



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Cofnod y Trafodion**

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

**Dydd Mercher, 21 Mawrth 2007
Wednesday, 21 March 2007**

Cynnwys
Contents

- 3 Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services
- 22 Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon
Questions to the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport
- 40 Cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ
Questions to the House Committee
- 40 Datganiad am Ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder
Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio: Adolygiad o Ddigartrefedd ymhlith Pobl Ifanc
Statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's Response to the Social Justice and
Regeneration Committee's Report: Review of Youth Homelessness
- 56 Cymeradwyo Deddfwriaeth o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25
Approval of Legislation under Standing Order No. 24.25
- 59 Cymeradwyo Gwneud the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions)
Order 2007
Recommendation that the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions) Order
2007 be made
- 60 Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir)
(Diwygio) (Cymru) 2007 o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.27(iv)
Approval of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development)
(Amendment) (Wales) Order 2007 under Standing Order No. 24.27(iv)
- 62 Twristiaeth
Tourism
- 93 Cynnig Gweithdrefnol
Procedural Motion
- 94 Twristiaeth: Parhad
Tourism: Continued
- 108 Adroddiad Blynyddol Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru 2005-06
The 2005-06 Annual Report of the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales
- 124 Dadl Fer: Gwaddol Newydd i Gymru
Short Debate: A New Legacy for Wales

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 Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services**

**Dyled Byrddau Iechyd Lleol
Local Health Board Debt**

Q1 The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): Will the Minister make a statement on the debt of local health boards across Wales? OAQ1286(HSS)

C1 Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyled byrddau iechyd lleol ar draws Cymru? OAQ1286(HSS)

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I refer you to the answer that I gave on this in the paper submitted to the Health and Social Services Committee on 13 December 2006, which provides an update on the cumulative deficits of LHBs.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Fe'ch cyfeiriai at yr ateb a roddais ar hyn yn y papur a gyflwynwyd i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar 13 Rhagfyr 2006, sy'n cynnwys y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddiffygion cronrus BILlau.

Nick Bourne: That is very kind and helpful. I do not happen to have the paper in front of me. [*Laughter.*] Perhaps if I press the Minister further he will be able to tell us precisely what the debt is, or the realm of what it is. We think that it is approaching £130 million, but it would be handy to know the precise figure if he has one, and what he is proposing to do in relation to that figure, which, like me, I am sure he thinks is unacceptably high.

Nick Bourne: Mae hynny'n garedig iawn ac yn ddefnyddiol. Nid yw'r papur gennyf o'm blaen fel mae'n digwydd. [*Chwerthin.*] Efallai os holaf y Gweinidog ymhellach y gall ddweud faint yn union yw'r ddyled wrthym, neu roi syniad o'i maint. Credwn ei bod yn agos at £130 miliwn, ond byddai'n ddefnyddiol iawn gwybod yr union ffigur os oes un ganddo, a beth y mae'n bwriadu ei wneud mewn perthynas â'r ffigur hwnnw, sydd yn ffigur annerbyniol o uchel yn fy marn i, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ei fod yn cytuno.

Brian Gibbons: The information that I gave to the committee in relation to the deficits of local health boards was that it was of the order of £24 million.

Brian Gibbons: Yn ôl y wybodaeth a roddais i'r pwyllgor mewn perthynas â diffygion byrddau iechyd lleol, yr oedd tua £24 miliwn.

Janet Davies: Following on from that, Minister, I am not a member of the Health and Social Services Committee so I have not had the privilege of looking at any paper submitted to it, although I do have the report of the Audit Committee on this, which was published last autumn. In 2005-06, most local health boards broke even or had a small underspend, but Swansea Local Health Board had an overspend of £4.6 million. Can you give me an update on the situation at Swansea LHB according to your latest figures?

Janet Davies: Gan ddilyn ymlaen o hynny, Weinidog, nid wyf yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol felly ni chefais y ffrainc o edrych ar unrhyw bapur a gyflwynwyd iddo, ond mae gennyf adroddiad y Pwyllgor Archwilio ar hyn, a gyhoeddwyd yr hydref diwethaf. Yn 2005-06, llwyddodd y rhan fwyaf o fyrddau iechyd lleol i adennill eu costau neu yr oedd ganddynt danwariant bach, ond yr oedd gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Abertawe orwariant o £4.6 miliwn. A allwch roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf imi am y sefyllfa o ran BIL Abertawe yn ôl eich ffigurau diweddaraf?

Brian Gibbons: You are right that something of the order of 13 local health boards are either in surplus or in balance, and the remaining eight or nine are in deficit. Of that nine, some four are more than £2 million in deficit. The figure that you gave for Swansea LHB is largely correct—it has not changed substantially. We are working with Swansea LHB and the broader health community in Swansea to put in place a resilient strategic change and efficiency plan to try to return it to financial balance.

Jonathan Morgan: Earlier, Nick Bourne asked you how much the total cumulative debt within the NHS was. Could you tell us how much in debt the NHS is today, and what the cumulative debt in Wales is?

Brian Gibbons: Nick actually asked about local health boards.

Jonathan Morgan: I can see that we are not getting very far this afternoon. In his supplementary question to you, the leader of the Welsh Conservatives asked you what the total debt of the NHS in Wales is. A few months ago, you said in reply to questions in this Chamber that the total debt was in excess of £100 million, taking into account the cumulative debt of NHS trusts, local health boards and Health Commission Wales. A few days ago we heard that the debt had increased by some £17 million. Can you confirm what the cumulative debt of the NHS is today? Is it £120 million or £130 million? Could you give the Assembly the figure, because the people of Wales would like to know how much in debt the NHS is?

Brian Gibbons: The cumulative debt for the total NHS at the moment is of the order of £100 million.

Jenny Randerson: Whatever the size of the total debt, Minister, it is clear that several local health boards face massive financial challenges and are making cuts as a result. It appears that one service that they are not prioritising is that of the healthy hearts centres, which offer cardiac rehabilitation. The centre that serves my constituency is one of a large number across Wales that is facing

Brian Gibbons: Yr ydych yn iawn bod gan tua 13 o fyrddau iechyd lleol arian dros ben neu eu bod wedi mantoli'r gyllideb, ac mae gan yr wyth neu'r naw sy'n weddill ddiffygion ariannol. O blith y naw hynny, mae tua phedwar ohonynt yn wynebu diffyg o fwy na £2 filiwn. Mae'r ffigur a roesoch ar gyfer BILl Abertawe yn gywir ar y cyfannid yw wedi newid llawer. Yr ydym yn gweithio gyda BILl Abertawe a'r gymuned iechyd ehangach yn Abertawe i weithredu cynllun effeithlonrwydd a newid strategol cadarn er mwyn ceisio mantoli'r gyllideb.

Jonathan Morgan: Yn gynharach, gofynnodd Nick Bourne ichi am gyfanswm cronrus dyled y GIG. A allech ddweud wrthym faint yw dyled y GIG ar hyn o bryd, a beth yw'r ddyled gronrus yng Nghymru?

Brian Gibbons: Gofynnodd Nick am fyrddau iechyd lleol mewn gwirionedd.

Jonathan Morgan: Gallaf weld nad ydym yn gwneud llawer o gynnydd y prynhawn yma. Yn ei gwestiwn atodol ichi, gofynnodd arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru am gyfanswm dyled y GIG yng Nghymru. Rai misoedd yn ôl, dywedasoch wrth ymateb i gwestiynau yn y Siambr hon fod cyfanswm y ddyled yn fwy na £100 miliwn, o ystyried dyled gronrus ymddiriedolaethau'r GIG, byrddau iechyd lleol a Chomisiwn Iechyd Cymru. Rai dyddiau yn ôl, clywsom fod y ddyled wedi cynyddu i tua £17 miliwn. A allwch gadarnhau faint yw dyled gronrus y GIG yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd? Ai £120 miliwn ydyw ynteu £130 miliwn? A allech roi'r ffigur i'r Cynulliad, oherwydd dymuna pobl Cymru wybod faint yw dyled y GIG?

Brian Gibbons: Ar hyn o bryd, mae dyled gronrus y GIG cyfan tua £100 miliwn.

Jenny Randerson: Beth bynnag yw maint y ddyled gyfan, Weinidog, mae'n amlwg bod sawl bwrdd iechyd lleol yn wynebu heriau ariannol sylweddol ac maent yn gwneud toriadau o ganlyniad i hynny. Ymddengys mai un o'r gwasanaethau nad ydynt yn ei flaenoriaethu yw'r canolfannau calon iach, sy'n cynnig gwasanaeth adsefydlu cardiaidd. Mae'r ganolfan sy'n gwasanaethu fy

closure because lottery funding has run out. I asked the First Minister about this yesterday and I received a load of irrelevant abuse in return, but I know that I can rely on you, Minister, to be much more helpful. What discussions have you had with local health boards about the need to provide continued funding for these centres, which are vital when it comes to the prevention of coronary attacks?

Brian Gibbons: We need to be clear about this issue. You prefaced your remarks with a reference to cuts made by the local health board, and then you pointed out that healthy heart centres are funded by the lottery. So, the average person out there will assume that, in some way, the local health board is responsible for the lottery programme, which, clearly, it is not. Similar confusion has been created in relation to evaluation of health promotion clinics under the inequalities in health fund. This fund does not have anything directly to do with local health boards. There is no doubt that, where lottery funding is given to a project, there can be no automatic expectation that the health service, or any other public body, will pick up the bill when the lottery grant comes to an end. By its very nature, a lottery grant is given for a discrete period for a discrete job of work.

Local health boards must evaluate the work of healthy living centres and the health inequalities fund, to see whether they complement the boards' general work, which, in this instance, is in the field of cardiac rehabilitation. Cardiac rehabilitation is part of the national service framework, so local health boards should have cardiac rehabilitation programmes in place in their communities. Whether or not these are best delivered through continuation of funding from a lottery-funded grant is an issue for the local health board concerned. I do not think that there can be, or should be, an automatic assumption that the local health board will continue a lottery-funded programme. The case has to be made in the context of what has already been provided in the community.

Jenny Randerson: You will know as well as I do that lottery funding for health projects is always given with a benign nod from

etholaeth yn un o blith llawer ledled Cymru sy'n wynebu gorfod cau am fod arian y loteri wedi dod i ben. Holais y Prif Weinidog am hyn ddoe a chefais gerydd diangen ganddo, ond gwn y gallaf ddiwynnu arnoch chi, Weinidog, i fod yn llawer mwy cynorthwyol. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda'r byrddau iechyd lleol am yr angen i roi cyllid parhaus i'r canolfannau hyn, sy'n hanfodol o ran atal trawiadau coronaidd.

Brian Gibbons: Mae angen inni fod yn glir ar y mater hwn. Ar ddechrau eich sylwadau, gwnaethoch gyfeirio at doriadau a wnaed gan y bwrdd iechyd lleol, ac yna gwnaethoch nodi bod canolfannau calon iach yn cael eu hariannu gan y loteri. Felly, bydd rhywun cyffredin yn tybio bod y bwrdd iechyd lleol yn gyfrifol am raglen y loteri, mewn rhyw ffordd, sy'n anghywir, yn amlwg. Cafwyd dryswch tebyg mewn perthynas â gwerthuso clinigau hybu iechyd o dan y gronfa anghydraddoldebau cyllid iechyd. Nid oes gan y cyllid hwn gysylltiad uniongyrchol â byrddau iechyd lleol o gwbl. Pan roddir arian loteri i brosiect, nid oes amheuaeth ni ellir, yn ddiau, ddisgwyl yn awtomatig i'r gwasanaeth iechyd, neu unrhyw gorff cyhoeddus arall, dalu'r costau pan ddaw grant y loteri i ben. Yn ôl ei natur, rhoddir grant loteri am gyfnod arwahanol er mwyn gwneud gwaith arwahanol.

Rhaid i fyrddau iechyd lleol werthuso gwaith canolfannau byw yn iach a'r gronfa anghydraddoldebau iechyd, i weld a ydynt yn ategu gwaith cyffredinol y byrddau sydd, er enghraifft, ym maes adsefydlu cardiaidd. Mae adsefydlu cardiaidd yn rhan o'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol, felly dylai fod gan fyrddau iechyd lleol raglenni adsefydlu coronaidd ar waith yn eu cymunedau. Mater i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol yw penderfynu pa un ai'r ffordd orau o'u darparu yw drwy gyllid parhaus gan grant loteri. Ni chredaf y gellir tybio'n awtomatig y bydd y bwrdd iechyd lleol yn parhau â rhaglen a ariennir gan y loteri, ac ni ddylid tybio hynny ychwaith. Rhaid penderfynu ar hyn yng nghyd-destun yr hyn a ddarparwyd yn y gymuned eisoes.

Jenny Randerson: Gwyddoch cystal â minnau y rhoddir arian y loteri i brosiectau iechyd gyda chydsyniad y Llywodraeth bob

Government, and there must be some kind of assurance, before lottery funding is given, that ways will be found of providing sustainable funding in the long term. It is absolutely appalling that, in the twenty-first century, we have to rely on lottery funding for a core preventive measure such as this, rather than being able to rely on the health service. Healthy heart and healthy living centres are directly in line with your professed aim of promoting health and wellbeing and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Minister, will you give us an assurance that, if these centres do not continue, a replacement service, serving the same purpose, will be put in place across Wales? If you cannot give us that assurance today, I would say that your healthy living agenda is in tatters.

Brian Gibbons: As I have said, all local health boards and trusts work to the national service framework on ischemic and coronary heart disease. The framework includes a requirement for cardiac rehabilitation programmes. Cardiff Local Health Board must deliver that aspect of the national service framework for cardiac disease. Equally, in other communities, similar programmes are being delivered through, for example, the inequalities in health programme. I do not think that I am in a position to tell Cardiff Local Health Board that its precise package does not deliver the national service framework, nor am I in a position to issue an instruction from the Assembly that local health boards should automatically take on board lottery grant commitments. Local health boards must consider the needs of their local communities and judge whether they are delivering on the priority targets that we have issued and on the requirements of the national service framework.

2.10 p.m.

Gwella Gwasanaethau Iechyd (Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru) Improving Health Services (Mid and West Wales)

Q2 Helen Mary Jones: What are the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for improving health services in Mid and West

amser, a rhaid cael rhyw fath o sicrwydd, cyn y dyrennir arian y loteri, y deuir o hyd i ffyrdd o ddarparu arian cynaliadwy yn yr hirdymor. Mae'n gwbl warthus bod rhaid inni ddibynnu ar arian y loteri yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain i gyflwyno mesur ataliol craidd fel hyn, yn hytrach na gallu dibynnu ar y gwasanaeth iechyd. Mae canolfannau calon iach a chanolfannau byw yn iach yn unol â'ch nod o hybu iechyd a lles ac annog ffordd o fyw iach. Weinidog, a rowch sicrwydd inni y darperir gwasanaeth amgen ledled Cymru os na fydd y canolfannau hyn yn parhau? Os na allwch roi'r sicrwydd hwnnw inni heddiw, byddwn yn dweud bod eich agenda byw yn iach yn deilchion.

Brian Gibbons: Fel y dywedais, mae pob bwrdd iechyd lleol a phob ymddiriedolaeth yn gweithio i'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar glefyd isgemia'r galon a chlefyd coronaidd y galon. Mae'r fframwaith yn cynnwys gofyniad am raglenni adsefydlu cardiaidd. Rhaid i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Caerdydd gyflawni'r agwedd honno ar y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer clefyd cardiaidd. Yn yr un modd, mewn cymunedau eraill, mae rhaglenni tebyg yn cael eu cyflwyno drwy'r rhaglen anghydraddoldebau iechyd, er enghraifft. Ni chredaf fy mod mewn sefyllfa i ddweud wrth Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Caerdydd nad yw ei union becyn yn bodloni'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol, ac nid wyf mewn sefyllfa ychwaith i gyhoeddi cyfarwyddyd gan y Cynulliad y dylai byrddau iechyd lleol dderbyn ymrwymiadau grant y loteri yn awtomatig. Rhaid i fyrddau iechyd lleol ystyried anghenion eu cymunedau lleol a phenderfynu a ydynt yn cyflawni'r targedau sy'n cael blaenoriaeth a gyhoeddwyd gennym a gofynion y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol.

C2 Helen Mary Jones: Beth yw blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer gwella gwasanaethau iechyd

Wales? OAQ1310(HSS)

yng Nghanolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru?
OAQ1310(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: The key priorities for developing the services in Mid and West Wales are in line with 'Designed for Life' and with the outcomes of the consultation document, 'Designed to Deliver', which sees the continuing development of local hospitals to deliver modern healthcare services.

Brian Gibbons: Mae'r blaenoriaethau allweddol ar gyfer datblygu'r gwasanaethau yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin yn unol â 'Chynllun Oes' a chanlyniadau'r ddogfen ymgynghori, 'Cynllun Cyflenwi', sy'n cynnwys y nod o ddatblygu ysbytai lleol yn barhaus i ddarparu gwasanaethau gofal iechyd modern.

Helen Mary Jones: You will be aware that, in the Llanelli area of the region that I represent, there is grave and ongoing concern about the decision to withdraw emergency surgery from the hospitals there, and you have promised us an inquiry into that. Can you now give us a timescale for when that inquiry will be set up, when you will publish its terms of reference, and when people can expect to see its outcome?

Helen Mary Jones: Gwyddoch fod pryder mawr a pharhaus yn ardal Llanelli y rhanbarth yr wyf yn ei chynrychioli, am y penderfyniad i roi'r gorau i lawdriniaeth frys yn yr ysbytai yno, ac yr ydych wedi addo cynnal ymchwiliad i hynny. A allwch roi amserlen inni yn awr o pryd y dechreuir yr ymchwiliad hwnnw, pryd y byddwch yn cyhoeddi ei gylch gorchwyl, a phryd y gall pobl ddisgwyl gweld ei ganlyniad?

Brian Gibbons: We hope to be able to issue a Cabinet statement by the end of this week. We wanted to ensure that the people undertaking this review were thoroughly independent of developments in Wales, which the Assembly asked for, and we have had to go through a proper procurement exercise, given the cost of the project. However, we hope that we can make an announcement before the end of the week.

Brian Gibbons: Gobeithiwn allu cyhoeddi datganiad Cabinet erbyn diwedd yr wythnos hon. Yr oeddem am sicrhau bod y bobl sy'n cynnal yr adolygiad hwn yn gwbl annibynnol ar ddatblygiadau yng Nghymru, yn unol â gofynion y Cynulliad, a bu'n rhaid inni gynnal ymarfer caffael go iawn, o ystyried cost y prosiect. Fodd bynnag, gobeithiwn y gallwn wneud cyhoeddiad cyn diwedd yr wythnos.

Helen Mary Jones: I am pleased to hear that, Minister. However, in the meantime, that service remains withdrawn, and the relationship between the Carmarthenshire NHS Trust and other professional bodies and organisations, including the county council, local health board, and, most importantly, the community in Llanelli, remains in crisis. What steps will you take pending the outcome of this inquiry to try to do something about how the trust conducts itself in its dealings with the public? Have you considered whether it is time for you to intervene, whether in the form of advice from your officials, or possibly even by taking special measures? This is not a new problem, Minister, and it does not relate to emergency surgery only. There is a pattern emerging, with the community in Llanelli feeling as though it cannot trust the NHS trust. Do you agree that it will be impossible to deliver any

Helen Mary Jones: Yr wyf yn falch o glywed hynny, Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, yn y cyfamser, mae'r gwasanaeth hwnnw ar ben o hyd, ac mae'r gydberthynas rhwng Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Sir Gaerfyrddin a chyrff proffesiynol a sefydliadau eraill, yn cynnwys y cyngor sir, y bwrdd iechyd lleol, ac yn bwysicach oll, y gymuned yn Llanelli, mewn argyfwng. Pa gamau a gymerwch tra bo canlyniad yr ymchwiliad hwn yn yr arfaeth i geisio gwneud rhywbeth am y ffordd y mae'r ymddiriedolaeth yn ymdrin â'r cyhoedd? A ydych wedi ystyried pa un a yw'n bryd ichi ymyrryd, boed hynny ar ffurf cyngor gan eich swyddogion, neu hyd yn oed drwy gymryd camau arbennig o bosibl? Nid problem newydd mo hon, Weinidog, ac nid oes a wnelo â llawdriniaeth frys yn unig. Mae patrwm yn dod i'r amlwg, gyda'r gymuned yn Llanelli o'r farn na all ymddiried yn ymddiriedolaeth y GIG. A

kind of change or modernisation agenda unless that trust is restored?

Brian Gibbons: I do not want to prejudge the results of the inquiry, as there would be no point in having it otherwise, and we could save a lot of money simply by coming to the conclusion that you have just reached. I do not know why we would bother with any inquiry if we could just rush to a judgment such as that. However, on the basis of the evidence that Catherine Thomas and your colleagues from Llanelli brought to me, there is no doubt that there has been a serious breakdown in trust between the community in Llanelli and the Carmarthenshire NHS Trust. I hope that the inquiry will clarify that, and perhaps give us some indication as to why that situation developed. However, while the Carmarthenshire NHS Trust seems to have failed to deliver best practice in this area, we need to recognise that, in other areas, it is performing very well. Indeed, in some areas, I would even say that it is performing as well as, or better than, the Welsh average. We need to take a balanced approach to this. I would certainly not want to further destabilise the situation in Carmarthenshire, which could put at risk those areas of the service that the trust is providing that are of credit to the trust and its staff and which give the local population an excellent service.

Christine Gwyther: Minister, will you join me in welcoming members of Pembroke Dock Town Council to the public gallery? It is important that we recognise the work that they have done, not just in performing their usual civic duties, but also in engaging with the public in the great health debate that has been raging in Pembrokeshire over the past year. Unlike Helen Mary Jones, Lisa Francis, Nick Bourne and Glyn Davies, they turned up to properly constituted community health council public meetings and listened to what the people of Pembrokeshire had to say about Withybush Hospital and other health services. Will you join me in commending those elected representatives, who actually do the job for which they were elected?

gytunwch y bydd yn amhosibl cyflawni unrhyw fath o agenda newid neu foderneiddio oni chaiff yr ymddiriedolaeth honno ei hadfer?

Brian Gibbons: Nid wyf am ragfarnu canlyniadau'r ymchwiliad, gan na fyddai diben ei gynnal fel arall, a gallem arbed llawer o arian drwy ddod i'r casgliad y daethoch iddo, yn syml. Ni wn pam y byddem yn cynnal unrhyw ymchwiliad pe gallem ddod i benderfyniad cyflym fel hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, ar sail y dystiolaeth a roddwyd gan Catherine Thomas a'ch cyd-Aelodau yn Llanelli, nid oes amheuaeth na chwalwyd yr ymddiriedolaeth rhwng y gymuned yn Llanelli ac Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Sir Gaerfyrddin. Gobeithiaf y bydd yr ymchwiliad yn egluro hynny, ac yn rhoi rhyw fath o syniad inni efallai o pam y datblygodd y sefyllfa honno. Fodd bynnag, er yr ymddengys i Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Sir Gaerfyrddin fethu â chyflawni arfer gorau yn y maes hwn, mae angen inni gydnabod ei bod yn llwyddo mewn meysydd eraill. Yn wir, dywedwn ei bod yn perfformio cystal â chyfartaledd Cymru mewn rhai meysydd, os nad yn well. Rhaid inni fabwysiadu ymagwedd gytbwys tuag at hyn. Yn sicr, ni fyddwn am ansefydlogi'r sefyllfa yn sir Gaerfyrddin ymhellach, a allai beryglu'r meysydd hynny o'r gwasanaeth y mae'r ymddiriedolaeth yn eu darparu sy'n glod iddi a'i staff ac sy'n darparu gwasanaeth ardderchog i'r bobl leol.

Christine Gwyther: Weinidog, a ymunwch â mi i groesawu aelodau Cyngor Tref Doc Penfro i'r oriel gyhoeddus? Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod y gwaith a wnaethant, nid yn unig wrth gyflawni eu dyletswyddau dinesig arferol, ond hefyd drwy ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd yn y ddadl fawr ar iechyd a fu'n bwnc llosg yn sir Benfro dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Yn wahanol i Helen Mary Jones, Lisa Francis, Nick Bourne a Glyn Davies, yr oeddent yn bresennol mewn cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus cyngor iechyd cymuned sefydledig priodol a gwnaethant wrando ar farn pobl sir Benfro am Ysbyty Llwynhelig a gwasanaethau iechyd eraill. A ymunwch â mi i gymeradwyo'r cynrychiolwyr etholedig hynny, sy'n cyflawni'r gwaith y'u hetholwyd i'w wneud?

Brian Gibbons: Certainly, Chris. I am a fairly regular visitor to Pembroke Dock, but it is usually at 12 a.m. or 1 a.m. as part of a journey elsewhere. However, I am very grateful, and it is important, as we work on service reconfiguration, that we get good public engagement. It is particularly important for people who have a democratic mandate to engage in that consultation.

Hopefully, before too long, we will be celebrating the formal opening of the new £6 million Pembroke Dock hospital serving south Pembrokeshire. That is part of the new shape of modern health services that people in Pembroke Dock can look forward to and, hopefully, get full benefit from.

Lisa Francis: People in Ceredigion were informed that hospital reconfiguration would not lead to a reduction in care, but consultants there are recommending the axing of 80 beds at Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth—that is one third of the current provision. How can one third of beds be cut at a hospital that is repeatedly full to bursting? Health staff there are complaining that acutely ill patients are being kept for excessive lengths of time in the accident-and-emergency department, in an area where we have an ageing population and where the nearest district general hospital is an hour and a half away by road.

Brian Gibbons: Just in case there is confusion, when you say ‘consultants’ you are, of course, talking about management consultants rather than clinical consultants. Management consultants have made their recommendations, but, as in other parts of the NHS in Wales, they produce their reports and it is then for trusts to make a decision on how to respond. The chief executive of Ceredigion and Mid Wales NHS Trust has clearly stated her view about the way forward—and it certainly is not to accept unequivocally the management consultants’ report. I do not think that it is helpful, fair or responsible for a person to come to the Assembly and suggest that that document has any status other than that of a management consultants’ report, bearing in mind that there is some £10 million to £15 million of Assembly

Brian Gibbons: Yn sicr, Chris. Yr wyf yn ymweld â Doc Penfro yn eithaf aml, ond am 12 a.m neu 1 a.m fel arfer, ar y ffordd i rywle arall. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iawn, ac mae’n bwysig, wrth inni weithio ar ail-gyflunio’r gwasanaeth, ein bod yn ymgysylltu’n dda â’r cyhoedd. Mae’n arbennig o bwysig i bobl sydd â mandad democrataidd i ymgysylltu â’r ymgynghoriad hwnnw.

Gobeithiaf y byddwn yn dathlu agoriad ffurfiol ysbyty newydd Doc Penfro, a gostiodd £6 miliwn i’w adeiladu, cyn hir, a fydd yn gwasanaethu de Sir Benfro. Mae hynny’n rhan o strwythur newydd gwasanaethau iechyd modern y gall pobl yn Noc Penfro edrych ymlaen atynt a, gobeithio, cael y budd llawn ohonynt.

Lisa Francis: Dywedwyd wrth bobl yng Ngheredigion na fyddai ailgyflunio ysbytai yn arwain at leihad o ran gofal, ond mae ymgynghorwyr yno’n argymhell dileu 80 o welyau yn Ysbyty Bronglais, Aberystwyth—sef traean o’r ddarpariaeth bresennol. Sut y gellir cwtogi traean o welyau mewn ysbyty sydd bob amser yn llawn neu’n orlawn? Mae staff iechyd yno’n cwyno bod cleifion sâl iawn yn cael eu cadw am gyfnodau rhy hir yn yr adran damweiniau ac achosion brys, mewn ardal lle mae gennym boblogaeth sy’n heneiddio a lle mae’r ysbyty cyffredinol dosbarth agosaf yn golygu taith o awr a hanner.

Brian Gibbons: Rhag ofn bod dryswch, pan ddywedwch ‘ymgynghorwyr’ yr ydych, wrth gwrs, yn siarad am ymgynghorwyr rheoli yn hytrach nag ymgynghorwyr clinigol. Mae ymgynghorwyr rheoli wedi gwneud eu hargymhellion ond, fel mewn rhannau eraill o’r GIG yng Nghymru, maent yn cynhyrchu eu hadroddiadau ac yna cyfrifoldeb yr ymddiriedolaethau yw gwneud penderfyniad o ran sut i ymateb. Mae prif weithredwr Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Ceredigion a Chanolbarth Cymru wedi datgan ei barn yn glir o ran y ffordd ymlaen—ac yn sicr nid yw hynny’n golygu derbyn adroddiad yr ymgynghorwr rheoli yn llwyr. Ni chredaf ei bod yn ddefnyddiol, yn deg nac yn gyfrifol i unigolyn ddod i’r Cynulliad ac awgrymu bod i’r ddogfen honno unrhyw statws heblaw am adroddiad ymgynghorwyr rheoli, gan gofio

investment going into that hospital in Ceredigion to modernise it and bring it up to date, making it fit for purpose in the twenty-first century. That is the Welsh Assembly Government investing in the future of healthcare services, and it is not the doom and gloom that you wish to portray.

Trish Law: I was interested to see the recent launch of a leg-ulcer club in Llandrindod Wells. I hope that that club does not suffer the same fate as one in my constituency, at which it is proposed to discontinue leg-ulcer treatment within the next few weeks. Why has this been singled out for closure in Blaenau Gwent, when it follows all the criteria of the Lindsay Leg Club model and the leg club infection control guidelines of 2007?

Brian Gibbons: I am sure that Trish does not really expect me to know the details of something like that, but if she wrote to me—and I do not know whether you have already written to me—[*Interruption.*] Okay, you are in the process of writing a letter to me. Once we receive that letter, we will be in a position to consider this issue. However, it is not possible for me to make an informed comment now on such a local issue.

bod tua £10 miliwn i £15 miliwn o fuddsoddiad y Cynulliad yn mynd i mewn i'r ysbyty hwnnw yng Ceredigion i'w foderneiddio a'i ddiweddarau, gan ei wneud yn addas at y diben yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain. Dyna Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn buddsoddi yn nyfodol gwasanaethau gofal iechyd, ac nid yw'r sefyllfa yn debyg i'r un negyddol y dymunwch ei phortreadu.

Trish Law: Yr oedd diddordeb gennyf mewn gweld lansiad diweddar clwb wlsarau coes yn Llandrindod. Gobeithiaf na fydd y clwb hwnnw'n dioddef yr un ffawd â'r clwb yn fy etholaeth i, lle cynigir rhoi'r gorau i driniaeth wlsarau coes o fewn yr wythnosau nesaf. Pam mae'r clwb hwn ym Mlaenau Gwent yn cael ei gau, pan mae'n dilyn holl feini prawf model Lindsay Leg Club a chanllawiau rheoli heintiau clybiau coes 2007?

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn siŵr nad yw Trish, mewn gwirionedd, yn disgwyl imi wybod manylion rhywbeth felly, ond pe bai'n ysgrifennu ataf—ac ni wn a ydych wedi ysgrifennu ataf eisoes—[*Torri ar draws.*] Iawn, yr ydych wrthi'n ysgrifennu llythyr ataf. Ar ôl inni gael y llythyr hwnnw, byddwn mewn sefyllfa i ystyried y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n bosibl imi wneud sylw hyddysg yn awr ar fater mor lleol.

Gofal Lliniarol Palliative Care

C3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y ddarpariaeth gofal lliniarol? OAQ1305(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: Local health boards are responsible for commissioning palliative care services. Recognising their valuable role, the Assembly Government has, in the last budget, made £2 million of recurrent revenue funding for high-quality hospice services available from 2007-08. This builds on the £10 million in non-recurrent funding already made available by the Assembly over the past four years.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr wyf yn falch o gael cadarnhad eich bod yn sicrhau bod yr arian hwn ar gael i hosbisau drwy Gymru; maent yn cyflawni gwasanaeth eithriadol o

Q3 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of palliative care? OAQ1305(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: Mae byrddau iechyd lleol yn gyfrifol am gomisiynu gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol. Gan gydnabod eu rôl werthfawr, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn y gyllideb refeniw ddiwethaf, wedi rhyddhau £2 filiwn o gyllid rheolaidd ar gyfer gwasanaethau hosbis o safon uchel o 2007-08. Mae hyn yn adeiladu ar y £10 miliwn mewn cyllid achlysurol a ryddhawyd eisoes gan y Cynulliad dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I am pleased to receive confirmation that you are ensuring that this money is available for hospices throughout Wales; they provide an extremely

bwysig. Byddwch yn ymwybodol o ymgyrch Marie Curie Cancer Care i sicrhau'r hawl i bobl farw gydag urddas yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, a byddwch yn gwybod bod nifer helaeth o bobl yn dymuno cael gwasanaeth lliniarol o'r fath. Pa fwriadau sydd gennych chi a'ch Llywodraeth i sicrhau cefnogaeth ariannol i hynny, ac i sicrhau bod rhwydwaith o bobl sydd wedi arbenigo ym maes gofal lliniarol ar gael i gynnig y gwasanaeth i bobl yn eu cartrefi?

Brian Gibbons: Certainly, we recognise the importance of the Marie Curie Cancer Care campaign. It was following representations from that organisation in June or July of last year that we issued our guidance for the service to consider end-of-life issues. That was very welcome.

2.20 p.m.

We also need to recognise the palliative care service's valuable partnership with the voluntary sector, but the overwhelming bulk of palliative care services are provided through mainstream NHS services. We need to ensure that the standards that the cancer services co-ordination group, the cancer networks and we have set for implementation by 2009 are met.

Finally, we have put a section into our most recent national service framework on commissioning guidance for chronic diseases to recognise that there are end-of-life issues for lots of chronic conditions, not just cancer, and it is important that these clinical guidelines cover not just managing the main stream of the illness, but also the end-of-life issues.

David Melding: As a GP of long standing and good reputation, you will know that many patients have to be admitted to hospital at the end of their lives just because pain control and symptom relief demand it. I am sure that you would agree that, if we invested a bit more in the primary sector, GPs would be able to make those interventions, and so people would have the dignity of dying at home. Three quarters of people die in hospital at the moment, which is not an environment in which most of us would choose to spend our last hours and minutes.

important service. You will be aware of the Marie Curie Cancer Care campaign to allow people to die with dignity in their own homes, and you will know that many people wish to receive palliative care of this kind. What intentions do you and your Government have to provide financial support for that, and to ensure that a network of people who specialise in palliative care is available to offer this service to people in their own homes?

Brian Gibbons: Yn sicr, cydnabyddwn bwysigrwydd ymgyrch Marie Curie Cancer Care. Ar ôl cael sylwadau gan y sefydliad hwnnw ym mis Mehefin neu fis Gorffennaf y llynedd cyhoeddasom ein canllawiau i'r gwasanaeth ystyried materion diwedd bywyd. Croesawyd hynny yn fawr.

Yn ogystal, rhaid inni gydnabod partneriaeth werthfawr y gwasanaeth gofal lliniarol â'r sector gwirfoddol, ond darperir rhan helaeth y gwasanaethau gofal lliniarol drwy wasanaethau prif ffrwd y GIG. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod y safonau a sefydlwyd gan y grŵp cydgyssylltu gwasanaethau cancer, y rhwydweithiau cancer a ninnau i'w gweithredu erbyn 2009 yn cael eu cyflawni.

Yn olaf, yr ydym wedi cynnwys adran yn ein fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol diweddar ar gomisiynu canllawiau ar gyfer clefydau cronig i gydnabod bod materion diwedd bywyd ar gyfer llawer o gyflyrau cronig, nid dim ond cancer, ac mae'n bwysig bod y canllawiau clinigol hyn yn cwmpasu nid dim ond rheoli prif ffrwd y salwch, ond y materion diwedd bywyd hefyd.

David Melding: Fel meddyg teulu profiadol, uchel eich parch, fe wyddoch fod yn rhaid i lawer o gleifion fynd i mewn i'r ysbyty ar ddiwedd eu bywyd dim ond oherwydd bod rheoli'r boen a lliniaru'r symptomau yn mynnu hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno, pe baem yn buddsoddi ychydig bach yn rhagor yn y sector sylfaenol, y byddai meddygon teulu yn gallu gwneud yr ymyriadau hynny, ac felly y byddai pobl yn cael marw yn eu cartrefi ag urddas. Mae tri chwarter o bobl yn marw yn yr ysbyty ar hyn o bryd, ac nid yw hwnnw'n amgylchedd lle y

byddai'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn dewis treulio ein horiau a'n munudau olaf.

Brian Gibbons: I am sure that you are right and that there is scope for improving the skills base of GPs, though we also need to emphasise the important role that nurses can play in this. Indeed, in my experience, the upskilling of nurses in palliative care was the single biggest step forward, as they became more proficient in treatment modalities, syringe drivers, dosage monitoring, and monitoring of symptoms, and so forth. We need to do more in primary care, and my only caveat would be that we include other workers, such as nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists, because they all have a key role to play as part of the primary care team.

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn gywir a bod lle i wella sgiliau meddygon teulu, er bod yn rhaid inni hefyd bwysleisio'r rhan bwysig y gall nyrsys ei chwarae yn hyn. Yn wir, yn fy mhrofiad i, uwchsgilio nyrsys ym maes gofal lliniarol oedd y cam unigol mwyaf ymlaen, gan iddynt ddod yn fwy hyfedr mewn dulliau trin, chwistrellu, monitro dosau, a monitro symptomau, ac ati. Rhaid inni wneud mwy ym maes gofal sylfaenol, a'm hunig gafeat yw y dylem gynnwys gweithwyr eraill, megis nyrsys, ffisiotherapyddion a therapyddion galwedigaethol, oherwydd mae ganddynt oll ran allweddol i'w chwarae fel rhan o'r tîm gofal sylfaenol.

Gwella Gwasanaethau Iechyd (Gogledd Cymru) Improving Health Services (North Wales)

Q4 Janet Ryder: What are the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for improving health services in North Wales? OAQ1316(HSS)

C4 Janet Ryder: Beth yw blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer gwella gwasanaethau iechyd yng Ngogledd Cymru? OAQ1316(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: The key priorities for North Wales are in line with 'Designed to Deliver', and are the outcome of the document 'Designed for North Wales'. That document proposed a consolidation of mainline hospital services at the three main district general hospitals in north Wales, and at Llandudno General Hospital, along with the provision of new hospitals at Porthmadog and Holywell.

Brian Gibbons: Mae'r blaenoriaethau allweddol ar gyfer y gogledd yn unol â 'Cynllunio Cyflenwi', ac maent yn deillio o'r ddogfen 'Cynllun Gogledd Cymru'. Cynigodd y ddogfen honno gyfnerthu prif wasanaethau ysbyty yn y tri phrif ysbyty cyffredinol dosbarth yn y gogledd, ac yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Llandudno, ynghyd â darparu ysbytai newydd ym Mhorthmadog a Threffynnon.

Janet Ryder: An issue that I have raised with you many times in the past is that of the lack of a specialist Parkinson's disease nurse in Wrexham. I am sure that you are by now fully aware of the fact that both Ysbyty Glan Clwyd and Flintshire Local Health Board have engaged specialist Parkinson's disease nurses. However, Wrexham Local Health Board, which serves an area that has nearly the largest number of diagnosed Parkinson's disease sufferers in the UK, refuses to appoint a specialist nurse for that disease. The groups that work for those patients in Wrexham desperately want to see that post set up. The Parkinson's Disease Society is willing to partially fund that post. Will you

Janet Ryder: Un mater a godais gennych ar sawl achlysur yn y gorffennol yw diffyg nyrs arbenigol clefyd Parkinson yn Wrecsam. Yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod bellach yn gwbl ymwybodol o'r ffaith bod Ysbyty Glan Clwyd a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir y Fflint wedi cyflogi nyrsys arbenigol clefyd Parkinson. Fodd bynnag, mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Wrecsam, sy'n gwasanaethu ardal sydd â bron y nifer fwyaf o'r rhai sy'n dioddef o glefyd Parkinson yn y DU, yn gwrthod penodi nyrs arbenigol ar gyfer y clefyd hwnnw. Mae'r grwpiau sy'n gweithio dros y cleifion hynny yn Wrecsam yn awyddus iawn i weld y swydd honno'n cael ei sefydlu. Mae Cymdeithas Clefyd Parkinson yn barod i

please talk to the groups in Wrexham and the Wrexham Local Health Board so that we can see some movement on this much needed post in Wrexham?

Brian Gibbons: I am happy to clarify the position of Wrexham LHB on this particular issue. We are due to publish the commissioning directive on service improvement in relation to epilepsy and chronological neurological diseases in the next few months, and that may help to move the agenda forward. That document will outline the basic framework for the management of chronic neurological diseases, particularly in a community setting. As I mentioned to Rhodri Glyn in relation to the documents addressing end-of-life issues, this particular document will address some of the issues about ensuring that patients have treatment in a community setting wherever possible, as long as that is clinically appropriate.

Brynle Williams: Good afternoon, Minister. The incidence of diabetes is rising, regrettably, among the general population and worryingly so among the younger generation. Do you recognise the health cost benefits of providing blood glucose home testing strips to diabetics, so that they can control their conditions and avoid unnecessary hospital treatment? Will you please work with the local health boards of north Wales to extend the availability and use of these home testing kits across the region?

Brian Gibbons: Self-monitoring certainly has a role to play in managing certain types of diabetes, particularly for insulin-dependent diabetics. However, the case would be less clear cut in other areas, for example, with type 2 diabetes, which would not be anything like as brittle or as unstable as, for example, insulin-dependent diabetes would be. I do not know whether there is a proven case that a person should have a glucose monitoring machine in every instance. I am not convinced that that is the best line to take, but it is important that anybody who suffers from diabetes has regular and long-term check-ups for blood sugar control, so that their feet,

ariannu'r swydd honno'n rhannol. A fydddech cystal â siarad â'r grwpiau yn Wrecsam a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Wrecsam er mwyn inni weld cynnydd o ran y swydd allweddol hon yn Wrecsam?

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn fodlon egluro sefyllfa BILI Wrecsam o ran y mater penodol hwn. Bwriadwn gyhoeddi'r gyfarwyddeb gomisiynu ar wella gwasanaethau mewn perthynas ag epilepsi a chlefydau niwrolegol cronolegol yn yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf, ac efallai y bydd hynny'n helpu i symud yr agenda yn ei blaen. Bydd y ddogfen honno'n amlinellu'r fframwaith sylfaenol ar gyfer rheoli clefydau niwrolegol cronig, yn arbennig mewn lleoliad cymunedol. Fel y crybwyllais wrth Rhodri Glyn mewn perthynas â'r dogfennau sy'n mynd i'r afael â materion diwedd bywyd, bydd y ddogfen benodol hon yn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion o ran sicrhau bod cleifion yn cael triniaeth mewn lleoliad cymunedol lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl, ar yr amod bod hynny'n glinigol briodol.

Brynle Williams: Prynawn da, Weinidog. Mae'r achosion o ddiabetes yn cynyddu, yn anffodus, ymhlith y boblogaeth gyffredinol ac, er mawr bryder, ymhlith y genhedlaeth iau. A ydych yn cydnabod y manteision cost iechyd yn sgîl darparu sribedi profi glwcos gwaed yn y cartref i bobl ddiabetig, er mwyn iddynt allu rheoli eu cyflyrau ac osgoi triniaeth ysbyty ddiangen? A wnewch weithio gyda'r byrddau iechyd lleol yn y gogledd i ymestyn argaeledd a defnydd y pecynnau profi yn y cartref hyn ar draws y rhanbarth?

Brian Gibbons: Yn sicr, mae gan hunanfonitro ran i'w chwarae i reoli rhai mathau o ddiabetes, yn arbennig ar gyfer pobl ddiabetig sy'n ddibynnol ar inswlin. Fodd bynnag, byddai'r ddadl yn llai clir mewn meysydd eraill, er enghraifft o ran diabetes math 2, na fyddai mor frau nac ansefydlog ag, er enghraifft, diabetes sy'n ddibynnol ar inswlin. Ni wn a oes dadl brofedig y dylai unigol gael peiriant monitro glwcos ym mhob achos. Nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig mai dyna'r cam gorau, ond mae'n bwysig bod unrhyw un sy'n dioddef o diabetes yn cael archwiliadau rheolaidd a hirdymor ar gyfer rheoli siwgr yn y gwaed, fel bod eu traed, eu cylchrediad, eu

circulation, eyes and kidneys are checked. The diabetic retinopathy screening programme that we have in Wales is the direction in which we want to travel, and that programme is among the best, if not the best, in the United Kingdom.

llygaid a'u harenau yn cael eu harchwilio. Y rhaglen sgrinio retinopathi diabetig sydd gennym yng Nghymru yw'r cyfeiriad y dymunwn deithio iddo, ac mae'r rhaglen honno ymhlith y gorau, os nad y gorau, yn y Deyrnas Unedig.

Mewnblaniadau yn y Cochlea Cochlear Implants

Q5 Ann Jones: Will the Minister make a statement on the provision of funding through Health Commission Wales to support adult cochlear implants in Wales? OAQ1334(HSS)

C5 Ann Jones: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddarparu arian drwy Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru i gefnogi mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea ar gyfer oedolion yng Nghymru? OAQ1334(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: Health Commission Wales recognises the long-term requirement to provide cochlear implants in Wales. The current commissioning policy and proposed changes to the service are designed to match current resources to demand on the basis of providing a continuing service for existing patients and for new paediatric patients identified as part of the neonatal screening programme.

Brian Gibbons: Mae Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn cydnabod y gofyniad hirdymor i ddarparu mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea yng Nghymru. Mae'r polisi comisiynu cyfredol a newidiadau arfaethedig i'r gwasanaeth wedi'u cynllunio i gyfateb adnoddau presennol i'r galw ar sail darparu gwasanaeth parhaus i gleifion presennol ac ar gyfer cleifion pediatriig newydd a nodwyd fel rhan o'r rhaglen sgrinio newyddenedigol.

Ann Jones: Thank you for that answer, Minister. Cochlear implants restore hearing to those who have lost their hearing completely and cannot manage even with the most powerful of hearing aids. The handicap of profound deafness is a terrible affliction that can lead to near complete social isolation, so the development of cochlear implants has been a godsend to those patients who can once again understand their families and friends, hear the voices of their children and grandchildren, and take part in society. Will you give me an assurance that all Welsh patients assessed as being suitable for cochlear implants can have their names placed on a surgical waiting list as soon as possible?

Ann Jones: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea yn adfer clyw i'r rhai sydd wedi colli eu clyw'n llwyr ac na allant ymdopi hyd yn oed â'r cymhorthion clyw mwyaf pwerus. Mae anfantais byddardod llwyr yn gyflwr ofnadwy a all arwain at ynysu cymdeithasol bron yn llwyr, felly bu datblygu mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea yn fendith i'r cleifion hynny a all unwaith eto ddeall eu teuluoedd a'u ffrindiau, clywed lleisiau a'u plant a'u hwyrion a'u hwyresau, a chymryd rhan mewn cymdeithas. A roddweh sicrwydd imi y gall pob claf yng Nghymru a aseswyd fel rhai sy'n addas ar gyfer mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea gael eu henwau ar restr aros lawfeddygol cyn gynted â phosibl?

Brian Gibbons: The cochlear implant programme has been very successful in Wales; indeed, that very success has created some problems. Even though the budget is in place, the demands on the budget, particularly for chronic and long-term disease maintenance and monitoring, mean that the element of the budget available for new procedures is under pressure. I have had representations from Carwyn Jones AM and

Brian Gibbons: Bu'r rhaglen mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea yn llwyddiannus iawn yng Nghymru; yn wir, mae'r llwyddiant hwnnw wedi creu rhai problemau. Er bod y gyllideb yn ei lle, mae'r galw ar y gyllideb, yn arbennig ar gyfer gwaith cynnal a monitro clefydau cronig a hirdymor, yn golygu bod yr elfen o'r gyllideb sydd ar gael ar gyfer gweithdrefnau newydd o dan bwysau. Yr wyf wedi cael sylwadau

from Jon Osborne, the consultant ear, nose and throat specialist in Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust, in conjunction with the British Medical Association. We had a constructive discussion, and I indicated to Mr Osborne that I was willing to seek practical ways in which we could address some of the concerns that he raised at that meeting.

Mark Isherwood: I understand that those concerns are well grounded. You mentioned that Health Commission Wales had written to Conwy and Denbighshire NHS Trust telling it that it was not allowed to do implants at present, and that it would have to send any referrals back to where they came from. I am told that it has no waiting list simply because there is not a waiting list and not because there are no people to go on it.

I am also told that Health Commission Wales has said that it wants to hold back funding in Bridgend and Cardiff until there is agreement on a single centre at a single place. However, even then, it will allocate money only according to spending priorities on a year-by-year basis, which leaves Wales as the only nation in the European Union without a programme for cochlear implant surgery. What action do you propose to address that situation, which I regard as shocking?

Brian Gibbons: That is not true. It is true that, as Ann Jones said, at present, given the increasing number of cochlear implant recipients, the capacity to perform extra operations has been constrained, and priority is being given to children with this problem detected through the neonatal screening programme and others who suffer profound deafness because of meningitis. However, as I said to Ann Jones, I have had discussions on this issue, particularly with Jonathan Osborne and the BMA, and I am working with officials to see if there is any way of addressing some of the concerns.

2.30 p.m.

David Lloyd: Gyda sefyllfa ariannol

gan Carwyn Jones AC a chan Jon Osborne, arbenigwr ymgynghorol y glust, y trwyn a'r gwddf yn Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Conwy a Sir Ddinbych, ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Feddygol Prydain. Cawsom drafodaeth adeiladol, a dywedais wrth Mr Osborne fy mod yn barod i geisio ffyrdd ymarferol lle galleu fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r pryderon a gododd yn y cyfarfod hwnnw.

Mark Isherwood: Deallaf fod sail dda i'r pryderon hynny. Gwnaethoch sôn bod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru wedi ysgrifennu at Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Conwy a Sir Ddinbych yn dweud wrthi nad oedd ganddi hawl i wneud mewnbliadau ar hyn o bryd, ac y byddai'n rhaid iddi anfon unrhyw atgyfeiriadau yn ôl. Dywedir wrthyf nad oes ganddi restr aros dim ond oherwydd nad oes yna restr aros ac nid oherwydd nad oes pobl i'w chynnwys arni.

Dywedir wrthyf hefyd fod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru wedi dweud ei fod yn dymuno atal cyllid ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Chaerdydd hyd nes bod cytundeb ar un ganolfan mewn un lle. Fodd bynnag, hyd yn oed bryd hynny, dim ond yn ôl blaenoriaethau gwario fesul blwyddyn y bydd yn dyrannu arian, sy'n golygu mai Cymru yw'r unig wlad yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd heb raglen ar gyfer llawdriniaeth mewnbliadau yn y cochlea. Pa gamau a gynigiwch i fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa hon, sy'n sefyllfa ofnadwy yn fy marn i?

Brian Gibbons: Nid yw hynny'n wir. Mae'n wir, fel y dywedodd Ann Jones, oherwydd y nifer gynyddol sy'n cael mewnbliadau yn y cochlea, fod y gallu i gynnal llawdriniaethau ychwanegol wedi'i gyfyngu ar hyn o bryd, a rhoddir blaenoriaeth i blant sydd â'r broblem hon, a ganfuwyd drwy'r rhaglen sgrinio newyddenedigol, ac eraill sy'n hollol fyddar oherwydd llid yr ymennydd. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais wrth Ann Jones, yr wyf wedi cynnal trafodaethau ar y mater hwn, yn arbennig â Jonathan Osborne a Chymdeithas Feddygol Prydain, ac yr wyf yn gweithio gyda swyddogion i weld a oes modd lleddfau rhai o'r pryderon.

David Lloyd: Given the difficult financial

Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn dynn iawn, gyda dyledion o fwy na £33 miliwn, pa mor ffyddiog ydych mai defnyddio'r comisiwn yw'r ffordd orau o ddarparu gwasanaeth eang o ran mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea?

Brian Gibbons: If we turn the question around and ask whether cochlear implants should be commissioned solely by local health boards, I certainly do not think that that would be a fit-for-purpose vehicle. Whether or not cochlear implants should be devolved to regional commissioning units, which hopefully will be established in the next year or two, is a more open question and something on which we could have a fruitful discussion. However, at the moment, it would be ill advised to transfer the responsibility for cochlear implants to local health boards, which are the only other avenue for the commissioning of these services.

position of Health Commission Wales, with debts of over £33 million, how confident are you that the best way of providing cochlear implants is via the commission?

Brian Gibbons: Os newidiwn y cwestiwn a gofyn pa un a ddylai mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea gael eu comisiynu gan fyrddau iechyd lleol yn unig, nid wyf yn credu y byddai hynny'n gyfrwng addas at y diben, yn bendant. Mae pa un a ddylid datganoli mewnbaniadau yn y cochlea i unedau comisiynu rhanbarthol, a gaiff eu sefydlu yn y flwyddyn neu ddwy nesaf gobeithio, yn gwestiwn mwy agored ac yn rhywbeth y gallem gynnal trafodaeth ddiddorol arno. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, ni fyddai'n ddoeth trosglwyddo'r cyfrifoldeb am fewnbaniadau yn y cochlea i fyrddau iechyd lleol, sef yr unig ffordd o gomisiynu'r gwasanaethau hyn.

Materion Iechyd Trawsffiniol Cross-border Health issues

Q6 Mick Bates: What discussions have been held with practitioners in England about cross-border health issues? OAQ1302(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: At Government level, discussions are taking place with the Department of Health and the NHS Confederation in England and Wales on a range of issues in relation to cross-border healthcare matters.

Mick Bates: Thank you for that general reply. I would like to raise a point that I received from a GP who has a border practice:

'I feel deep distress when I see Welsh residents that I have known for many years leaving the practice in order to get their treatment quicker through an English G.P.'.

The difference between English and Welsh waiting times has long been a severe disadvantage to my constituents, and it now appears that it is impacting on border practices. Do you agree that your waiting time policies are solely responsible for this

C6 Mick Bates: Pa drafodaethau sydd wedi'u cynnal gydag ymarferwyr yn Lloegr ynghylch materion iechyd trawsffiniol? OAQ1302(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: Ar lefel y Llywodraeth, cynhelir trafodaethau gyda'r Adran Iechyd a Chyddfederasiwn y GIG yng Nghymru a Lloegr ar amrywiaeth o faterion sy'n gysylltiedig â materion gofal iechyd trawsffiniol.

Mick Bates: Diolch am yr ateb cyffredinol hwnnw. Hoffwn godi pwynt a wnaed gan feddyg teulu sydd â phractis ar y ffin:

'Yr wyf yn pryderu'n fawr pan welaf drigolion yng Nghymru, yr wyf wedi eu hadnabod ers sawl blwyddyn, yn gadael y practis er mwyn cael eu triniaeth yn gyflymach drwy feddyg teulu yn Lloegr'.

Mae'r gwahaniaeth rhwng amseroedd aros yng Nghymru a Lloegr wedi bod o anfantais ddifrifol i'm hetholwyr ers amser, ac ymddengys bellach eu bod yn cael effaith ar bractisau ar y ffin. A gytunwch mai eich polisiau chi o ran amseroedd aros sy'n

terrible destabilisation of border practices, which are now losing patients?

Brian Gibbons: I do not have exact figures on the fluctuations, but my information is that there are more English patients registered with Welsh practices than there are Welsh patients registered with English practices. That might suggest that the situation is not quite as gloomy as Mick Bates suggested. From the very logic of Mick Bates's question—and I will look keenly at his party's manifesto, when we see it—it is clearly the intention of the Liberal Democrats, if we are to believe the thrust of Mick Bates's question, that they will be delivering 18-week waiting times by the end of 2008. I look forward to seeing that commitment in the Lib Dems' manifesto, Mick, because, otherwise, everything that you have said until now is empty rhetoric. *[Interruption.]*

The Presiding Officer: Order. What is the point of my calling Members to ask supplementary questions if they are going to ask them anyway, sitting down? That behaviour is inappropriate. I now call Glyn Davies because he did not shout.

Glyn Davies: It would be interesting, Minister, if you would publish the detailed figures that you were talking about.

I would like to ask you about a cross-border issue that does not relate directly to its effect on practitioners—that is, the renal dialysis service. People in the whole of north Powys have depended forever on services in Shrewsbury and we have been looking at having a satellite dialysis service in north Powys. The site is agreed, and, in fact, everything is agreed, but the go-ahead has not been given to release the funding. A huge number of people no longer have access to Shrewsbury, because that service is full, and these are people who are desperate for renal dialysis somewhere near home and who have to travel great distances for something that they cannot do without.

Brian Gibbons: The new national service

gyfrifol am y sefyllfa ofnadwy hon o ansefydlogi practisau ar y ffin, sydd bellach yn colli cleifion?

Brian Gibbons: Nid oes gennyf ffigurau penodol ar yr amrywiadau, ond o'r hyn a ddeallaf mae mwy o gleifion o Loegr wedi cofrestru gyda phractisau yng Nghymru nag sydd o gleifion yng Nghymru sydd wedi cofrestru gyda phractisau yn Lloegr. Gallai hynny awgrymu nad yw'r sefyllfa mor ddrwg â'r hyn a awgryma Mick Bates. Mae union resymeg cwestiwn Mick Bates—ac edrychaf yn graff ar fanifesto ei blaid, pan welwn ef—yn nodi'n glir ei bod yn fwriad gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, os credwn brif bwyslais cwestiwn Mick Bates, i gyflwyno amseroedd aros 18 wythnos erbyn diwedd 2008. Edrychaf ymlaen at weld yr ymrwymiad hwnnw ym manifesto'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, Mick, oherwydd, fel arall, mae'r cyfan oll yr ydych wedi ei ddweud hyd yma yn rhythreg wag. *[Torri ar draws.]*

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Beth yw diben galw Aelodau i ofyn cwestiynau atodol os ydynt yn mynd i'w gofyn beth bynnag, ar eu heistedd? Nid yw ymddygiad o'r fath yn briodol. Galwaf ar Glyn Davies yn awr am na wnaeth weiddi.

Glyn Davies: Byddai'n ddiddorol, Weinidog, pe byddech yn cyhoeddi'r ffigurau manwl yr oeddech yn sôn amdanynt.

Hoffwn eich holi am fater trawsffiniol nad yw'n ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â'i effaith ar ymarferwyr—hynny yw, y gwasanaeth dialysis arenol. Mae pobl yng ngogledd Powys wedi dibynnu ar wasanaethau yn yr Amwythig byth a hefyd ac yr ydym wedi bod yn ystyried cael iswasanaeth dialysis yng ngogledd Powys. Cytunwyd ar y safle, yn wir, cytunwyd ar bopeth mewn gwirionedd, ond ni chafwyd cymeradwyaeth i ryddhau'r cyllid. Ni all nifer enfawr o bobl ddefnyddio'r gwasanaeth yn yr Amwythig bellach, am ei fod yn llawn, ac mae'r rhain yn bobl sydd mewn angen dybryd i gael dialysis arenol yn agos i gartref ac sy'n gorfod teithio pellteroedd mawr am rywbeth na allant fyw hebdo.

Brian Gibbons: Bydd y fframwaith

framework for renal disease will set a standard that no-one in Wales should be more than 30 minutes from renal dialysis treatment. For that reason, north Powys, which you mentioned, parts of Pembrokeshire and north Ceredigion—the three areas that are in this situation—have been prioritised as areas for future investment, as we build up the dialysis capacity. We are at the advanced stage of providing a renal dialysis unit in Carmarthenshire in West Wales General Hospital. The immediate priority is to deliver that dialysis unit, which is long overdue. Once we do that, the next tranche of dialysis units will be in north Powys, Pembrokeshire and possibly one or two other locations in Wales that will not be able to meet the 30-minute travel time target.

Kirsty Williams: You will be aware that Powys Local Health Board has a strained relationship on occasion with English trusts, which take many of its patients. How will those relationships be helped by cuts in community hospital beds in my constituency without any consultation with the Hereford Hospitals NHS Trust, which could result in more patients from my constituency being unnecessarily admitted to Hereford County Hospital, and in delays in transfers of care out of Hereford County Hospital back to the constituency if community services are not available?

Brian Gibbons: I am sure that you would acknowledge that the relationship between Powys Local Health Board and English trusts, albeit strained, has been put to independent evaluation on a number of occasions, and the independent evaluation has come down on the side of Powys. I hope that your question was meant in the sense of acknowledging the correctness of the position taken by Powys LHB on a number of occasions. This is one of the reasons why we said to Powys LHB that it should not embark on the programmes; it never reached the stage of consultation, as you know—people became alarmed when an options paper was presented to the local health board, but they were not concrete proposals. Having seen the options paper, we felt that it was important

gwasanaeth cenedlaethol newydd ar gyfer clefyd yr arennau yn gosod safon na ddylai unrhyw un yng Nghymru fod fwy na 30 munud i ffwrdd o driniaeth dialysis arenol. Am y rheswm hwnnw, blaenoriaethwyd gogledd Powys, a grybwyllwyd gennyich, a rhannau o sir Benfro a gogledd Ceredigion—y tair ardal sydd yn y sefyllfa hon—fel ardaloedd i fuddsoddi ynddynt yn y dyfodol, wrth inni gynyddu adnoddau dialysis. Yr ydym ar gam datblygedig o ran darparu uned dialysis arenol yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Gorllewin Cymru yng Nghaerfyrddin. Y brif flaenoriaeth yw darparu'r uned dialysis honno, y bu ei hangen ers amser maith. Unwaith y gwnawn hynny, darperir y gyfres nesaf o unedau dialysis yng ngogledd Powys, sir Benfro ac un neu ddau leoliad arall yng Nghymru efallai, na allant gyflawni'r targed o amser teithio 30 munud.

Kirsty Williams: Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod cydberthynas Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Powys ag ymddiriedolaethau yn Lloegr, sy'n cymryd llawer o'i gleifion, yn un anodd ar adegau. Sut y bydd cwtogi nifer y gwelyau mewn ysbytai cymunedol yn fy etholaeth heb ymgynghori ag Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Ysbytai Henffordd, a allai arwain at weld mwy o gleifion o'm hetholaeth yn cael eu derbyn yn ddiangen i Ysbyty Swydd Henffordd, ynghyd ag achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal o Ysbyty Swydd Henffordd yn ôl i'r etholaeth os nad oes gwasanaethau cymunedol ar gael, yn helpu'r cydberthnasau hynny?

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cydnabod bod y gydberthynas rhwng Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Powys ac ymddiriedolaethau yn Lloegr, er yn anodd, wedi'i gwerthuso'n annibynnol ar sawl achlysur, a bod y gwerthusiad annibynnol wedi bod o blaid Powys. Gobeithiaf mai cydnabod cywirdeb safle BILl Powys ar sawl achlysur a wnaeth eich cwestiwn. Dyma un o'r rhesymau pam y gwnaethom ddweud wrth BILl Powys na ddylai ddilyn y rhaglenni; ni chyrrhaeddodd y cam ymgynghori byth, fel y gwyddoch—cafodd pobl fraw pan gyflwynwyd papur opsiynau i'r bwrdd iechyd lleol, ond nid oeddent yn gynigion cadarn. Ar ôl gweld y papur opsiynau, yr oeddem o'r farn ei bod yn bwysig i benderfyniadau BILl Powys gael eu

that the thinking of Powys LHB should be informed by our community services framework, and that is why we made it clear to Powys LHB that it would not be engaging in best practice to proceed without being informed by that community framework strategy. It is obvious that Powys LHB has taken that view, and the publication of that document in the next week or two will help to inform its decisions.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): A number of cases have been drawn to my attention from my constituency in recent weeks whereby patients have been referred to hospitals in England for treatment, only for Health Commission Wales to turn around and either refuse to pay for that treatment or only be prepared to pay for a different treatment to that which has been advised by senior consultants. This is causing great distress to patients because they have been advised by their local consultant and in the hospital in England that a treatment is appropriate, only for Health Commission Wales, for whatever reason, to turn down the request for funding. Since it is not clear to any of us or the patients concerned what criteria Health Commission Wales uses in determining whether or not to pay for treatment that consultants deem appropriate, will the Minister look into these individual cases? Will the Minister also tell us whether or not it makes a difference that trusts in Wales have a long-term contract with a hospital in England, such as the Manchester Royal Infirmary, or one-off arrangements with another hospital in Manchester, for example, whereby they must look at each operation on an individual basis? This is causing great distress to patients because they could be waiting for an operation only for Health Commission Wales to turn around at the last minute to say that it will not pay for it.

Brian Gibbons: There have been a number of such cases. In fairness to Health Commission Wales, it does have criteria and if individuals pursue their case to seek clarification from Health Commission Wales as to the reason why it did not support a particular commissioning decision or treatment programme, it will give an answer and an explanation. In some instances, the

llywio gan ein fframwaith ar gyfer gwasanaethau cymunedol, a dyna pam y'i gwnaethom yn glir i BILl Powys na fyddai'n rhoi arfer gorau ar waith pe bai'n bwrw ati heb gael ei lywio gan y strategaeth fframwaith cymunedol honno. Mae'n amlwg bod BILl Powys wedi mabwysiadu'r safbwynt hwnnw, a bydd cyhoeddi'r ddogfen honno yn yr wythnos neu ddwy nesaf yn helpu i lywio ei benderfyniadau.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf, yr wyf wedi dod yn ymwybodol o nifer o achosion yn fy etholaeth lle yr atgyfeiriwyd cleifion i ysbytai yn Lloegr am driniaeth, ond bod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru naill ai'n gwrthod talu am y driniaeth honno neu ond yn barod i dalu am driniaeth wahanol i'r hyn a gynghorwyd gan uwch feddygon ymgynghorol. Mae'r sefyllfa hon yn peri pryder mawr i gleifion gan fod eu meddyg ymgynghorol lleol a'r ysbyty yn Lloegr wedi dweud wrthynt fod triniaeth yn briodol, ond i Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru, am ba reswm bynnag, wrthod y cais am arian. Gan nad yw'n glir i'r un ohonom nac i'r cleifion dan sylw pa feini prawf a ddefnyddir gan Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru wrth benderfynu a ddylid talu am driniaeth sy'n briodol yn ôl meddygon ymgynghorol ai peidio, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ymchwilio i'r achosion unigol hyn? A wnaiff y Gweinidog hefyd ddweud wrthym pa un a yw'n gwneud gwahaniaeth bod gan ymddiriedolaethau yng Nghymru gontract hirdymor ag ysbyty yn Lloegr, megis Ysbyty Brenhinol Manceinion, neu drefniadau untro ag ysbyty arall ym Manceinion, er enghraifft, lle mae'n rhaid iddynt ystyried pob llawdriniaeth yn unigol? Mae hyn yn achos pryder mawr i gleifion oherwydd gallent fod yn aros am lawdriniaeth ond yna'n clywed bod Comisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn dweud ar y funud olaf na wnaiff dalu amdani.

Brian Gibbons: Bu sawl achos o'r fath. Er tegwch i Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru, mae ganddo feini prawf ac os bydd unigolion yn gofyn i Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru egluro'r rheswm dros beidio â chefnogi penderfyniad comisiynu penodol neu raglen o driniaeth, cânt reswm ac eglurhad. Mewn rhai achosion, efallai na fydd y rheswm yn ddigon da i'r claf, a gallaf ddeall weithiau pam y byddai

patient may find that the reason is not good enough, and I can sometimes understand why the patient would take that view. However, in other instances, decisions that Health Commission Wales has taken have been reasoned and fair. It would be dangerous to generalise and say that it is 100 per cent right or wrong in these individual cases; you would have to deal with them on a case-by-case basis, look at the explanation given by Health Commission Wales, and then analyse it in the light of the information that it would provide. However, I can understand the patients' frustration.

2.40 p.m.

Niferoedd a Dderbynnir i Ysbytai ar Frys Emergency Hospital Admission Numbers

Q7 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement on emergency hospital admission numbers? OAQ1336(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: The all-Wales figure for emergency hospital admissions for the quarter ending 31 December 2006 was 80,822. This is compared with 79,277 for the quarter ending 30 September 2006.

Eleanor Burnham: There is obviously huge concern about this in north Wales—at one stage, a few months ago, Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, which has only eight intensive care beds, was shut. In view of the fact that, I believe, one in 10 emergency medical admissions is due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and that there is in Neath-Port Talbot a preventative programme, I wonder if you have asked anyone in north Wales to look at rolling this out so that we can have better treatment in the north? People are very concerned, Minister, about the lack of general healthcare, as has been pinpointed by various colleagues.

Brian Gibbons: We have respiratory commissioning guidelines, and I think that they are out for consultation. I do not know whether or not the consultation process has ended, but certainly we have produced guidance for the service commissioning directors, and once the consultation process is completed, and the responses considered, the

o'r farn honno. Fodd bynnag, mewn achosion eraill, bu'r penderfyniadau a wnaed gan Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru yn rhesymol ac yn deg. Byddai'n beryglus cyffredinoli'r sefyllfa a dweud ei fod yn gwbl gywir neu anghywir yn yr achosion unigol hyn; byddai'n rhaid ichi ymdrin â hwy fesul achos, edrych ar yr eglurhad a roddwyd gan Gomisiwn Iechyd Cymru, ac yna ei ddadansoddi yn sgîl y wybodaeth y byddai'n ei darparu. Fodd bynnag, gallaf ddeall rhwystredigaeth cleifion.

C7 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y niferoedd a dderbynnir i ysbytai ar frys? OAQ1336(HSS)

Brian Gibbons: Ffigur Cymru gyfan ar gyfer y niferoedd a dderbyniwyd i ysbytai ar frys yn ystod y chwarter a ddaeth i ben 31 Rhagfyr 2006 oedd 80,822, o gymharu â 79,277 yn ystod y chwarter a ddaeth i ben 30 Medi 2006.

Eleanor Burnham: Yn amlwg, pryderir yn fawr am hyn yn y gogledd—ar un adeg, ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, yr oedd Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, sydd ond ag wyth gwely gofâl dwys, ar gau. O ystyried y ffaith, o'r hyn a ddeallaf, fod un o bob 10 achos meddygol o dderbyn cleifion ar frys yn deillio o glefyd rhwystrol cronig yr ysgyfaint, a bod rhaglen ataliol yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot, a ydych wedi gofyn i unrhyw un yn y gogledd ystyried ei chyflwyno fel y gallwn gael gwell triniaeth yn y gogledd? Mae pobl yn pryderu'n fawr, Weinidog, am ddiffyg gofâl iechyd cyffredinol, fel yr amlygwyd gan gyd-Aelodau amrywiol.

Brian Gibbons: Mae gennym ganllawiau comisiynu anadlol, a chredaf eu bod yn destun ymgynghoriad ar hyn o bryd. Nid wyf yn gwybod a yw'r broses ymgynghori wedi dod i ben, ond yn sicr yr ydym wedi cynhyrchu canllawiau i'r cyfarwyddwyr comisiynu gwasanaeth, ac unwaith y cwblheir y broses gomisiynu, ac yr ystyrir yr

commissioning directive will be made available. Your point about respiratory disease is well made because some of the leading research on that, which comes from Cardiff, has established that proper pulmonary rehabilitation programmes can make a big difference to patients' quality of life. One of our challenges will be to ensure that those pulmonary rehabilitation programmes are made more readily available across Wales, because that will make sense from the patient's point of view, given the better quality of life, and reduce the demand for treatment, while also reducing unnecessary admissions to hospital.

Jonathan Morgan: The ability of a hospital to admit emergency patients is partly dependent upon how many beds are blocked in that hospital. The Heath hospital in Cardiff has, on average, anywhere between 150 and 200 blocked beds every day. There are people, and I am one of them, who believe strongly that a lack of investment in community support services in Wales means that, on average, patients in that hospital are staying longer than necessary. Is this something that the Assembly Government will look at? Unless the lack of support within community services is addressed, those people who could be cared for in their own home are simply not going to be able to leave hospital.

Brian Gibbons: You are right—the problems in two, three or maybe four communities in Wales with delayed transfers of care are very acute, and Cardiff is certainly one of them. That is one of the reasons why we are asking the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales to take a look at this issue in those three or four communities where the pressure is greatest. It is difficult to fully understand why the performance in Cardiff is like that consistently—it places tremendous pressure on the hospital service, and the number of beds occupied by delayed-transfer-of-care patients is the highest in Wales. So, we need to understand the problem, and then work further with the health and social care community. Having said that, the head of the national health service in Wales, Ann Lloyd, has already convened a number of trilateral meetings

ymatebion, bydd y gyfarwydddeb gomisiynu ar gael. Yr oedd eich pwynt ynghylch clefyd anadlol yn un da oherwydd mae rhywfaint o'r gwaith ymchwil arweiniol ar hynny, a ddaw o Gaerdydd, wedi dod i'r casgliad y gall rhaglenni priodol i adsefydlu'r ysgyfaint wneud gwahaniaeth mawr i ansawdd bywyd cleifion. Un o'n heriau fydd sicrhau bod y rhaglenni hynny i adsefydlu'r ysgyfaint yn llawer mwy hygyrch ledled Cymru, oherwydd bydd hynny'n gwneud synnwyr o safbwynt claf, o ystyried yr ansawdd bywyd gwell, a bydd yn lleihau'r angen am driniaeth, tra hefyd yn lleihau derbyniadau diangen i ysbytai.

Jonathan Morgan: Mae gallu ysbyty i dderbyn cleifion brys yn dibynnu'n rhannol ar faint o welyau a gaiff eu blocio yn yr ysbyty hwnnw. Ar gyfartaledd, mae gan ysbyty'r Mynydd Bychan yng Nghaerdydd rhwng 150 a 200 o welyau sydd wedi'u blocio bob dydd. Mae pobl, ac yr wyf innau yn un ohonynt, yn credu bod diffyg buddsoddiad mewn gwasanaethau cymorth cymunedol yng Nghymru yn golygu bod cleifion, ar gyfartaledd, yn treulio mwy o amser nag sydd ei angen yn yr ysbyty hwnnw. A yw'r mater hwn yn rhywbeth y gwnaiff Llywodraeth y Cynulliad edrych arno? Os na eir i'r afael â'r diffyg cymorth o fewn gwasanaethau cymunedol, ni fydd y bobl hynny a allai dderbyn gofal yn eu cartrefi eu hunain yn gallu gadael yr ysbyty.

Brian Gibbons: Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle—mae'r problemau mewn dwy, tair neu efallai bedair cymuned yng Nghymru o ran achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yn aciwt iawn, ac mae Caerdydd yn un ohonynt yn bendant. Dyna un o'r rhesymau pam yr ydym yn gofyn i Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru edrych ar y mater hwn yn y tair neu bedair cymuned lle mae'r pwysau mwyaf. Mae'n anodd deall yn llawn pam bod perfformiad Caerdydd fel y mae yn gyson—mae'n rhoi pwysau aruthrol ar y gwasanaeth ysbytai, a'r nifer hwn o welyau a gaiff eu blocio gan gleifion sy'n profi oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yw'r uchaf yng Nghymru. Felly, mae angen inni ddeall y broblem, ac yna gweithio ymhellach gyda'r gymuned iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol. Wedi dweud hynny, mae pennaeth y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru, Ann Lloyd,

between the trust, the local health board and the social services department, to get the key players around the table to engage in a constructive dialogue on this issue, because, as you say, the burden on the service is clearly unsustainable, and it is not good for patients to be continually detained in the wrong place. That cannot be good for their health, it cannot be good for their quality of life, and it is not good for the health service.

eisoes wedi cynnal nifer o gyfarfodydd teirochrog rhwng yr ymddiriedolaeth, y bwrdd iechyd lleol a'r adran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, er mwyn cael yr unigolion allweddol o gwmpas y bwrdd i gynnal trafodaeth adeiladol ar y mater hwn, oherwydd, fel y dywedwch, mae'r baich ar y gwasanaeth yn amlwg yn anghynaliadwy, ac nid yw'n dda i gleifion gael eu cadw yn y man anghywir yn barhaus. Ni all hynny fod yn dda i'w hiechyd, ni all fod yn dda i'w hansawdd bywyd, ac nid yw'n dda i'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

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

Hyrwyddo Dwyieithrwydd Promoting Bilingualism

C1 David Lloyd: Pa drafodaethau diweddar mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cynnal ynglŷn â hyrwyddo dwyieithrwydd yn y sector cyhoeddus? OAQ1231(CWS)

Q1 David Lloyd: What recent discussions has the Minister had with regard to promoting bilingualism in the public sector? OAQ1231(CWS)

Y Gweinidog dros Ddiwylliant, y Gymraeg a Chwaraeon (Alun Pugh): Mae gan gyrff cyhoeddus gyfrifoldeb i hybu'r iaith Gymraeg. Yr wyf yn cwrdd â'r cyrff hyn a Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg yn aml er mwyn trafod hynny.

The Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport (Alun Pugh): Public bodies have a responsibility to promote the Welsh language. I frequently meet with these bodies and the Welsh Language Board to discuss that.

David Lloyd: Mae sicrhau bod meddygon ar gael i gyfathrebu â chleifion yn eu hiaith gyntaf yn fater clinigol, ac mae hynny'n gwella safon y diagnosis yn aml. Fel y Gweinidog â chyfrifoldeb dros yr iaith Gymraeg, beth ydych yn ei wneud i alluogi myfyrwyr meddygol sy'n siarad Cymraeg ac sy'n gallu cael eu hyfforddi yng Nghymru i gael yr hyfforddiant drwy gyfrwng yr iaith Gymraeg?

David Lloyd: Ensuring that general practitioners are available to communicate with patients in their first language is a clinical matter, and often improves the standard of the diagnosis. As the Minister responsible for the Welsh language, what are you doing to enable Welsh-speaking medical students who can be trained in Wales to be trained through the medium of Welsh?

Alun Pugh: That is an important point. I recently visited the North Wales Clinical School with my colleague, Brian Gibbons. We will see more training through the medium of Welsh, but I would agree that more needs to be done in the health sector—I know that this is a major issue for John Griffiths. The whole focus of improving bilingualism in the health sector was a major part of the last meeting held by Fforwm Iaith in Llangollen.

Alun Pugh: Mae hynny'n bwynt pwysig. Ymwelais yn ddiweddar ag Ysgol Glinigol Gogledd Cymru gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Brian Gibbons. Byddwn yn gweld mwy o hyfforddiant drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, ond cytunaf fod angen gwneud mwy yn y sector iechyd—gwn fod hyn yn fater pwysig i John Griffiths. Yr oedd canolbwyntio ar wella dwyieithrwydd yn y sector iechyd yn rhan bwysig o'r cyfarfod diwethaf a gynhaliwyd gan Fforwm Iaith yn Llangollen.

Lisa Francis: A ydych yn cytuno nad yw'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol yn rhoi gwybodaeth eglur i'r cyhoedd ynglŷn â pha hawliau iaith y gallant neu na allant eu mwynhau? Nid yw'n nodi unrhyw ddewisiadau. Er gwaethaf y ffaith bod yr iaith Gymraeg yn rhan o'r agenda cydraddoldeb yng Nghymru, nid yw'r ddeddfwriaeth bresennol yn sefydlu hawliau iaith clir ar gyfer y cyhoedd. Mae angen i ni ei gwneud yn glir beth y gall defnyddwyr yr iaith ei ddisgwyl o ran gwasanaeth Cymraeg.

Alun Pugh: The legislation is perfectly clear, and the rights of individuals are clear in Welsh language schemes. However, it is fair to say that there is not enough signposting in that regard, and signposting individuals to the rights that they have and working with public bodies will be a key feature of the work of the statutory office of the dyfarnydd.

Eleanor Burnham: A gawsoch unrhyw drafodaethau gyda Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg neu Cyngor Gwynedd ynghylch y ffaith bod y cyngor yn cael gwared ar oddeutu 300 o swyddi? Yr ydym yn gwybod mai'r cyngor yw un o'r sefydliadau mwyaf effeithiol a dylanwadol sy'n defnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg yn yr ardal.

Alun Pugh: I have had no such discussions. That is probably a matter for the Minister responsible for local government rather than for me.

Lisa Francis: Do you agree that current legislation does not provide the public with clear information about what language rights they can or cannot enjoy? It does not note any options. Despite the fact that the Welsh language is part of the equality agenda in Wales, current legislation does not establish clear language rights for the public. We need to make it clear what users of the Welsh language can expect in terms of services through the medium of Welsh.

Alun Pugh: Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn gwbl glir, ac mae hawliau unigolion yn glir mewn cynlluniau iaith Gymraeg. Fodd bynnag, mae'n deg dweud nad oes digon o gyfeirio yn hynny o beth, a bydd cyfeirio unigolion at yr hawliau sydd ganddynt a gweithio gyda chyrrff cyhoeddus yn nodwedd allweddol o waith swydd statudol y dyfarnydd.

Eleanor Burnham: Have you had any discussions with the Welsh Language Board or Gwynedd Council regarding the fact that the council will be cutting around 300 jobs? We all know that the council is one of the most effective and influential bodies using the Welsh language in the area.

Alun Pugh: Nid ydwyf wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau o'r fath. Mater i'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am lywodraeth leol yw hyn fwy na thebyg yn hytrach na minnau.

Trosglwyddo Digidol Digital Switchover

Q2 Peter Black: Will the Minister make a statement on what recent representations he has received with regard to digital switchover? OAQ1197(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Although this is not a devolved matter, I receive regular representations from members of the public and Assembly Members on digital switchover. I held my last meeting with the Office of Communications on 7 December and with Digital UK on 30 January.

Peter Black: Do you share my concern that there are still likely to be a number of people

C2 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am unrhyw sylwadau y mae wedi'u derbyn yn ddiweddar ynghylch trosglwyddo i'r drefn ddigidol? OAQ1197(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Er nad yw hwn yn fater datganoledig, caf sylwadau rheolaidd gan y cyhoedd ac Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar newid i ddigidol. Cynheliais fy nghyfarfod diwethaf gyda'r Swyddfa Gyfathrebiadau ar 7 Rhagfyr a chyda Digital UK ar 30 Ionawr.

Peter Black: A rannwch fy mhryderon ei bod yn debygol y bydd nifer o bobl o hyd

in black spots around Wales who will not be able to receive Welsh television ahead of English television once digital switchover takes place, and that, given that it is important that they get as much information as possible about this institution in the time leading up to the Assembly elections, they may experience a democratic deficit?

Alun Pugh: Digital switchover will take place following the Assembly elections. If you currently receive a decent analogue signal you will receive a decent digital signal and all the additional channels. You are right to say that some areas in Wales experience difficulty in getting an adequate analogue signal via a terrestrial transmitter. However, for many people in such circumstances, the best bet is to choose the Freesat option as no subscription is involved, and to get their television signal from a satellite rather than a terrestrial transmitter.

Leighton Andrews: I agree with your last comment about the need to find other solutions, such as free satellite transmission. However, I wish to turn your attention to the use of the spectrum after digital switchover has been achieved, because there are opportunities to use that spectrum to develop a wider range of services—perhaps news, other media, or support for Welsh culture and creative industries—through the development of locally based channels, as has been developed by Local TV and other organisations. Will you give consideration to how we might develop opportunities for Welsh creative industries in that way?

2.50 p.m.

Alun Pugh: You are quite right to say that there will be many options to use the spectrum, which is a finite and valuable resource. Many people have interesting ideas about how that should be used. Many broadcasters would like to see it used for high definition transmission of terrestrial television signals; there will be other options involving the generation of new services, including new and enhanced mobile telephones. However, the question of how the spectrum is used is a matter of frequent

sy'n byw mewn ardaloedd â signal gwael ledled Cymru na fyddant yn gallu derbyn teledu Cymraeg cyn teledu Saesneg unwaith y bydd y broses o newid i ddigidol yn digwydd, a chan ystyried ei bod yn bwysig eu bod yn cael cymaint o wybodaeth â phosibl am y sefydliad hwn yn yr amser sy'n arwain at etholiadau'r Cynulliad, efallai y byddant yn profi diffyg democrataidd?

Alun Pugh: Bydd y broses o newid i ddigidol yn digwydd ar ôl etholiadau'r Cynulliad. Os ydych yn derbyn signal analog boddhaol ar hyn o bryd byddwch yn derbyn signal digidol boddhaol a'r holl sianeli ychwanegol. Yr ydych yn iawn i ddweud bod rhai ardaloedd yng Nghymru yn ei chael yn anodd i gael signal analog digonol drwy drosglwyddydd daearol. Fodd bynnag, i lawer o bobl mewn amgylchiadau o'r fath, yr opsiwn gorau yw dewis Freesat gan nad oes rhaid tanysgrifio, ac i gael eu signal teledu o loeren yn hytrach na throsglwyddydd daearol.

Leighton Andrews: Cytunaf â'ch sylw diwethaf am yr angen i ganfod atebion eraill, fel trosglwyddydd lloeren am ddim. Fodd bynnag, dymunaf dynnu eich sylw at ddefnyddio'r sbectrwm ar ôl cwblhau'r broses o newid i ddigidol, oherwydd mae cyfleoedd i ddefnyddio'r sbectrwm hwnnw i ddatblygu amrywiaeth ehangach o wasanaethau—newyddion, cyfryngau eraill, neu gefnogaeth i ddiwylliant Cymreig a diwydiannau creadigol efallai—drwy ddatblygu sianeli lleol, fel y datblygwyd gan Local TV a sefydliadau eraill. A wnewch ystyried sut y gallem ddatblygu cyfleoedd i ddiwydiannau creadigol Cymru yn y ffordd honno?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud y bydd llawer o opsiynau i ddefnyddio'r sbectrwm, sy'n adnodd meidrol a gwerthfawr. Mae gan lawer o bobl syniadau diddorol ynghylch sut y dylid defnyddio hynny. Byddai llawer o ddarlledwyr am ei weld yn cael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer trosglwyddo signalau teledu daearol mewn manylder uwch; bydd opsiynau eraill yn ymwneud â chynhyrchu gwasanaethau newydd, yn cynnwys ffonau symudol newydd a gwell. Fodd bynnag, mae'r

consultation by Ofcom.

cwestiwn am sut y defnyddir y sbectrwm yn fater yr ymgynghorir arno'n aml gan Ofcom.

Brynle Williams: A significant number of elderly people are still uncertain about exactly what they will need in order to make the digital switchover in 2012. Quite a few have been misled into believing that they need to spend hundreds of pounds on a new television transmitter, when, in fact, they could spend £20 or £30 to achieve the same outcome. What work are you undertaking to ensure that elderly people in north Wales are informed about what will suit their circumstances, so that they can make informed choices?

Brynle Williams: Mae llawer o bobl oedrannus yn ansicr o hyd ynghylch beth yn union fydd ei angen arnynt er mwyn trosglwyddo i'r drefn ddigidol yn 2012. Mae eithaf tipyn wedi'u camarwain i gredu bod angen iddynt wario cannoedd o bunnoedd ar drosglwyddydd teledu newydd, pan, mewn gwirionedd, gallent wario £20 neu £30 i gael yr un canlyniad. Pa waith yr ydych yn ymgymryd ag ef i sicrhau bod pobl oedrannus yn y gogledd yn cael eu hysbysu am beth fydd yn cyd-fynd â'u hamgylchiadau, fel y gallant wneud dewisiadau hysbys?

Alun Pugh: There are a couple of rogue aerial installers out there, which is why it is important to always use a reputable supplier. Digital take-up among people over 75 is lower than average, but that tends not to be due to cost issues. Freeview boxes were very expensive when they first came out. This is why colleagues in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport are putting together a special package of assistance to support elderly people as we move closer to switchover to digital transmission.

Alun Pugh: Mae ambell i osodwr erialau twyllodrus ar gael, ac felly mae'n bwysig defnyddio cyflenwr cyfrifol bob amser. Mae nifer y bobl dros 75 oed sydd wedi trosglwyddo i'r drefn ddigidol yn llai na'r cyfartaledd, ond nid yw hynny'n dueddol o fod oherwydd materion yn ymwneud â chostau. Yr oedd blychau Freeview yn ddrud iawn pan wnaethant ymddangos i ddechrau. Dyna pam mae fy nhyd-Aelodau yn yr Adran dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon yn rhoi pecyn cymorth arbennig ynghyd i gynorthwyo pobl oedrannus wrth inni symud yn agosach at drosglwyddo i'r drefn ddigidol.

Cefnogi Gwyliau Cerdd a Chelfyddydol Supporting Arts and Music Festivals

Q3 Rosemary Butler: What assistance is being given to local authorities in Wales to support arts and music festivals in Wales? OAQ1210(CWS)

C3 Rosemary Butler: Pa gymorth sy'n cael ei roi i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i gefnogi gwyliau cerdd a chelfyddydol yng Nghymru? OAQ1210(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Funding for arts and music festivals in Wales is channelled through the Arts Council of Wales, to which local authorities can apply for support should they wish to do so. The total budget for this year is in the order of £685,000.

Alun Pugh: Caiff arian ar gyfer gwyliau cerdd a chelfyddydol yng Nghymru ei sianeli drwy Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, y gall awdurdodau lleol wneud cais iddo am gefnogaeth pe byddent yn dymuno gwneud hynny. Cyfanswm y gyllideb ar gyfer eleni yw £685,000.

Rosemary Butler: One of the attractions of Wales is the diversity of our culture. Dozens of small arts festivals, such as the highly successful Caerleon Arts Festival, are held across the country each year. These festivals not only play a large part in our cultural

Rosemary Butler: Un o atyniadau Cymru yw amrywiaeth ein diwylliant. Cynhelir dwsinau o wyliau celfyddydol bach, fel Gŵyl Gelfyddydau lwyddiannus Caerllion, ledled y wlad bob blwyddyn. Nid yn unig y mae'r gwyliau hyn yn chwarae rhan fawr yn ein

tourism, but are the core of their local cultural scenes. They are usually organised by volunteers. Applying for grant aid is an art in itself. I have asked you before whether, first, you would be prepared to initiate fast-track, easy access to grants for these arts organisations, and whether you will put in more money directly—or encourage Sue Essex to put in more money directly—to local authorities, so that they can help fledgling arts organisations. Caerleon Arts Festival is a classic example; it now has a European-wide reputation, but because it is not one of the big festivals, such as Llangollen, trying to get funding is really difficult. Any help that you can give, Minister, would be much appreciated.

Alun Pugh: I would certainly always welcome an additional tranche of funding in the culture budget—either into my own budget or the culture budgets of local authorities. You are absolutely right to say that festivals are a very important part of cultural life in Wales. The participation statistics that were published by the arts council not long ago showed that cultural festivals were the most open and accessible art form of all.

Kirsty Williams: You will be aware of the huge success and economic benefit that the Brecon Jazz Festival brings to Mid and West Wales, and indeed Wales as a whole. The Welsh Assembly Government has been very supportive in securing the festival's future. However, the trustees of the festival have continuing concerns about their relationship with Powys County Council and the very high charges that the council levies upon the festival for street cleaning and so on. What can your officials do to help develop a stronger partnership between the arts council, your division in the Assembly, Powys County Council and the trustees of the festival to ensure that Brecon Jazz Festival continues to go from strength to strength in my constituency?

Alun Pugh: Brecon Jazz is not only an important cultural festival in its own right, but puts a significant amount of economic

twristiaeth ddiwylliannol, ond maent hefyd yn ganolog i'w byd diwylliannol lleol. Cânt eu trefnu fel arfer gan wirfoddolwyr. Mae gwneud cais am gymorth grant yn gelf ynddi'i hun. Yr wyf wedi gofyn ichi o'r blaen pa un a fydddech, yn gyntaf, yn barod i sicrhau mynediad trywydd cyflym, hawdd i grantiau ar gyfer y sefydliadau celfyddydol hyn, a pha un a fyddwch yn cyfrannu rhagor o arian yn uniongyrchol—neu'n annog Sue Essex i gyfrannu rhagor o arian yn uniongyrchol—i awdurdodau lleol, fel y gallant helpu sefydliadau celfyddydol sydd newydd sefydlu. Mae Gŵyl Gelfyddydau Caerllion yn enghraifft ddelweddol; mae ganddi enw da ledled Ewrop erbyn hyn, ond oherwydd nad yw'n un o'r gwyliau mawr, fel Llangollen, mae ceisio cael arian yn anodd iawn. Câi unrhyw help y gallwch ei roi ei werthfawrogi, Weinidog.

Alun Pugh: Byddwn yn sicr bob amser yn croesawu cyfran ychwanegol o arian yn y gyllideb ddiwylliant—naill ai i'm cyllideb i neu gyllidebau diwylliant awdurdodau lleol. Yr ydych yn llygad eich lle i ddweud bod gwyliau yn rhan bwysig iawn o fywyd diwylliannol Cymru. Dengys yr ystadegau cyfranogi a gyhoeddwyd gan gyngor y celfyddydau yn ddiweddar mai gwyliau diwylliannol oedd y ffurf gelfyddydol fwyaf agored a hygyrch.

Kirsty Williams: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r llwyddiant enfawr a'r fantais economaidd y mae Gŵyl Jazz Aberhonddu yn eu cyflwyno i'r canolbarth a'r gorllewin, ac yn wir i Gymru gyfan. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn gefnogol iawn o ran sicrhau dyfodol yr ŵyl. Fodd bynnag, mae gan ymddiriedolwyr yr ŵyl bryderon parhaus ynghylch eu perthynas â Chyngor Sir Powys a'r costau uchel iawn y mae'r cyngor yn eu codi ar yr ŵyl am lanhau'r strydoedd ac ati. Beth y gall eich swyddogion ei wneud i helpu i ddatblygu perthynas gryfach rhwng cyngor y celfyddydau, eich is-adran yn y Cynulliad, Cyngor Sir Powys ac ymddiriedolwyr yr ŵyl i sicrhau bod Gŵyl Jazz Aberhonddu yn parhau i fynd o nerth i nerth yn fy etholaeth?

Alun Pugh: Nid yn unig y mae Gŵyl Jazz Aberhonddu yn ŵyl ddiwylliannol bwysig ynddi ei hun, ond mae'n rhoi swm sylweddol

development and money into the economy of south Powys, and I would be disappointed to see Powys County Council withdrawing support or levying lots of extra charges. The Assembly Government recognises the importance of Brecon Jazz Festival and that is why we invest around £90,000 per annum in the festival.

o ddatblygiad economaidd ac arian i economi de Powys, a byddwn yn siomedig i weld Cyngor Sir Powys yn dileu cymorth neu'n codi llawer o gostau ychwanegol. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd Gŵyl Jazz Aberhonddu a dyna pam ein bod yn buddsoddi tua £90,000 y flwyddyn yn yr ŵyl.

Hyrwyddo'r Iaith Gymraeg Promoting the Welsh Language

Q4 Nick Bourne: Will the Minister update us on his policies for promoting the Welsh language? OAQ1192(CWS)

C4 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am ei bolisiau ar gyfer hyrwyddo'r iaith Gymraeg? OAQ1192(CWS)

Alun Pugh: As part of the Assembly Government's commitment to creating a fully bilingual Wales, we are working hard to promote the Welsh language among all the people of Wales and in every part of Wales. That commitment is reflected in the investment of an additional £40 million since 2003.

Alun Pugh: Fel rhan o ymrwymiad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i greu Cymru gwbl ddwyieithog, yr ydym yn gweithio'n ddiwyd i hyrwyddo'r iaith Gymraeg ymhlith yr holl bobl yng Nghymru ac ym mhob rhan o Gymru. Adlewyrchir yr ymrwymiad hwnnw yn y buddsoddiad o £40 miliwn ychwanegol ers 2003.

Nick Bourne: I will ask the Minister two specific questions. First, does he favour a review of the current Welsh Language Act? Secondly, what discussions has he had with Government departments at Westminster, and the Department of Trade and Industry and the Home Office in particular, about ensuring that they deal sensitively with Welsh speakers in Wales, as that has not always been the case in the past?

Nick Bourne: Gofynnaf ddau gwestiwn penodol i'r Gweinidog. Yn gyntaf, a yw'n ffafrio adolygiad o'r Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg bresennol? Yn ail, pa drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael ag adrannau'r Llywodraeth yn San Steffan, a'r Adran Masnach a Diwydiant a'r Swyddfa Gartref yn benodol, o ran sicrhau eu bod yn ymdrin yn sensitif â siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Nghymru, gan nad yw hynny wedi digwydd bob amser yn y gorffennol?

Alun Pugh: All public bodies should display sensitivity in these matters. I believe that public bodies, as a matter of basic rights, should deal with both languages as a matter of course. I am not convinced of the need for a new Welsh Language Act, and I do not think that future legislation on the Welsh language should be done by means of a new Welsh Language Act in Westminster. This National Assembly, using its Measure-making powers, should legislate on the Welsh language, and we are committed to bringing legislation to this Assembly to create the new office of the dyfarnydd, who will be a powerful arbiter of Welsh-language schemes.

Alun Pugh: Dylai pob corff cyhoeddus ddangos sensitifrwydd o ran y materion hyn. Credaf y dylai cyrff cyhoeddus, fel mater o hawliau sylfaenol, ymdrin â'r ddwy iaith fel yn rheolaidd. Nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig o'r angen am Ddeddf Iaith newydd, a chredaf na ddylai deddfwriaeth yn y dyfodol ar yr iaith Gymraeg gael eu llunio drwy Ddeddf Iaith newydd yn San Steffan. Dylai'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol hwn, gan ddefnyddio ei bwerau llunio Mesurau, ddeddfu ar yr iaith Gymraeg, ac yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i ddod â deddfwriaeth i'r Cynulliad hwn i greu swydd newydd y dyfarnydd, a fydd yn ganolwr pwerus o ran cynlluniau iaith Gymraeg.

John Griffiths: A gytunwch â mi ei bod yn bwysig sicrhau bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi'r iaith ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys ardaloedd fel Casnewydd lle mae'r iaith yn eithaf gwan?

John Griffiths: Do you agree that it is important to ensure that the Welsh Assembly Government supports the language throughout Wales, including in areas such as Newport where the language is relatively weak?

Alun Pugh: One of the most encouraging aspects of the development of the Welsh language in recent years is enthusiasm about the Welsh language and its growth in traditionally English-speaking areas. It is really good to see a growing demand for Welsh-medium education in places such as Newport, and it is good to see private companies, as a result not of legislation, but of encouragement by the Government, embracing the language. By means of additional Government investment, and focus by the Welsh Language Board, we are seeing the Welsh language become more visible and audible throughout the nation.

Alun Pugh: Un o'r agweddau mwyaf calonogol ar ddatblygu'r iaith Gymraeg yn ddiweddar yw brwdfrydedd ynghylch yr iaith Gymraeg a'i thwf mewn ardaloedd lle y siaredir Saesneg yn draddodiadol. Mae'n dda iawn gweld galw cynyddol am addysg Gymraeg mewn ardaloedd fel Casnewydd, ac mae'n dda gweld cwmnïau preifat, nid o ganlyniad i ddeddfwriaeth, ond o ganlyniad i anogaeth gan y Llywodraeth, yn croesawu'r iaith. Drwy fuddsoddiad ychwanegol gan y Llywodraeth, a ffocws gan Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg, gwelwn fod yr iaith yn dod yn fwy gweladwy a chlywadwy ledled y wlad.

Owen John Thomas: Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed John yn sôn am yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd yng Nghasnewydd. Yno bu i Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg rannu'r gost o gynnal arolwg rhieni i ddarganfod y galw am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ymhlith pobl ifanc yno. Y canlyniad oedd bod nifer y bobl sydd am gael addysg Gymraeg ddwywaith yn uwch na'r nifer y darperir ar eu cyfer yn y ddinas ifanc honno. A ydych yn fodlon rhoi arian i Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg fel ei bod yn gallu cydweithio ag awdurdodau addysg lleol eraill yng Nghymru i sicrhau eu bod yn cynnal arolygon, ac fel ein bod yn gallu dyblu a chynyddu'r ddarpariaeth fel bo angen?

Owen John Thomas: I was pleased to hear John mention what is happening in Newport. There, the Welsh Language Board shared the cost of conducting a survey of parents to discover the demand for Welsh-medium education among young people there. The outcome was that the number of people who want Welsh-medium education is twice as great that the number provided for in that young city. Are you willing to give the Welsh Language Board funding so that it can collaborate with local education authorities throughout Wales to ensure that they conduct surveys, and so that we can double and increase the provision as necessary?

Alun Pugh: Yr wyf am weld mwy o bobl ifanc yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ledled Cymru.

Alun Pugh: I want to see more young people receiving Welsh-medium education throughout Wales.

Owen John Thomas: Yr ydych wedi dweud hynny wrthyf sawl gwaith, Alun, ond y trafferth yw nad yw'r arian yn mynd at Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg i'w alluogi i wneud yr hyn a wnaeth yng Nghasnewydd yn y 13 sir arall lle mae llai nag 20 y cant o bobl yn gallu siarad Cymraeg. A ydych chi'n fodlon gwneud hynny, a nid dim ond yn dweud ei bod yn beth da? A ydych yn fodlon caniatáu i'r peth ddigwydd drwy roi cyllid ychwanegol i'r bwrdd iaith i gyflawni hynny?

Owen John Thomas: You have said that to me on several occasions, Alun, but the trouble is that funding is not going to the Welsh Language Board to enable it to do what it did in Newport in the 13 other counties where less than 20 per cent of the population can speak Welsh. Are you willing to do that, and not just to say that it is a good thing? Are you willing to allow the thing to happen by giving additional funding to the language board to achieve it?

Alun Pugh: The Single Education Plan (Wales) Regulations 2006 are very clear. We are looking to local authorities to accurately measure the demand for Welsh-medium education and then to respond positively. I agree with you that more and more parents, the length and breadth of the nation, are seeing the considerable advantages—which are not just cultural, but cognitive—of giving their kids a bilingual education. The demand for Welsh-language education is growing, and we want to see an encouragement of that trend.

3.00 p.m.

When those kids come out of school, it is important that they get lots of opportunities to use the Welsh language in all parts of their lives. I am happy to be able to tell the Assembly that we are consulting with some 59 public bodies with a view to bringing them under the Welsh Language Act 1993. I would take up the entire session of questions if I was to read out the whole list, but I will read out the list of those under A to C: the Auditor General for Wales, the Bank of England, the Big Lottery Fund, the British Council, the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, the Community Development Foundation, the Competition Commission, the Consumer Council for Water, and so on. This is the biggest ever extension of the Welsh Language Act 1993 to cover public bodies. We will take that agenda forward—ledled Cymru; across Wales.

Alun Pugh: Mae Rheoliadau'r Cynllun Addysg Sengl (Cymru) 2006 yn glir iawn. Gofynnwn i awdurdodau lleol fesur y galw am addysg Gymraeg yn gywir ac yna i ymateb yn gadarnhaol. Cytunaf â chi bod mwy a mwy o rieni, ar hyd a lled y wlad, yn gweld manteision sylweddol—nad ydynt yn rhai diwylliannol yn unig, ond yn rhai gwybyddol—o roi addysg ddwyieithog i'w plant. Mae'r galw am addysg Gymraeg yn tyfu, ac yr ydym am weld pobl yn annog y tueddiad hwnnw.

Pan fydd y plant hynny yn ymadael â'r ysgol, mae'n bwysig eu bod yn cael llawer o gyfleoedd i ddefnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg ym mhob rhan o'u bywydau. Yr wyf yn falch o allu dweud wrth y Cynulliad ein bod yn ymgynghori â thua 59 o gyrff cyhoeddus gyda'r bwriad o'u cynnwys o dan Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 1993. Byddwn yn defnyddio'r amser a ganiateir ar gyfer y sesiwn cwestiynau gyfan pe bawn yn darllen y rhestr gyfan allan, ond darllenaf y rhai sydd ar y rhestr o dan A i C yn Saesneg: Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, Banc Lloegr, y Gronfa Loteri Fawr, y Cyngor Prydeinig, y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol, y Sefydliad Datblygu Cymunedol, y Comisiwn Cystadleuaeth, y Cyngor Defnyddwyr Dŵr, ac ati. Dyma'r estyniad mwyaf erioed i Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 1993 i gynnwys cyrff cyhoeddus. Byddwn yn bwrw ati â'r agenda honno—ledled Cymru.

Gwyliau Cerdd Music Festivals

Q5 Peter Black: Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Assembly Government support for music festivals in Wales? OAQ1194(CWS)

C5 Peter Black: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wyliau cerdd yng Nghymru? OAQ1194(CWS)

Alun Pugh: The Welsh Assembly Government supports a wide variety of major cultural events in Wales and funds music festivals from Faenol and Brecon Jazz, which we have already discussed this afternoon, to more alternative events such as the Porthcawl Elvis festival. In 2006-07, the Arts Council of Wales provided over £600,000 to support

Alun Pugh: Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn cefnogi amrywiaeth eang o ddigwyddiadau diwylliannol mawr yng Nghymru ac mae'n ariannu gwyliau cerdd o'r Faenol a Jazz Aberhonddu, yr ydym eisoes wedi'u trafod y prynhawn yma, i ddigwyddiadau amgenach fel gŵl Elvis Porthcawl. Yn 2006-07, rhoddodd Cyngor

music festivals.

Celfyddydau Cymru dros £600,000 i gefnogi gwyliau cerdd.

Peter Black: You took away my thunder, because I was going to refer to the Porthcawl Elvis festival as a good example of an innovative festival that is attracting people to Porthcawl and to south-west Wales. What funding do you give to that festival and would you like to give it some more?

Peter Black: Yr oeddwn innau hefyd yn bwriadu cyfeirio at ŵyl Elvis Porthcawl fel enghraifft dda o ŵyl arloesol sy'n denu pobl i Borthcawl a'r de-orllewin. Pa arian yr ydych yn ei roi i'r ŵyl honno ac a hoffech roi rhywfaint yn rhagor iddi?

Alun Pugh: I am sorry if I have stepped on your blue suede shoes. The Porthcawl Elvis festival received some £16,000 last year, tied to economic benefits and to additional bed-nights.

Alun Pugh: Mae'n flin gennyf am gamu ar eich esgidiau swêd glas. Derbyniodd gŵyl Elvis Porthcawl tua £16,000 y llynedd, a oedd ynghlwm wrth fuddiannau economaidd a nosweithiau gwely ychwanegol.

Irene James: Do you agree that there is a strong musical culture in the south Wales Valleys? However, as we have discussed on previous occasions, venues for celebrating that culture are falling into disrepair. Do you agree that the Newbridge Memo, which is so vital to the regeneration of the local community and which is a key institution in terms of celebrating local culture and heritage, would be an excellent and deserving recipient of Welsh Assembly Government funding?

Irene James: A gytunwch fod diwylliant cerddorol cryf yng nghymoedd y de? Fodd bynnag, fel y trafodwyd gennym ar sawl achlysur blaenorol, mae'r lleoliadau ar gyfer dathlu'r diwylliant hwnnw yn adfeilio. A gytunwch y byddai Neuadd Goffa Trecelyn, sydd mor hanfodol i adfywiad y gymuned leol ac sy'n sefydliad allweddol o ran dathlu diwylliant a threftadaeth leol, yn enghraifft ardderchog a haeddiannol i dderbyn arian Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru?

Alun Pugh: There is indeed a strong musical culture coming up from the grass roots. I know that many of these fine buildings were built by the voluntary contributions—penny contributions, in some cases—of workers. Miners' unions were particularly active in many Valley communities. I will have something very interesting to say about grants tomorrow, which will include the Newbridge Memo.

Alun Pugh: Yn wir, mae diwylliant cerddorol cryf ar lawr gwlad. Gwn fod llawer o'r adeiladau gwych hyn wedi'u hadeiladu drwy gyfraniadau gwirfoddol gan weithwyr—cyfraniadau gwerth ceiniogau mewn rhai achosion. Yr oedd undebau glowyr yn arbennig o weithgar mewn llawer o gymunedau yn y cymoedd. Bydd gennyf rywbeth diddorol iawn i'w ddweud am grantiau yfory, a fydd yn cynnwys Neuadd Goffa Trecelyn.

Christine Gwyther: In Pembroke Dock—and we have the Pembroke Dock Town Council here this afternoon—there is a midsummer festival, part of which includes music. It has become a real driver for social inclusion in the town. I know that there is a Communities First music fund; will you continue to look proactively, with the Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration, at further ways in which Communities First and social justice funding can be used with arts funding to promote social inclusion?

Christine Gwyther: Yn Noc Penfro—ac mae Cyngor Tref Doc Penfro yma y prynhawn yma—cynhelir gŵyl canol haf, y mae cerddoriaeth yn rhan ohoni. Mae'r ŵyl wedi dod yn ffactor pwysig o ran ysgogi cynhwysiant cymdeithasol yn y dref. Gwn fod yna gronfa gerddoriaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf; a wnewch chi barhau i edrych yn rhagweithiol, ar y cyd â'r Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio, ar ffyrdd eraill y gellir defnyddio arian Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ac arian cyfiawnder cymdeithasol gyda'r arian a gaiff ei neilltuo

ar gyfer y celfyddydau i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol?

Alun Pugh: That is a good point. Obviously, the arts pot is large and has been growing substantially in recent years. Where we can lever in additional funding, such as from Communities First funding, into these festivals to make them even bigger and better events, we should do so.

Alun Pugh: Mae hynny'n bwynt da. Yn amlwg, mae cronfa'r celfyddydau yn fawr ac mae wedi bod yn tyfu'n sylweddol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Lle y gallwn ddarparu arian ychwanegol, megis arian Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, i'r gwyliau hyn i'w gwneud yn ddigwyddiadau gwell a hyd yn oed yn fwy, dylem wneud hynny.

Dyfrffyrdd Waterways

Q6 Eleanor Burnham: Will the Minister make a statement about the use of waterways in Wales for sport? OAQ1188(CWS)

C6 Eleanor Burnham: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddefnyddio dyfrffyrdd Cymru ar gyfer chwaraeon? OAQ1188(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Our Climbing Higher strategy is about raising levels of participation in sport and physical activity and encourages making the best use of the outdoor environment for a range of activities, including those that take place on water, such as canoeing.

Alun Pugh: Mae ein strategaeth Dringo'n Uwch yn ymwneud â chodi lefelau cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol ac mae'n annog y defnydd o'r awyr agored ar gyfer amrywiaeth o weithgareddau, yn cynnwys y rhai sy'n ymwneud â dŵr, fel canŵio.

Eleanor Burnham: I believe that a Bill is going through Parliament at the moment which relates to this. Can you update us on its implications for Wales's waterways? I know that there is an ongoing need to balance the different forms of access and possibly to have a code of conduct with respect to different people who want to use waterways for sport. What can you tell us about this important matter?

Eleanor Burnham: Credaf fod Mesur ar ei hynt drwy'r Senedd ar hyn o bryd mewn perthynas â hyn. A allwch roi'r diweddaraf inni ar ei oblygiadau i ddyfrffyrdd Cymru? Gwn fod angen parhaus i sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng y gwahanol fathau o fynediad a phennu cod ymddygiad o bosibl i bobl wahanol sydd am ddefnyddio dyfrffyrdd ar gyfer chwaraeon. Beth y gallwch ei ddweud wrthym am y mater pwysig hwn?

Alun Pugh: Many people want access to water. The legal position in England and Wales on water rights is largely covered by common law. Introducing new legislation in this area is not a simple matter. If it is possible to increase access without damaging the legitimate rights of people like anglers, we would certainly be keen to do that.

Alun Pugh: Mae llawer o bobl yn dymuno defnyddio'r dyfrffyrdd. Caiff y sefyllfa gyfreithiol ar hawliau dŵr yng Nghymru a Lloegr ei chwmpasu i raddau helaeth gan gyfraith gwlad. Nid mater syml yw cyflwyno deddfwriaeth newydd yn y maes hwn. Os yw'n bosibl cynyddu'r defnydd heb niweidio hawliau cyfreithiol pobl fel genweirwyr, byddem yn sicr yn awyddus i wneud hynny.

Val Lloyd: Canal towpaths offer linear routes that are accessible to walkers of all abilities and are an important green space for many. Although it is not possible to accommodate walkers and cyclists on all towpaths, there are designated cycle routes

Val Lloyd: Mae llwybrau tynnu ar hyd camlesi yn cynnig llwybrau llinol sy'n hygyrch i gerddwyr o bob gallu ac maent yn fannau gwyrdd pwysig i lawer. Er nad yw'n bosibl i gerddwyr a seiclwyr ddefnyddio pob llwybr tynnu, mae llwybrau seiclo penodedig

alongside certain sections of Welsh canals. Do you agree that we need to continue to develop towpaths into attractive corridors for recreation and exercise?

Alun Pugh: Towpaths are wonderful resources, both in terms of transport and quiet recreation. I think that it is possible, in many cases, to jointly accommodate walkers and cyclists on these stretches. I have cycled along many Welsh canal towpaths and, with all-round co-operation, it is possible to do so. You cannot, of course, hammer along narrow towpaths at 20 mph on a road bike, but with a bit of common sense and all-round care and consideration, everyone can have a good time.

Laura Anne Jones: Access to our waterways crosses portfolios and borders. How have you worked with the Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside on ensuring that the views of both fishermen and canoeists are taken into account when deciding what is best for our waterways? This also has a huge impact on tourism, as you are aware. I last asked this question in the Chamber some months ago, so what progress has your Government made to improve the relationship between fishermen and canoeists with regard to access to waterways? As a keen angler myself, I have been made aware that the situation has, if anything, deteriorated. What practical steps has this Government taken to improve access to our waterways for both parties and how are you working with the Government in Westminster and in Scotland, and with relevant bodies in Wales, to achieve this?

Alun Pugh: I am not sure that I would use the word 'deteriorated'. Canoeists would point out that they can only access around 2 per cent of the canoeable stretches of our Welsh rivers at the moment and they understandably want more access, because it is such a fantastic resource and because it is such a pleasure to canoe on Welsh waters. However, we must consider the considerable number of anglers who want to enjoy their

ar hyd rhai rhannau o gamlesi yng Nghymru. A gytunwch fod angen inni barhau i ddatblygu llwybrau tynnu i greu coridorau deniadol at ddibenion hamdden ac ymarfer corff?

Alun Pugh: Mae llwybrau tynnu yn adnoddau ardderchog, o ran trafndiaeth a hamddena tawel. Credaf ei bod yn bosibl, mewn llawer o achosion, i gerddwyr a seiclwyr allu defnyddio'r llwybrau hyn ar y cyd. Yr wyf wedi seiclo ar hyd llwybrau tynnu sawl camlas yng Nghymru a, chydychydweithrediad pawb, mae'n bosibl gwneud hynny. Ni allwch, wrth gwrs, fynd fel y gwynt ar gyflymder o 20 milltir yr awr ar hyd llwybrau tynnu cul ar feic sy'n addas ar gyfer y ffordd, ond gyda rhywfaint o synnwyr cyffredin a gofal ac ystyriaeth gyffredinol, gall pawb fwynhau eu defnyddio.

Laura Anne Jones: Mae mynediad i'n dyfrffyrdd yn croesi portffolios a ffiniau. Sut yr ydych wedi gweithio gyda'r Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad i sicrhau bod barn pysgotwyr a chanŵ-wyr yn cael ei hystyried wrth benderfynu ar yr hyn sydd orau i'n dyfrffyrdd? Mae hyn hefyd yn cael effaith enfawr ar dwristiaeth, fel y gwyddoch. Gofynnais y cwestiwn hwn ddiwethaf yn y Siambr rhai misoedd yn ôl, felly pa gynnydd y mae eich Llywodraeth wedi'i wneud i wella'r gydberthynas rhwng pysgotwyr a chanŵ-wyr o ran cael mynediad i ddyfrffyrdd? Fel genweiriwr brwd fy hun, yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod y sefyllfa wedi gwaethygu os unrhyw beth. Pa gamau ymarferol y mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi'u cymryd i wella mynediad i'n dyfrffyrdd i'r ddwy ochr a sut yr ydych yn gweithio gyda'r Llywodraeth yn San Steffan ac yn yr Alban, a chyda chyrrff perthnasol yng Nghymru, i gyflawni hyn?

Alun Pugh: Ni wn a fyddwn yn defnyddio'r gair 'gwaethygu'. Byddai canŵ-wyr yn datgan mai dim ond tua 2 y cant o'r hydoedd afonydd yng Nghymru sy'n addas ar gyfer canŵio y gallant gael mynediad iddynt ar hyn o bryd ac yn naturiol maent am gael mwy o fynediad, gan ei fod yn adnodd cystal a chan ei bod yn gymaint o bleser canŵio ar ddyfroedd yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ystyried y nifer sylweddol o enweirwyr

sport as well. It will not be easy, but it is possible to make progress in this area.

Laura Anne Jones: This issue clearly has environmental elements, as Eleanor Burnham rightly pointed out. People are being made aware of that at the moment, as the Bill makes its way through Parliament. Can you assure me that you are working alongside Carwyn Jones to ensure that areas of special scientific interest and fragile habitats that surround our waterways are not affected when you rightly try to improve access to health benefits by promoting such sports? Can you assure me that that will not be to the detriment of the environment?

Alun Pugh: I am working with Carwyn Jones on this matter. I am not sure that increasing access to waterways poses a threat to many areas of special scientific interest. The act of canoeing, provided that there is enough water in the river, has virtually zero environmental impact. However, we clearly must take care of that. The biggest issue to tackle is balancing the rights of riparians, canoeists and anglers. That will require a great deal of detailed policy work.

sydd am fwynhau eu camp hwy hefyd. Ni fydd yn hawdd, ond mae cynnydd yn y maes hwn yn bosibl.

Laura Anne Jones: Yn amlwg, mae elfennau amgylcheddol i'r broblem hon, fel y soniodd Eleanor Burnham. Mae pobl yn dod yn ymwybodol o hynny ar hyn o bryd, wrth i'r Mesur fynd ar ei hynt drwy'r Senedd. A allwch roi sicrwydd imi eich bod yn cydweithio â Carwyn Jones i sicrhau na fydd unrhyw effaith ar ardaloedd o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig na'r cynefinoedd bregus sydd i'w cael gerllaw ein dyfrffyrdd pan fyddwch, yn briodol, yn ceisio gwella mynediad i fuddiannau iechyd drwy hyrwyddo chwaraeon o'r fath? A allwch roi sicrwydd imi na wneir hynny ar draul yr amgylchedd?

Alun Pugh: Yr wyf yn cydweithio â Carwyn Jones ar y mater hwn. Ni wn a yw cynyddu mynediad i ddyfrffyrdd yn peri bygythiad i lawer o ardaloedd o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig. Prin iawn yw'r effaith a gaiff canŵio ar yr amgylchedd, ar yr amod bod digon o ddŵr yn yr afon. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni ystyried hynny yn amlwg. Y broblem fwyaf fydd sicrhau cydbwysedd rhwng hawliau perchnogion glannau afon, canŵ-wyr a genweirwyr. Bydd angen llawer iawn o waith polisi manwl er mwyn gwneud hynny.

Mynediad i Chwaraeon Access to Sport

Q7 Janet Ryder: Will the Minister make a statement on access to sport in north Wales? OAQ1225(CWS)

Alun Pugh: 'Climbing Higher: Next Steps' shows how we intend to improve access to, and increase levels of participation, in sport throughout Wales. I am pleased to tell you that north Wales has much higher than average participation levels, which would indicate better than average access to sport.

Janet Ryder: You made a statement last week on the number of new disability football clubs in Wales. I have raised this issue with you before, so you will be aware that teams like the Llandudno multi-disability football club has enjoyed considerable

C7 Janet Ryder: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am fynediad i chwaraeon yn y Gogledd? OAQ1225(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Mae 'Dringo'n Uwch: Y Camau Nesaf' yn dangos sut yr ydym yn bwriadu gwella mynediad i chwaraeon a chodi lefelau cyfranogiad ledled Cymru. Yr wyf yn falch o'ch hysbysu bod lefelau cyfranogiad llawer uwch ar gyfartaledd yn y gogledd, sy'n awgrymu bod y lefel mynediad i chwaraeon yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd.

Janet Ryder: Gwnaethoch ddatganiad yr wythnos diwethaf am nifer y clybiau pêl-droed i bobl anabl yng Nghymru. Yr wyf wedi codi'r mater gyda chi o'r blaen, felly byddwch yn ymwybodol bod timau fel clwb pêl-droed aml-anabledd Llandudno wedi

success, but that, to achieve that, it has to travel to Preston in Lancashire, which is a round trip of 200 miles in order to compete in the north-west of England's Ability Counts League. Can you update the Assembly on what is happening to establish a disability football league in Wales?

Alun Pugh: Around 94 clubs in north Wales with 992 members currently cater for disability sports. Through our Federation of Disability Sport Wales, that provides around 17,000 participation opportunities each year, catering for all disabilities including those with hearing or visual impairments. Obviously, we can do more, and if you look at the Sport Council for Wales's remit letter, which I recently issued, you will be assured that we continue to emphasise the need to invest in this area.

3.10 p.m.

Mark Isherwood: As you are aware, Minister, your sports policy unit wrote to Wrexham County Borough Council concerning the Racecourse ground and proposals for an all-seater stadium at the request of councillors, after you had launched 'The Racecourse Ground: 2012 Vision', in which you spoke positively about the ground and its future and its role for the whole of north Wales. We were disappointed by that response, and the council told a group of Assembly Members that the letter gave no encouragement or mentioned anywhere to go. I know that Janet Ryder has written a cross-party letter to you on this issue. The council believes that this should be an Assembly-Government-north-Wales project, rather than a borough-council-Wrexham-Football-Club project. Do you agree with that, and do you agree that north Wales deserves a proper international stadium?

Alun Pugh: The Racecourse ground is important—I am happy to repeat that this afternoon. It is not just for Wrexham FC—it is an important international venue. I understand that it is the only venue north of

profi llwyddiant sylweddol ond, er mwyn cyflawni'r llwyddiant hwnnw, bod angen iddo deithio i Preston yn swydd Gaerhirfryn, sy'n gylchdaith o 200 o filltiroedd er mwyn cystadlu yng Nghynghrair Ability Counts gogledd-orllewin Lloegr. A allwch roi'r diweddaraf i'r Cynulliad ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd i sefydlu cynghrair pêl-droed i bobl anabl yng Nghymru?

Alun Pugh: Mae tua 94 o glybiau yn y gogledd a chanddynt 992 o aelodau yn darparu ar gyfer chwaraeon i bobl anabl ar hyn o bryd. Drwy Ffederasiwn Chwaraeon Anabledd Cymru, mae hynny'n cynnig tua 17,000 o gyfleoedd i gyfranogi bob blwyddyn i bobl â phob math o anabledau yn cynnwys y rhai â nam ar eu clyw neu ar eu golwg. Yn amlwg, gallwn wneud mwy, ac os edrychwch ar lythyr cylch gwaith Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru, a gyhoeddwyd gennyf yn ddiweddar, cewch sicrwydd ein bod yn parhau i bwysleisio'r angen i fuddsoddi yn y maes hwn.

Mark Isherwood: Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, ysgrifennodd eich uned polisi chwaraeon at Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam ynglŷn â'r Cae Ras a chynigion ar gyfer stadiwm seddi yn unig ar gais gynghorwyr, ar ôl ichi lansio'r ddogfen 'Y Cae Ras: Gweledigaeth 2012', lle y gwnaethoch sôn yn gadarnhaol am y cae a'i ddyfodol a'i rôl ar gyfer y gogledd cyfan. Yr oeddem yn siomedig gan yr ymateb hwnnw, a soniodd y cyngor wrth grŵp o Aelodau'r Cynulliad nad oedd y llythyr yn rhoi unrhyw anogaeth nac yn sôn am unrhyw le i fynd. Gwn fod Janet Ryder wedi ysgrifennu llythyr trawsbleidiol atoch ar y mater hwn. Cred y Cyngor y dylai hwn fod yn un o brosiectau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn y gogledd, yn hytrach na phrosiect rhwng y cyngor bwrdeistref a Chlwb Pêl-droed Wrecsam. A gytunwch â hynny, ac a gytunwch fod y gogledd yn haeddu stadiwm ryngwladol go iawn?

Alun Pugh: Mae'r Cae Ras yn bwysig—yr wyf yn fodlon ailadrodd hynny y prynhawn yma. Nid dim ond ar gyfer Clwb Pêl-droed Wrecsam mohono—mae'n lleoliad rhyngwladol pwysig. Deallaf mai dyma'r

the M4 where Wales can play an international football or rugby match, or, if Rhyl or one of north Wales's other leading clubs land a plum European tie, the Racecourse is the obvious place to play that game if they are expecting a bumper crowd. No formal application for funding has yet been received, although there have been some informal discussions. However, when that formal application is received, we will analyse it carefully as part of the overall analysis of the business case.

unig leoliad i'r gogledd o'r M4 lle y gall Cymru chwarae gêm bêl-droed neu rygbi ryngwladol, neu, os yw'r Rhyl neu un o glybiau blaenllaw eraill y gogledd yn chwarae gêm bwysig yn erbyn tîm o Ewrop, mai'r Cae Ras yw'r lleoliad amlwg i chwarae'r gêm honno os ydynt yn disgwyl torf fawr. Ni chafwyd unrhyw gais ffurfiol am arian hyd yma, er bod rhai trafodaethau anffurfiol wedi'u cynnal. Fodd bynnag, pan ddaw'r cais ffurfiol hwnnw i law, byddwn yn ei ddadansoddi'n ofalus fel rhan o'r gwaith cyffredinol o ddadansoddi'r achos busnes.

Cymunedau Difreintiedig Deprived Communities

Q8 Ann Jones: What plans does the Minister have to encourage outreach sports projects for children in deprived Welsh communities? OAQ1212(CWS)

C8 Ann Jones: Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i annog prosiectau chwaraeon allgymorth ar gyfer plant yng nghymunedau difreintiedig Cymru? OAQ1212(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Through the Climbing Higher strategy, the Assembly Government is investing more than £23 million a year to increase participation in sport and physical activity across Wales, with a particular focus on deprived communities. It was great to see kids in Rhyl using the sports centre, learning how to ride a bike, or clambering all over the climbing wall.

Alun Pugh: Drwy'r strategaeth Dringo'n Uwch, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn buddsoddi dros £23 miliwn y flwyddyn i gynyddu lefelau cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol ledled Cymru, gyda ffocws penodol ar gymunedau difreintiedig. Yr oedd yn beth da gweld plant yn y Rhyl yn defnyddio'r ganolfan chwaraeon, yn dysgu sut i reidio beic, neu'n dringo i fyny'r wal ddringo.

Ann Jones: It was great to see that; I had as much pleasure as you in seeing them participating in those activities. However, we see many projects aimed at deprived areas, but often without the children's involvement, which leads to problems with take-up. Further to that, the Rhyl Adventure Playground Association is an excellent multi-games use area, which I know you have visited, but it cannot afford to have it open at the times that the children want to use it, due to revenue costs. How do we ensure that local authorities, which have to provide play workers and play support for these initiatives, put a priority on children's outreach play, so that children are able to benefit at the time that they want to, and not at the time dictated by the local authority?

Ann Jones: Yr oedd yn beth da gweld hynny; cefais gymaint o bleser â chi o'u gweld yn cymryd rhan yn y gweithgareddau hynny. Fodd bynnag, gwelwn lawer o brosiectau sydd wedi'u hanelu at ardaloedd difreintiedig, ond yn aml heb gyfranogiad y plant, sy'n arwain at broblemau o ran eu denu. Ymhellach, mae Cymdeithas Maes Chwarae Antur y Rhyl, y gwn eich bod wedi ymweld â hi, yn ardal ardderchog ar gyfer chwarae llu o gemau, ond ni ellir fforddio ei chadw ar agor ar yr adegau pan fo'r plant am ei defnyddio, oherwydd costau refeniw. Sut y gallwn sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol, y mae'n rhaid iddynt ddarparu gweithwyr chwarae a chynorthwyywyr chwarae ar gyfer y mentrau hyn, yn rhoi blaenoriaeth i brosiectau chwarae allgymorth i blant, fel y gall plant gael budd ohonynt ar yr adegau y dymunant, ac nid ar yr adegau a bennir gan yr awdurdod lleol?

Alun Pugh: I agree that it is important to provide children and young people with opportunities to play, and with the types of opportunities that they want, rather than with activities that we as 50-year-olds believe are important. It is important, in designing public services, to be responsive to the needs of the user; I would hope that Denbighshire County Council would do that.

Jocelyn Davies: Many children need no encouragement to participate in skateboarding, but they do need a board and a park in which to do so. Local authorities tell me that they cannot fund all requests for skate parks. Would you, therefore, consider making more funds available for facilities that children actually want, and encourage local authorities to consult children about what facilities they would prefer?

Alun Pugh: Consultation is an important feature of good governance, be it at the local or the central level. When it comes to things such as the revenue support grant for local authorities, we do not hypothecate it at the level of, 'Here is your culture money; here is your sport money', let alone at the level of, 'Here is your skateboard park money; here is your playing field money', and so on. The decision about which facilities are funded, and the balance between the different types, is a local decision for local authorities. However, you are right to say that skateboarding is hugely popular, and has been enduringly so, with young people. All around my constituency, where you see the installation of a skateboard park, in places like Colwyn Bay, or in Llandudno in Denise Idris Jones's constituency, you also see kids respond to its challenge. They certainly have the boards, but they do not always have the parks.

Alun Pugh: Cytunaf ei bod yn bwysig sicrhau bod cyfleoedd ar gael i blant a phobl ifanc chwarae, ac i ddarparu'r math o gyfleoedd a ddymunant, yn hytrach na gweithgareddau yr ydym ni sydd yn ein pumdegau yn credu eu bod yn bwysig. Mae'n bwysig, wrth gynllunio gwasanaethau i'r cyhoedd, ein bod yn ymateb i anghenion y defnyddiwr; yr wyf yn gobeithio y byddai Cyngor Sir Ddinbych yn gwneud hynny.

Jocelyn Davies: Nid oes angen unrhyw anogaeth ar lawer o blant i gymryd rhan mewn sgrialu, ond mae angen bwrdd a pharc arnynt er mwyn gwneud hynny. Dywed awdurdodau lleol wrthyf na allant ariannu pob cais am barciau sgrialu. A ystyriech, felly, neilltuo mwy o arian ar gyfer cyfleusterau y mae plant yn dymuno'u cael, gan annog awdurdodau lleol i ymgynghori â phlant ynglŷn â pha gyfleusterau y byddai'n well ganddynt eu cael?

Alun Pugh: Mae ymgynghori yn elfen bwysig o lywodraethu da, boed ar lefel leol neu lefel ganolog. Pan ymdrinnir â phethau fel y grant cynnal refeniw ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol, nid ydym yn eu neilltuo ar lefel, 'Dyma eich arian diwylliant; dyma eich arian chwaraeon', heb sôn am lefel, 'Dyma'r arian ar gyfer eich parc sgrialu; dyma'r arian ar gyfer eich cae chwarae', ac ati. Penderfyniad lleol ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yw pa gyfleusterau a ariannir, a'r cydbwysedd rhwng y gwahanol fathau o gyfleusterau. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn llygad eich lle wrth ddweud bod sgrialu yn boblogaidd iawn, ac wedi parhau'n boblogaidd, ymhlith pobl ifanc. Ledled fy etholaeth, lle y gwelwch barc sgrialu yn cael ei sefydlu, mewn lleoedd fel Bae Colwyn, neu yn Llandudno yn etholaeth Denise Idris Jones, fe welwch hefyd blant yn ymateb i'w her. Mae ganddynt y byrddau yn sicr, ond nid yw'r parciau ganddynt bob amser.

Strategaeth Prif Ddigwyddiadau Major Events Strategy

Q9 The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Will the Minister make a statement on the major events strategy? OAQ1201(CWS)

C9 Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am strategaeth prif ddigwyddiadau? OAQ1201(CWS)

Alun Pugh: We have a terrific pedigree of hosting major events, from sporting events such as the Rugby World Cup, football finals at the Millennium Stadium and world cup cycling events, to our many cultural events right across Wales.

Michael German: One of the major events that will happen is the Olympic Games, and, as a consequence, lottery money will be sucked into the games. That will, as you have already recognised, have an effect on our ability to treat sports and events properly in Wales. Can you give me an indication of precisely how much money would have been available through the National Lottery for Wales in the next five or six years and which will not now be available?

Alun Pugh: The Olympic Games are enormously popular and I am delighted that we have managed to secure them for the UK, with cross-party support. Athletes are certainly looking forward to them. However, I was disappointed by last week's announcement on the top-slicing of lottery funding. We are still crunching the figures, because, as you know, there is no single Olympic fund, and this will have an impact on, for example, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund. We will get that information out to Members in the next week.

Alun Pugh: Mae gennym record wych o gynnal digwyddiadau mawr, o ddigwyddiadau chwaraeon megis Cwpan Rygbi'r Byd, gemau terfynol pêl-droed yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm, a digwyddiadau beicio cwpan y byd, i'n digwyddiadau diwylliannol lu ledled Cymru.

Michael German: Un o'r digwyddiadau mawr hynny fydd y Gemau Olympaidd ac, o ganlyniad, caiff arian y loteri ei draflyncu gan y gemau. Bydd hynny, fel yr ydych eisoes wedi cydnabod, yn effeithio ar ein gallu i drin chwaraeon a digwyddiadau yn briodol yng Nghymru. A allwch ddweud wrthyf faint o arian yn union y byddai wedi bod ar gael drwy'r Loteri Genedlaethol i Gymru yn y pum neu chwe blynedd nesaf ac na fydd ar gael mwyach?

Alun Pugh: Mae'r Gemau Olympaidd yn hynod boblogaidd ac yr wyf yn falch inni lwyddo i'w sicrhau i'r DU, gyda chefnogaeth drawsbleidiol. Mae'r athletwyr yn sicr yn edrych ymlaen atynt. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd y cyhoeddiad yr wythnos diwethaf ynglŷn â brigdorri arian y loteri yn siomedig. Yr ydym yn parhau i edrych ar y ffigurau, oherwydd, fel y gwyddoch, nid oes cronfa benodol i'r Gemau Olympaidd, a chaiff hyn effaith, er enghraifft, ar Gronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri, a'r Gronfa Loteri Fawr. Rhoddwn y wybodaeth honno i'r Aelodau yn ystod yr wythnos nesaf.

Cefnogi'r Celfyddydau Supporting the Arts

Q10 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister make a statement on what he is doing to support the arts outside Cardiff? OAQ1216(CWS)

C10 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud i gefnogi'r celfyddydau y tu allan i Gaerdydd? OAQ1216(CWS)

Alun Pugh: The Arts Outside Cardiff programme provides an additional £2 million of investment every year to the performing arts outside Cardiff. That complements the Assembly Government's support for the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff. That £2 million is allocated through a network of 17 regional performing arts centres.

Lisa Francis: Can you give us an update on your most recent meeting with the Welsh Local Government Association regarding the development of arts outside Cardiff? You told us in February last year that you were going to meet it on a regular basis to discuss all aspects of your portfolio.

Alun Pugh: I last met with the Welsh Local Government Association a fortnight ago—I will get you the exact date—and we discussed a number of issues. The Arts Outside Cardiff money is not a source of contention; the Welsh Local Government Association is keen to work with the Welsh Assembly Government in implementing the findings of the Stephens review, and so am I.

Helen Mary Jones: You referred in your answer to Lisa Francis to the 17 regional arts centres that are currently able to access this money. Is that list of arts centres open and flexible? I ask you to commit today, should your Government still be in power when these decisions need to be made, to adding the proposed new arts centre in Llanelli to that list, should we be successful in getting the capital funding that we are seeking for it at present.

Alun Pugh: The list of organisations and networks that receive funding from the Arts Outside Cardiff fund is not set in stone. Obviously, we want to review that continuously to get the maximum possible benefit for public money. Therefore, I can certainly give you the assurance that if the new centre produces a programme that is worthy of funding, it will be fully eligible to receive it. That is fine.

Alun Pugh: Mae rhaglen y Celfyddydau y Tu allan i Gaerdydd yn darparu £2 filiwn ychwanegol o fuddsoddiad bob blwyddyn i'r celfyddydau perfformio y tu allan i Gaerdydd. Mae hynny'n ategu cymorth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Ganolfan Mileniwm Cymru yng Nghaerdydd. Dyrannwyd y swm hwnnw o £2 filiwn drwy rwydwaith o 17 o ganolfannau rhanbarthol i'r celfyddydau perfformio.

Lisa Francis: A allwch roi'r diweddaraf inni am eich cyfarfod diwethaf â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru o ran datblygu'r celfyddydau y tu allan i Gaerdydd? Dywedasoeh wrthym ym mis Chwefror y llynedd eich bod yn bwriadu cyfarfod â'r Gymdeithas yn rheolaidd er mwyn trafod pob agwedd ar eich portffolio.

Alun Pugh: Yr oedd fy nghyfarfod diwethaf â Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru bythefnos yn ôl—cadarnhaf yr union ddyddiad—a thrafodwyd nifer o faterion. Nid yw'r arian i'r Celfyddydau y Tu allan i Gaerdydd yn asgwrn cynnen; mae Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru yn awyddus i weithio gyda Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i roi canfyddiadau adolygiad Stephens ar waith, fel minnau hefyd.

Helen Mary Jones: Cyfeiriwyd yn eich ateb i Lisa Francis at y 17 o ganolfannau rhanbarthol i'r celfyddydau a all hawlio'r arian hwn ar hyn o bryd. A yw'r rhestr honno o ganolfannau celfyddydau yn agored ac yn hyblyg? Gofynnaf ichi addo heddiw, pe bai'ch Llywodraeth yn parhau mewn grym pan fydd angen gwneud y penderfyniadau hyn, y byddwch yn ychwanegu'r ganolfan newydd i'r celfyddydau a gynnigir yn Llanelli i'r rhestr honno, pe baem yn llwyddo i gael yr arian cyfalaf a geisiwn ar hyn o bryd.

Alun Pugh: Mae modd diwygio'r rhestr o sefydliadau a rhwydweithiau sy'n cael arian o gronfa'r Celfyddydau y Tu allan i Gaerdydd. Yn amlwg, byddwn am adolygu hynny drwy'r amser er mwyn cael y budd mwyaf o arian cyhoeddus. Felly, gallaf yn bendynt roi sicrwydd ichi y bydd y ganolfan newydd yn hollol gymwys i'w gael os bydd yn llunio rhaglen sy'n werth ei hariannu. Mae hynny'n iawn.

Kirsty Williams: On that theme, can you:

‘Tell me more, tell me more.
Did you get very far?’

since the last time I asked you, with ensuring the future of the Wyeside Arts Centre at BUILT Wells? You are aware that it did not receive money from Arts Outside Cardiff because of a failure to enter into an agreement bid with Brecon Theatre. The arts council has identified a shortfall of £30,000 in Wyeside’s budget. Have you been successful in taking forward the resolution of that problem?

Alun Pugh: The decision on who gets the Arts Outside Cardiff money, as I just said to Helen Mary, is a matter for the Arts Council of Wales. If the local authority does not like the arts council’s decision, it is entirely open to the local authority to fund that centre.

Kirsty Williams: Ar y thema honno, a allwch chi, fel dywed y gân Saesneg honno,

‘Tell me more, tell me more.
Did you get very far?’

ers y tro diwethaf imi ofyn ichi, o ran sicrhau dyfodol Canolfan Celfyddydau Glannau Gwyn Llanfair-ym-muallt? Fe wyddoch na chafodd arian o gronfa’r Celfyddydau y Tu allan i’r Gaerdydd oherwydd methiant i lunio cytundeb ar gais ar y cyd â Theatr Aberhonddu. Mae cyngor y celfyddydau wedi nodi bod diffyg o £30,000 yng nghyllideb Canolfan Glannau Gwy. A ydych wedi llwyddo i ddatrys y broblem honno?

Alun Pugh: Mater i Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru, fel yr wyf newydd ddweud wrth Helen Mary, yw penderfynu pwy sy’n cael arian y Celfyddydau y Tu allan i’r Caerdydd. Os nad yw’r awdurdod lleol yn fodlon ar benderfyniad cyngor y celfyddydau, gall yr awdurdod lleol ei hun ariannu’r ganolfan honno os dymuna.

Y Bwrdd Diwylliant The Culture Board

Q11 Lisa Francis: Will the Minister provide an update on the work of the culture board? OAQ1215(CWS)

3.20 p.m.

Alun Pugh: Following the First Minister’s announcement of November 2004, I established a culture board for Wales. The last meeting of the culture board was held this morning.

Lisa Francis: Have you discussed the Closs Stephens review with the culture board and what effect will its recommendations have on your Government’s culture strategy?

Alun Pugh: We have discussed the Stephens review on two occasions. I am happy to tell the Assembly that there is broad support for its conclusions and we intend to take forward the recommendations. We have held a series of meetings with Arts and Business Cymru, the Welsh Local Government Association and the Arts Council of Wales, for example.

C11 Lisa Francis: A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi’r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am waith y bwrdd diwylliant? OAQ1215(CWS)

Alun Pugh: Yn dilyn cyhoeddiad y Prif Weinidog ym mis Tachwedd 2004, sefydlais fwrdd diwylliant i Gymru. Cynhaliwyd y cyfarfod diwethaf o’r bwrdd diwylliant y bore yma.

Lisa Francis: A ydych wedi trafod adolygiad Closs Stephens gyda’r bwrdd diwylliant a pha effaith a gaiff ei argymhellion ar strategaeth ddiwylliant eich Llywodraeth?

Alun Pugh: Yr ydym wedi trafod adolygiad Stephens ar ddau achlysur. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud wrth y Cynulliad fod cefnogaeth gyffredinol i’w gasgliadau a bwriadwn weithredu ar yr argymhellion. Yr ydym wedi cynnal cyfres o gyfarfodydd ag Arts and Business Cymru, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a Chyngor Celfyddydau Cymru,

All the key partners are broadly content with the thrust of the Stephens recommendations and those recommendations will be taken forward after the election.

er enghraifft. Mae pob un o'r partneriaid allweddol yn fodlon ar fyrdwn argymhellion Stephens ar y cyfan a chaiff yr argymhellion hynny eu rhoi ar waith ar ôl yr etholiad.

Cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ Questions to the House Committee

Y Llywydd: Ni chyflwynwyd cwestiynau i Bwyllgor y Tŷ ond byddaf yn manteisio ar y cyfle hwn i ddiolch i holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad a wasanaethodd ar y pwyllgor dros y ddau Gynulliad cyntaf. Mae'r swyddogaeth hon o warchod ein cyllideb a'n hadnoddau fel Aelodau yn bwysig. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar yn arbennig i'r Cadeirydd presennol ac i'r Cadeiryddion blaenorol am eu cyfraniadau. Diolchaf hefyd i'r staff sydd wedi bod yn gweinyddu ar ran Pwyllgor y Tŷ ac yr wyf yn hyderu y bydd modd i'r comisiwn yn y Cynulliad newydd barhau â'r swyddogaeth mewn modd yr un mor effeithiol.

The Presiding Officer: No questions have been tabled to the House Committee, but I take this opportunity to thank all Assembly Members who served on the committee over the first two Assemblies. The job of protecting our budget and resources as Members is important. I am particularly grateful to the current Chair and the previous Chairs for their contributions. I also thank the staff who have worked on behalf of the House Committee, and I am confident that the commission in the new Assembly will continue the House Committee's work in just as an effective a way.

Datganiad am Ymateb Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio: Adolygiad o Ddigartrefedd ymhlith Pobl Ifanc

Statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's Response to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee's Report: Review of Youth Homelessness

The Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration (Edwina Hart): As Members know, tackling homelessness has been a high priority for the Assembly Government, so I enthusiastically welcome this report and the opportunity to discuss in Plenary what we are doing to tackle youth homelessness in Wales. I put on record my appreciation of the hard work put in by present and past members of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee in collecting the evidence and presenting the findings.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio (Edwina Hart): Fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, bu mynd i'r afael â digartrefedd yn un o flaenoriaethau pennaf Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, felly croesawaf yn fawr yr adroddiad hwn a'r cyfle i drafod yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Hoffwn gofnodi fy ngwerthfawrogiad o waith caled cyn-aelodau ac aelodau cyfredol y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio wrth gasglu'r dystiolaeth a chyflwyno'r canfyddiadau.

The recommendations contained in the report fit closely with our current policy direction and I am pleased to be able to accept unequivocally the majority of them. Some require further consideration but I support the intent of the proposed action and believe that steps should be taken to achieve the intended outcome.

Mae'r argymhellion a geir yn yr adroddiad yn cydweddu'n dda â'n cyfeiriad polisi cyfredol ac yr wyf yn falch fy mod yn gallu derbyn y rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn eu cyfanrwydd. Mae angen ystyried rhai ymhellach ond cefnogaf ddiben y camau gweithredu a gynigir a chredaf y dylid cymryd camau i'w gyflawni.

Having such unity of views on what needs to be done to deliver our national homelessness

Mae cael undod ynglŷn â'r hyn sydd angen ei wneud i gyflawni ein strategaeth

strategy in Wales in respect of youth is essential if we are to achieve these common objectives. We can now take our strategy forward on the basis of a common understanding of the issues and difficulties that young people face.

In accepting the recommendations, I am pleased to be able to indicate that work on implementing many of them is progressing as expected in our strategy. The issue of youth homelessness has always been central to our policy in this area. Our focus is on tackling homelessness through prevention wherever possible. Therefore, it might be helpful to set the recommendations and my response in the context of our policies on promoting social justice and social inclusion for young people.

Our programme for improving public services in Wales, 'Making the Connections—Delivering Beyond Boundaries', sets out our direction for improving services that are citizen focused and joined up across local and service boundaries. We are consulting on guidance for the new children and young persons plans, which will be central to the planning of services for young people across the range of service areas, including housing. This will provide the local planning framework to enable joined-up service delivery to improve the prevention of homelessness among young people. Through these mechanisms we will expect local authorities and partners to develop local policy in line with our national policy framework.

Tackling social exclusion among young people is central to our mission to create a better Wales. We describe this across the range of our policy documents, including the national service framework for children and young people, and the new social services paper, 'Fulfilled Lives, Supported Communities'. Through Extending Entitlement, we are supporting local joint working to meet the housing and other needs of young people, and to involve them in local planning.

genedlaethol ar ddigartrefedd yng Nghymru o ran pobl ifanc yn hanfodol er mwyn inni gyflawni'r amcanion cyffredin hyn. Gallwn yn awr ddatblygu ein strategaeth ar sail dealltwriaeth gyffredin o'r problemau a'r anawsterau a wynebir gan bobl ifanc.

Wrth dderbyn yr argymhellion, yr wyf yn falch o allu nodi bod y gwaith ar weithredu llawer ohonynt yn mynd rhagddo fel y disgwylir yn ein strategaeth. Bu digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc yn ganolog i'n polisi yn y maes hwn o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Canolbwyntiwn ar fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd drwy ei atal lle bynnag y bo modd. Felly, efallai y byddai'n fuddiol gosod yr argymhellion a'm hymateb yng nghydestun ein polisiau ynglŷn â hyrwyddo cyfiawnder cymdeithasol a chynhwysiant cymdeithasol i bobl ifanc.

Mae ein rhaglen ar gyfer gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau—Cyflawni Ar draws Ffiniau', yn nodi'r ffordd y byddwn yn gwella gwasanaethau sy'n canolbwyntio ar ddinasyddion ac sydd wedi'u cydgysylltu ar draws ffiniau lleol a ffiniau gwasanaethau. Yr ydym yn ymgynghori ar ganllawiau ar gyfer y cynlluniau newydd i blant a phobl ifanc, a fydd yn ganolog i'r gwaith o gynllunio gwasanaethau i bobl ifanc ym mhob maes gwasanaeth, gan gynnwys tai. Bydd hyn yn rhoi'r fframwaith cynllunio lleol i'w gwneud yn bosibl i ddarparu gwasanaethau mewn ffordd gydgysylltiedig er mwyn gwneud mwy i atal digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc. Drwy'r mecanweithiau hyn disgwylir i awdurdodau lleol a'u partneriaid ddatblygu polisi lleol yn unol â'n fframwaith polisi cenedlaethol.

Mae mynd i'r afael ag allgáu cymdeithasol ymhlith pobl ifanc yn ganolog i'n cenhadaeth i greu Cymru well. Yr ydym yn disgrifio hyn ymhob un o'n dogfennau polisi, gan gynnwys y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc, a'r papur newydd ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol, 'Bywydau Bodlon, Cymunedau Cefnogol'. Drwy Ymestyn Hawliau, yr ydym yn cefnogi cydweithio lleol i ddiwallu anghenion tai pobl ifanc a'u hanghenion eraill, ac i'w cynnwys yn y gwaith cynllunio lleol.

We are reviewing our policy on the provision of services for care leavers and aim to strengthen the support for the resettlement of this group. In particular, our programme for eradicating child poverty demonstrates our commitment to putting this issue high on our agenda. We recognise that youth homelessness is too often associated with a range of indicators associated with deprivation, and we need to break the intergenerational cycle of disadvantage.

We cannot achieve our objectives on poverty and social exclusion alone. The Assembly Government needs to work with the UK Government, local government and the private and voluntary sectors, if we are to succeed in achieving our goals. This is reflected in the report, and many of its recommendations require other organisations that are beyond our control to take significant steps, but we will work with them to improve the direction and effectiveness of our national resources to tackle youth homelessness.

Through our national homelessness strategy, we are already devoting substantial resources to preventing youth homelessness, which includes projects to educate young people in how to avoid homelessness, youth prevention outreach and advice work, the development of a toolkit for youth workers, and mediation to help young people maintain family support. We have commissioned a substantial piece of research into the most effective models of housing for vulnerable young people, which will be completed this autumn. Funding for Supporting People enables hundreds of young people to be supported in the community, so that they can eventually sustain independent living. However, there is much more to do. My ultimate aim is to ensure that every young person lives in a secure and supportive home environment. That would provide a firm foundation for eliminating social exclusion and deprivation, and for enabling our young people to achieve their potential in life.

We will continue to review the effectiveness of our national homelessness strategy in helping to prevent homelessness among

Yr ydym yn adolygu ein polisi ar ddarparu gwasanaethau i'r rhai sy'n gadael gofal a'n nod yw rhoi mwy o gymorth i adsefydlu'r grŵp hwn. Yn benodol, dengys ein rhaglen ar gyfer dileu tlodi ymhlith plant ein hymrwymiad i roi'r mater hwn ar frig ein hagenda. Cydnabyddwn fod digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc yn gysylltiedig yn amlach na pheidio â nifer o ddangosyddion sy'n gysylltiedig ag amddifadedd, ac mae angen torri'r cylch o anfantais o un genhedlaeth i'r llall.

Ni allwn gyflawni ein hamcanion ar dlodi ac allgáu cymdeithasol ar ein pennau ein hunain. Mae angen i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad weithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU, llywodraeth leol a'r sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol, er mwyn inni lwyddo i gyflawni ein nodau. Adlewyrchir hyn yn yr adroddiad, ac mae llawer o'i argymhellion yn gofyn i sefydliadau eraill sydd y tu hwnt i'n rheolaeth gymryd camau pwysig, ond byddwn yn gweithio gyda hwy i wella'r ffordd y dyrennir ein hadnoddau cenedlaethol i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc a'u heffeithiolrwydd.

Drwy ein strategaeth genedlaethol ar ddigartrefedd, yr ydym eisoes yn neilltuo adnoddau sylweddol i atal digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc, sy'n cynnwys prosiectau i ddysgu pobl ifanc i osgoi dod yn ddigartref, gwaith allgymorth a chynghor ataliol ymhlith pobl ifanc, datblygu pecyn cymorth i weithwyr ieuencid, a chyfryngu i helpu pobl ifanc i gael cymorth gan eu teuluoedd. Yr ydym wedi comisiynu darn pwysig o ymchwil i'r modelau tai mwyaf effeithiol ar gyfer pobl ifanc ddi-amddiffyn, a gaiff ei gwblhau yn yr hydref. Mae arian ar gyfer Cefnogi Pobl yn ei gwneud yn bosibl i gefnogi cannoedd o bobl ifanc yn y gymuned, fel y gallant yn y pen draw fyw yn annibynnol. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer mwy i'w wneud. Fy nod yn y pen draw yw sicrhau bod pob person ifanc yn byw mewn cartref diogel a chefnogol. Byddai hynny'n sylfaen gadarn ar gyfer dileu allgáu cymdeithasol ac amddifadedd, ac i alluogi ein pobl ifanc i gyflawni eu potensial mewn bywyd.

Byddwn yn parhau i adolygu effeithiolrwydd ein strategaeth genedlaethol ar ddigartrefedd i helpu i atal digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc.

young people. This report, and the evidence presented during its preparation, will provide crucial information to assist us in that process. I thank the committee again for its support in tackling this agenda.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Wrth reswm, yr ydym nid yn unig yn croesawu'r adroddiad, ond yn croesawu eich ymateb. Yr ydych wedi ymateb yn gadarnhaol drwy dderbyn, naill ai'n rhannol neu'n llawn, y 29 o argymhellion yn yr adroddiad. Er mwyn ymateb i'r gofynion yn llawn—mae sôn am ehangu a chynyddu'r ddarpariaeth—bydd angen swm sylweddol o gyllid arnoch. A ydych yn ffyddiog bod modd i chi ganfod y cyllid hwnnw yn y gyllideb gyffredinol ac a ydych yn hyderus y bydd eich cyd-Aelodau yn y Cabinet, os mai felly y bydd hi ar ôl 3 Mai, mewn sefyllfa i gydweithredu â chi ar y mater hwn? A ydynt hwy hefyd yn gweld y mater hwn fel blaenoriaeth? Gwn ei fod yn flaenoriaeth i chi, ac yn sicr i'r pwyllgor, ond a yw'n flaenoriaeth i'r Cabinet cyfan?

Awgrymasoch yn eich ymateb fod nifer o bethau y tu hwnt i'r pwerau sydd gennym yn y fan hon a thu hwnt i'n cyfrifoldebau. Yr wyf yn poeni ynglŷn ag un neu ddau o'r materion lle mae ein pwerau perthnasol yn llai eang na'r rhai sydd gan Senedd yr Alban. Fe'ch cyfeiriaf at argymhellion 15 a 16, sy'n ymwneud â'r modd y gosodir pobl ifanc mewn categori sy'n cynnwys pobl a wnaeth eu hunain yn ddiartref yn fwriadol. Mae'n hawdd i gynghorau osgoi eu cyfrifoldebau dros bobl ifanc drwy eu gosod yn y categori hwnnw. Mae Senedd yr Alban wedi llwyddo i basio deddfwriaeth sy'n dweud nad oes modd gosod person dan 25 oed yng nghategori 'diartref yn fwriadol'. A ydych yn ffyddiog y gallwch sicrhau pwerau digonol gan San Steffan i'n galluogi i wneud hynny yma? Tybiaf, Weinidog, o'ch ymateb i'r adroddiad eich bod yn awyddus i weld hynny'n digwydd yng Nghymru hefyd.

A gaf i nodi ein consym bod rhai pobl o dan 25, yn y categori hwn o bobl ifanc, yn aml yn cael eu gosod mewn lleoedd anaddas? Mae pob math o resymau pam mae pobl ifanc yn ddiartref, ac weithiau nid yw'r lle y cânt eu gosod ynddo yn addas iddynt—nid yw'n

Bydd yr adroddiad hwn a'r dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd pan oedd yn cael ei baratoi, yn rhoi gwybodaeth hanfodol i'n helpu yn ystod y broses honno. Diolchaf i'r pwyllgor unwaith eto am ei gefnogaeth i fynd i'r afael â'r agenda hon.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Of course, we not only welcome the report, but your response to it. You have responded positively by accepting, either in part or in full, the 29 recommendations in the report. Responding to the needs in full—there is talk of expanding and increasing provision—will require a significant amount of funding. Are you confident that you will be able to find that funding within the general budget, and are you confident that your fellow Ministers, if that is the case after 3 May, will be able to collaborate with you on this? Do they also see this as a priority? I know that it is a priority for you, and certainly for the committee, but is it a priority for the whole Cabinet?

You suggested in your response that there are number of things outwith the powers that we have and outwith our responsibilities. I am concerned about one or two of these areas where our relevant powers are less broad than those of the Scottish Parliament. I refer you to recommendations 15 and 16, which deal with the way in which young people are placed in a category that includes those who are intentionally homeless. It is easy for councils to evade their responsibilities towards young people by placing them in that category. The Scottish Parliament has succeeded in enacting legislation that states that a person under the age of 25 cannot be placed in the category of 'intentionally homeless'. Are you confident that you can ensure the necessary powers from Westminster to enable us to do that here? I take it, Minister, from your response to the report, that you are also eager to see that happen in Wales.

I also note our concern that some people under the age of 25, in this category of young people, are often placed in unsuitable accommodation. There are all sorts of reasons why young people are homeless, and sometimes where they are placed is not

gweithio ar eu cyfer—ond yn aml ni chânt gyfle i gael eu lleoli yn rhywle arall. A wnewch chi geisio sicrhau bod modd iddynt gael yr hawl sylfaenol hwnnw oherwydd bod eu sefyllfa yn arbennig o fregus?

suitable for them—it does not work for them—and often they are not given the opportunity to be placed elsewhere. Will you try to ensure that they can have that fundamental right, because their situation is particularly fragile?

3.30 p.m.

Trof yn gyflym at argymhellion 24 a 25 sy'n ymwneud â'r taliad ystafell sengl. Unwaith eto, nid yw'r pwerau gennym yn y fan hon i newid hynny, a gobeithiaf eich bod yn cytuno â ni y gall y categori hwn o daliad ystafell sengl greu problemau mawr i bobl ifanc. Byddai'n dda pe gellid cael gwared ohono. Yn ddiweddar, dywedodd swyddogion yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau wrth Cymorth Cymru nad oeddent yn bwriadu newid y sefyllfa, er eu bod yn cydnabod pryder Cymorth Cymru ynghylch hyn, oherwydd, yn eu barn hwy, byddai hynny'n arwain at sefyllfa lle byddai rhai pobl ddi-waith yn cael manteision na fyddai ar gael i bobl mewn gwaith. Mae hynny'n ymwneud â lefelau cyflog ac ati, ond ni thrafodaf y materion hynny gan fod mater pwysicach dan sylw. A ydych yn ffyddiog y gallwch ddwyn perswâd ar yr adran er mwyn iddi newid ei meddwl, oherwydd, heb ei chydweithrediad, bydd yn anodd iawn i chi weithredu ar y materion hyn yng Nghymru?

I turn briefly to recommendations 24 and 25, which relate to the single room rent. Once again, we do not have the powers here to change that, and I hope that you agree that this category of single-room payment can create huge problems for young people. It would be good if we could get rid of it. Recently, officials from the Department for Work and Pensions told Cymorth Cymru that, while they acknowledge Cymorth Cymru's concerns regarding the issue, they did not intend to change their stance because, in their opinion, that would lead to a situation in which some unemployed people would receive benefits that were not available to people in work. That involves salary levels and so on, but I will not discuss those issues as a more important issue is under consideration. Are you confident that you can bring pressure to bear on the department to change its mind because, without its collaboration, it will be very difficult for you to take action on these issues in Wales?

Diolch yn fawr i chi am yr ymateb, sy'n gadarnhaol iawn. Mawr obeithiaf y cewch y cyllid i weithredu'r argymhellion ac y cewch gydweithrediad San Steffan er mwyn i ni gael y pwerau yng Nghymru i weithredu fel y dymunwn ei wneud ar ran pobl ifanc sy'n canfod eu hunain mewn sefyllfa o'r fath.

Thank you for your response, which is very positive. I hope that you will receive the funding to implement the recommendations and that you will get Westminster's co-operation so that we get the powers in Wales to take the action that we wish to take on behalf of young people who find themselves in such a position.

Edwina Hart: The report prepared by the committee has raised some difficult and serious issues. As there is such consensus in the Chamber regarding the committee's report, it will be the duty of the incoming administration and the Minister who is responsible for this portfolio to ensure that we maximise the potential use of our powers to implement the report's recommendations. I trust that we will have cross-party consensus so that we can take those matters forward.

Edwina Hart: Mae'r adroddiad a baratowyd gan y pwyllgor wedi codi rhai materion anodd a difrifol. Gan fod cymaint o gonsensws yn y Siambr o ran adroddiad y pwyllgor, bydd yn ddyletswydd ar y weinyddiaeth newydd a'r Gweinidog a fydd yn gyfrifol am y portffolio hwn i sicrhau y gwneir y defnydd gorau posibl o'n pwerau i weithredu argymhellion yr adroddiad. Hyderaf y cawn gonsensws trawsbleidiol er mwyn inni allu gweithredu ar y materion hynny.

The single-room rent restriction, which was referred to, entrenches the problems faced by young people with homelessness and poverty. I have made my position on this clear; I am not happy with the discrimination that young people face through the benefits system. I have made several representations to the UK Government to change this position, and we need to see how the new housing allowance affects young people. I will monitor the situation carefully.

The funding issue will be a priority for the Assembly in general, as it agrees its own budget and provisions within the various budgets. It is important that we focus not only on issues of housing and homelessness, but also on youth homelessness. If we are to take forward what is a serious report by the committee on a difficult issue, we will have to have unanimity in the representations that we make in future years on the financial settlement.

There are particular issues regarding people who allegedly make themselves homeless deliberately. I think that such cases are few and far between in reality; no-one wants to be without a roof over their heads, or without warmth and comfort. Sometimes, young people are put in difficult positions as a result of changes in family circumstances, and that impacts on their young lives. The issues that have arisen from the committee's report are interesting; it has considered prevention, education and a plethora of steps that we can take across Governments and departments to assist young people before they find themselves in such a position.

On the recommendations, I think that I have been quite honest in my written response regarding how far we can go and where the levers are. I assure Plenary today that I very much support this report, and I wish to take the recommendations forward positively. We have done some good work in the National Assembly on the homelessness agenda, including youth homelessness, but there is a lot more work to do. I am determined that young people in Wales will be better off over the next four years as a result of this report and its implementation.

Mae'r cyfyngiad rhent ystafell sengl, y cyfeiriwyd ato, yn arwydd amlwg o'r problemau a wynebir gan bobl ifanc o ran digartrefedd a thlodi. Yr wyf wedi egluro fy safbwynt yn hyn o beth; nid wyf yn fodlon ar y ffordd y gwahaniaethir yn erbyn pobl ifanc yn y system budd-daliadau. Yr wyf wedi cyflwyno llawer o sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU i newid y sefyllfa hon, ac mae angen inni weld sut y bydd y lwfans tai newydd yn effeithio ar bobl ifanc. Byddaf yn monitro'r sefyllfa yn ofalus.

Bydd cyllid yn flaenoriaeth i'r Cynulliad yn gyffredinol, wrth iddo gyuno ar ei gyllideb ei hun a darpariaethau o fewn yr amrywiol gyllidebau. Mae'n bwysig inni nid yn unig ganolbwyntio ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â thai a digartrefedd, ond hefyd ar ddigartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc. Er mwyn inni weithredu ar adroddiad difrifol gan y pwyllgor ar fater anodd, bydd yn rhaid inni gyflwyno sylwadau unfrydol yn y dyfodol ar y setliad ariannol.

Mae yna faterion penodol o ran pobl yr honnir eu bod yn gwneud eu hunain yn ddigartref yn fwriadol. Credaf mai prin yw nifer yr achosion o'r fath mewn gwirionedd; nid oes neb am fod heb do uwch eu pen, neu heb wres a chysur. Weithiau, bydd pobl ifanc yn cael eu hunain mewn sefyllfaoedd anodd o ganlyniad i newidiadau mewn amgylchiadau teuluol, ac mae hynny'n effeithio ar eu bywydau ifanc. Mae'r materion sy'n deillio o adroddiad y pwyllgor yn ddiddorol; ystyriodd atal, addysg ac amrywiaeth helaeth o gamau y gallwn eu cymryd ar draws Llywodraethau ac adrannau i gynorthwyo pobl ifanc cyn iddynt eu cael eu hunain mewn sefyllfa o'r fath.

O ran yr argymhellion, credaf fy mod wedi bod yn gwbl onest yn fy ymateb ysgrifenedig o ran yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud a'r ffactorau ysgogi. Gallaf sicrhau'r Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw fy mod yn gadarn o blaid yr adroddiad hwn, ac yn awyddus i weithredu ar yr argymhellion mewn ffordd gadarnhaol. Yr ydym wedi gwneud peth gwaith da yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar yr agenda ddigartrefedd, gan gynnwys digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc, ond mae llawer mwy i'w wneud. Yr wyf yn benderfynol y bydd pobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn well eu byd yn ystod

y pedair blynedd nesaf o ganlyniad i'r adroddiad hwn a'i weithredu.

Mark Isherwood: As Housing Forum Cymru has stated, housing is creating a more divided Wales and the consequences for social cohesion, reduced life chances and poor health are enormous. It highlights the fact that homelessness in Wales has reached record levels, that there are not enough homes to rent and that there is a huge backlog of unmet need. When I spoke about this report last month, I quoted young homeless people in north Wales who told us that there was a massive shortage of affordable accommodation. What action do you propose to remedy the massive cuts in affordable housing under your Government?

Recent claims that homelessness figures have fallen are contradicted by the rising number of hidden homelessness identified in the report. What action do you propose to revise the Assembly Government's homelessness strategy accordingly?

You refer to legislation that requires local authorities to address the needs of young homeless people, to your encouragement of innovative solutions, and to guidance issued. However, what urgent action do you propose to meet the current shortage of night-shelter, hostel and move-on accommodation for young people, which has been highlighted across Wales?

You refer to joint working across the public, private and voluntary sectors. However, private and voluntary sector providers consistently and repeatedly tell me that they have much to contribute, but they are not treated as equal partners, and are not being listened to. What action do you propose to remedy that? We heard at the Federation of Small Businesses manifesto launch yesterday that only a partnership between the sectors can provide the innovation and capital required, because spending even more public money to generate growth is no longer a policy option.

You state that prior to reaching a conclusion, you will examine the recommendation for powers to remove the test for intentional

Mark Isherwood: Fel y nododd Fforwm Tai Cymru, mae tai yn creu Cymru fwy rhanedig ac mae'r goblygiadau o ran cydlyniant cymdeithasol, llai o gyfleoedd mewn bywyd ac iechyd gwael yn aruthrol. Mae'n amlygu'r ffaith bod digartrefedd yng Nghymru wedi cyrraedd ei lefel uchaf erioed, nad oes digon o gartrefi i'w rhentu a bod ôl-groniad aruthrol o angen nas diwallwyd. Pan siaradais am yr adroddiad hwn fis diwethaf, dyfynnais bobl ifanc ddigartref yn y gogledd a ddywedodd wrthym fod diffyg sylweddol o ran llety fforddiadwy. Pa gamau a gynigir gennych i unioni'r toriadau sylweddol mewn tai fforddiadwy o dan eich Llywodraeth?

Caiff honiadau diweddar bod ffigurau digartrefedd wedi gostwng eu gwrth-ddweud gan y cynnydd mewn digartrefedd cudd a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad. Pa gamau a gynigir gennych i ddiwygio strategaeth ddigartrefedd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn unol â hynny?

Cyfeiriwch at ddeddfwriaeth sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol ymdrin ag anghenion pobl ifanc ddigartref, at y ffaith eich bod yn annog atebion arloesol, ac at ganllawiau a gyhoeddwyd. Fodd bynnag, pa gamau brys a gynigir gennych i ddiwallu'r prinder presennol o lochesi nos, hosteli a llety dros dro i bobl ifanc, a amlygwyd ledled Cymru?

Cyfeiriwch at gydweithio ar draws y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol. Fodd bynnag, dywed darparwyr o'r sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol wrthyf yn gyson, dro ar ôl tro, fod ganddynt lawer i'w gyfrannu, ond nad ydynt yn cael eu trin fel partneriaid teg, ac na wrandewir arnynt. Pa gamau a gynigir gennych i unioni'r sefyllfa honno? Clywsom yn achlysur lansio maniffesto'r Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach ddoe mai dim ond partneriaeth rhwng y sectorau all ddarparu'r arloesed a'r cyfalaf sydd eu hangen, gan nad yw gwario hyd yn oed mwy o arian cyhoeddus i ysgogi twf bellach yn opsiwn polisi.

Dywedwch y byddwch yn archwilio'r argymhelliad ar gyfer pwerau i ddiddymu'r prawf ar gyfer digartrefedd bwriadol i bobl

homelessness for people aged under 25. Minister, that is not an acceptance of the recommendation. How do you respond, therefore, to the young people who told us that they had been branded 'intentionally homeless' even though they were the victims of threats or violence? What housing provision do you propose for these so-called intentionally homeless young people?

You state that you seek devolved powers to restrict the right to buy, but why do you reject the independent research that shows that simply stopping the right to buy in high-demand areas will have little or no immediate effect on re-let levels in those areas? Is not the real problem that, during the first seven years of devolved Labour government, there were 28,000 right-to-buy sales, but fewer than 5,000 new affordable homes built; whereas under the last seven years of Conservative government, there were 22,000 right-to-buy sales, and 20,000 new affordable homes built?

Housing-related support can mean huge savings in health, social services, regeneration and education and skills. How will your redistribution of Supporting People resources affect voluntary sector providers? You state that the development of a single strategic model for the provision of supported accommodation, using good practice in the voluntary sector, would be unlikely to reflect local variation. However, is it not the case, as we are repeatedly told, that we need a national strategic model for regional delivery? How will you monitor the new local housing allowance to assess its impact on young homeless people? What discussions have you had with the Department for Work and Pensions regarding the withdrawal of housing benefit when people enter full-time education?

You refer to the pathway plan for looked-after children, and state that this is subject to regular review; why, then, did some homeless young people in north Wales tell us that their contact with social services ended when they were placed in supported accommodation?

dan 25 oed cyn dod i gasgliad. Weinidog, nid derbyn yr argymhelliad yw hynny. Sut yr ymatebwch, felly, i'r bobl ifanc a ddywedodd wrthym eu bod wedi'u gwarthnodi â'r term 'bwriadol ddigartref' er eu bod wedi dioddef bygythiadau neu drais? Pa ddarpariaeth dai a gynigir gennych i'r bobl ifanc hyn yr honnir eu bod yn fwriadol ddigartref?

Dywedwch eich bod yn mynd ar drywydd pwerau datganoledig i gyfyngu ar yr hawl i brynu, ond pam y gwrthodwch y gwaith ymchwil annibynnol sy'n dangos na chaiff atal yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle ceir galw uchel unrhyw effaith uniongyrchol mewn gwirionedd ar lefelau ailosod yn yr ardaloedd hynny? Onid y broblem wirioneddol yw y gwerthwyd 28,000 o dai hawl-i-brynu yn ystod saith mlynedd gyntaf llywodraeth Lafur ddatganoledig, ond yr adeiladwyd llai na 5,000 o dai newydd fforddiadwy; ond gwerthwyd 22,000 o dai hawl-i-brynu, ac adeiladwyd 20,000 o dai newydd fforddiadwy o dan saith mlynedd ddiwethaf y llywodraeth Geidwadol?

Gall cymorth sy'n gysylltiedig â thair olygu arbedion sylweddol o ran iechyd, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, adfywio ac addysg a sgiliau. Sut y bydd eich cynnig i ailddosbarthu adnoddau Cefnogi Pobl yn effeithio ar ddarparwyr y sector gwirfoddol? Nodwch nad yw'r cynnig i ddatblygu un model strategol ar gyfer darparu llety â chymorth, gan ddefnyddio arfer da yn y sector gwirfoddol, yn debygol o adlewyrchu amrywiadau lleol. Fodd bynnag, onid yw'n wir, fel y dywedir wrthym dro ar ôl tro, fod angen model strategol cenedlaethol arnom ar gyfer gweithredu rhanbarthol? Sut y byddwch yn monitro'r lwfans tai lleol newydd i asesu ei effaith ar bobl ifanc ddigartref? Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau o ran tynnu budd-dal tai yn ôl pan fydd pobl yn ymuno ag addysg llawn amser?

Cyfeiriwch at y cynllun llwybr ar gyfer plant sy'n derbyn gofal, gan nodi ei fod yn cael ei adolygu'n rheolaidd; pam, felly, y dywedodd pobl ifanc ddigartref yn y gogledd wrthym fod eu cyswllt â'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol wedi dod i ben ar ôl iddynt gael eu gosod mewn llety â chymorth?

Finally, how will your promise of a good-practice note address the problems of rural homelessness that were described to us, where young people travel from a rural area to a housing authority to register as homeless, and then must travel elsewhere to register for benefits, leaving them unable even to afford to buy food?

Edwina Hart: There are issues around hidden homelessness, which Mark has alluded to, but I can go only by the statistics that are available to me, and homelessness among 16 to 17-year-olds and other vulnerable people under the age of 21 decreased by 27 per cent between September 2004 and September 2006. That shows that our homelessness prevention agenda is starting to work for young people. I have always accepted, as I think I made clear at the last committee meeting, that if there is an issue with hidden homelessness, we want to get to the bottom of it. I do not just blithely accept statistics, but these are the statistics that are presented to me, and I have to make decisions on the evidence that is placed before me.

You talk about some of the funding issues here, and we have a wide range of projects supporting homelessness prevention in these areas, which has certainly helped. We have education work, youth outreach services, training for youth workers, family mediation and bond schemes. Bond schemes will have a positive impact, enabling young people to get into housing.

I think that I have already substantially covered some of your other points in my written response on how I propose to implement the committee's report. On the budget, the increased spending on the homelessness agenda over the last four years has made a real difference to the services provided.

You make a party-political point on the right to buy, but it is my view, and I believe the view of another two parties in this Chamber, that it is essential that we have the powers in the National Assembly for Wales to look at

Yn olaf, sut y bydd eich addewid o nodyn arfer da yn ymdrin â'r problemau digartrefedd gwledig a ddisgrifiwyd inni, lle y mae pobl ifanc yn teithio o ardal wledig i awdurdod tai i gofrestru eu hunain yn ddigartref, ac wedyn yn gorfod teithio i rywle arall i gofrestru ar gyfer budd-daliadau, gan olygu na allant hyd yn oed fforddio prynu bwyd?

Edwina Hart: Mae yna faterion o ran digartrefedd cudd, y cyfeiriodd Mark atynt, ond gallaf ond ystyried yr ystadegau sydd ar gael imi, a gostyngodd digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc 16 i 17 oed a phobl ddiamddiffyn eraill o dan 21 oed 27 y cant rhwng mis Medi 2004 a mis Medi 2006. Mae hynny'n dangos bod ein hagenda atal digartrefedd yn dechrau gweithio i bobl ifanc. Derbyniais bob amser, fel y credaf imi egluro, yng nghyfarfod diwethaf y pwyllgor, os oes yna broblem o ran digartrefedd cudd, ein bod yn awyddus i ddatrys y broblem honno. Nid wyf yn derbyn ystadegau yn ddifeddwl, ond dyma'r ystadegau a gyflwynir imi, ac mae'n rhaid imi wneud penderfyniadau ar sail y dystiolaeth a osodir ger fy mron.

Cyfeiriwch at rai o'r problemau cyllido yma, ac mae gennym amrywiaeth eang o brosiectau sy'n gysylltiedig ag atal digartrefedd yn yr ardaloedd hyn, a fu o gymorth yn sicr. Mae gennym waith addysg, gwasanaethau allgymorth ieuenctid, hyfforddiant i weithwyr ieuenctid, cynlluniau cyfryngu teuluol a chynlluniau bond. Caiff cynlluniau bond effaith gadarnhaol, gan alluogi pobl ifanc i gael tai.

Credaf fy mod wedi cyfeirio'n sylweddol at rai o'ch pwyntiau eraill yn fy ymateb ysgrifenedig ar sut y bwriadaf weithredu adroddiad y pwyllgor. O ran y gyllideb, mae'r cynnydd mewn gwariant ar yr agenda ddigartrefedd yn ystod y pedair blynedd diwethaf wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir.

Gwnewch bwynt gwleidyddol o ran yr hawl i brynu, ond yr wyf o'r farn, a chredaf fod dwy blaid arall yn y Siambr hon o'r un farn, ei bod yn hanfodol bod gennym y pwerau yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i edrych ar

the right to buy in high-demand areas, as people are telling us that it is having an impact on the housing agenda. I have never claimed that it has such a huge impact as you indicate, Mark, but it is having an impact, and I take on board the views of those professionals who tell us that we must look at the issue in high-demand areas.

There will obviously be criticism of Government policy on this particular agenda—we have not moved fast enough, or we have not put the resources in—but I believe that the response that I place before the National Assembly for Wales deals with the key issues raised in the committee's report.

3.40 p.m.

I have been honest enough to acknowledge where it will be difficult for me to take forward recommendations, but I will attempt to do so, because the committee has indicated a way forward based on consensus in the Chamber, and I feel that I should accept those recommendations as far as I can, and try to proceed with them. I have included the necessary caveats where I do not have the powers to act, but the point is that there must be a willingness to accept and take the report forward. A great deal of work has gone into the report, and I want to try to take these recommendations forward with the support of the Chamber. When the new Assembly is returned in May, I hope that it will also give the same support.

Mick Bates: I will start by saying a big thank you to all those people who were involved in putting this report together, and to everyone who gave evidence. As a member of the committee, I found it an extremely challenging report, and I was surprised at the extent of some of the failings in the system. I admire the Minister's approach, which has always been honest and robust. The challenges are around the collection of data and the funding of anything in the future.

In recommendation 1, there is a direct reference to the concept that we must establish regional partnership, because all too often through the evidence gathering, it

yr hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle ceir galw uchel, gan fod pobl yn dweud wrthym ei fod yn cael effaith ar yr agenda dai. Ni honnais erioed ei fod yn cael effaith mor fawr ag a nodir gennych chi, Mark, ond mae'n cael effaith, ac ystyriaf safbwyntiau'r bobl broffesiynol hynny sy'n dweud wrthym fod yn rhaid inni edrych ar y mater mewn ardaloedd lle ceir galw uchel.

Yn amlwg caiff polisi'r Llywodraeth ei feirniadu ar yr agenda benodol hon—nid ydym wedi gweithredu'n ddigon cyflym, neu nid ydym wedi buddsoddi'r adnoddau—ond credaf fod yr ymateb a gyflwynais ger bron Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn ymdrin â'r materion allweddol a godwyd yn adroddiad y pwyllgor.

Bûm yn ddigon onest i gydnabod lle y bydd yn anodd imi weithredu ar argymhellion, ond ymdrechaf i wneud hynny, gan fod y pwyllgor wedi nodi ffordd ymlaen yn seiliedig ar gonsensws yn y Siambr, a theimlaf y dylwn dderbyn yr argymhellion hynny hyd y gallaf, a cheisio eu rhoi ar waith. Yr wyf wedi cynnwys y cafeatau angenrheidiol lle nad oes gennyf y pwerau i weithredu, ond y pwynt yw bod yn rhaid dangos parodrwydd i dderbyn yr adroddiad a gweithredu arno. Mae'r adroddiad yn ffrwyth llafur sylweddol, ac yr wyf am geisio gweithredu ar yr argymhellion hyn gyda chefnogaeth y Siambr. Pan ddychwela'r Cynulliad newydd ym mis Mai, gobeithiaf y rhydd yr un gefnogaeth.

Mick Bates: Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch yn fawr iawn i'r holl bobl hynny a fu'n rhan o'r gwaith o lunio'r adroddiad hwn, ac i bawb a roddodd dystiolaeth. Fel aelod o'r pwyllgor, yr oedd yn adroddiad heriol iawn, ac yr oeddwn yn synnu o weld i ba raddau yr oedd y system yn methu mewn manau. Edmygaf ymagwedd y Gweinidog, a fu bob amser yn onest ac yn gadarn. Mae a wnelo'r heriau â chasglu data a chyllido unrhyw beth yn y dyfodol.

Yn argymhelliad 1, ceir cyfeiriad uniongyrchol at y cysyniad fod yn rhaid inni sefydlu partneriaeth ranbarthol, oherwydd daeth i'r amlwg yn rhy aml drwy'r broses o

appeared that the voluntary sector and social services in many local authorities were duplicating staff and were unable to deliver what I would call quality services to young people. That means a wraparound service for those people who had slipped through a mediation system, and who required support through their local GP, possibly for drug abuse of one form or another. To me, it opened the door to many exemplar projects that provided total wraparound care for young people.

The biggest challenge is how to get the data from local authorities. I have often cited to you the example of housing needs assessments—how many authorities have done them? I recently received the frightening answer that none had provided up-to-date information. All of the 29 recommendations are excellent in intent, but unless we are able to get the data to evaluate and monitor the progress of local authorities or regional partnerships, whatever colour the Government is, it will not be able to take action, as it will not possess the data. This was found particularly when we looked at young people who could not access mental health support. That was frightening, and since then, I have visited a GP who deals with this issue in Cardiff, and I have seen at first hand the problems that are faced in trying to co-ordinate the services. I forget which recommendation it is, but we need to answer the fundamental question: when will health and social services be delivered in the same departments in local authorities? All too often, the lack of any information being passed from one to the other has caused a young person to fall deeper into debt or drug abuse, and become alienated from the whole system. Therefore, access to information becomes critical.

Other members have made reference to recommendation 15 about the intentionally homeless ruling, and I accept, along with your comments on recommendations 24 and 25 about the single-room rent, that you—or whichever Government is in place—will give your best efforts to change the rulings on this issue, because Scotland has done so.

gasglu tystiolaeth, fod y sector gwirfoddol a'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol mewn sawl awdurdod lleol yn dyblygu staff ac yn methu â darparu'r hyn y byddwn yn cyfeirio atynt fel gwasanaethau o ansawdd i bobl ifanc. Mae hynny'n golygu gwasanaeth cofleidiol i'r bobl hynny a lithrodd drwy system gyfryngu, ac yr oedd angen cymorth arnynt drwy eu meddyg teulu lleol, o bosibl mewn perthynas â chamddefnyddio cyffuriau o ryw fath neu'i gilydd. I mi, agorodd y drws i lawer o brosiectau clodwiw a oedd yn darparu gofal cwbl gofleidiol i bobl ifanc.

Yr her fwyaf yw sut i gael y data gan awdurdodau lleol. Dyfynnais yn aml i chi yr enghraifft o asesiadau anghenion tai—sawl awdurdod sydd wedi'u cynnal? Yn ddiweddar cefais yr ateb brawychus nad oedd unrhyw un ohonynt wedi darparu gwybodaeth gyfredol. Mae pob un o'r 29 o argymhellion yn ardderchog o ran bwriad, ond oni allwn gael y data i werthuso a monitro cynnydd awdurdodau lleol neu bartneriaethau rhanbarthol, ni waeth pa liw yw'r Llywodraeth, ni allwn weithredu, gan na fydd y data gennym. Yr oedd hyn yn arbennig o amlwg wrth inni edrych ar bobl ifanc na allent gael gafael ar gymorth iechyd meddwl. Yr oedd hynny'n frawychus, ac ers hynny, ymwelais â meddyg teulu sy'n ymdrin â'r mater hwn yng Nghaerdydd, a gwelais drosof fy hun y problemau a wynebir wrth geisio cydgysylltu'r gwasanaethau. Anghofiaf pa argymhelliad ydyw, ond mae angen inni ateb y cwestiwn sylfaenol: pryd y caiff gwasanaethau iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol eu darparu yn yr un adrannau o fewn awdurdodau lleol? Yn rhy aml, mae'r ffaith nad oes unrhyw wybodaeth yn cael ei throsglwyddo o un adran i'r llall wedi peri i berson ifanc fynd i fwy o ddyled neu gamddefnyddio cyffuriau, a chael ei ddiethrio o'r system gyfan. Felly, daw mynediad i wybodaeth yn hanfodol.

Cyfeiriodd aelodau eraill at argymhelliad 15 ynghylch y rheolau ar ddiartrefedd bwriadol, a derbynïaf, ynghyd â'ch sylwadau ar argymhellion 24 a 25 am y rhent ystafell sengl, y byddwch chi—neu ba bynnag Lywodraeth a fydd mewn grym—yn gwneud eich gorau glas i newid y rheolau ar y mater hwn, gan fod yr Alban wedi gwneud hynny.

We all recognise that the right to buy has had an impact in certain areas. What we are asking for is the flexibility for local authorities to suspend the right to buy when they have particular issues, but that depends on their collecting the data in the first place to analyse how they can best resolve the situation of homelessness. The funding issues will always be there, and my final comment is that we must recognise the role of the voluntary sector in delivering many of these services. Now that some of the funding has been placed in local authorities without being ring-fenced, such as Cymorth funding, there will be a need to evaluate and monitor carefully the way in which funding reaches the voluntary sector in the future.

Subsequent to the report's publication, I visited the excellent Llamau project on Cathedral road in Cardiff, but I picked up on the fact that people were anxious about how to access funding in future. This is perhaps one of the best examples of a committee working together under the present set-up to produce a report whose recommendations are excellent, and I join others in hoping that the legacy will be that they will be implemented in the next Assembly.

Edwina Hart: I thank Mick for a thoughtful contribution on youth homelessness, which is a difficult issue. I was very much taken by his final points about the voluntary sector, how it delivers excellent services, and some of the concerns that it has about funding and how it will deliver these services in future. It will be a challenge for the administration here after May to ensure that the agreements that we have on voluntary-sector funding are upheld across Wales, and that it is valued as a partner, particularly in delivering some of these core services. Funding, which Rhodri Glyn mentioned earlier, will be a key issue when we look at the implementation of this report.

I was also taken by your first point about data issues. We talk a lot about partnership and partnership working with Welsh local government, but there has to be a genuine partnership if we are to get the information that we require to make the best decisions with regard to youth homelessness and the

Yr ydym oll yn cydnabod bod yr hawl i brynu wedi cael effaith mewn rhai ardaloedd. Yr ydym yn gofyn am yr hyblygrwydd i awdurdodau lleol ddiddymu'r hawl i brynu lle y mae ganddynt broblemau penodol, ond mae hynny'n dibynnu ar y data a gesglir ganddynt yn y lle cyntaf i ddadansoddi'r ffordd orau iddynt ddatrys y sefyllfa ddigartrefedd. Bydd y problemau cyllido yno bob amser, ac i gloi, nodaf fod yn rhaid inni gydnabod rôl y sector gwirfoddol wrth ddarparu llawer o'r gwasanaethau hyn. Yn awr bod rhywfaint o'r cyllid wedi'i roi i awdurdodau lleol heb gael ei neilltuo, megis cyllid Cymorth, bydd angen gwerthuso a monitro'n ofalus y ffordd y bydd cyllid yn cyrraedd y sector gwirfoddol yn y dyfodol.

Ar ôl cyhoeddi'r adroddiad, ymwelais â phrosiect ardderchog Llamau ar Heol y Gadeirlan yng Nghaerdydd, ond sylwais fod pobl yn bryderus ynghylch sut y gellid cael gafael ar gyllid yn y dyfodol. Dyma, o bosibl, un o'r enghreifftiau gorau o bwyllgor yn cydweithio o dan y drefn bresennol i gynhyrchu adroddiad y mae ei argymhellion yn ardderchog, ac fel eraill, gobeithiaf y bydd hyn yn arwain at eu gweithredu yn y Cynulliad nesaf.

Edwina Hart: Diolchaf i Mick am gyfraniad ystyriol ar ddigartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc, sy'n fater anodd. Yr oeddwn yn cytuno'n fawr â'i bwyntiau terfynol am y sector gwirfoddol, sut y mae'n darparu gwasanaethau ardderchog, a rhai o'r pryderon sydd gan y sector ynghylch ariannu a sut y bydd yn darparu'r gwasanaethau hyn yn y dyfodol. Bydd yn her i'r weinyddiaeth yma ar ôl mis Mai i sicrhau y caiff y cytundebau sydd gennym ar ariannu'r sector gwirfoddol eu cynnal ledled Cymru, ac y caiff ei werthfawrogi fel partner, yn enwedig wrth ddarparu rhai o'r gwasanaethau craidd hyn. Bydd ariannu, a grybwyllwyd gan Rhodri Glyn yn gynharach, yn fater allweddol pan edrychwn ar weithredu'r adroddiad hwn.

Yr oeddwn yn cytuno hefyd â'ch pwynt cyntaf ynglŷn â materion data. Yr ydym yn siarad llawer am bartneriaeth a gweithio mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru, ond rhaid sicrhau partneriaeth wirioneddol er mwyn inni allu cael y wybodaeth sydd ei hangen arnom i wneud y

policy agenda that we need to take forward. We need to be certain of our figures, and we need to know what the demand is for housing, and the point you made about the right to buy is relevant there. We want those powers and we want local authorities to prove why they need to do it. It is important that we have the necessary information to enable them to ask for the exercise of those powers in future.

I have discussed access to health services with my colleague, Brian Gibbons. We know, in particular, about the devastating impact that mental health issues can have for young people with regard to housing. How can we ensure that mental health and drugs issues and all these strands come together, and that services are developed in the best way for the individual? The citizen focus that we will take following the Beecham review will, hopefully, deliver the services in the way that we want, which will allow us to implement this report fully.

I also echo Mick Bates's comments about the way in which our committee has worked. It has worked through difficult territory with this report, and has spoken to many people and taken in many opinions. The value of our current system is demonstrated when you have high-quality committee reports such as this, which take the agenda forward and which not only influence Government policy, but send Government policy in a different direction in some areas.

Laura Anne Jones: I welcome this report and your response to it, Minister. Much has already been said by other members of the committee that points to a clear understanding in the Chamber that youth homelessness is a problem that can no longer be ignored. That is progress in itself. We have heard in committee how all bodies need to work in partnership to simplify the current complex system of access to services for young homeless people, as outlined in recommendation 2. I urge the Minister to continue to monitor the situation.

penderfyniadau gorau mewn perthynas â digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc a'r agenda polisi y mae'n rhaid inni weithredu arni. Mae angen inni fod yn sicr o'n ffigurau, ac mae angen inni wybod beth yw'r galw am dai, ac mae'r pwynt a wnaethoch am yr hawl i brynu yn berthnasol yn hynny o beth. Yr ydym am gael y pwerau hynny ac yr ydym am i awdurdodau lleol brofi pam mae angen iddynt wneud hynny. Mae'n bwysig bod gennym y wybodaeth angenrheidiol i'w galluogi i ofyn am arfer y pwerau hynny yn y dyfodol.

Yr wyf wedi trafod y gallu i gael gwasanaethau iechyd gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, Brian Gibbons. Gwyddom, yn arbennig, am yr effaith ofnadwy y gall materion iechyd meddwl ei chael ar bobl ifanc mewn perthynas â thai. Sut y gallwn sicrhau bod materion iechyd meddwl a chyffuriau a'r holl elfennau hyn yn dod at ei gilydd, ac y caiff gwasanaethau eu datblygu yn y ffordd orau bosibl i'r unigolyn? Bydd ein ffocws ar ddinasyddion, yn dilyn adolygiad Beecham, gobeithio, yn darparu'r gwasanaethau yn y ffordd a ddymunwn, a fydd yn ein galluogi i weithredu'r adroddiad hwn yn llawn.

Cytunaf â sylwadau Mick Bates hefyd am y ffordd y mae ein pwyllgor wedi gweithio. Mae wedi ymdrin â sefyllfa anodd drwy'r adroddiad hwn, ac mae wedi siarad â llawer o bobl a chael llawer o safbwyntiau. Caiff gwerth ein system bresennol ei amlygu drwy gyfrwng adroddiadau pwyllgor o safon uchel fel hwn, sy'n gweithredu ar yr agenda ac sydd nid yn unig yn dylanawdu ar bolisiau'r Llywodraeth, ond yn mynd â pholisiau'r Llywodraeth i gyfeiriad gwahanol mewn rhai meysydd.

Laura Anne Jones: Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn a'ch ymateb iddo, Weinidog. Mae llawer wedi'i ddweud eisoes gan aelodau eraill o'r pwyllgor sy'n cyfeirio at ddealltwriaeth glir yn y Siambr bod digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc yn broblem na ellir ei hanwybyddu mwyach. Mae hynny'n gynnydd ynddo'i hun. Yr ydym wedi clywed yn y pwyllgor sut y mae angen i bob corff weithio mewn partneriaeth i symleiddio'r system gymhleth bresennol o ran gallu pobl ifanc ddigartref i gael gafael ar wasanaethau, fel yr amlinellwyd yn argymhelliad 2. Anogaf y

Gweinidog i barhau i fonitro'r sefyllfa.

The formal process for registering as homeless is so complex, out of date and scary for so many young people that it is essential that we seek to simplify it as much as possible. The way in which people are identified as homeless needs to change, and I agree that this Welsh Assembly Government should examine the principles by which young people are declared intentionally homeless, as has already been said. As you have quite rightly recognised, Minister, local authorities in Wales need to judge each case of homelessness individually, and to be non-discriminatory in dealing with these cases. I would welcome the Assembly Government's issuing guidance to local authorities to ensure that unfairness and inequalities do not occur. Raising awareness of these problems within local government itself is essential, as Mick Bates pointed out, and that needs monitoring. We cannot just issue guidance and expect local government to accept it—it has to understand the importance of what needs to happen. Will the Welsh Assembly Government assure the Assembly that further research into why young people become homeless in the first place will be done, and seek to put in place, as has already been touched upon, care and provision for those in need now and who will otherwise fall out of the system? I look forward to these recommendations being implemented.

3.50 p.m.

Edwina Hart: Your use of the word 'complex' is quite correct. If I was a homeless young citizen, I would not be sure where I was in the system, where I could go, what I could do or who could help me. I think that they find it quite difficult, especially prior to homelessness when they are in difficulties and there are problems at home. They do not know where they can go, whether their voice will be heard, and whether the issues that they are raising will be taken seriously. Having looked at the homelessness strategy and guidance to local authorities, the committee made recommendations 13 and 14 about dealing

Mae'r broses ffurfiol o gofrestru'n ddigartref mor gymhleth a hen ac yn codi ofn ar gymaint o bobl ifanc fel ei bod yn hanfodol ein bod yn ceisio ei symleiddio cymaint â phosibl. Mae angen newid y ffordd y caiff pobl eu nodi'n bobl ddigartref, a chytunaf y dylai'r Llywodraeth Cynulliad hon archwilio'r egwyddorion ar gyfer datgan pobl ifanc yn ddigartref yn fwriadol, fel y dywedwyd eisoes. Fel yr ydych wedi cydnabod, a hynny'n gywir, Weinidog, mae angen i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru edrych ar bob achos o ddigartrefedd yn unigol, a pheidio â gwahaniaethu wrth ddelio â'r achosion hyn. Byddwn yn croesawu Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cyhoeddi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau na cheir annhegwch ac anghydraddoldebau. Mae'n hanfodol codi ymwybyddiaeth o'r problemau hyn o fewn llywodraeth leol ei hun, fel y dywedodd Mick Bates, ac mae angen monitro hynny. Ni allwn dim ond cyhoeddi canllawiau a disgwyl i lywodraeth leol eu derbyn—rhaid iddi ddeall pwysigrwydd yr hyn y mae'n rhaid iddo ddigwydd. A wnaiff Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru sicrhau'r Cynulliad y gwneir gwaith ymchwil pellach i'r rheswm pam mae pobl ifanc yn mynd yn ddigartref yn y lle cyntaf, a cheisio sicrhau, fel y crybwyllwyd eisoes, gofal a darpariaeth i'r rhai sydd mewn angen yn awr ac y byddant fel arall yn cael eu hanwybyddu gan y system? Edrychaf ymlaen at weld yr argymhellion hyn yn cael eu gweithredu.

Edwina Hart: Mae eich defnydd o'r gair 'cymhleth' yn gywir iawn. Pe bawn i'n berson ifanc digartref, ni fyddwn yn siŵr o'm lle yn y system, i ble y gallwn fynd, beth y gallwn ei wneud neu pwy allai fy helpu. Credaf eu bod yn ei chael yn anodd iawn, yn enwedig cyn iddynt fynd yn ddigartref pan fyddant yn profi anawsterau a phan fydd problemau gartref. Ni wyddant i ble y gallant fynd, pa un a fydd eu llais yn cael ei glywed, a pha un a roddir ystyriaeth o ddifrif i'r materion y maent yn eu codi. Ar ôl edrych ar y strategaeth ddigartrefedd a'r canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol, gwnaeth y pwyllgor argymhellion 13 a 14 ynglŷn â delio â

with that more appropriately. Those recommendations are quite key to some of the points that you raised.

The points that you and Rhodri Glyn raised about the age of 16 and exploring the issues involved in changing the legislation and having the same requirements as Scotland are also key factors in this discussion. We need to think very carefully about the enactment of any Order in that regard, but it is important that we can move along those lines to deal with the issue, which is one that young people are repeatedly commenting on. I share your view that young people need to be treated as equal citizens in this. There should not be any discrimination in any part of the process, and no judgments should be made by adults or people in positions of authority regarding the position of young homeless people. Our natural instinct should be to help people, rather than trying to put barriers in the way. Therefore, I take on board Laura's points.

Janice Gregory: Thank you, Minister, for your quick and positive response to an important and detailed report that raised some important and difficult issues for the committee. Youth homelessness is a very real problem in Wales, as has already been said. It affects some of our most vulnerable young people, to whom we owe a duty of care. During the review, we were reminded time and again of the hardships facing these young people and the lack of joined-up working and facilities for them. As you know, Minister, the committee was in full agreement and accepted all but one of the recommendations. We were in full agreement about the issues of youth homelessness. Our recommendations show a commitment, regardless of party politics, to improving the quality of services for young homeless people.

It never ceases to amaze me that, in coming into this arena in the Chamber, certain Members will make points that they did not make in committee. Sometimes, that does a disservice to us as a committee, and to the people who came to give evidence. However, I am pleased that you have been able to accept the recommendations, Minister, and

hynny'n fwy priodol. Mae'r argymhellion hynny yn allweddol iawn i rai o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych.

Mae'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych chi a Rhodri Glyn ynglŷn ag 16 oed ac archwilio'r materion sy'n gysylltiedig â newid y ddeddfwriaeth a chael yr un gofynion â'r Alban hefyd yn ffactorau allweddol yn y drafodaeth hon. Mae angen inni feddwl yn ofalus iawn am ddeddfu unrhyw Orchymyn yn hynny o beth, ond mae'n bwysig y gallwn symud ar hyd y llinellau hynny i ddelio â'r mater, sy'n fater y mae pobl ifanc yn ei grybwyll yn barhaus. Rhannaf eich safbwynt bod angen trin pobl ifanc fel dinasyddion cyfartal mewn perthynas â hyn. Ni ddylid gwahaniaethau o fewn unrhyw ran o'r broses, ac ni ddylai oedolion neu bobl mewn awdurdod fynegi unrhyw farn ynghylch sefyllfa pobl ifanc ddigartref. Yn ôl ein greddf naturiol, dylem geisio helpu pobl, yn hytrach na chodi rhwystrau. Felly, derbyniaf bwyntiau Laura.

Janice Gregory: Diolch, Weinidog, am eich ymateb cyflym a chadarnhaol i adroddiad pwysig a manwl a gododd rai materion pwysig ac anodd i'r pwyllgor. Mae digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc yn broblem wirioneddol yng Nghymru, fel y dywedwyd eisoes. Mae'n effeithio ar rai o'n pobl ifanc fwyaf diamddiffyn, y mae'n ddyletswydd arnom ofalu amdanynt. Yn ystod yr adolygiad, fe'n hatgoffwyd dro ar ôl tro o'r caledi a oedd yn wynebu'r bobl ifanc hyn a'r diffyg gwaith cydgysylltiedig a chyfleusterau ar eu cyfer. Fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, yr oedd y pwyllgor mewn cytundeb llawn ac yn derbyn pob un o'r argymhellion ond un. Yr oeddem mewn cytundeb llawn ynghylch materion digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc. Mae ein hargymhellion yn dangos ymrwymiad, heb ystyried gwleidyddiaeth plaid, i wella ansawdd gwasanaethau i bobl ifanc ddigartref.

Mae bob amser yn fy rhyfeddu, wrth ddod i'r arena hon yn y Siambr, y bydd rhai Aelodau yn gwneud pwyntiau na wnaethant yn y pwyllgor. Weithiau, mae hynny'n gwneud anghymwynas â ni fel pwyllgor, ac â'r bobl a ddaeth i roi tystiolaeth. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi gallu derbyn yr argymhellion, Weinidog, a'ch bod wedi

that you have committed to taking further action on many of them. I am particularly pleased that you have recognised the cross-cutting nature of the issues surrounding youth homelessness, and that you have committed to consulting your Cabinet colleagues on many of the recommendations. I hope that the good work that you have started here will continue in the third Assembly. During our review, we were struck by the lack of progress in some areas of youth homelessness, as other Members mentioned. Indeed, several witnesses, including young homeless people, told us that they were very frustrated that many issues that have been known about for some time have not been addressed. We hope that, with our review and your response to the committee's recommendations, we can start to make a difference to young homeless people in Wales and to address the problem is that they very eloquently highlighted.

I would like to end with a plea. We do not yet know what committees will exist in the third Assembly, but I would urge all Members of the appropriate committee in that Assembly to continue the work that we have started, and to find ways of reviewing progress on the recommendations over the coming months and years. This subject is too important to forget about, and neither should it be seen as a political issue. I believe that we have started a process that can make a real difference to many vulnerable young people in Wales. Please do not let us waste that opportunity.

Edwina Hart: I concur with the comments made by Janice Gregory as the Chair of the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee. It is important that democracy takes place and that we have elections, but it is also important that the work undertaken in the Assembly during the past four years and the four years before that is not allowed to falter. We should take forward the principles that we have agreed and supported and ensure that we develop policy properly. This is not about short-termism; when it comes to issues such as youth homelessness, it is about dealing with the long-term and the problems faced by many of our young people.

ymrwymo i gymryd camau gweithredu pellach ar lawer ohonynt. Yr wyf yn arbennig o falch eich bod wedi cydnabod natur drawsbynciol y materion sy'n ymwneud â digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc a'ch bod wedi ymrwymo i ymgynghori â'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet ar lawer o'r argymhellion. Gobeithiaf y bydd y gwaith da a ddechreuwyd gennych yma yn parhau yn y trydydd Cynulliad. Yn ystod ein hadolygiad, fe'n synnwyd gan y diffyg cynnydd a wnaed mewn rhai meysydd o ddigartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc, fel y crybwyllodd Aelodau eraill. Yn wir, dywedodd nifer o dystion wrthym, yn cynnwys pobl ifanc ddigartref, eu bod yn teimlo'n rhwystredig iawn nad aethpwyd i'r afael â llawer o faterion a oedd yn hysbys ers cryn amser. Gobeithiwn, yn sgîl ein hadolygiad a'ch ymateb i argymhellion y pwyllgor, y gallwn ddechrau gwneud gwahaniaeth i bobl ifanc ddigartref yng Nghymru a mynd i'r afael â'r broblem a fynegwyd yn huawdl iawn ganddynt.

Hoffwn gloi gyda phle. Ni wyddom eto pa bwyllgorau a fydd yn bodoli yn y trydydd Cynulliad, ond byddwn yn annog pob Aelod o'r pwyllgor priodol yn y Cynulliad hwnnw i barhau â'r gwaith a ddechreuwyd gennym, ac i ddod o hyd i ffyrdd o adolygu'r cynnydd ar yr argymhellion dros y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd i ddod. Mae'r pwnc hwn yn rhy bwysig i anghofio amdano, ac ni ddylid ei ystyried yn fater gwleidyddol ychwaith. Credaf ein bod wedi dechrau proses a all wneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i lawer o bobl ifanc ddi-amddiffyn yng Nghymru. Peidiwch â gadael inni wastraffu'r cyfle hwnnw.

Edwina Hart: Cytunaf â'r sylwadau a wnaed gan Janice Gregory fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio. Mae'n bwysig sicrhau democratiaeth ynghyd ag etholiadau, ond mae hefyd yn bwysig sicrhau na ddaw'r gwaith a wnaed yn y Cynulliad yn ystod y pedair blynedd diwethaf a'r pedair blynedd cyn hynny i ben. Dylem weithredu ar yr egwyddorion yr ydym wedi cytuno arnynt ac wedi'u cefnogi gan sicrhau ein bod yn datblygu polisiau yn briodol. Nid mater byrdymor mo hwn; o ran materion megis digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc, mae a wnelo â delio â'r hirdymor a'r problemau a wynebir gan lawer o'n pobl ifanc.

What came out from this review most for me was the fact that we need to work in a more joined-up way in order to help vulnerable young people. Even though we have a number of policy areas that are good when you look at them in their silos, joining them up is the issue. The 'Making the Connections' agenda should do that for us. The new planning frameworks will give a greater impetus to joined-up services. Housing has to be key to this new agenda. In addition, I am consulting on a redraft of the grant conditions for Supporting People. That emphasises the need for service providers and Supporting People teams to communicate more. So, it is important that, from the evidence that you had from young people, practical solutions assist with this agenda in the long term. It is incumbent upon the new Assembly and the committees that will be established to take this work forward to ensure that the Government is kept on the spot, as it were, and that the necessary finances are in place to deal with youth homelessness. It has been a pleasure to deal with the committee, as usual, on this report. The report is of a high standard, and I am pleased to present the Government's position today.

Y prif beth a ddeilliodd o'r adolygiad hwn yn fy marn i oedd y ffaith bod angen inni weithio mewn ffordd fwy cydgyssylltiedig er mwyn helpu pobl ifanc ddiamddiffyn. Er bod gennym nifer o feysydd polisi sy'n dda pan edrychwch arnynt ar eu pen eu hunain, eu cydgyssylltu sy'n achosi'r broblem. Dylai agenda 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau' sicrhau hynny inni. Bydd y fframweithiau cynllunio newydd yn rhoi mwy o hwb i wasanaethau cydgyssylltiedig. Rhaid i dai fod yn allweddol i'r agenda newydd hon. Yn ogystal, yr wyf yn ymgynghori ar ailddrafftio'r amodau grant ar gyfer Cefnogi Pobl. Mae hynny'n pwysleisio'r angen i ddarparwyr gwasanaethau a thimau Cefnogi Pobl gyfathrebu'n fwy. Felly, mae'n bwysig, o'r dystiolaeth a gawsoch gan bobl ifanc, fod atebion ymarferol yn cynorthwyo â'r agenda hon yn yr hirdymor. Mae'n ddyletswydd ar y Cynulliad newydd a'r pwyllgorau a gaiff eu sefydlu i gyflawni'r gwaith hwn i sicrhau bod y Llywodraeth yn parhau i fod yn atebol, a bod y cyllid angenrheidiol ar gael i ddelio â digartrefedd ymhlith pobl ifanc. Bu'n bleser delio â'r pwyllgor, fel arfer, ar yr adroddiad hwn. Mae'r adroddiad o safon uchel, ac yr wyf yn falch o gyflwyno safbwynt y Llywodraeth heddiw.

Cymeradwyo Deddfwriaeth o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25 **Approval of Legislation under Standing Order No. 24.25**

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 24.25, this motion is not subject to debate.

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 24.25:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu'n unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25:

1a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 13 March 2007 on the draft the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007; and

1a) Yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mawrth 2007 ynghylch y Gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) (Amrywio) (Cymru) 2007; a

b) approves that the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales)

b) yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth)

- Order 2007 is made in accordance with:* (Amrywio) (Cymru) 2007 yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag:
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2007; and* i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Chwefror 2007; a
- ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2007;* ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Chwefror 2007;
- 2a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 13 March 2007 on the draft the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Decisions, Documents and Meetings) and the Standards Committees (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007; and* 2a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mawrth 2007 ynghylch y rheoliadau drafft, Rheoliadau Awdurdodau Lleol (Trefniadau Gweithrediaeth) (Penderfyniadau, Dogfennau a Chyfarfodydd) a'r Pwyllgorau Safonau (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2007; a
- b) approves that the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Decisions, Documents and Meetings) and the Standards Committees (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 are made in accordance with:* b) yn cymeradwyo bod y Rheoliadau Awdurdodau Lleol (Trefniadau Gweithrediaeth) (Penderfyniadau, Dogfennau a Chyfarfodydd) a'r Pwyllgorau Safonau (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2007 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol ag:
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2007; and* i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Chwefror 2007; a
- ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 27 February 2007;* ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 27 Chwefror 2007;
- 3a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 13 March 2007 on the draft Designation of Schools Having a Religious Character (Wales) Order 2007; and* 3a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mawrth 2007 ynghylch y gorchymyn drafft, Gorchymyn Dynodi Ysgolion sydd â Chymeriad Crefyddol (Cymru) 2007; a
- b) approves that Designation of Schools Having a Religious Character (Wales) Order 2007 is made in accordance with:* b) yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Dynodi Ysgolion sydd â Chymeriad Crefyddol (Cymru) 2007 yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag:
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 6 March 2007; and* i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mawrth 2007; a
- ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 6 March 2007;* ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mawrth 2007;
- 4a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office on 13 March 2007 on the draft the Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment and Support Schemes (Cross-compliance) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007; and* 4a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 13 Mawrth 2007 ynghylch y rheoliadau drafft, Rheoliadau Cynllun Taliad Sengl a Chynlluniau Cymorth y Polisi Amaethyddol Cyffredin (Trawsgydymffurfio) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2007; a

- b) approves that the Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment and Support Schemes (Cross-compliance) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 are made in accordance with:
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 6 March 2007; and
- ii) the regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 6 March 2007. (NDM3557)
- b) yn cymeradwyo bod y Rheoliadau Cynllun Taliad Sengl a Chynlluniau Cymorth y Polisi Amaethyddol Cyffredin (Trawsgydymffurfio) (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2007 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â:
- i) y Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mawrth 2007; a
- ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 6 Mawrth 2007. (NDM3557)

*Cynnig (NDM3557): O blaid 40, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3557): For 40, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

**Cymeradwyo Gwneud the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions)
Order 2007
Recommendation that the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions)
Order 2007 be made**

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigiaf fod
propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

resolves that a recommendation should be made to Her Majesty in Council to make the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions) Order 2007 under paragraph 31(1)(c) of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006. (NDM3558)

yn penderfynu y dylid argymhell i'w Mawrhydi yn y Cyngor bod the National Assembly for Wales (Diversion of Functions) Order 2007 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â pharagraff 31(1)(c) Atodlen 11 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. (NDM3558)

*Cynnig (NDM3558): O blaid 40, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3558): For 40, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

Williams, Kirsty

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

**Cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2007 o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.27(iv)
Approval of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2007 under Standing Order No. 24.27(iv)**

The Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside (Carwyn Jones): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

considers the principle of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2007, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 14 March 2007. (NDM3563)

I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

approves that the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2007 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 14 March 2007. (NDM3559)

This legislation gives poultry keepers and keepers of captive birds a temporary permitted development right to erect temporary shelters in the present situation with regard to avian influenza. Under the Order, planning permission would not be required.

There are some formal items that I have to bring to the attention of the Assembly. Due to a typographical error in the draft Order, the date for the Order coming into force is noted as 21 March in the italic title and in Article 1 subsection (1). That should read 22 March. In addition, in the definition of 'relevant date' in paragraph A.3. of the new Part 39, the intention was for the rights to expire a year after coming into force. Therefore, it should state that the rights expire on 21 March 2008 and not on 20 March 2008.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad (Carwyn Jones): Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn ystyried egwyddor Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2007, y gosodwyd copi ohono yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 14 Mawrth 2007. (NDM3563)

Cynigiaf fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn cymeradwyo bod Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Datblygu Cyffredinol a Ganiateir) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2007 yn cael ei wneud yn unol â'r drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a e-bostiwyd at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 14 Mawrth 2007. (NDM3559)

Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn rhoi hawl datblygu a ganiatwyd dros dro i'r rhai sy'n cadw dofednod ac adar caeth i godi cysgodfeydd dros dro yn y sefyllfa bresennol mewn perthynas â ffliw adar. O dan y Gorchymyn, ni fyddai angen caniatâd cynllunio.

Mae rhai eitemau ffurfiol y mae'n rhaid imi eu dwyn i sylw'r Cynulliad. O ganlyniad i wall teipograffyddol yn y Gorchymyn drafft, nodir yn y teitl italig ac yn Erthygl 1 isadran (1) mai 21 Mawrth yw'r dyddiad y daw'r Gorchymyn i rym. Dylai hynny ddarllen 22 Mawrth. Yn ogystal, yn y diffiniad o 'ddyddiad perthnasol' ym mharagraff A.3 o'r Rhan 39 newydd, y bwriad oedd i'r hawliau ddod i ben flwyddyn ar ôl iddynt ddod i rym. Felly, dylai nodi bod yr hawliau yn dod i ben ar 21 Mawrth 2008 ac nid ar 20 Mawrth

2008.

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful to the Minister. That falls within what I believe we call ‘typographical errors’, which are subject to an agreement through memoranda of correction. There are no speakers on this item, therefore we move straight to the vote.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog. Mae hynny'n rhan o'r hyn y credaf ein bod yn eu galw'n ‘wallau teipograffyddol’, sy'n amodol ar gytundeb drwy femoranda cywiriadau. Nid oes unrhyw siaradwyr ar yr eitem hon, felly awn yn syth ymlaen i'r bleidlais.

*Cynnig (NDM3563): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3563): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Cynnig (NDM3559): O blaid 45, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM3559): For 45, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

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

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.58 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.58 p.m.*

Twristiaeth Tourism

Motion (NDM3560): to propose that

Cynnig (NDM3560): cynnig bod

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

notes the Welsh Assembly Government's vision for developing the tourism industry in Wales as set out in Wales's revised tourism strategy 'Achieving Our Potential 2006-2013'.

yn nodi gweledigaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer datblygu'r diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru fel y'i nodir yn y Strategaeth Dwristiaeth ddiwygiedig 'Cyflawni ein Potensial 2006-2013'.

Amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

notes the need to maximise income by developing high-added-value tourism, while protecting our biodiverse environment.

yn nodi'r angen i gynhyrchu cymaint o incwm â phosibl trwy ddatblygu twristiaeth sy'n ychwanegu gwerth sylweddol, tra'n diogelu ein hamgylchedd bioamrywiol yr un pryd.

Amendment 2 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 2 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

recognises the importance of Welsh cultural heritage and its value as an asset to tourism in Wales.

yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd treftadaeth ddiwylliannol Cymru a'i gwerth fel ased i dwristiaeth yng Nghymru.

Amendment 3 in the name of Kirsty Williams. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 3 yn enw Kirsty Williams. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales's industrial heritage.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata treftadaeth ddiwydiannol Cymru.

Amendment 4 in the name of Kirsty Williams. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 4 yn enw Kirsty Williams. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Assembly Government to promote a more joined-up approach between the National Museum Wales and National Library and tourism organisations.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i hyrwyddo dull mwy cydgysylltiedig rhwng Amgueddfa Cymru a'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol a sefydliadau twristiaeth.

Amendment 5 in the name of Kirsty Williams. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Gwelliant 5 yn enw Kirsty Williams. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the National Eisteddfod to do more to attract non-Welsh-speaking visitors.

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol i wneud mwy i ddenu ymwelwyr nad ydynt yn siarad Cymraeg.

Amendment 6 in the name of Kirsty Williams. Add a new point at the end of the

Gwelliant 6 yn enw Kirsty Williams. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y

motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales as a 'clean and green' country through highlighting Wales's commitment to sustainable development.

Amendment 7 in the name of Lisa Francis.
Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern that the Welsh Assembly Government failed to include commercially let self-catering tourism businesses in its latest small businesses rate relief scheme.

Amendment 8 in the name of Lisa Francis.
Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern that in respect of the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation on small business rate relief for commercially let self-catering tourism businesses, no decision will be taken until the third Assembly.

Amendment 9 in the name of Lisa Francis.
Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to seek an agreement with the UK Government that a 'bed tax' on accommodation providers will not be introduced in Wales.

Amendment 10 in the name of Lisa Francis.
Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to publish its review into the roles and responsibilities of the regional tourism partnerships, which was carried out at the end of 2006 and has since been completed.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, amendments 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the name of Kirsty Williams, and amendments 7, 8, 9 and 10 in the name of Lisa Francis.

The Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (Andrew Davies): I propose

cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata Cymru fel gwlad 'lân a gwyrdd', drwy dynnu sylw at ymrwymiad Cymru i ddatblygu cynaliadwy.

Gwelliant 7 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi methu â chynnwys busnesau twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol yn ei chynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach diweddaraf.

Gwelliant 8 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder, yng nghyswllt ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynghylch rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach ar gyfer busnesau twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol, na wneir unrhyw benderfyniad tan y trydydd Cynulliad.

Gwelliant 9 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i geisio cytundeb gyda Llywodraeth y DU na chyflwynir 'treth gwelyau' ar ddarparwyr llety yng Nghymru.

Gwelliant 10 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyhoeddi ei hadolygiad ynghylch swyddogaethau a dyletswyddau'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol a gyflawnwyd ddiwedd 2006 ac a gwblhawyd ers hynny.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, gwelliannau 3, 4, 5 a 6 yn enw Kirsty Williams, a gwelliannau 7, 8, 9 a 10 yn enw Lisa Francis.

Y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau (Andrew Davies): Cynigiau

that

the National Assembly for Wales:

notes the Welsh Assembly Government's vision for developing the tourism industry in Wales as set out in Wales's revised tourism strategy 'Achieving Our Potential 2006-2013'. (NDM3560)

We recognise that tourism is an important sector for Wales and a key source of income and employment: it contributes £3 billion to the Welsh economy—£8 million per day—and supports around 100,000 tourism and related jobs. Therefore, it is big business and is vital for many, if not most, parts of Wales.

Tourism is a highly competitive global industry. As people get more experience of travelling, they become more discerning in their choice of destination, often leading them to search for new places and new tourism products and experiences. People are also taking shorter but more frequent breaks throughout the year and are seeking differing activities. We have to compete on all fronts, and are well-placed to do just that.

We have many strengths as a tourist destination: a rich and varied natural environment, beautiful landscapes and coastlines, a strong cultural and linguistic identity and a growing variety of quality products.

4.00 p.m.

Although it is important to have the right products and marketing campaigns to attract visitors, our competitiveness is judged on our visitors' experience in terms of their first arrival in Wales, the transport services that they use to get around, price and value for money, the quality products being delivered and the standards of service.

Those are the strands of tourism that will impact on a visitor's overall experience and

fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn nodi gweledigaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer datblygu'r diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru fel y'i nodir yn y Strategaeth Dwristiaeth ddiwygiedig 'Cyflawni ein Potensial 2006-2013'. (NDM3560)

Cydnabyddwn fod twristiaeth yn sector pwysig i Gymru ac yn ffynhonnell incwm a chyflogaeth allweddol: mae'n cyfrannu £3 biliwn at economi Cymru—£8 miliwn y dydd—ac yn cefnogi tua 100,000 o swyddi twristiaeth a swyddi cysylltiedig. Felly, mae'n fusnes mawr ac mae'n hanfodol i lawer o rannau o Gymru, os nad y rhan fwyaf ohonynt.

Mae twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant byd-eang cystadleuol iawn. Wrth i bobl gael fwy o brofiad o deithio, deuant yn fwy craff o ran eu dewis o gyrchfan, sy'n aml yn golygu eu bod yn chwilio am leoedd newydd a chynhyrchion a phrofiadau twristiaeth newydd. Mae pobl hefyd yn mynd ar wyliau am gyfnodau byrrach ac yn amlach drwy gydol y flwyddyn ac yn edrych am weithgareddau gwahanol. Rhaid inni gystadlu ym mhob maes, ac yr ydym mewn sefyllfa dda i wneud hynny.

Mae gennym lawer o gryfderau fel cyrchfan twristiaeth: amgylchedd naturiol cyfoethog ac amrywiol, tirweddau ac arfordiroedd prydferth, hunaniaeth ddiwylliannol ac ieithyddol gref ac amrywiaeth gynyddol o nwyddau o safon.

Er ei bod yn bwysig cael y nwyddau a'r ymgyrchoedd marchnata cywir i ddenu ymwelwyr, bernir ein gallu i gystadlu ar brofiad ein hymwelwyr o ran cyrraedd Cymru am y tro cyntaf, y gwasanaethau trafniadaeth y maent yn eu defnyddio i deithio o amgylch y wlad, pris a gwerth am arian, y nwyddau o safon sy'n cael eu cyflwyno a safonau'r gwasanaeth.

Dyna'r elfennau o dwristiaeth a fydd yn effeithio ar brofiad a chanfyddiad cyffredinol

perception of Wales. That reminds us that tourism consists of a highly complex system of activities and services, which cut across a wide range of differing sectors. As a result, tourism expenditure has a double impact—direct benefits for tourism-related businesses, such as hotels, visitor attractions and restaurants, and indirect benefits for other sectors such as transport, food, construction, manufacturing and retail, which often increase the demand for local produce and services. Our challenge is to realise the full potential of our unique tourism assets in a structured, integrated, but above all, sustainable way. ‘Achieving our Potential’, our tourism strategy for 2000-2010, is aimed at doing just that. Over the first five-year period of the strategy, the Assembly Government has overseen unprecedented levels of investment in the tourism industry, ensuring new, high-quality standards, high-quality products and extremely effective marketing campaigns.

Following a review, I launched the revised strategy for 2006-2013 last April, which now identifies five strategic challenges for Wales. The first of those challenges is branding. We need to develop a clear and distinctive brand for Wales, providing opportunities to reinforce consistent branding messages for all in the industry to use. The second is the quality of accommodation and attractions. We have to raise quality standards continually to meet the rising expectations of visitors. The third is accessibility, particularly electronic accessibility, as Wales needs to extend its online visibility. The fourth, very importantly, is skills levels within the industry. Improved quality must be matched by improvements in skill levels. The final challenge is the theme of partnership. Tourism is a fragmented industry and it is important for people, businesses and organisations to work together effectively to get things done. We are now addressing these challenges through a dedicated action plan and Visit Wales’s own delivery plan.

Research shows that our innovative and award-winning tourism marketing campaigns continue to deliver for Wales. Marketing

o Gymru a gaiff ymwelydd. Mae hynny'n ein hatgoffa bod twristiaeth yn cynnwys system hynod gymhleth o weithgareddau a gwasanaethau sy'n rhychwantu amrywiaeth eang o wahanol sectorau. O ganlyniad, mae gan wariant twristiaeth effaith ddwbl—buddiannau uniongyrchol ar gyfer busnesau sy'n ymwneud â thwristiaeth, megis gwestai, atyniadau i ymwelwyr a bwytai, a buddiannau anuniongyrchol ar gyfer sectorau eraill megis trafniadaeth, bwyd, adeiladu, gweithgynhyrchu a manwerthu, sy'n aml yn cynyddu'r galw am gynnyrch a gwasanaethau lleol. Ein her yw gwireddu potensial ein hasedau twristiaeth unigryw mewn ffordd strwythuredig, integredig, ond yn anad dim, mewn ffordd gynaliadwy. Nod ‘Cyflawni Ein Potensial’, ein strategaeth dwristiaeth ar gyfer 2000-2010 yw ceisio gwneud hynny. Dros gyfnod pum mlynedd cyntaf y strategaeth mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi bod yn gyfrifol am y buddsoddiad mwyaf erioed yn y diwydiant twristiaeth gan sicrhau safonau uchel, nwyddau o safon ac ymgyrchoedd marchnata effeithiol iawn newydd.

Ar ôl adolygiad, lansiais y strategaeth ddiwygiedig ar gyfer 2006-2013 ym mis Ebrill y llynedd, sydd yn awr yn nodi pum her strategol i Gymru. Y gyntaf o'r heriau hynny yw brandio. Mae angen inni ddatblygu brand clir ac unigryw i Gymru, gan roi cyfleoedd i atgyfnerthu'r negeseuon brandio cyson i bawb yn y diwydiant eu defnyddio. Yr ail yw safon y llety a'r atyniadau. Rhaid inni godi safonau'n barhaus i fodloni disgwyliadau cynyddol ymwelwyr. Y drydedd yw hygyrchedd, yn arbennig hygyrchedd electronig, gan fod angen i Gymru dod yn fwy amlwg ar-lein. Y bedwaredd, yn bwysig iawn, yw lefelau sgiliau o fewn y diwydiant. Rhaid i well ansawdd gyd-fynd â gwelliannau yn lefelau sgiliau. Yr her olaf yw'r thema o bartneriaeth. Mae twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant tameidiog ac mae'n bwysig i bobl, busnesau a sefydliadau gydweithio'n effeithiol i wireddu pethau. Yr ydym bellach yn mynd i'r afael â'r heriau hyn drwy gynllun gweithredu pwrpasol a chynllun cyflawni Croeso Cymru ei hun.

Mae ymchwil yn dangos bod ein hymgyrchoedd marchnata twristiaeth arloesol, sydd wedi ennill gwobrau, yn

campaigns undertaken by Visit Wales in 2005 generated a massive £186 million of additional tourism spend in Wales. Of that, nearly half was generated by the very successful 'The Big Country' campaign in the UK. Annual spending by overseas visitors between 2001 and 2005 increased by around 25 per cent, to an all-time high of £311 million in 2005. At the end of last summer, the results were shown in a survey carried out by Visit Wales, in which 47 per cent of operators said that they had had more guests or visitors than the previous summer. This year, early indications show that our spring campaigns in key overseas markets are bringing in high response rates. Our marketing campaigns will continue to focus on markets that offer the best returns for Wales, and Visit Wales continues to work closely with Visit Britain in established, and other potentially lucrative, markets overseas.

On skills, tourism is highly dependent on a skilled and motivated workforce, as quality of service is central to a visitor's experience. We are committed to working with People 1st, the sector skills council for the industry, and with the tourism training forum for Wales, to drive up skills and to promote a professional approach among employers and employees. Much is being done to meet the needs of businesses through flexible training programmes and developing recognised training and qualifications to secure good career prospects in the industry.

Jane Davidson, my ministerial colleague, recently announced the establishment of a Welsh skills and employment board, which will deal with specific Wales issues. Its chair will sit on the Commission for Employment and Skills to ensure that Wales has a direct voice in determining UK policies and practices.

On the use of latest technology, increasing the accessibility of what Wales has to offer as a destination is vital in order to compete effectively. The Visit Wales site provides the industry with such a tool, but more has to be

parhau i ddwyn ffrwyth i Gymru. Arweiniodd yr ymgyrchoedd marchnata gan Croeso Cymru yn 2005 at swm sylweddol o £186 miliwn o wariant twristiaeth ychwanegol yng Nghymru. Daeth bron hanner y swm hwnnw drwy ymgyrch hynod lwyddiannus 'Mawredd Mawr' yn y DU. Cynyddodd gwariant blynyddol gan ymwelwyr o dramor rhwng 2001 a 2005 tua 25 y cant, i'r lefel uchaf erioed o £311 miliwn yn 2005. Ar ddiwedd yr haf diwethaf, dangoswyd canlyniadau mewn arolwg a wnaed gan Croeso Cymru lle y dywedodd 47 y cant o weithredwyr iddynt gael mwy o westeion neu ymwelwyr nac yn yr haf blaenorol. Eleni, mae arwyddion cynnar yn dangos bod ein hymgyrchoedd yn y gwanwyn mewn marchnadoedd allweddol tramor wedi arwain at gyfraddau ymateb uchel. Bydd ein hymgyrchoedd marchnata yn canolbwyntio ar farchnadoedd sy'n cynnig yr enillion gorau i Gymru o hyd, ac mae Croeso Cymru yn gweithio'n agos gyda Visit Britain o hyd mewn marchnadoedd tramor sefydledig a marchnadoedd tramor eraill a allai fod yn fuddiol.

O ran sgiliau, mae twristiaeth yn dibynnu'n fawr ar weithlu medrus a brwdfrydig, gan fod gwasanaeth o safon yn ganolog i brofiad ymwelydd. Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i weithio gyda Rhoi Pobl yn Gyntaf, y cyngor sgiliau sector ar gyfer y diwydiant, a chyda fforwm hyfforddi twristiaeth Cymru i wella sgiliau a hyrwyddo ymagwedd broffesiynol ymhlith cyflogwyr a chyflogieion. Gwneir llawer i ddiwallu anghenion busnes drwy raglenni hyfforddi hyblyg a datblygu hyfforddiant a chymwysterau cydnabyddedig er mwyn sicrhau rhagolygon gyrfa da yn y diwydiant.

Yn ddiweddar, cyhoeddodd Jane Davidson, fy nghyd-Weinidog, y câi bwrdd sgiliau a chyflogaeth dros Gymru ei sefydlu, bwrdd a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â materion sy'n benodol i Gymru. Bydd ei gadeirydd yn aelod o Gomisiwn Cyflogaeth a Sgiliau, er mwyn sicrhau fod gan Gymru lais yn y gwaith o bennu polisiau ac arferion y DU.

O ran y defnydd o'r dechnoleg ddiweddaraf, mae cynyddu hygyrchedd i'r hyn sydd gan Gymru i'w gynnig fel cyrchfan yn hanfodol er mwyn cystadlu'n effeithiol. Mae gwefan Croeso Cymru yn rhoi dull o'r fath i'r

done to increase our online visibility and make it accessible to a larger share of the market. Visit Wales will review its website services accordingly, to ensure that it continues to provide an information hub for the industry, as well as potential visitors, while taking account of new service providers and technology.

Partnership working is vital in a fragmented tourism industry. Collaboration within the sector has improved over recent years. The Wales Tourism Alliance, led by its chair, Julian Burrell, has become a stronger and more cohesive body, and represents around 7,000 members, while the regional tourism partnerships now have far stronger local authority representation on them, and are serving Wales well.

At the sharp edge, tourism is largely delivered by the private sector, but public sector organisations also play an important role in how tourism is developed, managed and marketed. Regional representation is essential to develop the diverse product that we have throughout Wales, and there is no magic, one-size-fits-all model. Our Wales spatial plan acknowledges this, and clear, local distinctiveness is a major tourism asset. This regional representation through the RTPs brings local business and local authorities together to market and develop tourism in their areas.

As many of you are aware, an independent review of the RTPs has recently been carried out. I now have this report and will consider its findings and recommendations before making any decisions on the future role of these partnerships. However, this will also have to involve taking account of wider regional support structures within my department, and the overwhelming thrust of the new organisation to streamline business support and the organisations in the sector. Therefore, as well as funding and working with the regional partnerships, I want to fully engage with the tourism industry and seek its views and advice.

diwydiant, ond rhaid gwneud mwy i ddod yn fwy amlwg ar-lein a'i wneud y diwydiant yn fwy hygyrch i gyfran fwy o'r farchnad. Bydd Croeso Cymru yn adolygu gwasanaethau'i wefan yn unol â hyn er mwyn sicrhau ei bod yn ganolfan wybodaeth i'r diwydiant o hyd, yn ogystal ag i ymwelwyr posibl, ac ar yr un pryd ystyried y darparwyr gwasanaethau a'r dechnoleg newydd.

Mae gweithio mewn partneriaeth yn hanfodol mewn diwydiant twristiaeth tameidiog. Mae cydweithrediad o fewn y sector wedi gwella yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Mae Cynghrair Twristiaeth Cymru, o dan arweiniad ei chadeirydd, Julian Burrell, wedi dod yn gorff cryfach a mwy cydlynol ac mae'n cynrychioli tua 7,000 o aelodau, tra bod gan bartneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol gynrychiolaeth lawer cryfach o'r awdurdodau lleol erbyn hyn ac maent yn gwasanaethu Cymru'n dda.

O ran gwasanaethau, caiff twristiaeth ei chyflwyno'n bennaf gan y sector preifat, ond mae sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus hefyd yn chwarae rhan bwysig yn y ffordd y caiff twristiaeth ei datblygu, ei rheoli a'i marchnata. Mae cynrychiolaeth ranbarthol yn hanfodol i ddatblygu'r cynnyrch amrywiol sydd gennym ledled Cymru, ac nid oes model sy'n gweddu i bawb. Mae ein cynllun gofodol i Gymru'n cydnabod hyn ac mae arbenigrwydd lleol yn ased twristiaeth mawr. Drwy'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol mae cynrychiolaeth ranbarthol yn dod â busnesau lleol ac awdurdodau lleol at ei gilydd i farchnata a datblygu twristiaeth yn eu hardaloedd.

Fel y gŵyr llawer ohonoch, cynhaliwyd adolygiad annibynnol o'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol yn ddiweddar. Mae gennyf yr adroddiad hwn yn awr a byddaf yn ystyried ei ganfyddiadau a'i argymhellion cyn gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau am rôl y partneriaethau hyn yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, bydd yn rhaid i hyn gynnwys ystyried strwythurau cymorth rhanbarthol ehangach o fewn fy adran ac ymgais fawr y sefydliad newydd i symleiddio'r cymorth busnes a'r sefydliadau yn y sector. Felly, yn ogystal ag ariannu a chydweithio â'r partneriaethau rhanbarthol, yr wyf am gysylltu'n agos â'r diwydiant twristiaeth a

cheisio'i farn a'i gyngor.

To further this engagement with the industry, following the merger with the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board, I established a tourism advisory panel, which comprises people operating in the tourism industry, or with related businesses experience. The panel has an important role in providing me, and my department, with expert views on current tourism priorities and policies, with a role to challenge and come forward with evidence-based views on how we can improve development and support for this important industry. It also has a key role in monitoring the progress of 'Achieving Our Potential' and its effectiveness.

Er mwyn datblygu'r cysylltiad hwn ymhellach â'r diwydiant ar ôl uno Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Bwrdd Croeso Cymru â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, sefydlais banel cynghori twristiaeth sy'n cynnwys pobl sy'n gweithredu yn y diwydiant twristiaeth neu sydd â phrofiad busnes cysylltiedig. Mae gan y panel ran bwysig i'w chwarae i roi barn arbenigol imi a'm hadran ar flaenoriaethau a pholisïau presennol twristiaeth, gyda rôl i herio a chynnig barn sy'n seiliedig ar dystiolaeth ar y ffordd y gallwn wella datblygu a chymorth i'r diwydiant pwysig hwn. Mae ganddo rôl allweddol hefyd yn y gwaith o fonitro cynnydd 'Cyflawni Ein Potensial' a'i effeithiolrwydd.

Turning to the amendments, I am pleased to support amendments 1 to 6, which all conform to Welsh Assembly Government policy. On amendment 9, Sue Essex, the Finance Minister, has made it clear that we have no plans to introduce a bed tax in Wales; I have written to all industry bodies, including the RTPs, pointing this out. This arose from an early draft of the Lyons report, looking at local government financing in England, which raised that suggestion along with several other possible taxes. However, that only related to England, as, in Wales, we are responsible for local authority funding. Only today, Sir Michael Lyons published his final report, and his only recommendation was that there should be a consultation on the pros and cons of such as tax in England.

Gan droi at y gwelliannau, yr wyf yn falch o gefnogi gwelliannau 1 i 6, y mae pob un ohonynt yn cydymffurfio â pholisi Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. O ran gwelliant 9, mae Sue Essex, y Gweinidog Cyllid, wedi egluro nad oes gennym gynlluniau i gyflwyno treth gwelyau yng Nghymru; yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at bob un o gyrff y diwydiant, yn cynnwys y partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol, i nodi hyn. Cododd hyn o ddrafft blaenorol o adroddiad Lyons a oedd yn edrych ar ariannu llywodraeth leol yn Lloegr, a gododd yr awgrym hwnnw ynghyd â nifer o drethi eraill posibl. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd hynny'n ymwneud â Lloegr yn unig, gan mai ni sy'n gyfrifol yng Nghymru am ariannu awdurdod lleol. Cyhoeddodd Syr Michael Lyons ei adroddiad terfynol heddiw hefyd, a'i unig argymhelliad oedd y dylai fod ymgynghoriad ar fanteision ac anfanteision treth o'r fath yn Lloegr.

I also support Lisa's amendment 10, and confirm that the report will be published in due course. Amendments 7 and 8 are on including commercially let self-catering tourism businesses in our small business rate relief scheme. We recognise that this is a complex issue that requires more detailed consideration; as a consequence, we are undertaking a consultation specifically on the question of the eligibility of self-catering businesses for this rate relief scheme. Local authorities and other organisations, including those representing the self-catering tourism

Cefnogaf welliant 10 a gynigiwyd gan Lisa hefyd, a chadarnhaf y caiff yr adroddiad ei gyhoeddi maes o law. Mae gwelliannau 7 ac 8 yn ymwneud â busnesau twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol yn ein cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach. Cydnabyddwn ei fod yn fater cymhleth y mae angen ei ystyried yn fanylach; o ganlyniad, yr ydym yn ymgymryd ag ymgynghoriad arbennig ar y cwestiwn o gymhwyster busnesau hunan-ddarpar ar gyfer y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi hwn. Ymgynghorir ag awdurdodau lleol a sefydliadau eraill, yn

industry, are being consulted, with a view to the Assembly Government being able to take a timely and informed decision on whether changes to the regulations should be made, and when they should come into effect.

4.10 p.m.

Together with my colleague, Sue Essex, and local Assembly Members, Tamsin Dunwoody and Chris Gwyther, I met representatives of the Wales Tourism Alliance only last week. We agreed that, during the consultation, officials would explore possible solutions with it, including a clearer definition of self-catering accommodation. That would meet the main concerns of all parties and would also be practical to implement. I am pleased to say that that work is under way.

In conclusion, my department now has in place a more responsive, joined-up and effective advice and development service for all businesses in this important industry. Working together, the Assembly Government, the tourism industry, local authorities and the regional partnerships can meet the challenges identified in 'Achieving Our Potential', ensuring that tourism makes an even bigger contribution to an increasingly dynamic Welsh economy.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. There are, so far, 17 requests to make speeches. Therefore, after the amendments have been proposed, I will impose a three-minute time limit; that will increase to four minutes if the speaker chooses to take any interventions.

Janet Davies: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 1: add a new point at the end of the motion:

notes the need to maximise income by developing high-added-value tourism, while protecting our biodiverse environment.

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

cynnwys y rhai sy'n cynrychioli'r diwydiant twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar, gyda'r bwriad y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn dod i benderfyniad amserol a hyddysg ar ba newidiadau y dylid eu gwneud i'r rheoliadau a phryd y dylent ddod i rym.

Ynghyd â'm cyd-Weinidog, Sue Essex, ac Aelodau Cynulliad lleol, Tamsin Dunwoody a Chris Gwyther, cwrddais â chynrychiolwyr Cynghrair Twristiaeth Cymru yr wythnos diwethaf. Gwnaethom gytuno yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad, y dylai swyddogion ystyried atebion posibl, yn cynnwys diffiniad cliriach o lety hunan-ddarpar. Byddai hynny'n lleddfu pryderon pennaf pawb a byddai hefyd yn ymarferol i'w weithredu. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod y gwaith yn mynd rhagddo.

I gloi, mae fy adran bellach wedi rhoi ar waith wasanaeth cyngor a datblygu mwy ymatebol, cydgysylltiedig ac effeithiol ar gyfer pob busnes yn y diwydiant pwysig hwn. Drwy gydweithio, gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, y diwydiant twristiaeth, awdurdodau lleol a phartneriaethau rhanbarthol ateb yr heriau a nodwyd yn 'Cyflawni ein Potensial' gan sicrhau bod twristiaeth yn gwneud cyfraniad hyd yn oed yn fwy i economi gynyddol deinamig Cymru.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Hyd yn hyd, cafwyd 17 cais i siarad. Felly, ar ôl cynnig y gwelliannau byddaf yn gosod cyfyngiad amser o dair munud; bydd hynny'n cynyddu i bedair munud os bydd y siaradwr yn dewis derbyn unrhyw ymyriadau.

Janet Davies: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 1: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi'r angen i gynhyrchu cymaint o incwm â phosibl trwy ddatblygu twristiaeth sy'n ychwanegu gwerth sylweddol, tra'n diogelu ein hamgylchedd bioamrywiol yr un pryd.

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

recognises the importance of Welsh cultural heritage and its value as an asset to tourism in Wales.

The revised ‘Achieving Our Potential’ is a good managerial document, and the Minister has talked in detail about how he hopes to meet its proposals. However, as we review documents, we need to relate them to a broad vision of what we want to achieve on the particular topic under consideration. With this one, we need to look at how our country should develop to keep and increase the 10 per cent of gross domestic product earned from tourism, while keeping and improving the best qualities of Wales. The Assembly should reflect the views of most Welsh people in aspiring to keep our character, a character that varies from part to part of Wales, but without deep chasms of conflict. For example, I would have thought that we would want to keep our stubbornness for survival that has run through the centuries.

People love Wales’s landscape, seascape and diversity of plants. I cannot have been the only person who was concerned by the recent comments of the First Minister on the effect of climate change on Welsh tourism—albeit a vision that ignored the forecast of global warming that means melting icebergs, that means the breakdown of the Arctic pump bringing the warm waters of the Gulf Stream past our shores, that means long, freezing winters. I wondered how a new Costa Del Sol fitted into that. Like many others, I was appalled by his vision of what I call Twrmelinos and of Benidorm-ger-y-môr.

Our tourism vision must keep the best, such as our culture and heritage, physical beauty, complex diversity, and clean, green, natural environment, and dramatically improve the rest—our built environment, for example. Between now and 2013, these aspirations must lay the foundation for the future of Welsh tourism. Meeting the challenges of tourist demands can fit this vision if we act appropriately. If we do not understand this, we will lose what we love and what, in fact, draws so many people to Wales. The environment should be our top priority in

yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd treftadaeth ddiwylliannol Cymru a'i gwerth fel ased i dwristiaeth yng Nghymru.

Mae'r fersiwn diwygiedig o ‘Cyflawni ein Potensial’ yn ddogfen reolaethol dda ac mae'r Gweinidog wedi siarad yn fanwl am sut y gobeithia weithredu ei chynigion. Fodd bynnag, wrth inni adolygu dogfennau, mae angen inni eu cysylltu â gweledigaeth eang o'r hyn yr ydym am ei gyflawni ar y pwnc penodol dan sylw. Gyda'r pwnc hwn, mae angen inni edrych ar sut y dylid datblygu ein gwlad i gadw a chynyddu'r 10 y cant o gynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth a enillir o dwristiaeth, tra'n cadw a gwella nodweddion gorau Cymru. Dylai'r Cynulliad adlewyrchu barn y rhan fwyaf o bobl Cymru drwy geisio cadw ein cymeriad, cymeriad sy'n amrywio o ardal i ardal yng Nghymru, ond heb wrthdaro mawr. Er enghraifft, byddwn wedi meddwl y byddem am gadw ein hystyfnigrwydd i oroesi sydd wedi para drwy'r canrifoedd.

Mae pobl wrth eu bodd â thirwedd, morlun ac amrywiaeth planhigion Cymru. Dichon nad fi oedd yr unig un a oedd yn pryderu ynghylch sylwadau diweddar y Prif Weinidog am effaith y newid yn yr hinsawdd ar dwristiaeth yng Nghymru—er ei bod yn weledigaeth a anwybyddodd y rhagolwg o gynhesu byd-eang a fydd yn golygu bod mynyddoedd iâ yn toddi, methiant pwmp yr Arctig i ddod â dyfroedd cynnes Llif y Gwlff heibio i'n glannau, a gaeafau hir a rhewllyd. Tybed sut y bydd y Costa Del Sol newydd yn cyd-fynd â hynny. Fel sawl un arall, yr oeddwn wedi fy arswydo gan ei weledigaeth o'r hyn yr wyf yn ei alw'n Twrmelinos ac o Benidorm-ger-y-môr.

Rhaid i'n gweledigaeth dwristiaidd gadw'r pethau gorau, megis ein diwylliant a'n treftadaeth, harddwch y dirwedd, amrywiaeth gymhleth ac amgylchedd glân, gwyrdd a naturiol, a gwella'r gweddill—ein hamgylchedd adeiledig, er enghraifft—yn sylweddol. Rhwng yn awr a 2013, rhaid i'r dyheadau hyn osod sylfaen ar gyfer dyfodol twristiaeth Cymru. Gall ateb heriau gofynion twristiaid wireddu'r weledigaeth hon os byddwn yn gweithredu'n briodol. Os na wnawn hyn, byddwn yn colli yr hyn a garwn a'r hyn sydd, mewn gwirionedd, yn denu

tourism development. That does not mean reduced incomes for those who work in the industry, but it does mean providing training on how to work with the environment. There will, for example, be jobs in eco-construction, keeping carbon emissions low in modern buildings that, I hope, will increase the landscape's value.

We do not use our heritage adequately to provide experiences to explore our culture. In recent years, some of our industrial heritage has been developed in a sensitive way, without patronising the people who worked, lived their lives and, too often, lost both their health and their lives in collieries, slate quarries, iron and steelworks and textile manufacture. However, why is there not the same development of our cultural heritage? Why do we not see tours of Welsh castles as well as of castles built by Edward I, of battlefields that changed the course of our history, of environmentally rich areas and of any farms where wild-flower meadows have survived through traditional farming practices? Although the behaviour of owners of some of those Welsh castles would be no more acceptable today than the behaviour of Edward I, they were Wales's feudal, slave-owning tyrants and we should admit to them.

Last summer, I went walking in Orkney with people from other countries. We spent one evening in a local resident's home listening to Norse legends and traditional Orcadian music. We learned Orcadian dances and about how they had fostered strong communities. It was a lively evening, to put it mildly, but it also brought money into the local community.

In Wales, we have hwyrnos events at Glansein, which are well attended, but we need such evenings throughout Wales. I think that they should be held in the Celtic Manor Resort hotel during the Ryder Cup tournament. These are ways to keep a clean, green environment and to maximise income. We do not want overdevelopment around our

pobl i Gymru. Ein prif flaenoriaeth wrth inni ddatblygu twristiaeth ddylai fod yr amgylchedd. Nid yw hynny'n golygu incwm llai i'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn y diwydiant, ond mae'n golygu hyfforddiant ar sut i weithio gyda'r amgylchedd. Bydd swyddi, er enghraifft, ym maes eco-adeiladu, cadw gollyngiadau carbon yn isel mewn adeiladau modern a fydd, gobeithiaf, yn ychwanegu at werth y dirwedd.

Nid ydym yn defnyddio ein treftadaeth yn ddigonol i roi profiadau i archwilio ein diwylliant. Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, datblygwyd rhywfaint o'n treftadaeth ddiwydiannol mewn ffordd sensitif heb fychanu'r bobl a fu'n gweithio, byw ac, yn rhy aml, yn colli'u hiechyd a'u bywydau yn y glofeydd, chwareli llechi, gweithfeydd haearn a dur a'r diwydiant tecstilau. Fodd bynnag, pam na chaed yr un datblygiad o'n treftadaeth ddiwylliannol? Pam na welwn deithiau tywys o gestyll y Cymry yn ogystal â'r cestyll a adeiladwyd gan Edward I, o feysydd y gad a newidiodd cwrs ein hanes, o'r ardaloedd sy'n gyfoethog yn amgylcheddol ac o unrhyw ffermydd lle y mae meysydd blodau gwyllt wedi goroesi drwy arferion ffermio traddodiadol? Er na fyddai ymddygiad perchenogion rhai o'r cestyll Cymreig hynny'n fwy derbynol heddiw nag ymddygiad Edward I, hwy oedd gormeswyr ffiwdal Cymru a oedd yn gaethfeistri a dylem gydnabod hynny.

Yr haf diwethaf, euthum i gerdded yn yr Ynysoedd Erch gyda phobl o wledydd eraill. Gwnaethom dreulio noswaith yng nghartref un o'r trigolion lleol yn gwrando ar chwedlau Llychlynnaidd ac yn gwrando ar gerddoriaeth draddodiadol o Ynysoedd Erch. Gwnaethom ddysgu dawnsfeydd o Ynysoedd Erch a chael gwybod sut yr oeddent wedi adeiladu cymunedau cryf. Yr oedd yn noswaith hwyliog, a dweud y lleiaf, ond hefyd daeth ag arian i'r gymuned leol.

Yng Nghymru, ceir digwyddiadau hwyrnos yng Nglansein, sy'n boblogaidd iawn, ond mae angen cynnal nosweithiau o'r fath ledled Cymru. Credaf y dylid eu cynnal yng ngwesty'r Celtic Manor yn ystod twrnameintiau Cwpan Ryder. Mae ffyrdd o gadw amgylchedd glân a gwyrdd a chynyddu incwm i'r eithaf. Nid ydym am orddatblygu o

coast and a new Magaluf in Pembrokeshire. Assembly Government, I ask you to raise your eyes and to do some lateral thinking on this.

Kirsty Williams: I propose the following amendments in my name. Amendment 3: Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales's industrial heritage.

I propose amendment 4. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to promote a more joined-up approach between the National Museum Wales and National Library and tourism organisations.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the National Eisteddfod to do more to attract non-Welsh-speaking visitors.

I propose amendment 6. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales as a 'clean and green' country through highlighting Wales's commitment to sustainable development.

As the Minister and Janet said, Wales has a fantastic product to offer the marketplace. We have it all: magnificent coastlines, vibrant cities and spectacular countryside. Wherever you choose to stay, whether that is in a bunkhouse, a campsite, a modern hotel or self-catering or bed-and-breakfast accommodation, we can offer five-star, quality accommodation in most parts of Wales.

We have fantastic restaurants offering the best in local produce. We have wonderful arts and cultural festivals, fantastic historic and industrial landscapes to explore and, for those who are more adventurous, fantastic

amgylch ein harfordir a chreu Magaluf newydd yn Sir Benfro. Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, gofynnaf ichi godi eich trem a meddwl am hyn yn greadigol.

Kirsty Williams: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn fy enw i. Gwelliant 3: Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata treftadaeth ddiwydiannol Cymru.

Cynigiau welliant 4. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i hyrwyddo dull mwy cydgyssylltiedig rhwng Amgueddfa Cymru a'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol a sefydliadau twristiaeth.

Cynigiau welliant 5. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol i wneud mwy i ddenu ymwelwyr nad ydynt yn siarad Cymraeg.

Cynigiau welliant 6. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata Cymru fel gwlad 'lân a gwyrdd', drwy dynnu sylw at ymrwymiad Cymru i ddatblygu cynaliadwy.

Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog a Janet, mae gan Gymru gynnyrch gwych i'w gynnig ar y farchnad. Mae gennym bopeth: arfordiroedd godidog, dinasoedd bywiog a chefn gwlad trawiadol. Ble bynnag y byddwch yn dewis aros, pa un a yw hynny mewn byncws, mewn safle gwersylla, mewn gwesty modern neu mewn llety hunan-ddarpar neu wely a brewcwast, gallwn gynnig llety 5-seren o safon yn y rhan fwyaf o Gymru.

Mae gennym fwytaf gwych yn cynnig y cynnyrch lleol gorau. Mae gennym wyliau celfyddydol a diwylliannol ardderchog, tîrweddau hanesyddol a diwydiannol gwych i'w harchwilio ac, i'r rhai mwy anturus,

mountains to climb and forests to cycle through. There is not anything that people cannot do if they come to Wales. Our amendments ask for more to be made of some of the elements of the mix that we have. We can work more closely with some of the institutions in Wales, such as our national museums and libraries, to make the product more rounded and whole.

We will also support Plaid Cymru's amendments and those of the Conservatives. I welcome the Minister's clarification on the moves that the Assembly Government is making to progress the issue around rate relief for self-catering accommodation and his categorical statement with regard to bed tax. I welcome the opportunity to put on record my party's opposition to bed tax, if for no other reason than to stop would-be Conservative politicians misrepresenting my party's stance in local newspapers.

Last week, I was fortunate enough to spend the day with several tourism businesses in the Brecon Beacons national park. All of those businesses are dedicated to what they do and want to provide the best for their customers. They have invested heavily from their own resources into their businesses, sometimes with and sometimes without the help of the Welsh Assembly Government. They are all committed to providing a first-class product for their businesses and to continuing to contribute to the local economy, employing local people and using local produce.

They had several messages that they wanted me to put forward today. They are keen to see the onward marketing of Wales to the overseas market. They believe that those visitors are particularly high-spending visitors and can bring a lot to Wales, if we can attract them.

They also want greater focus. The Minister might say that it is early days since the Wales Tourist Board was brought in-house and that the new structures in the department are bedding down, but there is a lack of knowledge and understanding now about whom tourism businesses should approach if they want to seek help. The question was:

mynyddoedd godidog i'w dringo a choedwigoedd i seiclo drwyddynt. Nid oes unrhyw beth na all pobl ei wneud os dônt i Gymru. Mae ein gwelliannau yn galw am wneud mwy o rai elfennau o'r cyfan sydd gennym. Gallwn weithio'n agosach gyda rhai o'r sefydliadau yng Nghymru, fel ein hamgueddfeydd a'n llyfrgelloedd cenedlaethol, i sicrhau bod y cynnyrch yn fwy cyflawn a chynhwysfawr.

Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau Plaid Cymru a'r Ceidwadwyr. Croesawaf eglurhad y Gweinidog ar y camau y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn eu cymryd ynglŷn â rhyddhad ardrethi ar gyfer llety hunan-ddarpar a'i ddatganiad pendant ynghylch treth gwelyau. Croesawaf y cyfle i gofnodi gwrthwynebiad fy mhlaid i dreth gwelyau, er mwyn atal darpar wleidyddion Ceidwadol rhag camliwio safiad fy mhlaid mewn papurau newydd, yn anad dim.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, yr oeddwn yn ddigon ffodus i dreulio'r diwrnod gyda sawl busnes twristiaeth ym mharc cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog. Mae'r holl fusnesau hynny yn ymroddedig i'r hyn y maent yn ei wneud ac maent yn awyddus i sicrhau'r gorau i'w cwsmeriaid. Maent wedi buddsoddi'n helaeth o'u hadnoddau eu hunain i'w busnesau, weithiau gyda chymorth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, weithiau ddim. Mae pob un ohonynt yn ymroddedig i ddarparu cynnyrch o'r radd flaenaf i'w busnesau ac i barhau i gyfrannu i'r economi leol, gan gyflogi pobl leol a defnyddio cynnyrch lleol.

Yr oedd ganddynt sawl neges imi eu cyflwyno heddiw. Maent yn awyddus i weld Cymru'n parhau i gael ei marchnata i'r farchnad dramor. Credant fod yr ymwelwyr hynny yn gwario'n arbennig o dda ac y gallant gynnig llawer i Gymru, os gallwn eu denu.

Maent hefyd am weld ffocws gwell. Gallai'r Gweinidog ddweud mai newydd gael ei gwneud yn asiantaeth fewnol y mae Bwrdd Croeso Cymru a bod y strwythurau newydd yn yr adran yn dal i gael eu sefydlu, ond mae diffyg dealltwriaeth bellach ynghylch at bwy y dylai busnesau twristiaeth droi i gael cymorth. Y cwestiwn oedd: beth

what has happened to Jo Jones; where is he? Before, they knew to go to the Wales Tourist Board and there is now confusion as to where the best place to access help and support is. There seems to be a plethora of organisations and, for the small-business owner, it can be difficult to navigate all of that. Therefore, some clarity on the future of the tourism partnerships and their relationship with the Welsh Assembly Government is needed.

There is also concern about overlapping work. For instance, you could be a business owner in the Brecon Beacons national park and the national park will have a tourism strategy. Powys County Council also has a tourism strategy, as do all the other county councils that form part of a national park.

4.20 p.m.

Wales has a strategy and sometimes there is a difficulty in following the thread between all the different strategies and how we are moving forward. Some clarity and joined-up thinking would be beneficial, as would the Minister's commitment, as he has stated today, to better engagement with the private sector and better partnership working with those who are working at the coal face. They also want help in developing the skills of their workers, and their skills, in their businesses and I welcome the Minister's comments on that.

Their final concern is that there is only so much that they can do, as individuals, although they invest heavily. For instance, Cambrian Cruisers has just purchased a new five-star canal boat, at a not inconsiderable cost, but that boat moors up just outside the village of Llanfrynach and the company has seen the council close the public conveniences there. We have also seen Powys County Council close tourist information centres across the county. They need the public sector, whether at Welsh Assembly Government or county-council level, to support the infrastructure because there is only so much that an individual business can do without the public sector playing its part in ensuring that the product is a good one.

ddigwyddodd i Jo Jones; i ble yr aeth? Cyn hynny, yr oeddent yn gwybod y gallent fynd at y Bwrdd Croeso ond erbyn hyn mae dryswch ynghylch ble yw'r lle gorau i gael cymorth. Ymddengys bod myrdd o sefydliadau ac, i berchenogion busnesau bach, gall hynny fod yn anodd. Felly, mae angen eglurdeb ar ddyfodol y partneriaethau twristiaeth a'u cydberthynas â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Ceir pryder hefyd ynghylch gwaith sy'n gorgyffwrdd. Er enghraifft, gallech fod yn berchen ar fusnes ym mharc cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog a bydd gan y parc cenedlaethol strategaeth dwristiaeth. Mae gan Gyngor Sir Powys strategaeth dwristiaeth hefyd, fel yr holl gynghorau sir eraill sy'n rhan o barc cenedlaethol.

Mae gan Gymru strategaeth ac weithiau ceir anhawster i ddilyn y trywydd rhwng yr holl strategaethau gwahanol a'r ffordd yr ydym yn gweithredu. Byddai rhywfaint o eglurdeb a meddylfryd gydgyssylltiedig yn fanteisiol, ynghyd ag ymroddiad y Gweinidog, fel y nodwyd ganddo heddiw, i sicrhau ymgysylltu gwell â'r sector preifat a gweithio'n well mewn partneriaeth gyda'r rhai sy'n gweithio yn llygad y storm. Maent hefyd am gael help i ddatblygu sgiliau eu gweithwyr, a'u sgiliau, yn eu busnesau, a chroesawaf sylwadau'r Gweinidog ar hynny.

Eu pryder olaf yw mai dim ond hyn a hyn y gallant ei wneud, fel unigolion, er eu bod yn buddsoddi'n helaeth. Er enghraifft, mae Cambrian Cruisers newydd brynu cwch camlas pum-seren newydd, am swm eithaf mawr, ond mae'r cwch yn angori ar gyrion pentref Llanfrynach ac mae'r cwmni wedi gweld y cyngor yn cau'r cyfleusterau cyhoeddus yn Llanfrynach. Yr ydym hefyd wedi gweld Cyngor Sir Powys yn cau canolfannau croeso ledled y sir. Mae angen i'r sector cyhoeddus, boed hynny ar lefel Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru neu gyngor sir, gefnogi'r seilwaith gan mai dim ond hyn a hyn y gall busnesau unigol ei wneud, heb gyfraniad y sector cyhoeddus i sicrhau safon y cynnyrch.

Lisa Francis: I propose the following amendments in my name. Amendment 7: Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern that the Welsh Assembly Government failed to include commercially let self-catering tourism businesses in its latest small businesses rate relief scheme.

I propose amendment 8. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern that in respect of the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation on small business rate relief for commercially let self-catering tourism businesses, no decision will be taken until the third Assembly.

I propose amendment 9. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to seek an agreement with the UK Government that a 'bed tax' on accommodation providers will not be introduced in Wales.

I propose amendment 10. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to publish its review into the roles and responsibilities of the regional tourism partnerships, which was carried out at the end of 2006 and has since been completed.

I speak to the amendments tabled in my name and the Welsh Conservative group will support all amendments tabled.

In the wake of British Tourism Week, it is fitting that we have this debate on the most important industry in Wales, which is worth £2.5 billion per annum to our economy. 'Achieving Our Potential 2006-2013' details much of the work undertaken a few years ago and it talks about the work of the regional tourism partnerships, which have a budget of around £3.5 million a year. A review into the roles and responsibilities of the regional tourism partnerships has been carried out and, as the Minister said, it is a completed

Lisa Francis: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn fy enw i. Gwelliant 7: Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi methu â chynnwys busnesau twristiaeth hunanddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol yn ei chynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach diweddaraf.

Cynigiau welliant 8. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder, yng nghyswllt ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynghylch rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach ar gyfer busnesau twristiaeth hunanddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol, na wneir unrhyw benderfyniad tan y trydydd Cynulliad.

Cynigiau welliant 9. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i geisio cytundeb gyda Llywodraeth y DU na chyflwynir 'treth gwelyau' ar ddarparwyr llety yng Nghymru.

Cynigiau welliant 10. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyhoeddi ei hadolygiad ynghylch swyddogaethau a dyletswyddau'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol a gyflawnwyd ddiwedd 2006 ac a gwblhawyd ers hynny.

Cyfeiriaf at y gwelliant a gyflwynwyd yn fy enw i a bydd grŵp Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn cefnogi'r holl welliannau a gyflwynwyd.

Yn dilyn Wythnos Twristiaeth Prydain, mae'n addas ein bod yn cael y drafodaeth hon ar y diwydiant pwysicaf yng Nghymru, sy'n werth £2.5 biliwn y flwyddyn i'n heconomi. Mae 'Cyflawni Ein Potensial 2006-2013' yn nodi llawer o'r gwaith a wnaed rai blynyddoedd yn ôl ac mae'n sôn am waith y partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol, y mae ganddynt gyllideb o tua £3.5 miliwn y flwyddyn. Cynhaliwyd adolygiad o rolau a chyfrifoldebau'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol ac, fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog,

piece of work, but I understand that it is waiting for the Minister to sign it off. I know, because the Minister has told us, that he sees the RTPs as crucial in terms of delivering local tourism and he places great store on that. I know that he has been looking forward to the outcome of the review, so that the Government can move forward, because he has said that too. However, it is a pity that we will not see that review before the election.

What might the review say about the regional tourism partnerships? I would wager that it says that they should discharge their responsibilities with a more closely defined remit from Visit Wales, that they should clearly demonstrate what they achieve within their budget levels, and that the RTPs and the Government's department, Visit Wales, should make more of an effort, as Kirsty just said, to ensure that the various tourism groups, associations and operators know what they are there for and what they are meant to be achieving. Of course, I am not Russell Grant, but it will be interesting to see if my predictions are correct when the review is finally published.

Last week, I met self-catering tourism operators in my region. In all, I believe that membership of the Wales Association of Self Catering Operators accounts for about 2,300 properties in Wales, and the demand for this kind of accommodation has trebled over the last year due to warm summers and the fact that you can still holiday well in Wales at a modest price. They are mostly micro-businesses and some have developed from farm diversification.

The Finance Minister told us that business rate relief is not a business subsidy but is essentially a tool that should be used to safeguard employment and services in local communities. These businesses are evidence of the backbone of that, but the relentless increase in bureaucracy imposed on private business has resulted in a devaluation of the industry, unfortunately. These businesses tell me that, in the last two years, they have struggled against a backdrop of rising fuel

mae'n waith a gwblhawyd, ond deallaf eu bod yn aros i'r Gweinidog roi sêl ei fendith arno. Gwn, gan fod y Gweinidog wedi dweud wrthym, ei fod yn ystyried bod y partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol yn hanfodol i ddarparu gwasanaethau twristiaeth lleol ac y rhydd bwyslais mawr ar hynny. Gwn ei fod yn edrych ymlaen at ganlyniad yr adolygiad, fel y gall y Llywodraeth symud ymlaen, oherwydd mae wedi dweud hynny hefyd; fodd bynnag, mae'n drueni na welwn yr adolygiad hwnnw cyn yr etholiad.

Beth y gallai'r adolygiad ei ddweud am y partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol? Tybiaf y byddai'n dweud y dylent gyflawni eu cyfrifoldebau gyda chylch gwaith a ddiffinnir yn fanylach gan Croeso Cymru, y dylent ddangos yn glir yr hyn maent yn ei gyflawni o fewn eu lefelau cyllideb, ac y dylai'r partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol ac adran y Llywodraeth, Croeso Cymru, wneud mwy o ymdrech, fel y mae Kirsty newydd ei ddweud, i sicrhau bod y grwpiau, y cymdeithasau a'r gweithredwyr twristiaeth amrywiol yn deall beth yw eu pwrpas a'r hyn y dylent ei gyflawni. Wrth gwrs, nid Russell Grant mohonof, ond bydd yn ddiddorol gweld a fydd fy mhroffwydoliaeth yn gywir pan gaiff yr adolygiad ei gyhoeddi.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, gwneuthum gyfarfod â gweithredwyr twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar yn fy rhanbarth. Yn gyffredinol, credaf fod gan aelodau Cymdeithas Gweithredwyr Hunan-ddarpar Cymru tua 2,300 o eiddo yng Nghymru ac mae'r galw am y math hwn o lety wedi treblu dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, oherwydd yr hafau poeth a'r ffaith y gallwch gael gwyliau da yng Nghymru am bris rhesymol. Busnesau micro yw'r rhain yn bennaf ac mae rhai ohonynt wedi datblygu drwy arallgyfeirio ar ffermydd.

Dywedodd y Gweinidog Cyllid wrthym nad cymhorthdal busnes yw'r rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau, ond yn hytrach mai offeryn ydyw y dylid ei ddefnyddio i ddiogelu cyflogaeth a gwasanaethau mewn cymunedau lleol. Mae'r busnesau hyn yn dystiolaeth o gadernid hyn, ond mae'r cynnydd didostur mewn biwrocratiaeth y mae busnesau preifat yn ei hwynebu wedi arwain at ostyngiad yng ngwerth y diwydiant, yn anffodus. Dywed y busnesau hyn wrthyf eu bod, dros y ddwy

costs, the expensive costs of complying with grading harmonisation, and increases in the rateable values of their properties. We emphasise the need to develop a five-star quality product in Wales and one operator told me that he had invested £120,000 to achieve the five-star grade that he needs in order to remain competitive. However, the knock-on effect of no rate relief, particularly when his properties have jumped up three bands in terms of rateable value, increasing his rates by 53 per cent, is huge compared to what amounts to a very small return for that operator. He does not even pay himself the minimum wage, so how long will it be before his investment is recouped?

Mark Isherwood: Do you share my concern that the national Government excluded self-catering businesses from the small business rate relief scheme, apparently because of an error by a single county council? I was also told by a leader of a county council that the Welsh Local Government Association's response was a Labour response, because it failed to consult the other party groupings in the WLGA.

Lisa Francis: That is concerning, and I am also aware from the Wales Tourism Alliance that these proposals have hit it out of the blue, so it would appear that the consultation did not go wide enough at the time.

The effect of the removal of rate relief has also affected the operators' ability to draw up tariffs and market their properties for next year, which is important. The Finance Minister is consulting with local authorities and tourism groups to find out what these businesses contribute to local economies, but why not use Inland Revenue criteria to decide this? Does the Inland Revenue not have the means to decide what is or is not a genuine small business?

Within my region, the self-catering operators spread the tourism jam—they provide the accommodation for visitors who spend their money in pubs, restaurants, activity centres, attractions, theatres and retail outlets. These

flynedd ddiwethaf, wedi brwydro yn erbyn cefndir o gynnydd mewn costau tanwydd, costau mawr cydymffurfio i gysoni'r cynllun graddio, a chynnydd yng ngwerth ardrethol eu heiddo. Pwysleisiwn yr angen i ddatblygu cynnyrch o safon pum-seren yng Nghymru a dywedodd un gweithredwr wrthyf ei fod wedi buddsoddi £120,000 i gyflawni'r radd pum-seren sydd ei hangen arno i barhau i fod yn gystadleuol. Fodd bynnag, mae sgîl-effaith y diffyg rhyddhad ardrethi, yn enwedig gan fod ei eiddo wedi codi tri band o ran eu gwerth ardrethol, gan arwain at gynnydd o 53 y cant mewn trethi, yn enfawr o gymharu â'r adenillion bach iawn i'r gweithredwr hwnnw. Nid yw'n talu'r isafswm cyflog iddo'i hun hyd yn oed, felly ymhen faint y caiff wedi ffrwyth ei lafur?

Mark Isherwood: A rannwech fy mhryder bod y Llywodraeth genedlaethol wedi eithrio busnesau hunan-ddarpar o'r cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach, oherwydd camgymeriad gan un cyngor sir, mae'n debyg? Dywedodd arweinydd cyngor sir wrthyf hefyd mai ymateb Llafur oedd ymateb Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, gan iddi fethu ag ymgynghori â grwpiau'r pleidiau eraill yn CLILC.

Lisa Francis: Mae hynny'n peri pryder, ac yr wyf hefyd ar ddeall gan Gynghrair Twristiaeth Cymru fod y cynigion hyn wedi ymddangos o unlle, felly ymddengys nad oedd yr ymgynghoriad yn ddigon eang ar y pryd.

Mae effaith dileu'r rhyddhad ardrethi hefyd wedi effeithio ar allu gweithredwyr i lunio tariffau a marchnata eu heiddo ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, sy'n bwysig. Mae'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn ymgynghori ag awdurdodau lleol a grwpiau twristiaeth i ganfod beth y mae'r busnesau hyn yn ei gyfrannu i economïau lleol, ond beth am ddefnyddio meini prawf Cyllid y Wlad i bennu hyn? Onid oes gan Gyllid y Wlad yr adnoddau i bennu beth sy'n fusnes bach gwirioneddol?

O fewn fy rhanbarth, y gweithredwyr hunan-ddarpar yw sail twristiaeth—maent yn darparu llety i ymwelwyr sy'n gwario eu harian mewn tafarndai, bwytai, canolfannau gweithgareddau, atyniadau, theatrau a siopau

businesses—who purchase local services such as builders, plumbers, decorators, and gardeners—also importantly provide a local sense of place and culture. This Government has not taken into account the displacement effect of removing this rate relief and the devastating impact that it will have in our rural areas.

If we go back to 2001, the silver lining to the cloud that was foot and mouth disease was that the first Assembly recognised and valued the huge importance of the tourism product to Wales. At a time when business start-ups in Wales are below average and where Wales needs to create an additional 2,000 VAT registrations each year just to catch up with the UK average, I would urge the Government not to allow us to slip backwards. Reinstating the rate relief scheme to self-catering operators will enable us to forge ahead within the tourism industry, and I ask you to consider that.

Jeff Cuthbert: My speech in the main will be in support of amendment 3 from the Liberal Democrats, which I am pleased to do.

My constituency of Caerphilly is well-blessed with tourist attractions; I privileged to represent a constituency which not only hosts spectacular structures such as Caerphilly Castle and Llancaiach Fawr, but a wealth of industrial sites. Caerphilly Castle is one of the finest medieval castles in western Europe—I am told that it is the second largest castle in Europe—and it boasts a tower that leans more than the Tower of Pisa.

However, as my fellow Labour Members will know, the south Wales Valleys were the cradle of the industrial revolution and the driving force of empire. The south Wales Valleys in particular are teeming with places of huge social significance that are, on the whole, an untapped commodity. I will briefly refer to the White Rose Resource Centre in New Tredegar, which is in Huw's constituency but in the Caerphilly borough, where there is an excellent mining museum that has been established largely through Objective 1 funding.

manwerthu. Mae'r busnesau hyn—sy'n prynu gwasanaethau lleol fel adeiladwyr, plymwyr, peintwyr a phapurwyr, garddwyr—hefyd yn bwysig yn sicrhau naws am le a diwylliant yn lleol. Nid yw'r Llywodraeth hon wedi ystyried effaith dileu'r rhyddhad ardrethi ar eraill a'r effaith andwyol a gaiff hyn ar ein hardaloedd gwledig.

O edrych yn ôl i 2001, yr un peth da a ddeilliodd o glwy'r traed a'r genau oedd bod y Cynulliad cyntaf yn cydnabod ac yn gwerthfawrogi pwysigrwydd enfawr y cynnyrch twristiaeth i Gymru. Ar adeg pan fydd nifer y busnesau newydd sy'n cael eu sefydlu yng Nghymru yn is na'r cyfartaledd a lle mae angen i Gymru greu 2000 yn fwy o gofrestrïadau TAW bob blwyddyn a hynny i gyrraedd cyfartaledd y DU, anogaf y Llywodraeth i beidio â gadael inni lithro'n ôl. Bydd adfer y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i weithredwyr hunan-ddarpar yn ein galluogi i wneud cynnydd o fewn y diwydiant twristiaeth, a gofynnaf ichi ystyried hynny.

Jeff Cuthbert: Byrdwn fy araith fydd rhoi cefnogaeth i welliant 3 gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ac mae'n bleser gennyf wneud hynny.

Mae fy etholaeth yng Nghaerffili yn frith o atyniadau twristiaeth; mae'n bleser gennyf gynrychioli etholaeth sy'n cynnwys adeiladau trawiadol fel Castell Caerffili a Llancaiach Fawr, ynghyd â chyfoeth o safleoedd diwydiannol. Castell Caerffili yw un o gestyll canoloesol mwyaf nodedig gorllewin Ewrop—deallaf mai hwn yw'r castell mwyaf ond un yn Ewrop—ac mae ganddo dŵr sy'n gwyro mwy na Thŵr Pisa.

Fodd bynnag, fel y gŵyr fy nghyd-Aelodau Llafur, Cymoedd y de oedd crud y chwyldro diwydiannol a sbardun yr ymerodraeth. Mae Cymoedd y de yn arbennig yn frith o leoedd o bwys cymdeithasol enfawr sydd heb eu cyffwrdd yn gyffredinol. Cyfeirïaf yn fyr at Ganolfan Adnoddau'r Rhosyn Gwyn yn Nhredeggar Newydd, sydd yn etholaeth Huw ond ym mwrdeistref Caerffili, lle ceir amgueddfa lofaol ardderchog a sefydlwyd yn bennaf drwy arian Amcan 1.

I hope that the introduction of regional tourism partnerships will address this issue. The greater involvement of local authorities and local businesses in the development of localised tourism plans should enable them to target specific sites within their region, which may appeal to the market. In theory, this should see many places capitalise on their industrial past, which was once the very scar on the community.

The regional tourism partnership for south-east Wales, Capital Region Tourism, will continue to develop tourism at a regional level, developing initiatives such as the wisdom and walks project, along which you can discover the truth about the heroes of the industrial revolution, hear stories of haunted houses or find out if you have Welsh roots like Caerphilly's own Tommy Cooper. I will here pay tribute to the Caerphilly Tommy Cooper Society that has collected many thousand of pounds towards the statue in Caerphilly town, just like that—you have pinched my line—to commemorate Tommy Cooper's birthplace.

I hope that this new regional approach to tourism in Wales will help to remind the world how important the Welsh Valleys and its people were to the industrial revolution and the wider world. The sacrifices of the Valleys people must not be forgotten, and, with the help of a people's museum, they will be properly remembered, and it will be one that I am sure will be popular.

4.30 p.m.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae'r diwydiant hwn yn eithriadol o bwysig yng ngorllewin a gogledd Cymru ac mae'n cyfrannu'n helaeth at yr economi. Yn anffodus, yn y gorffennol, mae hefyd wedi bod yn gysylltiedig â chyflogau isel a thymhorol, nad ydynt yn sail gadarn i economi unrhyw wlad. Cytunaf â chyfeiriad cyffredinol yr adroddiad hwn, a'r polisi o godi safonau ac i ychwanegu gwerth at y diwydiant hwn. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar dri neu bedwar o bethau sydd efallai yn ymddangos fel pethau bychain.

Cyfeiriwyd at y cynllun trethi sy'n cael ei

Gobeithiaf y bydd cyflwyno partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol yn ymdrin â hyn. Dylai sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol a busnesau lleol yn cael eu cynnwys yn y broses o ddatblygu cynlluniau twristiaeth lleol eu galluogi i dargedu safleoedd penodol yn eu rhanbarth, a allai apelio i'r farchnad. Mewn egwyddor, dylai hyn sicrhau bod llawer o leoedd yn manteisio ar eu gorffennol diwydiannol, a oedd unwaith yn graith ar y gymuned.

Bydd y bartneriaeth dwristiaeth ranbarthol ar gyfer y de-ddwyrain, Uwch Ranbarth Twristiaeth, yn parhau i ddatblygu twristiaeth ar lefel ranbarthol, gan ddatblygu mentrau fel y prosiect 'wisdom and walks', lle gallwch ganfod y gwirionedd am arwyr y chwyldro diwydiannol, clywed straeon am ysbrydion neu ganfod a oes gennych wreiddiau yng Nghymru fel Tommy Cooper sy'n hanu o Gaerffili. Hoffwn dalu teyrnged i Gymdeithas Tommy Cooper Caerffili sydd wedi casglu miloedd o bunnoedd tuag at y gofeb yn nhref Caerffili, i goffâu man geni Tommy Cooper.

Gobeithiaf y bydd yr ymagwedd ranbarthol newydd hon at dwristiaeth yng Nghymru yn helpu i atgoffa'r byd o bwysigrwydd Cymoedd Cymru a'u pobl i'r chwyldro diwydiannol a'r byd yn gyffredinol. Ni ddylid anghofio ebyrth pobl y Cymoedd, a chyda help amgueddfa'r bobl, gellir eu coffâu'n briodol, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n boblogaidd.

Alun Ffred Jones: This sector is exceptionally important to west and north Wales, and it contributes significantly to the economy. Unfortunately, in the past, it has also been associated with low wages and seasonal wages, which are not a firm foundation for the economy of any country. I agree with the general direction of this report, and with the policy of raising standards and adding value to the industry. However, I would like to focus my comments on three of four matters, although they may appear to be trivial.

Reference has been made to the system of

adolygu ar hyn o bryd, ond yr hyn sy'n poeni busnesau yw'r cynnydd anferthol yng ngwerth trethiannol y busnesau. Cefais lythyr heddiw gan berchennog gwaith copr Sygun ym Meddgelert, a oedd yn sôn am gynnydd sylweddol o 48 y cant yn nhrethi'r gweithfeydd. Mae rhai busnesau hunanarlwyo yng ngogledd-orllewin Cymru wedi cael cynnydd o ryw 80 y cant, sy'n uwch o lawer na gweddill Cymru. Mae hwn yn bryder mawr a leisiwyd wrth i mi gyfarfod â thua 50 o gynrychiolwyr y diwydiant twristiaeth ddydd Gwener diwethaf. Wrth gwrs, mater arall a fydd yn berthnasol iawn i'r busnesau hyn yn y blynyddoedd i ddod yw'r cyhoeddiad yn y gyllideb heddiw y bydd cynnydd yn y dreth i fusnesau bach o 2 y cant—bydd yn codi o 20 y cant i 22 y cant—yn ystod y blynyddoedd nesaf. Bydd hwn eto yn dreth ychwanegol ar fusnesau bychain—ac mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r busnesau yn y maes hwn yn rhai bychan.

Mater arall a godwyd yn y cyfarfodydd a gefais ddydd Gwener diwethaf, ac sy'n ymwneud â hysbysebu cyffredinol Croeso Cymru—ac mae amrywiaeth barn am hynny, ond nid oes ots am hynny yn awr—yw'r ffaith bod y sector twristiaeth i deuluoedd, sydd wedi bod yn bwysig iawn i ogledd Cymru dros y blynyddoedd, yn cael ei fychanu. Fodd bynnag, erbyn hyn, efallai y rhoddir llai o bwyslais arno, ond i atyniadau fel parc Greenwood rhwng Bangor a Chaernarfon, dyna'r union sector y maent yn dibynnu arno, yn enwedig yn ystod gwyliau ysgolion. Felly, rhaid peidio ag anwybyddu'r agwedd honno ar y diwydiant.

Yn olaf, yr ydym wedi cyfeirio at dwristiaeth ddiwylliannol, a cheir cydnabyddiaeth ei bod hi'n rhywbeth y dylem ymfalchïo ynnddi, ond, er fy mod wedi clywed llawer o sôn amdani, ac eithrio'r eisteddfod genedlaethol a rhai gwyliau mawr, nid wyf yn teimlo bod yr ochr hon i'r diwydiant wedi'i datblygu mewn unrhyw ffordd ystyrlon. Credaf fod gan y Llywodraeth a Croeso Cymru le mawr i genhadu ymysg cwmnïau i'r perwyl hwn er mwyn i ni roi profiad unigryw i ymwelwyr.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You need to wind up.

taxation, which is currently under review, but what worries businesses is the massive increase in the rateable value of businesses. I received a letter today from the owner of Sygun copper mine in Beddgelert, which talked about the sizeable increase of 48 per cent in rates for the copper works. Some self-catering businesses in north-west Wales have had their rates increased by some 80 per cent, which is far greater than for businesses in the rest of Wales. This is a cause of grave concern, which was voiced to me when I met around 50 representatives of the tourism industry last Friday. Of course, another matter which will be highly relevant to these businesses in future is today's budget announcement of an increase of 2 per cent in rates for small businesses; the rate will rise from 20 per cent to 22 per cent. This is yet another tax on small businesses—and the vast majority of businesses in this industry are small businesses.

Another matter that was raised in the meetings that I had last Friday, and which relate to the general advertising campaign of Visit Wales—and there is some difference of opinion on that, but that is not the point at present—is the fact that the tourism for families sector, which has been very important to north Wales over the years, is being dismissed. However, perhaps less emphasis is being placed on it now, but that is precisely the sector that attractions such as Greenwood park between Bangor and Caernarfon rely on, especially during the school holidays. Therefore, we must not ignore that sector of the industry.

Finally, we have referred to cultural tourism, and there is recognition of the fact that we should take pride in it; however, although I have heard a great deal of talk about it, with the exception of the national eisteddfod and some other large festivals, I do not feel that this aspect of the industry has been developed in any meaningful way. I think that the Government and Visit Wales have a role to play in taking that message to companies, so that we can offer a unique experience to visitors.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Rhaid ichi ddirwyn i ben.

Alun Ffred Jones: Iawn. Os ydym yn sôn am roi profiad unigryw i ymwelwyr, rhaid meddwl o ddifrif ynghylch sut mae hynny'n trosglwyddo i'r ymwelwyr.

Alun Cairns: I will refer to amendment 9, which relates specifically to the bed tax. I listened carefully to the words that the Minister used in relation to the amendment, when he said that there were no plans to introduce the bed tax. He referred to Sir Michael Lyons's report, which was published today, and in which he calls for a review of this, which is fair and right. Having said that, 'No plans' does not mean that the Government will not introduce it. Therefore, if it has no plans and is absolutely committed to that, there is no reason why the Minister and the Welsh Assembly Government cannot support amendment 9. While this uncertainty exists, worry and concern is caused to small businesses in the tourism industry.

For anyone considering investing in the quality of their product or service or in training staff, and for any individual or organisation planning to expand or develop into tourism, while there is the threat of a bed tax or a question mark hanging over the Welsh Assembly Government's plans regarding such a tax, it remains a worry. I give way.

Christine Gwyther: Alun, the only person who is issuing a threat to the tourism sector is you. The bed tax will not be happening in Wales. The Minister told you that categorically.

Alun Cairns: That being the case, I would welcome support for amendment 9. That is what it comes down to, because the Minister also said that the Lyons review refers to England. Therefore, although he may say that a review is needed in England, he has not explicitly stated what the position is in Wales, or that he will not introduce a bed tax. If he says that he will not introduce a bed tax and he supports the amendment, we would welcome the support and be reassured. The people who, most importantly, would be reassured would be those in the tourism industry who feel that there is a big question mark hanging over the issue. When Sir

Alun Ffred Jones: Very well. If we are talking about offering a unique experience to visitors, we must think seriously about how that is conveyed to visitors.

Alun Cairns: Cyfeiriaf at welliant 9, sy'n ymwneud â'r dreth gwelyau yn benodol. Gwrandewais yn ofalus ar y geiriau a ddefnyddiodd y Gweinidog mewn perthynas â'r gwelliant, pan ddywedodd nad oedd unrhyw gynlluniau i gyflwyno'r dreth gwelyau. Cyfeiriodd at adroddiad Syr Michael Lyons, a gyhoeddwyd heddiw, lle y geilw am adolygiad o hyn, sy'n deg ac yn gywir. Wedi dweud hynny, nid yw 'dim cynlluniau' yn golygu na fydd y Llywodraeth yn ei chyflwyno. Felly, os nad oes ganddi gynlluniau a'i bod yn gwbl ymrwymedig i hynny, nid oes rheswm pam na all y Gweinidog a Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gefnogi gwelliant 9. Tra bod yr ansicrwydd hwn yn bodoli, perir gofid a phryder i fusnesau bach yn y diwydiant twristiaeth.

I unrhyw un sy'n ystyried buddsoddi yn ansawdd ei gynnyrch neu ei wasanaeth neu mewn hyfforddi staff, ac i unrhyw unigolyn neu sefydliad sy'n bwriadu ehangu neu ddatblygu i fyd twristiaeth, tra ceir y bygythiad o dreth gwelyau neu'r amheuaeth dros gynlluniau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynghylch treth o'r fath, mae'n dal yn pryder. Fe ildiaf.

Christine Gwyther: Alun, chi yw'r unig un sy'n bygwth y sector twristiaeth. Ni chyflwynir y dreth gwelyau yng Nghymru. Dywedodd y Gweinidog hynny wrthyh yn blaen.

Alun Cairns: Os felly, byddwn yn croesawu cefnogaeth i welliant 9. Dyna wraidd y mater, oherwydd dywedodd y Gweinidog hefyd fod adolygiad Lyons yn cyfeirio at Loegr. Felly, er ei fod yn dweud bod angen adolygiad yn Lloegr, nid yw wedi nodi'n glir beth yw'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru, neu na fydd yn cyflwyno treth gwelyau. Os dywed na fydd yn cyflwyno treth gwelyau ac os cefnoga'r gwelliant, byddem yn croesawu hynny a byddai'n rhoi sicrwydd inni. Y bobl a fyddai'n cael sicrwydd, yn bwysicaf, fyddai'r rhai yn y diwydiant twristiaeth sy'n teimlo bod amheunon mawr ynghylch y mater. Pan soniodd Syr Michael Lyons am y mater ar

Michael Lyons talked about it in the early stages of the report, it was obviously a huge worry to so many businesses. I would welcome the Minister's response. I give way to Carl.

Carl Sargeant: The situation has been clear to me in listening to the Minister over the past few weeks; he has made the statement on several occasions that there will be no bed tax in Wales. Do you believe that you should now apologise to the people of north Wales whom you have been trying to kid with your petition that there will be a bed tax in Wales?

Alun Cairns: That being the case, I look forward to your voting in favour of the amendment. That is the only way to put this issue to bed, if you will pardon the pun. I shall give way to Christine Gwyther again. I shall happily continue to debate the issue, but, until they vote by pressing the right button on that amendment, there will always be a question mark.

Christine Gwyther: Did I hear Alun Cairns promise that, if the amendment were supported, he would apologise to the tourism sector in Wales?

Alun Cairns: Absolutely not. We will take the credit for the fact that you have finally given an absolute commitment to the Assembly that a bed tax will not be introduced. While this question mark hangs over the industry, investment will be under question. If you support the amendment, we will know exactly where you stand. Before the 1997 general election, I remember a famous statement by a famous shadow chancellor, who said 'We have no plans to raise taxes'. Of course, taxes have been raised since that time. The statement from the Minister today is exactly the same thing. He said that there were 'No plans' to introduce a bed tax. Well, if you do not have any plans to introduce a bed tax, you should be absolutely happy to support the amendment that has been tabled in Lisa Francis's name. Without support for it, the question will always remain.

The second element that I wish to highlight—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. No,

gamau cynnar yr adroddiad, yr oedd yn amlwg ei fod yn peri pryder mawr i gymaint o fusnesau. Byddwn yn croesawu ymateb y Gweinidog. Ildiaf i Carl.

Carl Sargeant: Bu'r sefyllfa yn glir wrth imi wrando ar y Gweinidog yn ystod yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf; mae wedi gwneud y datganiad sawl gwaith na fydd treth gwelyau yng Nghymru. A gredwch y dylech ymddiheuro bellach i bobl y gogledd yr ydych wedi bod yn ceisio eu twyllo drwy ddweud y bydd treth gwelyau yng Nghymru?

Alun Cairns: Os felly, edrychaf ymlaen atoch yn pleidleisio o blaid y gwelliant. Dyna'r unig ffordd o ddileu'r amheuron ynghylch y mater hwn. Ildiaf i Christine Gwyther eto. Yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i barhau i drafod y mater hwn, ond, hyd nes eu bod yn pleidleisio drwy bwysu'r botwm de ar y gwelliant hwnnw, bydd amheuron o hyd.

Christine Gwyther: A glywais Alun Cairns yn addo, pe cefnogid y gwelliant, y byddai'n ymddiheuro i'r sector twristiaeth yng Nghymru?

Alun Cairns: Ddim o gwbl. Byddaf yn derbyn y clod am y ffaith eich bod wedi rhoi ymrwymiad llwyr o'r diwedd i'r Cynulliad na chyflwynir treth gwelyau. Tra bod yr amheuron hyn yn y diwydiant, bydd amheuron ynghylch buddsoddi hefyd. Os cefnogwch y gwelliant, byddwn yn gwybod eich safbwynt yn union. Cyn yr etholiad cyffredinol yn 1997, cofiaf ddatganiad enwog gan ganghellor enwog o'r wrthblaid, a ddywedodd 'Nid oes gennym unrhyw gynlluniau i godi trethi'. Wrth gwrs, codwyd trethi ers hynny. Mae'r datganiad gan y Gweinidog heddiw yn union yr un fath. Dywedodd nad oedd unrhyw gynlluniau i gyflwyno treth gwelyau. Wel, os nad oes unrhyw gynlluniau gennych i gyflwyno treth gwelyau, dylech fod yn gwbl fodlon i gefnogi'r gwelliant a gyflwynwyd yn enw Lisa Francis. Os nas cefnogwch, bydd yr amheuron yn parhau o hyd.

Yr ail elfen yr wyf am ei hamlygu—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Na, ni allwch

you will not be able to do that as you are already out of time.

Denise Idris Jones: I am pleased to be taking part in this Assembly Government debate, which identifies a key economic sector in my constituency. That sector is the foundation of the businesses that have built up around the coastal towns of Llandudno and Conwy. This is also a timely debate because last week was Wales Tourism Week. I was pleased to meet a number of hotel and guesthouse owners across Conwy, and I will confine my comments, in the limited time available, to the key issues that they raised with me.

Llandudno hotel and guesthouse owners are rightly proud of their establishments and heavily invest in the upkeep of their premises for the benefit of visitors from all over Britain who come to Llandudno year after year, often returning to the same hotel, where they can expect the highest service standards and a warm and friendly atmosphere from the owners and staff. This is our core business, and it must be encouraged to flourish. However hoteliers are deeply concerned about the new Visit Wales hotel rating system, and the attempt to establish one scheme across the industry, in partnership with organisations such as the AA. I spoke with hoteliers who, under the existing system, have been upgraded from three to four stars, but who would have difficulty under the new system in staying within the three-star band because of the category demands made on their properties. This, effectively, threatens them with being downgraded, and sends out the wrong message to a loyal tourist base, despite no change in their high standard of service.

Hoteliers told me that the word 'hotel' in their title was being questioned if their establishment fell below the three-star rating. I have collected their views and written to you, Minister, requesting urgent action, given the closeness of the main holiday season. The easy use and accessibility of the Visit Wales website was also highlighted as a priority among local hoteliers, and it is vital that any changes in the tourism industry in Wales are

wneud hynny am fod eich amser wedi dod i ben eisoes.

Denise Idris Jones: Yr wyf yn falch o allu cymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, sy'n nodi sector economaidd allweddol yn fy etholaeth. Y sector hwnnw yw sylfaen y busnesau a ddatblygwyd o amgylch trefi arfordirol Llandudno a Chonwy. Mae'r ddadl hon hefyd yn amserol gan iddi fod yn Wythnos Twristiaeth Cymru yr wythnos diwethaf. Yr oeddwn yn falch o gyfarfod â nifer o berchenogion gwystai a gwystai bach ledled Conwy, a chyfyngaf fy sylwadau, yn yr amser prin sydd ar gael, i'r materion allweddol a godwyd ganddynt gyda mi.

Mae perchenogion gwystai a gwystai bach yn Llandudno yn falch o'u safleoedd, yn gywir ddigon, ac yn buddsoddi'n sylweddol i'w cynnal a'u cadw er budd ymwelwyr o bob rhan o Brydain a ddaw i Landudno flwyddyn ar ôl blwyddyn, gan ddychwelyd i'r un gwesty yn aml, lle y gallant ddisgwyl y safonau gwasanaeth uchaf ac awyrgylch cynnes a chyfeillgar gan y perchenogion a'r staff. Dyma ein busnes craidd, a rhaid ei annog i ffynnu. Fodd bynnag, mae gwestywyr yn pryderu'n fawr am system graddio gwystai newydd Croeso Cymru, a'r ymgais i sefydlu un cynllun ar draws y diwydiant, mewn partneriaeth â sefydliadau megis yr AA. Siaredais â gwestywyr sydd, o dan y system bresennol, wedi cael eu huwchraddio o dair i bedair seren, ond a fyddai'n cael anhawster o dan y system newydd i aros o fewn y band tair seren oherwydd gofynion y categori ar eu safleoedd. I bob diben, mae hyn yn golygu eu bod mewn perygl o gael eu hisraddio, ac mae'n cyfleu'r neges anghywir i dwristiaid teyrngar, er nad yw safon uchel eu gwasanaeth wedi newid.

Dywedodd gwestywyr wrthyf fod amheuan ynghylch y gair 'gwesty' yn eu henw pe bai eu safle yn mynd o dan radd tair seren. Yr wyf wedi casglu eu sylwadau ac wedi ysgrifennu atoch, Weinidog, yn gofyn ichi gymryd camau brys, o gofio bod y prif dymor gwyliau mor agos. Yn ogystal, amlygodd gwestywyr lleol y dylid rhoi blaenoriaeth i sicrhau bod gwefan Croeso Cymru yn hawdd i'w defnyddio ac yn hygyrch, ac mae'n

sensitive to local business needs. These businesses are based on reputation and on high standards of service, which complement the tapestry of the natural environment of Llandudno and Conwy, and keep visitors coming back time and again.

4.40 p.m.

Eleanor Burnham: I have heard many concerns about tourism recently. Last week, I met several people who run small tourism businesses in north Wales, and their concerns are largely about the constraining effect of legislation in what, for some of them, is quite a fragile economy. Their relationship with the Welsh Assembly Government and their access to the former Wales Tourist Board are also great concerns, as is the very poor Visit Wales website. Negotiating your way through the mire of bureaucracy is another problem, along with licensing, which has become hugely difficult and problematic. We are talking about smaller businesses; the big businesses can cope with all of this, but not a one-man self-employed small business in tourism. Council tax is another issue, and I think that rate relief needs to be looked at again. Even parking is a problem—and we have discussed this at the North Wales Regional Committee; the draconian measures around parking, and the unwelcoming aspect of parking can drive enormous numbers of people away. Llangollen is often given as an example, and somewhere like Chirk, which has free parking, free toilets, and easy access, is taking a lot of business away from Llangollen.

Staffing is another issue for small businesses, and there are problems around career development and the inability to pay the wages that they would like to pay. Certainly, improved information is important, and better marketing; there are some examples of good branding and good marketing, but I think that improved information would be helpful, for instance about public transport, which we would all like to use. Information about public transport should be more readily available to ensure that cyclists or walkers can easily use a clean, reliable train service—though we do not have all afternoon to

hanfodol bod unrhyw newidiadau i'r diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru yn ystyried anghenion busnesau lleol. Mae'r busnesau hyn yn seiliedig ar enw da a safonau gwasanaeth uchel, sy'n ategu'r amgylchedd naturiol yn Llandudno a Chonwy, ac yn sicrhau bod ymwelwyr yn dychwelyd dro ar ôl tro.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf wedi clywed sawl pryder am dwristiaeth yn ddiweddar. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cyfarfûm â sawl person sy'n rhedeg busnesau twristiaeth bach yn y gogledd, ac mae a wnelo eu pryderon yn bennaf â rhwystro effaith deddfwriaeth, yn yr hyn sy'n economi eithaf bregus i rai ohonynt. Mae eu cydberthynas â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'u cyswllt â hen Fwrdd Croeso Cymru hefyd yn peri pryder mawr, yn ogystal â gwefan Croeso Cymru sy'n wael iawn. Mae deall yr holl fiwrocratiaeth yn broblem arall, ynghyd â thrwyddedu, sydd bellach yn anodd iawn ac achosi llawer o broblemau. Siaradwn am fusnesau llai; gall y busnesau mawr ymdopi â hyn oll, ond nid busnes bach ag un dyn hunangyflogedig ym maes twristiaeth. Mae'r dreth gyngor yn broblem arall, a chredaf fod angen ystyried rhyddhad ardrethi unwaith eto. Mae parcio yn broblem hyd yn oed—ac yr ydym wedi trafod hyn ym Mhwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd; gall y mesurau llym iawn o ran parcio, a'r agwedd annymunol ar barcio atal niferoedd mawr rhag dod i'r ardal. Dyfynnir Llangollen yn aml fel enghraifft, ac mae llawer o bobl yn mynd i rywle fel y Waun, sydd â pharcio am ddim, toiledau am ddim, a mynediad hawdd, yn hytrach na mynd i Langollen.

Mae staffio yn broblem arall i fusnesau bach, ac mae problemau o ran datblygu gyrfa a'r ffaith na allant dalu'r cyflogau yr hoffent eu talu. Yn sicr, mae gwybodaeth well yn bwysig, ynghyd â marchnata gwell; ceir rhai enghreifftiau o frandio da a marchnata da, ond credaf y byddai gwybodaeth well yn ddefnyddiol, er enghraifft, am drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus, yr hoffai pob un ohonom ei defnyddio. Dylai gwybodaeth am drafnidiaeth gyhoeddus fod ar gael yn haws er mwyn sicrhau y gall beicwyr neu gerddwyr ddefnyddio gwasanaeth trên glân a dibynadwy—er nad oes gennym y prynhawn

discuss the trains.

Moving on, as my party's spokesperson for culture, I think that it is important to make better use of the wonderful fabric and array of cultural activities that we have in Wales. As we have very little time, I will quickly mention the national eisteddfod. I believe that we should welcome multilingual at the national eisteddfod, while obviously keeping Welsh as the core language. Multilingualism as well as branding and marketing abroad may succeed in bringing more people to the eisteddfod as visitors, because it is the jewel in our crown, for goodness' sake. The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod is another jewel, which probably needs more support.

I know that you do not have many more weeks to go, Minister, but I am sure that you will give these points your consideration.

Lynne Neagle: Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. I welcome the decision of the Assembly Government to extend the lifespan of this tourism strategy to 2013. With the second round of top-level European funding running to that end date, it makes perfect sense. I hope that an element of this convergence funding, alongside investment from the Heads of the Valleys strategy, can go towards developing the tourism offer in the Valleys, which remains underexploited. When the quango merger was announced by the Minister, I think that those of us who represent Valleys seats were encouraged that a more strategic vision would be developed in areas such as tourism, and that the blind spots of the past would be addressed. I would therefore be interested to hear briefly from the Minister about what work his new department has undertaken to improve the exposure of tourist attractions in the Valleys.

There is much to welcome in the renewed strategy, including a thorough assessment of the challenges facing the Welsh tourism industry. However, there are a number of issues that I would like to see explored further. Specifically, there is little mention of the importance of intra-Wales tourism. The strategy document rightly points out that

cyfan i drafod y trenau.

Gan symud ymlaen, fel llefarydd fy mhlaiddros ddiwylliant, credaf ei bod yn bwysig gwneud defnydd gwell o'r holl weithgareddau diwylliannol gwych sydd gennym yng Nghymru. Gan fod yr amser yn brin iawn, cyfeiraf yn gyflym at yr eisteddfod genedlaethol. Credaf y dylem groesawu amlieithedd yn yr eisteddfod genedlaethol, tra'n cadw'r Gymraeg fel yr iaith graidd, wrth gwrs. Efallai y bydd amlieithedd yn ogystal â brandio a marchnata dramor yn llwyddo i ddenu mwy o bobl i'r eisteddfod fel ymwelwyr, am mai hon yw ein prif drysor, er mwyn popeth. Mae Eisteddfod Gerddorol Gydwladol Llangollen yn drysor arall, y mae angen mwy o gefnogaeth arni, yn ôl pob tebyg.

Gwn nad oes llawer o wythnosau ar ôl gennych, Weinidog, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn ystyried y pwyntiau hyn.

Lynne Neagle: Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Croesawaf benderfyniad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i ymestyn cyfnod y strategaeth dwristiaeth hon i 2013. Gyda'r ail gylch o arian Ewropeaidd lefel uchaf yn para tan y dyddiad hwnnw, mae'n gwneud synnwyr yn sicr. Gobeithiaf y gellir neilltuo rhywfaint o'r arian cydgyfeirio hwn, ynghyd â buddsoddiad gan strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd, i ddatblygu twristiaeth yn y Cymoedd, lle na fanteisir i'r eithaf arni. Pan gyhoeddodd y Gweinidog y broses o uno'r cwangos, credaf i'r rhai ohonom sy'n cynrychioli seddi'r Cymoedd gael ein calonogi yn sgîl y ffaith y byddai gweledigaeth fwy strategol yn cael ei datblygu mewn meysydd megis twristiaeth, ac y byddid yn ymdrin â diffygion y gorffennol. Felly, byddai diddordeb gennyf glywed yn fras gan y Gweinidog am y gwaith y mae ei adran newydd wedi'i wneud i wella'r sylw a roddir i atyniadau i dwristiaid yn y Cymoedd.

Mae llawer i'w groesawu yn y strategaeth ddiwygiedig, gan gynnwys asesiad trylwyr o'r heriau sy'n wynebu'r diwydiant twristiaeth yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, mae nifer o faterion yr hoffwn iddynt gael eu harchwilio ymhellach. Yn benodol, ni cheir fawr ddim sôn am bwysigrwydd twristiaeth oddi mewn i Gymru. Mae'r strategaeth yn

tourism is a volatile industry, and susceptible to external events, such as the foot-and-mouth-disease outbreak or the 9/11 attacks. All the more reason, then, that we should have a specific focus on developing a more reliable and robust domestic tourism offer. Big Pit in Blaenavon is a classic example of a world-class tourism attraction that brings in visitors from all over the world, but which will also attract large numbers of more local visitors. Through further exploitation of our industrial heritage and built environment, we can develop this kind of success, which helps to protect our tourism industry from crises beyond our control and the vagaries of the tourist seasons.

I was in Blaenavon recently, helping to mark Tourism Awareness Week awareness week alongside the local council and the Torfaen Tourism Association. A number of issues were raised; one concerns the old bugbear of signage. We have in Torfaen a world heritage site, which is an attraction of profound importance to Welsh tourism. However, without a sign pointing this out to potential visitors on either the Heads of the Valleys road or the M4, we are failing to make the most of what Blaenavon has to offer.

I would like to focus on what Alun Pugh rightly refers to as our Olympics: the Ryder Cup in 2010. This is an unprecedented opportunity for Wales, and south-east Wales in particular, to sell itself to the rest of the world. I would be grateful if the Minister would outline what steps are being taken to ensure that south-east Wales, and those areas in the Objective 1 region in particular, derive maximum benefit from the tourist influx associated with this prestigious event.

Tourism has a huge amount to offer Wales, and the Valleys represents much of our untapped potential. When we undersell the Valleys, we undersell Wales as a whole. Let us then make sure that this region is fully integrated into the Welsh tourism package as soon as possible.

nodi'n gywir ddigon bod twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant cyfnewidiol, ac mae digwyddiadau allanol yn debygol o ddylanwadu arno, megis clwy'r traed a'r genau neu ymosodiadau 9/11. Felly, mae hyn yn fwy o reswm fyth dros sicrhau ein bod yn canolbwyntio'n benodol ar ddatblygu cyfleusterau twristiaeth dibynadwy a chadarn i bobl yn y wlad hon. Mae'r Pwll Mawr ym Mlaenafon yn enghraifft wych o atyniad twristiaeth o'r radd flaenaf sy'n denu ymwelwyr o bob rhan o'r byd, ond sydd hefyd yn denu nifer fawr o ymwelwyr mwy lleol. Drwy fanteisio mwy ar ein treftadaeth ddiwydiannol a'n hamgylchedd adeiledig, gallwn ddatblygu'r math hwn o lwyddiant, sy'n helpu i ddiogelu ein diwydiant twristiaeth rhag yr argyfyngau sydd y tu hwnt i'n rheolaeth a throeon tymhorau twristiaeth.

Euthum i Flaenafon yn ddiweddar, gan helpu i ddathlu Wythnos Ymwybyddiaeth o Dwristiaeth ynghyd â'r cyngor lleol a Chymdeithas Dwristiaeth Tor-faen. Codwyd nifer o faterion; mae un yn ymwneud â'r hen broblem o arwyddion. Mae gennym, yn Nhor-faen, safle treftadaeth y byd, sy'n atyniad o bwysigrwydd mawr i dwristiaeth Cymru. Fodd bynnag, heb arwydd i dynnu sylw darpar ymwelwyr at hyn ar ffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd nac ar yr M4, yr ydym yn methu â gwneud y gorau o'r hyn sydd gan Flaenafon i'w gynnig.

Hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar yr hyn y cyfeiria Alun Pugh yn briodol ato fel ein Gemau Olympaidd, sef Cwpan Ryder yn 2010. Dyma gyfle heb ei ail i Gymru, a'r de-ddwyrain yn arbennig, i werthu ei hun i weddill y byd. Buaswn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai'r Gweinidog amlinellu pa gamau a gaiff eu cymryd i sicrhau y bydd y de-ddwyrain, a'r ardaloedd hynny o fewn rhanbarth Amcan 1 yn benodol, gael y budd gorau o'r mewnlifiad o dwristiaid a fydd yn gysylltiedig â'r digwyddiad pwysig hwn.

Mae gan dwristiaeth lawer i'w gynnig i Gymru, ac mae llawer o'n potensial na fanteisiwyd arno eto i'w gael yn y Cymoedd. Wrth beidio â hybu'r Cymoedd, yr ydym yn peidio â gwerthu Cymru gyfan. Felly gadewch inni sicrhau y caiff y rhanbarth hwn ei integreiddio'n llawn i becyn twristiaeth Cymru cyn gynted â phosibl.

Trish Law: Blaenau Gwent is, you might think, the least likely tourist destination in south-east Wales. Anyone reading ‘A Revised Tourism Strategy for South-East Wales’ might think that Blaenau Gwent is the least likely tourist destination in the whole of Wales.

It is fair to say that Blaenau Gwent is up against it, as the south-east region includes Cardiff, Newport, the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend, which together attract more than three quarters of all visitors to the region. It is true that things have improved in Blaenau Gwent since the revised strategy was published in August 2003. There are now almost 500,000 visitors to the area each year, tourism is worth some £24 million to the local economy, and 500 jobs are dependent on tourism. However, Blaenau Gwent has a long way to go to realise its true potential as a tourist destination.

To start with, it would be a tourism godsend if there was an official Welsh Assembly Government sponsored tourist information centre in the borough—not in the heart of Blaenau Gwent but, ideally, on or just off the A465 Heads of the Valleys road, as, with the ongoing dualling of this key trunk road, it will become an increasingly busy and important route for tourists, among others. How else will visitors hear about Blaenau Gwent’s rich tapestry of startling contrasts: from deeply wooded valleys in the south, to open remote moorland in the north? Who will tell them about the wealth of sites of historic and archaeological interest, heritage trails such as the Aneurin Bevan heritage trail and a host of other attractions such as the shoppers’ paradise of Festival Park, Ebbw Vale? Who will direct them to the mountainous West Mon Golf Club overlooking the Brecon Beacons, with spectacular views over the Gwent, Powys and Monmouthshire countryside? The fourteenth tee is not only the highest point of the course, but the highest tee on any golf course in the UK. There is a lot more besides.

I firmly believe that railways can help put our

Trish Law: Gallech feddwl mai Blaenau Gwent yw’r gyrchfan leiaf tebygol i dwristiaid yn y de-ddwyrain. Gallai unrhyw un sy’n darllen ‘A Revised Tourism Strategy for South-East Wales’ feddwl mai Blaenau Gwent yw’r gyrchfan leiaf tebygol i dwristiaid yng Nghymru gyfan.

Mae’n deg dweud fod Blaenau Gwent yn wynebu cystadleuaeth hallt, gan fod rhanbarth y de-ddwyrain yn cynnwys Caerdydd, Casnewydd, Bro Morgannwg a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr, sydd, gyda’i gilydd yn denu dros dri chwarter yr holl ymwelwyr i’r rhanbarth. Mae’n wir bod pethau wedi gwella ym Blaenau Gwent ers cyhoeddi’r strategaeth ddiwygiedig ym mis Awst 2003. Ceir bellach bron 500,000 o ymwelwyr i’r ardal bob blwyddyn, mae twristiaeth yn werth tua £24 miliwn i’r economi leol, ac mae 500 o swyddi yn dibynnu ar dwristiaeth. Fodd bynnag, mae gan Flaenau Gwent lawer i’w wneud cyn gwireddu ei photensial lawn fel cyrchfan i dwristiaid.

I ddechrau, byddai’n fendith i’r diwydiant twristiaeth pe bai canolfan groeso swyddogol a noddir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn y fwrdeistref—nid yng nghanol Blaenau Gwent ond, yn ddelfrydol, ar ffordd yr A465 Blaenau’r Cymoedd neu’n agos ati, gan y bydd, wrth i’r gwaith o ddeuoli’r gefnffordd allweddol hon fynd rhagddo, yn prysuro ac yn dod yn llwybr pwysig i dwristiaid, ymysg eraill. Sut arall y bydd ymwelwyr yn clywed am frodwaith cyfoethog Blaenau Gwent o gyferbyniadau trawiadol: o’r cymoedd coediog yn y de, i’r gweundiroedd anghysbell agored yn y gogledd? Pwy fydd yn sôn wrthynt am y cyfoeth o safleoedd o ddiddordeb hanesyddol ac archeolegol, y teithiau treftadaeth megis taith treftadaeth Aneurin Bevan a llu o atyniadau eraill megis yr hafan i siopwyr ym Mharc yr Ŵyl, Glyn-ebwy? Pwy fydd yn eu cyfeirio at Glwb Golff mynyddig Gorllewin Mynwy sy’n edrych dros Fannau Brycheiniog, gyda golygfeydd godidog dros gefn gwlad Gwent, Powys a sir Fynwy? Nid dim ond y pwynt uchaf ar y cwrs yw’r pedwerydd ti ar ddeg, ond y ti uchaf ar unrhyw gwrs golff yn y DU. Mae llawer mwy na hynny hefyd.

Credaf yn gryf y gall rheilffyrdd helpu i roi

tourism potential on track. The Newport spur of the Ebbw Vale to Cardiff rail link must be up and running in time for the Ryder Cup, as there are serious potential tourist spin-offs for my constituency. I hope there will be a future phase, with the creation of a link down the valley to Abertillery. I also believe there is considerable potential for extending the Pontypool and Blaenavon railway to Brynmawr.

I would make one plea here today: that planning regulations and red tape are not allowed to strangle the tourism potential of Blaenau Gwent. For example, I recently followed up an inquiry from a guest-house owner who wanted a bed-and-breakfast directional sign placed on the A465 Heads of the Valleys road. It is possible, provided that you can get your head around a maze of laws and regulations: the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002, various traffic signs regulations, and so on.

Another case involves Jim and Christina Lacey, who keep the Golden Lion in Nantyglo. For some time they have been seeking to purchase land adjoining the public house to create more parking—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You need to wind up.

Trish Law: This would enable them to provide accommodation for visiting tourists and a restaurant. This land has lain dormant for as long as I can remember, but the Laceys have had every conceivable obstacle put in their way. Let us try to get rid of the stranglehold of bureaucracy that threatens to stifle initiatives that are designed to improve tourism and the local economy. *[Interruption.]* Let us put tourism on the map for the whole of Wales.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I will not have Ann Jones shouting out 'time'. I am in the chair at the moment and you are not, Ann.

4.50 p.m.

ein potensial twristiaeth ar y trywydd cywir. Rhaid i gainc Casnewydd o gysylltiad rheilffordd Glyn-ebwy i Gaerdydd fod yn weithredol erbyn Cwpan Ryder, gan fod goblygiadau sylweddol yn bosibilrwydd i'r diwydiant twristiaeth yn fy etholaeth i. Gobeithio y bydd cam yn y dyfodol, wrth greu cysylltiad i lawr y cwm i Abertylleri. Credaf hefyd fod potensial sylweddol i ymestyn rheilffordd Pont-y-pŵl a Blaenafon i Frynawr.

Hoffwn wneud un ple yma heddiw: sef na chaniateir i reoliadau cynllunio a biwrocratiaeth gyfyngu ar botensial twristiaeth Blaenau Gwent. Er enghraifft, edrychais ar ymholiad yn ddiweddar gan berchennog gwesty bach a oedd am gael arwydd gwely-a-brecwast cyfeiriadol wedi ei osod ar ffordd yr A465 Blaenau'r Cymoedd. Mae yn bosibl, ar yr amod y gallwch frwydro drwy ddrysni o gyfreithiau a rheoliadau: Deddf Rheoliadau Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, Rheoliadau a Chyfarwyddiadau Cyffredinol Arwyddion Traffig 2002, rheoliadau arwyddion traffig amrywiol ac ati.

Mae achos arall yn ymwneud â Jim a Christina Lacey, sy'n cadw'r Golden Lion yn Nantyglo. Ers peth amser, maent wedi bod yn ceisio prynu tir wrth ymyl y dafarn i greu mwy o le parcio—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae angen ichi ddirwyn i ben.

Trish Law: Byddai hyn yn eu galluogi i ddarparu llety i dwristiaid a fyddai ar ymweliad a bwyty. Mae'r tir hwn wedi bod yn segur cyhyd ag yr wyf yn cofio, ond gosodwyd pob rhwystr posibl ar gais y Laceys. Gadewch inni geisio cael gwared ar afael haearnaidd biwrocratiaeth sy'n bygwth tagu mentrau sy'n ceisio gwella twristiaeth a'r economi leol. *[Torri ar draws.]* Gadewch inni roi twristiaeth ar y map i Gymru gyfan.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ni chaniatâf i Ann Jones weiddi 'amser'. Myfi sydd yn y gadair ar hyn o bryd ac nid chi, Ann.

Leighton Andrews: My colleague, Lynne Neagle, mentioned that the Ryder Cup is coming to Wales in 2010. That year is also the centenary of the Tonypany riots. I have not considered the slogan 'from the Ryder to the riots' before, and, who knows, it may catch on.

I wanted to mention two aspects of the Valleys' appeal to tourists. One is the heritage industry and the other is outdoor pursuits. A series of initiatives is being developed. We have heard from other colleagues in the Valleys today, who have been working hard to promote initiatives in their areas, and many groups in the Rhondda are working to develop a series of historical initiatives. For example, there is the attempt by the Penrhys Partnership to develop the Cistercian links of St Mary's well at Penrhys. Work is also being done to try to create a future life for the Powerhouse building, which was at the centre of the Tonypany riots in 1910, and which might, in part, make a suitable home for a people's history museum, although I am sure that there will be much competition in the field.

There are also huge opportunities in the Valleys for a range of outdoor pursuits, from paragliding to cycling and walking. I commend the work of the Treherbert Communities First group, CwmNi, in developing an attractive brochure about the many different walking routes in upper Rhondda Fawr. I am pleased to see that those groups concerned with promoting tourism in the Valleys are working hard at promoting those opportunities, particularly for walking, and are doing so on the internet. They shared some of that information with me during tourism awareness week some weeks ago. Indeed, I suspect that many of us got a similar briefing from organisations that saw us then on the need to increase the number of overnight stays in Wales, and the number of people who visit attractions and then stay on to spend money. Clearly, the longer they stay, the more money they spend.

We need to increase the range of accommodation available in the Valleys. I was pleased to see the additional investment

Leighton Andrews: Soniodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Lynne Neagle, fod Cwpan Ryder yn dod i Gymru yn 2010. Y flwyddyn honno hefyd yw canmlwyddiant terfysgoedd Tonypany. Nid wyf wedi ystyried y slogan 'from the Ryder to the riots' eisoes, a phwy â wŷr, efallai y caiff ei ddefnyddio.

Yr oeddwn am sôn am ddwy agwedd ar apêl y Cymoedd i dwristiaid. Un yw'r diwydiant treftadaeth a'r llall yw gweithgareddau awyr agored. Mae cyfres o fentrau wrthi'n cael ei datblygu. Clywsom gan gyd-Aelodau eraill o'r Cymoedd heddiw, sydd wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed i hyrwyddo mentrau yn eu hardaloedd, ac mae llawer o grwpiau yn y Rhondda yn gweithio i ddatblygu cyfres o fentrau hanesyddol. Er enghraifft, mae'r ymgais gan Bartneriaeth Penrhys i ddatblygu cysylltiadau Sistersaidd ffynnon y Santes Fair ym Mhenrhys. Mae gwaith yn mynd rhagddo hefyd i geisio creu bywyd i adeilad y Pwerdy yn y dyfodol, a oedd yn rhan ganolog o derfysgoedd Tonypany yn 1910 ac a allai, yn rhannol, fod yn gartref addas i amgueddfa hanes y bobl, er fy mod yn siŵr y bydd llawer o gystadleuaeth yn y maes.

Mae cyfleoedd enfawr yn y Cymoedd hefyd ar gyfer ystod o weithgareddau awyr agored, o baragleidio i feicio a cherdded. Cymeradwyaf waith grŵp Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Treherbert, sef CwmNi, o ran datblygu llyfryn deniadol am yr holl lwybrau cerdded gwahanol yn rhannau uchaf y Rhondda Fawr. Yr wyf yn falch o weld fod y grwpiau hynny sy'n ymwneud â hyrwyddo twristiaeth yn y Cymoedd yn gweithio'n galed i hyrwyddo'r cyfleoedd hynny, yn arbennig ar gyfer cerdded, a'u bod yn gwneud hynny ar y rhyngryd. Gwnaethant rannu peth o'r wybodaeth honno gyda mi yn ystod yr wythnos ymwybyddiaeth twristiaeth rai wythnosau yn ôl. Yn wir, credaf i lawer ohonom gael ein briffio yn yr un modd gan sefydliadau a'n gwelodd yr adeg honno ar yr angen i gynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n aros dros nos yng Nghymru, a nifer y bobl sy'n ymweld ag atyniadau ac yna'n aros yno i wario arian. Yn amlwg, po hiraf y maent yn aros, y mwyaf o arian y maent yn ei wario.

Mae angen inni gynyddu'r ystod o lety sydd ar gael yn y Cymoedd. Yr oeddwn yn falch o weld y buddsoddiad ychwanegol yng

in the Heritage Park Hotel in the Rhondda and the upgrading of its rooms. However, we also need bed-and-breakfast accommodation. I suggest that the Minister considers a grant regime that starts at a lower level of grant, perhaps a £2,000 to £5,000 bracket, rather than a £10,000 bracket, which would lead people to consider using their own homes to provide bed-and-breakfast accommodation.

I will make one suggestion to the Minister about the Visit Wales website. Much can be done to make that site more interactive and to show more readily the range of tourism opportunities in Wales and to bring them to life on that website. I hope that work will be done to develop that.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Leighton, you must wind up now.

Leighton Andrews: I will therefore conclude by saying that there are huge opportunities for promoting tourism in the Valleys and I hope that, in the next Assembly, we can take that work forward.

David Lloyd: I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this debate. Many of my points have been covered, which leaves me with just two questions from constituents on tourism in Wales. I would appreciate it if the Minister could at least refer to them in his reply. The first is on declaring St David's Day a public bank holiday. We have seen, over the years, that celebrating patron saints' days provides a significant tourism boost for Ireland and many other countries. People ask what progress we are making here. We are all aware of the vote taken here in 2000, but we still do not have the powers to declare St David's Day a public bank holiday under the new Government of Wales Act that kicks in after May. In view of that, what is the Government doing to move this agenda forward, given the National Assembly for Wales's resolution to that effect?

My second question is on the liquefied natural gas pipeline. What impact will that

Ngwesty'r Parc Treftadaeth yn y Rhondda, ac o weld yr ystafelloedd yno'n cael eu huwchraddio. Fodd bynnag, mae angen llety gwely-a-brecwast arnom hefyd. Awgrymaf fod y Gweinidog yn ystyried cyfundrefn grantiau sy'n dechrau ar lefel is o grant, swm o £2,000 i £5,000 efallai, yn hytrach na swm o £10,000, a fyddai'n annog pobl i ystyried defnyddio'u cartrefi eu hunain i ddarparu llety gwely-a-brecwast.

Fe wnaf un awgrym i'r Gweinidog am wefan Croeso Cymru. Gellir gwneud llawer i wneud y safle hwnnw yn fwy rhyngweithiol gan alluogi iddo ddangos yn well yr ystod o gyfleoedd twristiaeth sydd i'w cael yng Nghymru a'u cyflwyno mewn ffordd atyniadol ar y wefan honno. Gobeithio y caiff gwaith ei wneud i ddatblygu hynny.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Leighton, rhaid ichi ddod i derfyn yn awr.

Leighton Andrews: Clof felly drwy ddweud bod cyfleoedd anferth i hyrwyddo twristiaeth yn y Cymoedd a gobeithiaf y gallwn, yn y Cynulliad nesaf, ddatblygu'r gwaith hwnnw.

David Lloyd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddatl hon. Mae llawer o'm pwyntiau wedi'u trafod, sy'n golygu mai dim ond dau gwestiwn sydd gennyf gan etholwyr ar dwristiaeth yng Nghymru. Buaswn yn gwerthfawrogi pe gallai'r Gweinidog o leiaf gyfeirio atynt wrth ymateb. Mae'r cyntaf yn ymwneud â datgan Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn ŵyl gyhoeddus. Fe welsom, dros y blynyddoedd, bod dathlu gŵyl nawddsant yn gyfle i hybu twristiaeth yn sylweddol i Iwerddon a llawer o wledydd eraill. Mae pobl yn gofyn pa gynnydd a gaiff ei wneud yma. Yr ydym oll yn ymwybodol o'r bleidlais a gafwyd yma yn 2000, ond nid yw'r pwerau gennym o hyd i ddatgan Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn ŵyl gyhoeddus o dan Ddeddf newydd Llywodraeth Cymru a ddaw i rym ar ôl mis Mai. O ystyried hynny, beth mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i weithredu ar yr agenda hon, o gofio'r cynnig a basiodd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i'r perwyl hwnnw?

Mae'r ail gwestiwn sydd gennyf yn ymwneud â'r bibell nwy naturiol hylifedig. Pa effaith a

have on tourism? It is carving its way through the south Wales countryside as we speak, through several environmentally sensitive areas, historic woodlands, and the Brecon Beacons National Park, and countless public footpaths and rights of way are closed as a result. I would be grateful for an outline from the Minister—we have been in correspondence about the LNG pipeline, as he will remember—of the tourism impact that that has had in south Wales.

Christine Chapman: Like my colleagues, I met representatives of the local tourism industry, and particularly Valleys tourism, recently as part of Wales tourism week. It was a good chance to listen to the industry's concerns, and to hear about the pressures that it faces, and the support that it needs to grow further. I visited the Dare Valley Country Park in my constituency, the Welsh whisky company, Penderyn Distillery, which is doing extremely well, and the Tŷ Newydd Hotel. The visit reinforced for me the enduring strengths of the Valleys—the landscape, the scenery, our culture and heritage, and opportunities for outdoor activities, which other Members have mentioned.

Over recent years, increasing numbers of visitors have come to see what the Valleys have to offer. Figures show that the number of tourists visiting Rhondda Cynon Taf hit 2.5 million during 2005. However, as my colleague, Leighton Andrews, mentioned, only 4 per cent of that number stayed in accommodation in the area, with the majority being day visitors. If we are to meet the future needs of this growth market, we need to encourage the development of accommodation to promote the Valleys as a viable and attractive tourist destination.

Like my colleagues Lynne and Leighton, I would like to encourage new people to come into the area, as well as to encourage indigenous businesses to participate in the tourism industry, and existing pubs and bed-and-breakfast accommodation to generate further business and to sustain this demand. I believe that the smoking ban, which will come into force within the next few weeks, will help in that regard, but Objective 1 has

gaiff hynny ar dwristiaeth? Mae'n hollti ei ffordd drwy gefn gwlad y de ar hyn o bryd, drwy nifer o ardaloedd amgylcheddol sensitif, coedwigoedd hanesyddol, a Pharc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog, ac mae niferoedd dirifedi o lwybrau cyhoeddus a hawliau tramwy wedi cau o ganlyniad i hyn. Buaswn yn ddiolchgar o gael amlinelliad gan y Gweinidog—yr ydym wedi bod yn gohebu ynglŷn â'r bibell LNG, fel y cofia—o'r effaith a gafodd hyn ar dwristiaeth yn y de.

Christine Chapman: Fel fy nghyd-Aelodau, cyfarfŷm â chynrychiolwyr y diwydiant twristiaeth lleol, ac yn arbennig twristiaeth y Cymoedd, yn ddiweddar fel rhan o wythnos dwristiaeth Cymru. Yr oedd yn gyfle da i wrando ar bryderon y diwydiant, a chlywed am y pwysau sy'n ei wynebu, a'r cymorth sydd ei angen arno i dyfu ymhellach. Ymwelais â Pharc Gwledig Cwmdâr yn fy etholaeth, y cwmni whisgi Cymreig, Distyllfa Penderyn, sy'n gwneud yn dda iawn, a Gwesty Tŷ Newydd. I mi, atgyfnerthodd yr ymweliad gryfderau oesol y Cymoedd—y tirlun, y golygfeydd, ein diwylliant a'n treftadaeth, a'r cyfleoedd i gynnal gweithgareddau awyr agored, y soniodd Aelodau eraill amdanynt.

Dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae niferoedd cynyddol o ymwelwyr wedi dod i weld beth sydd gan y Cymoedd i'w gynnig. Dengys ffigurau bod niferoedd y twristiaid sy'n ymweld â Rhondda Cynon Taf wedi cyrraedd 2.5 miliwn yn ystod 2005. Fodd bynnag, fel y soniodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Leighton Andrews, dim ond 4 y cant ohonynt a arhosodd mewn llety yn yr ardal, gyda'r mwyafrif yn ymwelwyr dydd. Er mwyn diwallu anghenion y farchnad dwf hon yn y dyfodol, rhaid inni annog gwaith i ddatblygu llety i hyrwyddo'r Cymoedd fel cyrchfan ddilys a deniadol i dwristiaid.

Fel fy nghyd-Aelodau Lynne a Leighton, hoffwn annog pobl newydd i ddod i'r ardal, yn ogystal ag annog busnesau brodorol i gymryd rhan yn y diwydiant twristiaeth, a thafarndai a llety gwely-a-brecwast presennol i gynhyrchu mwy o fusnes a chynnal y galw hwn. Credaf y bydd y gwaharddiad ar smygu, a ddaw i rym o fewn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf, yn helpu o ran hynny, ond bu Amcan 1 hefyd o fudd i lety, gwestai a llety gwely-a-

also had benefits for accommodation, hotels, and bed-and-breakfast accommodation—I have seen that in my constituency. I would like assurances from the Minister that the Heads of the Valleys strategy will also encompass those demands, because that should be a part of that strategy.

On the report, I welcome the fact that effective marketing will be a priority for action. I was taken with what you said, Minister, about the skills need in tourism. For many years, the tourism and hospitality industry has suffered from a poor image among young people, and I say that as someone who was previously a careers adviser. It has often been seen as temporary work, or holiday jobs, and it is more than that. If you look at school leaver destination statistics, which I believe that we have all had a copy of recently, it appears that the number of young people entering these occupations is still fairly low, so we need to watch that. We need to improve the tourism industry's image as a feasible career path. If we are really to promote tourism, we need to encourage high-quality people to work in this sector.

brecwast—gwelais hynny yn fy etholaeth i. Hoffwn gael sicrwydd gan y Gweinidog y bydd strategaeth Blaenau'r Cymoedd hefyd yn cwmpasu'r galwadau hynny, gan y dylai hynny fod yn rhan o'r strategaeth honno.

O ran yr adroddiad, croesawaf y ffaith y bydd marchnata effeithiol yn flaenoriaeth o ran gweithredu. Gwnaeth yr hyn a ddywedaso, Weinidog, am y sgiliau sydd eu hangen ym maes twristiaeth argraff arnaf. Am flynyddoedd lawer, mae'r diwydiant twristiaeth a lletygarwch wedi dioddef o ganlyniad i ddelwedd wael ymysg pobl ifanc, a dywedaf hynny fel rhywun a arferai fod yn ymgynghorydd gyrfaedd. Cafodd ei ystyried yn aml yn waith dros dro, neu waith yn ystod y gwyliau, ac mae'n fwy na hynny. Os edrychwch ar ystadegau am gyrchfannau'r rhai sy'n gadael yr ysgol, a chredaf ein bod oll wedi cael copi ohonynt yn ddiweddar, ymddengys bod nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n ymuno â'r galwedigaethau hyn yn parhau'n gymharol isel, felly rhaid inni wyllo hynny. Mae angen inni wella delwedd y diwydiant twristiaeth fel llwybr gyrfa ddichonol. Er mwyn hyrwyddo twristiaeth o ddifrif, mae angen inni annog pobl o safon uchel i weithio yn y sector hwn.

Cynnig Gweithdrefnol Procedural Motion

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I invite the Business Minister to propose an extension of 40 minutes.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Estynnaf wahoddiad i'r Trefnydd cynnig estyniad o 40 munud.

The Business Minister (Jane Hutt): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Jane Hutt): Cynigaf fod

the National Assembly, under Standing Order No. 6.21, extends today's Plenary meeting by 40 minutes.

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.21, yn ymestyn Cyfarfod Llawn heddiw gan 40 munud.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Are there 10 Members in support of this proposal? I see that there are. I therefore call for a vote.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: A oes 10 Aelod o blaid y cynnig hwn? Gwelaf fod. Felly galwaf am bleidlais.

*Cynnig: O blaid 34, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 3.
Motion: For 34, Abstain 0, Against 3.*

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

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, Janet
 Dunwoody, Tamsin
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Isherwood, Mark
 Law, Trish
 Lloyd, David
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Sargeant, Carl
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Kirsty

Black, Peter
 Jones, Ann
 Lewis, Huw

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
 Motion carried.*

Twristiaeth: Parhad Tourism: Continued

The Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (Andrew Davies): I am aware that I only have three minutes in which to respond, so I will write to Members with regard to many of the detailed questions. However, I will make some general points.

Y Gweinidog dros Fenter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau (Andrew Davies): Yr wyf yn ymwybodol mai dim ond tri munud sydd gennyf i ymateb, felly ysgrifennaf at Aelodau o ran llawer o'r cwestiynau manwl. Fodd bynnag, gwnaf rai pwyntiau cyffredinol.

5.00 p.m.

Chris Chapman's point on the industry's image is important. The industry can only survive if it is of a high quality and offers a quality service; it is also about the quality of the people who work in it. The challenge for the industry is to help to change that image by having a strong commitment to training and by ensuring that the remuneration and the career that is on offer to young people is attractive. That is why the commitment to

Mae pwynt Chris Chapman ar ddelwedd y diwydiant yn bwysig. Dim ond os yw o safon uchel a'i fod yn cynnig gwasanaeth o safon y gall y diwydiant oroesi; mae hefyd yn ymwneud ag ansawdd y bobl sy'n gweithio o fewn y diwydiant. Yr her i'r diwydiant yw helpu i newid y ddelwedd honno drwy ddangos ymrwymiad cryf i hyfforddiant a sicrhau bod y gydnabyddiaeth a'r yrfa a gynigir i bobl ifanc yn ddeniadol. Dyna pam

quality has to be paramount.

In terms of many of the other points that were made, some were about the importance of cultural tourism, particularly in the Valleys. As I said in my introductory remarks, tourism is important for all parts of Wales, not only those that have often been seen in the past as typically benefiting from tourism. The south Wales Valleys are very important for us, and, in terms of the Heads of the Valleys programme, tourism is seen as a key growth sector. Only last week, I was with Sustrans as it launched its vision for a Valleys cycle network. I have been in discussions with the heritage lottery fund about ways in which we can work with it and use the convergence programme to exploit that potential. As a Government, we are very committed, and I am working closely with Jane Davidson, my ministerial colleague responsible for education, lifelong learning and skills and with Alun Pugh, because of his responsibilities, to exploit the potential for tourism.

On some of the other issues that have been raised, Alun Ffred talked about tourism operators. Tourism businesses do not operate in isolation or in a vacuum—they are very much part of the broader economy. Tourism operators, like any business, have benefited greatly from the unprecedented and sustained growth in the UK and the Welsh economy, and from many of the policies and announcements from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, including his announcement today about the reduction of the basic rate of income tax from 22p to 20p. Tourism operators, like all taxpayers in Wales, will benefit from that significant announcement.

Lisa Francis raised the issue of exemptions from the small business rate relief scheme. It is possible that we may be able to look at the criteria that Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs uses for definitions, but we cannot have access to HMRC information, for obvious data-protection purposes. However, we have given a commitment to the industry

bod rhaid i'r ymrwymiad i ansawdd fod yn flaenoriaeth.

O ran llawer o'r pwyntiau eraill a wnaethpwyd, roedd rhai ohonynt yn ymwneud â phwysigrwydd twristiaeth ddiwydiannol, yn enwedig yn y Cymoedd. Fel y dywedais yn fy sylwadau rhagarweiniol, mae twristiaeth yn bwysig i bob rhan o Gymru, nid yn unig y rhai nodweddiadol a welwyd yn aml yn cael budd o dwristiaeth yn y gorffennol. Mae Cymoedd y de yn bwysig iawn i ni, ac, o ran rhaglen Blaenau'r Cymoedd, caiff twristiaeth ei hystyried fel sector twf allweddol. Dim ond yr wythnos diwethaf, yr oeddwn gyda Sustrans pan lansiwyd ei weledigaeth ar gyfer rhwydwaith seiclo i'r Cymoedd. Yr wyf wedi cynnal trafodaethau gyda chronfa dreftadaeth y loteri ynglŷn â ffyrdd y gallwn gydweithio ag ef a defnyddio'r rhaglen gydyfeirio i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y potensial hwnnw. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym yn ymrwymedig iawn, ac yr wyf yn cydweithio'n agos â Jane Davidson, fy nghyd-Aelod sy'n gyfrifol am addysg, dysgu gydol oes a sgiliau a gydag Alun Pugh, oherwydd ei gyfrifoldebau yntau, i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y potensial ar gyfer twristiaeth.

O ran rhai o'r materion eraill a godwyd, soniodd Alun Ffred am weithredwyr twristiaeth. Nid yw busnesau twristiaeth yn gweithredu ar eu pen eu hunain nac mewn gwactod—maent yn rhan bwysig o'r economi ehangach. Mae gweithredwyr twristiaeth, fel unrhyw fusnes, wedi cael budd mawr o'r twf cyson nas gwelwyd erioed o'r blaen yn economi'r DU a Chymru, ac o lawer o'r polisïau a'r cyhoeddiadau gan Ganghellor y Trysorlys, yn cynnwys ei gyhoeddiad heddiw ynghylch y gostyngiad yng nghyfradd sylfaenol treth incwm o 22c i 20c. Bydd gweithredwyr twristiaeth, fel pob trethdalwr yng Nghymru, yn elwa o'r cyhoeddiad pwysig hwnnw.

Cododd Lisa Francis y mater o eithriadau rhag y cynllun rhyddhad ardrethi busnesau bach. Mae'n bosibl yr edrychwn ar y meini prawf a ddefnyddir gan Gyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi ar gyfer diffiniadau, ond ni allwn gael gafael ar wybodaeth HMRC, oherwydd dibenion diogelu data amlwg. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym wedi rhoi ein hymrwymiad i'r

that we will work with it to seek greater clarity and address some of its concerns.

Grading harmonisation was another issue, raised by Denise Idris Jones. Clearly, visitors are confused by the various grading schemes used across the UK—not just in Wales. There was overwhelming support from the industry for grading harmonisation. We have been working with the industry on this, and we have worked with businesses on a case-by-case basis to try to resolve difficulties that they have faced.

I will say a final word on the so-called bed tax. This is nothing more than mischief-making from the Conservative Party. I have been asked questions by the industry on numerous occasions, including at a tourism roadshow last week. I gave the industry the answer that I gave earlier: we have no intention to introduce a bed tax in Wales. It was purely an early suggestion by Sir Michael Lyons in his review of local government finance. We have no plans to do that; it is the Conservatives who are causing uncertainty and confusion among operators. It is you who are harming the image of the industry, not the Government, which is supporting the industry.

diwydiant y byddwn yn cydweithio ag ef i sicrhau mwy o eglurder a mynd i'r afael â rhai o'i bryderon.

Yr oedd cysoni'r broses raddio yn fater arall, a godwyd gan Denise Idris Jones. Yn amlwg, mae ymwelwyr yn cael eu drysu gan y cynlluniau graddio amrywiol a ddefnyddir ledled y DU—nid yn unig yng Nghymru. Yr oedd cefnogaeth gref gan y diwydiant i gysoni'r broses raddio. Yr ydym wedi bod yn cydweithio â'r diwydiant ar hyn, ac yr ydym wedi cydweithio â busnesau unigol i geisio datrys yr anawsterau a wynebwyd ganddynt.

I gloi, hoffwn sôn yn gyflym am yr hyn a elwir yn dreth gwelyau. Y Blaid Geidwadol yn ceisio codi cynnen yw hyn. Yr wyf wedi cael cwestiynau gan y diwydiant ar sawl achlysur, yn cynnwys mewn sioe deithiol twristiaeth yr wythnos diwethaf. Rhoddais yr un ateb i'r diwydiant ag a roddais yn gynharach: nid oes unrhyw fwriad gennym i gyflwyno treth gwelyau yng Nghymru. Dim ond awgrym cynnar ydoedd gan Syr Michael Lyons yn ei adolygiad o gyllid llywodraeth leol. Nid oes gennym unrhyw gynlluniau i wneud hynny; y Ceidwadwyr yw'r rhai sy'n achosi'r ansicrwydd a'r dryswch ymhlith gweithredwyr. Chi sy'n niweidio delwedd y diwydiant, nid y Llywodraeth, sy'n cefnogi'r diwydiant.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 1: For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 2: For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise

Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 3: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin

Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 4: For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David

Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 5: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri

Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 6: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl

Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 7: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 7: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 8: O blaid 41, Ymatal 10, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 8: For 41, Abstain 10, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, 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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
The following Members abstained:

Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Trish
Lloyd, David
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 9: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 9: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

Gwelliant 10: O blaid 49, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.

Amendment 10: For 49, Abstain 0, Against 0.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

Motion NDM3560 as amended:

Cynnig NDM3560 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

the National Assembly for Wales:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

notes the Welsh Assembly Government's vision for developing the tourism industry in *yn nodi gweledigaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer datblygu'r diwydiant*

<i>Wales as set out in Wales's revised tourism strategy 'Achieving Our Potential 2006-2013';</i>	<i>twristiaeth yng Nghymru fel y'i nodir yn y Strategaeth Dwristiaeth ddiwygiedig 'Cyflawni ein Potensial 2006-2013';</i>
<i>notes the need to maximise income by developing high-added-value tourism, while protecting our biodiverse environment;</i>	<i>yn nodi'r angen i gynhyrchu cymaint o incwm â phosibl trwy ddatblygu twristiaeth sy'n ychwanegu gwerth sylweddol, tra'n diogelu ein hamgylchedd bioamrywiol yr un pryd;</i>
<i>recognises the importance of Welsh cultural heritage and its value as an asset to tourism in Wales;</i>	<i>yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd treftadaeth ddiwylliannol Cymru a'i gwerth fel ased i dwristiaeth yng Nghymru;</i>
<i>calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales's industrial heritage;</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata treftadaeth ddiwydiannol Cymru;</i>
<i>calls on the Assembly Government to promote a more joined-up approach between the National Museum Wales and National Library and tourism organisations;</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i hyrwyddo dull mwy cydgyssylltiedig rhwng Amgueddfa Cymru a'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol a sefydliadau twristiaeth;</i>
<i>calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the National Eisteddfod to do more to attract non-Welsh-speaking visitors;</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol i wneud mwy i ddenu ymwelwyr nad ydynt yn siarad Cymraeg;</i>
<i>calls on the Assembly Government to encourage the promotion and marketing of Wales as a 'clean and green' country through highlighting Wales's commitment to sustainable development;</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i annog y broses o hyrwyddo a marchnata Cymru fel gwlad 'lân a gwyrdd', drwy dynnu sylw at ymrwymiad Cymru i ddatblygu cynaliadwy;</i>
<i>expresses concern that the Welsh Assembly Government failed to include commercially let self-catering tourism businesses in its latest small businesses rate relief scheme;</i>	<i>yn mynegi pryder bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi methu â chynnwys busnesau twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol yn ei chynllun rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach diweddaraf;</i>
<i>expresses concern that in respect of the Welsh Assembly Government's consultation on small business rate relief for commercially let self-catering tourism businesses, no decision will be taken until the third Assembly;</i>	<i>yn mynegi pryder, yng nghyswllt ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynghylch rhyddhad ardrethi i fusnesau bach ar gyfer busnesau twristiaeth hunan-ddarpar a osodir yn fasnachol, na wneir unrhyw benderfyniad tan y trydydd Cynulliad;</i>
<i>calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to seek an agreement with the UK Government that a 'bed tax' on accommodation providers will not be introduced in Wales;</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i geisio cytundeb gyda Llywodraeth y DU na chyflwynir 'treth gwelyau' ar ddarparwyr llety yng Nghymru;</i>
<i>calls on the Welsh Assembly Government to publish its review into the roles and responsibilities of the regional tourism</i>	<i>yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gyhoeddi ei hadolygiad ynghylch swyddogaethau a dyletswyddau'r</i>

partnerships, which was carried out at the end of 2006 and has since been completed. *partneriaethau twristiaeth rhanbarthol a gyflawnwyd ddiwedd 2006 ac a gwblhawyd ers hynny.*

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 51, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amended motion: For 51, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
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Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
Amended motion carried.*

Adroddiad Blynyddol Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru 2005-06
The 2005-06 Annual Report of the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales

Motion (NDM3561): to propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

notes the 'Report of the Chief Inspector: Social Services in Wales 2005-2006', published in accordance with section 142 of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003.

Amendment 1 in the name of Lisa Francis. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern at the inadequate number of social services staff working with children who have a recommended or required qualification.

Amendment 2 in the name of Lisa Francis. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

calls for greater consistency in the funding and provision of social services across Wales.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1 and 2 in the name of Lisa Francis.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales:

notes the 'Report of the Chief Inspector: Social Services in Wales 2005-2006', published in accordance with section 142 of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003. (NDM3561)

As the acting chief inspector comments, this year marks the beginning of a new chapter for social services with the forthcoming publication of the renewed policy document, 'Fulfilled Lives, Supported Communities', along with 'Making the Connections', our response to the Beecham review, and the forthcoming policy paper on local government. Therefore, this is a particularly

Cynnig (NDM3561): cynnig bod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn nodi 'Adroddiad y Prif Arolygydd: Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol 2005-2006', a gyhoeddwyd yn unol ag adran 142 o Ddeddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol (Iechyd Cymunedol a Safonau) 2003.

Gwelliant 1 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder ynghylch y ffaith nad oes digon o staff gwasanaethau cymdeithasol sy'n gweithio gyda phlant â chymhwyster cymeradwy neu ofynnol.

Gwelliant 2 yn enw Lisa Francis. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn galw am fwy o gysondeb wrth gyllido a darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ledled Cymru.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1 a 2 yn enw Lisa Francis.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn nodi 'Adroddiad y Prif Arolygydd: Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol 2005-2006', a gyhoeddwyd yn unol ag adran 142 o Ddeddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol (Iechyd Cymunedol a Safonau) 2003. (NDM3561)

Fel y noda'r prif arolygydd dros dro, mae'r flwyddyn hon yn nodi dechrau pennod newydd i wasanaethau cymdeithasol gyda chyhoeddi'r ddogfen polisi 'Bywydau Bodlon, Cymunedau Cefnogol' ar ei newydd wedd, ynghyd â 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau', ein hymateb i adolygiad Beecham, a'r papur polisi sydd ar ddod ar lywodraeth leol. Felly, mae'n amser priodol iawn i ystyried y

apt time to take stock of the progress that has been made in social services.

Over the last few years, we have seen significant changes taking place. The Care Council for Wales has been established with the protection of the title of social workers. The Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales has also been established and has brought consistent standards into play on a national scale across Wales. Major initiatives in workforce development and performance management, supported by substantial Assembly Government funding, which has been mentioned positively in the report, have taken place. These initiatives, as well as new legislative requirements that we put in place a few months ago, are in line with the intention of amendment 1 and, therefore, we will support that.

Linked to that is the publication of the Garthwaite report on social work recruitment and retention and the establishment of the Social Services Improvement Agency and the children's commissioning resource centre. Those show the clear intention to improve the quality and range of social services and social care in Wales. These developments have been backed by major investment in social services. Local authority spending is now around £1.2 billion annually on social services and that spending has increased in the last five years from £681 million in 2001-02. This represents an increase of 75 per cent—a dramatic sum in anyone's book—which is in line with the demands of amendment 2, which we therefore also support.

5.10 p.m.

In the last year, the Assembly has made £45 million available for adult social services alone, over and above pay rises and the increase in the revenue support grant. This year, a further £15 million is to be made available for social services, above pay and price rises and the general RSG uplift. The chief inspector's report shows that these investments and initiatives are paying dividends. He states that his predecessor noted signs of improvement in his final report

cynnydd a wnaethpwyd o ran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol.

Dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, yr ydym wedi gweld newidiadau sylweddol. Mae Cyngor Gofal Cymru wedi'i sefydlu ac mae teitl gweithwyr cymdeithasol wedi'i ddiogelu. Mae Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru hefyd wedi'i sefydlu ac wedi cyflwyno safonau cyson ar raddfa genedlaethol ledled Cymru. Gwelwyd mentrau mawr o ran datblygu'r gweithlu a rheoli perfformiad, wedi'u hategu gan arian sylweddol gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, a grybwyllwyd mewn ffordd gadarnhaol yn yr adroddiad. Mae'r mentrau hyn, yn ogystal â gofynion deddfwriaethol newydd a roddwyd ar waith ychydig fisoedd yn ôl, yn gyson â bwriad gwelliant 1 ac felly byddwn yn cefnogi'r gwelliant hwnnw.

Ynghlwm wrth hynny mae cyhoeddi adroddiad Garthwaite ar recriwtio a chadw staff gwaith cymdeithasol a sefydlu'r Asiantaeth Gwella Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'r ganolfan comisiynu adnoddau i blant. Mae'r rheini yn dangos y bwriad clir i wella ansawdd ac ystod y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r gofal cymdeithasol a gynigir yng Nghymru. Mae'r datblygiadau hyn wedi'u hategu gan fuddsoddiad mawr mewn gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae awdurdodau lleol bellach yn gwario tua £1.2 biliwn yn flynyddol ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol ac mae'r gwariant hwnnw wedi cynyddu yn y pum mlynedd diwethaf o £681 miliwn yn 2001-02. Mae hyn yn gynnydd o 75 y cant—swm dramatig ym marn unrhyw un—sy'n unol â gofynion gwelliant 2, felly rydym yn cefnogi'r gwelliant hwnnw hefyd.

Yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, mae'r Cynulliad wedi neilltuo £45 miliwn ar gyfer gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i oedolion yn unig, ymhell y tu hwnt i godiadau cyflog a'r cynnydd yn y grant cynnal refeniw. Eleni, caiff £15 miliwn arall ei neilltuo ar gyfer gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, sy'n uwch na chodiadau cyflog a phrisiau a'r ymgodiad cyffredinol yn y grant cynnal refeniw. Dengys adroddiad y prif arolygydd fod y buddsoddiadau a'r mentrau hyn yn talu

and the acting chief inspector said that, this year, we have seen more encouragement and more improvement.

Chapter 2 of the report focuses on the experience and views of people who use the services and those who care for them. In almost all categories, a large majority are satisfied with the quality of services, feel safer and are able to lead more independent lives because of the social services that they have received. Inspectors judged that local authorities are better placed to improve their services, particularly by way of workforce performance, performance management and the important scrutiny that they receive from the corporate centre and local politicians. A key reason for this is that social services now receive a higher priority than was previously the case; this must continue.

The report also points out that we cannot be complacent. Inspectors still find that most of the services across Wales are inconsistent in their performance and there is great variability across the country. The performance in delayed transfers of care is an example of that. We must all expect services to reach the standard of at least 'mainly good', and not enough social services are of that standard yet. As we move the agenda forward, it will be a challenging one. Local authority social services must succeed in reducing the number of children needing to be looked after and improving the life chances of those who are.

The legislation that we recently passed, which expanded on Huw Lewis's original motion under Standing Order No. 31, should contribute to this goal and drive forward the improved outcomes that Gwenda Thomas mentioned in her report, 'Keeping Us Safe'. We must help more adults to live fuller lives in the community, with appropriate care for those who cannot. This is particularly true for those with mental illness, and learning and physical disabilities, where the challenge must be to provide protection and care, as

ffordd. Dywed fod ei ragflaenydd wedi nodi arwyddion o welliant yn ei adroddiad terfynol a dywedodd y prif arolygydd dros dro ein bod wedi gweld mwy o anogaeth a mwy o welliannau eleni.

Mae pennod 2 o'r adroddiad yn canolbwyntio ar brofiad a sylwadau pobl sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaethau a'r rheini sy'n gofalu amdanynt. Ym mron pob category, mae mwyafrif mawr yn fodlon ar ansawdd y gwasanaethau, yn teimlo'n fwy diogel ac yn gallu byw bywydau mwy annibynnol oherwydd y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a dderbyniwyd ganddynt. Ym marn yr arolygwyr, mae awdurdodau lleol mewn sefyllfa well i wella eu gwasanaethau, yn enwedig o ran perfformiad y gweithlu, rheoli perfformiad a'r adborth craffu pwysig a dderbynnir gan y ganolfan gorfforaethol a gwleidyddion lleol. Un o'r prif resymau dros hyn yw bod mwy o flaenoriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i wasanaethau cymdeithasol yn awr nac yn y gorffennol; rhaid i hyn barhau.

Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn nodi na allwn fod yn hunanfodlon. Mae'r arolygwyr yn dal i ganfod bod y rhan fwyaf o'r gwasanaethau ledled Cymru yn anghyson o ran eu perfformiad a bod amrywioldeb mawr ledled y wlad. Mae'r perfformiad o ran oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yn enghraifft o hynny. Rhaid i bob un ohonom ddisgwyl i wasanaethau gyrraedd safon 'da ar y cyfan' o leiaf, ac nid oes digon o wasanaethau cymdeithasol wedi cyrraedd y safon honno eto. Wrth inni fwrw ymlaen â'r agenda, byddwn yn wynebu heriau. Rhaid i wasanaethau cymdeithasol awdurdodau lleol lwyddo i leihau'r nifer o blant y mae angen gofal arnynt a gwella cyfleoedd bywyd y rhai y mae angen gofal arnynt.

Dylai'r ddeddfwriaeth a gyflwynwyd gennym yn ddiweddar, sy'n ehangu ar gynnig gwreiddiol Huw Lewis o dan Orchymyn Sefydlog Rhif 31, gyfrannu at y nod hwn a sicrhau'r canlyniadau gwell y soniodd Gwenda Thomas amdanynt yn ei hadroddiad, 'Ein Cadw'n Ddiogel'. Rhaid inni helpu mwy o oedolion i fyw bywydau llawnach yn y gymuned, a darparu gofal priodol i'r rhai na allant wneud hynny. Mae hyn yn arbennig o wir mewn perthynas â'r rhai â salwch meddwl, ac anabledau dysgu ac anabledau

necessary, but also to strive to allow those who use these services to live lives that are as fulfilled as possible, on the basis of equality and active citizenship.

Social services must respond to the challenge of the demographic changes in our society. They must take a lead in marshalling all resources of local public services and the community at large to protect vulnerable people and to support their independence. People want to live at home, in their own communities, wherever possible, and we need to re-order the way in which we deliver our services to allow those citizens to achieve that. However, residential care to a consistent standard must be available for those for whom this is not possible. We must, therefore, work more closely with others, particularly the health service, to deliver the best care and support in a consistent and integrated way. The year ahead will be crucial as we strive to build on further improvement and to address the areas where the service simply is not good enough. This is a key challenge of 'Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities'.

Finally, I think that we are coming to the end of an era in which we will have a social services inspectorate report. From April, the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales will merge with the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales. We hope that the new integrated body, the care and social services inspectorate for Wales, will continue to be an important lever for change, just as the SSIW and CSIW have been. We thank SSIW for its contribution in improving social care to date and we look forward to next year's report, from the combined agencies.

Jonathan Morgan: I propose the following amendments in the name of Lisa Francis. Amendment 1: Add a new point at the end of the motion:

expresses concern at the inadequate number of social services staff working with children who have a recommended or required

corfforol. Yr her yn hyn o beth yw darparu diogelwch a gofal, lle y bo angen, ond hefyd i ymdrechu i ganiatáu i'r rhai sy'n defnyddio'r gwasanaethau hyn fyw bywydau mor llawn â phosibl, ar sail cydraddoldeb a dinasyddiaeth weithredol.

Rhaid i wasanaethau cymdeithasol ymateb i'r her a wynebwr yn sgîl newidiadau demograffig yn ein cymdeithas. Rhaid iddynt arwain y gwaith o drefnu adnoddau gwasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol a'r gymuned ehangach i ddiogelu pobl ddiameddifyn a chefnogi eu hannibyniaeth. Mae pobl yn dymuno byw yn eu cartrefi eu hunain, yn eu cymunedau, lle y bo'n bosibl, ac mae angen inni ad-drefnu'r ffordd yr ydym yn darparu ein gwasanaethau i ganiatáu i'r dinasyddion hynny gyflawni hynny. Fodd bynnag, rhaid sicrhau bod gofal preswyl o safon gyson ar gael i'r rheini lle nad yw hynny'n bosibl. Felly, rhaid inni gydweithio'n agosach ag eraill, yn enwedig y gwasanaeth iechyd, i ddarparu'r gofal a'r cymorth gorau mewn ffordd gyson ac integredig. Bydd y flwyddyn nesaf yn hollbwysig wrth inni geisio adeiladu ar welliannau pellach a mynd i'r afael â'r meysydd lle nad yw'r gwasanaeth yn ddigon da. Dyma un o heriau allweddol 'Bywydau Bodlon, Cymunedau Cefnogol'.

I gloi, credaf ein bod yn dod i ddiwedd cyfnod, gydag adroddiadau'r arolygiaeth gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn tynnu at eu terfyn. O fis Ebrill, bydd Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru yn uno ag Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru. Gobeithiwn y bydd y corff integredig newydd, Arolygiaeth Gofal a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru, yn parhau i fod yn ffactor ysgogi pwysig o ran newid, yn yr un modd â'i rhagflaenwyr AGCC ac ASGC. Diolchwn i AGCC am ei chyfraniad at wella gofal cymdeithasol hyd yma ac edrychwn ymlaen at yr adroddiad y flwyddyn nesaf, gan yr asiantaethau cyfunol.

Jonathan Morgan: Cynigiad y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Lisa Francis. Gwelliant 1: Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn mynegi pryder ynghylch y ffaith nad oes digon o staff gwasanaethau cymdeithasol sy'n gweithio gyda phlant â chymhwyster

qualification.

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

calls for greater consistency in the funding and provision of social services across Wales.

I welcome the latest report from the Chief Inspector of Social Services in Wales and place on record my thanks to him and his team for their dedication and professionalism.

Providing services for some of our most vulnerable adults and children is a huge responsibility, and it is one which county councils have struggled with for many years. While I agree with the Minister that there have been some improvements, they are patchy and we see county councils not giving social services the political priority that they need. That has been the criticism of a number of local authorities in recent years.

Amendment 1 seeks to tackle my concern about the inadequate number of social service staff with a required or recommended qualification. When you look at the percentages of staff with qualifications, we have a worryingly low number of people with a required or recommended qualification. I know that this is an issue which concerns the Minister, but the Assembly should collectively express concern and seek a way in the next Assembly of addressing this issue. If you look at the total number of social services staff, the average percentage with an occupational qualification is roughly 36 per cent, but in Cardiff it is only 26 per cent. This is worrying when you consider that Cardiff University has one of the most well-known and respected social care training departments. It begs the question that if you have that level of professional development and training in Cardiff University, why is Cardiff local authority social services not able to—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Rosemary, only one person can stand up at a

cymeradwy neu ofynnol.

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

yn galw am fwy o gysondeb wrth gyllido a darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ledled Cymru.

Croesawaf adroddiad diweddaraf y Prif Arolygydd Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru a hoffwn ddiolch iddo ef a'i dîm am eu hymroddiad a'u proffesiynoldeb.

Mae darparu gwasanaethau i rai o'n hoedolion a'n plant mwyaf diamddiffyn yn gyfrifoldeb enfawr, ac mae'n un y mae cynghorau sir wedi cael anhawster ag ef ers blynyddoedd lawer. Er fy mod yn cytuno â'r Gweinidog bod rhai gwelliannau wedi'u gweld, maent yn anghyson a gwelwn nad yw cynghorau sir yn rhoi'r flaenoriaeth wleidyddol angenrheidiol i wasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae nifer o awdurdodau lleol wedi bod yn feirniadol o hynny yn ddiweddar.

Ceisio Gwelliant 1 fynd i'r afael â'm pryder ynghylch y nifer annigonol o staff gwasanaethau cymdeithasol sydd â chymhwyster gofynnol neu argymelledig. Pan edrychwch ar ganrannau'r staff â chymhwysterau, mae gennym nifer isel o bobl â chymhwyster gofynnol neu argymelledig, ac mae hynny'n peri pryder. Gwn fod hwn yn fater sy'n peri pryder i'r Gweinidog, ond dylai'r Cynulliad fynegi pryder ar y cyd a chanfod ffordd o fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn y Cynulliad nesaf. Os edrychwch ar gyfanswm nifer y staff gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, mae'r ganran â chymhwyster galwedigaethol tua 36 y cant, ar gyfartaledd, ond yng Nghaerdydd, dim ond 26 y cant yw hon. Mae hyn yn peri pryder o ystyried bod gan Brifysgol Caerdydd un o'r adrannau hyfforddiant gofal cymdeithasol mwyaf adnabyddus ac uchaf ei pharch. Rhaid gofyn, os oes gennych y lefel honno o ddatblygiad a hyfforddiant proffesiynol ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, pam na all gwasanaethau cymdeithasol awdurdod lleol Caerdydd—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Rosemary, dim ond un person all godi ar ei draed ar y tro, ac

time, and at the moment Jonathan Morgan has the floor.

Jonathan Morgan: Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. It begs the question as to why the local authority seems incapable of recruiting when we have a university department which is so capable of training people.

When you look at the statistics, less than 40 per cent of those working with children, particularly those in a residential or day-care setting, have a required or recommended qualification. This is totally unacceptable, and it is something that needs to be tackled as a matter of urgency. I do not doubt the ability and professionalism of those working with children, but where there is a recommended or required qualification, local authorities are duty-bound to ensure that those members of staff are properly trained. There is no doubt that local authorities need to be more proactive—staff deserve to be encouraged and supported in gaining qualifications, especially if we are seeking to retain larger numbers of social care professionals.

Amendment 2 seeks to tackle the problems of inconsistency in the funding and provision of social services across Wales. When you look at the funding, it ranges from roughly £1,900 per head of population in Rhondda Cynon Taf to £1,300 per head of population in Powys. Expenditure is rising, and the chief inspector recognises this, but it is rising at a slower rate. As the report states, it has fallen as a proportion of all local authority expenditure. We need to keep an eye on that, because, to go back to an earlier point, one of the key concerns expressed by the joint service reviews of social services was that local authorities were not giving sufficient budgetary and political priority to social services. In many cases where local authority expenditure has increased quite considerably, expenditure on social services has remained fairly static. That is something that the next Assembly Government may have to challenge, and will certainly have to face, because it is worrying, where we have seen so many deficiencies, that local authorities are now seeing the proportion of their total

ar hyn o bryd, Jonathan Morgan yw hwnnw.

Jonathan Morgan: Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Rhaid gofyn pam nad yw'r awdurdod lleol, yn ôl pob tebyg, yn gallu recriwtio pan fo gennym adran yn y brifysgol sy'n hyfforddi pobl, a hynny mor fedrus.

Pan edrychwch ar yr ystadegau, mae gan lai na 40 y cant o'r bobl hynny sy'n gweithio gyda phlant, yn arbennig y rhai mewn lleoliad gofal dydd preswyl, gymhwyster gofynnol neu argymelledig. Mae hyn yn gwbl annerbyniol, ac mae'n rhywbeth y mae angen mynd i'r afael ag ef ar fyrder. Nid amheuf allu a phroffesiynoldeb y rhai sy'n gweithio gyda phlant, ond lle ceir cymhwyster argymelledig neu ofynnol, mae'n ddyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau bod yr aelodau hynny o staff yn cael eu hyfforddi'n briodol. Nid oes amheuaeth bod angen i awdurdodau lleol fod yn fwy rhagweithiol—mae staff yn haeddu cael eu hannog a'u cefnogi i ennill cymwysterau, yn arbennig os ydym yn ceisio cadw nifer fwy o weithwyr proffesiynol ym maes gofal cymdeithasol.

Ceisio Gwelliant 2 fynd i'r afael â phroblemau anghysondeb wrth ariannu a darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ledled Cymru. Pan ystyriwch y lefel ariannu, mae'n amrywio o tua £1,900 y pen o'r boblogaeth yn Rhondda Cynon Taf i £1,300 y pen o'r boblogaeth ym Mhowys. Mae gwariant yn cynyddu, ac mae'r prif arolygydd yn cydnabod hyn, ond mae'n cynyddu ar gyfradd arafach. Fel y noda'r adroddiad, mae wedi gostwng fel cyfran o holl wariant awdurdodau lleol. Mae angen inni gadw golwg ar hynny, oherwydd, i droi'n ôl at bwynt cynharach, un o'r pryderon allweddol a fynegwyd gan yr adolygiadau gwasanaeth ar y cyd o wasanaethau cymdeithasol oedd nad oedd awdurdodau lleol yn rhoi digon o flaenoriaeth gyllidebol na gwleidyddol i wasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mewn llawer o achosion lle mae gwariant awdurdod lleol wedi cynyddu'n eithaf sylweddol, mae gwariant ar y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol wedi aros yn gymharol sefydlog. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y gallai fod angen i Llywodraeth nesaf y Cynulliad ei herio, ac y

expenditure that is spent on social services falling, and that may need to be tackled in the future.

Improvement in the provision is variable: seven out of nine authorities had their services judged as being inconsistent; five authorities were judged as being uncertainly placed to improve; and in many key areas such as assessments, care management and reviews, the range of services provided and the protection of vulnerable adults, the judgment of the Social Services Inspectorate for Wales was that services were inconsistent overall. I agree that we have seen some improvements, but this report demonstrates yet again that social services in Wales have a long way to go. I firmly believe that the next Assembly Government will have to show considerable progress.

Helen Mary Jones: I will begin by associating myself with the thanks that have already been given to the chief inspector and his team. This is a valuable report with pointers that none of us can afford to ignore. I agree with the comments of Jonathan Morgan and the Minister that this report shows us that, while some progress has been made, there is certainly no room for complacency.

The report touches on such a wide range of issues that is impossible to refer to them all, so I will just comment on some of the points relating to children's services, and then briefly those relating to adult services.

5.20 p.m.

The report shows an improvement in children's services, and that is welcome, but it is an improvement from a shockingly low base. We have gone from terribly bad to slightly less awful in some cases, though there is good practice out there and we need to identify that and work with it and support

bydd yn rhaid iddi ei wynebu yn sicr, oherwydd mae'n peri pryder, lle yr ydym wedi gweld cymaint o ddiffygion, fod awdurdodau lleol, wrth ystyried cyfanswm eu gwariant bellach yn gweld y gyfran a gaiff ei gwario ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol yn lleihau, ac efallai y bydd angen mynd i'r afael â hynny yn y dyfodol.

Mae gwelliannau o ran y ddarpariaeth yn amrywio—barnwyd bod gwasanaethau saith allan o naw awdurdod yn anghyson, barnwyd bod pum awdurdod mewn sefyllfa ansicr i wella ac mewn llawer o feysydd allweddol megis asesiadau, rheoli gofal ac adolygiadau, amrywiaeth y gwasanaethau a ddarperir a'r diogelwch a roddir i oedolion diamddiffyn, barn Arolygiaeth Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru oedd bod gwasanaethau yn anghyson ar y cyfan. Cytunaf ein bod wedi gweld rhai gwelliannau, ond dengys yr adroddiad hwn unwaith eto fod gan wasanaethau cymdeithasol yng Nghymru gryn ffordd i fynd. Credaf yn gryf y bydd yn rhaid i'r Llywodraeth Cynulliad nesaf ddangos cynnydd sylweddol.

Helen Mary Jones: Dechreuaf drwy ddiolch fel y gwnaed eisoes, i'r prif arolygydd a'i dîm. Mae hwn yn adroddiad gwerthfawr gydag argymhellion na all yr un ohonom fforddio eu hanwybyddu. Cytunaf â sylwadau Jonathan Morgan a'r Gweinidog fod yr adroddiad hwn yn dangos inni, er y gwnaed rhywfaint o gynnydd, nad oes lle i fod yn hunanfodlon yn sicr.

Mae'r adroddiad yn ymdrin ag ystod mor eang o faterion fel ei bod yn amhosibl cyfeirio at bob un ohonynt, felly ni fyddaf ond yn rhoi sylwadau ar rai o'r pwyntiau yn ymwneud â gwasanaethau plant, ac yn fras ar y rhai yn ymwneud â gwasanaethau i oedolion.

Dengys yr adroddiad welliant mewn gwasanaethau plant, a chroesewir hynny, ond mae'n welliant ar sefyllfa ryfeddol o wael. Yr ydym wedi mynd o fod yn anhygoel o wael i fod ychydig yn llai ofnadwy mewn rhai achosion, er bod arfer da yn bodoli a bod angen inni nodi hynny a gweithio gydag ef

it. The issue of inconsistency is still a huge problem, and that must be addressed.

I want to highlight the fact that the report shows too many looked-after children being moved more than three times a year. This trend is slightly up, and that is terribly worrying. I would ask us all in this Assembly to think about what that means; a vulnerable child, who must already have suffered serious problems to have entered the care system, then has to move home three times a year. Imagine what that would be like in the context of a loving family, and then think about what it would be like if it was from one foster placement to another, or one residential setting to another. We cannot allow this to continue, and it is no wonder, given that statistic, that the other outcomes for looked-after children, around their educational attainment and job prospects, remain so poor. We must make a bigger investment in fostering; what the Assembly Government has done so far is welcome, but it certainly is not enough, and we in Plaid Cymru would like to see the statutory duty of care for local authorities extended until the child is 21-years-old. Most of us continue to receive love, care and support, if we are lucky enough to have loving and caring parents, long beyond our twenty-first birthday, and the very least we ought to be offering looked-after children is that formal care and support from local authorities until their twenty-first birthday.

I turn to adult services and the growing trend that the report identifies of authorities targeting services on those older people or disabled people who are already most vulnerable. While that is understandable in the context of pressures on resources, it means that there is a failure to intervene to prevent people who may be vulnerable, but not quite as vulnerable as others, from getting into a position where their situation deteriorates. They might go from a situation where they could be cared for in their own home to a situation where they need residential care. We would submit that this is inconsistent with the overall drive that has

a'i gefnogi. Mae anghysondeb yn dal i fod yn broblem enfawr, a rhaid mynd i'r afael â hynny.

Hoffwn amlygu'r ffaith bod yr adroddiad yn dangos bod gormod o blant sy'n derbyn gofal yn cael eu symud fwy na thair gwaith y flwyddyn. Mae'r duedd hon fymryn yn fwy cyffredin, ac mae hynny'n peri gofid mawr. Byddwn yn gofyn i bawb yn y Cynulliad hwn feddwl am beth y mae hynny'n ei olygu; plentyn diamddiffyn, y mae'n rhaid ei fod eisoes wedi wynebu problemau difrifol iddo fod yn y system ofal, yn gorfod symud cartref deirgwaith y flwyddyn. Dychmygwch sut beth fyddai hynny yng nghyd-destun teulu cariadus, ac yna meddylwch sut beth fyddai hynny o safbwynt symud o un lleoliad maeth i'r llall, neu o un lleoliad preswyl i'r llall. Ni allwn ganiatáu i hyn barhau, ac nid yw'n syndod, o gofio'r ystadegyn hwnnw, fod y canlyniadau eraill ar gyfer plant sy'n derbyn gofal, ynghylch eu cyrhaeddiad addysgol a'u rhagolygon swydd, yn parhau mor wael. Rhaid inni fuddsoddi mwy ym maes maethu; croesewir yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi'i wneud hyd yn hyn, ond, yn sicr, nid yw'n ddigon, a hoffem ni ym Mhlaid Cymru am weld y ddyletswydd gofal statudol ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yn cael ei hymestyn tan fod y plentyn yn 21 oed. Mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonom yn parhau i gael cariad, gofal a chymorth, os ydym yn ddigon ffodus o fod â rhieni cariadus a gofalgar, yn bell y tu hwnt i'n pen-blwyddyn yn 21 oed; y peth lleiaf y dylem fod yn ei gynnig i blant sy'n derbyn gofal yw gofal a chymorth ffurfiol gan awdurdodau lleol tan eu pen-blwydd yn 21 oed.

Hoffwn droi at wasanaethau i oedolion a'r duedd gynyddol a nodir yn yr adroddiad sef bod awdurdodau yn anelu gwasanaethau at y bobl hŷn neu'r bobl anabl hynny sydd fwyaf diamddiffyn eisoes. Er bod hynny yn ddealladwy yng nghyd-destun pwysau ar adnoddau, mae'n golygu bod methiant i ymyrryd er mwyn atal pobl a allai fod yn ddiamddiffyn, ond nad ydynt mor ddiamddiffyn ag eraill, rhag cael eu hunain mewn sefyllfa a fydd yn gwaethygu. Gallent fynd o sefyllfa lle y gellid gofalu amdanynt yn eu cartref eu hunain i sefyllfa lle bo angen gofal preswyl arnynt. Byddem yn cynnig bod hyn yn anghyson â'r pwyslais cyffredinol

cross-party agreement in this Assembly, of moving towards prevention—preventing deteriorating conditions, health promotion, and keeping people independent as long as possible. That is a matter that will have to be addressed, and when we get to the point where people need care, we must bear in mind that we are in a situation where the loss of care home places has been identified as a serious problem. We have lost 388 care homes since 2003, and that is a trend that must be reversed.

The Minister referred to the fact that most people who received services were fairly satisfied with the services that they received. That is positive in itself, but I think that it may also reflect the fact that expectations are quite low, particularly when we are talking about older citizens—they are always, in my experience, very grateful indeed for what they get, even though it may not be adequate. They are also very appreciative of their carers and of their social workers, even though, when we look at that objectively, they may be getting a minimal standard of care—not because the professionals do not want to give them a better standard of care, but because the resources are not there. I have raised this matter with the inspector and I think that he agreed, when we discussed this in the Health and Social Services committee, that that is something that will need to be monitored with more care in future. Against what are we measuring people's expectations of the services that they receive? In the context of how disabled people and their carers perceive politics and politicians, the broken care home promise remains a shadow that, I am afraid, does not only reflect on the Labour party, but on us all. That is something that we must overcome as a political community.

It is time for a change for the better, for all of those adults and children who need social services support. The next Assembly Government, whatever its make-up, must give this a higher priority. I pay tribute to some of what this Government has done, but we must create a more challenging environment for those local authorities that are not delivering. We can carry on working

sydd â chytundeb trawsbleidiol yn y Cynulliad hwn, sef symud tuag at atal—atal amodau sy'n gwaethygu, hybu iechyd a sicrhau bod pobl yn annibynnol am gyhyd â phosibl. Mae hwnnw'n fater y bydd yn rhaid mynd i'r afael ag ef, a phan gyrhaeddwn y pwynt lle bydd angen gofal ar bobl, rhaid inni gofio ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle y nodwyd bod colli llefydd mewn cartrefi gofal yn broblem ddifrifol. Yr ydym wedi colli 388 o gartrefi gofal ers 2003, a dyna duedd y mae'n rhaid ei gwrthdroi.

Cyfeiriodd y Gweinidog at y ffaith bod y rhan fwyaf o'r bobl sy'n cael gwasanaethau yn gymharol fodlon ar y gwasanaethau a gawsant. Mae hynny'n gadarnhaol ynddo'i hun, ond credaf y gallai hefyd adlewyrchu'r ffaith bod disgwyliadau'n gymharol isel, yn arbennig pan soniwn am ddinasyddion hŷn—maent bob amser, yn fy mhrofiad i, yn ddiolchgar iawn am yr hyn a gânt, hyd yn oed os nad yw'n ddigonol. Maent hefyd yn werthfawrogol iawn o'u gofalwyr, a'u gweithwyr cymdeithasol, hyd yn oed, pan edrychwn ar hynny'n wrthrychol, efallai eu bod yn cael gofal o'r safon ofynnol—nid am nad yw gweithwyr proffesiynol yn awyddus i roi gwell safon o ofal iddynt, ond oherwydd nad yw'r adnoddau ar gael. Yr wyf wedi codi'r mater hwn gyda'r arolygydd a chredaf iddo gytuno, pan drafodwyd hyn yn y pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, fod hynny'n rhywbeth y bydd angen ei fonitro yn fwy gofalus yn y dyfodol. Yn erbyn beth yr ydym yn mesur disgwyliadau pobl o'r gwasanaethau a gânt? Yng nghyd-destun y modd y mae pobl anabl a'u gofalwyr yn ystyried gwleidyddiaeth a gwleidyddion, erys yr addewid a dorwyd o ran cartrefi gofal yn gysgod sydd nid yn unig yn bwrw sen ar y blaid Lafur ond ar bob un ohonom, yn anffodus. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae'n rhaid inni ei oresgyn fel gwleidyddion.

Mae'n bryd newid er gwell, ar gyfer yr holl oedolion a phlant hynny y mae angen cymorth gwasanaethau cymdeithasol arnynt. Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth Cynulliad nesaf, waeth beth fo'i chyfansoddiad, roi mwy o flaenoriaeth i hyn. Talaf deyrnged i rai o'r pethau y mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi'u gwneud, ond rhaid inni greu amgylchedd mwy heriol i'r awdurdodau lleol hynny nad

in partnership as long as we like, but if partnership becomes an excuse for nobody being responsible, and for poor practice being allowed to continue year on year—and we must think about what that poor practice means to the people who desperately need those services—then partnership stops being an effective delivery mechanism and becomes a cop-out. Our vulnerable citizens should have the right to expect much more from us than they do, and we all need to ensure that this is a higher priority for the next Assembly Government.

Jenny Randerson: I reiterate the thanks to the inspector not only for the report, but for the useful opportunity that we had to discuss it with him in committee. I welcome the signs of improvement in social services, particularly in some of those local authority services where the problems were most acute. There has been significant progress in Torfaen, Cardiff and Blaenau Gwent, which must be difficult when you start from such a low base, because that low base gives you recruitment problems as well as morale problems among existing staff. So, we give our congratulations on those improvements, and it is worth noting that the report mentions the marked improvement in local government political leadership.

Helen Mary just made the point about the need for this aspect of the Assembly's work to be given greater priority by the Government, but it has long been true that social services has been the cinderella service of local government. It has always been the service to which you gave thought to last and where cuts have been easiest. That, I think, has at last changed, and the role of the inspectorate in ensuring that that has changed is not to be underestimated. However, there is much still to be done, and I think that a key point has to be the importance of joint working: joint working between local authorities so that they can share the more specialist services, joint working with other agencies and with the voluntary sector.

There is also a great deal of work still to be

dynt yn cyflawni. Gallwn barhau i weithio mewn partneriaeth am gyhyd ag y dymunwn, ond os daw partneriaeth yn esgus dros y ffaith nad oes neb yn gyfrifol, a thros ganiatáu i arfer gwael barhau o flwyddyn i flwyddyn—a rhaid inni feddwl am yr hyn y mae'r arfer gwael hwnnw yn ei olygu i'r bobl y mae angen y gwasanaethau hynny arnynt yn ddybryd—yna nid yw partneriaeth yn ddull cyflawni effeithiol mwyach a daw'n esgus dros beidio â gwneud pethau. Dylai fod gan ein dinasyddion diamddiffyn yr hawl i ddisgwyl mwy o lawer gennym nag a wnânt, ac mae angen inni oll sicrhau bod y Llywodraeth Cynulliad nesaf yn rhoi mwy o flaenoriaeth i hyn.

Jenny Randerson: Hoffwn innau ddiolch i'r arolygydd hefyd, nid yn unig am yr adroddiad, ond hefyd am y cyfle defnyddiol a gawsom i'w drafod ag ef yn y pwyllgor. Croesawaf y ffaith bod arwyddion o wella ym maes gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, yn arbennig yn rhai o'r awdurdodau lleol hynny lle yr oedd y problemau ar eu gwaethaf. Gwnaed cynnydd sylweddol yn Nhor-faen, Caerdydd a Blaenau Gwent, a rhaid bod hynny'n anodd o gofio bod y sefyllfa gychwynnol mor wael, gan fod hynny'n golygu bod problemau recriwtio yn ogystal â phroblemau morâl ymhlith aelodau presennol o staff. Felly, dylid canmol y gwelliannau hynny, ac mae'n werth nodi y sonnir yn yr adroddiad hwn am y gweliant nodedig o ran arweinyddiaeth wleidyddol llywodraeth leol.

Soniodd Helen Mary fod angen i'r Llywodraeth hon roi mwy o flaenoriaeth i'r agwedd hon ar waith y Cynulliad, ond bu'n wir ers tro mai gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yw gwasanaeth Sinderela llywodraeth leol. Dyma'r gwasanaeth a ystyriwyd olaf bob amser, a lle y gwnaed y toriadau hawsaf. Mae hynny wedi newid o'r diwedd, fe gredaf, a dylid pwysleisio rôl yr arolygiaeth wrth sicrhau bod hynny wedi newid. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer i'w wneud o hyd, a chredaf fod pwysigrwydd cydweithio yn bwynt allweddol: cydweithio rhwng awdurdodau lleol fel y gallant rannu'r gwasanaethau mwy arbenigol, cydweithio ag asiantaethau eraill a chyda'r sector gwirfoddol.

Mae llawer o waith i'w wneud o hyd o ran

done on joint working in the national health service, and I would like to see greater progress towards a joint NHS and social services budget to deal, for example, with delayed transfers of care. However, the important and immediate challenge is the joint working with the voluntary sector, because that is part of the key challenge ahead, which is posed by unified assessment. That process concentrates the assistance provided by local authorities on the most vulnerable, which means that those people with lower levels of care and lower and moderate levels of need have to go to the voluntary sector to get assistance that might be supported by the local authority but is not provided directly. That means change in the way in which services are provided and, for people who need social services care, who are the most vulnerable people in our society, change is often the last thing that they want. Therefore, that is a difficult process for local authorities and for the people who receive their services.

I will spend a short period of time talking about social work as a career. This report emphasises the importance of revaluing social work as a profession. Social workers have the rough end of every deal; they are not well paid or well valued by their employers in too many cases, they are not appreciated very often by their clients, and they are certainly not appreciated by the media. It is difficult to attract people into this extremely difficult job, and we have to look not just at pay and conditions, but at improving the quality of work that is done. We need to do that by increasing the opportunities for professional development and by providing a proper professional scale and by giving certainty to those people who enter this profession who are far too undervalued.

I also want to express briefly my concern about the variable take-up rate of direct payments. The low number of people who are doing this, in absolute terms, is a matter of concern. There has been a fall in some areas, and numbers are at a standstill in others. This is not the kind of prioritisation and promotion of a scheme that suits many people that I would like to see.

cydweithio yn y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, a hoffwn weld mwy o gynnydd tuag at gyllideb ar y cyd rhwng y GIG a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i ymdrin ag oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, er enghraifft. Fodd bynnag, yr her bwysig ac uniongyrchol yw'r cydweithio â'r sector gwirfoddol, gan fod hynny'n rhan o'r her allweddol o'n blaenau, a berir gan asesiadau unedig. Mae'r broses honno yn canolbwyntio'r cymorth a ddarperir gan awdurdodau lleol ar y bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn, sy'n golygu bod yn rhaid i'r bobl hynny â lefelau gofal is a lefelau angen is a lefel angen cymharol droi at y sector gwirfoddol i gael cymorth a gefnogir o bosibl gan yr awdurdod lleol ond nas darperir yn uniongyrchol. Golyga hynny fod angen newid y ffordd y darperir gwasanaethau, ac i bobl y mae angen gofal gwasanaethau cymdeithasol arnynt, sef y bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yn ein cymdeithas, newid yw'r peth olaf y maent am ei weld yn aml. Felly, mae honno'n broses anodd i awdurdodau lleol ac i'r bobl sy'n cael eu gwasanaethau.

Byddaf yn treulio cyfnod byr yn trafod gwaith cymdeithasol fel gyrfa. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn pwysleisio pwysigrwydd ailwerthfawrogi gwaith cymdeithasol fel proffesiwn. Gweithwyr cymdeithasol sy'n ei chael hi waethaf bob tro; ni chânt eu talu'n dda na'u gwerthfawrogi gan eu cyflogwyr mewn gormod o achosion, ni chânt eu gwerthfawrogi'n aml iawn gan eu cleientiaid, ac yn sicr, ni chânt eu gwerthfawrogi gan y cyfryngau. Mae'n anodd denu pobl i'r swydd hynod anodd hon, a rhaid inni ystyried, nid dim ond cyflog ac amodau, ond hefyd gwella ansawdd y gwaith a wneir. Mae angen inni wneud hynny drwy gynyddu'r cyfleoedd ar gyfer datblygiad proffesiynol a thrwy ddarparu graddfa broffesiynol briodol a sicrwydd i'r bobl hynny sy'n ymuno â'r proffesiwn hwn na chânt eu gwerthfawrogi ddigon o bell ffordd.

Hoffwn hefyd fynegi yn gyflym fy mhryder ynghylch cyfradd amrywiol y bobl sy'n hawlio taliadau uniongyrchol. Mae'r niferoedd isel o bobl sy'n gwneud hyn mewn termau absoliwt yn peri pryder. Fodd bynnag, cafwyd gostyngiad mewn rhai ardaloedd, a dim newid mewn eraill, ac nid hwn yw'r math o flaenoriaethu a hyrwyddo o ran cynllun sy'n addas i lawer o bobl yr hoffwn

ei weld.

5.30 p.m.

Finally, the inspector told us that there has been a big increase in the number of adult social services assessments done in the past year because of quicker hospital discharges, increased numbers of people with learning difficulties living into adulthood, and the increasing number of adult protection referrals. However, social services spending is still falling as a proportion of total local government spending. I have pressed the Finance Minister on the issue; the Welsh Assembly Government must set the pace on this and ensure that the formula reflects the increased burden on adult services.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Brian Gibbons): Several important points have been raised. Jonathan began by talking about the training programme. As the inspector himself points out, we, as the Assembly Government, put in £6.25 million for care workforce training. Combined with the contribution of local authorities and other interests, the training programme comes to £9 million, which is a significant increase in investment. However, it is important that we value the workforce and the social workers. I think that a corner has been turned with the Garthwaite report, and the profession is valued. The increased status of social work training, including a degree course, with protection of the title 'social workers', is a reflection of that. Indeed, the statistics confirm that the levels of recruitment and stability are starting to show.

However, we must recognise that the social care workforce is made up of more than just social workers. Care assistants, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and many other people outside social work contribute to a good social care system. In that context, I commend the excellent work that has been done by Care Forum Wales and the Care Council for Wales, through their high-status award ceremonies, which are very much appreciated by those working in the service.

I gloi, dywedodd yr arolygydd wrthym y bu cynnydd mawr yn nifer yr asesiadau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol oedolion a wnaed yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf o ganlyniad i'r ffaith bod pobl yn cael eu rhyddhau'n gynt o'r ysbyty, bod nifer cynyddol o bobl ag anawsterau dysgu yn byw i fod yn oedolion, a bod nifer cynyddol o atgyfeiriadau amddiffyn oedolion. Fodd bynnag, mae gwariant gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yn gostwng o hyd fel cyfran o gyfanswm gwariant llywodraeth leol. Yr wyf wedi pwysu ar y Gweinidog Cyllid ar y mater; rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ddangos esiampl yn hyn o beth gan sicrhau bod y fformiwla yn adlewyrchu'r baich cynyddol ar wasanaethau oedolion.

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Brian Gibbons): Codwyd sawl pwynt pwysig. Dechreuodd Jonathan drwy sôn am y rhaglen hyfforddi. Fel y nodar arolygydd ei hun, yr ydym ni, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn buddsoddi £6.25 miliwn i hyfforddi'r gweithlu gofal. O'i gyfuno â chyfraniad awdurdodau lleol a buddiannau eraill, daw'r rhaglen hyfforddi i £9 miliwn, sy'n gynnydd sylweddol yn y lefel fuddsoddi. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gwerthfawrogi'r gweithlu a'r gweithwyr cymdeithasol. Credaf ein bod wedi troi cornel gydag adroddiad Garthwaite, a gwerthfawrogi'r proffesiwn. Mae statws uwch hyfforddiant gwaith cymdeithasol, gan gynnwys cwrs gradd, sy'n diogelu'r teitl 'gweithwyr cymdeithasol', yn adlewyrchu hynny. Yn wir, mae'r ystadegau yn cadarnhau bod lefelau recriwtio a sefydlogrwydd yn dechrau dod i'r amlwg.

Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydnabod bod y gweithlu gofal cymdeithasol yn cynnwys mwy na gweithwyr cymdeithasol yn unig. Mae cynorthwyr gofal, therapyddion galwedigaethol, ffisiotherapyddion a llawer o bobl eraill y tu allan i faes gwaith cymdeithasol yn cyfrannu at system gofal cymdeithasol dda. Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, cymeradwyaf waith ardderchog Fforwm Gofal Cymru a Chyngor Gofal Cymru, drwy eu seremonïau gwobrwyo statws uchel, a

gaiff eu gwerthfawrogi'n fawr gan y rhai sy'n gweithio yn y gwasanaeth.

Jenny and Jonathan mentioned the fact that the proportion of expenditure on social services has fallen. However, as I pointed out in my contribution, over the past five years, there has been a 75 per cent increase in the absolute amount. The directions that we, as the Assembly Government, send out to local government are one reason for that increase. In the past 12 to 15 months, we have sent out clear instructions to local government to spend more on education, too. We do not want to send out mixed messages. We want increased expenditure, and that, in absolute terms, is the key benchmark. I accept Jonathan's point that the relative expenditure may reflect the priorities of an organisation, but a 75 per cent increase in expenditure is a substantial commitment in anybody's book.

Helen Mary dealt with the important issue of low standards, and how important it is to acknowledge that there are some very low standards in care provision in Wales. However, I think that Jenny made the point that even people starting from low standards can deliver substantial improvements. We know that from the cases of Torfaen and particularly Blaenau Gwent. In the joint review, Blaenau Gwent social services department produced damning evidence for us. However, the most recent reports from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council show that it has moved from being at the bottom to very near the top. That is clear evidence of the fact that such improvement can be achieved, provided that the political leadership exists. Political leadership is an indispensable requirement if we are to deliver change. I do not mean political leadership simply in terms of the executive of a local authority; it also needs to exist through the scrutiny process in local authorities. It is important that local authorities take corporate responsibility for the quality of the services that they provide. In particular, in the scrutiny committee, there needs to be a corporate responsibility, and partisanship needs to be dispensed with.

Soniodd Jenny a Jonathan am y ffaith bod cyfran y gwariant ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol wedi gostwng. Fodd bynnag, fel y nodais yn fy nghyfraniad, dros y pum mlynedd ddiwethaf, bu cynnydd o 75 y cant yn y swm absoliwt. Mae'r cyfarwyddiadau a anfonwn, fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, at lywodraeth leol yn un rheswm dros y cynnydd hwnnw. Yn y 12 i 15 mis diwethaf, gwnaethom anfon cyfarwyddiadau clir i lywodraeth leol i wario mwy ar addysg, hefyd. Nid ydym am anfon negeseuon cymysg. Yr ydym am weld gwariant uwch, a dyna, mewn termau absoliwt, yw'r meincnod allweddol. Derbyniaf bwynt Jonathan y gallai'r gwariant cymharol adlewyrchu blaenoriaethau sefydliad, ond mae cynnydd o 75 y cant mewn gwariant yn ymrwymiad sylweddol o dan unrhyw amgylchiadau.

Ymdriniodd Helen Mary â'r mater pwysig o ran safonau isel, a phwysigrwydd cydnabod bod rhai safonau isel iawn o fewn y ddarpariaeth gofal yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, credaf mai Jenny a nododd y gall hyd yn oed pobl sy'n dechrau o safonau isel gyflawni gwelliannau sylweddol. Gwyddom hynny o achosion Torfaen ac yn arbennig Blaenau Gwent. Yn yr adolygiad ar y cyd, cynhyrchodd adran gwasanaethau cymdeithasol Blaenau Gwent dystiolaeth negyddol inni. Fodd bynnag, dengys yr adroddiadau diweddaraf gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent ei fod wedi symud o fod ar y gwaelod i fod yn agos iawn i'r brig. Mae hynny'n dystiolaeth glir o'r ffaith y gellir cyflawni gwelliant o'r fath, ar yr amod y ceir arweinyddiaeth wleidyddol. Mae arweinyddiaeth wleidyddol yn ofyniad holl bwysig er mwyn cyflawni newid. Nid wyf yn sôn am arweinyddiaeth wleidyddol yn nhermau syml gweithrediaeth awdurdod lleol; mae angen arweinyddiaeth o'r fath hefyd drwy'r broses graffu o fewn awdurdodau lleol. Mae'n bwysig bod awdurdodau lleol yn cymryd cyfrifoldeb corfforaethol dros ansawdd y gwasanaethau a ddarperir ganddynt. Yn arbennig, yn y pwyllgor craffu, mae angen cyfrifoldeb corfforaethol, ac mae angen cael gwared ar bleidgarwch.

The Assembly Government is consulting on the fostering allowance, and we look forward to the results of that consultation. It is true that the number of homes available to deliver care provision and nursing care has gone down. However, as the Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales report tells us, the number of places available has not reduced by anything like the same number. The most recent report notes either a stable position or a nudging upwards of the provision. It is important that, while we acknowledge that the number of homes has gone down, the number of places has not gone down to the same extent and may even be improving.

Helen Mary mentioned the domiciliary care proposals, which we were unfortunately unable to deliver. However, that needs to be put into context. As we speak, 80 per cent of domiciliary care is funded from the public purse. The latest round of proposals from the Assembly Government means that 10,000 more people will benefit from the new buffer system that we have put in place. Indeed, 4,000 people will be taken out of the charging system completely. While we have not been able to deliver the full package, that is substantial progress. If we link that to the telecare initiatives and the community aids, we will have a package that will make a substantial difference to the quality of care that people can, and have a right to, expect.

I have two last points. Jenny mentioned the unified assessment process. That is important, as is linking it with the common assessment framework for children. This is one of the priority areas that we have identified for work over the next 12 months in the run-up to the formal rolling out of 'Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities'. The unified assessment and the common assessment framework need to be made fit for purpose and easier to implement. It is a complex and difficult system for many people on the front line to operate. Hopefully, the next 12 months will be spent improving the system.

Jenny mentioned direct payments, and was correct on that point. However, the Assembly Government has announced that £800 million will be made available to local authorities to

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ymgynghori ar y lwfans maethu, ac edrychwn ymlaen at ganlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw. Mae'n wir bod nifer y cartrefi sydd ar gael i ddarparu gofal a gofal nyrsio wedi lleihau. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywed adroddiad Arolygiaeth Safonau Gofal Cymru wrthym, nid yw nifer y lleoedd sydd ar gael wedi lleihau i'r fath raddau o bell ffordd. Noda'r adroddiad diweddaraf naill ai sefyllfa sefydlog neu gynnydd yn y ddarpariaeth. Er y dylid cydnabod bod nifer y cartrefi wedi lleihau, mae'n bwysig nad yw nifer y lleoedd wedi lleihau i'r un graddau ac y gallai fod yn cynyddu hyd yn oed.

Soniodd Helen Mary am y cynigion gofal cartref, na lwyddom, yn anffodus, i'w gweithredu. Fodd bynnag, mae angen rhoi hynny yn ei gyd-destun. Ar hyn o bryd, ariennir 80 y cant o ofal cartref gan bwrs y wlad. Mae'r cylch diweddaraf o gynigion gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn golygu y bydd 10,000 yn fwy o bobl yn cael budd o'r system byffer newydd sydd ar waith gennym. Yn wir, bydd 4,000 o bobl yn gadael y system taliadau yn llwyr. Er na lwyddasom i ddarparu'r pecyn llawn, mae hynny'n gynnydd sylweddol. Os cysylltw'n hynny â'r mentrau teleofal a'r cymhorthion cymunedol, bydd gennym becyn a fydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i ansawdd y gofal y gall pobl ei ddisgwyl ac y mae hawl ganddynt i'w ddisgwyl.

Mae gennyf ddau bwynt olaf. Soniodd Jenny am y broses asesu unedig. Mae hynny'n bwysig, felly hefyd ei chysylltu â'r fframwaith asesu cyffredin i blant. Mae hwn yn un o'r meysydd blaenoriaeth a nodwyd gennym fel maes i weithio arno yn ystod y 12 mis nesaf yn y cyfnod cyn cyflwyno 'Bywydau Bodlon, Cymunedau Cefnogol' yn ffurfiol. Mae angen sicrhau bod yr asesiad unedig a'r fframwaith asesu cyffredin yn addas at y diben ac yn haws i'w gweithredu. Mae'n system gymhleth ac anodd i lawer o bobl ar y rheng flaen ei gweithredu. Gobeithio y caiff y 12 mis nesaf eu treulio yn gwella'r system.

Soniodd Jenny am daliadau uniongyrchol, ac yr oedd yn llygad ei lle. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cyhoeddi y caiff £800 miliwn ei ryddhau i awdurdodau

encourage and facilitate an increase in the level of uptake of direct payments. Again, that is a clear commitment for us as an Assembly Government in relation to the direction in which we want to travel.

lleol i annog a hwyluso cynnydd yn nifer y bobl sy'n cofrestru ar gyfer taliadau uniongyrchol. Unwaith eto, mae hynny'n ymrwymiad clir gennym ni fel Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o ran y cyfeiriad yr hoffem deithio iddo yn y dyfodol.

Finally, I thank the acting chief inspector of social services for this report and for his constructive contribution to improving the quality of social care in Wales.

I gloi, hoffwn ddiolch i'r prif arolygydd gwasanaethau cymdeithasol dros dro am ei adroddiad ac am ei gyfraniad adeiladol i wella ansawdd gofal cymdeithasol yng Nghymru.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 37, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 1: For 37, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Bates, Mick
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 38, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 2: For 38, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment carried.*

Motion NDM3561 as amended:

the National Assembly for Wales:

notes the 'Report of the Chief Inspector: Social Services in Wales 2005-2006', published in accordance with section 142 of the Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003.

expresses concern at the inadequate number of social services staff working with children who have a recommended or required qualification.

calls for greater consistency in the funding

Cynnig NDM3561 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

yn nodi 'Adroddiad y Prif Arolygydd: Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol 2005-2006', a gyhoeddwyd yn unol ag adran 142 o Ddeddf Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol (Iechyd Cymunedol a Safonau) 2003.

yn mynegi pryder ynghylch y ffaith nad oes digon o staff gwasanaethau cymdeithasol sy'n gweithio gyda phlant â chymhwyster cymeradwy neu ofynnol.

yn galw am fwy o gysondeb wrth gyllido a

*and provision of social services across darparu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ledled
Wales. Cymru.*

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 39, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amended motion: For 39, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Jocelyn
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, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Law, Trish
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
Amended motion carried.*

Dadl Fer Short Debate

Gwaddol Newydd i Gymru A New Legacy for Wales

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Trefn. Cyn imi alw ar
Before I call Irene James to speak on the Irene James i lefaru ar ei dewis bwnc,
topic that she has chosen, I ask all Members gofynnaf i bob Aelod sydd am adael y
who wish to leave the Chamber to do so now. Siambr i adael yn awr.

Irene James: Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. I have agreed to allow Jeff Cuthbert and Leighton Andrews to speak in this short debate.

5.40 p.m.

Labour has delivered a minimum wage in place of no wage; record levels of people in a job in place of record levels of people on the dole; record investment in schools and hospitals over record cuts; more doctors and nurses, not fewer; more police and safer, strong communities replacing desolated, distressed and abandoned communities; more than a million children taken out of poverty in place of the 3 million driven into poverty; and the lowest interest rates and inflation in a generation. A prudent Chancellor announced today that more money will go into Welsh workers' pockets, replacing boom-and-bust economics, recession and, on David Cameron's watch, Black Wednesday. Wales has received around £10 billion more, and not a penny has been sent back since John Redwood's day.

Devolution has given us two rounds of European investment for west Wales and the Valleys, with £1.3 billion invested so far and that secured by a Labour Government for Wales, while the opposition sat on their hands, wailing doom and gloom yet again.

Labour has delivered Communities First, free bus travel and free swimming, free prescriptions, free TV licences for older pensioners, better pensions, winter fuel allowances, the home energy efficiency scheme, and justice at last for miners, the vulnerable, the needy, the disempowered and the disenfranchised. Labour has also delivered the working families tax credit, real investment for early years education, action on childcare, help for lone parents, free breakfasts, money under the raising attainment and individual standards in education in Wales grant, and education, education, education in place of Thatcher, Thatcher, milk snatcher. The list goes on, but you get the idea.

Irene James: Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Yr wyf wedi cytuno i ganiatáu i Jeff Cuthbert a Leighton Andrews lefaru yn y ddadl fer hon.

Mae Llafur wedi cyflwyno isafswm cyflog yn lle dim cyflog; y lefelau uchaf erioed o bobl mewn gwaith yn lle'r lefelau uchaf erioed o bobl ddi-waith; y buddsoddiad uchaf erioed mewn ysgolion ac ysbytai yn lle'r toriadau uchaf erioed; mwy o feddygon a nyrsys, dim llai; mwy o heddlu a chymunedau cryf, mwy diogel yn lle cymunedau anghyfannedd, trallodus a llwm; mwy na miliwn o blant wedi'u tynnu allan o dlodi yn lle'r 3 miliwn a orfodwyd i sefyllfa o dlodi; a'r cyfraddau llog a chwyddiant isaf ers cenhedlaeth. Cyhoeddodd Canghellor doeth heddiw y bydd mwy o arian yn mynd i bocedi gweithwyr yng Nghymru, gan ddisodli economeg ffyniant-a-methiant, dirwasgiad ac, o dan ofal plaid David Cameron, Dydd Mercher Du. Mae Cymru wedi cael tua £10 biliwn yn fwy, ac ni ddychwelwyd ceiniog ohono ers dyddiau John Redwood.

Ers datganoli, cawsom ddau gylch o fuddsoddiad Ewropeaidd i'r gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, gydag £1.3 biliwn wedi'i fuddsoddi hyd yma a'r swm hwnnw wedi'i ddenu gan Lywodraeth Lafur i Gymru, wrth i'r wrthblaid laesu dwylo gan ganu eu cân o anobaith unwaith eto.

Cyflwynodd Llafur Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, tocynnau bws am ddim a nofio am ddim, presgripsiynau am ddim, trwyddedau teledu am ddim i bensiynwyr hŷn, gwell pensiynau, lwfansau tanwydd gaeaf, y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, a chyfiawnder o'r diwedd i lowyr, pobl sy'n agored i niwed, pobl anghenus, pobl ddi-rym a phobl ddifreintiedig. Cyflwynodd Llafur hefyd y credyd treth i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio, buddsoddiad gwirioneddol ym maes addysg blynyddoedd cynnar, camau gweithredu ar ofal plant, help i rieni unigol, brecwastau am ddim, arian o dan y grant codi cyrhaeddiad a safonau addysgol unigolion yng Nghymru, ac addysg, addysg, addysg yn lle 'Thatcher, Thatcher, milk snatcher'. Mae'r rhestr yn hirfaith, ond fe gewch y syniad.

Despite it all, evidence of the Tory reign of destruction persists in communities such as those in my constituency and across the south Wales Valleys. It is proof that no matter what you do in 10 years, you cannot eradicate the legacy of 18 years of vindictive Tory dogma. In 2001, Valleys wards accounted for almost two thirds of the 100 most deprived wards in Wales—a fifth were rural wards and the remainder were urban areas from across Wales. An array of documents now highlights how, in real terms, sustained generational poverty has destroyed lives, families and communities throughout south Wales. The Chief Medical Officer for Wales's report outlines in black and white that life expectancy in the south Wales Valleys is on average two years shorter than it is in rural areas.

Levels of limiting long-term illness are at their highest, while, at the extremes, men in Blaenau Gwent can expect to die a full five years sooner than those in Ceredigion—and I stress that, because it is a full five years. A generation has been lost to poverty, and few will be surprised by the now entrenched statistics that reflect the tragedy of people's lives. Sustained and concentrated poverty rooted in mass community unemployment is ruthless, and huge amounts of targeted investment are needed to make any impact. Thankfully, Labour is starting to make that difference and impact.

To target issues of inequality, poverty, deprivation and regeneration, Labour in the Assembly has brought forward a number of all-Wales strategies to deliver a fairer distribution of our greater prosperity. Among more recent documents, the Wales spatial plan refers to the high concentration of social deprivation and economic inactivity allied to low levels of educational attainment and skills and to poor health in the Valleys. The child poverty task group report recognised that there are problems with equality of access in Valleys and rural areas, which exacerbates child poverty. The Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Committee's report

Er gwaethaf hyn oll, erys tystiolaeth o deyrnasiad dinistriol y Toriaid mewn cymunedau fel y cymunedau yn fy etholaeth i ac ar draws Cymoedd y de. Mae'n brawf ni waeth beth a wnewch mewn cyfnod o 10 mlynedd, ni allwch gael gwared ar etifeddiaeth o 18 mlynedd o ddogma Dorïaidd ddialgar. Yn 2001, yr oedd dwy ran o dair o'r 100 o wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru yn wardiau yn y Cymoedd—yr oedd un rhan o bump yn wardiau gwledig ac yr oedd y gweddill yn ardaloedd trefol o bob cwr o Gymru. Mae amrywiaeth o ddogfennau bellach yn amlygu sut y mae tloedi parhaus dros genedlaethau, mewn termau real, wedi dinistrio bywydau, teuluoedd a chymunedau ledled y de. Noda adroddiad Prif Swyddog Meddygol Cymru yn ddu a gwyn fod disgwyliad oes yng Nghymoedd y de ar gyfartaledd ddwy flynedd yn is na'r disgwyliad mewn ardaloedd gwledig.

Mae lefelau salwch cyfyngus hirdymor ar eu huchaf, ac, yn y sefyllfa eithaf, gall dynion ym Mlaenau Gwent ddisgwyl marw pum mlynedd gyfan yn gynt na dynion yng Ngheredigion—a phwysleisiaf hynny, gan ei fod yn bum mlynedd gyfan. Collwyd cenhedlaeth i dlodi, ac ni fydd yr ystadegau parhaus sy'n adlewyrchu trasiedi bywydau pobl yn peri fawr syndod. Mae tloedi parhaus a dwys yn seiliedig ar ddiweithdra cyffredinol mewn cymunedau yn ddiostur, ac mae angen symiau sylweddol o fuddsoddiad wedi'i dargedu er mwyn cael unrhyw effaith. Diolch i'r drefn, mae Llafur yn dechrau gwneud y gwahaniaeth a chael yr effaith honno.

Er mwyn targedu anghydraddoldeb, tloedi, amddifadedd ac adfywio, mae Llafur yn y Cynulliad wedi cyflwyno nifer o strategaethau Cymru-gyfan i ddsbarthu ein ffyniant cynyddol yn decach. Ymhlith y dogfennau diweddaraf, mae cynllun gofodol Cymru yn cyfeirio at y crynodiad uchel o amddifadedd cymdeithasol ac anweithgarwch economaidd sy'n gysylltiedig â lefelau isel o gyrhaeddiad addysgol a sgiliau ac iechyd gwael yn y Cymoedd. Cydnabu adroddiad y grŵp gorchwyl tloedi plant fod yna broblemau o ran cydraddoldeb mynediad yn y Cymoedd ac mewn ardaloedd gwledig, sy'n gwaethygu tloedi plant. Amlygodd adroddiad diweddar y

on economic inactivity recently highlighted how necessary devices such as intermediate labour market partnerships would be. They are particularly needed in the south Wales Valleys in order to raise economic activity rates.

Due to Labour, there is an increasing recognition of the pervasive nature of social injustice and the cross-cutting response needed to address it. In short, from a starting position of gross historical inequality, we have made tremendous progress. However, we must not waver from the task, as our demonstrable achievements pale in light of the scale of the task ahead and the Tory legacy that we are up against. In the third Assembly, we must go even further. We must go further because we have a long way to go to recover from the extent of inequality that we have inherited. We have created new, groundbreaking programmes that invest record growth more fairly, but we must go further because generating still greater change means revisiting and reforming and making tough decisions to radically change institutionalised, historic inequality.

It is a task that has already begun. Reform of the local government funding formula began in 1999, following a review, and the introduction of the deprivation grant, which currently provides extra funding to the value of £22 million, has redistributed funding to the more deprived local authority areas. There has been further refinement recently. While the distribution of public spending is fairer, thanks only to a Labour administration driving through change, it could be fairer still. The formula might be complicated, but its premise should be simple—those with the greatest needs should command the greatest resources.

As social justice has moved up the political agenda, the funding disparity has become more apparent. Allocating £200 million of local government funding, for example, on the basis of unproven sparsity indicators, rooted in historical spend, becomes increasingly untenable. In the context of the

Pwyllgor Menter, Arloesi a Rhwydweithiau ar anweithgarwch economaidd pa mor angenrheidiol y byddai dyfeisiau fel partneriaethau marchnad lafur drosiannol. Mae eu hangen yn fawr yng Nghymoedd y de er mwyn cynyddu cyfraddau gweithgarwch economaidd.

O ganlyniad i Lafur, cydnabyddir yn fwyfwy natur dreiddiol anghyfiawnder cymdeithasol a'r ymateb trawsbynciol sydd ei angen i fynd i'r afael ag ef. Yn fras, o ddechrau gydag anghyfiawnder hanesyddol difrifol, yr ydym wedi gwneud cynnydd enfawr. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylem ochel rhag cyflawni'r dasg, gan fod ein cyflawniadau hyd yma yn ddim byd o gymharu â graddau'r dasg o'n blaenau a'r hyn a etifeddwyd gan y Torïaid sy'n ein hwynebu. Yn y trydydd Cynulliad, rhaid inni fynd hyd yn oed ymhellach. Rhaid inni fynd ymhellach am fod gennym lawer i'w wneud i adfer y sefyllfa yn sgîl graddau'r anghydraddoldeb a etifeddwyd gennym. Yr ydym wedi creu rhaglenni newydd, arloesol sy'n buddsoddi twf nas gwelwyd o'r blaen yn decach, ond rhaid inni fynd ymhellach oherwydd mae cyflawni newidiadau mwy byth yn golygu ailedrych ar y sefyllfa a'i diwygio gan wneud penderfyniadau anodd i newid anghydraddoldeb sefydliadol, hanesyddol mewn modd radical.

Mae'r dasg hon wedi dechrau eisoes. Dechreuwyd diwygio'r fformiwla ariannu llywodraeth leol yn 1999, yn dilyn adolygiad, a thrwy gyflwyno'r grant amddifadedd, sy'n darparu £22 miliwn ychwanegol ar hyn o bryd, ailddyranwyd arian i'r ardaloedd awdurdod lleol mwy difreintiedig. Bu rhagor o waith mireinio'n ddiweddar. Er bod y broses o ddyranu gwariant cyhoeddus yn decach, diolch i weinyddiaeth Lafur yn cyflawni newidiadau, gallai fod yn decach byth. Efallai fod y fformiwla yn gymhleth, ond dylai ei gysail fod yn syml—dylai'r rhai â'r anghenion mwyaf gael yr adnoddau mwyaf.

Wrth i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol symud i fyny'r agenda wleidyddol, mae'r gwahaniaeth yn yr arian a ddyrennir wedi dod yn amlycach. Daw dyrannu £200 miliwn o arian llywodraeth leol, er enghraifft, ar sail dangosyddion teneurwydd nas profwyd, sy'n seiliedig ar wariant hanesyddol, yn fwyfwy

distribution formula, and even some of the recent changes, it is a self-fulfilling injustice.

This mirrors a subject recently broached by the Committee on School Funding, which stated its dismay at the degree to which funding is distributed according to historic funding patterns. That resulted in the committee recommending an immediate review of the funding formula and research into the effect of the funding disparity on pupil attainment. Simply put, the highest attaining pupils in Wales benefit from substantially more funding than the lowest attaining, who suffer because they are burdened with the barriers presented by poverty, deprivation and social exclusion.

In view of such clear injustice, it goes without saying that the outcomes of the review initiated by this work are crucial to the future fairness of funding in Wales. Distribution must reflect what Labour is doing across the board to strengthen the strategic delivery of Government programmes. Labour is delivering more strategic and targeted deeper interventions for west Wales and the Valleys. We are child-poverty-proofing all our policies. We are ensuring greater strategic delivery of investment in other Government programmes such as the arts, despite vested opposition interests, and overcoming the crachach mentality that leaves those with the least—dare I say it—at the back of the queue.

It does not stop there: it goes right across the board. In health and social services, Communities First, the historic environment, and every other corner of Government intervention, we must go further than we have done in order to identify where capacity leaves those with the least without the most support, and remedy that situation.

5.50 p.m.

Ten years of Labour has not yet eradicated the 18 years of devastation by the Tories. However, 10 years of Labour leaves a new

amhosibl. Yng nghyd-destun y fformiwla ddyrannu, a hyd yn oed rhai o'r newidiadau diweddar, mae'n anghyfiawnder hunangyflawnol.

Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu pwnc a amlygwyd yn ddiweddar gan y Pwyllgor ar Ariannu Ysgolion, a nododd ei siom ynglŷn â'r graddau y caiff arian ei ddyrannu yn ôl patrymau ariannu hanesyddol. Arweiniodd hynny at y pwyllgor yn argymhell adolygu'r fformiwla ariannu ar unwaith ac ymchwilio i effaith y gwahaniaeth yn yr arian a ddyrennir ar gyrhaeddiad disgyblion. Yn syml, mae'r disgyblion sy'n cyflawni'r cyrhaeddiad uchaf yng Nghymru yn elwa o swm sylweddol mwy o arian na'r rhai sy'n cyflawni'r cyrhaeddiad isaf, sy'n dioddef am eu bod yn wynebu'r rhwystrau a gyflwynir gan dlodi, amddifadedd ac allgáu cymdeithasol.

O ystyried anghyfiawnder mor amlwg, yn ddi-os mae canlyniadau'r adolygiad a sbardunwyd gan y gwaith hwn yn hanfodol i degwch y system ariannu yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol. Rhaid i'r broses ddyrannu adlewyrchu'r hyn y mae Llafur yn ei wneud yn gyffredinol i atgyfnerthu cyflwyniad strategol rhaglenni'r Llywodraeth. Mae Llafur yn cyflwyno ymyriadau mwy strategol a dargedir yn ddyfnach yn y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Yr ydym yn sicrhau bod ein holl bolisiau yn atal tlodi plant. Yr ydym yn sicrhau buddsoddiad mwy strategol yn rhaglenni eraill y Llywodraeth megis y celfyddydau, er gwaethaf buddiannau personol y gwrthbleidiau, ac yn goresgyn meddylfryd y crachach sy'n gadael y rhai â'r lleiaf—os gallaf ddweud hynny—ar ôl.

Nid dyna ei ddiwedd: mae'n berthnasol i bob maes. O fewn iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yr amgylchedd hanesyddol, a phob math arall o ymyrraeth gan y Llywodraeth, rhaid inni fynd ymhellach nag a wnaed gennym er mwyn nodi lle mae capasiti yn gadael y rhai â'r lleiaf heb y gefnogaeth fwyaf, a datrys y sefyllfa honno.

Nid yw 10 mlynedd o Lafur wedi dileu 18 mlynedd o ddinistr gan y Torïaid eto. Fodd bynnag, mae 10 mlynedd o Lywodraeth

Government legacy for Wales. It is a legacy of hope, optimism, greater equality and opportunity, not only for the many, but for the few, driving people forward, not holding them back.

Jeff Cuthbert: I thank Irene for choosing this subject and for allowing me to speak. I want to talk about the legacy for Wales in the major shift that we are bringing about in our education system, which is to ensure that vocational education has parity of esteem with traditional academic education. I stress that this not an attempt to reduce the value of academic education. Rather, it is an attempt to ensure that, for those for whom it is right, vocational opportunities will be available. The 14-19 learning pathways, the Welsh baccalaureate, the investment in modern apprenticeships and so on all testify to our intention to provide the best opportunities for our young people and young adults. That is driven by the needs of the economy, not just the needs of education, because our economy is strong and we need people to be properly trained, with the right skill levels, to fulfil their true worth. Finally, our work on additional needs means that all those young people who have additional educational needs will have the opportunity to prosper and be full and useful citizens.

Leighton Andrews: I congratulate my colleague Irene James on securing this debate today. I remember the day in 2003 when Irene won her seat back for Labour from Plaid Cymru, when my colleague Denise Idris Jones won her seat back for Labour from Plaid Cymru, when my colleague Catherine Thomas won her seat back for Labour from Plaid Cymru, and when we in the Rhondda won our seat back for Labour from Plaid Cymru. Irene has talked about the Tories and the legacy that they left us and what we have to do. I want to say tonight why I think that the Valleys will not turn back to the nationalists in the future: it is because they have had enough of the opportunism and the hypocrisy that they had to put up with for several years. That hypocrisy and opportunism continues today in the Valleys. Earlier today, we were debating tourism. Had I had time in that debate, I would have drawn the Assembly's

Lafur yn gadael rhywbeth newydd ar ei hôl i Gymru, sef gobaith, optimistiaeth, mwy o gydraddoldeb a chyfle, nid yn unig i'r mwyafrif, ond i'r lleiafrif, gan ddatblygu pobl, nid eu rhwystro.

Jeff Cuthbert: Diolch i Irene am ddewis y pwnc hwn ac am ganiatáu imi siarad. Yr wyf am sôn am yr hyn y gwnaiff Cymru ei etifeddu yn sgîl y newid mawr yr ydym yn ei wneud i'n system addysg, sef sicrhau bod addysg alwedigaethol yn cael yr un bri ag addysg academiaidd draddodiadol. Pwysleisiaf nad ymgais i ostwng gwerth addysg academiaidd mohono. Yn hytrach, mae'n ymgais i sicrhau, i'r rhai y mae'n briodol iddynt, fod cyfleoedd galwedigaethol ar gael. Mae'r llwybrau dysgu 14-19, bagloriaeth Cymru, y buddsoddiad mewn prentisiaethau modern ac ati oll yn dystiolaeth o'n bwriad i roi'r cyfleoedd gorau i'n pobl ifanc a'n hoedolion ifanc. Caiff hynny ei lywio gan anghenion yr economi, nid dim ond anghenion addysgol, oherwydd mae ein heconomi yn gryf ac mae angen i bobl gael yr hyfforddiant cywir, gyda'r lefel gywir o sgiliau, i gyflawni eu gwerth gwirioneddol. Yn olaf, mae ein gwaith ar anghenion ychwanegol yn golygu y caiff yr holl bobl ifanc hynny sydd ag anghenion addysgol ychwanegol y cyfle i lwyddo a bod yn ddinasyddion llawn a defnyddiol.

Leighton Andrews: Hoffwn longyfarch fy nghyd-Aelod Irene James am sicrhau'r ddatl hon heddiw. Cofiaf y diwrnod yn 2003 pan enillodd Irene ei sedd yn ôl i Lafur o Blaid Cymru, pan enillodd fy nghyd-Aelod Denise Idris Jones ei sedd yn ôl i Lafur o Blaid Cymru, pan enillodd fy nghyd-Aelod Catherine Thomas ei sedd yn ôl i Lafur o Blaid Cymru, a phan wnaethom ni yn y Rhondda ennill ein sedd yn ôl i Lafur o Blaid Cymru. Mae Irene wedi sôn am y Toriaid a'r hyn a adawyd ar eu hôl inni a'r hyn y mae'n rhaid inni ei wneud. Hoffwn ddweud heno pam y credaf na wnaiff y Cymoedd ddychwelyd i'r cenedlaetholwyr yn y dyfodol: y rheswm dros hynny yw eu bod wedi cael llond bol o'r achub cyfle a'r rhagrith y bu'n rhaid iddynt ddygymod ag ef am sawl blwyddyn. Mae'r rhagrith a'r achub cyfle hwnnw yn parhau heddiw yn y Cymoedd. Yn gynharach heddiw, yr oeddem yn trafod twristiaeth. Pe bawn wedi cael

attention to the bizarre views of a Plaid Cymru Assembly Member, who believes that windfarms have tourist potential and who said to the *Rhondda Leader* about a windfarm scheme planned for the Rhondda:

‘The windfarm has tourist potential. One of the windfarms will have a viewing gallery that I am sure people from miles around will want to come and experience’.

I am pleased to say that that windfarm has not been developed. Some of us continue to resist it, but Plaid Cymru has now gone to the other side and decided to tell lies about what is happening around windfarms in the Valleys—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. This should be a short contribution.

Leighton Andrews: I am coming to the end of my contribution on this point. Plaid Cymru is now claiming that 150 windfarms are to be developed in and around the Rhondda. That is a lie; it is not true, it is not happening. It is a shame that there is no-one on the Plaid Cymru benches tonight to stand up and justify the lie that Plaid Cymru is telling.

The Deputy Minister for Local Government and Public Services (Christine Chapman): First of all, thank you, Irene, for the choice of topic for debate this evening. It is the penultimate short debate of this Assembly and a timely reminder of the achievements of this Assembly and of the challenges that we face, particularly in your area. Over the last eight years, we have been delivering on the commitment that we made to the people of Wales.

As you rightly said, life expectancy for people in the Valleys is shorter than elsewhere in Wales and that is a pretty scary statistic. As a responsible Government, we must address that, and particularly with regard to health. As you said, we welcome the abolishment of prescription charges on 1

amser yn y drafodaeth honno, byddwn wedi tynnu sylw'r Cynulliad at farn ryfedd Aelod Cynulliad Plaid Cymru, sy'n credu bod gan ffermydd gwynt botensial o ran twristiaeth ac a ddywedodd wrth y *Rhondda Leader* wrth sôn am gynllun fferm gwynt a gynlluniwyd ar gyfer y Rhondda:

Mae gan y fferm wynt botensial o ran twristiaeth. Bydd gan un o'r ffermydd gwynt ardal syllu ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd pobl o filltiroedd i ffwrdd am ddod i'w phrofi.

Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud nad yw'r fferm wynt wedi cael ei datblygu. Mae rhai ohonom yn parhau i'w gwrthwynebu, ond erbyn hyn mae Plaid Cymru wedi ymuno â'r ochr arall ac wedi penderfynu dweud celwydd am yr hyn sy'n digwydd o ran ffermydd gwynt yn y Cymoedd—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Dylai'r cyfraniad hwn fod yn fyr.

Leighton Andrews: Yr wyf yn cyrraedd diwedd fy nghyfraniad ar y pwynt hwn. Mae Plaid Cymru bellach yn honni y caiff 150 o ffermydd gwynt eu datblygu yn ardal y Rhondda ac o'i hamgylch. Mae hynny'n gelwydd; nid yw'n wir, nid yw'n digwydd. Mae'n siomedig nad oes unrhyw un ar feinciau Plaid Cymru heno i sefyll i fyny a chyfiawnhau'r celwydd y mae Plaid Cymru yn ei ddweud.

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Lywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Christine Chapman): Yn gyntaf oll, diolch, Irene, am y pwnc a ddewiswyd ar gyfer y ddadl heno. Dyma'r ddadl olaf ond un ar gyfer y Cynulliad hwn ac mae'n gyfle amserol i'n hatgoffa o gyflawniadau'r Cynulliad hwn a'r heriau a wynebwn, yn enwedig yn eich ardal chi. Dros yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf, yr ydym wedi bod yn cyflawni'r ymrwymiad a wnaethom i bobl Cymru.

Fel yr oeddech yn llygad eich lle i'w ddweud, mae disgwyliad oes pobl yn y Cymoedd yn fyrrach nag yng ngweddill Cymru sy'n ystadegyn eithaf arswydus. Fel Llywodraeth gyfrifol, rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â hynny, yn enwedig o ran iechyd. Fel y dywedasoeh, croesawn roi'r gorau i daliadau presgripsiwn

April.

Throughout Wales, seven new hospitals have been built, or are on the way, with new, modern facilities, making healthcare much more accessible to those in our communities, and waiting times are down. Today, no-one waits more than 12 months for hospital treatment.

This is also about preventative healthcare. It is about individuals getting fit and getting good healthcare from the start. We have introduced free swimming for pensioners in all local council swimming pools. As a result, there has been a 20 per cent increase in the number of people over 60 swimming. On average, there are 40,000 free swims every month across Wales. In the first summer of free swimming for schoolchildren during the holidays, there was a 108 per cent increase in the number of swims by young people and a further increase of 48 per cent in 2005. Those are impressive statistics, which this Labour Assembly Government has delivered.

With regard to education, we know that the life chances of individuals are determined by where they are born and the background that they are born into. In that scenario, therefore, education and a good start in life is the key to future life chances.

The free breakfast scheme for all primary school children who wish to have breakfast in school is going along extremely well and we anticipate that, by the end of the autumn term this year, 47 per cent of primary schools will be involved. We have all spoken to headteachers and children in those schools and know that children's concentration levels are now much better. This is making a difference for our children.

Nearly 16,000 children will benefit from the groundbreaking Flying Start initiative, at the heart of which is free, part-time, high-quality childcare for two-year-olds: £46 million will be invested in the scheme.

Class sizes have been reduced. Virtually all infant and junior classes are now of 30 pupils or fewer. Increased funding for schools

ar 1 Ebrill.

Ledled Cymru, adeiladwyd saith ysbyty newydd, neu maent ar eu ffordd, gyda chyfleusterau modern, newydd, gan wneud gofal iechyd yn llawer mwy hygrych i'r rhai yn ein cymunedau, ac mae amseroedd aros wedi gostwng. Heddiw, nid oes unrhyw un yn aros mwy na 12 mis i gael triniaeth mewn ysbyty.

Mae a wnelo hyn hefyd â gofal iechyd ataliol. Mae a wnelo ag unigolion yn dod yn heini ac yn cael gofal iechyd da o'r dechrau. Yr ydym wedi cyflwyno nofio am ddim i bensiynwyr yn holl byllau nofio cynghorau lleol. O ganlyniad, bu cynnydd o 20 y cant yn nifer y bobl dros 60 oed sy'n nofio. Ar gyfartaledd, ceir 40,000 o sesiynau nofio am ddim bob mis ledled Cymru. Yn ystod haf cyntaf nofio am ddim i blant ysgol yn ystod y gwyliau, bu cynnydd o 108 y cant yn nifer y sesiynau nofio gan bobl ifanc a chynnydd pellach o 48 y cant yn 2005. Mae'r ystadegau hyn yn dda iawn ac yn rhai a gyflawnwyd gan Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad.

O ran addysg, gwyddom fod cyfleoedd bywyd unigolion yn cael eu pennu gan y man y'u genir a'r cefndir y'u genir iddo. Yn y sefyllfa honno, felly, mae addysg a dechrau da mewn bywyd yn allweddol i gyfleoedd bywyd yn y dyfodol.

Mae'r cynllun brecwast am ddim i bob plentyn mewn ysgolion cynradd sy'n dymuno cael brecwast yn yr ysgol yn mynd yn dda iawn a disgwyliwn, erbyn diwedd tymor yr hydref eleni, y bydd 47 y cant o ysgolion cynradd yn rhan ohono. Yr ydym oll wedi siarad â phenaethiaid a phlant yn yr ysgolion hynny a gwyddom fod lefelau canolbwyntio plant yn llawer gwell erbyn hyn. Mae hyn yn gwneud gwahaniaeth i'n plant.

Bydd bron 16,000 o blant yn cael budd o fenter arloesol Dechrau'n Deg, ac wrth wraidd y fenter honno mae gofal plant rhan-amser, o ansawdd uchel, sydd am ddim i blant deufflwydd oed: caiff £46 miliwn ei fuddsoddi yn y cynllun.

Lleihawyd niferoedd dosbarth. Mae bron pob dosbarth babanod a dosbarth iau yn cynnwys 30 o ddisgyblion neu lai bellach. Mae rhoi

means that the average class size is now 25 pupils. That is another Labour Assembly Government achievement.

On Safe Routes to School, in 2006-07, £3.8 million has been allocated to projects that will result in improved infrastructure and enhanced safety in schools throughout Wales. We know that in poorer areas there is a higher rate of road traffic accidents. That is an obscene statistic and the Assembly Government is addressing it.

Jeff mentioned vocational education. I know that you share my commitment to that, Jeff. It will not be an alternative curriculum; it will be much more radical and main stream. I was also pleased that you mentioned additional needs, Jeff. We have had the report of the Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Committee this week on that. This demonstrates the ethos that we have in the Assembly of taking a much more inclusive approach in education.

For our communities to benefit, we know that the economy must prosper. The knowledge bank for business has been established and, over the next 15 years in the Heads of the Valleys area, there will be an investment of £500 million, I think. That will help regenerate those areas that have been so badly affected over the last 20 years. We all remember—I certainly do—the failure of the Conservatives' Valleys initiative. We cannot let the people of the Valleys and the poorer parts of Wales down again. Leighton picked up on that.

Jeff Cuthbert: On the economy, do you share my astonishment at the attack by Plaid Cymru MPs on the retail sector jobs that have been created in Wales by referring to them simply as 'shelf-stacking'?

Christine Chapman: I was pretty appalled at that. We need to value our shop workers and Plaid should apologise for that slur on them.

6.00 p.m.

Irene, you also talked about our local

mwy o arian i ysgolion yn golygu mai 25 o ddisgyblion yw maint dosbarth ar gyfartaledd erbyn hyn. Mae hwn yn gyflawniad arall gan Lywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad.

Yn 2006-07, ar gyfer Llwybrau Diogel i'r Ysgol, dyrannwyd £3.8 miliwn i brosiectau a fydd yn arwain at wella seilwaith a diogelwch ysgolion ledled Cymru. Gwyddom mewn ardaloedd tlotach fod cyfradd uwch o ddamweiniau traffig ar y ffordd. Mae'r ystadegyn hwnnw yn ofnadwy ac mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn mynd i'r afael ag ef.

Soniodd Jeff am addysg alwedigaethol. Gwn eich bod yn rhannu fy ymrwymiad i hynny, Jeff. Ni fydd yn gwricwlwm amgen; bydd yn llawer mwy radical a phrif ffrwd. Yr oeddwn hefyd yn falch eich bod wedi sôn am anghenion ychwanegol, Jeff. Yr ydym wedi cael adroddiad y Pwyllgor Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau yr wythnos hon ar hynny. Mae hyn yn dangos ein hethos o fewn y Cynulliad sef ymdrin ag addysg mewn modd llawer mwy cynhwysol.

Er mwyn i'n cymunedau gael budd o hyn, gwyddom fod yn rhaid i'r economi ffynnu. Sefydlwyd y banc gwybodaeth ar gyfer busnesau a, thros y 15 mlynedd nesaf yn ardal Blaenau'r Cymoedd, caiff £500 miliwn ei fuddsoddi, mi gredaf. Bydd hynny yn helpu i adfywio'r ardaloedd hynny sydd wedi dioddef fwyaf dros yr 20 mlynedd diwethaf. Yr ydym oll yn cofio—yr wyf innau'n ei gofio'n sicr—fethiant menter Cymoedd y Ceidwadwyr. Ni allwn fethu pobl y Cymoedd a'r rhannau tlotach o Gymru eto. Cyfeiriodd Leighton at hynny.

Jeff Cuthbert: O ran yr economi, a rannwch fy rhyfeddod ynglŷn â'r ymosodiad gan ASau Plaid Cymru ar swyddi yn y sector manwerthu a grëwyd yng Nghymru drwy gyfeirio atynt fel 'stacio silffoedd' yn unig?

Christine Chapman: Yr oedd hynny'n ofnadwy. Mae angen inni werthfawrogi ein gweithwyr siopau a dylai Plaid ymddiheuro am y dirmyg hwnnw.

Irene, soniasoch hefyd am ein cymunedau

communities. As you rightly say, the poorer parts of Wales have suffered disproportionately and the Welsh Assembly Government, over the last eight years, has tried to turn that around by empowering people to get out and about more, to enjoy their surroundings and their heritage. As you know, we introduced free bus travel for pensioners, which has gone down extremely well, and for the disabled, which has benefited more than 0.5 million people in Wales. There have been an awful lot of initiatives that have really made a difference to ordinary people's lives.

We established the post office development fund to support post offices in rural and deprived communities: more than £4 million has been awarded to 106 post offices. We have provided free entry to museums and galleries in Wales, invested an extra £28 million in direct support for the Welsh language for 2003-06, and launched 'Iaith Pawb', the first ever national action plan for the Welsh language, which is about supporting people so that they can enjoy a bilingual Wales.

Earlier today, we talked about how we can market Wales. We had a good debate on tourism and the fact that we want to market Wales as a growing tourism area. Of course, in doing that, we must protect our environment. We are on course to meet our targets of recycling or composting 25 per cent of all waste by 2007 and 40 per cent by 2015. We have invested an extra £93 million to boost recycling across Wales. When I look around, certainly in my constituency, I can see a huge difference in attitudes, in that people acknowledge that we have to recycle. We are starting to capture hearts and minds, working alongside our partners in local government.

Irene mentioned the home energy efficiency scheme, which has, again, been a popular project with people in our constituencies. It was established to provide assistance for greater energy efficiency measures, such as

lleol. Fel yr oeddech yn llygad eich lle i'w ddweud, mae rhannau tlotach Cymru wedi dioddef mewn modd anghymesur ac mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, dros yr wyth mlynedd diwethaf, wedi ceisio newid y sefyllfa drwy alluogi pobl i fynd allan mwy, i fwynhau eu hamgylchoedd a'u treftadaeth. Fel y gwyddoch, gwnaethom gyflwyno teithio bws am ddim i bensynwyr, ac mae hynny wedi cael derbyniad da iawn, ac i'r anabl, sydd wedi bod o fudd i dros 0.5 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru. Cafwyd llawer iawn o fentrau sydd wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i fywydau pobl gyffredin.

Gwnaethom sefydlu'r gronfa datblygu swyddfeydd post i gynorthwyo swyddfeydd post mewn cymunedau gwledig a chymunedau o amddifadedd: mae dros £4 miliwn wedi cael ei ddyfarnu i 106 o swyddfeydd post. Yr ydym wedi darparu mynediad am ddim i amgueddfeydd ac orielau yng Nghymru, wedi buddsoddi £28 miliwn ychwanegol o gymorth uniongyrchol i'r iaith Gymraeg ar gyfer 2003-06, ac wedi lansio 'Iaith Pawb', sef y cynllun gweithredu cenedlaethol cyntaf erioed i'r iaith Gymraeg, sy'n ymwneud â chefnogi pobl fel y gallant fwynhau Cymru ddwyieithog.

Yn gynharach heddiw, trafodwyd sut y gallwn farchnata Cymru. Cawsom drafodaeth dda am dwristiaeth a'r ffaith ein bod am farchnata Cymru fel ardal dwristiaeth sy'n tyfu. Wrth gwrs, wrth wneud hynny, rhaid inni ddiogelu ein hamgylchedd. Yr ydym ar y trywydd cywir i gyflawni ein targedau o ran ailgylchu neu gompostio 25 y cant o'r holl wastraff erbyn 2007 a 40 y cant erbyn 2015. Yr ydym wedi buddsoddi £93 miliwn yn ychwanegol i hybu ailgylchu yng Nghymru. Wrth edrych o amgylch, yn sicr yn fy etholaeth, gallaf weld gwahaniaeth mawr o ran agweddau, yn yr ystyr bod pobl yn cydnabod bod yn rhaid inni ailgylchu. Yr ydym yn dechrau darbwyllio pobl, gan gydweithio â'n partneriaid mewn llywodraeth leol.

Soniodd Irene am y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, a fu, unwaith eto, yn brosiect poblogaidd ymysg pobl yn ein hetholaethau. Fe'i sefydlwyd i ddarparu cymorth ar gyfer mwy o fesurau effeithlonrwydd ynni, megis

central heating, loft insulation and cavity-wall insulation for the elderly, the disabled and families on low incomes. This is another demonstration of how the Assembly Government works with the most vulnerable people in society, who we aim to protect. There has been a tenfold increase in investment to tackle homelessness in Wales. Today, £6 million is being invested to support over 130 projects.

We all want to live in a crime-free society—that is a basic aspiration for all of us. To be attacked, threatened in the street, or to have your house broken into can ruin your self confidence—it is not a nice thing to happen. We know that certain types of crime are much more prevalent in poorer communities, and poorer communities are more likely to be the victims. We have established a crime fighting fund worth £100 million, which has increased to £127 million, to support practical measures to cut crime and tackle anti-social behaviour, such as support for Operation Tarian and to tackle environmental crime in Cardiff. We know that crime is also with us in the home and I am pleased that the Welsh Assembly Government has also taken domestic violence seriously.

This short debate has given us an opportunity to look at our achievements, but we want to deliver more, and we need to look beyond what we have achieved. We know that unemployment is at its lowest since the Assembly came into existence—there are now 140,000 more people in work in Wales than there were at the time of devolution. That is an average of 350 extra jobs per week. Gross disposable income per head is up by 25.6 per cent, compared with 23.6 per cent for the UK as a whole. We have secured seven more years of European convergence funding, which presents a huge opportunity to build on what we have achieved under Objective 1. We have reformed the way that support is paid to farmers. The new common agricultural policy payments will help farmers to meet customer demand and will reward environmental improvements. We have got the money to the farmers quickly and efficiently.

gwres canolog, ynysu lloffydd ac ynysu waliau ceudod i'r henoed, yr anabl a theuluoedd ar incwm isel. Mae hon yn enghraifft arall o'r modd y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gweithio gyda'r bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn mewn cymdeithas, y bwriadwn eu diogelu. Mae lefel y buddsoddi wedi cynyddu ar ei degfed i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd yng Nghymru. Heddiw, caiff £6 miliwn ei fuddsoddi i gynorthwyo dros 130 o brosiectau.

Yr ydym oll am fyw mewn cymdeithas ddi-drosedd—mae hynny yn ddyhead sylfaenol i bob un ohonom. Gall ymosodiad, bygythiad yn y stryd, neu gael rhywun yn torri i mewn i'ch tŷ chwalu eich hunan-hyder—nid yw'n beth braf i ddigwydd. Gwyddom fod rhai mathau o droseddau yn fwy cyffredin mewn cymunedau tlawd, a chymunedau tlawd sydd fwyaf tebygol o ddiodef. Yr ydym wedi sefydlu cronfa brwydro troseddau gwerth £100 miliwn, sydd wedi cynyddu i £127 miliwn, i gefnogi mesurau ymarferol i ostwng troseddau a mynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, megis cymorth i Ymgyrch Tarian ac i fynd i'r afael â throseddau amgylcheddol yng Nghaerdydd. Gwyddom ein bod yn wynebu troseddau yn ein cartrefi hefyd ac yr wyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi ystyried trais yn y cartref o ddifrif hefyd.

Mae'r ddadl fer hon wedi rhoi'r cyfle inni edrych ar ein cyflawniadau, ond yr ydym am gyflawni mwy, ac mae angen inni edrych y tu hwnt i'r hyn a gyflawnwyd gennym. Gwyddom fod diweithdra ar ei isaf ers i'r Cynulliad ddod i rym—mae 140,000 yn fwy o bobl mewn gwaith yng Nghymru bellach nag yr oedd adeg datganoli. Mae hynny yn gyfartaledd o 350 o swyddi ychwanegol yr wythnos. Mae incwm crynswth i'w wario y pen o'r boblogaeth wedi codi 25.6 y cant, o gymharu â 23.6 y cant ar gyfer y DU gyfan. Yr ydym wedi sicrhau saith mlynedd ychwanegol o arian cydgyfeirio Ewropeaidd, sy'n cynrychioli cyfle enfawr i adeiladu ar yr hyn a gyflawnwyd gennym o dan Amcan 1. Yr ydym wedi diwygio'r ffordd y telir cymorth i ffermwyr. Bydd y taliadau polisi amaethyddol cyffredin newydd yn helpu ffermwyr i ateb galw cwsmeriaid ac yn gwobrwyo gwelliannau amgylcheddol. Yr ydym wedi talu'r arian i ffermwyr yn gyflym

ac yn effeithlon.

We have reformed the former quango state by bringing the biggest Assembly sponsored public bodies under direct democratic control. We have relocated Assembly Government jobs to Merthyr and are moving more to Aberystwyth and Llandudno. We have produced and developed a Wales spatial plan, with agreed ways forward for each part of Wales. Interim statements for each area are being published this week and next, showing the progress that has been made and what has been agreed by partners to date. Under 'Making the Connections', we commissioned, and are now implementing, the Beecham review: a careful, objective and balanced approach to delivering comprehensive, quality, local public services to all our people. It is an approach that recognises that there are no short cuts, but that genuine partnership working can deliver. We have also secured the next stage of devolution through the Government of Wales Act 2006, which sets the scene for continuing change in the years to come.

Yr ydym wedi diwygio'r wladwriaeth gwango flaenorol drwy uno'r cyrff cyhoeddus mwyaf a noddir gan y Cynulliad o dan reolaeth ddemocratig uniongyrchol. Yr ydym wedi adleoli swyddi Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i Ferthyr Tudful ac yn symud mwy i Aberystwyth ac i Llandudno. Yr ydym wedi llunio a datblygu cynllun gofodol i Gymru, gyda ffyrdd cytûn ymlaen ar gyfer pob rhan o Gymru. Caiff datganiadau interim ar gyfer pob ardal eu cyhoeddi yr wythnos hon a'r wythnos nesaf, gan ddangos y cynnydd sydd wedi ei wneud a'r hyn y cytunwyd arno gan y partneriaid hyd yn hyn. O dan 'Creu'r Cysylltiadau', gwnaethom gomisiynu, a bellach yr ydym yn gweithredu, adolygiad Beecham: sef ymagwedd ofalus, wrthrychol a chytbwys tuag at ddarparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol cynhwysfawr o safon i bawb. Mae'n ymagwedd sy'n cydnabod nad oes llwybrau byr, ond y gall gweithio mewn partneriaeth diffuant lwyddo. Yr ydym hefyd wedi sicrhau'r cam nesaf o ddatganoli drwy Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, sy'n gosod y llwyfan ar gyfer newidiadau parhaus yn ystod y blynyddoedd i ddod.

We have been open in reporting our achievements, and uniquely open to the public through our Assembly Government open-microphone events and the 'Ask Rhodri' sessions, giving people the opportunity to question Ministers face to face. So, we are an open and transparent Government. We are open because we owe it to the people of Wales, and we are proud to answer them on what we have done.

Yr ydym wedi bod yn agored wrth gyflwyno adroddiadau ar ein cyflawniadau, ac yn unigryw o agored i'r cyhoedd drwy ein digwyddiadau meicroffon agored Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r sesiynau 'Holi Rhodri', gan roi cyfle i bobl holi Gweinidogion wyneb yn wyneb. Felly, yr ydym yn Llywodraeth agored a thryloyw. Yr ydym yn agored am fod pobl Cymru yn haeddu hynny, ac yr ydym yn falch o roi atebion iddynt ar yr hyn a wnaed gennym.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That concludes proceedings for this afternoon.

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

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.04 p.m.
The meeting ended at 6.04 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, Trish (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)