweinidog Cymunedau Llafur Newydd, y gallwn fod yn sicr fod hyn yn newid cyfeiriad llwyr ar ailfandio. Dywedodd Tony Blair fod y dreth gyngor yn anghynaliadwy ac y byddai ailfandio yn Lloegr yn golygu llawer o boen heb lawer o wobr; mae Lloegr, at ei gilydd, yn gyfoethocach na Chymru. Mae gohirio ailfandio yn Lloegr wedi achosi cynnwrf yng Nghymru gan atgyfnerthu’r syniad bod Cymru wedi ei defnyddio i dreialu ailfandio, yn yr un modd ag y defnyddiwyd pobl yr Alban i dreialu treth y pen rai blynyddoedd yn ôl—nid yw hyn yn dweud llawer am y gydberthynas arbennig rhwng Llafur yng Nghaerdydd a Llafur yn Llundain. Yr ydym yn gweld effeithiau’r gydberthynas arbennig hon yn y modd mae Cymru wedi ei defnyddio i dreialu ailfandio. Mae’r gydberthynas arbennig hon wedi arwain at roi’r Blaid Lafur yma yn y cawl o ran ailfandio.

Fel y dywedais, mae’r dreth gyngor wedi cynyddu 186 y cant er 1993, pan gafodd ei

introduced it after being forced to ditch the hated poll tax; 186 per cent is a far greater hike than any marginal increase in the state pension since then. On top of the year-on-year increases in council tax, council tax payers faced another whammy when rebanding came along, when Wales is already poorer than England. Rebanding hit pensioners and people on low and fixed incomes particularly hard, and caused far more losers than winners, with 33 per cent of households going up, and only 8 per cent going down. Rebanding just tinkered with a manifestly unjust system of taxation.

Any property tax is, at best, a crude proxy for the ability to pay. However, at least the council tax, being a tax raised by local councils, emphasises the fact that local councils have tax-raising powers—a power so far denied the National Assembly for Wales.

Tax should be based on the ability to pay. Council tax should be scrapped, and replaced by a local income tax, which means that, the more you earn, the more you pay. The people's fury is being reflected, not just in this debate, but also in the negotiations on the draft budget. There are calls for rebanding to be scrapped in Wales, as well as calls for compensation for rebanding. There are also calls for council tax to be scrapped, and I have just added to those calls. Draft budget negotiations must reflect the need to help those council tax payers who have suffered most under rebanding. That, at least, can be achieved within the Assembly's current limited powers.

Glyn Davies: Brynle Williams has set out the Conservative concerns about what seems to us to be the overly high levels of council tax. That gives me the opportunity to speak more generally about how local government is funded, and to comment, albeit briefly, on my vision of what local government should be in Wales.

During the nearly 30 years in which I have been involved in public life in Wales, local

chyflwyno gan y Ceidwadwyr ar ôl iddynt gael eu gorfodi i ddileu treth y pen yr oedd pobl yn ei chasáu gymaint; mae 186 y cant yn gynydd llawer mwy nag unrhyw gynydd bach a gafwyd ym mhensiwn y wladwriaeth ers hynny. Yn ychwanegol at y cynnydd blynyddol yn y dreth gyngor, cafodd pobl sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor ergyd arall pan gyflwynwyd ailfandio, a Chymru eisoes yn dlotach na Lloegr. Yr oedd ailfandio'n ergyd arbennig o galed i bensiynwyr a phobl ar incwm isel ac incwm sefydlog, ac yr oedd llawer mwy o bobl ar eu colled nag ar eu hennill, gyda threthi 33 y cant o gartrefi'n cynyddu, a dim ond 8 y cant yn gostwng. Rhyw fân ymhél â system dreth a oedd yn amlwg yn anghyfiawn a wnaeth ailfandio.

Ar ei gorau, nid yw unrhyw dreth eiddo yn ddim mwy na dewis arall yn lle'r gallu i dalu. Fodd bynnag, o leiaf mae'r dreth gyngor, sy'n dreth a godir gan gynghorau lleol, yn pwysleisio'r ffaith fod gan gynghorau lleol bwerau i godi trethi—pŵer a wrthodwyd i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru hyd yma.

Dylai trethi fod yn seiliedig ar y gallu i dalu. Dylid dileu'r dreth gyngor, a chyflwyno yn ei lle dreth incwm leol, sy'n golygu po fwyaf y byddwch yn ei ennill, y mwyaf y byddwch yn ei dalu. Mae dieter pobl yn cael ei adlewyrchu, nid yn y ddadl hon yn unig, ond hefyd yn y trafodaethau ar y gyllideb ddrafft. Mae galw am ddileu ailfandio yng Nghymru, yn ogystal â galw am iawndal am ailfandio. Mae galw hefyd am ddileu'r dreth gyngor, ac yr wyf newydd ategu'r galw hwnnw. Rhaid i drafodaethau ar gyllideb ddrafft adlewyrchu'r angen am helpu'r bobl hynny sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor ac sydd wedi dioddef fwyaf oherwydd ailfandio. Gellir gwneud hynny, o leiaf, o fewn pwerau cyfyngedig presennol y Cynulliad.

Glyn Davies: Mae Brynle Williams wedi gosod allan bryderon y Ceidwadwyr ynghylch yr hyn sy'n ymddangos i ni yn lefelau rhy uchel o dreth gyngor. Mae hynny'n gyfle imi siarad yn fwy cyffredinol am y ffordd y caiff llywodraeth leol ei hariannu, ac i roi sylwadau byr ar fy ngweledigaeth i o'r hyn y dylai llywodraeth leol fod yng Nghymru.

Yn ystod y cyfnod o bron i 30 mlynedd pan wyf wedi ymwneud â bywyd cyhoeddus yng

government funding has been a recurring and controversial issue. It is inextricably linked to other controversial issues. Apart from the financial demands on people and businesses in a local area—the affordability issue—there is the accountability of local government, namely the control that it has on a sizeable proportion of its income. Then there is the appropriate balance between centralism and localism, which is a fashionable word now.

Fundamentally, if the financial discipline that we want to see in local government is there, councils must be responsible for raising at least half the money that they spend. I accept that I cannot have it both ways; despite my belief in local councils, the funding of education and social services should be transferred to the Assembly Government. I accept the charge that there is an element of centralism within that. However, such is the increasing involvement of the National Assembly in these two fields that I do not believe that it would make that much difference. If we are to have genuinely accountable local government, I cannot see how we can go down any other road.

In principle, I support council tax, for much the same reason that I supported the rates in the early 1980s. I do not support, as many Assembly Members do, funding local government based on income tax, whether that be local—and many Members argue that cause—or national, which I believe the Prime Minister has intimated sometimes he favours. I do not have time to fully go into the practical reasons why I oppose income tax, but, essentially, councils would cease to be local in any meaningful sense if their funding came entirely from the income tax system. In any case, we will now have to wait until Sir Michael Lyons reports in 2007 to have that debate.

5.30 p.m.

There is one other point that I want to touch upon, which is to accept what I see as the Minister's challenge today. I repeat that I support the principle of council tax, but because it is essentially a regressive tax, it is

Nghymru, mae ariannu llywodraeth leol wedi bod yn fater dadleuol sy'n codi dro ar ôl tro. Mae cyswllt annatod rhyngddo a materion dadleuol eraill. Ar wahân i'r gofynion ariannol ar bobl a busnesau mewn ardal leol-mater gallu fforddio-mae atebolrwydd llywodraeth leol, sef y ffordd y mae'n rheoli cyfran sylweddol o'i hincwm. Mae yna hefyd y cydbwysedd priodol rhwng canoliaeth a lleoliaeth, sy'n air ffasiynol ar hyn o bryd.

Yn y bôn, os yw'r ddisgyblaeth ariannol yr ydym am ei gweld mewn llywodraeth leol yn bodoli, rhaid i gynghorau fod yn gyfrifol am godi o leiaf hanner yr arian y maent yn ei wario. Derbyniaf na allaf ennill bob ffordd; er fy mod yn credu mewn cynghorau lleol, dylid trosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb am ariannu addysg a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Derbyniaf yr honiad fod rhywfaint o ganoliaeth yn hynny. Fodd bynnag, cymaint yw cyfranogiad cynyddol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn y ddau faes hyn fel na chredaf y byddai'n gwneud cymaint â hynny o wahaniaeth. Os ydym am gael llywodraeth leol sy'n wirioneddol atebol, ni welaf sut y gallwn ddilyn unrhyw drywydd arall.

Yr wyf yn cefnogi egwyddor y dreth gyngor, am yr un rheswm ag yr oeddwn yn cefnogi'r ardrethi ar ddechrau'r 1980au. Ond yn wahanol i nifer o Aelodau'r Cynulliad, nid wyf yn cefnogi'r awgrym y dylid ariannu llywodraeth leol yn seiliedig ar dreth incwm, boed yn lleol—ac mae nifer o Aelodau'n dadlau dros hynny—neu'n genedlaethol. Credaf fod Prif Weinidog y DU wedi awgrymu weithiau ei fod o blaid hynny. Nid oes gennyf amser i egluro'n llawn fy rhesymau ymarferol dros wrthwynebu treth incwm. Ond ei hanfod byddai cynghorau'n peidio â bod yn lleol mewn unrhyw ffordd ystyrlon pe bai eu harian i gyd yn dod o'r system treth incwm. Beth bynnag, bydd yn rhaid inni aros yn awr tan i Syr Michael Lyons gyflwyno'i adroddiad yn 2007 cyn cael y ddadl honno.

Mae un pwynt arall yr wyf am ei grybwyll, sef derbyn yr hyn a welaf fel her y Gweinidog heddiw. Unwaith eto, dywedaf fy mod yn cefnogi egwyddor y dreth gyngor, ond bydd yn gredadwy dim ond os yw ar

only credible if it is at what we consider to be an affordable level. It will not be our judgment of whether it is affordable, but that of the people who pay it.

For several years in the Chamber, I have opposed the Government's annual decisions that have meant substantial increases in council tax. I will deal with the response that the First Minister often gives—he gave it yesterday, and the Minister has repeated it in her introductory speech. Council tax increases from 1993 to 1997 were higher than the increases between 1997 and the present day. There was a particularly high increase in 1997, the final year before the Government came into power. That is a good debating point, but it is a point that works only in political debates. It is playing games with percentages and it does not work with the people who have to pay. If a bill goes up from £1 to £10, that is a 1,000 per cent increase. If it goes up from £1,001 to £1,010, that is a 1 per cent increase, yet the impact on the person who pays is exactly the same under both systems. The issue is the amount of money that people have to pay. The reality is that council tax has become unaffordable; it is simply too high. It hits the most vulnerable people in Wales the hardest.

For many years, the Government has got away with it. It has not had the outcry that it has deserved. Almost ironically, it is the revaluation system that has brought the whole thing crashing down on its head. All that I can say to you, Minister, is that if you do not recognise, in the revised budget that you will bring forward, the reality that council tax is too high and that the people of Wales are outraged, I believe that you will lose your budget. You will deserve to lose it, and you will deserve to be hounded from office.

Jenny Randerson: I would like to tackle the statement that has been made various times that there will be as many winners as losers from this. The statistics on the number of people going up and down from one band to another—the overall winners and losers—show overwhelmingly that people have gone up bands rather than down. Whichever area of Wales you look at, the number of winners

lefel a ystyriwn yn lefel y gellir ei fforddio. Nid ni fydd yn penderfynu a ellir ei fforddio, ond y bobl sy'n ei thalu.

Ers llawer blwyddyn yn y Siambr, yr wyf wedi gwrthwynebu penderfyniadau blynyddol y Llywodraeth sydd wedi golygu cynnydd sylweddol yn y dreth gyngor. Ymdriniaf â'r ymateb y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn aml yn ei roi—fe'i rhoddodd ddoe, ac mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei ailadrodd yn ei haraith ragarweiniol. Yr oedd y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor o 1993 i 1997 yn uwch na'r cynnydd rhwng 1997 a heddiw. Bu cynnydd arbennig o uchel yn 1997, y flwyddyn olaf cyn i'r Llywodraeth ddod i rym. Mae hynny'n bwynt dadlau da, ond mae'n bwynt sy'n gweithio mewn dadleuon gwleidyddol yn unig. Chwarae gêm â chanrannau yw hyn, ac nid yw'n gweithio gyda'r bobl sy'n gorfod talu. Os yw bil yn codi o £1 i £10, mae hynny'n gynydd o 1,000 y cant. Os yw'n codi o £1,001 i £1,010, mae hynny'n gynydd o 1 y cant, ac eto mae'r effaith ar y person sy'n talu yn union yr un fath dan y ddwy system. Y broblem yw swm yr arian y mae'n rhaid i bobl ei dalu. Y gwir yw nad yw'r dreth gyngor mwyach yn fforddiadwy; mae'n rhy uchel. Mae'n effeithio fwyaf ar y bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yng Nghymru.

Ers blynyddoedd lawer, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi llwyddo i ddianc. Nid yw wedi denu'r protestiadau y mae wedi eu haeddu. Bron yn eironig, y system ailbriso sydd wedi tynnu'r holl fater i lawr ar ei phen. Y cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud wrthy, Weinidog, yw hyn. Os na fyddwch yn cydnabod, yn y gyllideb ddiwygiedig y byddwch yn ei chyflwyno, mai'r gwir yw bod y dreth gyngor yn rhy uchel a bod pobl Cymru wedi gwylltio, credaf y byddwch yn colli eich cyllideb. Byddwch yn haeddu ei cholli, a byddwch yn haeddu cael eich erlid o'ch swydd.

Jenny Randerson: Hoffwn fynd i'r afael â'r datganiad a wnaed droeon y bydd cynifer o bobl ar eu hennill ag a fydd ar eu colled o ganlyniad i hyn. Mae'r ystadegau am nifer y bobl sy'n mynd i fyny ac i lawr o un band i fand arall—yr enillwyr a'r collwyr cyffredinol—yn dangos yn glir bod pobl wedi codi band yn hytrach na gostwng band. Pa ardal bynnag o Gymru a ystyriwch, mae nifer

is far smaller than the number of losers. That is the key issue, because people were led to believe that this would balance itself out throughout Wales, but it did not lead to any balancing at all.

I will use the opportunity this afternoon to say very briefly that you should make no mistake; the Welsh Assembly Government is in a mess on this. It was in a mess before the election when the Minister for local government was forced to abandon her long-held and, I believe, sincerely held view that council tax capping is wrong. She believed that it was an infringement of local democratic decision-making, but she capped Cardiff's council tax to a point where it went down by 0.6 per cent. The issue is this: the Minister was being disingenuous when she suggested an 8 per cent increase—she knew that that was a consultation with three options. As a result of the public response to that consultation, the Government produced what was a broadly neutral budget. That was not good enough—she forced it to reduce the council tax.

That did not work, because the intention was to save Cardiff Central for the Labour Party. It did not work in Cardiff Central, and it almost did not work in Cardiff North, where the Conservatives were hot on Labour's trail. The important point is that the public was not impressed by that behaviour. It was not impressed and it does not appreciate the point of view that was being put across.

The Labour Government here is in even more of a mess, because its friends in London has abandoned it, and done a complete 180 degree u-turn, as has been so frequently referred to this afternoon, and which was so refreshingly admitted to by David Miliband on *Question Time*. We warned you. We told you to rethink this, because we are now in a situation where we have a review of a review. The Labour Party can review this as many times as it likes, but a bad tax will not become a good tax simply because it is looked at again and again. That is also a warning for the Conservatives.

y rhai sydd wedi ennill yn llai o lawer na nifer y rhai sydd wedi colli. Dyna'r broblem allweddol, oherwydd cafodd pobl eu harwain i gredu y byddai hyn yn unioni ei hun ledled Cymru, ond nid arweiniodd at unrhyw unioni o gwbl.

Manteisiaf ar y cyfle y prynhawn yma i ddweud yn fyr na ddylech gamgymryd o gwbl; mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi gwneud llanast o hyn. Yr oedd yn llanast cyn yr etholiad, pan orfodwyd y Gweinidog dros lywodraeth leol i roi'r gorau i'r farn a arddelwyd ganddi ers amser, barn gywir, mi gredaf, sef bod capio'r dreth gyngor yn anghywir. Yr oedd o'r farn fod hyn yn tresmasu ar y broses ddemocrataidd leol o wneud penderfyniadau. Ond capiodd y dreth gyngor yng Nghaerdydd gymaint nes iddi ostwng 0.6 y cant. Y broblem yw hyn: yr oedd y Gweinidog yn annidwyll pan awgrymodd gynnydd o 8 y cant—gwyddai mai ymgynghoriad oedd hwnnw gyda thri dewis. O ganlyniad i'r ymateb cyhoeddus i'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw, cynhyrchodd y Llywodraeth yr hyn a oedd yn gyllideb gymharol niwtral. Nid oedd hynny'n ddigon da—fe'i gorfododd i ostwng y dreth gyngor.

Ni weithiodd hynny, oherwydd y bwriad oedd cadw Canol Caerdydd ar gyfer y Blaid Lafur. Ni weithiodd yng Nghanol Caerdydd, a bu bron iddo beidio â gweithio yng Ngogledd Caerdydd, lle yr oedd y Ceidwadwyr yn dynn ar sodlau Llafur. Y pwynt pwysig yw nad oedd y cyhoedd yn hapus â'r ymddygiad hwnnw. Nid oeddent yn hapus ac nid ydynt yn gwerthfawrogi'r safbwynt a oedd yn cael ei gyfleu.

Mae'r Llywodraeth Lafur hon wedi gwneud mwy o lanast byth, oherwydd mae ei ffrindiau yn Llundain wedi troi eu cefnau arni ac wedi gwneud tro pedol 180 gradd llwyr, fel y cyfeiriwyd yn fynych y prynhawn yma, ac fel y cyfaddefwyd mewn ffordd mor agored gan David Miliband ar *Question Time*. Cawsoch eich rhybuddio. Dywedasom wrthyhych am ailfeddwl am hyn, oherwydd yr ydym bellach mewn sefyllfa lle mae gennym adolygiad o adolygiad. Gall y Blaid Lafur adolygu hyn gymaint o weithiau ag a ddymuna, ond ni fydd treth wael yn troi'n dreth dda dim ond oherwydd edrych arni dro ar ôl tro. Mae hynny hefyd yn rhybudd i'r

Ceidwadwyr.

Finally, the Labour Assembly Government has backed itself into a cul-de-sac over council tax in Wales, and David Miliband has come along and parked his HGV truck at the exit.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I am obliged to you for that succinct speech.

Alun Ffred Jones: Yn fyr ac yn syml, mae hon yn dreth annheg, ac fel mae'n cynyddu o ran ei chost, mae'n mynd yn fwyfwy annheg, wrth fwyta i mewn i arian y sawl sydd ar gyflogau isel a sefydlog, yn arbennig y sawl sydd ar bensiwn. Yn 1996-97, ar gyfartaledd, yr oedd y dreth gyngor yn cymryd 13 y cant o incwm y sawl oedd ar bensiwn y wladwriaeth. Erbyn 2003-04, mae'r ganran honno wedi codi i 20 y cant, hynny yw, £1 allan o bob £5 y mae pensiynwr yn ei dderbyn—lefel hollol annerbyniol.

O ran tegwch, er nad fy ngwaith i yw amddiffyn y Llywodraeth Lafur, mae'n rhaid i'r Toriaid gymryd eu cyfrifoldeb yn hyn o beth, achos y gwir amdani yw, ar ôl cael gwared o dreth y pen a chyflwyno'r dreth gyngor, gosodwyd y dreth honno'n isel iawn yn fwiadol, er mwyn ceisio ennill ffafr y bobl. Rhaid oedd iddynt ei chodi'n uwch na chwyddiant wedyn, er mwyn dal i fyny â'r hen lefelau a gasglwyd gan y *rates*.

Fodd bynnag, mae clymu lefel y dreth i brisiau tai yn wallgof ac yn ddisynnwyr. Byddain'n well i chi glymu lefel y dreth i'r math o gar y mae rhywun yn ei yrru, achos o leiaf y mae prisiau ceir yn weddol gyfartal ar draws Prydain, ond nid felly prisiau tai. Hefyd, yr ydych yn cael dewis pa gar yr ydych yn ei brynu yn weddol gyson, ond gallwch fyw yn eich tŷ am ddegawdau. Yng Ngwynedd, mae prisiau tai wedi codi 50 y cant yn ystod y tair blynedd diwethaf, yn arbennig ar hyd y glannau. Felly, pe baech yn bensiynwr sy'n digwydd byw yn Nefyn neu Aberdaron—lleoedd braf i fyw—byddech yn anlwcus iawn, oherwydd bod pris eich tŷ wedi cynyddu yn aruthrol dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf, ac mae eich treth gyngor felly yn cynyddu, er bod eich incwm yn aros yn union yr un peth. Dyna annhegwch sylfaenol y dreth hon.

I gloi, mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi troi i mewn i ffordd bengaead ynghylch y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru, ac mae David Miliband wedi dod heibio ac wedi parcio ei lori HGV ar draws y fynedfa.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am yr araith fer honno.

Alun Ffred Jones: Put briefly and simply, this is an inequitable tax, and, as it increases in cost, so it becomes increasingly inequitable, as it eats into the money of those on low and fixed incomes, particularly those receiving pension. In 1996-97, on average, the council tax accounted for 13 per cent of the income of people on state pension. By 2003-04, that percentage had increased to 20 per cent, which accounts for £1 out of every £5 that a pensioner receives. Those levels are utterly unacceptable.

In fairness, although it is not my job to defend the Labour Government, the Tories must shoulder their responsibility for this, because the truth of the matter is that, after getting rid of the poll tax and introducing council tax, that tax was deliberately set very low with the intention of currying people's favour. It then had to be increased higher than inflation simply to catch up with the old levels collected via the rates.

However, linking the level of tax to house prices is completely crazy and senseless. It would be better to link the level of tax to the model of car that you drive, because at least car prices are relatively comparable throughout the UK, which cannot be said for house prices. You also get to choose fairly regularly the kind of car that you drive, but you can live in your house for decades. In Gwynedd, house prices have increased by 50 per cent during the past three years, particularly along the coast. Therefore, if you are a pensioner who happens to live in Nefyn or in Aberdaron—both lovely places to live—you are very unlucky, because the price of your house will have increased immensely over the past five years, as will your council tax, although your income will have remained the same. That is the fundamental injustice of this tax.

Diddorol yw gweld yr hyn y mae Llafur Newydd wedi ei wneud. Yng Nghymru, aed ymlaen â'r ailfandio—am fod Llafur yn credu y byddai'n gwneud byd o les iddi yn ei seddau traddodiadol, mae'n debyg. Am yr un rheswm, mae Tony Blair wedi dod i gasgliad hollol groes, a hynny i beidio â bwrw ymlaen ag ailfandio, oherwydd y byddai'n gwneud drwg iddo yn *middle England*, lle bynnag y bo hwnnw.

Diddorol hefyd yw cymharu yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd gyda'r dreth gyngor a'r ailfandio yng Nghymru â'r hyn y mae Llafur Newydd yn ei wneud gyda'i chynlluniau pensiwn preifat. Hynny yw, bydd yn rhoi *tax breaks* aruthrol i'r cyfoethog gyda'i newidiadau i bensiynau preifat drwy'r SIPPS. Bydd yn rhoi *tax breaks* i bobl sydd â digon o arian i allu prynu ail a thrydydd cartrefi, tra bod pensiynwr Aberdaron yn ei chael hi'n anodd i dalu'r dreth gyngor yn eu tai teras. Mae'r sefyllfa yn annerbyniol, ac mae hon yn dreth sylfaenol annheg. Rhaid inni newid y drefn.

William Graham: In view of the limited time, I have only a few remarks. In certain cases, we have, on many occasions, supported revaluation. As a principle, it works well and is historically correct. From the beginning of the poor law in 1601, you had to have a mechanism for revaluation. So that is not the issue. What we ask is whether this problem would have come with the same intensity as it did today had local government been properly supported in the budget by the Labour Government.

5.40 p.m.

I ask you to open your minds a little as I make a suggestion. If we do not have a property-based tax—though Lyons has already suggested that he would like to go down the lines of a property-based tax—we could think instead of the complete abolition of council tax and have the entire amount funded by central Government. For my local authority, 83 per cent of its expenditure is already paid for by central Government, and not all of the remaining 17 per cent comes from the rates, as it also comes from the rents

It is interesting to see what New Labour has done. In Wales, we went ahead with the rebanding exercise, presumably because Labour thought it would do it a world of good in its traditional seats. For the same reason, Tony Blair has come to the opposite conclusion entirely, and has decided not to proceed with rebanding since he believes it would be detrimental to him in middle England, wherever that may be.

It is also interesting to compare what has happened with the council tax and rebanding in Wales with what New Labour is doing with its private pension schemes. It is planning to give massive tax breaks to the wealthy through its changes in private pensions—its self-investment personal pension schemes. It would give tax breaks to people who have enough money to afford to buy second and third homes, while pensioners in Aberdaron will find it difficult to pay the council tax for their terraced houses. This situation is completely unacceptable, and this is a fundamentally inequitable tax. This has to change.

William Graham: Gan fod yr amser yn brin, dim ond rhai sylwadau sydd gennyf. Mewn rhai achosion yr ydym, lawer gwaith, wedi cefnogi ailbrisio. Fel egwyddor, mae'n gweithio'n dda ac yn gywir yn hanesyddol. O ddechrau deddf y tlodion yn 1601, bu'n rhaid cael mecanwaith ar gyfer ailbrisio. Felly, nid dyna'r broblem. Yr hyn a ofynnwn yw a fyddai'r broblem hon wedi bod mor ddwys ag yr oedd heddiw pe bai llywodraeth leol wedi ei chefnogi'n briodol yn y gyllideb gan y Llywodraeth Lafur.

Gofynnaf ichi fod yn agored eich meddwl wrth imi wneud awgrym. Os na chawn dreth ar sail eiddo—er bod Lyons eisoes wedi awgrymu yr hoffai ddilyn trywydd treth ar sail eiddo—gallem ystyried diddymu'r dreth gyngor yn gyfan gwbl a chael y swm cyfan wedi ei ariannu gan Lywodraeth ganolog. Ar gyfer fy awdurdod lleol i, telir 83 y cant o'i wariant eisoes gan Lywodraeth ganolog, ac nid yw'r cyfan o'r 17 y cant sy'n weddill yn dod o'r trethi, gan ei fod yn dod hefyd o'r rhenti a'r elw a gaiff y cyngor. Mae hynny'n

and profits that the council enjoys. That is another solution that we could look at.

If we look back a little at the community charge, which was not a property-based tax, many commentators now, without the benefit of knowing what the community charge was, are asking, 'Should you not have a tax that is based on what you consume?'. That was the principle of the community charge: you paid for what you consumed. You may laugh, but that was the principle behind it. That was why it caught so many people; it was a properly based tax right across the country. I know that we have somewhat closed minds on this subject on the present Government's benches, but let us think of a wider way of ensuring that, as a true representative democracy, we have a fair taxation system.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I apologise to the other Members who cannot get in, but I now call the Minister to wind up.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): I have only a few minutes, so I can reply only to a couple of the points made, and then I will try to make a general conclusion.

First, I must set the record straight on what Jenny said: I did not cap local authorities in Wales, I set down the principles. What she said about Cardiff was not exactly true, as I can remember a discussion when it started at a 10 per cent growth in budget, and what that would have meant for council tax was extraordinary. It is outrageous to say that this was all about party politics; it certainly was not, and I hope that you trust me when I say that. It was not just about Cardiff; it was about looking at authorities across Wales, it is just that Cardiff was the worst offender and that is the authority that I mentioned.

Jenny Randerson: Will you give way?

Sue Essex: I do not have enough time, Jenny, as I have only a few minutes.

Ieuan mentioned the aspect included in the Members' Research Service document. I

ateb arall y gallem ei ystyried.

Os edrychwn yn ôl ar y tâl cymunedol, nad oedd yn dreth ar sail eiddo, mae nifer o sylwebyddion erbyn hyn, heb y fantais o wybod beth oedd y tâl cymunedol, yn gofyn 'Oni ddylech gael treth sy'n seiliedig ar yr hyn a ddefnyddiwyd?'. Dyna oedd egwyddor y tâl cymunedol: yr oeddech yn talu am yr hyn yr oeddech yn ei ddefnyddio. Gallwch chwethin, ond dyna oedd yr egwyddor y tu ôl i hyn. Dyna pam y cafodd cynifer bobl eu dal; yr oedd yn dreth ar sail eiddo ledled y wlad. Gwn ein bod ychydig yn gyfyng ein meddwl ar y pwnc hwn ar feinciau'r Llywodraeth bresennol, ond gadewch inni ystyried ffordd ehangach o sicrhau, fel democratiaeth gynrychioliadol wirioneddol, fod gennym system drethu deg.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ymddiheuraf i'r Aelodau eraill na allant gyfrannu, ond galwaf ar y Gweinidog yn awr i ddirwyn i ben.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Dim ond ychydig funudau sydd gennyf. Felly, ni allaf ond ymateb i rai o'r pwyntiau a wnaed, ac yna ceisiaf ddod i gasgliad cyffredinol.

Yn gyntaf, rhaid imi gywiro'r hyn a ddywedodd Jenny: ni chapiais awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru, gosod yr egwyddorion a wneuthum. Nid oedd yr hyn a ddywedodd am Gaerdydd yn hollol wir, oherwydd gallaf gofio trafodaeth pan ddechreuwyd ar dwf o 10 y cant yn y gyllideb, ac yr oedd yr hyn y byddai hynny wedi ei olygu i'r dreth gyngor yn rhyfeddol. Mae'n warthus dweud bod a wnelo hyn ddim byd â gwleidyddiaeth plaid; yn sicr nid oedd, a gobeithio y gallwch fy nghredu pan ddywedaf hynny. Nid oedd a wnelo â Chaerdydd yn unig; yr oedd a wnelo ag edrych ar awdurdodau ledled Cymru, ond Caerdydd oedd y gwaethaf, a hwnnw oedd yr awdurdod a grybwyllais.

Jenny Randerson: A wnewch chi ildio?

Sue Essex: Nid oes digon o amser, Jenny, gan mai dim ond ychydig funudau sydd gennyf.

Soniodd Ieuan am yr agwedd a gynhwysir yn nogfen Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau.

know the extract in question and have looked at the sentence to which he referred, but it does not blame revaluation. The important point to remember is that local authorities set council tax levels. If you remember, I advised them to increase the level by no more than 5 per cent of their budget, but some authorities went above that figure and, in the end, that is what caused the rise in council tax yield.

I want to make the point that, if you have a property tax, you must have revaluation. Not to do so would create a very unfair situation. People in the Rhondda, Neath and Port Talbot, Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, and Swansea have all benefited from the revaluation. They are not getting the headlines, but they are out there, and I want you to reflect on the fact that the matter is not all one-sided.

We have the Lyons report, which is looking at a range of ways of financing local government. It is a complicated matter, as Glyn said. However, when Michael Lyons came to committee, he made the fundamental point that he feels that there is still likely to be a property tax, for good reasons. Sir Michael Lyons has been employed as an expert, he gave a good presentation to committee and answered all the questions well. He still feels that there will need to be a property tax, so we need to understand that, if you have a property tax, you must have a revaluation of that tax.

I will end by mentioning something that I think is crucial, which all of us have to take into account. Outside, there is an expectation of service levels and quality of delivery that far exceeds anything that we had 100 years ago when we first introduced local authorities. If I may use a pun, it is a taxing problem. We pay for it through either central or local taxation. There is no other way, apart from a combination of both. If you want a high standard of public services, which people do, then you have to pay for it. Brynle, I think that it is a bit unfair of you to say that the quality of services has not improved. That is not fair on the local authorities, many of which are striving to do just that.

Gwn am y darn dan sylw, ac yr wyf wedi edrych ar y frawddeg y cyfeiriai ati, ond nid yw'n beio ailbrisiu. Y pwynt pwysig i'w gofio yw mai awdurdodau lleol oedd yn pennu lefelau'r dreth gyngor. Os cofiwch, cynghorais hwy i beidio â chynyddu'r lefel fwy na 5 y cant o'u cyllideb. Ond aeth rhai awdurdodau'n uwch na'r ffigur hwnnw, ac yn y pen draw dyna a achosodd y cynnydd yn yr incwm o'r dreth gyngor.

Yr wyf am wneud y pwynt hwn: os oes gennych dreth eiddo, rhaid cael ailbrisiu. Byddai peidio â gwneud hynny yn creu sefyllfa annheg iawn. Mae pobl yn Rhondda, Castell-nedd a Phort Talbot, Blaenau Gwent, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ac Abertawe i gyd wedi elwa o'r ailbrisiu. Nid oes llawer o sôn amdanynt, ond maent yno, ac yr wyf am ichi fyfyrto am y ffaith nad un ochr yn unig sydd i'r mater.

Mae gennym adroddiad Lyons, sy'n ystyried amrywiaeth o ffyrdd i ariannu llywodraeth leol. Mae'n fater cymhleth, fel y dywedodd Glyn. Fodd bynnag, pan ddaeth Michael Lyons i'r pwyllgor, gwnaeth y pwynt sylfaenol ei fod yn credu bod treth eiddo yn dal yn debygol, am resymau da. Cyflogwyd Syr Michael Lyons fel arbenigwr, rhoddodd gyflwyniad da i'r pwyllgor ac atebodd yr holl gwestiynau yn dda. Mae'n dal i deimlo y bydd angen treth eiddo, felly, mae angen inni ddeall, er mwyn cael treth eiddo, fod yn rhaid ichi ailbrisiu'r dreth honno.

Deuaf i ben drwy sôn am rywbeth sy'n hollbwysig yn fy marn i, a rhaid i bob un ohonom ei ystyried. Y tu allan, mae disgwyl y bydd lefelau gwasanaeth ac ansawdd y ddarpariaeth yn well o lawer nag unrhyw beth a oedd gennym 100 mlynedd yn ôl, pan gyflwynwyd awdurdodau lleol am y tro cyntaf. Os caf ddefnyddio gair mwys, mae'n broblem sy'n ein trethu. Talwn am hyn naill ai drwy drethiant canolog neu leol. Nid oes ffordd arall, ar wahân i gyfuniad o'r ddau. Os ydych am gael safon uchel o wasanaethau cyhoeddus, rhywbeth y mae pobl am ei weld, yna rhaid ichi dalu amdani. Brynle, credaf eich bod ychydig yn annheg wrth ddweud nad yw ansawdd y gwasanaethau wedi gwella. Nid yw hynny'n deg ar yr awdurdodau lleol, oherwydd mae nifer

ohonynt yn ymdrechu i wneud hynny.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I now call for a vote on amendment 1. I remind Members that, if amendment 1 is carried, amendment 2 will fall.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Galwaf am bleidlais ar welliant 1. Atgoffaf Aelodau, os caiff gwelliant 1 ei dderbyn, y bydd gwelliant 2 yn methu.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.

Amendment 1: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 35.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

Gwelliant 2: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 37.

Amendment: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 37.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane

Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 21, Ymatal 29, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 3: For 21, Abstain 29, Against 0.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Andrews, Leighton

Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 16, Ymatal 6, Yn erbyn 28.
 Amendment 4: For 16, Abstain 6, Against 28.*

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

Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle

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

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

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 22, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 28.
Amendment 5: For 22, Abstain 0, Against 28.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Cairns, Alun
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle
Williams, Kirsty

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

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

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 9, Ymatal 12, Yn erbyn 29.
Amendment 6: For 9, Abstain 12, Against 29.*

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

Cairns, Alun
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew

Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Williams, Brynle

Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Catherine
Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 7: O blaid 14, Ymatal 9, Yn erbyn 27.
Amendment 7: For 14, Abstain 9, Against 27.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lloyd, David
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn

Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Williams, Brynle

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Cynnig NDM2616 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
 Motion NDM2616 as amended.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1) <i>Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn croesawu'r cymorth a roddir i lywodraeth leol Cymru gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyfyngu ar y cynnydd yn lefelau'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru; a</i></p> <p>2) <i>yn nodi bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi gwneud tro pedol ar ailfandio'r dreth gyngor ar gyfer Lloegr.</i></p> | <p>1) <i>the National Assembly for Wales welcomes the support given to Welsh local government by the Welsh Assembly Government to contain the levels of council tax within Wales; and</i></p> <p>2) <i>notes that the UK Government has performed a u-turn on rebanding council tax for England.</i></p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 22.
Amended motion: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 22.

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Cairns, Alun
 Davies, Glyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Morgan, Jonathan

Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Catherine
 Thomas, Gwenda

Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle
 Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
 Amended motion carried.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Bagloriaeth Cymru—Dyfodol Cymwysterau Welsh Baccalaureate—The Future for Qualifications.

Jeff Cuthbert: I have accepted requests from Elin Jones, William Graham, Denise Idris Jones and Peter Black to speak for one minute each in this debate.

The Welsh-baccalaureate-style of learning offers a made-in-Wales solution to the two great challenges of global competition and a low-skills base within our deprived communities in Wales. In an increasingly competitive global economy, with rapid and far reaching changes in technology, trading patterns and consumer demand, Wales faces new opportunities and new challenges. Entrenching an employability society is central to stable economic growth and prosperity, and the battle to do this begins in the classroom. A better educated workforce means greater career choices and power within the global marketplace for members of that workforce. It is therefore vital that our modern curriculum reflects these changed circumstances, equipping the next generation with skills that can win the global race for jobs.

5.50 p.m.

Running along side this is a picture of low-skilled, often isolated Valleys communities. Too many 16 to 18-year-olds in our deprived wards are not in education, employment or training, and too many young people in these areas still leave secondary schools

Jeff Cuthbert: Yr wyf wedi derbyn ceisiadau gan Elin Jones, William Graham, Denise Idris Jones a Peter Black am gael siarad am funud yr un yn y ddadl hon.

Mae arddull ddysgu Bagloriaeth Cymru yn cynnig ateb wedi'i greu yng Nghymru i'r ddwy her fawr, sef cystadleuaeth fyd-eang a phrinder sgiliau yn ein cymunedau difreintiedig yng Nghymru. Mewn economi fyd-eang sy'n mynd yn fwyfwy cystadleuol, a newidiadau cyflym a phellgyrhaeddol mewn technoleg, patrymau masnachu a galw gan ddefnyddwyr, mae Cymru'n wynebu cyfleoedd newydd a heriau newydd. Mae sefydlu cymdeithas y gellir ei chyflogi yn ganolog i dwf a ffyniant economaidd cadarn, ac mae'r frwydr i sicrhau hynny'n dechrau yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Mae gweithlu sydd wedi ei addysgu'n well yn golygu gwell dewisiadau gyrfa a phŵer yn y farchnad fyd-eang i aelodau o'r gweithlu hwnnw. Felly, mae'n hanfodol i'n cwricwlwm modern adlewyrchu'r newidiadau hyn mewn amgylchiadau, gan roi i'r genhedlaeth nesaf y sgiliau a all ennill y ras fyd-eang am swyddi.

Ochr yn ochr â hyn mae darlun o gymunedau yn y Cymoedd sy'n aml yn ynysig a lle mae prinder sgiliau. Mae gormod o bobl ifanc 16 i 18 oed yn ein wardiau difreintiedig wedi rhoi'r gorau i addysg. Nid ydynt yn gweithio nac ar gyrsiau hyfforddi, ac mae gormod o

disengaged from learning. Too few adults have the skills that employers want and need, and there remains too little choice in these areas for 14 to 19-year-olds to take charge of their learning and increase their educational opportunities. The Welsh baccalaureate is best seen in this context.

The Welsh baccalaureate is a uniquely Welsh qualification that will meet the needs of a modern economy. It aims to deliver these modern skills and student choice in a system where choice is sometimes seen as being limited to whether to take two or three A-levels. In 2003, 91 per cent of A-level students in the Caerphilly borough gained grades between A and E. The baccalaureate aims to improve this still further by giving students the key skills to get a job at the end of their course.

As Members know, the baccalaureate is currently being piloted in 31 centres across Wales. Over 2,000 students have been involved so far. The results of the second year of the pilot programmes of the advanced and intermediate stages of the baccalaureate have been positive. Of the 304 students who completed the advanced baccalaureate, 60 per cent were awarded the advanced diploma, and a further 27 students achieved the core certificate. Of the 193 students who completed the intermediate diploma, almost half were awarded the full diploma, and 118 achieved the core certificate.

Lessons will clearly be learned from the pilot study. It was always the case that certain issues would need to be addressed prior to full roll out. The very purpose of a pilot is to find areas that need improvement before the full delivery of the scheme. I also welcome the Assembly Government's decision to appoint a team from the University of Nottingham to complete an external evaluation of the baccalaureate prior to roll out.

The Welsh baccalaureate increases choice and removes the barriers to accessing that choice. It is a modern qualification for the modern world that is designed for the many,

bobl ifanc yn yr ardaloedd hyn yn dal i adael ysgolion uwchradd wedi ymddieithrio o ddysgu. Nid oes digon o oedolion yn meddu ar y sgiliau y mae ar gyflogwyr eu hangen, ac nid oes digon o ddewis o hyd yn y meysydd hyn i alluogi pobl ifanc 14 i 19 oed i reoli eu dysgu a chynyddu eu cyfleoedd addysgol. Dyna'r cyd-destun gorau ar gyfer ystyried bagloriaeth Cymru.

Mae bagloriaeth Cymru yn gymhwyster unigryw i Gymru a fydd yn diwallu anghenion economi fodern. Ei nod yw darparu'r sgiliau modern hyn a dewis i fyfyrwyr, mewn system lle yr ystyrir weithiau bod dewis yn gyfyngedig i ddewis a dylid gwneud dau bwnc safon uwch neu dri phwnc safon uwch. Yn 2003, cafodd 91 y cant o fyfyrwyr safon uwch ym mwrdeistref Caerffili raddau rhwng A ac E. Nod y fagloriaeth yw gwella hyn ymhellach drwy roi'r sgiliau allweddol i fyfyrwyr gael swydd ar ddiwedd eu cwrs.

Fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, mae'r fagloriaeth yn cael ei threialu ar hyn o bryd mewn 31 o ganolfannau ledled Cymru. Mae dros 2,000 o fyfyrwyr wedi cymryd rhan hyd yma. Mae canlyniadau ail flwyddyn y rhaglenni peilot o gamau uwch a chanolraddol y fagloriaeth yn gadarnhaol. O blith y 304 o fyfyrwyr a gwblhaodd y fagloriaeth uwch, dyfarnwyd y diploma uwch i 60 y cant ohonynt, ac enillodd 27 o fyfyrwyr eraill y dystysgrif graidd. O blith y 193 o fyfyrwyr a gwblhaodd y ddiploma ganolraddol, dyfarnwyd y ddiploma lawn i bron hanner y nifer hwnnw, ac enillodd 118 y dystysgrif graidd.

Mae'n amlwg y bydd gwersi i'w dysgu o'r astudiaeth beilot. Yr oedd yn wir erioed y byddai angen ymdrin â rhai materion cyn cyflwyno'r fagloriaeth yn llawn. Union bwrpas rhaglen beilot yw dod o hyd i feysydd y mae angen eu gwella cyn cyflwyno'r cynllun llawn. Croesawaf hefyd benderfyniad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i benodi tîm o Brifysgol Nottingham i wneud gwerthusiad allanol o'r fagloriaeth cyn ei chyflwyno.

Mae bagloriaeth Cymru yn cynyddu dewis ac yn dileu'r rhwystrau sy'n atal pobl rhag cael y dewis hwnnw. Mae'n gymhwyster modern ar gyfer y byd modern sydd wedi'i gynllunio

not the few. The core of the advanced level baccalaureate, which is equivalent to a grade A at A-level, is complemented by the intermediate stage, which is equivalent to five GCSEs from A* to C grades.

In the central valleys of Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent, over 40 per cent of the population still have no formal qualifications. Given that, it is clear that delivering for deprived communities must be at the heart of the Welsh baccalaureate's national roll-out programme. Many aspects of the baccalaureate are ideally structured to deliver the maximum benefits to students from deprived backgrounds, and to address the social injustice that deprivation can cause in the classroom. That is why the six key elements of the 14 to 19 learning pathways are incorporated within the baccalaureate's delivery. This method of learning has a history of success in maximising the result for learners of all backgrounds. The baccalaureate delivers individually tailored learning, wider choice and flexibility, a 14 to 19 learning core, learning coach support, personal support, and impartial career advice.

The Dearing report in 1996 first promoted the concept of short-term continual assessment rather than an end-of-course exam. The baccalaureate's adoption of this method of assessment is well documented to improve educational attainment, as is the provision of additional tutoring and mentoring. Every student has an individual action plan and a personal tutor, with an entitlement to a one-to-one personal tutorial every half-term. In addition, students have group tutorials and a personal tutor to help them map their learning opportunities across their programmes of study, and to help them set their learning targets in their individual action plans. This enables the student to become proficient in the key skill of 'improving own learning and performance'.

Most important, however, is the introduction of the foundation baccalaureate, which will extend opportunities still further to all students in Wales. I am delighted that the Minister has found money within the budget

ar gyfer pawb, nid y dethol rai. Ategir craidd y fagloriaeth lefel uwch, sy'n cyfateb i radd A mewn arholiad safon uwch, gan y cam canolraddol, sy'n cyfateb i bum TGAU graddau A* i C.

Yng nghymoedd canolog Castell-nedd Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tudful, Caerffili a Blaenau Gwent mae mwy na 40 y cant o'r boblogaeth heb unrhyw gymwysterau ffurfiol o hyd. O gofio hynny, mae'n amlwg mai cyflawni ar gyfer cymunedau difreintiedig ddylai fod wrth wraidd y rhaglen genedlaethol o gyflwyno bagloriaeth Cymru. Mae llawer agwedd ar y fagloriaeth wedi'i saernio'n berffaith i sicrhau'r buddiannau mwyaf i fyfyrwyr o gefndiroedd difreintiedig, ac i fynd i'r afael â'r anghyfiawnder cymdeithasol y gall amddifadedd ei achosi yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Dyna pam y caiff chwe lefel allweddol y llwybrau dysgu 14 i 19 eu hymgorffori yn y fagloriaeth. Mae'r dull hwn o ddysgu wedi bod yn llwyddiannus wrth sicrhau'r canlyniadau gorau posibl i ddysgwyr o bob cefndir. Mae'r fagloriaeth yn darparu dysgu wedi'i deilwra ar gyfer unigolion, mwy o ddewis a hyblygrwydd, craidd dysgu 14 i 19, a gwybodaeth ddiudedd am yrfaedd.

Adroddiad Dearing yn 1996 oedd y cyntaf i hyrwyddo'r cysyniad o asesiad parhaus byr dymor yn hytrach nag arholiad ar ddiwedd cwrs. Mae prawf pendant fod y dull hwn a fabwysiadwyd gan y fagloriaeth yn gwella cyrhaeddiad addysgol, ac felly hefyd y ddarpariaeth tiwtora a mentora ychwanegol. Bydd gan bob myfyriwr gynllun gweithredu unigol a thiwtor personol, a hawl i gael sesiwn diwtorial bersonol un-i-un bob hanner tymor. Yn ogystal, caiff myfywrwyr sesiynau tiwtorial mewn grwpiau, a thiwtor personol i'w helpu i fapio eu cyfleoedd dysgu ar draws eu rhaglenni astudio, a'u helpu i bennu eu targedau dysgu yn eu cynlluniau gweithredu unigol. Mae hyn yn galluogi'r myfyriwr i ddod yn hyddysg yn y sgil allweddol o wella ei ddysgu a'i berfformiad ei hun.

Yr hyn sy'n bwysicach na dim, fodd bynnag, yw cyflwyno'r fagloriaeth sylfaen, a fydd yn ehangu cyfleoedd ymhellach eto i bob myfyriwr yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn falch iawn bod y Gweinidog wedi dod o hyd i arian

to begin the pilot in September 2006. The foundation baccalaureate's availability to pupils from 14 years of age and delivery of the equivalent to five GCSEs at grades D to G will ensure that all students will be taught the vital basic skills that employers so desperately need.

Students within deprived communities therefore must be encouraged and enabled to choose the baccalaureate. I believe it is important for take-up in Communities First areas to be monitored to ensure that the Welsh baccalaureate is understood and made use of in places that report educational underperformance.

More broadly speaking, it is also important that the baccalaureate takes into account the aims of the strategic framework for the Heads of the Valleys, the Heads of the Valleys skills forum and the workforce set-up programme. These initiatives form part of the regeneration programme for the Valleys, and, if sympathetically structured, could make a big impact on the future increase of basic and advanced skills among the next generation.

Investment in employer-ready students will deliver the twin goals of economic growth and social justice. That is why I believe that the work-related education aspects of the baccalaureate are fundamental to its success. According to the Confederation of British Industry's employment trends survey 2005, 60 per cent of employers said that school leavers' ability to self-manage is not up to standard. Over 75 per cent of employers were dissatisfied with school leavers' awareness of business—the reality of competition and the nature of risk. Recent Ofsted research found that 75 per cent of 20 to 30-year-olds believed that the workplace provided them with the best opportunities to develop teamwork skills, yet this is a key skill that employers expect young people to have before they enter the workplace.

It is vital to incorporate these concerns into the national roll-out of the baccalaureate. The

yn y gyllideb i ddechrau'r peilot ym mis Medi 2006. Bydd y ffaith fod y fagloriaeth sylfaen ar gael i ddisgyblion 14 oed a darparu'r hyn sy'n cyfateb i bum TGAU graddau D i G yn sicrhau bod pob un o'r sgiliau sylfaenol hanfodol y mae ar gyflogwyr cymaint o'u hangen yn cael eu haddysgu i bob myfyriwr.

Felly, rhaid annog myfyrwyr mewn cymunedau difreintiedig i ddewis y fagloriaeth a'u galluogi i wneud hynny. Credaf ei bod yn bwysig i'r nifer sy'n dilyn y fagloriaeth mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf gael ei fonitro i sicrhau bod bagloriaeth Cymru yn cael ei deall a'i defnyddio mewn lleoedd lle mae tanberfformio addysgol.

Yn fwy cyffredinol, mae hefyd yn bwysig i'r fagloriaeth ystyried amcanion y fframwaith strategol ar gyfer Blaenau'r Cymoedd, fforwm sgiliau Blaenau'r Cymoedd a'r rhaglen sefydlu gweithlu. Mae'r mentrau hyn yn rhan o raglen adfywio'r Cymoedd, ac os cânt eu llunio gyda chydymdeimlad gallent gael effaith fawr ar y cynnydd mewn sgiliau sylfaenol ac uwch sgiliau'r genhedlaeth nesaf yn y dyfodol.

Bydd buddsoddi mewn myfyrwyr sy'n barod i gael eu cyflogi yn cyflawni'r ddau nod cyfartal, sef twf economaidd a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol. Dyna pam y credaf fod yr agweddau ar y fagloriaeth sy'n gysylltiedig â gwaith yn hollbwysig i'w llwyddiant. Yn ôl yr arolwg tueddiadau cyflogaeth 2005 gan Gydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain, dywedodd 60 y cant o gyflogwyr nad yw gallu'r rhai sy'n gadael yr ysgol i reoli eu hunain yn cyrraedd y nod. Yr oedd mwy na 75 y cant o gyflogwyr yn anfodlon ag ymwybyddiaeth fusnes y rheini sy'n gadael yr ysgol—sef realiti cystadleuaeth a natur risg. Dangosodd ymchwil yn ddiweddar gan Ofsted fod 75 y cant o bobl ifanc rhwng 20 a 30 oed yn credu mai'r gweithle oedd yn rhoi'r cyfleoedd gorau iddynt ddatblygu sgiliau gweithio fel tîm. Ond mae hon yn sgil allweddol y mae cyflogwyr yn disgwyl i bobl ifanc feddu arni cyn cyrraedd y gweithle.

Mae'n hanfodol ymgorffori'r pryderon hyn yn y broses o gyflwyno'r fagloriaeth yn

baccalaureate's key six-module structure includes the study of Wales in the world, work-related experience, a modern foreign language, key skills, personal social education, and an extended individual project. Key skills are the cement that links schools and college-based education with the world of work. These key skills must be shaped to maximise the benefits to employers and, in turn, to the students.

Global competitors are already ahead of the United Kingdom in shaping their education system to meet employers' needs. Finland, for example, is regularly ranked by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development as having the top-performing education system in the world. Education has been a key driver in its recent economic transformation. Last December, the OECD placed 15-year-olds in Finland top of 15-year-olds in 41 countries for reading and for science.

Science, engineering and technology skills are the essential building blocks of the research and development sector, which is a key battleground between European nations and emerging market economies. Research and development employers in Wales want specialised graduates. In 2003, 7 per cent of 16-year-olds left compulsory schooling in the Caerphilly borough without a GCSE, NVQ or entry-level qualification. That is 2 per cent above the national average. However, no fewer than 97 per cent of Finnish children stay in full-time education after the age of 16. The Finnish people have abolished their educational underclass.

Like Wales, Finland has a comparative lack of natural resources and a small economic base. The solution that has pushed it to the top of the global league tables has been education reforms that have met the needs of business and developed the student in line with personal, social and national goals. This is exactly what the Welsh baccalaureate has done to date. If managed carefully, the baccalaureate's national roll-out could deliver the same social and economic benefits that Finland is already enjoying.

genedlaethol. Mae strwythur chwe modiwl allweddol y fagloriaeth yn cynnwys astudiaeth o Gymru yn y byd, profiad gwaith, iaith dramor fodern, sgiliau allweddol, addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol, a phrosiect estynedig unigol. Sgiliau allweddol yw'r cyswllt rhwng addysg mewn ysgolion a cholegau a byd gwaith. Rhaid saerño'r sgiliau hyn er mwyn sicrhau'r buddiannau mwyaf i gyflogwyr, ac i'r myfyrwyr yn eu tro.

Mae cystadleuwyr byd-eang eisoes ar y blaen i'r Deyrnas Unedig o ran saerño eu system addysg i ddiwallu anghenion cyflogwyr. Mae'r Ffindir, er enghraifft, yn cael ei henwi'n rheolaidd gan y Sefydliad dros Gydweithredu a Datblygu Economaidd fel gwlad sydd â'r system addysg orau yn y byd. Addysg oedd yr elfen allweddol yn ei thrawsfurfiad economaidd yn ddiweddar. Fis Rhagfyr diwethaf, yr oedd OECD yn gosod plant 15 oed yn y Ffindir ar y brig o ran darllen a gwyddoniaeth mewn 41 o wledydd.

Sgiliau gwyddoniaeth, peirianeg a thechnoleg yw'r conglfeini hanfodol ar gyfer y sector ymchwil a datblygu, sy'n faes cystadlu allweddol rhwng y gwledydd Ewropeaidd ac economïau masnach sy'n datblygu. Mae angen graddedigion arbenigol ar gyflogwyr yn y maes ymchwil a datblygu yng Nghymru. Yn 2003, gadawodd 7 y cant o bobl ifanc 16 oed addysg orfodol ym mwrdeistref Caerffili heb gymhwyster TGAU, NVQ na chymhwyster lefel mynediad. Mae hynny 2 y cant yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd cenedlaethol. Fodd bynnag, mae o leiaf 97 y cant o blant y Ffindir yn parhau mewn addysg llawn amser ar ôl 16 oed. Mae pobl y Ffindir wedi diddymu eu hisddosbarth addysgol.

Fel Cymru, mae adnoddau naturiol y Ffindir yn gymharol brin ac mae ei sail economaidd yn fach. Yr ateb sydd wedi ei gosod ar frig y tablau cynghrair byd-eang yw diwygiadau addysgol, sydd wedi diwallu anghenion busnesau ac wedi datblygu'r myfyriwr yn unol â nodau personol, cymdeithasol a chenedlaethol. Dyna'n union y mae bagloriaeth Cymru wedi'i wneud hyd yma. Os caiff ei rheoli'n ofalus, gallai'r broses o gyflwyno'r fagloriaeth yn genedlaethol sicrhau'r un buddiannau cymdeithasol ac

economaidd ag a welir eisoes yn y Ffindir.

The baccalaureate also gives a historic opportunity to achieve parity of esteem between vocational and academic education. It is vital to the success of the baccalaureate that it is not assumed that completion of the baccalaureate will necessarily lead to going on to higher education. The advanced level baccalaureate can be an end in itself and may well lead many pupils straight into the career of their choice. It is vital, therefore, that the key skills that are most desired by employers are awarded high marks when the final assessment regime is agreed prior to the national roll-out.

However, the baccalaureate also needs to be flexible enough to accommodate those who may wish to go on to a graduate apprenticeship scheme, as promised in Professor Rees' fair and flexible funding report. I therefore hope that the final work-related education elements of the baccalaureate will take into account the valuable experiences of our global competitors.

The Welsh baccalaureate is a brave experiment. Working in partnership with employers and shaping the baccalaureate to chime with the strategic economic development goals of the Assembly Government will maximise the baccalaureate's impact in uplifting skill levels in educationally underperforming areas of Wales. The final Welsh baccalaureate programme will undoubtedly rise to these challenges and will be a viable qualification for the future skill needs of Wales.

6.00 p.m.

Elin Jones: Diolchaf i Jeff Cuthbert am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon. Mae hon yn ddadl amserol i mi gan imi gael y cyfle y bore yma i groesawu disgyblion Ysgol Uwchradd Pen-glais i'r Cynulliad. Mae'r ysgol honno yn rhan o'r arbrawf, ac yr oedd disgyblion yma y bore yma a bore dydd Mercher diwethaf ar ymweliad fel rhan o'r fagloriaeth Gymreig.

Mae gennyf ddau bwynt i'w gwneud yn y funud sydd gennyf. Cododd un o ddisgyblion

Mae'r fagloriaeth hefyd yn gyfle hanesyddol i sicrhau'r un i rhwng addysg alwedigaethol ac addysg academaidd. Mae'n hollbwysig i lwyddiant y fagloriaeth na thybir y bydd cwblhau'r fagloriaeth o anghenraid yn arwain at addysg uwch. Gall y fagloriaeth lefel uwch fod yn nod ynddo ei hun, a gallai arwain nifer o ddisgyblion yn syth i'w dewis o yrfa. Mae'n hollbwysig, felly, i'r sgiliau allweddol sydd fwyaf dymunol i gyflogwyr gael marciau uchel wrth gytuno ar y system asesu derfynol cyn i'r fagloriaeth gael ei chyflwyno'n genedlaethol.

Fodd bynnag, mae angen i'r fagloriaeth hefyd fod yn ddigon hyblyg i ddarparu ar gyfer y rhai a fydd yn awyddus i fynd ymlaen i ddilyn cynllun prentisiaeth i raddedigion, fel yr addawyd yn yr adroddiad ar ariannu teg a hyblyg gan yr Athro Rees. Felly, gobeithio y bydd yr elfennau terfynol addysg yn gysylltiedig â gwaith yn y fagloriaeth yn ystyried profiadau gwerthfawr ein cystadleuwyr byd-eang.

Mae bagloriaeth Cymru yn arbrawf dewr. Bydd gweithio mewn partneriaeth â chyflogwyr a saernïo'r fagloriaeth yn ôl nodau datblygiad economaidd strategol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn sicrhau'r budd mwyaf o'r fagloriaeth wrth wella sgiliau mewn ardaloedd yng Nghymru sy'n tangyflawni'n addysgol. Bydd rhaglen derfynol bagloriaeth Cymru yn sicr yn ateb yr heriau hyn, a bydd yn gymhwyster dichonadwy ar gyfer anghenion sgiliau Cymru yn y dyfodol.

Elin Jones: I thank Jeff Cuthbert for introducing this debate. It is a timely debate for me, because I had the opportunity this morning to welcome pupils from Pen-glais Comprehensive School to the Assembly. That school is part of the pilot, and we had pupils visiting this morning and last Wednesday as part of the Welsh baccalaureate.

I have two points to make in the minute that is available to me. One of the Pen-glais

ysgol Penglais y bore yma bwynt ynglŷn â'r pryder sydd gan rai pobl na fydd pob coleg a phrifysgol yn cydnabod y fagloriaeth pan fydd disgyblion yn gwneud ceisiadau i fynd yno. Felly, mae'n bwysig bod y Gweinidog yn gallu rhoi sicrwydd i bobl ifanc sydd, ar hyn o bryd, yn cymryd rhan, yn bositif iawn, yn y cynllun peilot hwn na fydd anawsterau yn eu hwynebu pan ddônt i wneud y ceisiadau hynny.

Gorffennaf drwy ddweud hynny, oherwydd prinder amser.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Yes, you have less than a minute each.

William Graham: Thank you, Jeff, for giving me a minute, although you may not like the tenor of my remarks. As a party, we are against this experiment. You must recognise that, unfortunately, this has a relatively high drop-out rate, although we recognise that the flexibility and the necessity for key skills is quite well advanced in the programme.

Sadly, A-levels seem to be somewhat discredited, principally because of the way in which the pass mark has seemingly been reduced to meet artificial targets. If you want an alternative to the Welsh baccalaureate, why not use the more progressive model of the international baccalaureate? The bottom line is that when people go into higher education, they want to have something that everybody will recognise as a real qualification. Sadly, it will take many years before the Welsh baccalaureate is properly accepted, if the experiment continues. You will know that, unfortunately, many of our universities are already demanding a supplemental test in certain subjects for people who have the baccalaureate qualification. I ask you to reconsider.

Denise Idris Jones: I decided to speak this afternoon after having a conversation last Sunday with my youngest son, William. William is in year 12 at secondary school and he is neither academic nor studious. However, he was positive in his comments about the Welsh baccalaureate. He made it clear to me that the form teacher who is

pupils raised the matter that some people are concerned have that not all colleges and universities will recognise the baccalaureate when pupils apply to study there. Therefore, it is important that the Minister is able to reassure young people who are currently participating, very positively, in this pilot scheme that they will not face any difficulties when they come to make those applications.

I will end there as the time is limited.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Ie, mae gennych lai na munud yr un.

William Graham: Diolch ichi, Jeff, am roi munud imi, er efallai na fyddwch yn hoffi byrdwn fy sylwadau. Fel plaid, yr ydym yn gwrthwynebu'r arbrawf hwn. Rhaid ichi gydnabod bod cyfradd gymharol fawr o fyfyrwyr, gwaetha'r modd, yn methu â gorffen y cwrs, er ein bod yn cydnabod bod yr hyblygrwydd a'r angen am sgiliau allweddol yn eithaf datblygedig yn y rhaglen.

Yn anffodus, ymddengys fod arholiadau safon uwch mewn tipyn o anfri, yn bennaf oherwydd y ffordd y mae'r marc llwyddo'n ymddangos wedi ei ostwng er mwyn cyrraedd targedau artiffisial. Os ydych am gael rhywbeth yn lle bagloriaeth Cymru, beth am ddefnyddio model mwy radical y fagloriaeth ryngwladol? Y gwir amdani yw, pan fydd pobl yn dechrau cwrs addysg uwch, maent am gael cymwysterau y bydd pawb yn eu cydnabod fel cymhwyster gwirioneddol. Yn anffodus, bydd yn cymryd blynyddoedd lawer i fagloriaeth Cymru gael ei derbyn o ddifrif, os bydd yr arbrawf yn parhau. Fe wyddoch fod llawer o'n prifysgolion, gwaetha'r modd, eisoes yn mynnu prawf atodol mewn rhai pynciau i bobl sydd wedi ennill cymhwyster y fagloriaeth. Gofynnaf ichi ailystyried.

Denise Idris Jones: Penderfynais siarad y prynhawn yma ar ôl cael sgwrs ddydd Sul diwethaf gyda'm mab ieuaf, William. Mae William ym mlwyddyn 12 yn yr ysgol uwchradd ac nid yw'n academaidd nac yn fyfyrgar. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd ei sylwadau am fagloriaeth Cymru yn gadarnhaol. Eglurodd wrthyf fod yr athro dosbarth sy'n ei

teaching him is conscientious and supportive, and he appreciates that. He had explained to him the content of the course, and William now knows that, if he completes the core programme, he will gain 120 points, which is equivalent to an A grade at A-level and is recognised at most Welsh universities. He felt that its content was preparing him for life outside of the school environment. He was already setting himself targets. He felt that he was more in control of his work and that his attitude to study had changed. He had already set himself targets to complete his coursework on time. He also felt that the work-related section of the course would be beneficial, especially that on interviewing skills. A few of his friends had gone for an interview for an apprenticeship and had not got the apprenticeship because they did not have the required skills to get them through the interview, as they lacked self-confidence.

He is enjoying—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You are taking up Peter Black's time.

Denise Idris Jones: He is enjoying the political section of the course and he is looking forward to his work experience. He feels that the course is very much preparing him for the world of work.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Peter Black, you have five seconds.

Peter Black: Thank you for my five seconds, Jeff. We support the Welsh baccalaureate and, having talked to people doing it, we believe that it is a beneficial course.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): As Members will imagine, I am extremely pleased to have the opportunity to debate the Welsh baccalaureate qualification and to celebrate some of the excellent work that has been done by the Welsh Joint Education Committee, teachers, lecturers and learners in pilot centres across Wales.

I am proud of the leading roles that we in Wales are playing in the development of the

ddysgu yn gydwbybodol ac yn gefnogol, ac mae'n gwerthfawrogi hynny. Yr oedd wedi esbonio cynnwys y cwrs iddo, a gŵyr William erbyn hyn, os bydd yn cwblhau'r rhaglen graidd, y bydd yn ennill 120 o bwyntiau, sy'n cyfateb i radd A Safon Uwch ac y caiff hynny ei gydnabod yn y rhan fwyaf o brifysgolion yng Nghymru. Teimlai fod ei chynnwys yn ei baratoi ar gyfer bywyd y tu allan i'r ysgol. Yr oedd eisoes yn gosod targedau iddo'i hun. Teimlai fod ganddo well rheolaeth dros ei waith a bod ei agwedd tuag at astudio wedi newid. Yr oedd eisoes wedi gosod targedau iddo'i hun i gwblhau ei waith cwrs yn brydlon. Teimlai hefyd y byddai'r adran ar y cwrs sy'n ymwneud â gwaith yn fuddiol, yn enwedig o ran sgiliau cyf-weld. Yr oedd un neu ddau o'i ffrindiau wedi mynd i gael cyfweliad am brentisiaeth, ond heb lwyddo i gael y brentisiaeth am nad oedd ganddynt y sgiliau angenrheidiol i ddod drwy'r cyfweliad, a hynny oherwydd diffyg hunanhyder.

Mae'n mwynhau—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Yr ydych yn mynd ag amser Peter Black.

Denise Idris Jones: Mae'n mwynhau'r rhan o'r cwrs ar wleidyddiaeth, ac mae'n edrych ymlaen at ei brofiad gwaith. Teimla fod y cwrs yn gwneud llawer i'w baratoi ar gyfer byd gwaith.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Peter Black, mae gennych bum eiliad.

Peter Black: Diolch yn fawr ichi am y pum eiliad, Jeff. Yr ydym yn cefnogi bagloriaeth Cymru, ac ar ôl siarad â phobl sy'n astudio ar ei chyfer, credwn ei fod yn gwrs buddiol.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Fel y bydd Aelodau'n tybied, yr wyf yn hynod falch o gael y cyfle i drafod cymhwyster bagloriaeth Cymru, ac i ddatlu ychydig o'r gwaith ardderchog sydd wedi ei wneud gan Gyd-bwyllgor Addysg Cymru, athrawon, darlithwyr a dysgwyr mewn canolfannau peilot ledled Cymru.

Yr wyf yn falch o'r rôl flaengar yr ydym ni yng Nghymru yn ei chwarae i ddatblygu

baccalaureate approach to education. I believe that it is an innovative, exciting and distinctive development, and its emphasis on key skills is helping to plug the gap between the knowledge that our students leave schools with and the skills that employers and higher education institutions are looking for. Both employers and higher education institutions have commended that element and have said that they want people who can communicate effectively, who know how to use number skills, who can make good use of information technology, who can work in teams, who can analyse and solve problems, and who are able to learn and improve themselves. The key skills do all these things, and, therefore, bring benefits to learners, learning providers and employers. I am sure that they will see this for themselves as Welsh baccalaureate students start to make their mark in the wider world. I am delighted, as Jeff said, that we now have the foundation baccalaureate in development ready for people to take from September 2006.

The Welsh baccalaureate is a key plank of what we are doing to transform the 14-19 phase of learning through our learning pathways developments. Currently, it is only available in post-16 learning and at intermediate and advanced levels. However, our contract with WJEC has now been extended, and an intermediate level baccalaureate is being developed for piloting from September 2006 in pre-16 settings, which makes it an even more important component of our 14-19 agenda so far.

What has been achieved during the Welsh baccalaureate pilot? We are now in our third year of the pilot studies. As Jeff said, 31 schools and colleges operating through the medium of English and Welsh in a variety of urban and rural settings are participating in the pilot. We were pleased with the results from the first group of advanced diploma students. A total of 233 students achieved the full advanced diploma, and a further 27 achieved the full core certificate, gaining all six key skills qualifications. As Denise said, the core certificate, in its own right, is equivalent to an A grade at A-level. On top of this, the remaining students gained an

addysgu ar sail bagloriaeth. Credaf ei bod yn ddatblygiad arloesol, cyffrous ac unigryw, ac mae ei phwyslais ar sgiliau allweddol yn helpu llenwi'r bwlch rhwng y wybodaeth sydd gan ein myfyrwyr wrth adael yr ysgol a'r sgiliau y mae cyflogwyr a sefydliadau addysg uwch yn chwilio amdanant. Mae cyflogwyr a sefydliadau addysg uwch wedi cymeradwyo'r elfen honno ac wedi dweud eu bod am gael pobl sy'n gallu cyfathrebu'n effeithiol, sy'n gwybod sut i ddefnyddio sgiliau rhif, sy'n gallu gwneud defnydd da o dechnoleg gwybodaeth, sy'n gallu gweithio mewn timau, sy'n gallu dadansoddi problemau a'u datrys, ac sy'n gallu dysgu a gwella eu hunain. Mae'r sgiliau allweddol yn gwneud yr holl bethau hyn yn bosibl, a thrwy hynny maent yn dod â manteision i ddysgwyr, darparwyr dysgu a chyflogwyr. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddant yn gweld hynny eu hunain wrth i fyfyrwyr bagloriaeth Cymru ddechrau gwneud eu marc yn y byd ehangach. Yr wyf yn falch, fel y dywedodd Jeff, ein bod wrthi'n datblygu'r fagloriaeth sylfaen yn barod i bobl ei dilyn o fis Medi 2006.

Mae bagloriaeth Cymru yn rhan allweddol o'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud i drawsnewid y cyfnod dysgu i bobl ifanc 14-19 oed drwy ein datblygiadau llwybrau dysgu. Ar hyn o bryd, mewn addysg ôl-16 ac ar lefelau canolradd ac uwch yn unig y mae ar gael. Fodd bynnag, mae ein contract gyda CBAC wedi'i ymestyn bellach, ac mae bagloriaeth lefel ganolradd yn cael ei datblygu ar gyfer cynllun peilot o fis Medi 2006 mewn lleoliadau cyn 16, sy'n ei gwneud yn elfen bwysicach fyth o'n hagenda 14-19 hyd yma.

Beth a gyflawnwyd yn ystod cynllun peilot bagloriaeth Cymru? Yr ydym bellach wedi cychwyn ar y drydedd flwyddyn o'r astudiaethau peilot. Fel y dywedodd Jeff, mae 31 o ysgolion a cholegau sy'n gweithredu drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg mewn amrywiaeth o fannau trefol a gwledig yn cymryd rhan yn y peilot. Yr oeddem yn fodlon â chanlyniadau'r grŵp cyntaf o fyfyrwyr diploma uwch. Llwyddodd cyfanswm o 233 o fyfyrwyr i ennill diploma uwch llawn, ac enillodd 27 arall y dystysgrif graidd lawn, gan ennill pob un o'r chwe chymhwyster sgil allweddol. Fel y dywedodd Denise, mae'r dystysgrif graidd, ynddi'i hun,

average of three key skills each, which is three times as many as the average number for students who are not on a baccalaureate course. All these students should be extremely proud of what they have achieved.

The second round of the intermediate diploma results was also most encouraging. A total of 193 students completed the programme, with 97 achieving the full diploma, and a further 21 students gaining the full core certificate. In terms of the intermediate level, the remaining 75 students achieved an average of four key skills each, which they would not have achieved had they not been going through this programme. The most important thing is that we listen to the feedback of those who are participating in the pilot, namely the students and their teachers. Students are enjoying their studies and staff are reporting that students are reacting positively to the Welsh baccalaureate's style of learning by doing. Brian Lightman, the headteacher of St Cyres School, says that the baccalaureate has

'transformed the curriculum and ethos'

of the sixth form, and that students

'are benefiting enormously from a balanced and well-rounded education'.

Mark Leighfield, the principal of St David's Catholic College, was similarly enthusiastic about the positive impact that the Welsh baccalaureate has had in the college. He says that

'the qualification has been highly successful in providing students with a valuable experience that is fully accredited, and has helped in their preparation for employment and higher education'.

The enthusiasm for the Welsh baccalaureate at St David's College, which is the only sixth-form college in Wales, is demonstrated by its plans to recruit 500 students to the first year of the course this year, in addition to the 180 who will be continuing into their second year, as it is so happy with the programme.

yn cyfateb i radd A Safon Uwch. Ar ben hynny, enillodd y myfyrwyr eraill dair sgil allweddol yr un ar gyfartaledd, sydd deirgwaith yn fwy na nifer cyfartalog y myfyrwyr nad ydynt yn dilyn cwrs bagloriaeth. Dylai pob un o'r myfyrwyr hynny fod yn falch iawn o'r hyn a gyflawnwyd ganddynt.

Yr oedd ail gylch canlyniadau'r diploma canolradd hefyd yn galonogol iawn. Cwblhawyd y rhaglen gan gyfanswm o 193 o fyfyrwyr, 97 ohonynt yn ennill diploma llawn, a 21 o fyfyrwyr eraill yn ennill tystysgrif graidd lawn. O ran y lefel ganolradd, enillodd y 75 o fyfyrwyr eraill bedair sgil allweddol yr un ar gyfartaledd, ac ni fyddent wedi'u hennill pe na baent wedi dilyn y rhaglen hon. Y peth pwysicaf yw ein bod yn gwranddo ar adborth y rhai sy'n cymryd rhan yn y cynllun peilot, sef y myfyrwyr a'u hathrawon. Mae myfyrwyr yn mwynhau eu hastudiaethau, a staff yn dweud bod myfyrwyr yn ymateb yn gadarnhaol i arddull bagloriaeth Cymru o ddysgu drwy wneud. Dywed Brian Lightman, pennaeth Ysgol St Cyres, fod y fagloriaeth wedi

trawsnewid cwricwlwm ac ethos

y chweched dosbarth, a bod myfyrwyr

yn cael budd mawr o addysg gytbwys a chyflawn.

Yr oedd Mark Leighfield, pennaeth Coleg Pabyddol Dewi Sant, yr un mor frwdfrydig ynglŷn â'r effaith gadarnhaol a gafodd bagloriaeth Cymru yn y coleg. Dywed

fod y cymhwyster wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn i roi profiad gwerthfawr i fyfyrwyr sydd wedi'i achredu'n llawn, ac sydd wedi helpu eu paratoi ar gyfer cyflogaeth ac addysg uwch.

Dangosir y brwdfrydedd dros fagloriaeth Cymru yng Ngholeg Dewi Sant, sef yr unig coleg chweched dosbarth yng Nghymru, drwy ei gynlluniau i recriwtio 500 o fyfyrwyr ar gyfer blwyddyn gyntaf y cwrs eleni, yn ychwanegol at yr 180 a fydd yn parhau â'r cwrs yn eu hail flwyddyn, am ei fod mor fodlon ar y rhaglen.

Dafydd Wigley, writing in *Golwg*, called on the Assembly to keep at it, and congratulated us on being enterprising and on breaking new ground. The message is consistent, and you will, no doubt, have seen the positive messages from numerous Welsh baccalaureate pilot centres, which countered some of the negative, and frankly inaccurate, reports that we saw in some parts of the press when the results were announced in August.

Completion of advanced level Welsh baccalaureate courses in July 2005, when compared to entry data compiled in February, was 61 per cent. That is very healthy, especially when set in the context of other completion rates. In terms of non-compulsory post-16 qualifications, data shows that the completion rate of other long-established qualifications in a wide range begin well below 60 per cent. The Welsh baccalaureate, which is a brand-new qualification, requires the completion of at least seven freestanding qualifications. The non-completion of any of these means non-completion of the baccalaureate.

6.10 p.m.

Of course, students and parents are concerned that the hard work put into the studies will not be adequately recognised. It is an understandable concern. New qualifications have to make their mark, so that students will get proper recognition for their hard work and their achievements. It is excellent news that we now have the first cohort of ambassadors. These are students who have completed the first two-year Welsh baccalaureate programmes, many of whom are now making their way in universities. I am delighted to see the increasing recognition of the Welsh baccalaureate by higher education institutions—all higher education institutions in Wales have confirmed that they recognise the Welsh baccalaureate in their offers to prospective students. A number of higher education institutions in other parts of the UK are doing likewise. It is important to say that, as each year goes by, most students are able to demonstrate a breadth of learning that is not available to those who simply do the A-level course, and I am confident that that will increase. This was

Galwodd Dafydd Wigley, mewn erthygl yn *Golwg*, ar y Cynulliad i ddal ati, gan ein llongyfarch ar fod yn fentrus ac ar dorri cwys newydd. Mae'r neges yn gyson, a byddwch yn ddiau wedi gweld y negeseuon cadarnhaol gan nifer o ganolfannau peilot bagloriaeth Cymru. Maent wedi gwrth-ddweud rhai o'r adroddiadau negyddol, ac anghywir yn wir, a welsom mewn rhannau o'r wasg pan gyhoeddwyd y canlyniadau ym mis Awst.

O'u cymharu â data cofrestru a gasglwyd ym mis Chwefror, cwblhawyd 61 y cant o gyrsiau safon uwch bagloriaeth Cymru ym mis Gorffennaf 2005. Mae hynny'n ffigur da iawn, yn enwedig yng nghyd-destun y cyfraddau cwblhau eraill. O ran cymwysterau ôl-16 anorfodol, dengys data fod y gyfradd gwblhau mewn cymwysterau hisefydedig eraill mewn ystod eang yn dechrau dipyn yn is na 60 y cant. Mae bagloriaeth Cymru, sy'n gymhwyster newydd sbon, yn gofyn am gwblhau o leiaf saith cymhwyster annibynnol. Mae methu cwblhau unrhyw rai o'r rhain yn golygu methu cwblhau'r fagloriaeth.

Wrth gwrs, mae myfyrwyr a rhieni'n pryderu na fydd y gwaith caled a wnaed ar gyfer yr astudiaethau yn cael digon o gydnabyddiaeth. Gellir deall y pryder hwnnw. Rhaid i gymwysterau newydd wneud eu marc, fel y bydd myfyrwyr yn cael cydnabyddiaeth ddyladwy am eu gwaith caled a'u cyflawniadau. Mae'n newyddion ardderchog fod gennym erbyn hyn y garfan gyntaf o fyfyrwyr fel cenhadon, sef myfyrwyr sydd wedi cwblhau rhaglenni dwy flynedd cyntaf bagloriaeth Cymru, nifer ohonynt bellach yn dilyn cyrsiau prifysgol. Yr wyf yn falch iawn o weld bod sefydliadau addysg uwch yn rhoi cydnabyddiaeth gynyddol i fagloriaeth Cymru—mae pob sefydliad addysg uwch yng Nghymru wedi cadarnhau eu bod yn cydnabod bagloriaeth Cymru yn eu cynigion i ddarpar fyfyrwyr. Mae nifer o sefydliadau addysg uwch mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU yn gwneud yr un fath. Mae'n bwysig dweud, flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn, fod y rhan fwyaf o fyfyrwyr yn gallu dangos ehangder dysgu nad yw ar gael i'r rhai sy'n gwneud cwrs Safon Uwch, ac yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd hynny'n

particularly apparent at a seminar of admissions tutors from universities across the United Kingdom, where they talked about how important it was to recognise key skills that acquire UCAS points in their own right.

You are therefore wrong, William, to say that it is not being recognised. What the universities and employers like is the fact that there is a system—A-levels—which is still recognised as the gold standard in the United Kingdom, and is broadly supported by all of the employer organisations. The baccalaureate, by building on A-levels or their equivalents, means that our students are in the strongest possible position to apply to the university sector or to go into employment.

Elin Jones: Hoffwn gyfeirio at y cwestiwn a godwyd y bore yma gan rai o ddisgyblion Pen-glais: os dônt ar draws coleg neu brifysgol yn Lloegr, er enghraifft, na fyddai'n barod i dderbyn y fagloriaeth fel cymhwyster, beth ddylent wneud? A fyddai'n bosibl i chi, fel Gweinidog, gysylltu gyda'r coleg neu'r brifysgol ar ran disgyblion Pen-glais, neu o unrhyw ysgol arall, i drafod yn uniongyrchol gyda'r colegau nad ydynt yn derbyn y cymhwyster ar hyn o bryd?

Jane Davidson: Ar hyn o bryd, mae nifer o brifysgolion yn defnyddio system bwyntiau UCAS, tra bod eraill yn defnyddio system wahanol. Yn y colegau sy'n defnyddio pwyntiau UCAS, rhoddir 120 pwynt am y fagloriaeth. Maent yn cydnabod y fagloriaeth fel cymhwyster, a hynny ar ôl dim ond blwyddyn o gynllun peilot. Dyna'r rheswm pam mae ysgolion a cholegau ledled Cymru yn cefnogi y cynllun peilot—i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn trafod gyda phrifysgolion a cholegau ledled Prydain fel eu bod yn derbyn y fagloriaeth. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch o glywed bod y bobl yn ysgol Pen-glais yn cefnogi ac yn mwynhau'r cymhwyster—clywais yr un peth.

We will continue to take this agenda forward with our higher education institutions, with the Welsh Joint Education Committee and in terms of looking at the outcome of the external evaluation of delivery in continuing to press the Welsh baccalaureate across the

cynyddu. Yr oedd hyn yn amlwg iawn mewn seminar o diwtoriaid derbyn o brifysgolion o bob rhan o'r Deyrnas Unedig, lle yr oeddent yn sôn am bwysigrwydd cydnabod sgiliau allweddol sy'n ennill pwyntiau UCAS ynddynt eu hunain.

Felly, anghywir yw dweud nad yw'n cael ei chydnabod, William. Yr hyn y mae prifysgolion a chyflogwyr yn ei hoffi yw'r ffaith bod system—arholiadau Safon Uwch—yn bodoli sy'n dal i gael ei chydnabod fel y safon aur yn y Deyrnas Unedig, ac sy'n cael ei chefnogi'n gyffredinol gan bob un o'r sefydliadau cyflogwyr. Mae'r fagloriaeth, drwy adeiladu ar arholiadau Safon Uwch neu gymwysterau cyfatebol, yn golygu bod ein myfyrwyr yn y sefyllfa gryfaf posibl i wneud cais i fynd i brifysgol neu i gael cyflogaeth.

Elin Jones: I wish to refer to the question raised this morning by some pupils from Pen-glais: what should they do if they come across a college or university in England, for example, which would not be prepared to accept the baccalaureate as a qualification? Would it then be possible for you, as Minister, to contact the college or university on behalf of the students from Pen-glais, or wherever, to speak directly to the colleges that do not currently accept this qualification?

Jane Davidson: At the moment, many universities use the UCAS points system, while others use another system. In the colleges that use the UCAS points system, 120 points are awarded for the baccalaureate. It is recognised as a qualification, and after only one year of the pilot scheme. That is the reason why schools and universities across Wales support the pilot scheme—to ensure that we discuss the scheme with universities and colleges across Britain so that they accept the baccalaureate. I am also pleased to hear that people in Pen-glais school support and enjoy the qualification—I heard the same thing.

Byddwn yn parhau i hyrwyddo'r agenda hon gyda'n sefydliadau addysg uwch, gyda Chydbwyllgor Addysg Cymru ac o ran edrych ar ganlyniad y gwerthusiad allanol o gyflawni wrth barhau i hybu bagloriaeth Cymru drwy'r sector. Mae Prifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth—

sector. The University of Wales, Aberystwyth—the local university for Penglais school—says in particular that the key skills of Welsh baccalaureate qualification students, combined with their subject expertise, will better prepare them for study at degree level. They will also, through their work and community experience, bring a new level of employment and civic awareness that they will be able to apply to their studies. That is becoming an increasingly common message.

The awarding of 120 tariff points by UCAS is also an important message. This recognition by UCAS confirms what we already know, which is that the Welsh baccalaureate qualification is a high-quality qualification, and it gives the Welsh baccalaureate a hard currency value. Even for universities that do not make points offers, the UCAS recognition provides a benchmark that recognises the quality of the Welsh baccalaureate.

Because we are in the early process of the Welsh baccalaureate, we will need to carry on improving and refining the qualification before we roll it out across Wales. I have stressed on many occasions that I want the Welsh baccalaureate pilot scheme to be real and effective. We want to learn from the experiences and we want the model to be the best possible. This is already happening and I know that the Welsh Joint Education Committee team is continuing to look to build on what works well and to address areas that are not working so well. The team is learning from experiences and will continue to do so.

An issue which Peter raised previously is how partial success in the Welsh baccalaureate, achieving three or four key skills, for example, can be formally recognised. It is important that students who have achieved a great deal within the Welsh baccalaureate, without meeting the full requirements, should have those achievements recognised. We will be asking the WJEC and the Welsh baccalaureate pilot project steering group to consider how this might be achieved.

Peter Black: I was talking to a further education college principal the other day,

y brifysgol leol i ysgol Pen-glais—yn dweud yn arbennig y bydd sgiliau allweddol myfyrwyr bagloriaeth Cymru, ynghyd â'u harbenigedd yn eu pynciau, yn eu paratoi'n well ar gyfer astudio am radd. Byddant hefyd, drwy eu gwaith a'u profiad yn y gymuned, yn dod â lefel newydd o gyflogaeth ac ymwybyddiaeth ddinesig, a gallant ei chymhwyso i'w hastudiaethau. Mae hon yn neges sy'n dod yn fwyfwy cyffredin.

Mae penderfyniad UCAS i ddyfarnu 120 o bwyntiau tariff hefyd yn neges bwysig. Mae'r gydnabyddiaeth hon gan UCAS yn cadarnhau'r hyn a wyddom eisoes, sef bod cymhwyster bagloriaeth Cymru yn gymhwyster o safon, a'i bod yn gwneud bagloriaeth Cymru yn dderbyniol. Hyd yn oed i brifysgolion nad ydynt yn cynnig pwyntiau, mae cydnabyddiaeth UCAS yn rhoi meincnod sy'n cydnabod ansawdd bagloriaeth Cymru.

Gan mai dyddiau cynnar yw'r rhain i fagloriaeth Cymru, bydd angen inni barhau i wella a mireinio'r cymhwyster cyn ei gyflwyno ar draws Cymru. Yr wyf wedi pwysleisio lower gwaith fy mod am i gynllun peilot bagloriaeth Cymru fod yn gynllun peilot gwirioneddol ac effeithiol. Yr ydym am ddysgu o'r profiadau, ac yr ydym am gael y model gorau posibl. Mae hyn eisoes yn digwydd, a gwn fod tîm Cyd-bwyllgor Addysg Cymru yn parhau i anelu at adeiladu ar yr hyn sy'n gweithio'n dda gan fynd i'r afael â meysydd nad ydynt yn gweithio cystal. Mae'r tîm yn dysgu o brofiadau, a bydd yn parhau i wneud hynny.

Un mater a godwyd gan Peter o'r blaen yw sut y gellir cydnabod yn ffurfiol lwyddiant rhannol ym magloriaeth Cymru, fel ennill tair neu bedair sgil allweddol, er enghraifft. Mae'n bwysig i gyflawniadau myfyrwyr sydd wedi cyflawni cryn dipyn ym magloriaeth Cymru, ond heb fodloni'r gofynion llawn, gael eu cydnabod. Byddwn yn gofyn i CBAC a grŵp llywio prosiect peilot bagloriaeth Cymru ystyried sut y gellid gwneud hyn.

Peter Black: Yr oeddwn yn siarad â phennaeth coleg addysg bellach y diwrnod

who was keen to get in on parts of the Welsh baccalaureate. He had been told that he could not do so and would have to wait until 2007. What sort of timescale do you envisage before the Welsh baccalaureate will be able to be rolled out across Wales?

Jane Davidson: We will have the external evaluation—I hope—from the University of Nottingham by May 2006. That will give us the evidence base on which to roll out the baccalaureate across Wales and the timescale for doing so. It is our intention to have the baccalaureate fully in place from 2008. It is important that we ensure that the interests of all the young people are protected. We have done so from the beginning in the model that we all accepted, in terms of taking this agenda forward building on the A-level qualification.

The point made about the international baccalaureate is not a good comparator. The international baccalaureate is a superb qualification for those who have the skills right across the piece and who operate at the top ability percentage. That is why a number of places in Wales also offer the international baccalaureate qualification. I strongly support that. With the Welsh baccalaureate, we are able to build on our core qualification system and add more; adding more has been welcomed by employers and higher education alike.

In closing, I emphasise that the Welsh baccalaureate is a learning experience. It is helping to shape the future of education in Wales. If the anticipated roll-out goes to plan, it will be from September 2007. This is a real pilot project designed to develop a high-quality qualification that can truly be the future of qualifications in Wales. Therefore, we need to take it at the right time and pace. We now have so many people knocking on the door who want to be part of it that I am confident that the evaluation will lead us to a full roll-out.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

o'r blaen, a oedd yn awyddus i ymgymryd â rhannau o fagloriaeth Cymru. Dywedwyd wrtho na allai wneud hynny ac y byddai'n rhaid iddo aros tan 2007. Erbyn pryd y rhagwelwch y bydd modd cyflwyno bagloriaeth Cymru ym mhob rhan o Gymru?

Jane Davidson: Bydd gwerthusiad allanol yn cael ei wneud—gobeithio—gan Brifysgol Nottingham erbyn Mai 2006. Bydd hwnnw yn rhoi'r sail dystiolaeth inni gyflwyno'r fagloriaeth ledled Cymru a'r amserlen ar gyfer gwneud hynny. Ein bwriad yw sicrhau bod y fagloriaeth yn gwbl weithredol ar ôl 2008. Mae'n bwysig inni sicrhau diogelu buddiannau pob person ifanc. Yr ydym wedi gwneud hynny o'r dechrau yn y model a dderbyniwyd gennym i gyd, o ran datblygu'r agenda ar gymhwyster Safon Uwch.

Nid yw'r pwynt a wnaed ynglŷn â'r fagloriaeth ryngwladol yn gymhariaeth dda. Mae'r fagloriaeth ryngwladol yn gymhwyster gwyb i'r rhai sy'n meddu ar y sgiliau ym mhob maes, ac sydd ymhlith y ganran uchaf o ran gallu. Dyna pam mae nifer o leoedd yng Nghymru yn cynnig cymhwyster y fagloriaeth ryngwladol hefyd. Cefnogaf hynny i'r carn. O ran bagloriaeth Cymru, gallwn adeiladu ar ein system cymwysterau craidd ac ychwanegu mwy; mae ychwanegu mwy wedi ei groesawu gan gyflogwyr ac addysg uwch fel ei gilydd.

Wrth gloi, pwysleisiaf mai profiad dysgu yw bagloriaeth Cymru. Mae'n helpu llunio addysg yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol. Os gellir cyflwyno'r fagloriaeth yn ôl y bwriad, bydd yn gweithio o fis Medi 2007. Mae hwn yn brosiect peilot gwirioneddol gyda'r nod o ddatblygu cymhwyster o safon a all yn wir fod yn ddyfodol i gymwysterau yng Nghymru. Felly, mae angen inni symud yn bwylllog. Erbyn hyn mae cynifer o bobl yn gofyn am gael bod yn rhan ohoni fel yr wyf yn hyderus y bydd y gwerthusiad yn arwain at gyflwyno'r fagloriaeth yn llawn.

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

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.18 p.m.
The meeting ended at 6.18 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, 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 (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Cymru Ymlaen – Forward Wales)
 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)

