



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

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

**Dydd Mawrth 28 Tachwedd 2000**

**Tuesday 28 November 2000**

**Cynnwys**  
**Contents**

- 3 Cwestiynau i Brif Weinidog Cymru  
*Questions to the First Minister*
- 20 Pwynt o Drefn  
*Point of Order*
- 24 Datganiad Busnes  
*Business Statement*
- 26 Cynnig Cyfansawdd: Cymeradwyo'r Rheoliadau Ardaloedd Rheoli Mwg (Tanwyddau Awdurdodedig) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2000  
*Composite Motion: Approval of the Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000*
- 28 Cynnig i Gymeradwyo'r Newidiadau i Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3  
*Motion to Approve the Changes to Standing Order No. 6.3*
- 30 Y Strategaeth Dai Genedlaethol  
*The National Housing Strategy*

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 Brif Weinidog Cymru Questions to the First Minister**

### **Cynhadledd y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Newidiadau Hinsawdd y Byd The United Nations Global Climate Change Conference**

**Q1 Janet Ryder:** Will the First Minister make a brief statement on Wales's input into the United Nations global climate change conference in the Hague? (OAQ8029)

**The First Minister:** Congratulations, Janet. You must be psychic to have managed to have this as the first question today, a day or so after the breakdown of the negotiations in the Hague.

The Assembly was fully involved in the development of the UK's negotiating position for the discussions held in the Hague over the past fortnight. The aim of the conference was to agree detailed rules for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. However, despite coming extremely close to a deal, the conference ended without agreement.

**Janet Ryder:** In further discussions, will you convey our deep concern that countries that should lead the world in this, such as the United States of America, have refused to recognise the key role that they should play in countering global climate change and that this resulted in the failure of the meeting? Will you join me in condemning the United States' position on this?

**The First Minister:** I am not sure whether condemnation is the right word to use. When you do not get an agreement, more than one party must be to blame for that failure. When the Kyoto conference agreed its protocol three years ago, it was in the full knowledge that were three or four major issues that would have to be solved after further work over a three or four-year period. That was the reason for the Hague conference. It was about implementing the Kyoto Protocol regarding issues that had been reserved for further

**C1 Janet Ryder:** A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad byr ar gyfraniad Cymru i gynhadledd y Cenhedloedd Unedig yn yr Hâg ar newidiadau i hinsawdd y byd? (OAQ8029)

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Llongyfarchiadau Janet. Rhaid eich bod yn seicig i ofyn hyn fel y cwestiwn cyntaf heddiw, ddiwrnod neu ddau ar ôl i'r trafodaethau fethu yn yr Hâg.

Cyfrannodd y Cynulliad yn llawn yn y broses o ddatblygu sefyllfa drafod y DU ar gyfer y trafodaethau a gynhaliwyd yn yr Hâg yn ystod y bythefnos ddiwethaf. Bwriad y gynhadledd oedd cytuno ar reolau manwl ar gyfer gweithredu Protocol Kyoto. Fodd bynnag, er gwaethaf dod yn agos iawn at gytundeb, daeth y gynhadledd i ben heb gytundeb.

**Janet Ryder:** Mewn trafodaethau pellach, a wnewch chi fynegi ein pryder dybryd bod gwledydd a ddylai fod yn arwain y byd yn y maes hwn, fel Unol Daleithiau America, wedi gwrthod cydnabod y rôl allweddol y dylent ei chwarae wrth geisio rhwystro newid hinsawdd y byd a bod hyn wedi arwain at fethiant y cyfarfod? A ymunwch â mi i gondemnio safbwynt yr Unol Daleithiau ar y mater hwn?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Nid wyf yn siŵr ai condemnio yw'r gair cywir i'w ddefnyddio. Pan nad ydych yn cael cytundeb, rhaid i fwy nag un ochr fod ar fai am y methiant hwnnw. Pan gytunodd cynhadledd Kyoto ar ei brotocol dair blynedd yn ôl, yr oedd yn gwbl ymwybodol bod tri neu bedwar mater pwysig y byddai angen eu datrys yn dilyn gwaith pellach dros gyfnod o dair neu bedair blynedd. Dyna oedd y rheswm dros y gynhadledd yn yr Hâg. Ei bwriad oedd gweithredu Protocol Kyoto mewn cysylltiad

discussion, such as the carbon sinks issue, and the long-term function of forests in being able to absorb carbon emitted by man-made industrial and agricultural activities. There was an agreement about by how much each continental block, such as the United States, Europe or Japan, would reduce their emissions. In Kyoto, the European Union agreed an 8 per cent cut, the USA a 7 per cent cut and Japan a 6 per cent cut. It is unfortunate that we have not resolved those issues, but politicians around the world must continue to discuss them. We all have a stake in getting an agreement that will stick and be implemented in the different countries and continents of the world.

**Mick Bates:** The catastrophic failure of the western world to agree action to deal with climate change has been overshadowed by a petty diplomatic row with France created by John 'two jags' Prescott.

**Glyn Davies:** Well said, Mick.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. It would be helpful if we had a question and if we had shorter answers.

**Mick Bates:** Does Rhodri agree that such a row will do nothing to resolve climate change or resolve the breakdown in talks?

**The First Minister:** Mick, you are personalising this issue far too much. In Kyoto, John Prescott played an honourable role in attempting to broker a deal between the USA, Europe and the developing countries. He was widely recognised as being the key element in getting agreement in Kyoto. He attempted to play the same role as broker again but on this occasion it did not quite work. It does not give grounds to use the intemperate language that you used.

#### **Perthynas y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol a Chanolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru Relationship of the National Assembly and the Wales European Centre**

**Q2 Christine Gwyther:** Can the First Minister give a progress report on the working relationship between the National

â materion a oedd wedi'u gohirio ar gyfer trafodaeth bellach, megis y mater amsugnwyr carbon, a swyddogaeth tymor hir coedwigoedd o ran eu gallu i amsugno'r carbon a gaiff ei ryddhau o ganlyniad i weithgareddau diwydiannol ac amaethyddol dyn. Cafwyd cytundeb ynglŷn â maint gostyngiad allyriannau blociau cyfandirol, megis yr Unol Daleithiau, Ewrop neu Japan. Yn Kyoto, cytunodd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd ar ostyngiad o 8 y cant, cytunodd UDA ar ostyngiad o 7 y cant a chytunodd Japan ar ostyngiad o 6 y cant. Mae'n anffodus nad ydym wedi datrys y materion hyn, ond rhaid i wleidyddion ledled y byd barhau i'w trafod. Mae gennym oll gyfrifoldeb dros sicrhau cytundeb parhaol a gaiff ei weithredu yng ngwahanol wledydd a chyfandiroedd y byd.

**Mick Bates:** Mae'r ddadl ddiplomyddol bitw gyda Ffrainc a grëwyd gan John 'dau jag' Prescott wedi bwrw cysgod dros fethiant trychinebus y byd gorllewinol i gytuno ar gamau gweithredu er mwyn mynd i'r afael â newidiadau hinsawdd.

**Glyn Davies:** Clywch, clywch, Mick.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe baem yn cael cwestiwn ac yn cael atebion byrrach.

**Mick Bates:** A yw Rhodri'n cytuno na fydd cweryl o'r fath yn gwneud dim i ddatrys newidiadau hinsawdd nac yn datrys y methiant yn y trafodaethau?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mick, yr ydych yn gwneud y mater hwn yn llawer rhy bersonol. Yn Kyoto, chwaraeodd John Prescott rôl anrhydeddus wrth geisio sicrhau cytundeb rhwng UDA, Ewrop a'r gwledydd sydd yn datblygu. Cydnabuwyd yn eang y bu'n elfen hanfodol o ran cael cytundeb yn Kyoto. Ceisiodd chwarae'r un rôl fel brocer eto, ond ni fu mor llwyddiannus y tro hwn. Nid yw hyn yn sail ichi ddefnyddio iaith eithafol.

**C2 Christine Gwyther:** A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru roi adroddiad ar hynt y berthynas waith rhwng Cynulliad

Assembly for Wales and the Wales European Centre? (OAQ8013)

**The First Minister:** We have a good, made-in-Wales, unique arrangement for how the Wales European Centre is funded and how it relates to the Assembly's work. We have two Assembly officials with diplomatic cover who are on secondment to WEC, and they work alongside the people who are there for lobbying or commercial purposes, or as part of the information posts of the other WEC sponsors from the Welsh private and public sectors. However, they can also go in and out of the UKREP office as though they were Foreign Office staff, and they can see the telegrams and so forth because they have diplomatic cover. That is a unique and suitable made-in-Wales solution to the problems of having some form of representation in Brussels, on the commercial and lobbying side, and on the diplomatic side.

**Christine Gwyther:** A number of us have seen the good work that happens in Brussels and we have all seen that the Wales European Centre is there with the great and the good. We saw that at its opening. However, how do you think the Wales European Centre is performing, with respect to people on the ground in Wales? I am thinking especially of businesses in Wales because they have told me that they would like more interaction with WEC. Do you think that WEC could do more in this regard, and how do you think that they would go about achieving that?

**The First Minister:** WEC works for its sponsor organisations; its sponsors might include the training and enterprise councils, the Welsh Local Government Association, the universities in Wales, and other institutions. They pay their money and they expect to get the service. They do not want other people not paying their subscription and freeloading. I do not know whether there is some misunderstanding about this. If businesses subscribe, either as individual businesses, or through some federation of businesses, then I am sure that they would get the same excellent service as the public

Cenedlaethol Cymru a Chanolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru? (OAQ8013)

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae gennym drefniant da ac unigryw a wnaethpwyd yng Nghymru o ran sut yr ariennir Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru a sut mae'n ymwneud â gwaith y Cynulliad. Mae gennym ddau swyddog yn y Cynulliad â swyddogaeth ddiplomyddol sydd wedi'u secondio i'r ganolfan, ac maent yn gweithio ochr yn ochr â phobl sydd yno at ddibenion lobiö neu ddibenion masnachol, neu fel rhan o swyddi gwybodaeth noddwyr eraill y Ganolfan o'r sectorau preifat a chyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, gallant fynd a dod o swyddfa UKREP fel petaent yn staff y Swyddfa Dramor, a gallant weld y telegramau ac ati am fod ganddynt swyddogaeth ddiplomyddol. Mae hyn yn ateb unigryw ac addas a wnaethpwyd yng Nghymru i'r problemau sydd yn gysylltiedig â chael rhyw fath o gynrychiolaeth ym Mrwsel, ar yr ochr fasnachol a'r ochr lobiö, ac ar yr ochr ddiplomyddol.

**Christine Gwyther:** Mae nifer ohonom wedi gweld y gwaith da sydd yn digwydd ym Mrwsel ac rydym oll wedi gweld bod Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru yno ymhlith y mawrion. Gwelsom hynny yn ei agoriad. Fodd bynnag, sut yn eich barn chi, y mae Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru yn llwyddo, o ran y bobl yng Nghymru? Yr wyf yn meddwl yn benodol am fusnesau yng Nghymru am eu bod wedi fy hysbysu yr hoffent gael mwy o gyswllt gyda'r ganolfan. A ydych o'r farn y gallai'r ganolfan wneud mwy yn hyn o beth, a sut y credwch y byddent yn ceisio cyflawni hynny?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae'r Ganolfan yn gweithio i'w sefydliadau noddi; gallai ei noddwyr gynnwys y cynghorau hyfforddiant a menter, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, y prifysgolion yng Nghymru, a sefydliadau eraill. Maent yn talu eu harian ac maent yn disgwyl derbyn y gwasanaeth. Nid ydynt am weld pobl eraill yn peidio â thalu eu tanysgrifiad ac yn disgwyl derbyn manteision am ddim. Nid wyf yn sicr pa un a oes camddealltwriaeth ynglŷn â hyn. Os bydd busnesau'n tanysgrifio, naill ai fel busnesau unigol, neu drwy ryw ffederasiwn o fusnesau, yna yr wyf yn sicr y byddent yn derbyn yr un

sector organisations do already and be able to use WEC as a listening post and as an early warning system of what might be coming up in Brussels that might damage a business interest, for example. However, they cannot have that service for free if others are paying for it.

**Jonathan Morgan:** On the work programme of the Wales European Centre, will the First Minister request that it establish the potential hazard to Wales of French BSE-infected beef, and the continued threat to public health?

**The First Minister:** I answered this question last week. This is clearly a matter for the Food Standards Agency to make a recommendation upon. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Nick Brown, has already said that if it recommends a ban, he will immediately implement one. As far as I am aware, we do not have to implement a ban separately for Wales. That is a matter for Nick Brown. However, he cannot do that unless the Food Standards Agency says that there is a threat. So far it has not said that.

gwasanaeth gwych â'r hyn y mae sefydliadau'r sector cyhoeddus eisoes yn ei dderbyn a gallu defnyddio'r ganolfan fel man gwranddo ac fel system rhybudd cynnar o'r hyn a allai ddigwydd ym Mrwsel a allai niweidio budd busnes, er enghraifft. Fodd bynnag, ni allant gael y gwasanaeth hwnnw am ddim os bydd eraill yn talu amdano.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Ar raglen waith Canolfan Ewropeaidd Cymru, a wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru wneud cais iddynt sefydlu'r perygl posibl i Gymru o gig eidion o Ffrainc wedi'i heintio gan BSE, a'r bygythiad sydd yn parhau i iechyd y cyhoedd?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Atebais y cwestiwn hwn yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae hwn yn amlwg yn fater i'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd lunio argymhelliad arno. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Amaethyddiaeth, Pysgodfeydd a Bwyd, Nick Brown, eisoes wedi crybwyll y bydd yn rhoi gwaharddiad ar waith ar unwaith, pe bai'r asiantaeth yn argymhell hynny. O'm dealltwriaeth i, nid oes raid i ni osod gwaharddiad ar wahân ar gyfer Cymru. Mae hynny yn fater i Nick Brown. Fodd bynnag, ni all wneud hynny oni fydd yr Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd yn dweud bod bygythiad. Hyd yma, nid yw wedi dweud hynny.

### **Deddfwriaeth San Steffan (Darpariaethau ar gyfer Cymru) Westminster Legislation (Provisions for Wales)**

**C3 Dafydd Wigley:** A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru restru'r deddfwriaeth a weithredwyd gan San Steffan yn y sesiwn bresennol a wnaeth ddarpariaethau penodol ar gyfer Cymru o ganlyniad i sylwadau a wnaethpwyd gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? (OAQ8023)

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Darparodd Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ateb ysgrifenedig i'r un cwestiwn ar 30 Hydref i chi yn y Senedd, Dafydd. Felly efallai nad oes eisiau i mi eu rhestru, ond dywedaf fod chwe Deddf berthnasol wedi'u pasio eisoes. Ers hynny mae Mesur Cartrefi Cynnes ac Arbed Ynni, a'r Mesur (Gwahardd) Ffermio Ffwr wedi'u pasio hefyd. Felly mae wyth Mesur wedi'u pasio eisoes ar gais y Cynulliad.

Yn ogystal â'r rhain bydd nifer o Fesurau o'r math hyn yn gorffen eu camau seneddol yn

**Q3 Dafydd Wigley:** Will the First Minister list the legislation enacted in Westminster during the present session which has made specific provisions for Wales as a result of representations made by the National Assembly? (OAQ8023)

**The First Minister:** The Secretary of State for Wales provided you with a written answer to the same question on 30 October in Parliament, Dafydd. Therefore, perhaps there is no need for me to list them, but I will say that six relevant Acts have already been passed. Since then the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Bill, and the Fur Farming (Prohibition) Bill have also been passed. Therefore, eight Bills have already been passed at the request of the Assembly.

In addition to these, several Bills of this kind will complete their passage through

ystod dyddiau olaf y sesiwn seneddol yn Llundain. Credaf fod tua 13 o Fesurau â chymalau a gynhwyswyd ar ein cais, sydd naill ai wedi'u pasio neu ar fin eu pasio. Fodd bynnag, dibynna hynny ar fusnes y Senedd yn San Steffan yn ystod dyddiau olaf y sesiwn.

parliament during the last days of the parliamentary session in London. I believe that there are about 13 Bills with clauses included at our request, which have either been passed or are about to be passed. However, that depends on business in Parliament in Westminster during the last days of the session.

2:08 p.m.

**Dafydd Wigley:** Os yw'r comisiwn annibynnol ar etholiadau llywodraeth leol yn cymeradwyo cyfundrefn o bleidleisio cyfrannol, a wnewch chi ymrwmo i bwysu ar Lywodraeth Prydain i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth benodol i Gymru i weithredu'r argymhellion hynny?

**Dafydd Wigley:** If the independent commission on local government elections approves a system of proportional representation, will you commit to press the British Government to introduce specific legislation for Wales to enact those recommendations?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mater i'r Cynulliad fel corff yw hynny yn bennaf. Byddai'n rhaid cynnal dadl yn y Cynulliad i ystyried argymhellion y comisiwn annibynnol. Yn dibynnu ar y bleidlais ddilynol, byddai argymhellion yn mynd i San Steffan oddi wrth y Cynulliad. Ni allaf ragweld yn union pa ffordd y byddai'r Cynulliad yn pleidleisio.

**The First Minister:** That is primarily a matter for the Assembly as a body. A debate would have to be held in the Assembly to consider the independent commission's recommendations. Depending on the subsequent vote, the Assembly would make a recommendation to Westminster. I cannot foresee exactly how the Assembly would vote.

**The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** Would that be by majority?

**Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones):** A fyddai hynny drwy fwyafrif?

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. The Party of Wales has had one supplementary question.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Mae Plaid Cymru eisoes wedi gofyn un cwestiwn ategol.

**William Graham:** Would the First Minister prefer to list those matters on which the National Assembly has been ignored by Westminster, starting with the Welsh tick box on the census form?

**William Graham:** A fyddai'n well gan Brif Weinidog Cymru restru'r materion hynny ble y mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wedi ei anwybyddu gan San Steffan, gan ddechrau gyda'r blwch ticio Cymreig ar ffurflen y cyfrifiad?

**The First Minister:** We have not won all our battles, of course. For a new body such as ours, I would hope that we would win two-thirds of our battles with Westminster to get measures accepted by Westminster, individual clauses or groups of clauses included at our behest, and Bills adapted to suit Welsh circumstances. We will not win all our battles. I accept that there are two or three measures where there was resolute opposition to our suggestions in Whitehall and we must accept that our wishes were overridden. However, that was only true in a minority of

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Wrth gwrs, nid ydym wedi ennill pob un o'n brwydrau. I gorff mor newydd â'n un ni, byddwn yn gobeithio y byddem yn ennill dwy ran o dair o'n brwydrau gyda San Steffan er mwyn cael San Steffan i dderbyn mesurau, cymalau unigol neu grwpiau o gymalau wedi'u cynnwys yn ôl ein cais, a Mesurau wedi'u haddasu i gyd-fynd ag amgylchiadau yng Nghymru. Ni fyddwn yn ennill pob brwydr. Derbyniaf fod dau neu dri mesur lle cafwyd gwrthwynebiad diwyro i'n hawgrymiadau yn Whitehall a rhaid inni dderbyn yr

cases.

anwybyddwyd ein dymuniadau. Fodd bynnag, dim ond mewn lleiafrif o achosion y digwyddodd hynny.

**Kirsty Williams:** To avoid having to win or lose battles, do you not agree that it is preferable to have a situation where we could promote our own legislation in this Chamber with primary legislative powers?

**Kirsty Williams:** Er mwyn osgoi gorfod ennill neu golli brwydrau, oni chytunwch y byddai'n well cael sefyllfa lle gallem hyrwyddo ein deddfwriaeth ein hunain yn y Siambr hon gyda phwerau deddfwriaethol sylfaenol ein hunain?

**The First Minister:** I work within the devolution settlement. If we spent all our time, before the ink was even dry on the Government of Wales Act 1998, trying to smudge it and rewrite it, we would spend more time bothering about what we cannot do than concentrating on what we can do. We should get on with the job that is before us. If, in future, the people of Wales say that we are doing a good job in the Assembly and that we could do an even better job with greater powers, I would be happy to listen to the voice of the people of Wales. For the moment, we should get on with the job.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Yr wyf yn gweithio o fewn y setliad datganoli. Pe baem yn treulio ein holl amser, cyn i'r inc sychu hyd yn oed ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998, yn ceisio ei haddasu a'i hail-ysgrifennu, byddem yn treulio mwy o amser yn poeni am yr hyn na allwn ei wneud yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud. Dylem barhau â'r gwaith sydd o'n blaenau. Os dywed pobl Cymru yn y dyfodol ein bod yn gwneud gwaith da yn y Cynulliad ac y gallem wneud hyd yn oed gwell gwaith â mwy o bwerau, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i wrando ar lais pobl Cymru. Ar hyn o bryd, dylem fynd ymlaen â'r gwaith.

#### **'Rhoi Cymru'n Gyntaf' (Amserlen ar gyfer Gweithredu) 'Putting Wales First' (Timetable for Implementation)**

**Q4 Jonathan Morgan:** Will the First Minister set out a timetable for the implementation of 'Putting Wales First'? (OAQ8015)

**C4 Jonathan Morgan:** A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru amlinellu amserlen ar gyfer gweithredu 'Rhoi Cymru'n Gyntaf'? (OAQ8015)

**The First Minister:** I refer you to the statement that I made in Plenary on 21 November on the Government's annual business programme.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Fe'ch cyfeiraf at y datganiad a wnes yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 21 Tachwedd ar raglen fusnes flynyddol y Llywodraeth.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Given the commitment on page 20 of the document to project the image of a modern Wales to a wider world, will you announce your administration's full support for Cardiff's bid to be the European capital of culture in 2008, particularly in light of today's news that Swansea has decided not to submit a bid?

**Jonathan Morgan:** O ystyried yr ymrwymiad ar dudalen 20 y ddogfen i hyrwyddo delwedd o Gymru fodern i'r byd ehangach, a gyhoeddwyd gefnogaeth lawn eich gweinyddiaeth i gynnig Caerdydd i fod yn brifddinas diwylliant Ewrop yn 2008, yn arbennig yng ngoleuni'r newyddion a gyhoeddwyd heddiw bod Abertawe wedi penderfynu peidio â gwneud cynnig?

**The First Minister:** I was not aware of that decision by Swansea City and County Council. It is a matter for each local authority to decide whether it wishes to bid or not. Local authorities throughout Wales had

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o benderfyniad Dinas a Sir Abertawe. Mater i bob awdurdod lleol yw penderfynu pa un a yw am gyflwyno cynnig ai peidio. Yr oedd gan awdurdodau lleol



absolute freedom to decide whether they wanted to go for this or not. I was not sure whether we would end up with no bids, one bid, or competing bids from Wales. I am not sure whether that leaves us in a position where there will definitely only be one bid, because Cardiff council was anxious not to proceed on this matter unless it felt that it had the united support of Welsh local government. If what you say is true, and there are no other competing bids and Cardiff is definitely interested in bidding, then I am sure that the Assembly, corporately, will wish to support Cardiff's bid. However, I do not know whether that is true as yet. I shall be interested to hear the more up to date information that you have, Jonathan.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Having read the partnership agreement thoroughly, I noticed an interesting phrase in it, 'we are ambitious for Wales'. Would I be right in interpreting that as a commendable sign of patriotism by the coalition in respect of Wales? If that is the case, will you now tell Tony Blair's 'Minister for Patriotism' that suggesting that Welsh people register their identity under 'other' in next year's census form is a denial of the collective wish of the Welsh people to celebrate their patriotic feelings?

**The First Minister:** I do not think that anybody has ever doubted my Welsh patriotism, Ieuan, and I hope that you are not doing so now. Any one of us can pick on a particular issue and say that that is the litmus test and that if you fail on that issue, you have failed the test. However, people of a slightly broader cast of mind would consider the issue, and ask how we as an Assembly feel about the census. To repeat what I said last week, it is unfortunate that this census was devised pre-devolution and will be implemented post-devolution. The problems with the section on ethnicity are based on confusion between the issue of ethnic origin, that is, where your great-grandfather came from, and the issue of ethnic identity. Ethnic identity post-devolution has developed into a different issue. It is unfortunate that, unlike Scotland, we do not have devolved powers to

ledled Cymru ryddid llwyr i benderfynu pa un a oeddent am ymgeisio am hyn ai peidio. Nid oeddwn yn siŵr pa un a fyddem yn diweddu heb unrhyw gynigion, un cynnig, neu gynigion cystadleuol o Gymru. Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw hyn yn golygu ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle bydd ond un cynnig yn bendant, am fod cyngor Caerdydd yn awyddus i beidio â mynd ymlaen â'r mater hwn oni fyddai'n teimlo bod ganddo gefnogaeth unedig llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru. Os yw'r hyn a ddywedwch yn wir, ac nad oes unrhyw gynigion cystadleuol eraill a bod gan Gaerdydd ddiddordeb gwirioneddol mewn cyflwyno cynnig, yna yr wyf yn sicr y bydd y Cynulliad, yn ei gyfanrwydd, yn dymuno cefnogi cynnig Caerdydd. Fodd bynnag, ni wn a yw hyn yn wir hyd yma. Bydd gennyf ddiddordeb mewn clywed eich gwybodaeth ddiweddaraf chi, Jonathan.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Ar ôl darllen y cytundeb partneriaeth yn drwyllwyr, sylwais ar ymadrodd diddorol ynddo, 'rydym yn uchelgeisiol dros Gymru'. A fyddai'n gywir dehongli hynny fel arwydd cymeradwy o wladgarwch gan y glymblaid mewn perthynas â Chymru? Os felly, a wnewch chi hysbysu 'Gweinidog Gwladgarwch' Tony Blair bod awgrymu y dylai pobl Cymru gofrestru eu hunaniaeth o dan 'arall' ar ffurflen y cyfrifiad y flwyddyn nesaf yn gwadu dymuniad torfol y Cymry i ddatlu eu teimladau gwladgarol?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Ni chredaf fod unrhyw un erioed wedi amau fy ngwladgarwch, Ieuan, a gobeithiaf nad ydych yn gwneud hynny yn awr. Gall unrhyw un ohonom bigo ar fater arbennig a dweud mai dyna'r prawf litmws ac os byddwch yn methu ar y mater hwnnw, eich bod wedi methu'r prawf. Fodd bynnag, byddai pobl sydd ychydig yn fwy eangfrydig yn ystyried y mater, a gofyn sut yr ydym ni fel Cynulliad yn teimlo am y cyfrifiad. Gan ailadrodd yr hyn a ddywedais yr wythnos diwethaf, mae'n anffodus y cynlluniwyd y cyfrifiad hwn cyn datganoli ac y bydd yn cael ei weithredu ar ôl datganoli. Mae'r problemau sydd yn ymwneud â'r adran ar ethnigrwydd yn seiliedig ar ddryswch rhwng mater tarddiad ethnig, sef, o ble y daeth eich hen-daid, a'r mater o hunaniaeth ethnig. Mae hunaniaeth ethnig wedi datblygu i fod yn fater gwahanol

deal with the census. Scotland made a late addition to the structure of the ethnic identity question on its census form, though not entirely satisfactorily, because it has separate categories for black Scots and white Scots. That serves to add to the confusion between ethnic origin and ethnic identity. The situation, therefore, has left us with the option of writing the word 'Welsh' against the column 'Other'. Even if 'Other' was changed to 'Own Words', which I am told is standard statistical practice, most people in Wales would find that unacceptable.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** The Assembly will have an opportunity next week to express its collective view on that issue.

To return to the 'Minister for Patriotism', as announced by Tony Blair, will you impress on that Minister that he must have an inclusive and sensitive approach to the different senses of identity that exist in these islands. Following devolution, we should be celebrating the different national identities in the countries of Britain and the multilingual and multicultural society in which we now live.

**The First Minister:** I agree.

**The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne):** On the partnership agreement, I have before me a document on the partnership agreement and the Labour Party manifesto, which has gone out to Labour Party Members. I do not think that Liberal Democrat Members have received a copy. The document states that there is no commitment in the partnership agreement that is not based on the Labour manifesto. In the light of that, will you comment on the Labour manifesto commitment to review the position on student tuition fees?

**The First Minister:** I am not sure what you are getting at, Nick. We have agreed to consider the impact of hardship and lack of finance on access to higher and further education and whether we can remedy that.

ar ôl datganoli. Mae'n anffodus nad oes gennym bwerau datganoledig, fel yr Alban, i ddelio â'r cyfrifiad. Gwnaeth yr Alban ychwanegiad hwyr i strwythur y cwestiwn hunaniaeth ethnig ar ei ffurflen cyfrifiad, er nad yw hyn yn gwbl foddhaol, am fod arni categorïau ar wahân ar gyfer Albanwyr du ac Albanwyr gwyn. Ychwanega hyn at y dryswch rhwng tarddiad ethnig a hunaniaeth ethnig. Felly, mae'r sefyllfa wedi gadael opsiwn inni ysgrifennu 'Cymro/Cymraes' yn y golofn 'Arall'. Hyd yn oed pe bai 'Arall' yn cael ei newid i 'Eich Geiriau Eich Hun', y deallaf sydd yn arfer ystadegol safonol, byddai'r rhan fwyaf o bobl yng Nghymru o'r farn bod hyn yn annerbyniol.

**Ieuan Wyn Jones:** Caiff y Cynulliad gyfle yr wythnos nesaf i fynegi ei farn, yn ei gyfanrwydd, ar y mater hwn.

Gan ddychwelyd at y 'Gweinidog Gwladgarwch', a gyhoeddwyd gan Tony Blair, a wnewch chi bwysleisio i'r Gweinidog hwnnw bod angen iddo fabwysiadu ymagwedd gynhwysol a sensitif ar gyfer y gwahanol ymdeimladau o hunaniaeth sydd yn bodoli yn yr nnysoedd hyn. Yn dilyn datganoli, dylem fod yn dathlu hunaniaethau cenedlaethol gwahanol gwledydd Prydain a'r gymdeithas amlieithog ac amlddiwylliannol yr ydym yn byw ynddi bellach.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Cytunaf.

**Arweinydd Plaid Geidwadol Cymru (Nick Bourne):** Ar y cytundeb partneriaeth, mae gennyf ddogfen o'm blaen ar y cytundeb partneriaeth a maniffesto'r Blaid Lafur, a ddsbarthwyd i Aelodau'r Blaid Lafur. Nid wyf yn credu bod Aelodau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi derbyn copi. Mae'r ddogfen yn nodi nad oes ymrwymiad yn y cytundeb partneriaeth nad yw'n seiliedig ar faniffesto Llafur. Yng ngoleuni hyn, a rowch eich sylwadau ar ymrwymiad maniffesto Llafur i adolygu'r sefyllfa ar ffioedd dysgu myfyrwyr?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Nid wyf yn siŵr beth yw eich pwynt, Nick. Yr ydym wedi cytuno i ystyried effaith caledi a diffyg arian ar fynediad at addysg uwch a phellach a pha un a allwn ddatrys hynny. Nid oes gan y

The Assembly does not have any powers to consider tuition fees, and rushing about pretending to have those powers would be to chase a will-o'-the-wisp. We are interested in widening access to further and higher education and trying to ensure that lack of parental finance or student finance does not deny opportunities to people who are less well-off, or come from less well-off families. That is the administration's common position.

**Nick Bourne:** The First Minister may try to wriggle out of discussing the differences, or the lack of differences, between the partnership agreement and the Labour manifesto. However, you cannot deny that this review has been delayed. It was due to finish in spring 2001, but it has been postponed until autumn 2001. Is that due to the possibility of an impending general election and the possible loss of marginal seats?

**The First Minister:** You have completely misunderstood the position on the dates, Nick.

Cynulliad unrhyw bwerau i ystyried ffioedd myfyrwyr, a byddai rhuthro o gwmpas yn honni bod gennym y pwerau hynny yn siwrnai seithug. Yr ydym yn awyddus i ehangu mynediad at addysg bellach ac uwch a cheisio sicrhau nad yw prinder arian rhieni neu fyfyrwyr yn atal cyfleoedd i bobl sydd yn waeth eu byd, neu sydd yn dod o deuluoedd sydd yn llai cefnog. Dyna sefyllfa gyffredinol y weinyddiaeth.

**Nick Bourne:** Gall Prif Weinidog Cymru geisio osgoi trafod y gwahaniaethau, neu'r diffyg gwahaniaethau, rhwng y cytundeb partneriaeth a maniffesto Llafur. Fodd bynnag, ni allwch wadu bod yr adolygiad hwn wedi'i ohirio. Dylai fod wedi'i gwblhau yn ystod gwanwyn 2001, ond fe'i gohiriwyd tan hydref 2001. A yw hynny o ganlyniad i'r posibilrwydd bod etholiad cyffredinol ar y gorwel a'r posibilrwydd o golli seddau ymylol?

**Nick Bourne:** Yr ydych wedi camdeall y sefyllfa o ran dyddiadau yn llwyr, Nick.

### **Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf (Cyfiawnder Ieuentid a Chamddefnyddio Sylweddau) Communities First (Youth Justice and Substance Misuse)**

**Q5 Peter Black:** What is the First Minister doing to co-ordinate National Assembly policy on youth justice and substance misuse in the context of Communities First? (OAQ8016) [R]

**The First Minister:** I am pleased to say that there has been a 60 per cent increase in funding to tackle substance abuse. The Assembly is committed to building safer communities throughout Wales because crime reduction is an essential element of Communities First, although communities, acting in partnership with key statutory and voluntary agencies, will determine the priorities for action in each Communities First area. Crime and substance abuse form a major component of social dislocation in many of the areas that we are targeting for assistance. We would expect them to give a high priority to tackling substance abuse and the needs of young people, including those who offend or those who are likely to offend,

**C5 Peter Black:** Beth mae Prif Weinidog Cymru yn ei wneud i gydlynu polisi'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ar gyfiawnder ieuentid a chamddefnyddio sylweddau yng nghyd-destun Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf? (OAQ8016) [R]

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae'n bleser gennyf gyhoeddi cynnydd o 60 y cant yn yr arian ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau. Mae'r Cynulliad yn ymrwymedig i adeiladu cymunedau mwy diogel ledled Cymru oherwydd bod lleihau troseddau'n elfen hanfodol o raglen Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf, er mai'r cymunedau, gan weithredu mewn partneriaeth ag asiantaethau statudol a gwirfoddol allweddol, fydd yn pennu'r blaenoriaethau ar gyfer gweithredu ym mhob un o ardaloedd Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Mae troseddau a chamddefnyddio sylweddau yn cyfrannu'n sylweddol at anrhefn cymdeithasol mewn nifer o'r ardaloedd yr ydym yn eu targedu i dderbyn cymorth. Byddem yn disgwyl iddynt

within the broad range of community development initiatives open to them.

**Peter Black:** Given the importance of tackling crime and substance misuse to community development, do you agree that, to ensure a proper co-ordinated response and approach to those issues and to the Communities First agenda, it would make sense to return youth justice to the Local Government and Housing Committee's portfolio, as it has requested?

**The First Minister:** The portfolios of the Cabinet and the relevant Subject Committees are under constant review. I cannot make any promises on this issue. Some matters are clearly matters for a Subject Committee and others are split 51:49 and could be matters for two Committees. It is a marginal decision either way. As a result, portfolios are always open to review. I may need to come back on this another time. I am not making any promises at present.

2:18 p.m.

**David Melding:** Yesterday, I visited the organisation Safe for Cardiff and was impressed with its work, particularly in identifying young people who are at risk of offending. Those people lack literacy skills. Will the First Minister assure us that efforts will be made to tackle those problems, not just at school but at other establishments to which these people may be more inclined to go to learn?

**The First Minister:** Recently, I visited the Dyslexia Institute of Wales, which has its main office in my constituency, and I was staggered by the figure that I was given of adults who are in jail and who suffer from dyslexia. You cannot assume that there is a causal connection between the frustration that inevitably builds up from the inability to read, if it is not corrected early, and getting

roi blaenoriaeth uchel i fynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau ac anghenion pobl ifanc, gan gynnwys y rhai sydd yn troseddu neu sydd yn debygol o droseddu, o fewn yr amrediad eang o fentrau datblygu cymunedol sydd ar gael iddynt.

**Peter Black:** O ystyried pwysigrwydd mynd i'r afael â throseddau a chamddefnyddio sylweddau wrth geisio datblygu cymunedau, a gytunwch y byddai'n gwneud synnwyr dychwelyd cyfiawnder ieuencid i bortffolio'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai, yn unol â'r cais a wnaethpwyd am hynny, er mwyn sicrhau ymateb ac ymagwedd gydlynus briodol i'r materion hynny ac i agenda Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae portffolio'r Cabinet a'r Pwyllgorau Pwnc perthnasol yn destun adolygiad parhaus. Ni allaf addo unrhyw beth ar y mater hwn. Mae rhai materion yn amlwg yn faterion i Bwyllgor Pwnc a'r gweddill yn cael eu rhannu 51:49 a gallent fod yn faterion i ddau Bwyllgor. Mae'n benderfyniad ymylol y naill ffordd neu'r llall. O ganlyniad, mae portffolios bob amser yn agored i'w hadolygu. Efallai y bydd angen imi ddychwelyd at y mater hwn rywbryd eto. Nid wyf yn gwneud unrhyw addewidon ar hyn o bryd.

**David Melding:** Ddoe, ymwelais â'r sefydliad Safe for Cardiff a chefais argraff dda o'i waith, yn arbennig wrth nodi pobl ifanc sydd yn debygol o droseddu. Nid yw'r bobl hynny'n meddu ar sgiliau llythrennedd. A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ein sicrhau y gwneir ymdrechion i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hynny, nid yn unig yn yr ysgol ond mewn sefydliadau eraill y gallai'r bobl hynny fod yn fwy awyddus i ddysgu ynddynt?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Ymwelais yn ddiweddar â Sefydliad Dyslecsia Cymru, sydd a'i bencadlys yn fy etholaeth i, a chefais fy synnu o glywed cymaint o oedolion sydd yn y carchar ac sydd yn dioddef o ddyslecsia. Ni allwch dybio mai cysylltiad damweiniol sydd rhwng y rhwystredigaeth sydd yn datblygu yn anochel yn sgîl anallu i ddarllen, os nad adferir hynny'n gynnar, a chael eich

into trouble and ending up in and out of jail. I have heard that illiteracy among people in jail is high. If it is also true that the level of dyslexia is high, there may be other warning signs that could be identified in young people of 14 and 15 that would help to avoid misery to victims of crime and avoid the waste of the lives of those who cannot find their feet in society at key vulnerable ages and are therefore in and out of jail.

**Geraint Davies:** I am pleased that more money will go into the substance misuse strategy, but will you monitor the situation to ensure that people do not wait unduly long for rehabilitation treatment? At present the waiting time is unsatisfactory.

**The First Minister:** I will give you the figures. The draft budget provides for an increase by the year 2003-04 of £1.5 million, or 60 per cent, in direct expenditure by the Assembly to combat substance abuse. That is a substantial increase by any measure. I hope that the problem of delays in getting access to the correct rehabilitation treatment will be a thing of the past before long.

hun i mewn i drafferth a mynd i mewn ac allan o'r carchar. Yr wyf wedi clywed bod nifer yr achosion o anllythrennedd ymhlith pobl yn y carchar yn uchel. Os yw'n wir hefyd bod y lefel o ddyslecsia yn uchel, efallai fod arwyddion rhybudd eraill i'w gweld ymhlith pobl ifanc 14 a 15 oed a fyddai'n helpu i osgoi diflastod dioddefwyr troseddau ac er mwyn osgoi gwastraff bywydau'r rhai na allant sefydlu eu hunain mewn cymdeithas ar oedrannau diamddiffyn allweddol ac felly'n mynd i mewn ac allan o'r carchar.

**Geraint Davies:** Mae'n dda gennyf glywed y bydd mwy o arian yn cael ei roi i'r strategaeth camddefnyddio sylweddau, ond a wnewch chi fonitro'r sefyllfa i sicrhau na fydd yn rhaid i bobl aros yn rhy hir cyn cael triniaeth ailsefydlu? Ar hyn o bryd mae'r amser aros yn anfodddhaol.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Rhoddaf y ffigurau ichi. Mae'r gyllideb ddrafft yn darparu ar gyfer cynnydd o £1.5 miliwn erbyn y flwyddyn 2003-04, neu 60 y cant, mewn gwariant uniongyrchol gan y Cynulliad er mwyn ceisio mynd i'r afael â chamddefnyddio sylweddau. Mae hynyn'n gynnydd sylweddol yn ôl unrhyw safonau. Gobeithio y bydd y broblem o ran oedi cyn cael y driniaeth ailsefydlu briodol yn rhywbeth sydd yn perthyn i'r gorffennol.

### **Y Dechnoleg Ddiweddaraf (Gogledd Cymru) Cutting Edge Technology (North Wales)**

**C6 Gareth Jones:** Pa fesurau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru yn eu hargymell i sicrhau y gall darpar fusnesau sydd yn arbenigo yn y dechnoleg ddiweddaraf ymsefydlu yng ngogledd Cymru? (OAQ8026)

Datganaf fuddiant fel cyfarwyddwr cwmni sydd yn ymwneud â'r dechnoleg newydd.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** O ran strwythur ar gyfer cefnogi busnes yn gyffredinol, yr wyf yn sicr bod y Gogledd yn caelystal gwasanaeth â'r rhan fwyaf o Gymru a'i fod, mewn sawl ffordd, yn cael ei wasanaethu'n well. Mae cysylltiadau ffordd ardderchog o'r dwyrain i'r gorllewin, rhwng Gwynedd a gogledd-orllewin Lloegr, yn cael eu hymestyn ar draws Ynys Môn. Disgwyliwn

**Q6 Gareth Jones:** What measures is the First Minister recommending to ensure that north Wales can accommodate potential businesses specialising in cutting edge technology? (OAQ8026)

I declare an interest as a director of a company involved with new technology.

**The First Minister:** In terms of business support infrastructure in general, I am confident that the North is as well served as most of Wales and that, in many ways, it is better served. Excellent east-west road links between Gwynedd and the north-west of England are being extended across Anglesey. We expect the opening of the new A55 within months.

agoriad yr A55 newydd o fewn misoedd.

Mae cysylltiadau telegyfathrebu da yn gynyddol bwysig i bob busnes, ond i'r rhai sydd ar flaen y gad ym myd technoleg maent yn hanfodol. Mae ein swyddogion yn ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o addasu'r lle sydd yn weddill yn y rhwydwaith ffibr optig sydd yn rhedeg ar hyd yr A55 er mwyn inni allu gwella cyfleusterau cyfathrebu yng ngogledd Cymru heb amharu ar brif swyddogaethau'r rhwydwaith hwnnw.

**Gareth Jones:** Mae sawl corff preifat a chyhoeddus yn meddu ar rwydwaith ffibr optig yn y Gogledd: Hyder, Telecom Prydain, cebl yr A55 y cyfeiriasoch ato, y colegau a Phrifysgol Cymru. Mae'r sefyllfa bresennol yn ddrislyd ac yn ddarniog. A oes modd integreiddio'r gwahanol fathau o geblau i greu un ddarpariaeth a fyddai'n caniatáu i'r busnesau hyn wybod beth sydd ar gael iddynt ac am ba bris, fel eu bod yn gallu cynllunio'n strategol ar gyfer eu busnes a bod economi'r Gogledd yn elwa o hynny?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae adran drafnidiaeth y Cynulliad yn dechrau canolbwyntio ar rai o'r cwestiynau cyfreithiol ynglŷn a'r cyfrifoldeb dros gynnal a chadw'r ffyrdd a defnyddio'r cebl ffibr optig i'w bwrrpas gwreiddiol. Mae hefyd yn trafod gyda sawl corff preifat a chyhoeddus sut i drawsnewid y rhwydwaith ffibr optig fel y gall busnesau ei ddefnyddio.

Y cam nesaf yw hysbysebu yn *Official Journal of the European Communities* i ofyn am geisiadau i wneud rhyw fath o fenter ar y cyd i wella telethrebu yng ngogledd Cymru, gan ddefnyddio'r rhwydwaith o dan yr A55.

**Peter Rogers:** Do you agree that companies such as Cambrian Engineering in Bangor in north Wales have made a tremendous contribution in the promotion of wind power technology in Wales and that they are now being discouraged because of the flaws in the coalition's planning decisions? How does the First Minister propose to stop these businesses relocating to other parts of the UK where renewable energy will be encouraged much more?

**The First Minister:** The location of the

Good telecommunication links are becoming increasingly important to all businesses, but to those at the cutting edge of technology they are essential. Our officials are assessing the feasibility of configuring the spare capacity in the fibre-optic network that runs along the A55 so that we can enhance communication facilities in north Wales without prejudicing that network's primary functions.

**Gareth Jones:** Many private and public bodies possess fibre-optic links in the North: Hyder, British Telecom, the A55 cabling that you mentioned earlier, the colleges and the University of Wales. The present situation is confusing and fragmented. Is it possible to integrate the various types of cable to create one provision that would enable these businesses to know what is available and at what cost, so that they can plan strategically for their businesses and that the economy of the North profits from that?

**The First Minister:** The Assembly's transport department is starting to concentrate on some of the legal issues as regards the responsibility for maintaining the roads and using the fibre-optic cable for its original purpose. It is also discussing with many private and public bodies how to transform the fibre-optic network so that it can be used by businesses.

The next step is to advertise in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* to invite applications for some kind of joint-venture to improve telecommunications in north Wales, using the network under the A55.

**Peter Rogers:** A gytunwch fod cwmnïau fel Cambrian Engineering ym Mangor yng ngogledd Cymru wedi gwneud cyfraniad aruthrol wrth hyrwyddo technoleg pŵer gwynt yng Nghymru a'u bod yn cael eu hannog i beidio â mynd ymlaen â hyn bellach oherwydd gwendidau ym mhenderfyniadau cynllunio'r glymblaid? Sut mae Prif Weinidog Cymru yn bwriadu atal y busnesau hyn rhag adleoli i rannau eraill o'r DU lle caiff ynni adnewyddol ei annog fwy fwy?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Nid fydd lleoliad y

engineering company has no bearing on whether it does or does not get planning permission for windfarms. We are talking about the consistency of the administration's planning decisions. The planning principle involved is clear. Where we draw the conclusion that the planning implications—namely visual intrusion, the effect on sites of special scientific interest or whatever it might be—are of more than local significance, the Assembly Minister responsible for planning has a duty to call it in. That frequently arises in Wales because we have a large amount of landscape that includes areas of outstanding natural beauty or sights of special scientific interest or national parks. Wales is a beautiful country. It is tough luck but we live in one of the most beautiful countries in the world. As a result, landscape values are high and intrusion into the landscape has to be considered on a case by case basis, sometimes after call in. I am sorry about that, but relocating Cambrian Engineering to another part of Britain would have no bearing on whether it had planning permission for windfarms, either in Wales or anywhere else.

cwmni peiranyddol yn dylanwadu mewn unrhyw ffordd ar y penderfyniad i roi caniatâd cynllunio ai peidio iddo ar gyfer ffermydd gwynt. Yr hyn sydd dan sylw yw cysondeb penderfyniadau cynllunio'r weinyddiaeth. Mae'r egwyddor gynllunio dan sylw yn glir. Lle byddwn yn dod i'r casgliad bod gan y goblygiadau cynllunio arwyddocâd sydd yn fwy nag arwyddocâd lleol—sef ymyriad weledol, yr effaith ar safleoedd o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig neu beth bynnag fo'r goblygiad— mae gan Weinidog y Cynulliad sydd yn gyfrifol am gynllunio ddyletswydd i'w alw i mewn. Cyfyd y mater hwn yn aml yng Nghymru oherwydd bod gennym ardaloedd mawr o dirwedd sydd yn cynnwys ardaloedd o harddwch naturiol eithriadol neu fannau o ddiddordeb gwyddonol arbennig neu barciau cenedlaethol. Mae Cymru'n wlad brydferth. Mae'n anffodus, ond yr ydym yn byw mewn un o'r gwledydd harddaf yn y byd. O ganlyniad, mae gwerthoedd tirwedd yn uchel a rhaid ystyried ymyriad i'r dirwedd ar sail pob achos unigol, weithiau ar ôl eu galw i mewn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf am hynny, ond ni fyddai adleoli Cambrian Engineering i ran arall o Brydain yn effeithio o gwbl ar y penderfyniad i roi caniatâd cynllunio iddo ai peidio ar gyfer ffermydd gwynt, naill ai yng Nghymru neu unman arall.

### **Taliadau Iawndal i'r Glowyr Miners' Compensation Payments**

**Q7 Helen Mary Jones:** What discussions has the First Minister had with Ministers at Whitehall about miners' compensation payments? (OAQ8041)

**The First Minister:** I have pressed Ministers at Whitehall on many occasions to pursue all means to speed the compensation process in what is a legal action of unprecedented size and complexity. This autumn, the Minister for Energy and Competitiveness in Europe, Helen Liddell, introduced a new fast-track scheme that will run alongside improved arrangements to assess claimants and speed up payments. There are also plans to improve the medical assessment process and it is hoped that these measures will succeed in minimising delays. As far as your constituency interests are concerned, I understand that near to your constituency in

**C7 Helen Mary Jones:** Pa drafodaethau mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u cael â Gweinidogion Whitehall ynghylch taliadau iawndal i'r glowyr? (OAQ8041)

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Yr wyf wedi ceisio darbwyllo Gweinidogion Whitehall ar sawl achlysur i geisio mynd ar drywydd pob ffordd bosibl i gyflymu'r broses iawndal yn yr hyn sydd yn achos cyfreithiol o faint a chymhlethdod digyffelyb. Yr hydref hwn, cyflwynodd y Gweinidog dros Ynni a Chystadleurwydd yn Ewrop, Helen Liddell, gynllun carlam a fydd yn rhedeg ochr yn ochr â threfniadau gwell er mwyn asesu ymgeiswyr a chyflymu taliadau. Mae cynlluniau ar y gweill hefyd i wella'r broses asesu meddygol a'r gobaith yw y bydd y mesurau hyn yn llwyddo i leihau oedi. O ran buddiannau eich etholaeth chi, deallaf y bydd

the Amman Valley a new centre will open shortly for the first stage of assessment.

**Helen Mary Jones:** Do you share my anger and frustration at the fact that thousands of former miners in Wales and other parts of the UK have died while waiting for the Westminster Government to get its act together on this? I would like your view on whether what the Westminster Government has done so far is sufficient. I do not feel that it is and certainly my constituents do not, despite the fact that there has been some progress.

**The First Minister:** I understand entirely the frustration that Helen Mary is expressing and I do not doubt that it is an accurate indicator of how people feel in the former mining communities. These are people who are in a poor state of health in any case and therefore the danger is that they may die before receiving the compensation. The compensation will not make their lives or their chests function any better but at least it will enable them to get out and about by enabling them to afford a car or holiday. The issue is how governments handle massive compensation claims of this kind which are brought about by the courts rather than through administrative arrangements. We have to get both interim offers out, which do not deny people the chance to apply for the higher offers. Seventy five per cent of people want to do that, but they have to get a respiratory consultant to see them to do so, and there are not enough respiratory consultants in the land. Alternatively, people can accept the lower offer and not apply for the higher offer. The figure has trebled from 5,000 to 15,000, if I have the details right, for those who do not want to proceed to see the respiratory consultant where there is a long waiting list. I understand the frustrations. It is a matter of huge concern to Government and a huge concern to us because there are so many ex-miners or widows of ex-miners in Wales.

**Jonathan Morgan:** How many cases have been assessed under the fast-track system and how many cases are outstanding?

canolfan newydd yn agor ger eich etholaeth yn Nyffryn Aman yn fuan ar gyfer y cam asesu cyntaf.

**Helen Mary Jones:** A ydych yn rhannu fy nictir a'm rhwystredigaeth oherwydd bod miloedd o gyn-lowyr yng Nghymru a rhannau eraill o'r DU wedi marw tra'n aros i Lywodraeth San Steffan fynd ati i ymdrin â'r broblem hon? Hoffwn wybod eich barn o ran pa un a yw'r hyn a wnaethpwyd gan Lywodraeth San Steffan hyd yn hyn wedi bod yn ddigonol. Nid wyf i o'r farn ei fod ac yn sicr nid yw fy etholwyr yn credu hynny, er gwaethaf y ffaith y gwnaethpwyd rhywfaint o gynnydd.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Yr wyf yn deall rhwystredigaeth Helen Mary yn llwyr ac mae'n siŵr gennyf bod hyn yn ddangosydd cywir o deimladau pobl yn yr hen gymunedau glofaol. Mae'r rhain yn bobl sydd yn dioddef o iechyd gwael beth bynnag ac felly mae perygl y gallant farw cyn derbyn yr iawndal. Ni fydd yr iawndal yn gwella eu bywydau nac yn gwneud i gyflwr eu brest wella ond o leiaf bydd yn eu galluogi i symud o gwmpas drwy eu galluogi i fforddio car neu wyliau. Y mater pwysig yw sut y mae llywodraethau'n delio â nifer enfawr o geisiadau am iawndal o'r math hwn a ddaw drwy'r llysoedd yn hytrach na thrwy drefniadau gweinyddol. Rhaid inni ddsbarthu cynigion dros dro, nad ydynt yn atal pobl rhag cael cyfle i wneud cais am gynigion uwch. Mae 75 y cant o bobl yn awyddus i wneud hynny, ond rhaid iddynt weld ymgynghorydd anadlol cyn gwneud hynny, ac nid oes digon o ymgynghorwyr anadlol yn y wlad. Fel arall, gall pobl dderbyn y cynnig is a pheidio â gwneud cais am y cynnig uwch. Mae'r ffigwr wedi treblu o 5,000 i 15,000, os yw'r manylion yn gywir gennyf, o ran nifer y bobl nad ydynt am fynd ymlaen i weld ymgynghorydd anadlol pan fo rhestr aros hir. Deallaf y rhwystredigaethau. Mae'n fater sydd yn peri pryder mawr i'r Llywodraeth a phryder mawr i ni am fod cymaint o gyn-lowyr neu wragedd gweddw cyn-lowyr yng Nghymru.

**Jonathan Morgan:** Sawl achos a aseswyd o dan y cynllun carlam a faint o achosion sydd yn weddill?



2:28 p.m.

**The First Minister:** I have some figures. About 400 medical assessments are completed weekly. They should be completed at a rate of 1,000 per week, which is what the Department of Trade and Industry is aiming at. Around 600 new sets of medical records are being searched for each week and around 1,000 are received each week. However, the demand in Wales is great and the medical profession's flexibility in being able to turn the tap on fully so that a respiratory consultant is at hand and there is easy access to records, is still falling behind what is required.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae gennyf rai ffigurau. Cwblheir tua 400 o asesiadau meddygol yr wythnos. Dylid eu cwblhau ar raddfa o 1,000 yr wythnos, sef nod yr Adran Masnach a Diwydiant. Gwneir ymdrech i ddod o hyd i tua 600 set o gofnodion meddygol bob wythnos a derbynnir tua 1,000 bob wythnos. Fodd bynnag, mae'r galw yng Nghymru yn uchel ac mae hyblygrwydd y proffesiwn meddygol o ran ei allu i ymateb yn llawn er mwyn sicrhau bod ymgynghorwyr anadlol fod ar gael ac y gellir cael gafael ar gofnodion yn hawdd, yn parhau i fod yn llai na'r hyn sydd ei angen.

### **Mewnbwn y Cynulliad i Ddeddfwriaeth Sylfaenol Assembly Input into Primary Legislation**

**Q8 John Griffiths:** What discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales on improving the process by which the Assembly has an input into primary legislation? (OAQ8079)

**C8 John Griffiths:** Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u cael ag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynghylch gwella'r broses lle mae'r Cynulliad yn cael mewnbwn i ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol? (OAQ8019)

**The First Minister:** Under Standing Orders Nos. 23.9 to 23.14 we have the right to propose or amend Bills. That is how we have been able to include amendments in the 13 Bills to which I referred in answer to Dafydd Wigley's question earlier today.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** O dan Reolau Sefydlog Rhifau 23.9 i 23.14 mae gennym hawl i gynnig neu ddiwygio Mesurau. Dyna sut yr ydym wedi gallu cynnwys diwygiadau i'r 13 Mesur y cyfeiriais atynt mewn ymateb i gwestiwn Dafydd Wigley yn gynharach heddiw.

I do not know whether we can improve on that in future. The practical implications are that we have managed to get legislation accepted, which strictly speaking was independent Welsh legislation, by amending a Bill that was half way through the Parliamentary process, therefore, we saved a year in establishing the post of an independent Children's Commissioner. We are hopeful about widening the powers of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, but we will not know whether we have been successful until the Queen's Speech on 6 December.

Ni wn a allwn wella hynny yn y dyfodol. Y goblygiadau ymarferol yw ein bod wedi llwyddo i gael deddfwriaeth wedi'i derbyn, a oedd mewn gwirionedd yn ddeddfwriaeth annibynnol Gymreig, drwy ddiwygio Mesur a oedd hanner ffordd drwy'r broses Seneddol, felly, arbedasom flwyddyn wrth sefydlu swydd y Comisiynydd Plant annibynnol. Yr ydym yn obeithiol ynglŷn ag ehangu pwerau'r Comisiynydd Plant i Gymru, ond ni fyddwn yn gwybod a ydym wedi llwyddo nes clywed Araith y Frenhines ar 6 Rhagfyr.

**John Griffiths:** Will the review of the Assembly's procedures consider these matters?

**John Griffiths:** A fydd yr adolygiad o weithdrefnau'r Cynulliad yn ystyried y materion hyn?

**The First Minister:** Assembly procedures

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae gweithdrefnau'r

are open to consideration by the independent review. However, that must be set, not against the failure to get what we have asked for, but against a record of success two-thirds of the time that we have asked legislation to be amended at the Assembly's behest. We have failed less than one-third of the time. We cannot say whether the settlement, in the sense of us being able to propose primary legislation completely on its own, will be included in the Queen's Speech. If this question session were held a week on Thursday or a fortnight today, I could give a much clearer answer.

**Jocelyn Davies:** In order to improve accountability here, and as soon as Bills receive Royal Assent, will you agree to publish the representations made by your Cabinet on those Bills so that we can judge whether this Cabinet is effective?

**The First Minister:** Without videotaping meetings between myself and Paul Murphy and others, it is difficult to know how those representations could be a matter of record. If Jocelyn means an exchange of correspondence, we could think about that. However, I am not sure that there is much correspondence, because most of this kind of lobbying and pressurising is done in face-to-face meetings.

**Glyn Davies:** Do you accept that a debate about the primary lawmaking powers of the Assembly would be damagingly divisive, not least to your coalition Government? A far better strategy for the Assembly would be to explore and maximise its current powers and persuade your colleagues at Westminster to adopt a more positive approach towards how secondary legislation is dealt with in the Assembly.

**The First Minister:** It is a twin-track approach. During the independent review, we can consider whether we need greater powers in how we conduct ourselves here and how we relate to Westminster. We can do that fairly quickly, in around 12 months. However, towards the end of the Assembly's first session in the summer of 2003 or shortly after that, and when we have experience of how well the settlement is working, we can

Cynulliad yn agored i ystyriaeth gan yr adolygiad annibynnol. Fodd bynnag, rhaid gosod hynny, nid yn erbyn y methiant i gael yr hyn y gofynasom amdano, ond yn erbyn cofnod o lwyddiant dwy ran o dair o'r amser inni ofyn i deddfwriaeth gael ei diwygio ar gais y Cynulliad. Yr ydym wedi methu lai na thraean yr amser. Ni allwn ddweud a gaiff y setliad, o ran ein gallu i gynnig deddfwriaeth sylfaenol ar ei phen ei hun, ei gynnwys yn Araith y Frenhines. Pe cynhelir y sesiwn cwestiynau hwn wythnos i ddydd Iau neu ymhen pythefnos i heddiw, gallwn roi ateb llawer cliriach.

**Jocelyn Davies:** Er mwyn gwella atebolrwydd yma, a chyn gynted ag y bydd Mesurau'n derbyn Cydsyniad Brenhinol, a gytunwch i gyhoeddi'r sylwadau a wnaethpwyd gan eich Cabinet ar y Mesurau hynny er mwyn inni allu barnu a yw'r Cabinet hwn yn effeithiol?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Heb wneud tâp fideo o gyfarfodydd rhyngof i a Paul Murphy ac eraill, mae'n anodd gwybod sut y gellid cofnodi'r sylwadau hynny. Os yw Jocelyn yn golygu cyfnewid gohebiaeth, gallem ystyried hynny. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn siŵr a oes llawer o ohebiaeth, gan y gwneir y rhan fwyaf o'r lobio a gosod pwysau mewn cyfarfodydd wyneb yn wyneb.

**Glyn Davies:** A ydych yn derbyn y byddai dadl ar bwerau llunio cyfreithiau sylfaenol y Cynulliad yn rhwygol ac yn andwyol, yn arbennig i'ch Llywodraeth glymblaid? Byddai'n strategaeth well i'r Cynulliad archwilio a defnyddio ei bwerau cyfredol i'r eithaf a darbwyllio eich cyd-aelodau yn San Steffan i fabwysiadu agwedd fwy cadarnhaol tuag at y modd yr ymdrinnir â deddfwriaeth eilaidd o fewn y Cynulliad.

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae hon yn agwedd ddeuol. Yn ystod yr adolygiad annibynnol, gallwn ystyried pa un a oes angen mwy o bwerau arnom o ran sut yr ydym yn ymddwyn yma a sut yr ydym yn cysylltu â San Steffan. Gallwn wneud hynny yn gymharol gyflym, ymhen tua 12 mis. Fodd bynnag, tuag at ddiwedd sesiwn cyntaf y Cynulliad yn ystod haf 2003 neu'n fuan wedi hynny, ac ar ôl inni brofi pa mor

consider wider issues such as an independent commission looking at the Assembly's powers. I cannot see what is wrong with conducting a review of the Assembly's powers, including primary legislation, towards the end of a four-year session. We will then have some experience on which to build. There is little point in doing so now, because we do not have that experience. That is not the position of Plaid Cymru, but it is our position and that of the partnership Government. At the end of a four-year session, we will have the experience to know what is and is not working, and we will know how to improve matters.

llwyddiannus yw'r setliad, gallwn ystyried materion ehangach fel comisiwn annibynnol i edrych ar bwerau'r Cynulliad. Ni allaf weld beth sydd o'i le ar gynnal adolygiad o bwerau'r Cynulliad, gan gynnwys deddfwriaeth sylfaenol, tuag at ddiwedd y sesiwn pedair blynedd. Bydd gennym rywfaint o brofiad erbyn hynny y gallwn adeiladu arno. Nid oes llawer o bwynt gwneud hynny yn awr, am nad oes gennym y profiad hwnnw. Nid dyna yw barn Plaid Cymru, ond dyna yw ein barn ni a barn y Llywodraeth bartneriaeth. Ar ddiwedd y sesiwn pedair blynedd, bydd y profiad gennym i wybod beth sydd yn llwyddo a beth sydd yn methu, a byddwn yn gwybod sut i wella pethau.

### **Datblygu Polisiâu Neilltuol i Gymru Developing Distinctive Policies for Wales**

**C9 Cynog Dafis:** Pa ddarpariaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi'u gwneud i'w Lywodraeth ddatblygu polisiâu neilltuol i Gymru? (OAQ8034)

**Q9 Cynog Dafis:** What provisions has the First Minister made for the development by his Government of distinctive policies for Wales? (OAQ8034)

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Yn ein dogfen, 'Rhoi Cymru'n Gyntaf', yr ydym wedi gosod ger bron pawb yng Nghymru ac yn y Cynulliad yr hyn yr ydym am ei wneud o ran cynllunio mwy o bolisiâu sydd wedi eu llunio yng Nghymru. Yr ydym wedi cyflawni ein haddewidion o ran Comisynydd Plant ac o ran sefydlu'r Cyngor Cenedlaethol dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru. Yr oedd eich rôl chi, Cynog, fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor perthnasol, yn bwysig yn hynny o beth. Yr ydym hefyd wedi cyflawni polisiâu ar draws yr holl sectorau i ailwampio ein heconomi a'n hamaethyddiaeth. Yr wyf yn ymfalchïo yn ein record hyd yn hyn.

**The First Minister:** In our document, 'Putting Wales First', we have set out to everyone in Wales and in the Assembly what we want to do in terms of planning more policies formulated in Wales. We have fulfilled our promises as regards the Children's Commissioner and establishing the National Council for Education and Training in Wales. Your role, Cynog, as Chair of the relevant Committee, was important in that. We have also delivered policies across all sectors to revamp our economy and agriculture. I take pride in our record to date.

**Cynog Dafis:** Ar bolisiâu Ewropeaidd y Llywodraeth yn benodol, a allech egluro pa ddarpariaeth sydd yn bodoli i sicrhau polisiâu unigryw i amgylchiadau Cymru? A ydych yn fodlon ystyried penodi cydlynnydd o'r Cynulliad i gydweithio gyda Rhwydwaith Gwybodaeth Ewropeaidd Cymru? Mae gweinyddiaeth yr Alban wedi gwneud yr union beth yn ddiweddar. A gytunwch y byddai hynny'n cyfrannu at godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o faterion Ewropeaidd o safbwynt Cymreig?

**Cynog Dafis:** On the Government's European policies specifically, could you explain what provision exists to ensure the development of policies unique to Wales's circumstances? Are you willing to consider appointing a co-ordinator from the Assembly to collaborate with the Wales European Information Network? The administration in Scotland has done exactly that recently. Do you agree that that would contribute to raising the public's awareness of European issues from a Welsh point of view?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd ddydd Iau, byddwn yn trafod syniadau, ceisiadau a gosodiadau gan Blaid Cymru a'r pleidiau eraill ynghylch sut i gryfhau'r Pwyllgor hwnnw. Bydd cyfle i ystyried pob math o syniadau ynghylch sut y gallwn ddod yn agosach at Ewrop a defnyddio ein grym a'n dylanwad yn Ewrop, a hefyd sut y gallwn ddefnyddio dylanwadau Ewropeaidd yn ein gwaith. Mae'n fater i'w drafod ddydd Iau yn hytrach na heddiw.

**David Melding:** Do you regret that we still do not have a distinctive strategy for the national health service, despite the fact that England's strategy was published in July?

**The First Minister:** We have a distinctive policy for the national health service. The emphasis that we have placed on promoting public health and on preventative health is unique to the health policy that we have developed in the Assembly over the past 18 months. There are significant differences between the drift of health policy in England and Wales. That is not because we want to be different from England, but because our circumstances are different.

**The Presiding Officer:** I call Jocelyn Davies to ask question 10.

**Jocelyn Davies:** I have withdrawn question 10.

**The First Minister:** In the Committee on European Affairs meeting on Thursday, we will discuss ideas, proposals and statements by Plaid Cymru and the other parties on how to strengthen that Committee. There will be an opportunity to consider all kinds of ideas about how we can grow closer to Europe and use our power and influence in Europe, and also how we can incorporate European influences in our work. That is a matter to discuss on Thursday rather than today.

**David Melding:** A ydych yn edifarhau nad oes gennym strategaeth neilltuol o hyd ar gyfer y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol, er gwaethaf y ffaith y cyhoeddwyd strategaeth Lloegr ym mis Gorffennaf?

**Prif Weinidog Cymru:** Mae gennym bolisi neilltuol ar gyfer y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Mae'r pwyslais a roesom ar hyrwyddo iechyd cyhoeddus ac ar iechyd ataliol yn unigryw i'r polisi iechyd a ddatblygasom yn y Cynulliad dros y 18 mis dwiethaf. Mae gwahaniaethau arwyddocaol rhwng cynnwys polisiâu iechyd Lloegr a Chymru. Nid yw hynny am ein bod am fod yn wahanol i Loegr, ond am fod ein hamgylchiadau'n wahanol.

**Y Llywydd:** Galwaf ar Jocelyn Davies i ofyn cwestiwn 10.

**Jocelyn Davies:** Yr wyf tynnu cwestiwn 10 yn ôl.

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

**Alun Cairns:** Point of order. I raise this under Standing Order No. 6.26, which relates to questions for oral answer. In preparation for the Plenary session last Thursday, I tabled a question to the Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economic Development, which read:

'What is the latest progress on Michael German's negotiations for operating aids to support Objective 1 structural funds?'

Unfortunately, we did not reach that question within the session. However, I received a

**Alun Cairns:** Pwynt o drefn. Codaf hyn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.26, sydd yn ymwneud â chwestiynau llafar. Wrth baratoi ar gyfer y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Iau diwethaf, cyflwynais gwestiwn i'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd, sef:

'Beth yw'r diweddaraf ynghylch trafodaethau Michael German ar gymhorthion gweithredu ar gyfer cronfeydd strwythurol Amcan 1?'

Yn affodus, ni chyrrhaeddasom y cwestiwn hwnnw yn y sesiwn. Fodd bynnag, derbyniais

written reply to that oral question. The reply read:

'I shall be making a report to the Economic Development Committee on this matter for its meeting on 13 December 2000.'

You will appreciate that I was then surprised to hear in the media that evening that the Minister was flying to Brussels to take up the matter with Commissioner Monti. My point is that the answer was not strictly accurate, and that the Minister had not appreciated the fact that the paper on operating aids should have been submitted at the same time as the programme complement, which was submitted two months ago. That would have given me the opportunity to challenge him on that matter and seek clarification.

**The Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economic Development (Michael German):** Further to that point of order, Alun's second point is incorrect. On his first point, it is clear that he has listened to the media and has obtained an idea of what might be happening. I will make a full report to the Economic Development Committee on progress on this matter as promised. I will also report to the Committee tomorrow on a paper on this matter that he has already received.

2:38 p.m.

**Alun Cairns:** Further to that point of order, I refer the Minister to the paper that was prepared for the Economic Development Committee on 1 December 1999. Paragraph 3 of paper 2 clearly states that the paper on the operating aids should have been submitted at the same time as the programme complement.

**Michael German** *rose*—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I will not allow a debate on this point of order. I am concerned, not by the content of any reply that may have been given, but by the fact that there may have been a failure to provide the Assembly with information that it requested on a specific issue. I do not consider that to be the immediate case, but I shall review it. On the specific point, it is important that

ymateb ysgrifenedig i'r cwestiwn llafar hwnnw. Yr ymateb oedd:

'Byddaf yn cyflwyno adroddiad i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd ar y mater hwn ar gyfer ei gyfarfod ar 13 Rhagfyr 2000.'

Yr wyf yn siŵr y gwerthfawrogwch fy syndod wedyn o glywed yn y cyfryngau y noswaith honno fod y Gweinidog yn hedfan i Frwsel i drafod y mater gyda'r Comisiynydd Monti. Fy mhwynt i yw nad oedd yr ateb yn gwbl gywir, ac nad oedd y Gweinidog wedi gwerthfawrogi'r ffaith y dylai'r papur ar gymhorthion gweithredu fod wedi'i gyflwyno ar yr un pryd â'r rhaglen ategol a gyflwynwyd ddeufis yn ôl. Byddai hynny wedi rhoi'r cyfle imi ei herio ar y mater a cheisio cael eglurhad.

**Dirprwy Brif Weinidog Cymru a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd (Michael German):** Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, mae ail bwynt Alun yn anghywir. O ran ei bwynt cyntaf, mae'n amlwg ei fod wedi gwrandao ar y cyfryngau ac wedi cael syniad o'r hyn a allai fod yn ddigwydd. Cyflwynaf adroddiad llawn i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd ar y cynnydd ar y mater hwn fel yr addewais. Byddaf hefyd yn cyflwyno adroddiad i'r Pwyllgor yfory ar bapur ar y mater hwn a dderbyniodd eisoes.

**Alun Cairns:** Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, cyfeiriaf y Gweinidog at y papur a baratowyd ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd ar 1 Rhagfyr 1999. Mae paragraff 3 papur 2 yn nodi'n glir y dylai'r papur ar gymhorthion gweithredu fod wedi'i gyflwyno ar yr un pryd â'r rhaglen ategol.

**Michael German** *a gododd*—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Ni allaf ganiatáu trafodaeth ar y pwynt hwn o drefn. Yr wyf yn pryderu, nid am gynnwys unrhyw ateb y gellid bod wedi ei roi, ond am y ffaith y gallai methiant wedi bod i ddarparu'r wybodaeth y gofynnodd y Cynulliad amdani ar fater penodol. Nid wyf yn ystyried mai dyma a ddigwyddodd, ond byddaf yn adolygu hynny. Ar y pwynt penodol, mae'n

Assembly answers divulge useful information wherever possible. One understands the tendency in Assembly questions, as well as Parliamentary ones, for less information to be divulged than the Member would wish, but that is not a matter for me.

**Jocelyn Davies:** I raise a point of order under Standing Order No. 6.8 in reference to the First Minister's statement last week on the Government's programme. I was concerned to discover from the Minister for Assembly Business this morning that the press embargo on that statement, in line with the agreed protocol between the parties, appeared to have been breached by the media. That protocol clearly argues that any breach constitutes an abuse of the Assembly as a whole and, therefore, must concern us all. Is it in order to reiterate here that the press must respect embargoes on statements if they hope to continue to receive advance notice of statements? Will Andrew Davies agree to clarify this matter?

**The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies):** I do not think that that is a bona fide point of order, Presiding Officer. However, it is yet another example of Plaid Cymru abusing the processes of the Assembly. Jocelyn raised this point in the Business Committee this morning, where she received a full answer. If she wanted to raise a question on the business statement, that was the appropriate time to do so.

**The Presiding Officer:** Whether or not a point of order is bona fide is clearly a matter for the Chair. However, the issue raised by Jocelyn is one which, in my view, may be properly raised as a point of order, in that it is a matter of clear concern to Assembly Members if statements are being made in the media and not to the Assembly. That is of legitimate concern. I have always ensured, as have Speakers throughout all jurisdictions, that statements are made in Plenary sessions to the Assembly in the first instance so that those statements can be open to question. Whether or not there has been briefing of another kind to the press as often happens, as I read in the newspapers, then those briefings are legitimate for political debates.

bwysig bod atebion y Cynulliad yn datgelu gwybodaeth ddefnyddiol lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl. Deallaf y duedd yng ngwestiynau'r Cynulliad, yn ogystal â rhai Seneddol, i ddatgelu llai o wybodaeth nag y byddai'r Aelod yn ei ddymuno, ond nid mater i mi yw hynny.

**Jocelyn Davies:** Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.8 gan gyfeirio at ddatganiad y Prif Weinidog yr wythnos diwethaf ar raglen y Llywodraeth. Parodd bryder imi glywed gan y Trefnydd y bore yma yr ymddangosai fod embargo'r wasg ar y datganiad hwnnw, yn unol â'r protocol cytûn rhwng y pleidiau, wedi'i dorri gan y cyfryngau. Noda'r protocol hwnnw'n glir bod unrhyw doriad embargo yn gyfystyr â chamddefnydd o'r Cynulliad cyfan ac, felly, dylai beri pryder inni i gyd. A yw mewn trefn i ailadrodd yma bod yn rhaid i'r wasg barchu embargo ar ddatganiadau os ydynt yn gobeithio parhau i dderbyn hysbysiadau ymlaen llaw am ddatganiadau? A wnaiff Andrew Davies gytuno i roi eglurhad ar y mater hwn?

**Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies):** Ni chredaf fod hwnnw'n bwynt o drefn dilys, Lywydd. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn enghraifft arall eto o Blaid Cymru yn camddefnyddio prosesau'r Cynulliad. Cododd Jocelyn y pwynt hwn yn y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma, lle y derbyniodd ateb llawn. Os oedd am godi cwestiwn ar y datganiad busnes, y pryd hwnnw oedd yr amser priodol i wneud hynny.

**Y Llywydd:** Mater i'r Cadeirydd yw dewis a yw pwynt o drefn yn ddilys ai peidio. Fodd bynnag, yn fy marn i, gellir codi'r mater a godwyd gan Jocelyn fel pwynt o drefn, gan fod datganiadau sydd yn cael eu gwneud i'r wasg ac nid i'r Cynulliad yn fater sydd yn peri pryder amlwg i Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Mae hyn yn bryder dilys. Yr wyf wedi sicrhau bob amser, fel y mae Llefarywr wedi gwneud drwy bob awdurdodaeth, mai yng Nghyfarfodydd Llawn y Cynulliad y gwneir datganiadau yn gyntaf er mwyn i'r datganiadau hynny fod yn agored i gwestiynau. Pa un a fu briffio o fath arall i'r wasg, fel sydd yn digwydd yn aml, yn ôl yr hyn a ddarllenaf yn y papurau newydd, yna mae'r briffiadau hynny yn gyfreithlon ar

gyfer dadlau gwleidyddol.

**Nick Bourne:** I raise a point of order under Standing Order No. 6.26 on questions to Ministers. When Members table questions, those questions are sometimes withdrawn on the basis that Members do not think that they will be reached in Plenary. Accordingly, Jocelyn Davies withdrew question 10, which you called. I wonder, when you then terminated questions, why Peter Rogers, who did not withdraw his question 13, was not called?

**Nick Borune:** Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.26 ar gwestiynau i Weinidogion. Pan fydd yr Aelodau yn cyflwyno cwestiynau, tynnir y cwestiynau hynny yn ôl weithiau, ar y sail nad yw'r Aelodau'n credu y cânt eu trafod yn y Cyfarfod Llawn. Yn unol â hynny, tynnodd Jocelyn Davies gwestiwn 10 yn ôl, a gafodd ei alw gennych chi. Hoffwn wybod, pan wnaethoch derfynu cwestiynau, pam na chafodd Peter Rogers, na dynnodd ei gwestiwn 13 yn ôl, ei alw.

**The Presiding Officer:** The calling of Members to ask questions is a matter for me. We were over our time limit of 30 minutes. It is not possible for me to call Members if they do not put their names forward.

**Y Llywydd:** Mater i mi yw galw Aelodau i ofyn cwestiynau. Yr oeddem wedi mynd heibio i'n terfyn amser o 30 munud. Nid yw'n bosibl imi alw Aelodau os nad ydynt yn rhoi eu henwau ymlaen.

**Nick Bourne** *rose*—

**Nick Bourne** *a gododd*—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I was not referring to Peter Rogers's question; I was referring to the fact that, although I attempt to balance questions, there was a dearth of Members from all parties putting their names forward. If I am to ensure balance, between parties in debate and in questions to Ministers, then I require names of speakers from the different parties, especially for supplementary questions. I was unable to call as many supporters of the Government as I would have wished—[*Interruption.*]

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid oeddwn yn cyfeirio at gwestiwn Peter Rogers; yr oeddwn yn cyfeirio at y ffaith, er y ceisiaf daro cydbwysedd rhwng y cwestiynau, y cafwyd prinder o ran nifer yr Aelodau o'r holl bleidiau a gyflwynodd eu henwau. Os wyf am sicrhau cydbwysedd, rhwng y pleidiau mewn dadleuon, ac o ran cwestiynau i Weinidogion, rhaid imi gael enwau'r siaradwyr o'r gwahanol bleidiau, yn arbennig ar gyfer cwestiynau atodol. Nid oedd modd imi alw ar gymaint o gefnogwyr o'r Llywodraeth ag y byddwn wedi dymuno—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Order. Do I have to spell this out to you? I was unable to call as many supporters of the Government as I would have wished today, to ensure a balanced question time, because they did not put their names forward. The Conservatives were called frequently, and in a balanced fashion.

Trefn. A oes rhaid imi esbonio hyn eto? Nid oedd modd imi alw ar gymaint o gefnogwyr y Llywodraeth ag y byddwn wedi dymuno gwneud heddiw, er mwyn sicrhau sesiwn holi ac ateb cytbwys, am na wnaethant gyflwyno eu henwau. Galwyd ar y Ceidwadwyr yn aml, ac mewn dull cytbwys.

**Nick Bourne:** Further to that point of order, with respect, it is not a question of balance. It is a matter of the order of questions. You called for question 10 to be asked and then, when it was declared to be withdrawn, you brought the time for questions to an end. That is nothing to do with balance. As far as I am aware, neither Jocelyn Davies nor Peter Rogers are Government supporters. It is a

**Nick Bourne:** Yn ychwanegol at y pwynt hwnnw o drefn, gyda phob parch, nid yw'n fater o gydbwysedd. Mae'n fater o drefn y cwestiynau. Galwoch ar i gwestiwn 10 gael ei ofyn ac yna, pan ddatganwyd ei fod wedi'i dynnu'n ôl, terfynwyd yr amser i holi cwestiynau. Nid oes a wnelo hyn unrhyw beth â chydbwysedd. Hyd y gwelaf i, nid yw Jocelyn Davies na Peter Rogers yn

matter of where they appear on the agenda.

gefnogwyr y Llywodraeth. Mae'n fater o ble maent yn ymddangos ar yr agenda.

**The Presiding Officer:** This is a matter for me. We were well beyond the time allocated for questions. Thirty minutes are allocated. I was trying to ensure that a balance of Members was called during that debate. It is a matter of interest to me whether or not Members of all parties are called in a balanced fashion in this Chamber. If the leader of the Welsh Conservatives wants yet another public debate with me in this Chamber about matters of order, he will have one.

**Y Llywydd:** Mae hyn yn fater i mi. Yr oeddem wedi mynd ymhell y tu hwnt i'r amser a neilltuwyd ar gyfer cwestiynau. Neilltuir deg munud ar hugain. Yr oeddwn yn ceisio sicrhau cydbwysedd o ran y drefn o alw ar Aelodau yn ystod y ddatl honno. Mae'n fater o ddiddordeb imi pa un a gaiff Aelodau pob plaid eu galw mewn dull cytbwys yn y Siambr hon. Os yw arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru am gael dadl gyhoeddus arall gyda mi yn y Siambr hon ar faterion o drefn, byddaf yn fwy na pharod i gael un.

**Nick Bourne:** That is exactly what I want, Llywydd, because—

**Nick Bourne:** Dyna'n union beth yr wyf am ei gael, Lywydd, oherwydd—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I am not being unfair to the Conservatives, although Nick Bourne has alleged that in the media on several occasions. I am being more than fair to them. If Nick Bourne checks the record, he will see that the Conservatives have been called more than their fair share today as there was a dearth of Labour Members putting their names forward.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid wyf yn annheg â'r Ceidwadwyr, er bod Nick Bourne wedi honni hynny yn y cyfryngau ar sawl achlysur. Yr wyf yn fwy na theg gyda hwy. Os hoffai Nick Bourne edrych ar y cofnod, fe wêl bod y Ceidwadwyr wedi'u galw yn amlach na'r arfer heddiw oherwydd bod prinder yn nifer yr Aelodau Llafur a gyflwynodd eu henwau.

**Nick Bourne:** That is not our fault.

**Nick Bourne:** Nid ein bai ni yw hynny.

**The Presiding Officer:** It is not my fault either.

**Y Llywydd:** Nid fy mai i yw hynny ychwaith.

### **Datganiad Busnes Business Statement**

**The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies):** Business for the next three weeks will be as follows. Business on Tuesday 5 December will include a motion to approve the Learning and Skills Act 2000 (Commencement No. 2) (Wales) Order 2000, which will not be subject to debate. A motion to approve changes to Standing Order No. 22, which deals with Assembly subordinate legislation, will also be included. The substantive debate will be on the Assembly's policy on public-private partnership and private finance initiatives. There will also be a minority party debate on a motion tabled by Plaid Cymru.

**Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies):** Bydd busnes y tair wythnos nesaf fel a ganlyn. Bydd y busnes ddydd Mawrth 5 Rhagfyr yn cynnwys cynnig i gymeradwyo Gorchymyn (Cychwyn Rhif 2) (Cymru) Deddf Dysgu a Sgiliau 2000, nas trafodir. Bydd cynnig hefyd i gymeradwyo newidiadau i Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22 sydd yn ymwneud ag is-ddeddfwriaeth y Cynulliad. Bydd y brif ddatl ar bolisi'r Cynulliad ynglŷn â phartneriaeth cyhoeddus-preifat a mentrau cyllid preifat. Bydd dadl plaid leiafrifol hefyd ar gynnig a gyflwynir gan Blaid Cymru.

Business on Thursday 7 December is as

Bydd busnes ddydd Iau 7 Rhagfyr fel y



reported last week. Business on Tuesday 12 December will include a composite motion to approve three items of subordinate legislation, which will not be debated, a motion to approve in-year adjustments in accordance with Standing Order No. 19.5 and a motion to consider the report of the Children's Commissioner Appointment Advisory Committee. Also, on 12 December, the Secretary of State for Wales, Paul Murphy, will make a statement on the Queen's Speech, setting out the forthcoming UK Government's legislative programme. This will be followed by the normal period for questions. This is in accordance with the proposed handling arrangements for the Queen's Speech, which were agreed by the Business Committee and the Presiding Officer last week.

On Thursday 14 December, business will include a debate on the programme for government, which will include the detailed legislative programme that comes forward with it. I have allowed one and a half hours for this debate but, as I made clear in the Business Committee and in my statement to Plenary last week, the times allocated for the items of business are only indicative. This is an important debate, which is why I have not included any other scheduled items of business for 12 December, apart from questions to Ministers and the short debate. Plenty of additional time should therefore be available for the debate, if Members wish to use it.

Business for the last Plenary session before the Christmas recess, on Tuesday, 19 December, will include a motion to approve two items of subordinate legislation, which will not be subject to debate, and a debate on a motion identifying the legislative proposals or Bills contained in the Westminster Government's legislative programme that are of direct relevance and importance to the Assembly.

The Assembly will be in recess between 20 December and 10 January. In the first Plenary after the Christmas recess, on Thursday, 11 January, business will include a debate on the second consultation on the Communities First initiative. I will make arrangements for my statement to be placed on the internet and the

nodwyd yr wythnos diwethaf. Bydd busnes ddydd Mawrth 12 Rhagfyr yn cynnwys cynnig cyfansawdd i gymeradwyo tair eitem o is-ddeddfwriaeth, nas trafodir, cynnig i gymeradwyo addasiadau mewn blwyddyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 19.5 a chynnig i ystyried adroddiad Pwyllgor Ymgynghorol Penodi'r Comisiynydd Plant. Hefyd, ar 12 Rhagfyr, bydd Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru, Paul Murphy, yn gwneud datganiad ar Araith y Frenhines, gan nodi rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol arfaethedig Llywodraeth y DU. Fe'i dilynir gan y cyfnod arferol ar gyfer cwestiynau. Mae hyn yn unol â'r trefniadau a gynigir ar gyfer trafod Araith y Frenhines, y cytunwyd arnynt gan y Pwyllgor Busnes a'r Llywydd yr wythnos diwethaf.

Ddydd Iau 14 Rhagfyr, bydd y busnes yn cynnwys dadl ar raglen y llywodraeth, a fydd yn cynnwys y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol fanwl a gyflwynir ar y cyd â hi. Yr wyf wedi caniatáu awr a hanner ar gyfer y ddadl hon ond, fel y nodais yn y Pwyllgor Busnes ac yn fy natganiad yn y Cyfarfod Llawn yr wythnos diwethaf, amseroedd bras yn unig yw'r rhai a ddyrennir ar gyfer eitemau o fusnes. Mae hon yn ddadl bwysig, ac o'r herwydd nid wyf wedi cynnwys unrhyw eitemau penodol eraill o fusnes ar gyfer 12 Rhagfyr, ar wahân i gwestiynau i'r Gweinidogion a'r ddadl fer. Felly dylai fod digon o amser ar gael ar gyfer y ddadl, os dymuna'r Aelodau ei ddefnyddio.

Bydd busnes y Cyfarfod Llawn diwethaf cyn toriad y Nadolig, ar ddydd Mawrth, 19 Rhagfyr, yn cynnwys cynnig i gymeradwyo dwy eitem o is-ddeddfwriaeth, nas trafodir, a dadl ar gynnig sydd yn nodi'r cynigion deddfwriaethol neu'r Mesurau a fydd yn rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol Llywodraeth San Steffan sydd o bwys a pherthnasedd uniongyrchol i'r Cynulliad.

Bydd y Cynulliad yn cael toriad rhwng 20 Rhagfyr a 10 Ionawr. Yn y Cyfarfod Llawn cyntaf ar ôl toriad y Nadolig, ar ddydd Iau, 11 Ionawr, bydd y busnes yn cynnwys dadl ar yr ail ymgynghoriad ar y rhaglen Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Byddaf yn trefnu i'm datganiad gael ei osod ar y rhyngwyd a'r

intranet.

fewnrrwyd.

**William Graham:** You said that you were at pains to stress that the times allocated for business are indicative. Can you illustrate how they are indicative? Very often, the times that you allocate and the subjects that you choose to raise for debate are not complementary. What do you mean when you say that the timings are 'indicative'?

**William Graham:** Dywedasoeh eich bod yn awyddus i nodi bod yr amseroedd a ddyrennir ar gyfer y busnes yn rhai bras. A allwch egluro ym mha ffordd y maent yn fras? Yn aml iawn, nid yw'r amseroedd a ddyrannwyd a'r pynciau a ddewiswyd gennych yn gweddu i'w gilydd. Beth a olygwch wrth ddweud bod yr amseroedd yn rhai 'bras'?

2:48 p.m.

**Andrew Davies:** The timings are agreed by the Business Committee when the draft business statement is presented to it, as I am sure William is aware. A large part of the problem is that when you indicate that there will be a debate on a policy issue, events often dictate that there is either an urgent question, or more likely that the Cabinet will respond to that urgent question with a statement. We often do not know in advance of events when those statements and questions will be tabled. That is why, as I said, the timings are indicative only. Inevitably, if you have two or three statements by Cabinet colleagues, that will take up time, as I explained in Business Committee this morning. It needs to be put on the record again that statements made by Cabinet colleagues are usually, if not invariably, in response to urgent questions tabled by Members. We do not know until the day, or the day before, when those questions will be asked or statements made. That is why it is difficult to give a clear indication of the timing for debates in advance.

**Andrew Davies:** Cytunir ar yr amseroedd gan y Pwyllgor Busnes pan gyflwynir y datganiad busnes drafft iddo, fel y gw^yr William, mae'n siw^r. Y prif anhawster yw ar ôl ichi nodi y bydd dadl ar fater polisi, mae digwyddiadau yn aml yn arwain at gwestiwn brys neu, yn fwy tebygol y bydd y Cabinet yn ymateb i'r cwestiwn brys hwnnw drwy ddatganiad. Yn aml ni wyddom ymlaen llaw am y digwyddiadau pan gyflwynir y datganiadau a'r cwestiynau hynny. Dyma pam, fel y dywedais, mai dim ond amseroedd bras ydynt. Yn anochel, os bydd dau neu dri o ddatganiadau gan fy nghyd-Aelodau yn y Cabinet, fe gymer hynny amser, fel yr eglurais yn y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma. Mae angen cofnodi unwaith eto bod y datganiadau a wneir gan fy nghyd-Aelodau yn y Cabinet fel arfer, os nad bob tro, yn ymateb i gwestiynau brys a gyflwynwyd gan yr Aelodau. Ni wyddom tan y diwrnod, neu'r diwrnod cyn hynny, pa bryd y caiff y cwestiynau hynny eu gofyn neu'r datganiadau eu gwneud. Dyna pam ei bod yn anodd rhoi amseroedd pendant ar gyfer y dadleuon ymlaen llaw.

*Derbyniwyd y datganiad busnes.  
Business statement adopted.*

**Cynnig Cyfansawdd: Cymeradwyo'r Rheoliadau Ardaloedd Rheoli Mwg  
(Tanwyddau Awdurdodedig) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2000  
Composite Motion: Approval of the Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels)  
(Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000**

**Y Llywydd:** Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 22.23A, byddwn yn pleidleisio ar y Gorchymyn hwn heb gynnal dadl.

**The Presiding Officer:** In accordance with Standing Order No. 22.23A, we will put this Order to a vote without debate.

**The Minister for Environment (Sue Essex):** I propose that

**Y Gweindiog Amgylchedd (Sue Essex):** Cynigiau fod

*the National Assembly*

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol*

*(a) approves under Standing Order No. 22.23A the following draft Order:*

*(a) yn cymeradwyo o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.23A y gorchymyn drafft a ganlyn:*

*The Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000 laid in the Table Office 14 November 2000;*

*Rheoliadau Ardaloedd Rheoli Mwg (Tanwyddau Awdurdodedig) (Diwygio) (Cymru) 2000 a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 14 Tachwedd 2000;*

*and*

*ac*

*(b) considers the report of the Legislation Committee relating to this draft Order laid in the Table Office on 21 November 2000.*

*(b) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau sydd yn ymwneud â'r gorchymyn drafft hwn ac a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 21 Tachwedd 2000.*

*Cynnig: O blaid 49, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 1.*

*Motion: For 49, Abstain 0, Against 1.*

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

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Hancock, Brian  
Hart, Edwina  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Melding, David  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Pugh, Alun

Dafis, Cynog

Randerson, Jenny  
 Richards, Rod  
 Rogers, Peter  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
 Motion adopted.*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid oes angen chwerthin. Mae gan Aelodau hawl i bleidleisio ym mha ffordd bynnag y dymunant.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. There is no need to laugh. Members have the right to vote in whatever way they wish.

### **Cynnig i gymeradwyo'r Newidiadau i Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 Motion to approve the Changes to Standing Order No. 6.3**

**The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies):** I propose that

**Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies):** Cynigiau fod

*the National Assembly*

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol*

*acting under section 46(6) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, and Standing Order No. 26:*

*gan weithredu o dan adran 46(6) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru, a Rheol Sefydlog Rhif. 26:*

*i. considers the report of the Business Committee laid in the Table Office on 21 November 2000;*

*i. yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 21 Tachwedd 2000;*

*ii. approves the following revisions to the Standing Orders;*

*ii. yn cymeradwyo'r diwygiadau a ganlyn i'r Rheolau Sefydlog;*

*iii. resolves that the revisions shall take effect immediately.*

*iii. yn penderfynu y bydd effaith i'r diwygiadau ar unwaith:*

#### **Standing Order No. 6.3**

#### **Rheol Sefydlog Rhif. 6.3**

*1. Delete the existing paragraph 6.3 (ii)*

*1. Dileu paragraff 6.3 (ii) presennol*

*2. Insert new paragraphs 6.3 (ii) and (iii) as follows:*

*2. Mewnosod paragraffau newydd 6.3 (ii) a (iii) fel a ganlyn:*

*(ii) the Assembly Secretary with particular responsibility for finance to answer questions related to this responsibility for oral answer at least once, and for at least 15 minutes, every four weeks that the Assembly meets in plenary;*

*(ii) i Ysgrifennydd y Cynulliad ac iddo gyfrifoldeb arbennig dros gyllid ateb cwestiynau sydd yn ymwneud â'r cyfrifoldeb hwn i'w hateb yn llafar o leiaf unwaith, ac am 15 munud o leiaf, bob pedair wythnos y mae'r Cynulliad yn cyfarfod mewn cyfarfodydd llawn;*

(iii) any Assembly Secretary (including if appropriate the First Secretary and the Assembly Secretary with particular responsibility for finance) to whom a field of accountability has been allocated under section 56(3) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 to answer questions in relation to that field for oral answer at least once, and for at least 15 minutes, in every four weeks that the Assembly meets in plenary;

3. Renumber the remaining paragraphs in 6.3.

This motion has the unanimous support of the Business Committee. Standing Order No. 6.3 requires time to be made available in Plenary for questions to Ministers at least once every four weeks. The revision proposes a separation of the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities' two areas of responsibility, for the purpose of tabling oral questions. The revision will allow the Minister to answer questions once every four weeks on her responsibilities for, on the one hand, finance and, on the other hand, local government and communities. The current arrangements allow questions to be tabled on any subject within the Minister's current portfolios. There is concern, shared by the Business Committee, that this could lead to an imbalance in the number of questions being answered in Plenary on Edwina's or any other Minister's portfolio.

I want to ensure that there is no loss of time available to Members for tabling oral questions in respect of the Minister's responsibilities. The changes to Standing Order No. 6.3 will ensure that sufficient time is available for Members to scrutinise the administration on finance as well as on local government and communities matters.

(iii) i unrhyw un o Ysgrifenyddion y Cynulliad (gan gynnwys os yw'n briodol y Prif Ysgrifennydd ac Ysgrifennydd y Cynulliad ac iddo gyfrifoldeb arbennig dros gyllid) y rhoddwyd maes o gyfrifoldeb iddo o dan A.56(3) Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru ateb cwestiynau sydd yn ymwneud â'r maes hwnnw o leiaf unwaith, ac am 15 munud o leiaf, bob pedair wythnos y mae'r Cynulliad yn cyfarfod mewn cyfarfodydd llawn;

3. Ailrifo'r paragraffau sydd yn weddill yn 6.3.

Mae cefnogaeth unfrydol yn y Pwyllgor Busnes i'r cynnig hwn. Mae Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ganiatáu amser mewn Cyfarfodydd Llawn ar gyfer cwestiynau i Weinidogion o leiaf unwaith bob pedair wythnos. Mae'r diwygiad yn cynnig gwahanu'r ddau faes o gyfrifoldeb sydd gan y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau at ddiben cyflwyno cwestiynau llafar. Bydd y diwygiad yn caniatáu i'r Gweinidog ateb cwestiynau unwaith bob pedair wythnos ar ei chyfrifoldebau dros gyllid, ar y naill law, a'i chyfrifoldebau dros lywodraeth leol a chymunedau ar y llaw arall. Caniatâ'r trefniadau presennol i gwestiynau gael eu cyflwyno ar unrhyw bwnc o fewn portffolios cyfredol y Gweinidog. Mae pryder, a rennir gan y Pwyllgor Busnes, y gallai hyn arwain at ddiffyg cydbwysedd yn nifer y cwestiynau a atebir yn y Cyfarfodydd Llawn ar bortffolio Edwina neu bortffolio unrhyw Weinidog arall.

Hoffwn sicrhau na fydd Aelodau yn colli unrhyw amser sydd ar gael iddynt gyflwyno cwestiynau llafar mewn perthynas â chyfrifoldebau'r Gweinidog. Bydd y newidiadau i Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.3 yn sicrhau y caiff yr Aelodau ddigon o amser i holi'r weinyddiaeth yn fanwl ar faterion yn ymwneud â chyllid yn ogystal â llywodraeth leol a chymunedau.

*Cynnig: O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Motion: For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick

Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hancock, Brian  
Hart, Edwina  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Helen Mary  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Melding, David  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Pugh, Alun  
Randerson, Jenny  
Richards, Rod  
Rogers, Peter  
Ryder, Janet  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Kirsty  
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.  
Motion adopted.*

### **Y Strategaeth Dai Genedlaethol The National Housing Strategy**

**The Presiding Officer:** I have selected amendments 1, 4 and 6 in the name of William Graham and amendments 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.  
**Y Llywydd:** Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1, 4 a 6 yn enw William Graham a gwelliannau 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 a 11 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

**The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities (Edwina Hart):** I propose that

*the National Assembly*

*endorses 'Better Homes for People in Wales', the consultation on the national housing strategy for Wales;*

*welcomes the positive contribution this consultation document will make to developing housing policies, which will improve the quality of life of the people of Wales and to deliver the objectives of 'Betterwales.com';*

*acknowledges the role played by tenant representatives, housing agencies and professionals in the process of developing the emerging strategy;*

*supports the policies currently being developed including the housing strategy for black, minority ethnic groups, the establishment of the homeless commission, the extension of the categories of homeless people classified as having priority need and the coverage of care and repair services to all parts of Wales;*

*welcomes the increases in funding for housing contained in the draft budget, reversing the downward trend of the past decade;*

*requires the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities to draw up a national housing strategy, taking account of the responses to the consultation and to report to the National Assembly.*

I am pleased to present 'Better Homes for People in Wales', our consultation paper on proposals for a national housing strategy for Wales. The Assembly has committed itself significantly to improve the lives and opportunities of all people in Wales. 'Better Homes for People in Wales' is an important step towards delivering that commitment.

**Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Edwina Hart):** Cynigïaf fod

*y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol*

*yn cymeradwyo 'Better Homes for People in Wales', y ddogfen ymgynghorol ar strategaeth dai genedlaethol Cymru;*

*yn croesawu cyfraniad pwysig y ddogfen ymgynghorol hon at ddatblygu polisiau tai fydd yn gwella safonau byw pobl Cymru ac yn gwireddu amcanion 'Gwellcymru.com';*

*yn cydnabod rôl cynrychiolwyr tenantiaid, yr asiantaethau tai a phobl broffesiynol yn y broses o ddatblygu'r strategaeth newydd hon;*

*yn cefnogi'r polisiau sydd yn cael eu datblygu ar hyn o bryd gan gynnwys y strategaeth dai i bobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, sefydlu comisiwn y digartref, ymestyn y categorïau o bobl ddigartref y dyfarnwyd bod angen blaenoriaethu eu hanghenion ac ymestyn cwmpas gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio i gynnwys Cymru gyfan;*

*yn croesawu'r cynnydd yn y cyllid ar gyfer tai yn y gyllideb ddrafft, sydd yn gwrthdroi tueddiad y degawd diwethaf i leihau gwariant;*

*yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau lunio strategaeth dai genedlaethol, gan ystyried yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a chyflwyno adroddiad i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol.*

Mae'n dda gennyf gyflwyno 'Better Homes for People in Wales', sef ein papur ymgynghorol ar gynigion ar gyfer strategaeth dai genedlaethol i Gymru. Mae'r Cynulliad wedi gwneud ymrwymiad sylweddol i wella bywydau a chyfleoedd holl bobl Cymru. Mae 'Better Homes for People in Wales' yn gam pwysig tuag at gyflawni'r ymrwymiad hwnnw.

This paper is a practical example of a new, inclusive and consensual approach to policy development in Wales under the National Assembly. The paper follows the 'Framework for a National Housing Strategy for Wales', which we discussed in Plenary last year. It builds on the reports of the four housing strategy task groups, which were set up by Peter Law to develop the framework document into more detailed policy proposals for our consideration. The paper also takes on board relevant elements of the UK Government's recent housing Green Paper.

I paid tribute to Peter Law, my predecessor in the Cabinet with responsibility for housing, for his work in this area. I place on record my tribute to him for the work he undertook. I also thank the many tenant representatives, housing agencies and professionals, and our other partners who have helped to develop the emerging strategy. In all, some 80 organisations contributed to this process through the work of the national consultative forum on housing and the housing strategy task groups.

The national housing strategy will embrace our three guiding themes of sustainable development, tackling social disadvantage and equality of opportunity. The most dramatic, visual examples of inequality among our people is poor or inadequate housing, or in the extreme, no housing at all. I was pleased to be able to increase funding for housing in my draft budget. This reversed the previous downward trend.

Over the next three years, we are providing £82 million to create sustainable and lasting solutions to the problems of up to 100 of our most deprived communities. At the forefront is our flagship programme Communities First. This is a long-term programme that will bring a community-led approach to tackling problems. It will link in with mainstream programmes for tackling deprivation.

One of our key successes in the programme

Mae'r papur hwn yn enghraifft ymarferol o ymagwedd newydd, gynhwysol a chydsyniol tuag at ddatblygu polisi yng Nghymru o dan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Mae'r papur yn dilyn y 'Fframwaith ar gyfer Strategaeth dai Genedlaethol i Gymru', a drafodwyd gennym mewn Cyfarfod Llawn y llynedd. Mae'n adeiladu ar adroddiadau'r pedwar tasglu strategaeth dai, a sefydlwyd gan Peter Law i ddatblygu'r ddogfen fframwaith yn gynigion polisi manylach inni eu hystyried. Mae'r papur hefyd yn ystyried elfennau perthnasol o Bapur Gwyrdd diweddar Llywodraeth y DU ar dai.

Telais deyrnged i Peter Law, fy rhagflaenydd yn y Cabinet a oedd yn gyfrifol am dai, am ei waith yn y maes hwn. Hoffwn gofnodi fy nheyrnged iddo am ei waith. Diolchaf hefyd i'r llu o gynrychiolwyr tenantiaid, asiantaethau tai a phobl broffesiynol, a'n partneriaid eraill a helpodd i ddatblygu'r strategaeth newydd. At ei gilydd, cyfrannodd tua 80 o sefydliadau i'r broses hon drwy waith y fforwm ymgynghorol cenedlaethol ar dai a'r grwpiau gorchwyl strategaeth dai.

Bydd y strategaeth dai genedlaethol yn cwmpasu ein tair thema arweiniol sef datblygu cynaliadwy, mynd i'r afael ag anfantais gymdeithasol a chyfle cyfartal. Tai gwael neu annigonol, neu ar y gwaethaf, dim tai o gwbl yw'r enghreifftiau mwyaf dramatig, gweledol o anghydraddoldeb ymhlith ein pobl. Yr oeddwn yn falch o fod mewn sefyllfa i gynyddu'r cyllid ar gyfer tai yn fy nghyllideb ddrafft. Mae hyn yn gwrthdroi y tueddiad diweddar i leihau gwariant.

Yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf, byddwn yn darparu £82 miliwn i lunio atebion cynaliadwy a pharhaol i'r problemau mewn hyd at 100 o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig. Bydd ein rhaglen arweiniol Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf ar flaen y gad yn hyn o beth. Mae hon yn rhaglen dymor hir a fydd yn cyflwyno ymagwedd wedi ei harwain gan y gymuned tuag at fynd i'r afael â phroblemau. Bydd yn cysylltu â rhaglenni prif ffrwd sydd yn mynd i'r afael ag amddifadedd.

Un o'n llwyddiannau holl bwysig yn y



for tackling deprivation is our Objective 1 programme. We will ensure that there is an integration of approach between Communities First and Objective 1, allowing the money for Communities First to be a form of match funding. Following further consultation on the key aspects of our approach, implementation of Communities First will begin in the summer of next year.

We all recognise the problems that we face with our housing in Wales. There is a backlog of essential repairs to council housing. There is poor energy efficiency and the related problems of fuel poverty. There is the poor condition of some of our older owner-occupied housing. There are the particular problems of the private rented sector, most serious of all in housing in multiple occupation.

These problems were largely inherited by the National Assembly. They were the legacy of many years where priorities lay elsewhere. The Assembly is committed to ensuring that our housing policies are properly integrated into our vision for a better Wales. We recognise the links between decent housing and our nation's standards of health, academic achievement and support and care for the most vulnerable people in our society.

The most vulnerable are the homeless and those who sleep rough. We are determined to tackle the problem of homelessness and to ensure that no one in Wales needs to sleep rough. We are providing £3.6 million this year to enable local authorities to develop better local strategies to tackle homelessness, and to support improvements in the condition and management of housing in multiple occupation. This is on top of the £1.8 million budget for voluntary organisations working with the homeless. An additional £3.5 million over the next three years will support projects to help eliminate rough sleeping and reduce homelessness.

We are also taking forward the remit given to us by the National Assembly in June to bring

rhaglen i fynd i'r afael ag amddifadedd yw ein rhaglen Amcan 1. Byddwn yn sicrhau y caiff ein hymagwedd at Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf ac Amcan 1 ei hintegreiddio, gan ganiatáu i'r arian ar gyfer Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf fod ar ffurf arian cyfatebol. Yn dilyn ymgynghoriad pellach ar yr agweddau allweddol ar ein hymagwedd, bydd y broses o weithredu Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf yn dechrau yn yr haf y flwyddyn nesaf.

Yr ydym oll yn cydnabod y problemau a wynebwn o ran tai yng Nghymru. Ceir ôl-groniad o waith trwsio hanfodol ar dai cyngor. Ceir effeithlonrwydd ynni gwael a phroblemau cysylltiedig o ran tlodi tanwydd. Mae rhai o'n tai hŷn â pherchenogion preswyl mewn cyflwr gwael. Mae problemau penodol ynglŷn â'r sector rhentu preifat, sydd ar ei fwyaf difrifol o fewn amlbreswyliaeth.

Etifeddodd y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol y problemau hynny i raddau helaeth. Yr oeddent yn etifeddiaeth blynyddoedd lawer pan gafodd meysydd eraill flaenoriaeth. Mae'r Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau y caiff ein polisiau tai eu hintegreiddio'n iawn i'n gweledigaeth ar gyfer Cymru well. Cydnabyddwn y cysylltiadau rhwng tai safonol a safonau iechyd ein cenedl, cyflawniad academaidd a chymorth a gofal i'r bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yn ein cymdeithas.

Y bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn yw'r digartref a'r rhai sydd yn cysgu ar y stryd. Yr ydym yn benderfynol o fynd i'r afael â phroblem digartrefedd a sicrhau nad oes unrhyw un yng Nghymru yn gorfod cysgu ar y stryd. Yr ydym yn darparu £3.6 miliwn eleni er mwyn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i ddatblygu gwell strategaethau lleol i fynd i'r afael â digartrefedd, a gwella cyflwr tai mewn amlbreswyliaeth a sut y'u rheolir. Mae hyn yn ychwanegol at y gyllideb o £1.8 miliwn ar gyfer y sefydliadau gwirfoddol sydd yn gweithio gyda'r digartref. Bydd £3.5 miliwn ychwanegol dros y tair blynedd nesaf yn cefnogi prosiectau sydd yn helpu i gael gwared ar gysgu ar y stryd a lleihau digartrefedd.

Yr ydym hefyd yn datblygu'r cylch gwaith a roddwyd inni gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol

forward legislation to extend the categories of homeless people in priority need. Subject to the approval of the National Assembly, the legislation should be in place by 1 March 2001.

Tackling the problems of homelessness and rough sleeping is a priority for us in the Assembly. I have therefore announced the setting up of a homelessness commission to investigate how we can best tackle these problems comprehensively and quickly. Peter Black will chair the commission. I have invited Gwenda Thomas and Kirsty Williams who are the Chairs of the Local Government and Housing Committee and the Health and Social Services Committee to be members, along with representatives of those organisations charged with dealing with homelessness in the field. I have asked the commission to report back to me by early summer next year.

2:58 p.m.

An additional £40 million over the next three years will help local authorities to improve poor housing in the public and private sectors, with the emphasis on community regeneration. Many homeowners are elderly or disabled. We are determined that these people should receive the help and support that they need to live comfortably in their homes. We have provided additional resources this year to extend care and repair services to all parts of Wales. These services are invaluable in helping elderly and disabled people to remain in their own homes.

We will also undertake a review of the demand for housing for elderly people. This will consider the need for sheltered accommodation and the development of other forms of accommodation for the elderly. The review will also consider the impact that specially designed housing for elderly people can have on residential and nursing home provision. This project will run alongside the development of a comprehensive strategy for the elderly in Wales.

ym Mehefin i gyflwyno deddfwriaeth a fydd yn ymestyn y categorïau o bobl ddigartref y mae angen blaenoriaethu eu hanghenion. Yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, dylai'r ddeddfwriaeth ddod i rym erbyn 1 Mawrth 2001.

Mae mynd i'r afael â phroblemau digartrefedd a chysgu ar y stryd yn flaenoriaeth inni yn y Cynulliad. Yr wyf felly wedi cyhoeddi y byddwn yn sefydlu comisiwn y digartref a fydd yn ymchwilio i'r ffyrdd gorau o ymdrin â'r problemau hyn mewn modd cynhwysfawr a chyflym. Peter Black fydd yn cadeirio'r comisiwn. Gwahoddais Gwenda Thomas a Kirsty Williams sydd yn cadeirio Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai a'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i fod yn aelodau, ynghyd â chynrychiolwyr o'r sefydliadau hynny sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros ymdrin â digartrefedd yn y maes. Gofynnais i'r comisiwn roi adroddiad imi erbyn dechrau'r haf y flwyddyn nesaf.

Bydd £40 miliwn ychwanegol yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf yn helpu awdurdodau lleol i wella tai gwael yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat, gyda'r pwyslais ar adfywio cymunedol. Mae llawer o berchenogion tai yn oedrannus neu'n anabl. Yr ydym yn benderfynol y dylai'r bobl hyn gael y cymorth a'r gefnogaeth sydd eu hangen arnynt i fyw'n gysurus yn eu cartrefi. Yr ydym wedi darparu adnoddau ychwanegol eleni i ymestyn y gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio i bob rhan o Gymru. Mae'r gwasanaethau hyn yn amhrisiadwy wrth helpu'r oedrannus a'r anabl i aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain.

Byddwn hefyd yn adolygu'r galw am dai ar gyfer yr oedrannus. Byddwn yn ystyried yr angen am lety lloches a datblygu mathau eraill o lety ar gyfer yr oedrannus. Bydd yr adolygiad hefyd yn ystyried yr effaith y gall tai a gynllunnir yn arbennig i'r oedrannus ei chael ar ddarpariaeth cartrefi preswyl a nyrzio. Caiff y prosiect hwn ei redeg ochr yn ochr â datblygu strategaeth gynhwysfawr ar gyfer yr oedrannus yng Nghymru.

As part of our aim to ensure equality of opportunity in access to housing, we are also developing a specific strategy for meeting the housing needs of black and other minority ethnic groups. In October, I had the pleasure of addressing a successful conference on black and ethnic minority housing needs. This was a joint initiative between the Assembly and the Commission for Racial Equality. We are funding a feasibility study to look at the establishment of a black-led housing association in Wales. This study will also identify good practice and promote greater involvement of black and ethnic minority people within the management structures of social landlords. Involvement in the management structure is a key area.

Fuel poverty is also a central feature of social disadvantage. Some 220,000 homes in Wales lack either basic insulation or heating in their homes. We are providing an additional £6 million over the next three years to tackle fuel poverty through the new Home Energy Efficiency Scheme. This will extend the scheme to include 38,000 households by 2003. These are steps towards our target of meeting the needs of all fuel-poor households by 2010. I was delighted today to see so many Assembly Members at the National Energy Action launch today, which shows our commitment as an Assembly to this issue.

I will turn briefly to the amendments. Amendment 1 is unacceptable. We need to balance the level of regulation with the need to ensure that construction pays due consideration to health and safety, quality and energy efficiency, where we have a statutory duty. I also bear in mind the Local Government and Housing Committee's concerns regarding the standards on building sites.

I also ask you to reject amendment 2. This is a consultation document. In its preparation we have shown our commitment to listening, and it is important that people see that the Assembly supports this document.

Fel rhan o'n nod i sicrhau cyfle cyfartalal o ran mynediad i dai, yr ydym hefyd yn datblygu strategaeth benodol a fydd yn bodloni anghenion tai pobl ddu a lleiafrifoedd ethnig eraill. Ym mis Hydref, cefais y pleser o annerch cynhadledd lwyddiannus ar anghenion tai pobl ddu a lleiafrifoedd ethnig. Yr oedd hynny'n fenter ar y cyd rhwng y Cynulliad a'r Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb Hiliol. Yr ydym yn ariannu astudiaeth ymarferoldeb a fydd yn ystyried y posibilrwydd o sefydlu cymdeithas dai a arweinir gan bobl ddu yng Nghymru. Bydd yr astudiaeth hefyd yn nodi arfer da ac yn annog pobl ddu a lleiafrifoedd ethnig i chwarae rhan mwy blaenllaw o fewn strwythurau rheoli landlordiaid cymdeithasol. Mae chwarae rhan yn y strwythur rheoli yn faes allweddol.

Mae tlodi tanwydd hefyd yn nodwedd ganolog o anfantais gymdeithasol. Nid oes cyfarpar inswleiddio na gwresogi sylfaenol mewn tua 220,000 o dai yng Nghymru. Yr ydym yn darparu £6 miliwn ychwanegol yn ystod y tair blynedd nesaf i fynd i'r afael â thlodi tanwydd drwy ein Cynllun Effeithlonrwydd Ynni Cartref newydd. Bydd hyn yn ymestyn y cynllun i gynnwys 38,000 o gartrefi erbyn 2003. Mae'r rhain yn gamau tuag at ein targed o fodloni anghenion pob cartref sydd yn dioddef o dlodi tanwydd erbyn 2010. Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o weld cymaint o Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn bresennol wrth i National Energy Action gel ei lansio heddiw, sydd yn dangos ein hymrwymiad fel Cynulliad i'r mater hwn.

Trof yn fyr at y gwelliannau. Mae gwelliant 1 yn annerbiniol. Mae angen inni wrthbwysio lefel y rheoleiddio yn erbyn yr angen i sicrhau bod sylw priodol yn cael ei roi i iechyd a diogelwch, ansawdd ac effeithlonrwydd ynni wrth adeiladu tai, lle y mae dyletswydd statudol gennym. Yr wyf hefyd yn ystyried pryderon y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai ynglŷn â'r safonau ar safleoedd adeiladu.

Gofynnaf ichi wrthod gwelliant 2 hefyd. Dogfen ymgynghorol ydyw. Wrth ei pharatoi, yr ydym wedi nodi ein hymrwymiad i wrando, ac mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn gweld bod y Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r ddogfen hon.

It is entirely appropriate to support amendment 3, which includes all aspects of our policy.

Amendment 4 is also not acceptable. Capital funding is made available to local authorities on a non-specific basis and is unhypothecated. It is a matter for each local authority to determine the funding priorities. In view of the discussions we have heard on local democracy and local government, the Assembly should reject this amendment.

I am sorry that there are two points in amendment 5. The first point is a matter for primary legislation and we wholeheartedly support it in principle. We will seek to influence legislation to give this power to the Assembly. However, the second point has financial implications for us. The Treasury and the Department of Social Security may require assurance that we would find any net costs through increases in subsidy from Assembly budgets. I urge you to reject it.

Amendment 6 is unnecessary because adequate controls already exist.

Amendment 7 is not acceptable. We already acknowledge that there have been inadequate investment levels in health in previous years. I do not know what is meant by 'housing repair allowances'. This could be the notional level of maintenance incorporated into the housing revenue account subsidy, or it could be a reference to renovation grants or capital for local authority stock.

Amendment 8 is not acceptable either, because it is not good value for money. It is important that any information obtained can be used to support decision-making or the development of policies at the appropriate level. Housing need is best established at a local level. We have been assisting local authorities to do this with funding at 50 per cent of the cost of undertaking a housing needs survey, and we will continue to do so.

We support amendment 9, but the Local Government and Housing Committee has taken a lead in this area. We will report back to the Committee on the responses received

Mae'n gwbl briodol cefnogi gwelliant 3, sydd yn cynnwys pob agwedd ar ein polisi.

Nid yw gwelliant 4 yn dderbyniol ychwaith. Rhoddir cyllid cyfalaf i awdurdodau lleol ar sail amhenodol ac ni chaiff ei briodiannu. Mae'n fater i bob awdurdod lleol benderfynu ar y blaenoriaethau ariannu. O ystyried y trafodaethau a glywsom ar ddemocratiaeth leol a llywodraeth leol, dylai'r Cynulliad wrthod y gwelliant hwn.

Edifarhaf fod dau bwynt yng ngwelliant 5. Mae'r pwynt cyntaf yn ymwneud â deddfwriaeth sylfaenol ac yr ydym yn ei chefnogi i'r carn mewn egwyddor. Byddwn yn ceisio dylanwadu ar ddeddfwriaeth er mwyn rhoi'r pŵer hwn i'r Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, mae i'r ail bwynt oblygiadau ariannol i ni. Mae'n bosibl y bydd y Trysorlys a'r Adran Nawdd Cymdeithasol yn ceisio sicrwydd y byddem yn ariannu unrhyw gostau net drwy gynyddu cymorthdaliadau o gyllidebau'r Cynulliad. Fe'ch anogaf i'w wrthod.

Nid oes angen gwelliant 6 am fod rheolaethau digonol yn bodoli eisoes.

Nid yw gwelliant 7 yn dderbyniol. Yr ydym eisoes yn cydnabod na fu digon o fuddsoddiad mewn iechyd yn ystod y blynyddoedd blaenorol. Ni wn beth yw ystyr 'lwfansau trwsio tai'. Hwyrach mai dyma'r lefel dybiannol o gynhaliath a gynhwysir yn y cymhorthdal cyfrif refeniw tai, neu gallai gyfeirio at grantiau neu gyfalaf adnewyddu ar gyfer tai awdurdodau lleol.

Nid yw gwelliant 8 yn dderbyniol ychwaith, am nad yw'n rhoi gwerth da am arian. Mae'n bwysig bod modd defnyddio unrhyw wybodaeth a geir i ategu'r broses gwneud penderfyniadau neu ddatblygu polisiâu ar y lefel briodol. Ar lefel leol y mae'r ffordd orau o gadarnhau anghenion tai. Buom yn helpu awdurdodau lleol i wneud hyn drwy ariannu 50 y cant o'r gost o gynnal arolwg anghenion tai, a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hyn.

Cefnogwn welliant 9, ond mae'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai wedi arwain yn y maes hwn. Byddwn yn rhoi adroddiad i'r Pwyllgor ar yr ymatebion a gafwyd yn Mai.

in May. No-one should think that that has not been ongoing. The Committee, under Peter Law, was fully involved in the consultation exercise. I support the amendment, but it is somewhat passé in real terms. I also support Jocelyn Davies's amendment 10. It is important, because there is a reference to supporting changes to the housing benefit system in chapter 14. I do not support amendment 11, because we have already amalgamated the People in Communities and Sustainable Communities programmes into a new community purpose fund, which will also provide the expenditure for Communities First. It would be inappropriate for us to prescribe representation in connection with Communities First and, while representation for tenants is important, we must also look at the needs with a bottom-up approach within Communities First in this context.

Finally, there have been some misleading press reports about what we are not doing to meet the housing needs of rural communities, particularly housing-related Welsh language issues. As our consultation paper makes clear, we are committed to doing more to support, modernise and enhance rural life and rural communities. The Welsh language is a central feature of many of those communities.

A number of proposals in our consultation paper build on existing policies which already enable local authorities to take effective and appropriate action to protect and support our rural and Welsh-speaking communities. This action needs to be consistent with locally identified strategic needs and priorities. In July, we issued strengthened guidance to local authorities on taking account of the implications for the Welsh language in setting their planning policies. The guidance recognises the need to consider the impact of new development on existing communities. However, it is not our intention to introduce any element of discrimination between individuals, or to seek to control housing occupancy on linguistic grounds.

Ni ddylai unrhyw un dybio nad yw hyn wedi bod yn digwydd. Chwaraeodd y Pwyllgor, o dan Peter Law, ran lawn yn yr ymarfer ymgynghori. Cefnogaf y gwelliant, ond nid yw'n gyfredol erbyn hyn mewn gwirionedd. Cefnogaf welliant 10 Jocelyn Davies hefyd. Mae'n bwysig, am ei fod yn cyfeirio at gefnogi newidiadau i'r system budd-dâl tai ym mhennod 14. Nid wyf yn cefnogi gwelliant 11, am ein bod eisoes wedi cyfuno rhaglenni Pobl mewn Cymunedau a Chymunedau Cynaliadwy yn gronfa newydd at ddiben y gymuned, a fydd hefyd yn talu am raglen Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Ni fyddai'n briodol inni ragnodi cynrychiolaeth mewn perthynas â Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf ac, er bod cynrychiolaeth ar gyfer tenantiaid yn bwysig, rhaid inni ystyried hefyd yr anghenion gan ddefnyddio ymagwedd o'r gwaelod i fyny o fewn rhaglen Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf yn y cyd-destun hwn.

I gloi, bu rhai adroddiadau camarweiniol yn y wasg ynglŷn â'r hyn nad ydym yn ei wneud i fodloni anghenion tai cymunedau gwledig, yn arbennig materion yr iaith Gymraeg sydd yn gysylltiedig â thai. Fel y mae ein papur ymgynghorol yn egluro, yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i wneud rhagor er mwyn cynorthwyo, moderneiddio a gwella bywyd a chymunedau gwledig. Mae'r iaith Gymraeg yn nodwedd ganolog o lawer o'r cymunedau hynny.

Mae nifer o'r cynigion yn ein papur ymgynghorol yn adeiladu ar bolisiau presennol sydd eisoes yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i gymryd camau effeithiol a phriodol i ddiogelu a chynorthwyo ein cymunedau gwledig a chymunedau Cymraeg eu hiaith. Mae angen i'r camau hyn fod yn gyson ag anghenion a blaenoriaethau strategol a nodwyd yn lleol. Ym mis Gorffennaf, cyhoeddwyd arweiniad cadarnach gennym i awdurdodau lleol ystyried y goblygiadau i'r iaith Gymraeg wrth bennu eu polisiau cynllunio. Mae'r arweiniad yn cydnabod bod angen ystyried effaith datblygiad newydd ar gymunedau sydd yn bodoli eisoes. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym am wahaniaethu yn erbyn unigolion mewn unrhyw fodd, na cheisio rheoli deiliadaeth tai ar sail ieithyddol.

I am aware that the Rural White Paper for England is being published today. I intend, along with Sue Essex and Carwyn Jones, to look closely at what more we might do to ensure that people who live in our rural communities can get the housing which meets their needs. Our consultation paper invites views on this very issue.

I look forward to the debate today, to which Peter Black, as Deputy Minister for Local Government, will respond.

**William Graham:** I propose amendment 1. After 'propose that the National Assembly' insert as new clause:

*Recognises both the significance of private investment for future housing in Wales, and the need for companies to be freed from excessive regulation with regard to construction development.*

I also propose amendment 4. After 'process of developing the emerging strategy' insert as new clause:

*Recommends that as part of the national housing strategy, sufficient funds are available for the repair of all PRC designated homes in Wales.*

I also propose amendment 6. After 'care and repair services to all parts of Wales' insert as new clause:

*Ensures that there is adequate and public control of the costs of transferring housing stock from local authorities to registered social landlords.*

Any national housing strategy must address the history of housing development in Wales, in addition to meeting the aspirations of those who wish to live in our country. The present picture of housing in Wales illustrates several remarkable features: there are approximately 1,267,000 homes in Wales, of which 20 per cent are well over 100 years old, and 35 per cent are over 80 years old; local authority dwellings account for 15 per cent of those homes; and we have a high instance of owner-occupation, which amounts to

Yr wyf yn ymwybodol bod y Papur Gwyn ar Faterion Gwledig ar gyfer Lloegr yn cael ei gyhoeddi heddiw. Bwriadaf, ynghyd â Sue Essex a Carwyn Jones, edrych yn fanwl ar ba gamau eraill y gallwn eu cymryd i sicrhau y gall pobl sydd yn byw yn ein cymunedau gwledig gael y tai sydd yn bodloni eu hanghenion. Mae ein papur ymgynghorol yn gwahodd sylwadau ar yr union fater hwn.

Edrychaf ymlaen at y ddadl heddiw, y bydd Peter Black, fel Dirprwy Weinidog dros Lywodraeth Leol, yn ymateb iddi.

**William Graham:** Cynigïaf welliant 1. Yn dilyn 'cynnig bod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol', ychwaneger cymal newydd:

*Yn cydnabod arwyddocâd buddsoddiad preifat ar gyfer tai yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol, a'r angen i gwmnïau gael eu rhyddhau o reoliadau gormodol o ran datblygu adeiladu.*

Cynigïaf hefyd wellinant 4. Yn dilyn 'y broses o ddatblygu'r strategaeth newydd hon', ychwaneger cymal newydd:

*Yn argymhell fel rhan o'r strategaeth dai genedlaethol, bod digon o arian ar gael i atgyweirio'r holl dai PRC a nodir yng Nghymru.*

Cynigïaf hefyd welliant 6. Yn dilyn 'gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio i gynnwys Cymru gyfan'. Ychwaneger cymal newydd:

*Yn sicrhau y ceir rheolaeth ddigonol a chyhoeddus o gostau trosglwyddo'r stoc dai o awdurdodau lleol i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig.*

Rhaid i unrhyw strategaeth dai genedlaethol ystyried hanes datblygu tai yng Nghymru, yn ogystal â gwireddu dyheadau'r rhai sydd yn dymuno byw yn ein gwlad. Mae sawl nodwedd hynod i'r darlun presennol o dai yng Nghymru: mae tua 1,267,000 o dai yng Nghymru, 20 y cant ohonynt wedi eu hadeiladu ymhell dros ganrif yn ôl, ac 35 y cant ohonynt dros 80 mlynedd yn ôl; mae anheddau awdurdodau lleol yn cyfrif am 15 y cant o'r cartrefi hynny; ac mae nifer uchel ohonynt â pherchenogion yn byw ynddynt,

approximately 72 per cent of homes.

In the last 40 years, the proportion of homes rented from local authorities has fallen from 24 per cent to 15 per cent. Over the same period, there has been a 28 per cent increase in the number of people in Wales who own their own homes. For each of those 40 years—almost half of the last century—the independent sector has built more homes than all the local authorities, new town corporations and registered social landlords in Wales combined. It is not possible, therefore, to develop a national housing strategy that fails to recognise the major provider of housing development in Wales. Amendment 1 addresses that fact.

If we are to see a continued raising of standards and improved quality in new homes, we must ensure that independent sector developments are not impeded by unnecessary regulations. That sector fully understands the competitiveness of its market, where people seek to improve living standards, and, therefore, it must respond with regard to quality, energy efficiency and design. Without this independent investment, any future strategy for housing in Wales would merely become a national care and repair housing strategy.

Our emphasis on, and recognition of, private sector development should not be interpreted as overlooking the needs of those who cannot afford to buy their own homes, or of those who seek rented accommodation or are homeless. One fact overshadows the history of housing provision in Wales: no other party has constructed more council housing than the Conservatives. Today, local authorities are able to allocate accommodation to homeless people, to asylum seekers—

3:08 p.m.

**Val Feld:** Do you accept that no other party has done as much damage to council housing or has taken as much council housing out of council ownership as the Conservatives?

**William Graham:** We are proud to have taken as much council housing out of local

sef tua 72 y cant o gartrefi.

Yn ystod y 40 mlynedd diwethaf, mae cyfran y tai a rentir oddi wrth awdurdodau lleol wedi gostwng o 24 y cant i 15 y cant. Yn ystod yr un cyfnod, bu cynnydd o 28 y cant yn nifer y bobl yng Nghymru sydd yn berchen ar eu tai. Bob blwyddyn yn ystod y 40 mlynedd diwethaf—bron hanner y ganrif ddiwethaf—bu'r sector annibynnol yn adeiladu mwy o dai na'r holl awdurdodau lleol, corfforaethau trefi newydd a landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig yng Nghymru gyda'i gilydd. Felly nid oes modd datblygu strategaeth dai genedlaethol nad yw'n cydnabod prif ddarparwr datblygiadau tai yng Nghymru. Mae gwelliant 1 yn mynd i'r afael â'r ffaith honno.

Os ydym am weld safonau yn parhau i godi a thai newydd o ansawdd gwell, rhaid inni sicrhau na chaiff datblygiadau'r sector annibynnol eu rhwystro oherwydd rheoliadau diangen. Mae'r sector hwnnw'n deall yn llawn pa mor gystadleuol yw ei farchnad, lle y mae pobl yn ceisio gwella safonau byw, ac, felly, rhaid iddo ymateb o ran ansawdd, effeithlonrwydd ynni a chynllun. Heb y buddsoddiad annibynnol hwn, ni fyddai unrhyw strategaeth dai yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol ond rhyw fath o strategaeth gofal a thrwsio tai genedlaethol.

Ni ddylid dehongli'r ffaith inni bwysleisio a chydnabod datblygiadau'r sector preifat fel pe baem yn diystyru anghenion pobl na all fforddio prynu eu cartrefi eu hunain, neu anghenion pobl sydd yn ceisio llety ar rent neu sydd yn ddi-gartref. Mae un ffaith yn bwysicach na dim yn hanes darpariaeth tai yng Nghymru: nid oes yr un blaid wedi codi mwy o dai cyngor na'r Ceidwadwyr. Heddiw, gall awdurdodau lleol ddyrannu llety i bobl ddi-gartref, i geiswyr lloches—

**Val Feld:** A dderbyniwch nad yw unrhyw blaid arall wedi gwneud mwy o niwed o ran tai cyngor nac wedi cymryd cymaint o dai cyngor allan o eiddo cynghorau na'r Ceidwadwyr?

**William Graham:** Yr ydym yn falch o'r ffaith inni gymryd cymaint o dai cyngor allan

authority ownership.

Another legacy of Conservative Government initiative was the extra capital that local authorities received from the sale of council houses. This was used by many local authorities in Wales to reduce the enormous debt run-up by inefficient Labour-controlled councils, often via the direct labour organisations. The most telling fact concerning the commitment of Conservative Governments to funding local authority housing is that the total spending in Wales for 1996-97 was £193.3 million. Using the latest constant base figure, this Government's spending amounts to £205.8 million. The Conservative Party spent more in its last year in office than is being spent by the present Government. Conservative Governments have always sought to encourage local authorities to provide the best services at the lowest possible cost to the ratepayer.

Local authorities' failure to ensure the best services for all aspects of council responsibilities is addressed in amendment 4 and amendment 6. They seek to ensure that when local authorities initiate a project, the best management practices are used. In housing repair programmes, many precast reinforced concrete dwellings, which are in need of extensive repair, have been excluded from existing repair programmes. We support the transfer of housing stock to registered social landlords; in many local authorities, administration costs have spiralled out of control because the correct procedure was not followed.

With regard to PRC homes, I refer particularly to the communities of Ringwood Hill in Newport and Edgemoor Close in Swansea, which have been excluded from the programme. I was sorry to hear today that the Minister for Finance will not include them in the future. To ensure that oversights such as this are a thing of the past, we need an audit of housing stock that will not only describe the state of repair, but will record homes that have specific adaptations to allow them to be occupied by disabled dwellers.

o eiddo awdurdodau lleol.

Menter arall a etifeddwyd gan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol oedd y cyfalaf ychwanegol a gafodd awdurdodau lleol drwy werthu tai cyngor. Fe'i defnyddiwyd gan lawer o awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i leihau'r ddyled anferth a achoswyd gan y cynghorau aneffeithlon a reolwyd gan Lafur, yn aml drwy'r sefydliadau llafur uniongyrchol. Y ffaith fwyaf arwyddocaol o ran ymrwymiad Llywodraethau Ceidwadol i ariannu tai awdurdodau lleol oedd mai £193.3 miliwn oedd cyfanswm y gwariant yng Nghymru ar gyfer 1996-97. Gan ddefnyddio'r ffigur sylfaen barhaol diweddaraf, mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi gwario cyfanswm o £205.8 miliwn. Gwariodd y Blaid Geidwadol fwy o arian yn ei blwyddyn olaf mewn llywodraeth nag y mae'r Llywodraeth bresennol yn ei wario. Mae Llywodraethau Ceidwadol bob amser wedi ceisio annog awdurdodau lleol i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau gorau ar y gost isaf bosibl i'r trethdalwr.

Ymdrinnir â methiant awdurdodau lleol i sicrhau'r gwasanaethau gorau ar gyfer pob agwedd ar gyfrifoldebau cynghorau yng ngwelliant 4 a gwelliant 6. Ceisiant sicrhau bod awdurdodau lleol yn defnyddio'r arferion rheoli gorau pan fyddant yn cychwyn prosiect. Mewn rhaglenni trwsio tai, mae llawer o anheddau o goncrit dur a ragfwriwyd, y mae angen gwaith trwsio sylweddol arnynt wedi eu hepgor o'r rhaglenni trwsio presennol. Cefnogwn drosglwyddo stoc dai i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig; mewn llawer o awdurdodau lleol mae costau gweinyddol wedi cynyddu allan o bob rheolaeth am na ddilynwyd y weithdrefn gywir.

O ran cartrefi PRC, cyfeiriaf yn benodol at y cymunedau yn Ringwood Hill yng Nghasnewydd ac Edgemoor Close yn Abertawe, sydd wedi eu hepgor o'r rhaglen. Yr oedd yn ddrwg gennyf glywed heddiw na fydd y Gweinidog Cyllid yn eu cynnwys yn y dyfodol. Er mwyn sicrhau na fydd hepgoriadau o'r fath yn digwydd eto, mae angen inni gynnal archwiliad o'r stoc dai a fydd nid yn unig yn disgrifio cyflwr y tai ond yn cofnodi'r tai sydd ag addasiadau penodol i ganiatáu i breswylwyr anabl fyw ynddynt.



The emphasis on, and recognition of, private sector development is important and should continue. We welcome the growth in housing associations, not only because they allow tenants to become members of the management board, encourage their participation in community housing development programmes and allow local people to determine solutions to local problems, but because they also allow opportunities for private capital investment to extend the development with low-cost loans.

**Brian Gibbons:** I raise a point of order under Standing Order No. 4. I seek your ruling on whether people who are in receipt of earnings for rented properties should declare an interest in this debate.

**The Presiding Officer:** I will seek advice and return to that point.

**William Graham:** Further to that point of order, if that will be your ruling, I declare an interest.

**Janet Davies:** I propose the amendments tabled in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

I propose amendment 2. In line 1 of clause 1 delete 'endorses' and replace with 'notes'.

I also propose amendment 3. Add at the end of clause 2:

*and achieve the Assembly's obligations to equal opportunities and sustainable development.*

I also propose amendment 5. Add a new clause 5 and renumber accordingly:

*Ensures that mandatory licensing of rented properties is not only restricted to higher risk houses of multiple occupation. Recognises the crucial role of the National Assembly in setting the level of both local authority and housing association rents and that 'affordable rent' will be related to average and minimum wages.*

I also propose amendment 7. In clause 5 delete everything after 'draft budget' and

Mae'n bwysig pwysleisio a chydabod datblygiadau'r sector preifat a dylai hyn barhau. Croesawn y cynnydd mewn cymdeithasau tai, nid yn unig am eu bod yn caniatáu i denantiaid ddod yn aelodau o'r bwrdd rheoli, yn annog iddynt gymryd rhan mewn rhaglenni datblygu tai cymunedol ac yn caniatáu i bobl leol benderfynu ar atebion i broblemau lleol, ond am eu bod hefyd yn rhoi'r cyfle i ddefnyddio buddsoddiad cyfalaf preifat i ymestyn y datblygiad â benthyciadau cost isel.

**Brian Gibbons:** Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4. Ceisiaf eich dyfarniad o ran a ddylai pobl sydd yn derbyn arian o eiddo ar rent ddatgan buddiant yn y ddatl hon.

**Y Llywydd:** Ceisiaf gyngor a dychwelaf at y pwynt hwnnw.

**William Graham:** Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, os mai hynny fydd eich dyfarniad, datganaf fuddiant.

**Janet Davies:** Cynigiau y gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Cynigiau welliant 2. Yn llinell 1 cymal 1, dileer 'cymeradwyo' ac ychwaneger 'nodi' yn ei le.

Cynigiau hefyd welliant 3. Ychwaneger ar ddiwedd cymal 2:

*ac yn cyflawni rhwymedigaethau'r Cynulliad o ran cyfle cyfartal a datblygu cynaliadwy.*

Cynigiau hefyd welliant 5. Ychwaneger cymal 5 newydd ac ail-rifo yn unol â hynny:

*Yn sicrhau nad yw trwyddedu gorfodol eiddo ar rent yn cael ei gyfyngu i dai amlbreswyliaeth risg uchel. Yn cydnabod rôl hollbwysig y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wrth bennu lefel rhenti awdurdodau lleol a chymdeithasau tai ac y bydd 'rhent fforddwy' yn cael ei gysylltu â chyfartaledd cyflogau ac isafswm cyflogau.*

Cynigiau hefyd welliant 7. Yng nghymal 5, dileer popeth ar ôl 'gyllideb ddrafft' ac

add:

*while recognising that there has been a chronic lack of public money investment in housing repair allowances.*

I also propose amendment 8. Add as new clause 6 and renumber the remaining clauses accordingly:

*Ensures that future housing provision is related to actual need by instigating, together with local authorities, a national audit of housing need.*

I also propose amendment 9. At the end of the original clause 6 delete 'to the National Assembly' and add:

*and report within six months to the Local Government and Housing Committee.*

I also propose amendment 10. Add as new clause:

*Calls on the First Minister to make representations to the UK Government through the Secretary of State for Wales for the need to simplify housing benefit including equal treatment for under-25s; removing access grants from the housing benefit calculation; and urgently reviewing the ceiling for housing benefits.*

I also propose amendment 11. Add as new clause:

*Amalgamates the Communities First, People in Communities and Sustainable Communities programmes into one overarching and comprehensive exercise which will include representation from tenant support groups.*

I welcome the draft national housing strategy. We should all thank the four task groups for the immense amount of work that they have done to lay its foundations, which included 195 recommendations. I look forward to the responses to the consultation.

A decent home for everybody is the bottom line of a civilised society. These homes should be dry, warm, have enough space,

ychwaneger:

*tra'n cydnabod y cafwyd diffyg cronig o ran buddsoddiad arian cyhoeddus mewn lwfansau atgyweirio tai.*

Cynigiaf hefyd welliant 8. Ychwaneger cymal 6 newydd ac ail-rifo yn unol â hynny:

*Yn sicrhau y bydd darpariaeth tai'r dyfodol yn cael ei chysylltu ag angen gwirioneddol drwy sefydlu, gydag awdurdodau lleol, archwiliad cenedlaethol o anghenion tai.*

Cynigiaf hefyd welliant 9. Ar ddiwedd y cymal 6 gwreiddiol, dileer 'i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol' ac ychwaneger:

*o fewn chwe mis i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai.*

Cynigiaf hefyd welliant 10. Ychwaneger fel cymal newydd:

*Yn galw ar y Prif Weinidog i gyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU drwy Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynglŷn â'r angen i symleiddio budd-daliadau tai gan gynnwys cydraddoldeb triniaeth i'r rhai dan 25; dileu grantiau nynediad o'r dull cyfrif budd-dâl tai; a chynnal adolygiad brys o'r nenfwd ar gyfer budd-daliadau tai.*

Cynigiaf hefyd welliant 11. Ychwaneger fel cymal newydd:

*Yn cyfuno rhaglenni Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf, Pobl mewn Cymunedau a Chymunedau Cynaliadwy i un ymarfer cyffredinol a chynhwysfawr a fydd yn cynnwys sylwadau gan grwpiau cymorth tenantiaid.*

Croesawaf y strategaeth dai genedlaethol ddrafft. Dylem ni oll ddiolch i'r pedwar tasglu am y gwaith sylweddol a wnaethant i osod y sylfeini, gan gynnwys 195 o argymhellion. Edrychaf ymlaen at gael yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad.

Mae cartref safonol i bawb yn gonglfaen unrhyw gymdeithas waraidd. Dylai'r cartrefi hyn fod yn sych, yn gynnes, yn ddigon mawr,

affordable and set in a safe, secure and accessible environment. Good housing reduces ill-health, and enables people to get the full benefit of education and employment, and to live where crime, and fear of crime, is not a constant background to daily life.

We are far from such an ideal in this country. Over 98,000 unfit homes—8.6 per cent of the housing stock—tell their own story. We are faced by a myriad of challenges: older houses in the Valleys where the population is moving out; neglected, sometimes crime-ridden, council estates, where, again, people are often moving out; unfit or locally unaffordable rural housing with problems of virtually inaccessible services and our language under threat; city centres where people fear to live, which has a knock-on effect on suburban sprawl, and black and ethnic minority people who are often provided with homes not suited to their lifestyles. Some people lack choice about where they live, because they do not have the means to buy into the private market. Only subsidised housing can provide those people with a decent home.

I realise that this subject can be a big turn-off. After all, if you are struggling to buy a home on a mortgage, why should you have to worry about those who cannot cope and, furthermore, why should you be taxed to help them? However, whether we are talking about the philosophies of paternalistic philanthropy, socialism, communism or the smudgy lilac of the third way, it is of benefit to everyone that decent housing be available to all. It reduces the costs of many other services and is important in achieving a stable community.

The draft housing strategy is the first attempt at a holistic view of housing in this country. It has many excellent features. The fact that this process is underway is a major step forward. I will pick out a few points only, as there are too many for me to discuss them all in the few minutes that I have. The strategy is strong in bringing many issues together and in integrating actions to prevent them working against each other. For example, the strategy refers to ensuring that tenure is not

yn fforddiadwy ac wedi eu lleoli mewn amgylchedd diogel a hygyrch. Mae tai da yn lleihau achosion o salwch, ac yn galluogi pobl i fanteisio'n llawn ar addysg a chyflogaeth, a byw lle nad yw troseddau, ac ofn troseddau, yn rhan annatod o fywyd bob dydd.

Yr ydym ymhell o gyrraedd y nod hwnnw yn y wlad hon. Mae dros 98,000 o gartrefi anaddas—sef 8.6 y cant o'r stoc dai—yn dyst i'r ffaith honno. Yr ydym yn wynebu llu o heriau: tai hŷn yn y Cymoedd lle y mae'r boblogaeth yn symud i ffwrdd; ystadau tai cyngor a esgeuluswyd, weithiau gyda throseddu di-baid, unwaith eto, lle y mae pobl yn symud i ffwrdd; tai anaddas yng nghefn wlad neu dai na all pobl leol yno eu fforddio ynghyd â phroblemau gwasanaethau y mae'n amhosibl bron eu cyrchu a'n hiaith dan fygythiad; canol dinasoedd y mae ofn ar bobl fyw ynddynt, sydd yn ei dro yn effeithio ar ledaenu maestrefol, a phobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig sydd yn aml yn cael cartrefi nad ydynt yn addas i'w ffordd o fyw. Ni all rhai pobl ddewis ble y maent yn byw, am na allant brynu i mewn i'r farchnad breifat. Dim ond tai nodedig all darparu cartref safonol i'r bobl hynny.

Gwn fod y pwnc hwn yn gallu diflasu pobl. Wedi'r cyfan, os ydych yn cael anhawster wrth geisio prynu cartref ar forgais, pam y dylech orfod poeni am y rhai na all ymdopi ac ar ben hynny, pam y dylech gael eich trethi i'w helpu? Fodd bynnag, pa un a ydynt yn sôn am athrawiaethau am ddyngarwch tadol, sosialaeth, comiwnyddiaeth neu gochlas gwan y drydedd ffordd, mae'n fanteisiol i bob un bod tai safonol ar gael i bawb. Mae'n lleihau costau llawer o wasanaethau eraill ac mae'n bwysig o ran adeiladu cymuned sefydlog.

Y strategaeth dai ddrafft yw'r ymgais cyntaf yn y wlad hon i ymdrin â thai o safbwynt cyfannol. Mae nifer o nodweddion ardderchog iddi. Mae'r ffaith bod y broses hon ar waith yn gam mawr ymlaen. Ni nodaf ond ychydig o bwyntiau, gan fod llawer gormod imi drafod pob un yn yr ychydig funudau sydd gennyf. Mae strategaeth yn gadarn o safbwynt dod â llawer o faterion ynghyd ac integreiddio camau i'w hatal rhag gweithio'n groes i'w gilydd. Er enghraifft,

only affordable now but in the future. Strategies to reduce fuel poverty, money for care and repair and the widening of the categories of those who qualify as priority groups and those who can be considered homeless are all good features of the strategy. However, I register a protest that not one member of the main Assembly opposition will be on the homelessness commission. That is regrettable.

I will refer quickly to the homelessness commission. There is an anomaly in the report in paragraphs 3.6 and 13.1. One states that it will be established; the other that it has been established. That needs to be corrected.

Amendment 3 asks that our commitment to equality of opportunity and sustainable development be spelt out clearly in the strategy. No-one should oppose that. Amendment 10 asks that we make representations to the UK Government on the working of some of the present housing benefit system's provisions. No-one could possibly be happy with it at present. Councils struggle to administer it and tenants and landlords suffer. The under-25s, in particular, are at the sharp end.

As I have said, there is much of value in this housing strategy. However, Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales sees a fundamental flaw in it, which we have tried to address in amendments 2 and 7. In our view, a housing strategy must be people-based, focusing on those who use the service and those who pay for it. The National Assembly for Wales has to operate within legal and fiscal constraints set by the UK Parliament. That is thrown into sharp relief in housing policy. The Government of Wales and the main opposition party in this Chamber both have a strong desire to establish good housing for all in strong communities. However, the Government of Wales is meekly working within the parameters and rules of the dreadful dinosaurs of the Treasury, which will not deliver for Wales. When Plaid Cymru is in government, we too will have to work within these rules, but we will not do so

cyfeiria'r strategaeth at sicrhau bod tenantiaeth nid yn unig yn fforddiadwy yn awr ond yn y dyfodol. Mae'r strategaethau er mwyn lleihau tlodi tanwydd, arian ar gyfer gofal a thrwsio ac ymestyn y categorïau ar gyfer y rhai sydd yn gymwys fel grwpiau â blaenoriaeth a'r rhai y gellir eu hystyried yn ddigartref oll yn nodweddion da o'r strategaeth. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn brotestio na fydd yr un Aelod o brif wrthblaid y Cynulliad yn aelod o gomisiwn y digartref. Mae hynny'n anffodus.

Cyfeiriaf yn gyflym at y comisiwn digartrefedd. Mae anghysondeb yn yr adroddiad ym mharagraffau 3.6 ac 13.1. Noda'r naill y bydd yn cael ei sefydlu; noda'r llall ei fod wedi ei sefydlu. Mae angen cywiro hynny.

Mae gwelliant 3 yn gofyn i'n hymrwymiad i gyfartaledd cyfle a datblygu cynaliadwy gael ei nodi'n eglur yn y strategaeth. Ni ddylai unrhyw un wrthwynebu hynny. Mae gwelliant 10 yn gofyn inni gyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU ar sut y mae rhai o ddarpariaethau'r system budd-dal tai bresennol yn gweithio. Ni allai unrhyw un fod yn fodlon arni ar hyn o bryd. Mae cynghorau yn cael anhawster wrth geisio ei gweinyddu ac mae tenantiaid a landlordiaid yn dioddef. Mae pobl o dan 25 oed, yn enwedig, yn cael anhawster.

Fel y dywedais, mae cryn dipyn sydd yn werthfawr yn y strategaeth dai hon. Fodd bynnag, mae Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales—o'r farn bod ynddi ddiffyg sylfaenol, yr ydym wedi ceisio ei unioni yng ngwelliannau 2 a 7. Yn ein barn ni, rhaid i strategaeth dai fod yn seiliedig ar bobl, gan ganolbwyntio ar y rhai sydd yn defnyddio'r gwasanaeth a'r rhai sydd yn talu amdano. Rhaid i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru weithredu o fewn y cyfyngiadau cyfreithiol ac ariannol a bennir gan Senedd y DU. Daw'r rhain i'r amlwg wrth ystyried polisi tai. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru a'r brif wrthblaid yn y Siambr hon ill dwy yn awyddus iawn i sefydlu tai da i bawb mewn cymunedau cadarn. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio'n ostyngedig o fewn terfynau a rheolau'r deinsoriaid dychrynlyd yn y Trysorlys, na fyddant yn darparu ar gyfer Cymru. Pan fydd Plaid Cymru mewn

meekly.

I ask you to consider the rules and their effects. Housing investment is ruled by the need to keep the public sector borrowing requirement down and thus is inadequate. In every other European Union state, investment in housing is not counted against the public sector borrowing requirements or their equivalent. It is regarded as of value to that state. Why do we in the UK not adopt those better and more sensible fiscal rules? Furthermore, options for housing investment in Wales are moving towards transfer of council tax to, and new build by, registered social landlords, mainly housing associations, or private finance initiatives. These options mean that investment would come partly from borrowing on the private market. Is anyone saying that this is great for the taxpayers who can have their cake and eat it, but is not so good for the users, who lose democratic input through the ballot box and may pay higher rents? Remember that as housing associations grow bigger, their services become no better, or no worse, than those of local authorities. However, it is not great at all, because even the taxpayer does not do well out of these ideas and policies in the medium term. Repayments for PFIs are higher than for the same money borrowed by councils, which will still have to fund the revenue costs. Revenue costs that are greater than rents also come from public subsidy for housing associations. Higher rents equal higher housing benefits equal more money from the taxpayer. Who benefits from that?

3:18 p.m.

Plaid Cymru is completely committed to a well-run welfare state, with a voice for the user. However, we do not support unnecessary extra costs. Members should remember that people who receive benefits pay indirect taxes, as well as everybody else.

llywodraeth, bydd yn rhaid i ninnau hefyd weithio o fewn y rheolau hyn, ond ni wnawn hynny yn ostyngedig.

Gofynnaf ichi ystyried y rheolau a'u heffeithiau. Rheolir buddsoddi mewn tai gan yr angen i reoli gofynion benthyg y sector cyhoeddus ac felly mae'n annigonol. Ymhob gwladwriaeth arall yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, ni chyfrifir buddsoddi mewn tai fel rhan o ofynion benthyg y sector cyhoeddus neu'r hyn sydd yn cyfateb iddo. Fe'i hystyrir o werth i'r wladwriaeth honno. Pam nad ydym ni yn y DU yn mabwysiadu'r rheolau cyllidebol gwell, mwy synhwyrol hynny? Ar ben hynny, mae opsiynau ar gyfer buddsoddi mewn tai yng Nghymru yn symud tuag at drosglwyddo'r dreth gyngor i landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestrestig, cymdeithasau tai yn bennaf a'r tai newydd a adeiledir ganddynt, neu fentrau cyllid preifat. Golyga'r opsiynau hyn y byddai buddsoddi yn dod yn rhannol o fenthyg ar y farchnad breifat. A oes unrhyw un yn dweud bod hyn yn dda i drethdalwyr a all fanteisio ym ymhob ffordd, ond nad yw mor dda i'r defnyddwyr, sydd yn colli eu cyfraniad democrataidd mewn etholiad ac a fydd yn talu rhenti uwch o bosibl? Cofiwch, wrth i gymdeithasau tai dyfu'n fwy, ni fydd eu gwasanaethau yn well nac yn waeth na gwasanaethau'r awdurdodau lleol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n beth da o gwbl, am nad yw hyd yn oed y trethdalwr yn elwa ar y syniadau a'r polisiâu hyn yn y tymor canolig. Mae'r ad-daliadau menter cyllid preifat yn uwch na'r rhai am yr un arian a fenthycir gan gynghorau, y bydd yn rhaid iddynt ariannu'r costau refeniw o hyd. Caiff costau refeniw sydd yn uwch na rhenti eu talu i gymdeithasau tai o gymhorthdal cyhoeddus hefyd. Mae rhenti uchel yn arwain at fudd-daliadau tai uwch sydd yn arwain at fwy o arian gan y trethdalwr. Pwy sydd yn elwa ar hynny?

Mae Plaid Cymru yn gwbl ymrwymedig i wladwriaeth les a weinyddir yn dda, sydd yn rhoi llais i'r defnyddiwr. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym o blaid costau ychwanegol diangen. Dylai'r Aelodau gofio bod pobl sydd yn cael budd-daliadau yn talu trethi anuniongyrchol, fel pawb arall.

Idiotic decisions have been taken in the past for dogmatic reasons. I would hate to see that happen again. I do not blame the Welsh Government for Treasury rules. However, I blame it for failing to explain these issues. I blame it for failing to point out that fiscal rules are old-fashioned and out of sync with modern financial ideas, meaning that tenants and taxpayers get a bad deal in housing expenditure. I blame the Welsh Government for not standing up to the UK Government; not fighting our corner publicly and openly and concealing why our housing is unfit and inadequate. It does this because it is a part of the same political party as the UK Government and an election is looming.

I suspect that people are saying that Plaid Cymru is whingeing again. I am proud to be a whinger for Wales. I do not apologise for it. I would rather be a whinger for Wales than a scrounger for somebody else.

Plaid Cymru can only note the draft document and cannot endorse it. We call for recognition of the chronic lack of public money investment. That is honest, open and above board.

**The Presiding Officer:** Before I call Val Feld to speak, I will respond to Brian Gibbons's point of order. I am grateful to him for raising it. I confirm that William Graham's declaration of interest was in order. It comes under Standing Order No. 4.5 regarding the declaration of interests. Paragraph 8 of the registrable interests under the annex to Standing Order No. 4 indicates that:

'any land and property, other than any home used for the personal residential purposes of the Member or the Member's spouse, which has a substantial value as specified in any resolution of the Assembly or from which a substantial income is derived.'

requires a declaration to be made. That declaration of interest has been made. I am grateful to both Members for complying with the Standing Order.

**Val Feld:** I warmly welcome this strategy, as

Gwnaethpwyd penderfyniadau gwirion yn y gorffennol am resymau dogmatig. Byddai'n gas gennyf weld hynny'n digwydd eto. Nid wyf yn rhoi'r bai ar Lywodraeth Cymru am reolau'r Trysorlys. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn ei beio am fethu ag egluro'r materion hyn. Yr wyf yn ei beio am fethu â nodi bod y rheolau cyllidol yn hen ffasiwn ac yn anghydnaws â syniadau ariannol cyfoes, sydd yn golygu bod tenantiaid a threthdalwyr yn cael bargaen wael o ran gwariant tai. Yr wyf yn beio Llywodraeth Cymru am fethu â gwrthsefyll Llywodraeth y DU; am beidio â brwydro drosom yn gyhoeddus ac yn agored ac am guddio'r rheswm pam fod ein tai yn anaddas ac yn annigonol. Gwna hyn am ei bod yn rhan o'r un blaid wleidyddol â Llywodraeth y DU a bod etholiad ar y gorwel.

Tybiaf fod pobl yn dweud bod Plaid Cymru yn cwyno unwaith eto. Yr wyf yn falch o gwyno dros Gymru. Nid ymddiheuraf am hynny. Byddai'n well gennyf gwyno dros Gymru na begera ar ran rhywun arall.

Ni all Plaid Cymru ond nodi'r ddogfen ddrafft; ni all ei chymeradwyo. Galwn am gydnabod y ffaith bod diffyg buddsoddi arian cyhoeddus enbyd. Mae hynny'n onest, yn agored ac yn briodol.

**Y Llywydd:** Cyn imi alw ar Val Feld i siarad, ymatebaf i bwynt o drefn Brian Gibbons. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iddo am ei godi. Cadarnhaf fod datganiad buddiant William Graham mewn trefn. Daw o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4.5 yngly'n â datgan buddiannau. Mae paragraff 8 y buddiannau cofrestredig o dan yr atodiad i Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4 yn dangos ei bod yn ofynnol datgan buddiant ar

'unrhyw dir neu eiddo, heblaw unrhyw gartref a ddefnyddir fel preswylfan personol gan yr Aelod neu briod yr Aelod, y mae iddo werth sylweddol fel y'i pennir mewn unrhyw benderfyniad gan y Cynulliad neu y ceir incwm sylweddol drwyddo.'

Gwnaethpwyd y datganiad hwnnw o fuddiant. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r ddau Aelod am gydymffurfio â'r Rheol Sefydlog.

**Val Feld:** Croesawaf y strategaeth hon yn

it is a major step forward. Housing organisations and people working in housing in Wales have waited for this for a long time. It is disappointing that Plaid Cymru has to be so nit-picking and insist on noting the strategy rather than endorsing it, when so many organisations and individuals have put much time into developing it and it will now go out to consultation. It is disappointing that, throughout this process of creating a system that involves and engages people, Plaid Cymru repeatedly refuses to co-operate and support the comments that people make to us.

There are many subjects for discussion in this full and comprehensive document. It is important, as it gives housing a status for the first time. For far too long, housing has been the Cinderella of the public services. I am old enough to have been engaged in campaigns in the 1970s and the 1980s for the right to a home. Those were the days when we believed that it was possible to give the same status to the right to decent housing as existed for the right to education and the right to the health service.

**Alun Cairns** *rose—*

**Val Feld:** I am delighted that Alun wants to intervene, as it was his Government that finally made it clear to us that we were wasting our time. However, I am glad to see that we now have the opportunity to start all over again.

**Alun Cairns:** During your campaigns in the 1970s for the right to housing and so on, did you have a campaign to support the right to buy, which was so successfully introduced by the Conservative Party?

**Val Feld:** No, we did not have a campaign to support the right to buy. However, Alun has neatly taken me on to the future of council housing—one of the two aspects of this report that I want to discuss. I heard Janet's comments on the problems caused by the current constraints on the public sector borrowing requirement. However, it is important that this document takes a measured approach to our options for safeguarding the future of the housing stock and considering improvements to it.

fawr, gan ei bod yn gam pwysig ymlaen. Mae sefydliadau tai a phobl sydd yn gweithio ym maes tai yng Nghymru wedi aros am hyn ers tro byd. Mae'n siomedig bod Plaid Cymru wedi bod mor gecrus ac yn mynnu nodi'r strategaeth yn hytrach na'i chymeradwyo, ar ôl i gymaint o sefydliadau ac unigolion roi cymaint o'u hamser i'w datblygu a bydd yn awr yn mynd i ymgynghoriad. Mae'n siomedig bod Plaid Cymru, drwy gydol y broses o greu system sydd yn cynnwys ac yn cysylltu â phobl, wedi gwrthod dro ar ôl tro i gydweithio a chefnogi'r sylwadau a wna pobl i ni.

Mae llawer o bynciau i'w trafod yn y ddogfen lawn, gynhwysfawr hon. Mae'n bwysig, gan ei bod yn rhoi statws i faes tai am y tro cyntaf. Ers llawer gormod o amser, bu tai yn aelod tlawd o'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Yr wyf yn ddigon hen i gofio cymryd rhan mewn ymgyrchoedd yn y 1970au a'r 1980au am yr hawl i gartref. Bryd hynny yr oeddem yn credu ei bod yn bosibl rhoi'r un statws i'r hawl i dai safonol â'r hawl i addysg a'r hawl i'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

**Alun Cairns** *a gododd—*

**Val Feld:** Yr wyf yn falch bod Alun am ymyrryd, gan mai Llywodraeth ei blaid ef oedd wedi ein darbwyllo yn y pen draw ein bod yn gwastraffu ein hamser. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn falch o weld bod cyfle gennym bellach i ddechrau o'r newydd.

**Alun Cairns:** Yn ystod eich ymgyrchoedd yn y 1970au am yr hawl i dai ac ati, a oedd gennych ymgyrch i gefnogi'r hawl i brynu, a gyflwynwyd gan y Blaid Geidwadol mor llwyddiannus?

**Val Feld:** Nac oedd, nid oedd gennym ymgyrch i gefnogi'r hawl i brynu. Fodd bynnag, mae Alun wedi fy arwain yn dwt at ddyfodol tai cyngor—un o'r ddwy agwedd ar yr adroddiad hwn yr wyf am eu trafod. Clywais sylwadau Janet am y problemau a achoswyd gan y cyfyngiadau presennol ar ofynion benthycar sector cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig bod y ddogfen hon yn trafod ein hopsiynau ar gyfer diogelu dyfodol y stoc dai ac ystyried gwelliannau iddo yn bwyllog.

I remember, Alun, during the 1980s when council tenants were frightened by the Conservative Government's policy of trying to make private landlords buy council houses. This forced the tenants into feeling that they had no security unless they bought their houses. It is tragic that, last week, someone came into my surgery to say exactly the same thing. That person feared that we were going down the same road, looking to transfer all of our housing stock. I am pleased that we are taking a measured approach and that we will consider a range of options. I am also pleased that, at this stage, we are only prepared to transfer small amounts of housing, where there is a clear need and absolute, rock-solid tenant support.

**David Davies:** I am sure that Val has read the report. She will therefore be aware of the section within it that clearly states that 87 per cent of the population would like to own their own home within the next 10 years. Why does Val feel that those people should be denied that right? Why does she condemn the previous Government, which did so much to give those people the right to which they aspire, while she opposed it?

**Val Feld:** While your Government was in power, I worked for 10 years with homeless people and with people who lived in bad housing. Time and time again, I saw them buy houses that they could not afford because they felt that they had no security any other way and because your Government stopped all investment in council housing. In my constituency, 27 per cent of households still live in council housing. In spite of what you did, many people remained in council housing. We owe them a debt to find a way of improving those homes and to give them decent living conditions. I am confident that this strategy gives us the basis on which to do that.

I will now talk briefly about homelessness, which I have always been, and continue to be, extremely concerned about. I welcome the move to consider new categories of homelessness. When doing this, I ask Edwina, through the homelessness

Cofiaf, Alun, am y 1980au pan frawychwyd tenantiaid y cyngor gan bolisi'r Llywodraeth Geidwadol o geisio gorfodi landlordiaid preifat i brynu tai cyngor. Yr oedd hyn yn gwneud i denantiaid deimlo na fyddai unrhyw sicrwydd ganddynt oni fyddent yn prynu eu tai. Mae'n drychinebus bod rhywun wedi mynychu fy nghynghorfa yr wythnos diwethaf a dweud yr union beth. Yr oedd y person hwnnw yn ofni ein bod yn mynd ar yr un trywydd, gan ystyried trosglwyddo ein holl stoc dai. Yr wyf yn falch ein bod wedi mabwysiadu ymagwedd bwyllog ac y byddwn yn ystyried ystod o opsiynau. Yr wyf yn falch hefyd ein bod, ar hyn o bryd, ond yn barod i drosglwyddo niferoedd bach o dai, lle y mae angen clir a chefnogaeth gwbl bendant gan denantiaid.

**David Davies:** Yr wyf yn siw'r bod Val wedi darllen yr adroddiad. Bydd felly yn ymwybodol o'r adran ynddo sydd yn nodi'n glir bod 87 y cant o'r boblogaeth am fod yn berchen ar eu cartrefi eu hunain o fewn y 10 mlynedd nesaf. Pam bod Val yn teimlo y dylid gwrthod yr hawl honno i'r bobl hynny? Pam ei bod yn condemnio'r Llywodraeth flaenorol, a gyflawnodd gymaint i roi'r hawl i'r bobl hynny a oedd yn ei dymuno, tra ei bod yn ei gwrthwynebu?

**Val Feld:** Tra oedd eich Llywodraeth mewn grym, gweithiais am 10 mlynedd gyda phobl ddigartref a phobl a oedd yn byw mewn tai gwael. Dro ar ôl tro, gwelais hwy yn prynu tai na allent eu fforddio am eu bod yn teimlo nad oedd unrhyw sicrwydd ganddynt fel arall ac am fod eich Llywodraeth wedi rhoi'r gorau i fuddsoddi mewn tai cyngor yn gyfan gwbl. Yn fy etholaeth i, mae 27 y cant o dyleidiau yn byw mewn tai cyngor o hyd. Er gwaethaf yr hyn a wnaethoch, arhosodd llawer o bobl mewn tai cyngor. Mae dyletswydd arnom i ganfod ffordd o wella'r cartrefi hynny a rhoi amodau byw safonol iddynt. Yr wyf yn ffyddiog bod y strategaeth hon yn rhoi'r sylfaen inni wneud hynny.

Cyfeiriaf yn fyr yn awr at ddigartrefedd, yr wyf erioed wedi pryderu yn ei gylch a byddaf yn parhau i wneud. Croesawaf y cynnig i ystyried categorïau newydd o ddigartrefedd. Wrth wneud hyn, gofynnaf i Edwina, drwy gomisiwn y digartref, ystyried materion eraill



commission, to consider other issues surrounding homelessness legislation, especially the rules on intentionality, where people who make mistakes in their lives can be banned from secure housing for many years. Wales could strike out alone on that issue.

I also want to ask Edwina to consider whether supported housing resettlement grants could be made available to voluntary organisations when they support tenants in council housing as well as in housing association properties. I have raised this issue previously, but it is particularly important in the context of the homelessness strategy. It makes no sense to have empty council houses, people in hostels wanting to move on and voluntary organisations not being able to support them because the rules preclude that.

Finally, and most importantly in some ways, the one omission in this document relates to women fleeing domestic violence. I note the new strategy on housing people from black and ethnic minorities, which is important. However, it is also important that we implement strategies to help Women's Aid and organisations providing temporary accommodation that subsequently need secure accommodation into which families that have been uprooted and often severely damaged by violent homes can settle. I ask Edwina to consider that in the next stage of the consultation.

This is an important step forward. We are only able to do it because of devolution and the ability that this Assembly gives us to engage with people outside. Finally, we have the chance to turn around the damage of those 18 years when housing was so dramatically destroyed in Wales.

3:28 p.m.

**Alun Cairns:** I support all of William Graham's amendments, and will speak briefly on amendment 4 and amendment 1. Amendment 4 relates to the rights of owners of precast reinforced concrete homes. William mentioned the residents of

sydd yn gysylltiedig â deddfwriaeth digartrefedd, yn enwedig y rheolau ar fwriadoldeb, lle y gall pobl sydd yn gwneud camgymeriadau yn eu bywydau gael eu gwahardd o dai diogel am nifer o flynyddoedd. Gallai Cymru dorri ei chw^ys ei hun ar y mater hwnnw.

Hoffwn hefyd ofyn i Edwina ystyried a fyddai modd sicrhau bod grantiau ailsefydlu tai a gynorthwyr ar gael i'r sefydliadau gwirfoddol pan fyddant yn rhoi cymorth i denantiaid mewn tai cyngor yn ogystal ag eiddo cymdeithasau tai. Codais y mater hwn o'r blaen, ond mae'n arbennig o bwysig yng nghyd-destun y strategaeth digartrefedd. Nid yw'n gwneud synnwyr bod tai cyngor yn wag, bod pobl mewn hosteli yn aros i symud ymlaen ac na all sefydliadau gwirfoddol roi cymorth llawn iddynt am fod y rheolau yn gwahardd hynny.

Yn olaf, ac yn bwysicaf oll mewn rhai ffyrdd, yr unig fater a hepgorir o'r ddogfen hon yw'r mater sydd yn ymwneud â merched sydd yn ffoi rhag trais yn y cartref. Nodaf y strategaeth newydd ar roi tai i bobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, sydd yn bwysig. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig hefyd inni weithredu strategaethau a fydd yn helpu Cymorth i Fenywod a sefydliadau sydd yn rhoi llety dros dro ac wedyn sydd angen llety diogel lle y gall teuluoedd sydd wedi eu chwalu ac yn aml wedi eu niweidio oherwydd trais yn y cartref ymsefydlu. Gofynnaf i Edwina ystyried hynny yng ngham nesaf yr ymgynghoriad.

Mae hwn yn gam pwysig ymlaen. Yr ydym ond yn gallu gwneud hyn oherwydd datganoli a'r gallu y mae'r Cynulliad hwn yn ei roi inni gysylltu â phobl o'r tu allan. I gloi, mae gennym gyfle i unioni'r niwed a wnaethpwyd yn ystod yr 18 mlynedd hynny pan ddinistriwyd y sector tai yng Nghymru mewn ffordd mor ddramatig.

**Alun Cairns:** Cefnogaf bob un o welliannau William Graham, a siaradaf yn fyr ar welliant 4 a gwelliant 1. Mae gwelliant 4 yn ymwneud â hawliau perchenogion tai concrit dur a ragfwriwyd. Soniodd William am breswylwyr Edgemoor Close yng Nghilá,

Edgemoor Close in Killay, Swansea. They live in Cornish-type mark one properties which were designated defective under the 1985 Housing Act. Unfortunately, repairs to those properties were completed by the direct labour organisation of Swansea City and County Council. Although the repairs appear to have been conducted in the right way, because the repairers were unlicensed these residents are being prevented from using their right to buy their own homes, a right which was given to them so successfully under the last Conservative Government. As a result of the local Labour-controlled authority's actions, these people are being denied their right to buy. I regret that the Government of Wales is not supporting amendment 4 today.

Amendment 2 relates to private investment. The Government is obviously confused. On the one hand, last week, we saw a split in the Labour ranks on the Lib-Lab pact. Some supported the private finance initiative: others did not. We heard on the news today about the discussions in another place, where private money is considered useful for the privatisation of air-traffic control and is an excellent way to secure further investment in air safety. Why is it not appropriate today, therefore? Is it because of the policies of envy that are preached by the parties opposite? Is it because of the point that Val Feld tried to highlight, denying people the right to own their own homes and the right to provide for their families and for future generations?

**Karen Sinclair:** I want to address the specific area of housing benefits and the role and obligations of local authorities. It is sad but true that housing benefit and the council tax benefit system are in disarray in some counties. It is not good enough for local authorities to plead new computer systems or government legislation as an excuse for not processing thousands of claims in time and jeopardising the roofs over people's heads.

The principle of helping people on benefits and low income to pay their rent is a sound one. In fact, it is essential. It allows pensioners, working families and single people a choice in the housing market and

Abertawe. Maent yn byw mewn eiddo o fath un ar ddull Cernywaidd y nodwyd eu bod yn ddiffygiol o dan Ddeddf Tai 1985. Yn anffodus, cwblhawyd y gwaith trwsio ar yr eiddo hyn gan sefydliad llafur uniongyrchol Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe. Er yr ymddengys i'r gwaith trwsio gael ei wneud yn briodol, oherwydd bod y gweithwyr heb eu trwyddedu gwaherddir y preswylwyr hyn rhag arfer eu hawl i brynu eu cartrefi eu hunain, sef hawl a roddwyd iddynt mor llwyddiannus gan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf. O ganlyniad i'r camau a gymerwyd gan yr awdurdod lleol a reolir gan Lafur, gwrthodir yr hawl i brynu i'r bobl hyn. Yr wyf yn gresynu nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi gwelliant 4 heddiw.

Mae gwelliant 2 yn ymwneud â buddsoddi preifat. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn amlwg wedi drysu. Ar y naill law, bu rhaniad ymhlith y rhengoedd Llafur yr wythnos diwethaf yngly^n â'r cytundeb rhwng Llafur a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Yr oedd rhai o blaid y fenter cyllid preifat: yr oedd eraill yn ei herbyn. Clywsom ar y newyddion heddiw am y trafodaethau mewn lle arall, lle yr ystyrir arian preifat yn ddefnyddiol ar gyfer preifateiddio rheoli trafniadaeth awyr ac mae'n ffordd ardderchog o sicrhau buddsoddi ymhellach mewn diogelwch awyr. Pam nad yw'n briodol heddiw, felly? Ai polisïau cenfigen y mae'r pleidiau gyferbyn yn eu harddel sydd yn gyfrifol? Neu'r pwynt y ceisiodd Val Feld ei nodi, sef gwrthod yr hawl i bobl fod yn berchen ar eu cartrefi eu hunain a'r hawl i ddarparu ar gyfer eu teuluoedd a chenedlaethau yn y dyfodol.

**Karen Sinclair:** Hoffwn ymdrin â maes penodol budd-dâl tai a rôl a dyletswyddau awdurdodau lleol. Mae'n resyn o beth bod y system budd-dâl tai a'r system budd-dâl treth gyngor mewn anhrefn mewn rhai siroedd. Nid yw'n ddigon da i awdurdodau lleol gynnig systemau cyfrifiadurol newydd neu ddeddfwriaeth y llywodraeth fel esgus dros beidio â phrosesu miloedd o geisiadau yn brydlon gan beryglu cartrefi pobl.

Mae'r egwyddor o helpu pobl ar fudd-daliadau ac incwm isel i dalu eu rhent yn un gadarn. Yn wir, mae'n hanfodol. Mae'n rhoi i bensynwyr, teuluoedd sydd yn gweithio a phobl sengl ddewis yn y farchnad dai ac yn

ensures the variety of lifestyles in our communities.

We have all been aware that, like any system, the housing benefit system can be subject to abuse, and safeguards must be put in place to prevent this. However, these safeguards must not impede the processing of legitimate claims, and should not cause hardship and stress to claimants. Neither should they be an excuse for months of backlog, which is the case at present in one of the local authorities in my constituency.

There is a system of security checks for all benefits, and that is quite proper, but to plead complications of legislature as an excuse to leave thousands of people with no weekly benefits would cause utter chaos and have benefits offices across the country besieged. Not so with housing benefit. Non-payment of this benefit is often slow to cause problems. A private landlord may pressurise a client once arrears start to accrue. If payment is direct, it may be months before a claimant is approached—this is the case sometimes—and it could also be used as a method of repossessing a property on mandatory grounds of three months' rent arrears, and that is also a cause of concern. In one local authority in my constituency, I have heard of council tenants—and have worked with tenants—who have been taken to court for repossession on the grounds of arrears which should have been paid by the council's own benefits department.

Anyone who has attended a repossession hearing in a county court would agree that this is a traumatic experience for tenants and their families, who invariably, even if repossession is not granted, have local authority costs added to their arrears. This system of means testing makes no allowance for claimants to top up their rent until housing benefit comes through. Sixty five per cent of their income above benefits level is taken towards their rent. These allowances are low, and in the cases of those in receipt of benefit there is no spare income at all.

sicrhau amrywiaeth y ffyrdd o fyw yn ein cymunedau.

Buom oll yn ymwybodol y gall y system budd-dâl tai, fel unrhyw system arall, gael ei chamddefnyddio, a rhaid cymryd camau diogelu i atal hyn rhag digwydd. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylai'r camau diogelu hyn atal ceisiadau cyfiawn rhag cael eu prosesu, nac achosi caledi a straen i geiswyr. Ac ni ddylent ychwaith fod yn esgus dros Gronni ceisiadau am fisoedd, fel y mae ar hyn o bryd mewn un o'r awdurdodau lleol yn fy etholaeth i.

Ceir system o wiriadau diogelu ar gyfer pob budd-dâl, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, ond byddai cynnig cymhlethodau deddfwriaethau fel esgus dros adael miloedd o bobl heb fudd-daliadau wythnosol yn peri dryswch llwyr a byddai swyddfeydd budd-daliadau ar draws y wlad dan warchae. Nid felly yn achos budd-dâl tai. Mae peidio â thalu'r budd-dâl hwn yn aml yn cymryd amser i beri problemau. Gall landlord preifat roi pwysau ar gleient unwaith y mae'r ôl-ddyledion yn dechrau cronni. Os bydd y taliad yn uniongyrchol, gall misoedd fynd heibio cyn y cysylltir â'r ceisydd—fel sydd yn digwydd weithiau—a gellid cael ei defnyddio fel modd o ailfeddiannu eiddo ar sail orfodol sef ôl-ddyledion rhent am dri mis, ac mae hynny'n achos pryder hefyd. Mewn un awdurdod lleol yn fy etholaeth i, clywais am denantiaid tai cyngor—ac yr wyf wedi gweithio gyda thenantiaid—y dygwyd achos yn eu herbyn i ailfeddiannu oherwydd ôl-ddyledion y dylai adran budd-daliadau'r cyngor ei hun fod wedi eu talu.

Byddai unrhyw un sydd wedi mynychu gwrandawriad ailfeddiannu mewn llys sirol yn cytuno ei fod yn brofiad trawmatig i'r tenantiaid a'u teuluoedd, sydd, yn anochel, yn cael costau'r awdurdod lleol wedi eu hychwanegu i'w hól-ddyledion, hyd yn oed os nad ailfeddiennir. Nid yw'r system hon o brawf modd yn caniatáu i geiswyr gyfrannu i'w rhent tra'n aros i'r budd-dâl tai gael ei roi. Cyfrifir 65 y cant o'u hincwm sydd yn uwch na lefel y budd-daliadau tuag at dalu eu rhent. Mae'r lwfansau hyn yn isel, ac yn achos y rhai sydd yn cael budd-daliadau nid oes unrhyw incwm ar ôl.

I am currently dealing with a case in my constituency of a pensioner couple who are waiting for their claim to be processed and are topping up their rent to a housing association from the wife's disability living allowance, which is payable because she is confined to a wheelchair. Housing benefit and council tax benefit rules are complicated. The means testing system must rely on eligibility and income proof, but the great majority of cases are straightforward. The maths is simple, and thousands of claims are six-month renewals with no change in circumstances for claimants who may have been living in the same property for years. This is an additional burden of work that is unnecessary in many cases.

We have all heard stories of failing computer systems in the private as well as in the public sector. But have we ever heard of banks saying: 'sorry you cannot have your salary this month because we have a new computer system'? Has anyone ever been in a supermarket and been asked to put their shopping back because they have a new computer system? My own authority has produced figures showing that, in January 2000, claims outstanding were 4,772. By September, after the introduction of the ubiquitous new computer system, outstanding claims were 7,436. My sympathy and support goes out to the hard-pressed staff of the local authorities dealing with phone calls, letters and personal callers, as well as trying to process the claims. They need our support. They need regional offices where straightforward claims can be processed in a day. They need decent, adaptable computer systems that are reliable and that produce intelligible information for them and for the claimants. They also need to be able to process claims within the statutory two weeks, because there are many people who do not realise that they could be taking their local authorities to court over this.

**Janet Ryder:** Like many others, I welcome today's debate and the housing strategy. The way in which it has been drawn up and the inclusion of many groups should be commended. However, the task group's

Yr wyf ar hyn o bryd yn ymdrin ag achos yn fy etholaeth i lle mae pâr sydd yn bensynwyr yn aros i'w cais gael ei brosesu ac yn cyfrannu at eu rhent i gymdeithas tai o lwfans byw i'r anabl a gaiff y wraig, sydd yn daladwy am ei bod yn gaeth i gadair olwynion. Mae rheolau budd-dâl tai a'r budd-dâl treth gyngor yn gymhleth. Rhaid i'r system prawf modd ddibynnu ar brawf o gymhwyster ac incwm, ond mae'r rhan fwyaf o achosion yn syml. Mae'r symiau yn syml, ac mae miloedd o geisiadau yn geisiadau chwe mis i adnewyddu heb unrhyw newid yn amgylchiadau'r ceiswyr sydd hwyrach wedi bod byw yn yr un eiddo ers blynyddoedd. Mae hwn yn faich ychwanegol sydd yn ddiangen mewn llawer o achosion.

Yr ydym oll wedi clywed storïau o systemau cyfrifiadurol yn methu yn y sector preifat yn ogystal â'r sector cyhoeddus. Ond a glywsom erioed fanciau yn dweud: 'mae'n ddrwg gennym, ni allwch gael eich cyflog y mis hwn am fod system gyfrifiadurol newydd gennym'? A fu unrhyw un erioed mewn archfarchnad a ofynnodd iddynt roi eu siopa yn ôl am fod system gyfrifiadurol newydd ganddynt? Cyhoeddodd fy awdurdod fy hun ffigurau a ddengys fod 4,772 o geisiadau yn aros i'w prosesu ym mis Ionawr 2000. Erbyn Medi, ar ôl cyflwyno'r system gyfrifiadurol hollbresennol newydd, yr oedd 7,436 o geisiadau heb eu prosesu. Estynnaf fy nghydyndeimlad a'm cefnogaeth i aelodau staff yr awdurdodau lleol, sydd o dan bwysau mawr wrth ymdrin â galwadau ffôn, llythyrau a phobl yn galw i mewn, yn ogystal â cheisio prosesu'r ceisiadau. Mae angen ein cefnogaeth arnynt. Mae angen swyddfeydd rhanbarthol lle y gellir prosesu ceisiadau syml o fewn diwrnod arnynt. Mae angen systemau cyfrifiadurol hyblyg, dechau, sydd yn ddibynadwy ac sydd yn cynhyrchu gwybodaeth y gallant hwy a'r ceiswyr ei deall. Mae hefyd angen iddynt allu prosesu ceisiadau o fewn y pythefnos statudol, am fod llawer o bobl nad ydynt yn sylweddoli y gallai eu hawdurdod lleol eu hunain ddwyn achos yn eu herbyn am hynny.

**Janet Ryder:** Fel llawer o bobl eraill, croesawaf y ddadl heddiw a'r strategaeth dai. Rhaid canmol y ffordd y'i lluniwyd a'r ffaith fod llawer o grwpiau wedi eu cynnwys. Fodd bynnag, mae argymhellion y tasglu, er eu bod

recommendations, while being far-reaching and comprehensive, have been somewhat watered down in the final strategy, which is a shame.

I will look at one of those recommendations in particular: a recommendation from task group 1. The strategy is rather confused on this point to say the least. While the Minister has today said that she will reject Jocelyn Davies's amendment 8, which calls for a national audit of housing need, the document states that the Government is committed to a housing audit, and to a household interview survey. Amendment 8 seeks to underline the importance of this audit, and to have it included in the motion. The information gained from a national audit of housing need is crucial to enable local authorities to plan and develop their unitary development plans. It would show the changing geographical need in housing. Instead of using the argument that because there are several empty properties in a certain area, there is no real need for new social housing to be built, a comprehensive housing survey would enable councils to tie the need for housing into future development. At present, without the ability to assess or predict housing need, it is impossible to successfully meet the demand. Local provision must be tied to local need.

On the regeneration of communities, there are so many different yet similar initiatives, that there is much confusion and duplication of work and effort. As the Minister has said, the aim of Communities First was to draw the community regeneration money together in one pocket, creating one regeneration project that would allow communities to identify and meet their needs without having to negotiate the funding maze that currently exists. This is the basis of Jocelyn Davies's amendment 11. I note what the Minister has said today that Communities First can be used as match funding for Objective 1. While that may be so in areas included in the Objective 1 map, there are many areas outside of that in Wales who are also looking forward to this initiative.

3:38 p.m.

yn bellgyrhaeddol ac yn gynhwysfawr, wedi eu glastwreiddio yn y strategaeth derfynol, sydd yn drueni.

Edrychaf ar un o'r argymhellion hyn yn arbennig: argymhelliad gan dasglu 1. Mae'r strategaeth braidd yn ddryslyd ar y pwynt hwn a dweud y lleiaf. Er i'r Gweinidog ddweud heddiw y bydd yn gwrthod gwelliant 8 Jocelyn Davies, sydd yn galw am archwiliad cenedlaethol o anghenion tai, mae'r ddogfen yn datgan bod y Llywodraeth yn ymrwymedig i gynnal archwiliad tai, ac arolwg cyfweld â chartrefi. Ceisia gwelliant 8 bwysleisio pa mor bwysig yw'r archwiliad hwn, a sicrhau ei fod wedi ei gynnwys yn y cynnig. Mae'r wybodaeth a geir gan archwiliad cenedlaethol o anghenion tai yn holl bwysig i alluogi awdurdodau lleol i gynllunio a datblygu eu cynlluniau datblygu unedol. Dangosai anghenion tai sydd yn newid ar sail ddaearyddol. Yn hytrach na defnyddio'r ddadl nad oes gwir angen adeiladu datblygiad cymdeithasol newydd am fod sawl eiddo gwag mewn ardal benodol, byddai arolwg cynhwysfawr o dai yn galluogi cynghorau i gysylltu'r angen am dai â datblygiadau yn y dyfodol. Ar hyn o bryd, heb allu asesu neu ragweld angen tai, mae'n amhosibl bodloni'r galw yn llwyddiannus. Rhaid cysylltu darpariaeth leol ag angen lleol.

O ran adfywio cymunedau, mae cymaint o fentrau gwahanol ond tebyg, nes bod cymaint o ddryswch a dyblygu gwaith ac ymdrech. Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, nod Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf oedd tynnu arian adfywio cymunedol ynghyd mewn un gronfa, gan greu un prosiect adfywio a fyddai'n caniatáu i gymunedau nodi a bodloni eu hanghenion heb orfod negodi drwy'r drysni ariannu sydd yn bodoli. Dyma sail gwelliant 11 Jocelyn Davies. Nodaf fod y Gweinidog wedi dweud heddiw y gellir defnyddio Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf fel arian cyfatebol ar gyfer Amcan 1. Er bod hynny'n wir mewn ardaloedd sydd o fewn map Amcan 1, mae llawer o ardaloedd y tu allan i hynny yng Nghymru sydd hefyd yn edrych ymlaen at y fenter hon.

I echo Janet Davies's earlier points about funding. The Local Government and Housing Committee last Thursday took evidence from a number of different housing groups. Each group stressed that the best way to fund the backlog of repairs in Wales would be for the Chancellor to change the public sector borrowing requirements and allow councils to borrow. Plaid Cymru thinks that it is now vital that the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities leads a delegation to Westminster to put forward this case for Wales.

I would like the Minister to clarify in her closing speech what exactly is meant by the White Paper on housing that is mentioned in the partnership agreement. Has that idea been scrapped, will there be a further debate or is our debate today on the so-called White Paper on housing? Finally, Peter Law did a good job in keeping the Committee informed, but we would like to ensure that, as this strategy develops, the Committee receives regular reports on its progress.

**Gwenda Thomas:** First, I want to refer to paragraph 12.4.4, the Welsh response to the Royal Commission on long-term care. I welcome the proposal to establish a task group supported by smaller groups looking at detailed issues. One of those issues must be an assessment criterion in respect of disablement facilities grants. This issue is not confined to the elderly, but involves disabled people of all ages. A housing strategy must include the ability to fast-track urgent adaptations where the onset of disability is sudden. Minor adaptations such as ramps, hand rails and chair lifts, which aid rehabilitation, would help carers and facilitate caring within the community.

I will add to what Val said about women fleeing violence. The strategy should also include issuing guidelines to local authorities on policies to deal with some cases of rent arrears, in particular arrears that are outstanding when one party, most often the man leaves a woman to bring up children and the arrears become that mother's responsibility although the tenancy was

Ategfaf bwyntiau cynharach Janet Davies ynglŷn ag ariannu. Cymerodd y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai ddydd Iau diwethaf dystiolaeth gan nifer o grwpiau tai gwahanol. Pwysleisiodd pob grŵp mai'r ffordd orau o ariannu ôl-groniad y gwaith trwsio yng Nghymru fyddai i'r Canghellor newid gofynion benthyca'r sector cyhoeddus a chaniatáu i'r cynghorau fenthyg arian. Mae Plaid Cymru o'r farn ei bod yn holl bwysig erbyn hyn bod y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau yn arwain dirprwyaeth i San Steffan i ddadlau'r achos hwn dros Gymru.

Hoffwn i'r Gweinidog egluro yn ei haraith i gloi beth yn union a olygir yn y Papur Gwyn ar dai y cyfeirir ato yn y cytundeb partneriaeth. A roddwyd y gorau i'r syniad hwn, a fydd dadl ymhellach yn y dyfodol neu ai ar y Papur Gwyn ar dai fel y'i gelwir y mae ein dadl heddiw? I gloi, gwnaeth Peter Law waith da wrth sicrhau bod y Pwyllgor yn cael yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf, ond hoffem sicrhau bod y Pwyllgor yn cael adroddiadau rheolaidd ar y cynnydd a wneir, wrth i'r strategaeth hon ddatblygu.

**Gwenda Thomas:** Yn gyntaf, hoffwn gyfeirio at baragraff 12.4.4, sef ymateb Cymru i'r Comisiwn Brenhinol ar ofal tymor hir. Croesawaf y cynnig i sefydlu tasglu wedi ei gynorthwyo gan grwpiau llai a fydd yn ystyried materion manwl. Rhaid mai un o'r materion hynny yw asesu meini prawf mewn perthynas â grantiau cyfleusterau anabled. Nid yn ymwneud â'r oedrannus yn unig y mae'r mater hwn, ond â phobl anabl o bob oedran. Rhaid i strategaeth dai gynnwys y gallu i wneud addasiadau brys yn gyflym lle y mae person yn mynd yn anabl yn sydyn. Byddai mân addasiadau fel rampiau, canllawiau a lifftiau cadair, sydd yn gymorth o ran ailsefydlu, yn helpu cynhalwyr ac yn hyrwyddo gofalu yn y gymuned.

Ychwanegaf at yr hyn a ddywedodd Val ynglŷn â merched sydd yn ffoi rhag trais. Dylai'r strategaeth hefyd gynnwys cyhoeddi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol ar bolisiau sydd yn ymdrin ag achosion o ôl-ddyledion rhenti, yn enwedig ôl-ddyledion sydd heb eu talu lle y mae un parti, yn aml y dyn yn gadael y wraig i fagu'r plant ac mae'r fam yn dod yn gyfrifol am yr ôl-ddyledion er mai

jointly held. The existence of these arrears often prohibit a transfer of tenancy for the mother when a house move could offer her and her children added protection against violence. I understand that local authorities can exercise discretion at the moment.

Amendment 9 in the name of Jocelyn Davies is not necessary because, as the Minister has already mentioned, the Local Government and Housing Committee has been closely involved at every stage of the work on drawing up the strategy. It is fitting that the work of Peter Law is recognised. On 21 July 1999, the Committee considered a framework for a national housing strategy. On 27 January 2000, the interim reports of the four independent task groups on the national housing strategy were considered by the Committee. On 18 May 2000, the Committee considered the final reports of the four independent task groups on the national housing strategy. I add my thanks to these groups for their work. On 15 November 2000, a draft consultation paper on the national housing strategy was again considered by the Committee. On 15 November, the Committee meeting decided that the development of the strategy, which has involved tenant representatives, housing agencies and professionals, local government and others, represents an outstanding example of a new, inclusive and consensual approach to policy development.

The Local Government and Housing Committee will continue to take a close interest in the development of the strategy. It is already planning to consider the results of the consultation as soon as possible after the completion of the exercise. This will probably be at its first meeting of the summer session in early May, which would fall within the six-month timescale mentioned in amendment 9.

**David Davies:** I welcome the opportunity to speak on this subject. I served on the Local Government and Housing Committee for many months. First, I will refer to section 8.2, in the light of comments by an earlier speaker about the previous Government. Members should be aware that this report makes it absolutely clear that the vast majority of people in Wales would like to own their

tenantiaeth ar y cyd ydoedd. Mae'r ôl-ddyledion hyn yn aml yn rhwystro'r denantiaeth rhag cael ei throsglwyddo i'r fam lle y gallai symud tŷ ei diogelu hi a'i phlant yn well rhag trais. Deallaf y gall awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio disgresiwn ar hyn o bryd.

Nid oes angen gwelliant 9 yn enw Jocelyn Davies am fod y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai, fel y soniodd y Gweinidog eisoes, wedi cymryd rhan weithgar ymhob cam o'r gwaith o lunio'r strategaeth. Mae'n briodol bod gwaith Peter Law yn cael ei gydnabod. Ar 21 Gorffennaf 1999, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor fframwaith ar gyfer strategaeth dai genedlaethol. Ar 27 Ionawr 2000, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor adroddiadau interim y pedwar tasglu annibynnol ar y strategaeth dai genedlaethol. Ar 18 Mai 2000, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor adroddiadau terfynol y pedwar tasglu annibynnol ar y strategaeth dai genedlaethol. Hoffwn innau ddiolch i'r grwpiau hyn am eu gwaith. Ar 15 Tachwedd 2000, ystyriodd y Pwyllgor bapur ymgynghorol drafft ar y strategaeth dai genedlaethol unwaith eto. Ar 15 Tachwedd, penderfynodd cyfarfod y Pwyllgor fod y broses o ddatblygu'r strategaeth, sydd wedi cynnwys cynrychiolwyr tenantiaid, asiantaethau tai a phobl broffesiynol, llywodraeth leol ac eraill, yn enghraifft wych o'r ymagwedd newydd, gynhwysol a chydysyniol tuag at ddatblygu polisi.

Bydd y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai yn parhau i ymddiddori yn natblygiad y strategaeth. Mae eisoes yn bwriadu ystyried canlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad mor fuan â phosibl ar ôl cwblhau'r ymarfer. Bydd hyn yn digwydd yn ei gyfarfod cyntaf yn sesiwn yr haf ar ddechrau Mai fwy na thebyg, a fyddai o fewn yr amserlen chwe mis y cyfeiriwyd ati yng ngwelliant 9.

**David Davies:** Croesawaf y cyfle i siarad ar y pwnc hwn. Gwasanaethwn ar y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai am fisoedd lawer. Yn gyntaf, cyfeiriai at adran 8.2, yng ngoleuni'r sylwadau a wnaeth siaradwr arall yn gynharach ynglŷn â'r Llywodraeth flaenorol. Dylai'r Aelodau fod yn ymwybodol fod yr adroddiad hwn yn nodi'n gwbl glir yr hoffai'r mwyafrif llethol o bobl

houses. As a result of the proud record of the previous Conservative Government, over 72 per cent of them do. I am concerned that there is a somewhat patronising attitude among certain sections of society, that those who are currently in council houses should in some way be denied the opportunity to buy their own homes because we are told that they might not be able to make the right financial decisions for themselves. I do not accept that. Everybody, whatever their station in society, has the right to aspire to home ownership. We should not stand back and think that because we perhaps have better paid jobs, we know better than they do what is best for them. People know what is best for themselves. While some people will remain in council housing, it is a delight to see that at last this Government has accepted the important role that PFI has to play in improving the conditions of those who are currently in some form of social housing. The Labour Party in opposition criticised PFI. However, there is nothing like a sinner who repents and I am delighted that PFI is given an important role here.

I am concerned about comments in this report about the private rented sector. I would like to say, just in case Brian Gibbons is thinking of getting up, that some years ago I rented out a room in my own house. I say that in the interest of clarity. It is vital that we have a strong private rented sector. Some people will move around a lot because of work, or they may be young or are not able to get onto the property ladder as soon as they wish. That is why we need a private rented sector.

The previous Government freed up many of the restrictions that held people back from renting out houses, whether it was houses that they owned as second homes or rooms within homes that they owned. I would be concerned about any proposal to bring in an extra legislation or restrictions on landlords. When I rented out a room in a house, I had to supply a special certificate showing that the central heating was safe, otherwise I would not have been able to do so. That was fair and

Cymru fod yn berchenogion ar eu cartrefi. O ganlyniad i gofnod gwych y Llywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol, mae dros 72 y cant ohonynt yn berchenogion. Yr wyf yn pryderu bod agwedd braidd yn nawddoglyd ymhlith rhai elfennau o gymdeithas, y dylid gwrthod y cyfle i'r rhai sydd ar hyn o bryd mewn tai cyngor i brynu eu cartrefi eu hun am y dywedwyd wrthym na fyddent o bosibl yn gallu gwneud y penderfyniadau ariannol cywir iddynt hwy eu hunain. Ni dderbyniaf hynny. Mae hawl gan bawb, waeth beth fo'u lle mewn cymdeithas, i anelu at fod yn berchen ar eu cartref. Ni ddylem sefyll yn ôl a meddwl ein bod yn gwybod yn well na hwy yngly'n â'r hyn sydd orau iddynt am ein bod efallai mewn swyddi â chyflog uwch. Gw'yr pobl beth sydd orau iddynt hwy eu hunain. Er y bydd rhai pob yn parhau mewn tai cyngor, mae'n hyfryd gweld o'r diwedd bod y Llywodraeth hon wedi derbyn y rôl bwysig sydd gan y fenter cyllid preifat i'w chwarae i wella amodau'r bobl hynny sydd ar hyn o bryd yn byw mewn rhyw fath o dai cymdeithasol. Beirniadodd y Blaid Lafur y fenter cyllid preifat pan oedd yn wrthblaid. Fodd bynnag, nid oes dim byd fel pechadur sydd yn edifarhau ac yr wyf yn falch iawn bod y fenter cyllid preifat wedi cael rôl bwysig yma.

Yr wyf yn pryderu ynglŷn â'r sylwadau yn yr adroddiad hwn ar y sector rhentu preifat. Hoffwn ddweud, rhag ofn bod Brian Gibbons yn meddwl am godi, imi roi ystafell ar rent yn fy nhŷ fy hun rai blynyddoedd yn ôl. Dywedaf hynny er eglurhad. Mae'n holl bwysig bod gennym sector rhentu preifat cadarn. Bydd rhai pobl yn symud gryn dipyn oherwydd eu gwaith, neu am eu bod yn ifanc neu am na allant brynu eu heiddo eu hun mor fuan ag yr hoffent. Dyna pam bod angen sector rhentu preifat arnom.

Llwyddodd y Llywodraeth flaenorol i gael gwared ar lawer o'r cyfyngiadau a oedd yn rhwystro pobl rhag rhoi tai ar rent, boed yn dai yr oeddent yn berchen arnynt fel ail gartrefi neu ystafelloedd mewn tai yr oeddent yn berchen arnynt. Pryderwn yngly'n ag unrhyw gynnig a fydd yn gosod deddfwriaeth neu gyfyngiadau ychwanegol ar landlordiaid. Pan roddais ystafell ar rent mewn tŷ, yr oedd yn rhaid imi gyflwyno tystysgrif arbennig i ddangos bod y gwres canolog yn ddiogel, neu



adequate. Any further forms of licensing could undermine what we are trying to achieve, which is the largest number of homes possible in the rented sector.

**Val Feld:** Are you aware, David, that the worst housing conditions are in the private rented sector? Many people are killed in fires in the private rented sector. There has been a big campaign for many years to have a registration scheme and to take a firm hold of standards in that sector. Are you also aware that the loosening of restrictions that your Government introduced, against a lot of advice, has led to a vast expansion of the private sector? A senior housing officer in Swansea told me in a telephone conversation early this morning that he thought that the new census—as long as people fill it in—will demonstrate the extent of the expansion of the private rented sector areas into areas that have previously been stable owner-occupied housing areas.

**David Davies:** People should not have to tolerate dangerous housing. However, if we bring in so many restrictions that people are not prepared to rent out their houses under any circumstances, you will fail in your objective to ensure that homes are available for people so that they do not end up on the street.

I want to raise some specific concerns in the report. Section 11.7 deals with restrictions on so-called cowboy builders. That is certainly a problem but, as the report emphasises, the biggest reason why there are so many cowboy builders is because of the current tax regime. Nobody is suggesting that the tax regime should be altered, which is a great shame.

I will now turn to section 12.2 on equality. The report mentions that councils are now able to evict people who harass their neighbours on racial grounds. I think that is an excellent point, and I fully support it. It is long overdue and I am surprised that the Minister has not made more of it. At the same time, I have a concern about black and ethnic

fel arall ni allwn fod wedi gwneud hyn. Yr oedd hynny'n deg ac yn ddigonol. Gallai unrhyw fathau eraill o drwyddedu danseilio'r hyn yr ydym yn ceisio ei gyflawni, sef sicrhau y nifer uchaf o gartrefi posibl yn y sector rhentu.

**Val Feld:** A ydych yn ymwybodol, David, mai yn y sector rhentu preifat y mae'r amodau tai gwaethaf? Caiff llawer o bobl eu lladd mewn tanau yn y sector rhentu preifat. Bu ymgyrch fawr dros lawer o flynyddoedd i gael cynllun cofrestru a chael gafael gadarn ar safonau yn y sector hwnnw. A ydych hefyd yn ymwybodol bod y sector preifat wedi ehangu'n helaeth ar ôl i'ch Llywodraeth chi gael gwared ar gyfyngiadau, yn groes i lawer o gyngor? Dywedodd uwch swyddog tai yn Abertawe wrthyf dros y ffôn ben bore heddiw ei fod o'r farn y bydd y cyfrifiad newydd—cyhyd ag y bydd pobl yn ei lenwi—yn dangos sut mae'r sector rhentu preifat wedi ymestyn i ardaloedd a fu'n ardaloedd sefydlog o dai lle y byddai perchenogion yn byw ynddynt.

**David Davies:** Ni ddylai pobl orfod dioddef byw mewn tai peryglus. Fodd bynnag, os cyflwynwn gymaint o gyfyngiadau fel nad yw pobl yn fodlon rhoi eu tai ar rent o dan unrhyw amgylchiadau, byddwch yn methu â chyrraedd eich nod o sicrhau bod cartrefi ar gael i bobl fel nad ydynt yn gorfod byw ar y stryd.

Hoffwn godi rhai pryderon penodol ynglŷn â'r adroddiad. Mae adran 11.7 yn ymwneud â chyfyngiadau mewn perthynas ag adeiladwyr siop siafins fel y'u gelwir. Mae hynny'n sicr yn broblem, ond fel y pwysleisia'r adroddiad, y rheswm pennaf pam bod cymaint o adeiladwyr siop siafins yw oherwydd y drefn dreth bresennol. Nid oes unrhyw un yn awgrymu y dylid newid y drefn dreth, sydd yn drueni mawr.

Trof yn awr at adran 12.2 ar gydraddoldeb. Sonia'r adroddiad y gall cynghorau erbyn hyn ddadfeddiannu pobl sydd yn aflonyddu ar eu cymdogion ar sail hiliol. Credaf fod hynny'n bwynt ardderchog, ac fe'i cefnogaf yn llwyr. Yr oedd ei angen ers tro byd a synnaf nad yw'r Gweinidog yn rhoi mwy o sylw iddo. Ar un y pryd, yr wyf yn pryderu

minority housing associations. Obviously, we should ensure that all people, whatever their background and skin colour, have an input into housing policy. However, I do not believe in any form of discrimination, whether positive or negative. I hope that the Minister can assure me that people will not be prevented from getting houses because of their skin colour whether that be white, black or anything else.

3:48 p.m.

On section 13.3 on giving statutory help to certain groups of people, the groups mentioned are homeless people aged 16 to 18, care leavers, prisoners, personnel leaving the armed forces with nowhere else to stay, and women fleeing from violence. I have no problem with supporting the idea of providing more statutory help for care leavers and for those leaving the armed forces. However, I am concerned about giving preferential treatment to prisoners. Anyone who has broken the law of the land should be punished and when they are released from prison, they should accept that they will not be entitled to any additional help simply because they have broken the law. To give additional help would send out a negative message.

I am open-minded on the other two issues, but I would like the Minister to clarify my concerns. Many homeless people aged 16 to 18 have problems getting on with their parents, and perhaps I should declare an interest here because I was no different at that age; I was a bit of a rascal. [*Laughter.*] I make a serious point. If we make it too easy for people of that age to leave the parental home and access all sorts of benefits, we will be eating into the slice of the cake that provides for other people who may be more in need of that help. On women—

**Jocelyn Davies:** I am sure that you would not have to walk far from this building to find young people prostituting themselves because they cannot claim housing benefit, and I am sure that you would agree that the homes from which they came are a little bit more miserable than the home from which you

yngly<sup>n</sup> â chymdeithasau tai i leiafrifoedd du ac ethnig. Yn amlwg, dylem sicrhau bod pawb, waeth beth fo'u cefndir neu liw eu croen, yn cyfrannu i bolisiau tai. Fodd bynnag, nid wyf yn credu mewn unrhyw fath o wahaniaethu, boed yn gadarnhaol neu'n negyddol. Gobeithiaf y gall y Gweinidog fy sicrhau na chaiff pobl eu hatal rhag cael tai oherwydd lliw eu croen boed yn wyn, yn ddu neu unrhyw beth arall.

O ran adran 13.3 ar gymorth statudol i grwpiau penodol o bobl, y grwpiau a nodir yw pobl ddigartref rhwng 16 a 18 oed, y rhai sydd yn gadael gofal, carcharorion, personél sydd yn gadael y lluoedd arfog nad oes ganddynt unrhyw le arall i aros, a merched sydd yn ffoi rhag trais. Ni welaf broblem o ran cefnogi'r syniad o roi mwy o gymorth statudol i'r rhai sydd yn gadael gofal neu'r lluoedd arfog. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn pryderu ynglŷn â rhoi triniaeth ddewisol i garcharorion. Dylai unrhyw un sydd wedi torri cyfraith y wlad gael ei gosbi ac ar ôl eu rhyddhau o'r carchar, dylent dderbyn na fydd hawl ganddynt i gael cymorth ychwanegol dim ond am eu bod wedi torri'r gyfraith. Byddai cymorth ychwanegol yn rhoi neges negyddol.

Mae gennyf feddwl agored ar y ddau fater arall, ond hoffwn ofyn i'r Gweinidog egluro fy mhryderon. Mae llawer o bobl ddigartref 16-18 oed yn ei chael yn anodd cyd-dynnu â'u rhieni, ac efallai y dylwn ddatgan buddiant yma am nad oeddwn innau'n wahanol ar yr un oedran; gwalch bach oeddwn i. [*Chwerthin.*] Gwnaf bwynt difrifol. Os ydym yn ei gwneud yn rhy hawdd i bobl yr oedran hwnnw adael cartref eu rhieni a chael pob math o fudd-daliadau, byddwn yn mynd â'r darn o'r deisen sydd yn darparu ar gyfer pobl eraill y mae angen y cymorth hwnnw arnynt yn fwy o bosibl. O ran merched—

**Jocelyn Davies:** Yr wyf yn siw<sup>r</sup> na fyddai'n rhaid ichi gerdded yn bell o'r adeilad hwn i ddod o hyd i bobl ifanc sydd yn gwerthu eu hunain am na allant hawlio budd-dâl tai, ac yr wyf yn siw<sup>r</sup> ichi gytuno bod eu cartrefi hwy ychydig yn fwy diflas na'r cartref lle y cawsoch chithau eich magu.

came.

**David Davies:** I agree with you on both points, but help is available for people in that situation. The answer is not to hand over large sums of money to people aged between 16 and 18 and allow them to get on with it. People of that age need supervision; they do not need to be encouraged to leave the parental home by giving them access to larger sums of money.

I fully accept that women fleeing from violence need all the help that they can get. My only concern is that I have met men in my constituency who have been involved in relationship breakdowns, and in the case of one man, I believe that false allegations were made against him. We must be careful that we do not make it easy for somebody to make a false allegation of violence in order to get housing. I am not saying that that happens a great deal. I am not trying to suggest for one minute that the majority of allegations of violence are not genuine, but it can happen.

**Janet Ryder:** Perhaps my memory serves me wrong, but having said all that, can you explain why, in April or June of this year, you voted for a redefinition of homelessness?

**David Davies:** As you know, the Welsh Conservatives will support much of what is said today. However, I raise specific concerns in a report that consists of more than 100 pages. If I were not prepared to vote in favour of certain things, you would be the first person to jump up and criticise me.

**Janet Ryder:** Can I just—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Before David Davies gives way to further interventions, I remind him that he has had nine minutes and 21 seconds.

**David Davies:** I will not give way. I make one final positive point on mediation, which is an excellent service. I have visited the Monmouthshire mediation group and it has been helpful in relation to certain constituency cases. If it does not sound too patronising, I suggest that all Members visit mediation groups in their constituencies and

**David Davies:** Cytunaf â chi ar y ddau bwynt, ond mae cymorth ar gael i bobl yn y sefyllfa hon. Nid yw rhoi symiau mawr o arian i bobl rhwng 16 a 18 oed a chaniatáu iddynt fwrw iddi yn ateb. Mae angen goruchwyliaeth ar bobl yr oedran hwnnw; ni ddylid eu hannog i adael cartref eu rhieni drwy roi cyfle iddynt hawlio mwy o arian.

Derbyniaf yn llwyr fod angen pob cymorth posibl ar ferched sydd yn ffoi rhag trais. Yr unig bryder sydd gennyf yw imi gwrdd â dynion yn fy etholaeth y mae eu perthynas wedi chwalu, ac yn achos un dyn, gwnaethpwyd honiadau anwir yn ei erbyn, fe gredaf. Rhaid inni fod yn ofalus nad ydym yn ei gwneud yn hawdd i rywun wneud honiad anwir o drais, er mwyn cael ty<sup>^</sup>. Nid wyf yn dweud y digwydd hyn yn aml. Ni cheisiaf awgrymu am eiliad nad yw'r rhan fwyaf o honiadau o drais yn rhai dilys, ond gall ddigwydd.

**Janet Ryder:** Efallai bod fy nghof yn wallus, ond ar ôl dweud hynny, a allwch egluro pam, ym mis Ebrill neu Fehefin eleni, ichi bleidleisio dros ailddiffinio digartrefedd?

**David Davies:** Fel y gwyddoch, bydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru yn cefnogi'r rhan fwyaf o'r hyn a ddywedir heddiw. Fodd bynnag, codaf bryderon penodol mewn adroddiad sydd yn cynnwys dros 100 o dudalennau. Pe na bawn yn fodlon pleidleisio dros rai pethau, chi fyddai'r cyntaf i neidio i fyny a'm beirniadu.

**Janet Ryder:** A gaf—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Cyn i David Davies ildio i ymyriadau pellach, fe'i hatgoffaf ei fod wedi cael naw munud a 21 eiliad eisoes.

**David Davies:** Nid ildiaf. Gwnaf un pwynt cadarnhaol i gloi ynglŷn â chyfryngu, sydd yn wasanaeth rhagorol. Ymwelais â grŵp cyfryngu Sir Fynwy a bu o gymorth o safbwynt sawl achosion fy etholaeth i. Os nad yw'n swnio'n rhy nawddoglyd, awgrymaf i bob Aelod ymweld â grwpiau cyfryngu yn eu hetholaethau a'u defnyddio, yn enwedig ar

that they use them, particularly for disputes between neighbours. The two issues that the mediation groups raise time and time again with me are that they need longer-term funding, preferably three-year funding, and that we need to look at these mediation groups over wider areas rather than only having them sporadically based in different parts of the country. I hope that the Minister will address my concerns. I support William Graham's amendments and I look forward to hearing the response.

**Ann Jones:** I welcome the opportunity to make a contribution to this debate. As Members have said, it is everybody's right to a decent, affordable, secure home that is warm, dry and in which everybody can feel safe. Every Assembly Member could recall horror stories from their own constituencies.

I turn to the private rented sector. I am sorry, David, that I do not share your views but you would not expect me to. I have a caring nature and I believe that people have a right, if they are paying a rent, to have space, warmth, hot water and certainly cold running water that is clean. That is not the case in some of the tenancies from private landlords in my constituency.

I will prefix the rest of my remarks by saying that we have some good landlords and landladies in my constituency. Unfortunately, good ones are outweighed by the bad ones. As a result, I will talk about strengthening the role of the housing benefit agency when it considers where and how it pays benefit. Landlords and landladies should not be allowed to collect the benefit on behalf of some poor tenant who does not know which area to go to and who is taken by the hand by the landlord to the benefits department and assisted in filling the forms so that the landlord can collect the money. These landlords are picking up quite a lot of money and putting nothing back into their property. These houses are being allowed to go into disrepair and neglect, and to become an eyesore. Furthermore, they are a health hazard. Unfortunately, because local authorities' housing departments are under-resourced they cannot go out and check all these premises. The environmental health inspectors do their utmost, but unfortunately

gyfer anghydfod rhwng cymdogion. Y ddau fater y mae'r grwpiau cyfryngu yn eu codi dro ar ôl tro â mi yw bod angen ariannu tymor hwy arnynt, ariannu tair blynedd os yn bosibl, a bod angen inni ystyried sefydlu'r grwpiau cyfryngu hynny dros ardaloedd ehangach yn hytrach na'u lleoli ar hap mewn gwahanol rannau o'r wlad. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog yn ymdrin â'm pryderon. Cefnogaf welliannau William Graham ac edrychaf ymlaen at glywed yr ymateb.

**Ann Jones:** Croesawaf y cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddadl hon. Fel y dywedodd Aelodau, mae hawl gan bawb i gael cartref safonol, fforddiadwy, diogel sydd yn gynnes, sych a lle y gall pawb deimlo'n ddiogel. Gall pob Aelod o'r Cynulliad gofio am storïau ofnadwy o'u hetholaethau eu hunain.

Trof at y sector rhentu preifat. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, David, nad wyf yn cyd-fynd â chi, ond ni fyddech yn disgwyl imi wneud hynny. Yr wyf yn ofalgar o ran natur a chredaf fod gan bobl hawl i gael lle, gwres, dŵr poeth ac yn sicr gyflenwad o ddŵr oer sydd yn lân, os ydynt yn talu rhent. Nid yw hynny'n digwydd ymhob tenantiaeth gan landlord preifat yn fy etholaeth i.

Cyn imi fynd yn fy mlaen â'm sylwadau nodaf fod gennym rai landlordiaid a landlordesau da yn fy etholaeth. Yn anffodus, mae mwy o landlordiaid gwael na rhai da. O ganlyniad, siaradaf am atgyfnerthu rôl yr asiantaeth budd-daliadau tai pan fydd yn ystyried ble a sut y mae'n talu budd-dâl. Ni ddylid caniatáu i landlordiaid a landlordesau gasglu'r budd-dâl ar ran rhyw denant truan na wŷr pa ardal y dylai fynd iddi ac a gaiff ei hebrwng i'r adran budd-daliadau gan y landlord sydd yn ei gynorthwyo i lenwi'r ffurflenni fel y gall y landlord gasglu'r arian. Mae'r landlordiaid hyn yn cael cryn dipyn o arian ac nid ydynt yn buddsoddi dim ohono yn eu heiddo. Gadewir i'r tai hyn ddirywio a chael eu hesgeuluso, gan fynd yn ddiolwg. Yn ogystal, maent yn berygl iechyd. Yn anffodus, am nad oes digon o adnoddau gan adrannau tai'r awdurdodau lleol ni allant fynd allan a gwirio'r holl eiddo hyn. Mae'r arolygwyr iechyd amgylcheddol yn gwneud eu gorau glas, ond yn anffodus mae gennym broblem oherwydd mai'r landlordiaid sydd

we have a problem whereby landlords who are absent from the premises, or who are absent from the towns in which these premises are occupied, are those that we cannot track down and we cannot demand that they make good those defects.

I welcome the Government's Green Paper, 'Quality and choice: a decent home for all', which will hopefully bring forward a licensing system to improve the standards in housing in multiple occupancy. I want to see the prevention of deaths from fires in multiple occupancy houses. That is easily done if everybody has access to proper electricity or gas supplies and are not forced to try to bypass the meter or are cut off and have to use candles, which can be dangerous at any time of year. Far more people's lives are put at risk in a house in multiple occupancy that does not have proper fire precautions.

I welcome the fitness rating to aid enforcement action on unsafe homes, which is another policy from the Green Paper. We need to ensure that existing powers are fully utilised and that the proposed registration schemes are taken up. These incentives for good practice by private landlords will be welcomed by good landlords who will come on board with the registration scheme and the licensing scheme. Good landlords have nothing to fear. The only people who have things to fear are the bad landlords who are putting hundreds of pounds in their back pockets at the blight of their tenants who are living in abject poverty and misery. I hope that this Government and this Assembly will do all they can to ensure that everybody has a right to a decent home.

**Geraint Davies:** I declare an interest as a member of Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council. The proposals in the strategy are comprehensive and there is much to commend. My authority, Rhondda Cynon Taff, has embraced many other proposals with regard to the house condition survey and the needs survey, which help to target resources where they are most needed. The emphasis on partnership is also important in working with tenants to solve problems. A good example is the Mount Libanus estate in

yn absennol o'r eiddo, neu o'r trefi lle y mae eu heiddo, yw'r rhai na allwn ddod o hyd iddynt ac na allwn ofyn iddynt gywiro'r diffygion hynny.

Croesawaf Bapur Gwyrdd y Llywodraeth, 'Quality and choice: a decent home for all', a fydd, gobeithio, yn cyflwyno system drwyddedu a fydd yn gwella safonau tai mewn amlbreswyliaeth. Hoffwn weld atal marwolaethau oherwydd tân mewn tai amlbreswyliaeth. Gellir gwneud hynny'n hawdd os caiff pawb gyflenwadau trydan neu nwy priodol ac nid ydynt yn gorfod ceisio osgoi'r mesurydd neu golli eu cyflenwad a defnyddio canhwylau, a all fod yn beryglus ar unrhyw adeg o'r flwyddyn. Mae llawer mwy o fywydau pobl mewn perygl mewn tai amlbreswyliaeth nad oes ganddynt ragofalon tân priodol.

Croesawaf y raddfa priodoldeb a fydd yn helpu i gymryd camau gorfodi ar gartrefi anniogel, sef polisi arall yn y Papur Gwyrdd. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod y pwerau presennol yn cael eu defnyddio'n llawn a bod y cynlluniau cofrestru arfaethedig yn cael eu sefydlu. Caiff y cymhellion hyn ar gyfer arfer da ymhlith landlordiaid preifat eu croesawu gan landlordiaid da a fydd yn cytuno i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun cofrestru a'r cynllun trwyddedu. Nid oes dim byd a fydd yn peri ofn i landlordiaid da. Yr unig bobl a ddylai ofni yw'r landlordiaid gwael sydd yn pocedu cannoedd o bunnoedd ar draul eu tenantiaid sydd yn byw mewn tloidi ac adfyd enbyd. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Llywodraeth hon a'r Cynulliad hwn yn gwneud popeth o fewn eu gallu er mwyn sicrhau bod gan bawb yr hawl i gartref safonol.

**Geraint Davies:** Datganaf fuddiant fel aelod o Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf. Mae'r cynigion yn y strategaeth yn gynhwysfawr ac mae llawer i'w ganmol. Mabwysiadodd fy awdurdod, Rhondda Cynon Taf, nifer o gynigion eraill ynglŷn â'r arolwg cyflwr tai a'r arolwg anghenion, sydd yn helpu i dargedu adnoddau lle mae eu hangen fwyaf. Mae'r pwyslais ar bartneriaeth hefyd yn bwysig wrth weithio gyda thenantiaid i ddatrys problemau. Enghraifft dda yw ystad Mount Libanus yn Nhrefherbert,

Treherbert, a problem estate where we have been working with the tenants to solve their problems. There is a similar arrangement in Penrhys. We are also looking forward to working with the mediation service, which is so important in sorting out problems between tenants and others.

3:58 p.m.

Housing is a major problem. It is a major problem in my constituency, where 12 per cent of the housing is unfit. It is nice to see that the Government realises the importance of housing and the link with ill-health. Poor housing and illness go together. Unfortunately, housing finance and the resources for tackling housing problems have not had the priority they deserve. If we look at the figures on the amount spent on public sector housing, £288 million was spent in 1990-91, and last year a mere £211 million. This is not at all satisfactory. The amount spent on each individual house has decreased from £1,300 to £1,100.

We are not just talking about bricks and mortar, we are talking about rejuvenating and regenerating communities. We welcome the Communities First initiative. Unfortunately, as the proposals stand at the moment, the plans are to assist the 100 most deprived communities in Wales. Up to five will be selected from each local authority area. This appears to be a sound plan on the face of it, but it does not take into account the fact that some areas are in a worse position than others. For example, Rhondda Cynon Taff, my own authority, has 17 in the top 100 most deprived wards, and 10 in the top 40. Monmouthshire, on the other hand, has none in the top 100, but if the present proposals are adopted, wards in Monmouthshire will have priority over more deprived wards—

**David Davies** *rose*—

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. I do not think that he is giving way.

**Geraint Davies:** No.

**David Davies:** What he says is wrong.

ystad lle y ceir problemau a lle buom yn gweithio gyda thenantiaid i ddatrys eu problemau. Mae trefniant tebyg ym Mhenrhys. Edrychwn ymlaen hefyd at weithio gyda'r gwasanaeth cyfryngu, sydd mor bwysig wrth ddatrys problemau rhwng tenantiaid ac eraill.

Mae tai yn broblem fawr. Mae'n broblem fawr yn fy etholaeth i, lle mae 12 y cant o dai yn anaddas. Mae'n braf gweld bod y Llywodraeth yn sylweddoli pwysigrwydd tai a'r cysylltiad gyda salwch. Mae tai gwael a salwch yn mynd law yn llaw. Yn anffodus, ni chafodd cyllid ar gyfer tai ac adnoddau ar gyfer ymdrin â phroblemau tai y flaenoriaeth a haeddant. Os edrychwn ar y ffigurau ar y swm a werir ar dai yn y sector cyhoeddus, gwariwyd £288 miliwn yn 1990-91, a'r llynedd dim ond £211 miliwn. Mae hyn yn hollol anffodus. Gostyngodd y swm a wariwyd ar bob tŷ unigol o £1,300 i £1,100.

Nid sôn am frics a mortar yn unig yr ydym, soniwn am adfer ac adfywio cymunedau. Croesawn y fenter Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Yn anffodus, fel y saif y cynigion ar hyn o bryd, y cynlluniau yw cynorthwyo'r 100 cymuned mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru. Caiff hyd at bump ei dethol o ardal pob awdurdod lleol. Ar yr wyneb ymddengys hwn yn gynllun cadarn, ond nid ystyria'r ffaith bod rhai ardaloedd mewn gwaeth sefyllfa nag eraill. Er enghraifft, mae gan Rhondda Cynon Taf, fy awdurdod i, 17 o wardiau yn y 100 ward mwyaf difreintiedig, a 10 yn y 40 mwyaf difreintiedig. Nid oes gan Sir Fynwy, ar y llaw arall, unrhyw ward yn y 100 uchaf, ond os mabwysiedir y cynigion presennol, caiff wardiau yn Sir Fynwy flaenoriaeth dros y wardiau mwy difreintiedig—

**David Davies** *a gododd*—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Ni chredaf ei fod yn ildio.

**Geraint Davies:** Nac ydwyf.

**David Davies:** Mae'r hyn a ddywed yn anghywir.

**The Presiding Officer:** Whether he is wrong or not is not at issue, the issue is whether he is giving way or not.

**Geraint Davies:** The proposal is obviously unfair and must be changed.

I must admit that when I was reading the document I got somewhat excited by this new major repairs allowance; we thought that this was new money. Unfortunately, that is not the case. All it does is reappportion existing money in the housing revenue account. If that is set at the higher level in Wales there will be less money for grants and area renewal.

The document suggests that the major repair allowance should be used for private funding initiative schemes in housing,

‘where there was a need to undertake a significant amount of major repairs work quickly.’

I emphasise the word ‘quickly’. Whatever the virtues of PFI, my experience is that speed is not one of them. It takes years and years to get a PFI scheme off the ground, and it is essential that we tackle the problems on our estates by tackling them quickly because deterioration sets in at speed.

I cannot understand why the Labour Party embraces PFI. It is a poor deal for councils; they will be paying through the nose and they will be mortgaging their future. What we really need is more funding for local authorities, who know where the needs are in their communities. They are the best people to spend that money.

A great concern in the south Wales valleys—

**Edwina Hart:** I note your comments regarding PFI. Could you confirm that Rhondda Cynon Taff and other authorities like Caerphilly are moving ahead with PFI projects?

**Geraint Davies:** We did not have any choice.

**Y Llywydd:** Nid pa un ai a yw'n anghywir ai peidio yw'r mater dan sylw, y mater yw pa un ai a yw'n ildio ai peidio.

**Geraint Davies:** Mae'r cynnig yn amlwg yn annheg a rhaid ei newid.

Rhaid imi gyfaddef imi gael fy nghyffroi rhywfaint wrth ddarllen y ddogfen gan y lwfans atgyweiriadau mawr newydd hwn; credem mai arian newydd oedd hwn. Yn anffodus, nid dyna'r achos. Y cyfan a wna yw ailddyrranu'r arian cyfredol yn y cyfrif refeniw tai. Os gosodir hynny ar lefel uwch yng Nghymru bydd llai o arian ar gyfer grantiau ac adnewyddu ardaloedd.

Awgryma'r ddogfen y dylai'r lwfans atgyweiriadau mawr gael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer cynlluniau'r fenter cyllid preifat ar gyfer tai.

‘lle yr oedd angen ymgymryd â swm sylweddol o waith atgyweirio mawr yn gyflym.’

Pwysleisiaf y geiriau ‘yn gyflym’. Beth bynnag fo rhinweddau'r fenter cyllid preifat, nid cyflymder yw un o'r rheini, o'm profiad i. Cymer flynyddoedd lawer i sefydlu cynllun menter cyllid preifat, ac mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn ymdrin â'r problemau ar ein hystadau drwy fynd i'r afael â hwy yn gyflym gan y gallant ddirywio'n gyflym iawn.

Ni allaf ddeall pam bod y Blaid Lafur yn cymeradwyo'r fenter cyllid preifat. Mae'n fargen wael i gynghorau; talant drwy eu trwynau a morgaisio eu dyfodol. Yr hyn sydd ei angen arnom mewn gwirionedd yw mwy o arian ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol, sydd yn adnabod yr anghenion yn eu cymunedau. Dyma'r bobl orau i wario'r arian hwnnw.

Un o'r pryderon mawr yng nghymoedd de Cymru—

**Edwina Hart:** Nodaf eich sylwadau ynglŷn â'r fenter cyllid preifat. A allech gadarnhau bod Rhondda Cynon Taf ac awdurdodau eraill fel Caerffili yn symud ymlaen gyda phrosiectau'r fenter cyllid preifat?

**Geraint Davies:** Nid oedd gennym unrhyw

We would much rather have gone along the conventional route, but unfortunately because we do not get adequate funding from central Government, that is the only choice we had. This is a condemnation of the way that the administration in Wales and in London treats local authorities.

I stress that there is a need for housing renovation grants and draw attention to the difficulties in which people find themselves. People wait five or six years for these grants. At present, Rhondda Cynon Taff is not dealing with new applications. Our funding has fallen from £14 million to £9 million this year. Some people are afraid to call in their environmental health officer in case their house is condemned. Those are the conditions in which people are living. We need more investment in housing renovation grants.

I am pleased that you support amendment 10 on housing benefit. The system needs to be reformed because it is too bureaucratic. I fail to understand why somebody is penalised and singled out for discriminatory treatment for being under 25. It is essential that we remove the access grant from housing benefit calculations. We talk about ensuring equal opportunities for education, but those are empty words unless we ensure that those who receive housing benefits are not penalised because they have an access grant. When the access grant is deducted from the housing benefit, their financial situation remains exactly the same.

I also stress the need to review the ceiling for housing benefits. If the ceiling on housing benefit does not allow people to have decent accommodation without taking from other necessities, we are failing our constituents. It is everyone's right to have a decent home. For too long, housing has not had priority in public spending. We need more money and it must be better targeted to create communities of which we can be proud.

**Peter Law:** It was interesting for me, coming from Blaenau Gwent, to listen to some of the Conservative comments this afternoon. Conservative amendments are always good entertainment in this Chamber, as we know.

ddewis. Byddai'n well gennym o lawer fod wedi dilyn y llwybr traddodiadol, ond yn anffodus gan na chawn arian digonol gan y Llywodraeth ganolog, dyna'r unig ddewis a oedd gennym. Mae hyn yn gondemniad o'r ffordd y mae'r weinyddiaeth yng Nghymru ac yn Llundain yn trin awdurdodau lleol.

Pwysleisiaf fod angen am grantiau adnewyddu tai a thynnaf sylw at yr anawsterau y mae pobl yn eu hwynebu. Erys pobl yn aros am bum neu chwe mlynedd am y grantiau hyn. Ar hyn o bryd, ni ddelia Rhondda Cynon Taf â cheisiadau newydd. Gostyngodd ein harian o £14 miliwn i £9 miliwn eleni. Mae ar rai pobl ofn galw ar eu swyddog iechyd yr amgylchedd rhag i'w tŷ gael ei gondemnio. Dyna'r amodau y mae pobl yn byw ynddynt. Mae angen mwy o fuddsoddiad arnom mewn grantiau adnewyddu tai.

Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn cefnogi gwelliant 10 ar fudd-dâl tai. Mae angen diwygio'r system gan ei bod yn rhy fiwrocraidd. Ni allaf ddeall pam y caiff rhywun ei gosbi ac y gwahaniaethir yn ei erbyn am ei fod o dan 25 oed. Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn cael gwared ar y grant mynediad o gyfrifiadau budd-dâl tai. Soniwn am sicrhau cyfleoedd cyfartal ar gyfer addysg, ond geiriau gwag yw'r rheini oni bai ein bod yn sicrhau na chosbir y rheini sydd yn derbyn budd-dâl tai gan fod ganddynt grant mynediad. Pan dynnir grant mynediad o'r budd-dâl tai, erys eu sefyllfa ariannol yn union yr un fath.

Pwysleisiaf hefyd yr angen i adolygu'r uchafswm ar gyfer budd-daliadau tai. Os na alluoga'r uchafswm ar fudd-dâl tai i bobl gael llety safonol heb gymryd unrhyw beth oddi wrth hanfodion eraill, yr ydym yn siomi ein hetholwyr. Mae gan bawb hawl i gael cartref safonol. Bu tai heb flaenoriaeth o ran gwariant cyhoeddus yn rhy hir. Mae angen mwy o arian arnom a rhaid ei dargedu'n well i greu cymunedau y gallwn ymfalchïo ynddynt.

**Peter Law:** Yr oedd yn ddiddorol i mi, sydd yn dod o Flaenau Gwent, wrando ar rai o sylwadau'r Ceidwadwyr y prynhawn yma. Mae gwelliannau'r Ceidwadwyr bob amser yn ddifyrwch da yn y Siambr hon, fel y



Most of the time, they are hollow words that are used to try to cover the shortcomings of previous Conservative administrations in Wales, which have caused the problems that we are trying to remedy by legislation. That is again the case this afternoon. When I heard David Davies speaking, I was reminded of that saying 'they are not all locked up yet'. When you hear the positively discriminatory—

**David Davies:** I certainly have not been locked up. What about the members of the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent? Twenty of them are either in their way to court or on their way back from being locked up.

**Peter Law:** Do not worry about the members of Blaenau Gwent —

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. The debate is not about Blaenau Gwent.

**Peter Law:** Do not worry about the members of Blaenau Gwent, just worry about the people of Blaenau Gwent and other areas in deprived communities throughout Wales, of whom the Conservative Government successively took advantage and forgot about. When did you begin to recognise homelessness? That is a question that went through my mind this afternoon when I heard William Graham speaking so eloquently. Until May 1997, there was no homelessness in Wales. That is what Conservative Ministers used to say. We know the truth and this document addresses that.

I return to what David Davies said earlier. It was disgraceful that he made such discriminatory remarks about young people, private tenants and ex-prisoners who need help and compassion. The only thing that he had left to say was 'burn them'. That is the approach of the Conservative Party towards vulnerable elements of our community.

This document is a beacon of commitment to the people of Wales, and I compliment the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities for bringing it forward this afternoon. I join in the congratulations that have been expressed to the people who worked on the task groups and the national

gwyddom. Gan fwyaf, geiriau gwag ydynt a ddefnyddir i geisio cuddio diffygion gweinyddiaethau Ceidwadol blaenorol yng Nghymru, a achosodd y problemau y ceisiwn eu hunioni drwy ddeddfwriaeth. Dyna'r achos eto y prynhawn yma. Pan glywais David Davies yn siarad, fe'm hatgoffwyd o'r dywediad 'nid ydynt oll dan glo eto'. Pan glywch y sylwadau cwbl wahaniaethol—

**David Davies:** Nid wyf fi, yn sicr, dan glo. Beth am aelodau Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent? Mae 20 ohonynt naill ai ar eu ffordd i'r llys neu ar eu ffordd yn ôl wedi iddynt fod dan glo.

**Peter Law:** Peidiwch â phoeni am aelodau Bwrdeistref Sirol Blaenau Gwent—

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid dadl ynglŷn â Blaenau Gwent ydyw.

**Peter Law:** Peidiwch â phoeni am aelodau Blaenau Gwent, poenwch yn hytrach am bobl Blaenau Gwent ac ardaloedd eraill mewn cymunedau difreintiedig ledled Cymru, y cymerodd y Llywodraeth Geidwadol fantais ohonynt oll yn eu tro ac anghofio amdanynt. Pa bryd y dechreuasoch sylwi ar ddigartrefedd? Dyna gwestiwn a aeth drwy fy meddwl y prynhawn yma pan glywais William Graham yn siarad mor huawdl. Tan fis Mai 1997, nid oedd unrhyw ddigartrefedd yng Nghymru. Dyna yr arferai Gweinidogion Ceidwadol ei ddweud. Gwyddom y gwirionedd ac mae'r ddogfen hon yn mynd i'r afael â hynny.

Dychwelaf at yr hyn a ddywedodd David Davies yn gynharach. Yr oedd yn warthus iddo wneud sylwadau mor wahaniaethol ynglŷn â phobl ifanc, tenantiaid preifat a chyn garcharorion sydd angen help a thosturi. Yr unig beth na ddywedodd oedd 'llosgwch hwy'. Dyna ymagwedd y Blaid Geidwadol tuag at elfennau diamddiffyn ein cymuned.

Mae'r ddogfen hon yn arwydd o ymrwymiad i bobl Cymru, a chanmolaf y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau am ei gyflwyno y prynhawn yma. Ymunaf yn y llongyfarchiadau a fynegwyd i'r bobl a weithiodd ar y grwpiau gorchwyl a'r cyngor ymgynghorol cenedlaethol ar dai, a wnaeth

housing consultative council, who have made the difference in bringing us this document. This document has not been drawn up by Ministers or the civil service. Many people have given of their time to have a positive input into the way forward in Wales. It is unique in that respect and it is something of which we can be proud. When people ask what the National Assembly is achieving, I say that this is a signal document for the future of Wales, as we are doing things differently in Wales to any other part of the UK.

4:08 p.m.

I warmly congratulate those groups, which included tenants, landlords, mortgage lenders, the homeless, local authorities and housing associations. All those people played their part and gave of their time to give us the document we have before us today. It may not be everyone's liking; we can all nit-pick. However, it is a definitive, major strategy document that takes us forward positively for the benefit of the people of Wales and their housing needs in the millennium.

Coming from Blaenau Gwent, where there are so many properties in need of renovation and so many people living in poverty and social deprivation, I welcome this document. There are many housing estates in my constituency, as there are in those of other Members, that were built on the top of mountains, 1,350 feet above sea level. We have discovered that those communities are not sustainable and we are reaping the harvest of that poor investment now. In many communities, demolition is taking place because those communities are not sustainable. We never want to make that mistake again. We must ensure that we build sustainable communities where people want to live and can enjoy high quality social housing and decent homes in a safe, pleasant and healthy environment. That is what this document is about. It is important for all the people of Wales and I welcome it on behalf of my constituency, where there are many problems to solve.

The strategy refers to care and repair and the excellent work that the Government is doing

wahaniaeth drwy ddod â'r ddogfen hon inni. Ni luniwyd y ddogfen hon gan Weinidogion neu'r gwasanaeth sifil. Rhoddodd llawer o bobl o'u hamser i roi mewnbwn cadarnhaol i'r ffordd ymlaen yng Nghymru. Mae'n unigryw yn hynny o beth ac mae'n rhywbeth y gallwn ymfalchïo ynddo. Pan ofynna pobl beth mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ei gyflawni, dywedaf fod hon yn ddogfen nodedig ar gyfer dyfodol Cymru, gan y gwnawn bethau'n wahanol yng Nghymru i unrhyw ran arall o'r DU.

Llongyfarchaf y grwpiau hynny yn gynnes, a oedd yn cynnwys tenantiaid, landlordiaid, benthycwyr morgeisi, y digartref, awdurdodau lleol a chymdeithasau tai. Chwaraeodd yr holl bobl hynny eu rhan a rhoi o'u hamser er mwyn rhoi inni'r ddogfen sydd ger ein bron heddiw. Efallai na fydd adant pawb; gall pob un ohonom bigo beiau. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ddogfen strategaeth ddiffiniol o bwys sydd yn ein harwain yn ein blaenau yn gadarnhaol er budd pobl Cymru a'u hanghenion o ran tai yn y mileniwm.

Gan fy mod yn dod o Flaenau Gwent, lle mae angen atgyweirio cymaint o eiddo a lle mae cymaint o bobl yn byw mewn tldi ac amddifadedd cymdeithasol, croesawaf y ddogfen hon. Mae sawl ystad o dai yn fy etholaeth, fel sydd yn etholaethau Aelodau eraill, a adeiladwyd ar ben mynyddoedd, 1,350 o droedfeddi uwchlaw lefel y môr. Darganfuom nad yw'r cymunedau hynny yn gynaliadwy a'n bod yn medi cynhaeaf y diffyg buddsoddiad hwnnw yn awr. Mewn llawer o gymunedau, dymchwelir tai gan nad yw'r cymunedau hynny yn gynaliadwy. Nid ydym am wneud y camgymeriad hwnnw byth eto. Rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn adeiladu cymunedau cynaliadwy lle y dymuna pobl fyw a lle y gallant fwynhau tai cymdeithasol o ansawdd uchel a chartrefi safonol mewn amgylchedd diogel, dymunol ac iach. Dyna fyrdwn y ddogfen hon. Mae'n bwysig i holl bobl Cymru ac fe'i croesawaf ar ran fy etholaeth, lle mae llawer o broblemau i'w datrys.

Cyfeiria'r strategaeth at ofal a thrwsio a'r gwaith gwych a wna'r Llywodraeth ar hynny.

on that. Care and repair services have now been extended to all of Wales and exist in each of the 22 local authority areas. I welcome that. Care and repair services are working hard to target the more vulnerable groups of society, such as the elderly and disabled. That must be good. We must sustain that and ensure that funding is fully available. We must consider increasing funding for housing development and renovation, which the Minister has promised us, because we know that we need to tackle that issue decisively. This document gives a basis on which to do that positively.

This strategy also offers us the opportunity to deal once and for all with homelessness by establishing a homelessness commission. I welcome that, because it is so important. I spoke earlier about the fact that previous Conservative Governments denied the existence of homelessness. We have brought the issue into the spotlight and have said that it is not a taboo, it exists and must be dealt with and eradicated. We are committed to that. I cannot think of a better gesture to come from the sin bin on the right-hand side of the Chamber, than if all the Conservative Members were to attend the rough sleep-out on 8 December at the back of Marks and Spencer—preferably without sleeping bags, in their case—so that they can appreciate how difficult life is for homeless people in Cardiff and the work that we must do.

**David Davies:** Is the Member aware that in answer to a written parliamentary question, a previous Labour Minister for Housing, Planning and Construction admitted that homelessness had increased since Labour was elected as the Government in Westminster?

**Peter Law:** Homelessness has not increased in Wales since Labour was elected, as far as I know. I know, from my experience in my former post, that the Government of Wales has committed itself totally to eradicating homeless. Today, you have heard the Minister mention that this Assembly has made £3.6 million available to deal with social deprivation this year. There will be £3.5 million available over the next three years and £1.8 million was allocated to voluntary organisations to assist in their good

Erbyn hyn cafodd gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio eu hymestyn i Gymru gyfan ac maent yn bodoli ym mhob un o ardaloedd y 22 awdurdod lleol. Croesawaf hynny. Gweithia gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio yn galed i dargedu'r grwpiau mwyaf diamddiffyn mewn cymdeithas, fel yr henoed a'r anabl. Rhaid bod hynny'n beth da. Rhaid inni gynnal hynny a sicrhau bod arian ar gael yn llawn. Rhaid inni ystyried cynyddu'r arian ar gyfer datblygu ac adnewyddu tai, a addawyd inni gan y Gweinidog, oherwydd gwyddom bod angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwnnw gydag arddeliad. Rhydd y ddogfen hon sail inni wneud hynny yn gadarnhaol.

Cynigia'r strategaeth hon hefyd y cyfle inni ddelio unwaith ac am byth gyda digartrefedd drwy sefydlu comisiwn digartrefedd. Croesawaf hynny, gan ei fod mor bwysig. Siaradais yn gynharach am y ffaith bod Llywodraethau Ceidwadol y gorffennol wedi gwadu bodolaeth digartrefedd. Daethom â'r mater i'r amlwg a dywedasom nad yw'n dabw, mae'n bodoli a rhaid ymdrin ag ef a'i ddileu. Yr ydym yn ymrwymedig i hynny. Ni allaf feddwl am well arwydd gan y gell gosbi ar ochr dde'r Siambr, na phe mynychai'r holl Aelodau Ceidwadol noson o gysgu ar y stryd ar 8 Rhagfyr y tu ôl i Marks and Spencer—yn ddelfrydol heb sachau cysgu, yn eu hachos hwy—fel y gallant werthfawrogi pa mor anodd yw bywyd i bobl ddigartref yng Nghaerdydd a'r gwaith y rhaid inni ei wneud.

**David Davies:** A yw'r Aelod yn ymwybodol i gyn Weinidog Llafur dros Dai, Cynllunio ac Adeiladu gyfaddef, mewn ateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig seneddol, bod digartrefedd wedi cynyddu ers i Lafur gael ei hethol fel Llywodraeth yn San Steffan?

**Peter Law:** Ni chynyddodd digartrefedd yng Nghymru ers i Lafur gael ei hethol, hyd y gwn i. Gwn, o'm profiad yn fy swydd flaenorol, fod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei hymrwymo ei hun yn gyfan gwbl i gael gwared ar ddigartrefedd. Heddiw, fe glywsoch y Gweinidog yn crybwyll i'r Cynulliad hwn sicrhau bod £3.6 miliwn ar gael i ddelio ag amddifadedd cymdeithasol eleni. Bydd £3.5 miliwn ar gael dros y tair blynedd nesaf a dyrannwyd £1.8 miliwn i sefydliadau gwirfoddol er mwyn cynorthwyo

work in the community. I pay tribute to all those organisations and the night shelters in Rhyl, Wrexham, Swansea, Cardiff and Newport. They all make a difference in trying to give these poor people a safe environment and in showing the compassion that the Assembly is about.

As well as the commitment on homelessness, we have a commitment in the strategy to community regeneration. The flagship investment of £82 million over the next three years, to which the Minister referred, will undoubtedly make a difference.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. Please bring your speech to an end.

**Peter Law:** I have only had seven minutes, but I will wind up.

**The Presiding Officer:** The standard speaking time is five minutes.

**Peter Law:** I will wind up. However, that £82 million will make a difference in the communities, where we need to see that money spent. All in all, this document is to be welcomed. It provides us with a strong future in terms of housing. I know that the people of Wales will benefit greatly from it.

**David Melding:** I will begin by talking about Care and Repair Cymru, I warmly welcome that fact that this service is now available throughout Wales. I tried to help my grandparents to modernise a bathroom in a local authority area that did not provide this service and it was exceedingly difficult. I was director of a leading charity at the time, which was active in this field, and if someone who knows the social care system can encounter such difficulties, I think that all Members will be aware of the problems faced by elderly, ill and disabled people out there who need help.

On disabled facilities grants, much of our housing is ill-suited for use by anyone who is not a fit 35-year old or better. Bathrooms have deep baths and no showers and houses have narrow stairs and steps in inappropriate places. All those things can cause great difficulty to people in their homes and outside. For example, getting over a step by

â'u gwaith da yn y gymuned. Talaf deyrnged i'r holl sefydliadau hynny a'r llochesau nos yn y Rhyl, Wrecsam, Abertawe, Caerdydd a Chasnewydd. Gwnânt oll wahaniaeth wrth geisio rhoi amgylchedd diogel i'r bobl hyn a dangos y tosturi y mae'r Cynulliad yn ei arddel.

Yn ogystal â'r ymrwymiad ar ddigartrefedd, mae gennym ymrwymiad yn y strategaeth i adfywio cymunedau. Gwnaiff y prif fuddsoddiad o £82 miliwn dros y tair blynedd nesaf, y cyfeiriodd y Gweinidog ato, wahaniaeth yn ddi-os.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Dewch â'ch araith i ben.

**Peter Law:** Dim ond saith munud a gefais, ond fe dynnaf at y terfyn.

**Y Llywydd:** Yr amser siarad safonol yw pum munud.

**Peter Law:** Tynnaf at y terfyn. Fodd bynnag, gwnaiff yr £82 miliwn hwnnw wahaniaeth yn y cymunedau, lle mae angen inni weld yr arian hwnnw'n cael ei wario. Yn gyffredinol, dylid croesawu'r ddogfen hon. Darpara ddyfodol cadarn inni yn nhermau tai. Gwn y bydd pobl Cymru yn elwa'n fawr ohoni.

**David Melding:** Dechreuaf drwy sôn am Gofal a Thrwsio Cymru. Croesawaf yn fawr y ffaith bod y gwasanaeth hwn bellach ar gael ledled Cymru. Ceisiais helpu fy nain a'm taid i foderneiddio ystafell ymolchi mewn ardal awdurdod lleol na ddarparai'r gwasanaeth hwn ac yr oedd yn hynod anodd. Yr oeddwn yn gyfarwyddwr elusen fawr ar y pryd, a oedd yn weithredol yn y maes hwn, ac os gall rhywun sydd yn adnabod y system gofal cymdeithasol brofi'r fath anawsterau, credaf y bydd yr holl Aelodau'n ymwybodol o'r problemau a wynebir gan yr henoed a phobl sâl ac anabl allan yno sydd angen cymorth.

O ran grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl, mae llawer o'n tai yn anaddas i'w defnyddio gan unrhyw un nad yw'n berson 35 oed iach neu well. Ceir baddonau dwfn a dim cawodydd mewn ystafelloedd ymolchi ac mae grisiau cul a grisiau mewn lleoedd amhriodol mewn tai. Gall yr holl bethau hynny achosi anhawster mawr i bobl yn eu cartrefi a'r tu

installing a ramp to your front door can take years to finance through the current disabled facilities grants scheme. I am not apportioning blame, because if I were, we would have to go back well into the life of the previous Government. It comes down to a lack of funding. There is currently a long waiting list because there is not enough funding, and not because there is a lack of assessment and need. People's needs are identified quickly, but they then have to wait a long time for modifications to be made, which is an unsatisfactory process.

The motor neurone disease society recently hosted a function in the Assembly. Many of its sufferers are given a life expectancy prognosis of 14 to 18 months and they often die before their houses are modified. That response is wholly inadequate and we need to be more flexible and generous in this area of public policy. Carers can encounter difficulties in getting reliable hoists fitted. If they do not, they suffer intense back problems quickly. Such things add to quality of life, not only through their provision, but because they are reliable and installed quickly. We should not leave people unsupported in their homes if we know that when the social worker visits and those facilities are not provided, injury and misery is the likely result.

The need for good design on new buildings must be stressed. We have not discussed design in this debate, but in Wales, the Assembly—as an add-on value—could get excellent design of public buildings from the people that we use to provide infrastructure. That will stop many problems for future generations. My grandparents lived in a purpose built bungalow for elderly people and their bathroom was wholly inadequate for anyone who was not fully fit. That is not a good way of designing houses, which could have been anticipated in the past.

On the contribution of my friend David Davies, he sometimes paints his pictures in

allan. Er enghraifft, gall goresgyn gris drwy osod ramp at eich drws ffrynt gymryd blynyddoedd i'w ariannu drwy'r cynllun grantiau cyfredol ar gyfer cyfleusterau i'r anabl. Nid wyf yn beio neb, oherwydd pe gwnawn hynny, byddai'n rhaid inni fynd ymhell yn ôl i oes y Llywodraeth flaenorol. Y bai sylfaenol yw diffyg ariannu. Ar hyn o bryd mae rhestr aros hirfaith gan nad oes digon o arian, ac nid oherwydd diffyg asesu ac angen. Caiff anghenion pobl eu nodi'n gyflym, ond yna rhaid iddynt aros am amser hir i addasiadau gael eu gwneud, sydd yn broses anfoddfaol.

Cynhaliodd cymdeithas clefyd niwronau motor ddigwyddiad yn y Cynulliad yn ddiweddar. Y prognosis yw y disgwylir i ddiodefwyr yr afiechyd fyw am rhwng 14 a 18 mis ac yn aml byddant farw cyn i'w tai gael eu haddasu. Mae'r ymateb hwnnw yn gyfan gwbl annigonol ac mae angen inni fod yn fwy hyblyg a hael yn y maes hwn o bolisi cyhoeddus. Gall cynhalwyr wynebu anawsterau wrth gael teclynnau codi dibynadwy wedi'u gosod. Os na chânt hynny, dioddefant broblemau dwys gyda'u cefn mewn byr amser. Ychwanega pethau o'r fath at ansawdd bywyd, nid yn unig oherwydd y cânt eu darparu, ond oherwydd eu bod yn ddibynadwy ac yn cael eu gosod yn gyflym. Ni ddylem adael pobl heb gefnogaeth yn eu cartrefi os gwyddom, pan fydd y gweithiwr cymdeithasol yn ymweld ac na ddarperir y cyfleusterau hynny, mai anaf a digalondid fydd y canlyniad tebygol.

Rhaid pwysleisio'r angen am adeiladau newydd wedi'u dylunio'n dda. Ni thrafodasom ddylunio yn y ddadl hon, ond yng Nghymru, gallai'r Cynulliad—fel gwerth ychwanegol—gael adeiladau cyhoeddus wedi'u dylunio'n rhagorol gan y bobl a ddefnyddiwn i ddarparu'r isadeiledd. Bydd hynny'n atal nifer o broblemau ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol. Yr oedd fy nain a'm taid yn byw mewn byngalo a adeiladwyd yn arbennig ar gyfer yr henoed ac yr oedd eu hystafell ymolchi yn hollol anaddas i unrhyw un nad oedd yn holliach. Nid yw hynny'n ffordd dda o ddylunio tai, a gallai hynny fod wedi'i ragweld yn y gorffennol.

Ynglŷn â chyfraniad fy nghyfaill David Davies, weithiau paentia ei ddarluniau mewn

very bright, vivid colours, which I find something of a naïve art form at times, but who am I to pass an aesthetic judgment. However, as the spokesman—

**Helen Mary Jones:** I fully accept that you might not want to pass an aesthetic judgment on David Davies and I will join you in your reluctance to do so, but I wonder whether you would pass an ethical judgment on his comments on young people and the likelihood of women who have been subjected to domestic violence making false allegations?

**David Melding:** I thank the Member for her intervention, but as the Chair of the Committee on Standards of Conduct, I will avoid that particular elephant trap.

I make it clear that the Welsh Conservative Party is happy to consider the policy of black and ethnic minority led housing associations and discuss the fact that people from minorities want to live in a secure environment with little or hopefully no harassment. Yesterday, I witnessed a case of racial harassment of a young Pakistani mother. Someone passed her, and whispered, but I heard it clearly: it was something perfectly disgusting to her. We cannot ignore that racial harassment occurs out there. It is not a matter of making special provision by giving people priority that they do not deserve, it is trying to get over some of the barriers that they inevitably face, because, sadly, our society is far from perfect. That is what affirmative action is about, it is not special pleading.

4:18 p.m.

**David Davies:** Does David agree that that sort of behaviour is perfectly disgraceful? I say this as someone who has a close relationship with a member of an ethnic minority. Do you agree that the answer and the solution for dealing with that kind of unacceptable behaviour is not to treat one group differently from another group regardless of the colour of their skin?

**David Melding:** There are times when we

lliwiau llachar a disglair iawn sydd ar brydiau, yn fy marn i, yn ffurf naif ar gelfyddyd, ond pwy wyf fi i fynegi barn esthetig. Fodd bynnag, fel llefarydd—

**Helen Mary Jones:** Derbynïaf yn llwyr na fyddech am fynegi barn esthetig ar David Davies ac ymunaf â chi yn eich amharoddrwydd i wneud hynny, ond tybed a fynegech farn foesegol ar ei sylwadau am bobl ifanc a'r tebygolrwydd o ferched a ddioddefodd drais yn y cartref yn gwneud honiadau ffug?

**David Melding:** Diolchaf i'r Aelod am ei hymyriad, ond fel Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Safonau Ymddygiad, ceisiaf osgoi'r trap eliffant arbennig hwnnw.

Fe'i gwnaif yn glir fod Plaid Geidwadol Cymru yn fodlon ystyried y polisi o gymdeithasau tai dan arweiniad pobl ddu a lleiafrifoedd ethnig a thrafod y ffaith fod pobl o leiafrifoedd am fyw mewn amgylchedd diogel gydag ychydig neu ddim aflonyddwch gobeithio. Ddoe, yr oeddwn yn dyst i fam ifanc o Bacistan ddioddef aflonyddwch hiliol. Cerddodd rhywun heibio iddi, a sibrd, ond fe'i clywais yn glir: dywedwyd rhywbeth hollol warthus wrthi. Ni allwn anwybyddu'r aflonyddwch hiliol hwnnw sydd yn digwydd allan yno. Nid yw'n fater o wneud darpariaeth arbennig drwy roi blaenoriaeth nad ydynt yn ei haeddu i bobl, mae'n fater o geisio goresgyn rhai o'r rhwystrau a wynebant yn anochel, oherwydd, yn anffodus, mae ein cymdeithas ymhell o fod yn berffaith. Dyna beth yw camau cadarnhaol, nid yw'n ymwneud â phledio arbennig.

**David Davies:** A gytuna David fod y math hwnnw o ymddygiad yn hollol warthus? Dywedaf hyn fel rhywun sydd â pherthynas glôs gydag aelod o leiafrif ethnig. A gytunwch mai'r ateb ar gyfer delio gyda'r math hwnnw o ymddygiad annerbyniol yw peidio â thrin un grŵp yn wahanol i grŵp arall beth bynnag fo lliw eu croen?

**David Melding:** Mae adegau pan fydd yn

must accept that, alas, certain people in the community face particular problems for no other reason than that they have different colour skin or have some other difference that people perceive as the basis for ridicule, harassment and violent comment.

David also remarked on how we should or should not support offenders. I believe passionately that prison is the punishment, and if people are not given support when they leave prison, then you are inviting a high recidivist rate, which has a dramatic effect on crime in communities, such as burglary. It is a tough line to take sometimes, to say to people that we will ensure that offenders are given a level of support. It does not mean that we condone their former behaviour, but it does mean that we are trying to support them in a more productive line of behaviour. It is important that we address such issues.

Finally, I assure Peter Law that I will be supporting the rough sleep-out—

**Peter Law:** You did so last year.

**David Melding:** Yes, I did. The Welsh Conservative Party will also be supporting the sleep-out by generously sponsoring me in my sleep-in, because I will go there, sing the carols, wish everyone who is sleeping outside good luck, and then race home to a warm bed. I will at least pay for the privilege.

**Richard Edwards:** It is invariably a pleasure to listen to David Melding's contributions in the Chamber. Whether he can say the same for other Members of his group is another matter. I welcome the opportunity to contribute to this debate. Housing has slipped down the political agenda in recent decades. Health, education and employment attract the headlines nowadays, yet housing is crucial to all three. If you live in substandard accommodation, or do not have a roof over your head at all, the chances of enjoying good health, attaining appropriate qualifications, or being employed in a rewarding job, or indeed any job, range from minimal to nil.

There are myriad different aspects to housing, many of which have already been covered. I will focus on homelessness, and

rhaid inni dderbyn, gwaetha'r modd, bod rhai pobl yn y gymuned yn wynebu problemau penodol am ddim rheswm heblaw bod lliw eu croen yn wahanol neu bod ganddynt ryw wahaniaeth arall a welir gan bobl fel testun gwawd, aflonyddwch a sylwadau treisgar.

Gwnaeth David hefyd sylw ar sut y dylem neu na ddylem gefnogi troseddwyd. Credaf yn gryf mai carchar yw'r gosb, ac os na roddir cymorth i bobl pan adawant y carchar, yna yr ydych yn gwahodd cyfradd atgwymp uchel, a gaiff effaith ddramatig ar droseddau mewn cymunedau, fel bwrghleriaeth. Mae'n safbwynt caled i'w gymryd weithiau, i ddweud wrth bobl y sicrhawn y rhoddir cymorth i droseddwyd. Ni olyga ein bod yn esgusodi eu hymddygiad blaenorol, ond golyga y ceisiwn eu cynorthwyo mewn ymddygiad mwy cynhyrchiol. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â materion o'r fath.

Yn olaf, sicrhaf Peter Law y byddaf yn cefnogi'r noson o gysgu ar y stryd—

**Peter Law:** Gwnaethoch hynny y llynedd.

**David Melding:** Do, fe wneuthum. Bydd Plaid Geidwadol Cymru hefyd yn cefnogi'r noson o gysgu ar y stryd drwy fy noddi'n hael, oherwydd af yno, canu'r carolau, dymuno pob lwc i bawb sydd yn cysgu y tu allan, ac yna redeg adref i wely cynnes. Byddaf o leiaf yn talu am y fraint.

**Richard Edwards:** Yn ddiethriad, mae'n bleser gwranddo ar gyfraniadau David Melding yn y Siambr. Mater arall yw pa un ai a all ddweud yr un peth am aelodau eraill o'i grŵp. Croesawaf y cyfle i gyfrannu at y ddatl hon. Llithrodd tai i lawr yr agenda wleidyddol dros y degawdau diwethaf. Iechyd, addysg a chyflogaeth sydd yn denu'r penawdau y dyddiau hyn, ond eto mae tai yn hanfodol i bob un o'r tri. Os ydych yn byw mewn llety sydd yn is na'r safon, neu os nad oes gennych do uwch eich pen o gwbl, amrywia'r siawns y cewch iechyd da, cymwysterau priodol neu gyflogaeth mewn swydd sydd yn ennyn boddhad, neu yn wir unrhyw swydd, o isel iawn i ddim.

Mae myrdd o wahanol agweddau ar dai, nifer ohonynt sydd eisoes wedi'u cwmpasu. Canolbwyntiaf ar ddiartrefedd, a nodi rhai o

flag up some of the concerns of people who work with the homeless in Pembrokeshire. I pay tribute to the work of Pembrokeshire Action for the Single Homeless—PASH. One of the big problems in Pembrokeshire is that most people living in the county, as well as people living outside the county, do not consider that such a rural county has a homeless problem at all, just because they cannot see people sleeping in doorways. The number of enquiries that PASH receives proves otherwise, with over 1,500 visits to its office last year.

Another big problem is how the regulations governing housing benefit payments inhibit the ability of homeless persons to find and to pay for housing. The Assembly needs to influence Westminster as much as possible to ensure that housing benefits policy supports our over-arching aims of social inclusion, sustainable development and equality of opportunity. Fixed period awards are to be welcomed, the earnings disregard needs to be increased, and the single room rent should be abolished and not modified. I support Shelter Cymru's call for a unified housing costs scheme to assist both low-income tenants and homeowners.

Then there are the difficulties of receiving benefit entitlement when you have no contact address, the dangers that lurk on the streets for the young and the vulnerable and the difficulties of dealing with and helping those with dependency problems when there is a lack of resources in counselling and a lack of medical help available. There is also the lack of short-term emergency accommodation and the difficulties in housing the 'untouchables', those who have a history of housing problems in the locality. If we are to have social housing for all, that must include everyone, however difficult. Another perceived problem in Pembrokeshire is that of being overshadowed by larger organisations or large urban areas that apply for funding for projects that are supposed to benefit homeless people in the entire region. However, in fact, the money is spent in the cities, with little filtering through to Pembrokeshire.

Also, historically, funding levels set by

bryderon pobl sydd yn gweithio gyda'r digartref yn Sir Benfro. Talaf derynged i waith Pembrokeshire Action for the Single Homeless—PASH. Un o broblemau mawr Sir Benfro yw nad ystyria'r rhan fwyaf o bobl sydd yn byw yn y sir, yn ogystal â phobl sydd yn byw y tu allan i'r sir, fod gan sir mor wledig broblem gyda'r digartref o gwbl, dim ond oherwydd na allant weld pobl yn cysgu mewn drysau. Profa'r nifer o ymholiadau a dderbynia PASH yn wahanol, gyda mwy na 1,500 o ymweliadau â'i swyddfa y llynedd.

Problem fawr arall yw sut mae'r rheoliadau sydd yn llywodraethu taliadau budd-dâl tai yn rhwystro pobl ddigartref rhag dod o hyd i dai a thalu amdanynt. Mae angen i'r Cynulliad ddylanwadu ar San Steffan gymaint â phosibl i sicrhau bod polisi budd-daliadau tai yn cefnogi ein hamcanion trosfwaol cynhwysiant cymdeithasol, datblygu cynaliadwy a chyfle cyfartal. Croesewir dyfarniadau cyfnod sefydlog, mae angen cynyddu'r anwybyddiad enillion, a dylid dileu rhent ystafell sengl yn hytrach na'i addasu. Cefnogaf alwad Shelter Cymru am gynllun costau tai unedig i gynorthwyo tenantiaid a pherchenogion tai sydd ar incwm isel.

Yna ceir anawsterau o dderbyn hawl i fudd-dâl pan na fydd gennych unrhyw gyfeiriad cyswllt, y peryglon cudd ar y strydoedd i bobl ifanc a'r diamddiffyn a'r anawsterau o ddelio gyda'r rhai sydd â phroblemau dibyniaeth a'u helpu pan fydd diffyg adnoddau cynghori a diffyg cymorth meddygol ar gael. Ceir hefyd ddiffyg llety brys dros dro ac anawsterau wrth ddod o hyd i dai i'r rhai 'anghyffyrddadwy', y rheini sydd â hanes o broblemau tai yn yr ardal. Os ydym am gael tai cymdeithasol i bawb, rhaid i hynny gynnwys pawb, waeth pa mor anodd. Problem arall a ganfyddir yn Sir Benfro yw y caiff ei disodli gan sefydliadau mwy neu ardaloedd trefol mawr sydd yn gwneud cais am arian ar gyfer prosiectau a ddylai fod o fudd i bobl ddigartref yn y rhanbarth cyfan. Fodd bynnag, mewn gwirionedd, gwerir yr arian yn y dinasoedd, a phrin yw'r arian a ddaw drwodd i Sir Benfro.

Hefyd, yn hanesyddol, mae'r lefelau ariannu



Westminster have been low. The Assembly has taken steps to address this huge problem and I commend Edwina Hart and Peter Law for their efforts in this regard. Homelessness is not a fashionable topic and public attitudes to homeless people are often unsympathetic and along the lines of 'it must be their own fault'. PASH will tell you that, more often than not, homelessness results from circumstances beyond a person's control. Although PASH deals with clients of all ages, the majority of them are under 25. Those young people often have not had any support from their families in their formative years, suffer from low esteem, and have had little guidance on careers or on basic life skills such as budgeting, cleaning and cooking. Money spent on preventative measures would be more than recovered if homeless people claiming benefits became fully functioning, earning members of society. Most could achieve that, if given the chance.

Finally, I welcome the expansion of the definition of the priority homeless to include those who have an institutional or care background, those fleeing harassment and violence, and 16 and 17-year-olds. That is a crucial step in ensuring, through statute, consistency across Wales in giving homeless people the chance they deserve to function fully in society.

**Brian Gibbons:** I declare an interest as a member of Gwynfi Community Co-operative, which supplies social housing in the Afan Valley, and also of the receipt of a political contribution from the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians. I will deal with amendments 1 and 5, which cover related issues. It is a pity, as Edwina Hart said in her opening speech, that amendment 5 has two distinct components to it, the second of which deals with affordable rent, and the first of which deals with licensing. Plaid Cymru has a tendency to attempt to gradually erode local government's ability to make decisions on a wide range of issues. This is the latest example of its trying to undermine the democratic autonomy of local government by

a bennwyd gan San Steffan wedi bod yn isel. Cymerodd y Cynulliad gamau i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem enfawr hon a chanmolaf Edwina Hart a Peter Law am eu hymdrechion yn hyn o beth. Nid yw digartrefedd yn bwnc ffasiynol ac yn aml mae agweddau'r cyhoedd tuag at bobl ddigartref yn rhai o ddiffyg cydymdeimlad a thuedd tuag at 'rhaid mai eu bai eu hunain ydyw'. Dywed PASH wrthyhch fod digartrefedd, yn amlach na pheidio, yn deillio o amgylchiadau y tu hwnt i reolaeth person. Er bod PASH yn ymwneud â chleientiaid o bob oed, mae'r mwyafrif ohonynt o dan 25 oed. Yn aml ni chafodd y bobl ifanc hynny unrhyw gymorth gan eu teuluoedd yn eu blynyddoedd cynnar, maent yn dioddef o ddiffyg hunan-barch, a phrin yw'r arweiniad a gawsant ar yrfaedd neu ar sgiliau bywyd sylfaenol fel cyllidebu, glanhau a choginio. Byddai'r arian a gâi ei wario ar fesurau ataliol yn cael ei adfer, a mwy, pe deuai pobl ddigartref sydd yn gwneud cais am fudd-daliadau yn aelodau o'r gymdeithas sydd yn ennill arian ac sydd yn gwiethredu'n llawn. Gallai'r rhan fwyaf gyflawni hynny, pe rhoddid y cyfle iddynt.

Yn olaf, croesawaf yr ehangiad o'r diffiniad o'r digartref sydd yn flaenoriaeth i gynnwys y rhai sydd o gefndir sefydliadol neu ofal neu'r rhai sydd yn dianc rhag aflonyddwch a thrais, a phobl ifanc 16 ac 17 oed. Mae hynny'n gam holl bwysig i sicrhau, drwy statud, gysondeb ledled Cymru gan roi'r cyfle a haeddant i bobl ddigartref weithredu'n llawn mewn cymdeithas.

**Brian Gibbons:** Datganaf fuddiant fel aelod o Gwmni Cydweithredol Cymuned Gwynfi, sydd yn darparutai cymdeithasol yng Nghwm Afan, a hefyd dderbyn cyfraniad gwleidyddol gan yr Undeb Crefftau Cysylltiedig ag Adeiladau a Thechnegwyr. Ymdriniaf â gwelliannau 1 a 5, sydd yn cwmpasu materion cysylltiedig. Mae'n drueni, fel y dywedodd Edwina Hart yn ei haraith agoriadol, bod gan welliant 5 ddwy gydran wahanol, gyda'r ail yn ymdrin â rhent fforddiadwy, a'r cyntaf yn ymdrin â thrwyddedu. Tuedda Plaid Cymru i geisio erydu yn raddol allu llywodraeth leol i wneud penderfyniadau ar ystod eang o faterion. Dyma'r enghraifft ddiweddaraf ohoni'n ceisio tansellio annibyniaeth ddemocrataidd llywodraeth leol drwy gynnig gwelliannau fel

proposing amendments such as this. It is interesting that the other party that is a past master of undermining government, the Welsh Conservative Party, is on my right.

**Janet Ryder:** Can you explain how the Assembly's influence on rent levels, which cannot be denied, restricts local government? How will pursuing a licensing scheme for rented accommodation restrict local authorities?

**Brian Gibbons:** Licensing is a different issue, to which I will come later. However, unless the second part of amendment 5 is merely a vacuous statement, its whole implication is that the Assembly should act to influence what local authorities are doing. Your party consistently takes that position on a wide range of issues. This is nothing new. I am highlighting the consistent position that your party takes in trying to undermine the autonomy of local authorities at almost every opportunity that presents itself.

4:28 p.m.

My second point, on licensing, highlights an important issue. We should seek further clarification on this. I would be disappointed if licensing only dealt with the décor and safety issues of rented accommodation, particularly housing in multiple occupation. The licensing of such rented properties, particularly multiple accommodation occupancy, is becoming an increasing problem in many parts of my constituency. I am sure that it is a growing problem in many other communities where there is relatively low cost housing. In my constituency, as elsewhere I am sure, a new wave of possibly unscrupulous landlords are moving in and buying property at a relatively cheap rate. They undertake minimal repairs to the properties and then, in many, although not in all, circumstances, they house anti-social families in them.

**Geraint Davies:** In view of your remark, will you confirm that you will support amendment 5, which calls for licensing? I also take the opportunity to publicise the fact that I will be sleeping out on 8 December, so that Members have the opportunity to support me. I would be grateful for any sponsorship.

hwn. Mae'n ddiddorol bod y blaid arall sydd yn hen law ar danseilio llywodraeth, Plaid Geidwadol Cymru, ar y dde imi.

**Janet Ryder:** A allwch egluro sut y mae dylanwad y Cynulliad ar lefelau rhent, na ellir eu wadu, yn cyfyngu ar lywodraeth leol? Sut y bydd mynd ar drywydd cynllun trwyddedu ar gyfer llety wedi'i rentu yn cyfyngu ar awdurdodau lleol?

**Brian Gibbons:** Mae trwyddedu yn fater gwahanol, a deuf at hwnnw yn ddiweddarach. Fodd bynnag oni bai fod ail ran gwelliant 5 yn ddim ond datganiad gwag, y goblygiad yw y dylai'r Cynulliad weithredu i ddylanwadu ar yr hyn a wna awdurdodau lleol. Cymer eich plaid y safbwynt hwnnw yn gyson ar ystod eang o faterion. Nid yw hyn yn ddim byd newydd. Amlygaf y safbwynt cyson a gymer eich plaid wrth geisio tanseilio annibyniaeth awdurdodau lleol ar bron bob cyfle sydd yn codi.

Amlyga fy ail bwynt, ar drwyddedu, fater pwysig. Dylem ofyn am eglurhad pellach ar hyn. Byddwn yn siomedig pe na bai trwyddedu ond yn ymdrin â materion addurn a diogelwch llety wedi'i rentu, yn arbennig tai aml-ddeiliadaeth. Daw trwyddedu eiddo wedi'i rentu o'r fath, yn arbennig deiliadaeth aml-lety, yn broblem gynyddol mewn sawl rhan o'm hetholaeth. Yr wyf yn sicr ei bod yn broblem gynyddol mewn llawer o gymunedau eraill lle mae costau tai yn gymharol isel. Yn fy etholaeth i, fel mewn mannau eraill mae'n siwr, mae ton newydd o landlordiaid diegwyddor o bosibl yn symud i mewn ac yn prynu eiddo yn gymharol rad. Gwnânt cyn lleied o waith atgyweirio â phosibl i'r eiddo ac yna, yn aml, ond nid pob tro, maent yn lletya teuluoedd gwrth-gymdeithasol ynddynt.

**Geraint Davies:** Yng ngoleuni eich sylw, a gadarnhewch y byddwch yn cefnogi gwelliant 5, sydd yn galw am drwyddedu? Cymeraf hefyd y cyfle i hysbysebu'r ffaith y byddaf yn cysgu ar y stryd ar 8 Rhagfyr, fel y gall Aelodau fy nghefnogi. Byddaf yn ddiolchgar am unrhyw nawdd.

**Brian Gibbons:** The first part of amendment 5 has much merit. That is why I started my contribution by regretting that amendment 5 contained two components. However, I sincerely hope that the licensing proposals not only deal with the décor and fabric of housing, but also consider the social implications of having many more of these houses in certain communities, thus turning those communities into absolute hell-holes for people who have lived there for decades if not generations. I hope that the licensing of these houses will include the social strains and consequences of these types of multiple occupancy houses.

I would have liked to have been able to support Jocelyn's amendment, as I agree that there are also instances in which even houses in single occupancy have created the same problem. Social landlords have an obligation to ensure that their tenants behave in a lawful and socially responsible manner. The proposed accreditation system for landlords should include some obligation on them to ensure that their tenants behave in that manner. They should be obliged to take action against their socially irresponsible tenants if they are making their neighbours' lives hell.

**David Lloyd:** Do you support us by agreeing that rent levels should at least be applicable to a minimum wage?

**Brian Gibbons:** Absolutely. This is for local authorities to decide, as we have housing benefit and so on. The whole purpose of housing benefit is to deal with people on low incomes. However, in this instance, introducing an arbitrary interference with local government, with which your party seems to be obsessed, is the wrong way of going about it.

I hope that licensing and accreditation for landlords will be introduced. I also hope that these measures will be used to make the lives of neighbours of anti-social tenants more tolerable in future.

**John Griffiths:** I welcome the debate, which is important in terms of social inclusion and health among many other issues. This

**Brian Gibbons:** Mae llawer o rinweddau i ran gyntaf gwelliant 5. Dyna pam y dechreuais fy nghyfraniad drwy ddweud ei bod yn anffodus bod dwy elfen i welliant 5. Fodd bynnag, gobeithiaf yn fawr y bydd y cynigion trwyddedu nid yn unig yn ymwneud ag addurn a ffabrig tai, ond hefyd yn ystyried goblygiadau cymdeithasol cael llawer mwy o'r tai hyn mewn rhai cymunedau, gan droi'r cymunedau hynny yn uffern llwyr i'r bobl sydd wedi byw yno ers degawdau os nad cenedlaethau. Gobeithiaf y bydd trwyddedu'r tai hyn yn cynnwys elfennau cymdeithasol a chanlyniadau'r mathau hyn o dai aml-ddeiliadaeth.

Hoffwn fod wedi gallu cefnogi gwelliant Jocelyn, gan y cytunaf fod achosion hefyd lle y creodd hyd yn oed dai mewn deiliadaeth sengl yr un broblem. Mae gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol gyfrifoldeb i sicrhau bod eu tenantiaid yn ymddwyn yn gyfreithlon yn gymdeithasol gyfrifol. Dylai'r system achredu arfaethedig ar gyfer landlordiaid gynnwys rheidrwydd arnynt i sicrhau bod eu tenantiaid yn ymddwyn felly. Dylai fod yn rhaid iddynt gymryd camau yn erbyn eu tenantiaid sydd yn gymdeithasol anghyfrifol os gwnânt fywydau eu cymdogion yn uffern.

**David Lloyd:** A ydych yn ein cefnogi drwy gytuno y dylai lefelau rhent fod o leiaf yn berthnasol i isafswm cyflog?

**Brian Gibbons:** Yn llwyr. Penderfyniad awdurdodau lleol fydd hyn, gan fod gennym fudd-dâl tai ac ati. Holl bwrpas budd-dâl tai yw ymdrin â phobl ar incwm isel. Fodd bynnag, yn yr achos hwn, nid cyflwyno ymyriad mympwyol yng ngwaith llywodraeth leol, yr ymddengys fod gan eich plaid obsesiwn yn ei gylch, yw'r ffordd gywir o wneud hynny.

Gobeithiaf y cyflwynir trwyddedu ac achredu ar gyfer landlordiaid. Gobeithiaf hefyd y defnyddir y mesurau hyn i wneud bywydau cymdogion tenantiaid gwrthgymdeithasol yn fwy goddefadwy yn y dyfodol.

**John Griffiths:** Croesawaf y ddadl, sydd yn bwysig o ran cynhwysiant cymdeithasol ac iechyd ymhlith nifer o faterion eraill. Mae'r

document enables us to make the connections between those issues.

I will mention many points. Although it has already been mentioned, I will refer briefly to housing support for ex-offenders. Society, and presumably offenders, in many instances at least, wants to prevent reoffending. That can be achieved through the offer of support, including housing support. On a practical level, offering the necessary support can prevent reoffending. On a common sense level, I find it difficult to believe that anybody would speak against that.

**David Davies:** Is the Member suggesting that those who have committed crimes in society should be given preference over those who have lived law-abiding lives? I cannot support that and would always speak against it.

**John Griffiths:** Unfortunately, David fails to see the practicalities and reality of the situation. It is the same as far as housing support for black and ethnic minority people is concerned. I welcome what the strategy proposes. These people have faced and are still facing discrimination, therefore we need to address the situation. If that offends David's idea of what positive discrimination should or should not be, so be it. Addressing the situation is necessary and we must ensure that it happens.

I will deal with some specific problems in Newport East, which are indicative of some of the general housing problems in Wales. One of those issues concerns Ringwood Hill. Edwina Hart, as the relevant Minister, knows about the problems of that community and was good enough to visit the location to meet residents recently. These are people who have fallen foul of the housing defects legislation and, through little or no fault of their own, are living in properties that are largely unsaleable because of those defects. The residents and their families are in an unenviable position and are suffering a great deal of human misery. Almost everybody sympathises with their situation and recognises that a way forward must be found. However, finding a way forward is difficult.

**William Graham:** The simple way to do that

ddogfen hon yn ein galluogi i wneud y cysylltiadau rhwng y materion hynny.

Crybwyllaf sawl pwynt. Er iddo gael ei grybwyll eisoes, cyfeiriaf yn fyr at gymorth tai i gyn droseddwyr. Mae cymdeithas, a throseddwyr fe dybiaf, yn aml, am atal aildroseddu. Gellir gwneud hynny drwy gynnig cymorth, gan gynnwys cymorth tai. Ar lefel ymarferol, gall cynnig y cymorth angenrheidiol atal aildroseddu. Ar lefel synnwyr cyffredin, mae'n anodd gennyf gredu y siaradai unrhyw un yn erbyn hynny.

**David Davies:** A awgryma'r Aelod y dylid rhoi blaenoriaeth i'r rhai a gyflawnodd droseddau mewn cymdeithas cyn y rhai sydd wedi byw bywydau yn ôl y gyfraith? Ni allaf gefnogi hynny a byddwn bob amser yn siarad yn ei erbyn.

**John Griffiths:** Yn anffodus, ni all David weld ymarferoldeb a realiti'r sefyllfa. Mae yr un peth o ran rhoi cymorth tai i bobl ddu a lleiafrifoedd ethnig. Croesawaf yr hyn a gynigir yn y strategaeth. Mae'r bobl hyn wedi wynebu gwahaniaethu ac yn dal i'w wynebu, felly mae angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa. Os yw hynny'n tramgwyddo syniad David o'r hyn y dylai gwahaniaethu cadarnhaol fod neu'r hyn na ddylai fod, boed felly. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa a rhaid inni sicrhau y digwydd hynny.

Ymdriniaf â rhai problemau penodol yn Nwyrain Casnewydd, sydd yn nodweddiadol o rai o'r problemau tai cyffredinol yng Nghymru. Mae un o'r materion dan sylw yn ymwneud â Ringwood Hill. Gŵyr Edwina Hart, fel y Gweinidog perthnasol, am broblemau'r gymuned honno a bu'n ddigon caredig i ymweld â'r safle i gwrdd â'r trigolion yn ddiweddar. Mae'r rhain yn bobl a ddiodefodd o ganlyniad i ddeddfwriaeth diffygion tai a, heb ddim neu nemor ddim bai arnynt hwy eu hunain, yn byw mewn eiddo na ellir ei werthu oherwydd y diffygion hynny. Mae'r trigolion a'u teuluoedd mewn sefyllfa amhleserus ac yn dioddef llawer iawn o drallod. Mae bron pawb yn cydymdeimlo â'u sefyllfa ac yn cydnabod bod yn rhaid canfod ffordd ymlaen. Fodd bynnag, mae canfod ffordd ymlaen yn anodd.

**William Graham:** Y ffordd syml o wneud

would be to support amendment 4.

hynny fyddai cefnogi gwelliant 4.

4:38 p.m.

**John Griffiths:** It is recognised by the residents and by others that, unfortunately, there is no simple way forward. I thank Edwina Hart for the strenuous efforts being undertaken in the Assembly, and I hope that they will bear fruit eventually. The future for these residents is bleak, and they have been in such a position for some time. Understandably, they are impatient and want positive action quickly, and I am fully committed, in working with Edwina and the local authority, to ensure that that happens.

**John Griffiths:** Cydnabyddar trigolion, ac eraill, nad oes ffordd syml ymlaen, yn anffodus. Diolchaf i Edwina Hart am yr ymdrechion mawr a wneir yn y Cynulliad, a gobeithiaf y byddant yn dwyn ffrwyth yn y pen draw. Mae'r dyfodol i'r trigolion hyn yn llwm, a buont mewn sefyllfa o'r fath ers peth amser. Wrth gwrs, maent yn ddiamynedd ac am weld camau cadarnhaol ar frys, ac yr wyf yn llwyr ymrwymedig, drwy weithio gydag Edwina a'r awdurdod lleol, i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd.

Another housing issue in Newport is the feasibility study and consultation into community regeneration in Alway. This community consists largely of council properties, most of which are tenanted, with some privately-owned homes. The area is high in the Welsh index of multiple deprivation, and it requires considerable assistance to improve the housing stock and build community capacity. Fortunately, many local people are committed to making the necessary improvements and taking forward the crucial regeneration of this community. I have attended public meetings in the area and have met many tenants. In discussing with them the options for improving the housing stock and the general environment, and for securing the progress that the whole community wishes to see, it has been difficult to go through the increasing number of models available to provide the necessary finance to achieve these objectives. These models are increasing by the month. We have heard about registered social landlords, devolved management structures for communities such as Alway, stock transfers, arm's-length companies set up by local authorities and various mixtures of the models that I have mentioned.

Mater tai arall yng Nghasnewydd yw'r astudiaeth ymarferoldeb a'r ymgynghoriad i adfywiad cymunedol yn Alway. Mae'r gymuned hon yn cynnwys tai cyngor yn bennaf, y rhan fwyaf ohonynt â thenantiaid, gyda rhai tai preifat. Mae'r ardal yn uchel ar fynegrif amddifadedd lluosog Cymru, ac mae'n gofyn am gymorth sylweddol i wella'r stoc dai a hyrwyddo mwy o gartrefi yn y gymuned. Yn ffodus, mae llawer o bobl leol yn ymrwymedig i wneud y gwelliannau angenrheidiol a symud ymlaen gyda adfywio'r gymuned hon sydd yn broses mor hanfodol. Mynychais gyfarfodydd cyhoeddus yn yr ardal a chyfarfûm â llawer o denantiaid. Wrth drafod yr opsiynau ar gyfer gwella'r stoc dai a'r amgylchedd yn gyffredinol â hwy, ac ar gyfer sicrhau'r cynnydd y dymuna'r gymuned gyfan ei weld, bu'n anodd mynd drwy'r nifer cynyddol o fodolau sydd ar gael er mwyn darparu'r arian angenrheidiol i gyflawni'r amcanion hyn. Cynyddar modelau hyn bob mis. Clywsom am landlordiaid cymdeithasol cofrestredig, strwythurau rheoli datganoledig ar gyfer cymunedau fel Alway, trosglwyddo stoc, cwmnïau hyd braich a sefydlwyd gan awdurdodau lleol ac amrywiol gymysgeddau o'r modelau a grybwyllais.

We could mention possible co-operative ways forward, and I hope that that will pay a part in the future of housing in Wales. These people fear, as shown by many surveys across Britain, that they will suffer in terms of security of tenure, rent levels and their ability to hold people democratically accountable for management of services if

Gallem grybwyll ffyrdd cydweithredol posibl ymlaen, a gobeithio y chwaraea hyn ran yn nyfodol tai yng Nghymru. Ofna'r bobl hyn, fel y nodwyd gan nifer o arolygon ledled Prydain, y byddant yn dioddef yn nhermau sicrwydd deiliadaeth, lefelau rhent a'u gallu i sicrhau bod pobl yn ddemocrataidd atebol am reoli gwasanaethau os symudant oddi wrth

they move away from local authority ownership and management. That has come through strongly in this feasibility study and consultation and in all the conversations that I have had with people. It is often difficult to explain to people why they cannot simply stick with the local authority and why the local authority is not allowed to borrow as other organisations might be able to. They are not particularly concerned with the niceties, intricacies and technicalities of the public borrowing requirement, the perceived needs or the macro economic situation. They are concerned with what works. They are constantly told that what everybody is concerned with, and what everybody recognises, is that tenants must be listened to. Their concerns must be given great prominence in the outcomes of consultations and feasibility studies. They have made it clear to me what they would like. I would say that what counts is what works, not ideology or dogma. Tenants want what works because we all want bottom-up solutions not top-down solutions. Survey after survey has shown that local authority tenants want local authority solutions. That is the reality and I hope that we move forward bearing that in mind.

**Kirsty Williams:** I welcome the acknowledgement in section 6.5 of the housing strategy of some of the specific problems that rural people face in finding suitable accommodation and keeping a roof over their heads. The ability to buy a home in many parts of mid Wales is becoming increasingly difficult, due to the prevalence of second homes and high house prices. This, combined with the fact that many people in rural areas are on low incomes, means that it is difficult for people to remain in their communities, especially young people. When I was looking to move from rented accommodation and buy a property in my constituency, I came across a two-bedroomed terrace cottage. I was amazed, on investigation at the local estate agents, to find that that property was on sale for some £90,000. This was for a two-bedroomed terrace cottage that had little room to swing more than a cat. However, within a week it had been purchased—no doubt by a nice

berchenogaeth a rheolaeth awdurdodau lleol. Daeth hynny drosodd yn gryf yn yr astudiaeth ymarferoldeb a'r ymgynghoriad ac ym mhob sgwrs a gefais â phobl. Yn aml mae'n anodd egluro wrth bobl pam na allant aros gyda'r awdurdod lleol a pham na chaniateir i'r awdurdod lleol fenthyca fel y gallai sefydliadau eraill ei wneud. Ni phryderant rhyw lawer am fanylrwydd, cymhlethdodau a manylion technegol gofynion benthyca'r cyhoedd, yr anghenion canfyddadwy neu'r sefyllfa economaidd macro. Am yr hyn sydd yn gweithio y maent yn pryderu. Dywedir wrthynt yn gyson mai'r hyn y prydera pawb amdano a'r hyn y mae pawb yn ei gydnabod, yw bod yn rhaid gwranddo ar denantiaid. Rhaid rhoi amlygrwydd mawr i'w pryderon yng nghanlyniadau ymgynghoriadau ac astudiaethau ymarferoldeb. Gwnaethant yn amlwg i mi beth fyddent yn ei hoffi. Dywedwn mai'r hyn sydd yn cyfrif yw'r hyn sydd yn gweithio, nid ideoleg neu ddogma. Mae tenantiaid am gael yr hyn sydd yn gweithio gan fod pawb ohonom am gael atebion o'r bôn i'r brig nid o'r brig i'r bon. Dangosodd un arolwg ar ôl y llall bod tenantiaid awdurdodau lleol am gael atebion awdurdodau lleol. Dyna'r realiti a gobeithio y gallwn symud ymlaen gan gadw hynny mewn cof.

**Kirsty Williams:** Croesawaf y gydnabyddiaeth yn adran 6.5 y strategaeth dai o rai o'r problemau penodol a wynebwr gan bobl wledig o ran canfod llety addas a chadw to uwch eu pennau. Daw'r gallu i brynu cartref mewn sawl rhan o ganolbarth Cymru yn gynyddol anodd, oherwydd bod cymaint o ail gartrefi ac am fod prisiau tai yn uchel. Golyga hyn, ynghyd â'r ffaith bod llawer o bobl mewn ardaloedd gwledig ar incwm isel, ei bod yn anodd i bobl aros yn eu cymunedau, yn arbennig pobl ifanc. Pan oeddwn yn ceisio symud o lety wedi'i rentu i brynu eiddo yn fy etholaeth, deuthum o hyd i fwrthyn dwy ystafell wely mewn teras. Fe'm synnwyd, wedi imi edrych yn swyddfa'r asiant tai leol, o ganfod fod yr eiddo hwnnw ar werth am £90,000. A hynny am fwrthyn dwy ystafell wely mewn teras a phrin bod digon o le i droi ynddo. Fodd bynnag, o fewn wythnos fe'i prynwyd—gan gwpl dymunol o Kingston siwr o fod. Yn y teras hwnnw o 11 eiddo, mae naw ohonynt yn ail gartrefi, sydd

couple from Kingston. In that terrace of 11 properties, nine are second homes, owned by people who come for the occasional weekend and the occasional visit during the summer. That means that for young people growing up in that village and who wish to remain there, buying is simply not an option.

The right to buy policies—I make no judgement on whether they were a good or a bad thing—have led to a restriction on the amount of social housing that is available to many local authorities and to people within rural areas. Housing stock in the private sector also has its problems, with high levels of under-fitness in rural areas. The situation is bad in Powys but particularly bad in Ceredigion. These homes are often owned by older people who have little resources to undertake the necessary repairs. As Richard said earlier, issues of homelessness and rooflessness are no less significant in rural areas, but are often more hidden in rural Wales than they are in urban areas.

I welcome the strategy's commitment to mediation services, and I declare an interest as someone who, as part of an Assembly volunteering scheme with the Wales Council for Voluntary Action, had my placement with Powys Mediation and Mediation Wales. I know how delighted they will be to see the inclusion of this service in the housing strategy.

I welcome David Melding's attempts to distance himself and his party from the comments made by his colleague David Davies. The last time I looked, it cost exactly the same to rent a flat whether you were 16 or 26. I am afraid that your comments belied the ignorance of issues that often affect young people and the desperation that drives them out of their homes. Sixteen year-olds do not leave home because of a tiff or a family squabble, but as a result of some form of abuse. Your comment—

**David Davies:** You are dramatising some of the things that I said. I did not say that all young people leave home because of a tiff,

yn eiddo i bobl a ddaw i aros ar ambell benwythnos ac ambell i ymweliad achlysurol dros yr haf. Golyga hyn nad yw prynu yn opsiwn i'r bobl ifanc a gaiff eu magu yn y pentref hwnnw ac sydd yn dymuno aros yno.

Arweiniodd polisïau hawl i brynu—ni farnaf a oeddent yn beth da neu'n beth drwg—at gyfyngu'r nifer o dai cymdeithasol sydd ar gael i nifer o awdurdodau lleol ac i bobl o fewn ardaloedd gwledig. Mae gan stoc dai yn y sector preifat hefyd ei broblemau, gyda lefelau uchel o anaddasrwydd mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Mae'r sefyllfa yn wael ym Mhowys ond yn arbennig o wael yng Ngheredigion. Pobl hŷn sydd yn berchen ar y tai hyn yn aml nad oes ganddynt lawer o adnoddau i ymgymryd â'r atgyweiriadau angenrheidiol. Fel y dywedodd Richard yn gynharach, nid yw materion o ddigartrefedd a bod heb do yn llai arwyddocaol mewn ardaloedd gwledig, ond yn aml maent yn fwy cudd yng Nghymru wledig nag mewn ardaloedd trefol.

Croesawaf ymrwymiad y strategaeth i wasanaethau cyfryngol, a datganaf fuddiant fel rhywun a gafodd, fel rhan o gynllun gwirfoddoli'r Cynulliad gyda Chyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru, ei lleoli gyda Powys Mediation a Mediation Wales. Gwn pa mor falch y byddant o weld y gwasanaeth hwn yn cael ei gynnwys yn y strategaeth dai.

Croesawaf ymdrechion David Melding i ymbellhau ei hun a'i blaid oddi wrth y sylwadau a wnaethpwyd gan ei gyd-Aelod David Davies. Y tro diwethaf imi edrych, yr oedd yn costio yr un faint yn union i rentu fflat pa un a oeddech yn 16 neu'n 26 oed. Yn anffodus mae eich sylwadau yn dangos anwybodaeth o'r materion sydd yn aml yn effeithio ar bobl ifanc a'r anobaith sydd yn eu gyrru allan o'u cartrefi. Nid yw pobl ifanc 16 oed yn gadael cartref oherwydd ffrae neu gecru teuluol, ond yn hytrach o ganlyniad i ryw fath o gamdriniaeth. Yr oedd eich sylw—

**David Davies:** Yr ydych yn gorliwio rhai o'r pethau a ddywedais. Ni ddywedais fod pob person ifanc yn gadael cartref oherwydd

but some do. That is a fact. If you are trying to state otherwise, you are wrong. I also made it abundantly clear that I sympathised with the majority of women who allege domestic violence. In the majority of cases, that is true but a small minority makes false allegations. Do not try to overdramatise what I said.

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. This is not the time to make another speech; you have already made about six.

**Kirsty Williams:** No David, you are right, there is nothing dramatic about a woman being beaten to within an inch of her life or a young person having to flee their home because of consistent abuse.

I welcome the fact that the majority of Welsh Conservatives have taken the opportunity to align themselves with your colleague, David Melding, rather than with your comments today—[*Interruption.*]

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. That comment, David Davies, was out of order. It will not be included in the record.

**Kirsty Williams:** In conclusion, I believe that the problems identified in section 6.5 accurately reflect the situation faced by people in rural communities. What we need now is action and not acknowledgement. I am sure that that action will follow.

4:48 p.m.

**The Deputy Minister for Local Government (Peter Black):** I declare an interest as a Member of Swansea City and County Council. This is an important debate that I am pleased to sum up. There have been many contributions today and I will do my best to deal with all of them, but in doing so I will not have time to take many interventions, and I would be grateful if Members could bear that in mind.

The development of a national housing strategy means that, for the first time, Wales will have a comprehensive set of housing policies that recognise the legitimacy of all

ffrae, ond mae rhai. Mae hynny'n ffaith. Os ceisiwch nodi i'r gwrthwyneb, yr ydych yn anghywir. Hefyd, gwneuthum yn hollol glir y cydymdeimlaf â mwyafrif y merched sydd yn honni eu bod wedi dioddef trais yn y cartref. Yn y mwyafrif o achosion, mae hynny'n wir ond gwnaiff lleiafrif bach honiadau ffug. Peidiwch â cheisio gorddramateiddio'r hyn a ddywedais.

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid dyma'r amser i wneud araith arall; yr ydych eisoes wedi gwneud tua chwech.

**Kirsty Williams:** Na David, yr ydych yn gywir, nid oes dim byd dramatig am ferch yn cael ei churo nes ei bod ar ei gwely angau neu berson ifanc yn gorfod dianc o'i gartref oherwydd camdriniaeth reolaidd.

Croesawaf y ffaith fod y mwyafrif o Geidwadwyr Cymru wedi cymryd y cyfle i uniaethu â'ch cyd-Aelod, David Melding, yn hytrach nag â'ch sylwadau heddiw—[*Torri ar draws.*]

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Yr oedd y sylw hwnnw, David Davies, allan o drefn. Ni chaiff ei gynnwys yn y cofnod.

**Kirsty Williams:** I gloi, credaf fod y problemau a nodir yn adran 6.5 yn adlewyrchu'n gywir y sefyllfa a wynebir gan bobl mewn cymunedau gwledig. Yr hyn sydd ei angen arnom yn awr yw gweithredu ac nid cydnabyddiaeth. Yr wyf yn sicr y bydd y gweithredu yn dilyn.

**Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Lywodraeth Leol (Peter Black):** Datganaf fuddiant fel Aelod o Gyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe. Mae hon yn ddadl bwysig ac yr wyf yn falch o'i chrynhoi. Cafwyd llawer o gyfraniadau heddiw a gwnaf fy ngorau i ddelio â phob un ohonynt, ond wrth wneud hynny, ni fydd gennyf amser i gymryd llawer o ymyriadau, a byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai'r Aelodau gadw hynny mewn cof.

Golyga datblygu strategaeth dai genedlaethol y bydd gan Gymru, am y tro cyntaf, set gynhwysfawr o bolisiau tai sydd yn cydnabod dilysrwydd pob deiliadaeth ac yn ymdrin â



tenures and deals with them equally. That strategy will provide the context for local strategies and actions that aim to ensure that people have more choice and flexibility over housing to meet their needs. It will also seek to harness the contribution and commitment of all our partners in the four key shared objectives: the support of sustainable home ownership; a thriving, well-managed rented sector, with good standards of accommodation; high quality social housing managed efficiently and communities that are free from crime and are non-threatening—places where people actually want to live.

William Graham's amendment 1 referred to the private sector. I state clearly that the strategy before us is a national one, not a social housing strategy. The 80 groups involved in its drafting included The Housebuilders Federation, the Council of Mortgage Lenders and the Association of Residential Letting Agents, and they all supported the need to improve the quality of our housing by regulation, which belies William's amendment. We must ask ourselves what is unnecessary regulation? Does William want to do away with building regulations, planning controls or health and safety regulations? Does he want builders to build on greenfield sites and flood plains? A great deal of regulation is necessary to ensure that those controls are in place, that housing is appropriate and that it is sited and built safely in places where people want to live. Someone also mentioned that the Conservatives spent more in 1996 than we did in 2000. Clearly, William has looked at the budget, but he has also been selective in his consideration of it.

There has been a constant decline since 1992 in the amount spent on housing year on year, and it is only in recent times—since the National Assembly has come into being—that we have seen an increase in the amount of money available for basic credit approvals and special credit approvals for housing in Wales. That is included in the budget that we will debate on 7 December. It is an achievement of this partnership Government, and of the Assembly, that we are starting to turn that decline around.

hwy'n gyfartal. Bydd y strategaeth honno'n darparu'r cyd-destun ar gyfer strategaethau a gweithredu lleol sydd yn anelu at sicrhau bod gan bobl fwy o ddewis a hyblygrwydd ynglŷn â thai er mwyn bodloni eu hanghenion. Ceisia hefyd harneisio cyfraniad ac ymrwymiad pob un o'n partneiriad yn y pedair amcan allweddol a rennir: cefnogi perchenogaeth cartrefi cynaliadwy; sector rhentu ffyniannus wedi'i rheoli'n dda, gyda safonau llety da; tai cymdeithasol o ansawdd uchel wedi'u rheoli'n effeithlon a chymunedau sydd yn rhydd o droseddau a bygythiadau—lleoedd lle mae pobl am fyw ynndynt.

Cyfeiriodd gwelliant 1 William Graham at y sector preifat. Nodaf yn glir fod y strategaeth ger ein bron yn un genedlaethol, yn hytrach na strategaeth dai cymdeithasol. Yr oedd yr 80 o grwpiau a gymerodd ran yn y gwaith o'i drafftio yn cynnwys Ffederasiwn Adeiladwyr Tai, Cyngor y Benthycwyr Morgeisiau a Chymdeithas Asiantau Prydlesu Preswyl, a chefnogodd pob un ohonynt yr angen i wella ansawdd ein tai drwy reoliadau, sydd yn gwrth-ddweud diwygiad William. Rhaid gofyn i ni ein hunain beth yw rheoleiddio diangen? A yw William am gael gwared â rheoliadau adeiladu, rheolaethau cynllunio neu reoliadau iechyd a diogelwch? A yw am i adeiladwyr adeiladu ar safleoedd maes glas a gorlifdiroedd? Mae angen llawer o reoleiddio er mwyn sicrhau bod y rheolaethau hynny ar waith, bod tai yn briodol ac wedi'u lleoli a'u hadeiladu yn ddiogel mewn lleoedd y mae pobl am fyw ynndynt. Crybwyllodd rhywun hefyd fod y Ceidwadwyr wedi gwario mwy yn 1996 nag a wnaethom yn 2000. Yn amlwg, edrychodd William ar y gyllideb, ond mae hefyd wedi dewis a dethol yr hyn a ystyria.

Bu dirywiad cyson ers 1992 yn y swm a wariwyd ar dai bob blwydyn, a dim ond yn ddiweddar—ers dyfodiad y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol—y gwelsom gynnydd yn yr arian sydd ar gael am gymeradwyaethau credyd sylfaenol a chymeradwyaethau credyd arbennig ar gyfer tai yng Nghymru. Cynhwysir hynny yn y gyllideb y byddwn yn ei dadlau ar 7 Rhagfyr. Mae'r ffaith ein bod yn dechrau gwyrddroi'r dirywiad hwnnw yn arwydd o lwyddiant y Llywodraeth bartneriaeth hon, a'r Cynulliad.

Precast reinforced concrete homes were mentioned a number of times. That is a matter for local councils, and I cannot stress enough that the National Assembly is keen that councils make their own decisions on how to spend their money. We are giving them capital funding, which they can use for council housing, for grants and for specific projects such as PRC. How they spend the money is their choice. It is not for the National Assembly to say how that money should be allocated. On the national audit of housing stock, which William and other speakers mentioned, that will be best done locally, by local councils, to meet local needs. To facilitate that, we will give local councils grants towards 50 per cent of the cost of drawing up those surveys.

Janet Davies mentioned the homelessness commission, and complained that no member of the opposition was on that commission. It should be made clear that the homelessness commission consists of housing professionals, working under political guidance. It is in the process of being established. When it reaches its conclusions, those proposals will come back to the Local Government and Housing Committee and the Assembly for full debate.

As for Janet's accusation that we are meekly working within the rules of the Treasury, there is nothing meek about the local government and housing portfolio. We have made representations several times to the Treasury about the public sector borrowing requirement, and we continue to do so. We support changes but we cannot give up because the rules are against us. We have to find the most acceptable solutions to get the money that we need into council housing. In terms of the private finance initiative, perhaps that is more preferable to stock transfer as it keeps the housing in public ownership. However, we need to keep all our options open. There is no concealment and no hiding behind closed doors. We are speaking out publicly in the Assembly, in meetings around Wales and in the press, when it is prepared to listen, about the importance of housing in Wales and of tackling housing needs.

Crybwyllwyd cartrefi concrid wedi'u hatgyfnerthu a'u rhag-gastio sawl gwaith. Mater i gynghorau lleol yw hynny, ac ni allaf orbwysleisio bod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn awyddus i gynghorau wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain ynghylch sut i wario eu harian. Rhoddwn arian cyfalaf iddynt, y gallant ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer tai cyngor, ar gyfer grantiau a phrosiectau penodol fel PRC. Hwyl sydd i ddewis sut i wario'r arian. Nid lle y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yw dweud sut y dylid dyrannu'r arian hwnnw. O ran archwiliad cenedlaethol o'r stoc dai, a grybwyllwyd gan William a siaradwyr eraill, gwneir hynny orau yn lleol, gan gynghorau lleol, i gwrdd ag anghenion lleol. Er mwyn hwyluso hynny, rhoddwn grantiau i gynghorau lleol tuag at 50 y cant o'r gost o lunio'r arolygon hynny.

Crybwyllodd Janet Davies gomisiwn y digartref, a chwynodd nad oedd unrhyw aelod o'r wrthblaid ar y comisiwn hwnnw. Dylid ei gwneud yn glir bod comisiwn y digartref yn cynnwys pobl broffesiynol ym maes tai, yn gweithio o dan arweiniad gwleidyddol. Mae yn y broses o gael ei sefydlu. Pan lunia ei gasgliadau, daw'r cynigion hynny yn ôl i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai ac i'r Cynulliad ar gyfer dadl lawn.

O ran cyhuddiad Janet ein bod yn gweithio'n llariaidd o fewn rheolau'r Trysorlys, nid oes dim byd llariaidd ynghylch y portffolio llywodraeth leol a thai. Gwnaethom gynrychioliadau sawl gwaith i'r Trysorlys ynglŷn â benthyca yn y sector cyhoeddus, a pharhawn i wneud hynny. Cefnogwn newidiadau ond ni allwn ildio am fod y rheolau yn ein herbyn. Rhaid inni ganfod yr atebion mwyaf derbyniol er mwyn cael yr arian sydd ei angen arnom ar gyfer tai cyngor. O ran y fenter cyllid preifat, efallai ei bod yn well trosglwyddo stoc gan ei fod yn cadw tai ym mherchenogaeth y cyhoedd. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni gadw ein holl opsiynau yn agored. Ni ellir celu na chuddio y tu ôl i ddrysau caeëdig. Siaradwn yn gyhoeddus yn y Cynulliad, mewn cyfarfodydd ledled Cymru ac yn y wasg, pan fydd yn barod i wrando, am bwysigrwydd tai yng Nghymru ac ymdrin ag anghenion tai.

Among many other things, Val Feld talked about the impact of the right to buy. I agree that one reason why we have problems in providing social housing, in rural areas in particular, is because of the right to buy that was established in the 1980s. Stock transfer is only one option and it is the council's and its tenants' decision. Val also welcomed the new categories of homelessness. It is important that we are taking that forward.

On the new rules on intentionality, the homelessness commission will consider that. It will also need to consider the levels of support for homeless people in council housing. I understand that the social housing revenue grant funding will be reviewed in the next two years in any case.

Women fleeing domestic violence form another important housing issue. They are included in the new categories of priorities for homelessness, and we will consider that issue during consultation. We will encourage local authorities to incorporate that issue in their local housing strategies.

Alun Cairns mentioned a number of points, particularly on private investments. I think that he used the words 'the politics of envy'. Alun, we are not into dogma like you. We are in favour of the choice to live in a high-quality home. We do not want to pre-judge the consultation, as you do in your amendment. We reject amendment 1 on the grounds that it refers to 'excessive regulation', of which we are still awaiting definition. I mentioned that previously when replying to William Graham.

Karen Sinclair made several valid points, particularly on housing benefit. We will support amendment 10 to simplify housing benefit. That is included in the document in any case and is also in line with the Committee's response to the Government's Green Paper. It is a matter for the UK Government, but the Minister will discuss the outcome of its consultations with it in the near future.

Janet Ryder raised many points. I mentioned the national audit of housing needs. It is

Ymysg pethau eraill, soniodd Val Feld am effaith yr hawl i brynu. Cytunaf mai un rheswm pam mae gennym broblemau o ran darparu tai cyhoeddus, mewn ardaloedd gwledig yn arbennig, yw oherwydd yr hawl i brynu a sefydlwyd yn yr 1980au. Un opsiwn yn unig yw trosglwyddo stoc a phenderfyniad y cyngor a'i denantiaid yw hynny. Croesawodd Val hefyd y categorïau newydd o ddigartrefedd. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn symud hynny yn ei flaen.

O ran y rheolau newydd ar fwriadoldeb, bydd comisiwn y digartref yn ystyried hynny. Bydd angen iddo hefyd ystyried lefelau o gymorth i bobl ddigartref mewn tai cyngor. Deallaf y caiff arian grant refeniw tai cymdeithasol ei adolygu yn ystod y ddwy flynedd nesaf beth bynnag.

Mae merched sydd yn dianc rhag trais yn y cartref yn fater tai pwysig arall. Cânt eu cynnwys yn y categorïau newydd o flaenoriaethau ar gyfer digartrefedd, ac ystyriwn y mater hwnnw yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad. Anogwn awdurdodau lleol i ymgorffori'r mater hwnnw yn eu strategaethau tai lleol.

Crybwyllodd Alun Cairns nifer o bwyntiau, yn arbennig ar fuddsoddiadau preifat. Credaf iddo ddefnyddio'r geiriau 'gwleidyddiaeth cenfigen'. Alun, ni chredwn mewn dogma fel y gwnewch chi. Yr ydym o blaid y dewis i fyw mewn cartref o safon. Nid ydym am ragfarnu'r ymgynghoriad, fel y gwnewch chi yn eich gwelliant. Gwrthodwn welliant 1 ar y sail ei fod yn cyfeirio at 'reoliadau gormodol', a pharhawn i aros am ddiffiniad o hynny. Crybwyllais hynny o'r blaen wrth ateb William Graham.

Gwnaeth Karen Sinclair sawl pwynt dilys, yn arbennig ynghylch budd-dâl tai. Cefnogwn welliant 10 i symleiddio budd-dâl tai. Cynhwysir hynny yn y ddogfen beth bynnag ac mae hefyd yn unol ag ymateb y Pwyllgor i Bapur Gwyrdd y Llywodraeth. Mater i Lywodraeth y DU yw hynny, ond trafoda'r Gweinidog ganlyniad ei ymgynghoriadau gyda hi yn y dyfodol agos.

Cododd Janet Ryder sawl pwynt. Crybwyllais yr archwiliad cenedlaethol o

expensive and prescriptive but it should be done locally by local councils. She mentioned local provision tied to local needs. The best way to do that is for local councils themselves to act or know what that local need is. As I said, we are providing 50 per cent funding for that. I have mentioned the public sector borrowing requirement, to which she also referred. I assure Janet that the White Paper on housing, which is mentioned in the partnership Government document, will be the outcome of that consultation. It has not been scrapped, but it will come back to the Assembly as a White Paper. The Committee will be informed of the outcome of the consultation, which was another of Janet's concerns.

Gwenda mentioned the assessment of the criteria of a disablement facilities grant. I agree that they need to be fast-tracked to councils. Forty million pounds is being made available over the next three years to councils for disabled facility grants. We will encourage them to try to reduce their backlog and to tackle that. I am sympathetic to Gwenda's points on guidelines on rent arrears, particularly for women fleeing violence. Local councils can decide how they exercise their discretion. We need to review the responses from the consultation and see what people have to say about this.

David Davies is the fount of political correctness. Home ownership, David, is an important sector. However, we should not direct scarce resources for that aim when there is a £750 million backlog of council housing, huge backlog of repairs in owner-occupied homes and a 20 per cent level of disrepair in the private rented sector. Licensing is essential if we are to bring the private rented sector up to scratch, make it safe and force some of the worse landlords to face up to their responsibilities. Some of the most vulnerable and poorest members of our society live in that sector and need protection from landlords and the conditions in which they are forced to live. David mentioned the black and minority ethnic housing association. He was at the Committee meeting when we discussed this, so he knows that group's special needs. He also knows

anghenion tai. Mae'n ddrud ac yn gyfarwyddol ond dylid ei wneud yn lleol gan gynghorau lleol. Crybwyllodd ddarpariaeth leol yn gysylltiedig ag anghenion lleol. Y ffordd orau i wneud hynny yw i gynghorau lleol eu hunain weithredu neu wybod beth yw'r angen lleol hwnnw. Fel y dywedais, darparwn 50 y cant o arian ar gyfer hynny. Crybwyllais ofyniad benthycar sector cyhoeddus, y cyfeiriodd ato hefyd. Sicrhaf Janet mai'r Papur Gwyn ar dai, a grybwyllir yn nogfen y Llywodraeth bartneriaeth, fydd canlyniad yr ymgynghoriad hwnnw. Ni chafodd ei ddiddymu, ond bydd yn dychwelyd i'r Cynulliad fel Papur Gwyn. Hysbysir y Pwyllgor o ganlyniad yr ymgynghoriad, a oedd yn un arall o bryderon arall gan Janet.

Crybwyllodd Gwenda yr asesiad o feini prawf grant cyfleusterau anabledd. Cytunaf fod angen dull carlam er mwyn iddynt gyrraedd y cynghorau. Bydd £40 miliwn ar gael dros y tair blynedd nesaf i gynghorau ar gyfer grantiau cyfleusterau anabledd. Byddwn yn eu hannog i geisio gostwng eu hól-groniad ac i fynd i'r afael â hynny. Cydymdeimlaf â phwyntiau Gwenda ar ganllawiau ar ôl-ddyledion rhent, yn arbennig i ferched sydd yn dianc rhag trais. Gall cynghorau lleol benderfynu sut i arfer eu disgrisiwn. Mae angen inni adolygu'r ymatebion o'r ymgynghoriad a gweld beth sydd gan bobl i'w ddweud am hyn.

David Davies yw ffynhonnell cywirdeb gwleidyddol. Mae perchenogaeth tai, David, yn sector pwysig. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylem gyfeirio adnoddau prin at y diben hwnnw pan fydd ôl-gronaid o £750 miliwn o dai cyngor, ôl-groniad enfawr o waith trwsio mewn cartrefi perchennog-ddeiliad a lefel o 20 y cant o dai mewn cyflwr gwael yn y sector rhentu preifat. Mae trwyddedu yn hanfodol os ydym i ddod â'r sector rhentu preifat i lefel dderbyniol, ei wneud yn ddiogel a gorfodi rhai o'r landlordiaid gwaethaf i wynebu eu cyfrifoldebau. Mae rhai o bobl fwyaf diamddiffyn a tholtaf ein cymdeithas yn byw yn y sector hwnnw ac mae angen eu hamddiffyn rhag landlordiaid a'r amodau y cânt eu gorfodi i fyw ynddynt. Crybwyllodd David gymdeithas tai pobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig. Yr oedd yng nghyfarfod y Pwyllgor pan drafodasom hyn, felly gŵyr

about the barriers that many of them face. The housing association will help to tackle that particular problem.

David Davies also mentioned that he was against preferential treatment for prisoners and was uneasy about the changes to priority homelessness for 16-18-year olds. He voted for both of these in the Assembly. He mentioned that it is easy for 16-18-year olds to walk out of homes and to access cash. That is complete nonsense. I was talking to a housing organisation yesterday when someone came in to say that they had just returned from the squat where many young people under the age of 18 live in dangerous surroundings, and are very vulnerable. They have been alienated from society, abused and are in need of help and support. The changes in priority homes are designed to help those people and we also want to find other ways to help them. We cannot dismiss them as easily as David has done. I welcome his comments about Mediation Wales and I have met them on behalf of Edwina. There is a section in the document about that and it is an important tool in housing issues in resolving disputes. Funding Mediation Wales is a key issue, as with all voluntary sector bodies.

Ann Jones mentioned absentee landlords. That is a big issue, which hopefully licensing will address. Registration schemes now exist and eight authorities have them and they are valuable. However, the new legislation will widen the definition of privately rented housing and hopefully give us some important secondary powers, which I believe we should welcome. Although we cannot support amendment 5 because of its second part, it is something that this Government supports and will press the UK Government to introduce.

Geraint Davies mentioned many issues including Communities First. In the second consultation paper on Communities First that will be debated in Plenary on 11 January 2001, there are no proposals to restrict that to the five health areas, as Geraint says. We agree that there is a need to link housing and ill-health. That is a priority and we will make

anghenion arbennig y grŵp hwnnw. Gŵyr hefyd am y rhwystrau a wyneba llawer ohonynt. Bydd y gymdeithas tai yn helpu i ymdrin â'r broblem arbennig honno.

Crybwyllodd David Davies hefyd ei fod yn gwrthwynebu triniaeth ffafriol i garcharorion a'i fod yn anniddig ynghylch y newidiadau i roi blaenoriaeth digartrefedd i bobl ifanc 16-18 oed. Pleidleisiodd dros y ddau o'r rhain yn y Cynulliad. Crybwyllodd ei bod yn hawdd i bobl ifanc 16-18 oed gerdded allan o gartrefi a chael gafael ar arian. Nonsens llwyr yw hynny. Yr oeddwn yn siarad â sefydliad tai ddoe pan ddaeth rhywun i mewn i ddweud eu bod newydd ddychwelyd o sgwat lle yr oedd nifer o bobl ifanc o dan 18 oed yn byw mewn amgylchiadau peryglus iawn, a'u bod yn ddiamddiffyn iawn. Fe'u dieithrwyd o gymdeithas, eu cam-drin ac mae angen help a chymorth arnynt. Cynlluniwyd y newidiadau mewn cartrefi blaenoriaeth i helpu'r bobl hynny ac yr ydym hefyd am ddarganfod ffyrdd eraill o'u helpu. Ni allwn eu diystyru mor rhwydd ag a wnaeth David. Croesawaf ei sylwadau am Mediation Wales y cyfarfûm â hwy ar ran Edwina. Mae adran yn y ddogfen ynghylch hynny ac mae'n arf pwysig mewn materion tai o ran datrys anghydfodau. Mae ariannu Mediation Wales yn fater allweddol, fel gyda phob corff yn y sector gwirfoddol.

Crybwyllodd Ann Jones landlordiaid absennol. Mae hynny'n fater pwysig, yr ymdrinia trwyddedu ag ef gobeithio. Mae cynlluniau cofrestru bellach yn bodoli ac mae gan wyth awdurdod y cynlluniau ac maent yn werthfawr. Fodd bynnag, bydd y ddeddfwriaeth newydd yn ehangu'r diffiniad o dai preifat ar rent ac yn rhoi rhai pwerau eilaidd pwysig inni gobeithio, y credaf y dylem eu croesawu. Er na allwn gefnogi gwelliant 5 oherwydd ei ail ran, mae'n rhywbeth y mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn ei gefnogi a byddwn yn pwysu ar lywodraeth y DU i'w gyflwyno.

Crybwyllodd Geraint Davies nifer o faterion gan gynnwys Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Yn yr ail bapur ymgynghorol ar Rhoi Cymunedau'n Gyntaf y cynhelir dadl arno yn y Cyfarfod Llawn ar 11 Ionawr 2001, nid oes unrhyw gynigion i gyfyngu hynny i'r pum maes iechyd, fel y dywed Geraint. Cytunwn bod angen cysylltu tai â salwch. Mae hynny'n

a start with the extra £40 million that we are putting into credit approvals, in particular, over the next three years. A decision on the major repairs allowance has not been taken yet; that is out to consultation. However, we need to review the way that councils manage their stock. The resource accounting regime that we are also consulting on will help councils to better understand the financial needs of their stock and target their resources in a more effective way.

4:58 p.m.

Geraint also referred to the reduction in funding for Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council that he said had decreased from £14 million to £9 million. That is not true. Rhondda Cynon Taff had an extra £2 million this year for renewable areas, and their total—*[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. There is a great restlessness here. This is not Smithfield market.

**Peter Black:** The total credit approval for Rhondda Cynon Taff has fallen by £2.5 million from last year, but how they spend that is up to them. One of the main reasons for that is because they had a one-off grant last year of £7 million to tackle their backlog in renovation grants, which has not been repeated this year. The Assembly has been generous to Rhondda Cynon Taff in the context of their financial constraints last year, and with the extra money that will be available this year; we can deal with that again.

**Geraint Davies:** Do you think that the money given to Rhondda Cynon Taff with regard to the housing grant is sufficient?

**Peter Black:** The document recognises that housing has not had sufficient resources, which is why we are trying to put more money into it in the coming years. I cannot change what has happened in the past. We can try and make sure that it is put right in the future. What I pointed out to you was that the statement that you made was inaccurate and was due largely to the special, one-off

flaenoriaeth a dechreuwn gyda'r £40 miliwn a roddwn i gymeradwyaethau credyd, yn arbennig dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Ni wnaethpwyd penderfyniad ar y lwfans atgyweiriadau mawr hyd yma; cynhelir ymgynghoriad ar hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae angen inni adolygu'r ffordd y mae cynghorau yn rheoli eu stoc. Bydd y system cyfrifo adnoddau yr ydym hefyd yn ymgynghori arni yn helpu cynghorau i ddeall anghenion ariannol eu stoc yn well a thargeddu eu hadnoddau yn fwy effeithiol.

Cyfeiriodd Geraint hefyd at y gostyngiad mewn arian ar gyfer Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf gan ddweud ei fod wedi gostwng o £14 miliwn i £9 miliwn. Nid yw hynny'n wir. Cafodd Rhondda Cynon Taf £2 filiwn ychwnaegol eleni ar gyfer ardaloedd adnewyddadwy, a'r cyfanswm oedd—*[Torri ar draws.]*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Mae anniddigrwydd mawr yma. Nid ym marchand Smithfield yr ydym.

**Peter Black:** Gostyngodd cyfanswm y gymeradwyaeth credyd ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf £2.5 miliwn o'r hyn yr oedd y llynedd, ond eu dewis hwy yw sut i'w wario. Un o'r prif resymau dros hynny yw iddynt gael grant unigryw y llynedd o £7 miliwn i fynd i'r afael â'u hôl-groniad o grantiau adnewyddu, na chafodd ei ailadrodd eleni. Bu'r Cynulliad yn hael i Rondda Cynon Taf yng nghyd-destun eu cyfyngiadau ariannol y llynedd, a chyda'r arian ychwanegol fydd ar gael eleni; gallwn ddelio gyda hynny eto.

**Geraint Davies:** A gredwch fod yr arian a roddwyd i Rondda Cynon Taf mewn perthynas â'r grant tai yn ddigonol?

**Peter Black:** Mae'r ddogfen yn cydnabod na chafodd tai adnoddau digonol, a dyna pam ein bod yn ceisio rhoi mwy o arian ar eu cyfer yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Ni allaf newid yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yn y gorffennol. Gallwn geisio sicrhau ein bod yn ei unioni yn y dyfodol. Yr hyn y tynnais eich sylw ato oedd y ffaith bod y datganiad a wnaethoch yn anghywir ac yr oedd yn bennaf

allocation that was given to Rhondda Cynon Taff last year.

I thank Peter Law for his remarks about this document and I repeat Edwina's praise for his hard work in preparing this document and managing the task groups. This document is a huge testament to his work when he was the Secretary for Local Government and Housing. When Peter was speaking David Davies intervened and said that homelessness has increased since 1997. The difference, David, is that since 1997, we have started to count homelessness and commit resources to tackle it, whereas the previous Conservative government always denied that homelessness existed.

**David Davies:** Will you take an intervention?

**Peter Black:** I am not giving way. *[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order. He is not accepting any more interventions.

**Peter Black:** When you acknowledge homelessness, your statistics will change. You should recognise, David, the disservice that the previous Conservative government did to homelessness in this country. We all regret it and we are trying to redress that now in this document.

I welcome David Melding's support for Care and Repair Cymru. I know that he will have noticed that money for carers in particular will have doubled by the end of the third year of this budget. That point has not been brought to the fore. I also agree with him that there is a huge demand for disabled facility grants, which is why we allocated the extra money and why we are reviewing elderly person housing in the context of the comprehensive strategy for the elderly in Wales. David also mentioned the design of homes; he will be pleased to know that there is support in this document for the concept of life-time homes which will tackle many of the concerns that he raised about the design of new homes, in particular in the context of disability.

Richard Edwards referred to homelessness in rural areas, which is not always recognised. I

oherwydd dyraniad arbennig, unigryw a roddwyd i Rhondda Cynon Taf y llynedd.

Diolchaf i Peter Law am ei sylwadau am y ddogfen hon ac ailadroddaf ganmoliaeth Edwina am ei waith caled wrth baratoi'r ddogfen hon a rheoli'r grwpiau gorchwyl. Mae'r ddogfen hon yn destament anferthol i'w waith pan oedd yn Ysgrifennydd dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai. Pan oedd Peter yn siarad ymyrrodd David Davies gan ddweud fod digartrefedd wedi cynyddu ers 1997. Y gwahaniaeth yw, David, ein bod ers 1997 wedi dechrau cyfrif digartrefedd ac wedi ymrwymo adnoddau i fynd i'r afael ag ef, tra'r oedd y llywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol bob amser yn gwadu bodolaeth digartrefedd.

**David Davies:** A gymerwch ymyriad?

**Peter Black:** Nid idliaf. *[Torri ar draws.]*

**Y Llywydd:** Trefn. Nid yw'n derbyn rhagor o ymyriadau.

**Peter Black:** Pan gydnabyddwch ddigartrefedd, bydd eich ystadegau yn newid, Dylech gydnabod, David, y tro gwael a wnaeth y llywodraeth Geidwadol flaenorol â digartrefedd yn y wlad hon. Yr ydym oll yn edifar am hynny a cheisiwn ei unioni yn awr yn y ddogfen hon.

Croesawaf gefnogaeth David Melding i Gofal a Thrwsio Cymru. Gwn y bydd wedi sylwi y bydd arian ar gyfer cynhalwyr yn arbennig wedi dyblu erbyn diwedd trydedd flwyddyn y gyllideb hon. Nid amlygwyd y pwynt hwnnw. Cytunaf ag ef hefyd bod galw enfawr am grantiau cyfleusterau anabledd, a dyna pham y dyrannwyd yr arian ychwanegol a pham yr adolygwn dai ar gyfer pobl hŷn yng nghyd-destun y strategaeth gynhwysfawr ar gyfer yr henoed yng Nghymru. Crybwyllodd David hefyd ddyluniad cartrefi; bydd yn falch o wybod bod cefnogaeth yn y ddogfen hon i'r cysyniad o dai am oes a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â nifer o'r pryderon a gododd ynghylch dyluniad cartrefi newydd, yn arbennig yn nghyd-destun anabledd.

Cyfeiriodd Richard Edwards at ddigartrefedd mewn ardaloedd gwledig, nas cydnabyddir

pay tribute to organisations like Pembrokeshire Action for Single Homeless and also to Arfon Young Single Homeless Group in Gwynedd, to whom I spoke last week. We need to ensure that all councils have homeless strategies, not just those in urban areas, although I know that some rural authorities do so at the moment. We need to make sure that the Section 180 grants reach all parts of Wales, and this has been increased by £3.5 million over the next three years.

Brian Gibbons referred to amendment 5 on rent levels, which I have not dealt with, but Edwina touched upon it. That particular issue—

**Pauline Jarman** *rose*—

**Peter Black:** I am not taking any more interventions. I am over time already. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: ‘Hear, hear’.] Members made many points and I am sure that you want answers to them. I am coming to the end of dealing with them, which I am sure the Presiding Officer will appreciate.

We talked about rent levels: linking rent levels to average wages would have significant financial costs for this Assembly. If those rents work out to be higher than the level at which the Treasury would like us to set them, then it may seek to reclaim from us the difference in the housing benefit payments. It will also constrain the budget and may prevent much needed investment in housing. Also, average wage levels often increase at a rate higher than inflation. If we sought to have an increase in rent levels on a par with inflation, this amendment might result in some tenants being penalised. That is important and needs to be taken into account. We cannot tie the Assembly’s hands on this. We support licensing, but because that other issue is included in amendment 5, we cannot support it.

Finally—[CONSERVATIVE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: ‘Yes!’] Well, you made a lot of points. Kirsty Williams mentioned rural housing. The document acknowledges the need for more affordable housing and a more flexible use of low cost home ownership. We

bob amser. Talaf derynged i sefydliadau fel Pembrokeshire Action for Single Homeless a hefyd Grŵp Ieuenctid Sengl Digartref Arfon yng Ngwynedd, y siaradais ag ef yr wythnos diwethaf. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod gan bob cyngor strategaethau ar gyfer y digartref, nid dim ond y rheini mewn ardaloedd trefol, er y gwn y gwnaiff rhai awdurdodau gwledig hynny ar hyn o bryd. Mae angen inni sicrhau bod grantiau Adran 180 yn cyrraedd pob rhan o Gymru, a chynyddwyd hwn £3.5 miliwn dros y tair blynedd nesaf.

Cyfeiriodd Brian Gibbons at welliant 5 ar lefelau rhent, nad ymdriniais ag ef, ond cyfeiriodd Edwina ato. Mae’r mater penodol hwnnw—

**Pauline Jarman** *a gododd*—

**Peter Black:** Ni chymeraf ragor o ymyriadau. Yr wyf eisoes wedi mynd dros fy amser. [AELODAU O’R CYNULLIAD: ‘Clywch, clywch’.] Gwnaeth yr aelodau nifer o bwyntiau ac yr wyf yn siwr eich bod am gael atebion iddynt. Tynnaf at y terfyn o ran ymdrin â hwy, ac yr wyf yn siwr y bydd y Llywydd yn gwerthfawrogi hynny.

Soniasom am lefelau rhent: byddai costau ariannol sylweddol i’r Cynulliad hwn yn sgîl cysylltu lefelau rhent â chyfartaledd cyflog. Os byddai’r rhenti hynny yn uwch na’r lefel y byddai’r Trysorlys wedi dymuno inni ei phennu, yna gallai hawlio’r gwahaniaeth mewn taliadau budd-dâl tai gennym. Bydd hefyd yn cyfyngu ar y gyllideb a gallai atal buddsoddiad mewn tai sydd ei angen yn ddirfawr. Yn ogystal, mae lefelau cyflogau ar gyfartaledd yn cynyddu ar gyfradd uwch na chwyddiant. Pe baem yn ceisio cynyddu lefelau rhent yn unol â chwyddiant, gallai’r gwelliant hwn arwain at gosbi rhai tenantiaid. Mae hynny’n bwysig ac mae angen ei ystyried. Ni allwn glymu dwylo’r Cynulliad ar hyn. Cefnogwn drwyddedu, ond oherwydd bod y mater arall hwnnw yn gynwysedig yng nwelliant 5, ni allwn ei gefnogi.

Yn olaf—[AELODAU CEIDWADOL Y CYNULLIAD: ‘O’r Diwedd!’] Wel, fe wnaethoch lawer o bwyntiau. Soniodd Kirsty Williams am dai gwledig. Mae’r ddogfen hon yn cydnabod yr angen am dai mwy fforddiadwy a defnydd mwy hyblyg o



are looking for views on problems in rural areas, including the impact of second homes, the right to buy and other related issues. I think that I have dealt with the all the points that have been raised. I commend this document and thank you all for your contributions.

**The Presiding Officer:** Before we move to a vote, I ask any Members who wish to declare an interest and who have not yet done so, to stand.

**Glyn Davies, Jocelyn Davies, William Graham, Pauline Jarman, David Lloyd and Gareth Jones** *rose—*

berchenogaeth cartrefi cost isel. Edrychwn am safbwyntiau ar broblemau mewn ardaloedd gwledig, yn cynnwys effaith ail gartrefi, yr hawl i brynu a materion cysylltiedig eraill. Credaf fy mod wedi delio â'r holl bwyntiau a godwyd. Cymeradwyaf y ddogfen hon a diolchaf ichi oll am eich cyfraniadau.

**Y Llywydd:** Cyn inni symud i bleidlais, gofynnaf i unrhyw Aelod sydd yn dymuno datgan buddiant ac sydd heb wneud hynny hyd yma, i sefyll.

**Glyn Davies, Jocelyn Davies, William Graham, Pauline Jarman, David Lloyd a Gareth Jones** *a gododd—*

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 8, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 46.  
Amendments 1: For 8, Abstain 0, Against 46.*

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

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Graham, William  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hancock, Brian  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny

Ryder, Janet  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Kirsty  
Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.  
Amendment 2: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Graham, William  
Hancock, Brian  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Lloyd, David  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter  
Ryder, Janet  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Phil

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 3: For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun

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

Chapman, Christine  
 Dafis, Cynog  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Geraint  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet  
 Davies, Jocelyn  
 Davies, Ron  
 Edwards, Richard  
 Essex, Sue  
 Evans, Delyth  
 Feld, Val  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Halford, Alison  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Melding, David  
 Middlehurst, Tom  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Rogers, Peter  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
 Amendment adopted.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 8, Ymatal 15, Yn erbyn 31.  
 Amendment 4: For 8, Abstain 15, Against 31.*

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

Bourne, Nick  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Graham, William  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Rogers, Peter

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Jane Davidson  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, Ron

Edwards, Richard  
 Essex, Sue  
 Evans, Delyth  
 Feld, Val  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Halford, Alison  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Middlehurst, Tom  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:  
 The following Members abstained:

Dafis, Cynog  
 Davies, Geraint  
 Davies, Janet  
 Davies, Jocelyn  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Lloyd, David  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Phil

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.*  
*Amendment rejected*

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 39.*  
*Amendment 5: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 39.*

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

Dafis, Cynog  
 Davies, Geraint  
 Davies, Janet  
 Davies, Jocelyn  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Lloyd, David  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Bourne, Nick  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Jane Davidson  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Ron  
 Edwards, Richard  
 Essex, Sue

Williams, Phil

Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Melding, David  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Rogers, Peter  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.  
Amendment 6: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Graham, William  
Hancock, Brian  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Lloyd, David  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter  
Ryder, Janet  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Phil

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 7: O blaid 15, Ymatal 8, Yn erbyn 31.  
Amendment 7: For 15, Abstain 8, Against 31.*

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

Dafis, Cynog  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Hancock, Brian  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Law, Peter  
Lloyd, David  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Phil

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Lewis, Huw  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol.  
The following Members abstained.

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Graham, William  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

5:08 p.m.

*Gwelliant 8: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 31.  
Amendment 8: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 31.*

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

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

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Graham, William  
Hancock, Brian  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Lloyd, David  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter  
Ryder, Janet  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Phil

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 9: O blaid 54, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.  
Amendment 9: For 54, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Bourne, Nick  
Butler, Rosemary  
Cairns, Alun  
Chapman, Christine  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, David  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Glyn  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Graham, William  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John

Gwyther, Christine  
 Halford, Alison  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Melding, David  
 Middlehurst, Tom  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Rogers, Peter  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
 Amendment adopted.*

*Gwelliant 10: O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 7.  
 Amendment 10: For 46, Abstain 0, Against 7.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Dafis, Cynog  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, Geraint  
 Davies, Janet  
 Davies, Jocelyn  
 Davies, Ron  
 Edwards, Richard  
 Essex, Sue  
 Evans, Delyth  
 Feld, Val  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Halford, Alison  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Ann

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

Bourne, Nick  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Rogers, Peter



Jones, Carwyn  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Lloyd, David  
 Middlehurst, Tom  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Sinclair, Karen  
 Thomas, Gwenda  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Kirsty  
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.  
 Amendment adopted.*

*Gwelliant 11: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 39.  
 Amendment 11: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 39.*

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

Dafis, Cynog  
 Davies, Jocelyn  
 Hancock, Brian  
 Jarman, Pauline  
 Jones, Elin  
 Jones, Gareth  
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
 Lloyd, David  
 Melding, David  
 Morgan, Jonathan  
 Ryder, Janet  
 Thomas, Owen John  
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
 Wigley, Dafydd  
 Williams, Phil

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
 Bates, Mick  
 Black, Peter  
 Bourne, Nick  
 Butler, Rosemary  
 Cairns, Alun  
 Chapman, Christine  
 Davidson, Jane  
 Davies, Andrew  
 Davies, David  
 Davies, Geraint  
 Davies, Glyn  
 Davies, Janet  
 Davies, Ron  
 Edwards, Richard  
 Essex, Sue  
 Evans, Delyth  
 Feld, Val  
 German, Michael  
 Gibbons, Brian  
 Graham, William  
 Gregory, Janice  
 Griffiths, John  
 Gwyther, Christine  
 Halford, Alison  
 Hart, Edwina  
 Hutt, Jane  
 Jones, Ann  
 Jones, Carwyn  
 Law, Peter  
 Lewis, Huw  
 Middlehurst, Tom  
 Morgan, Rhodri  
 Neagle, Lynne  
 Randerson, Jenny  
 Rogers, Peter  
 Sinclair, Karen

Thomas, Gwenda  
Williams, Kirsty

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.  
Amendment rejected.*

Amended motion:

Cynnig diwygiedig:

*the National Assembly*

*fod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol*

*endorses 'Better Homes for People in Wales', the consultation on the national housing strategy for Wales;*

*yn cymeradwyo 'Better Homes for People in Wales', y ddogfen ymgynghorol ar strategaeth dai genedlaethol Cymru;*

*welcomes the positive contribution this consultation document will make to developing housing policies, which will improve the quality of life of the people of Wales and to deliver the objectives of 'Betterwales.com' and achieve the Assembly's obligations to equal opportunities and sustainable development;*

*yn croesawu cyfraniad pwysig y ddogfen ymgynghorol hon at ddatblygu polisiau tai fydd yn gwella safonau byw pobl Cymru ac yn gwireddu amcanion 'Gwellcymru.com' ac yn cyflawni rhwymedigaethau'r Cynulliad o ran cyfle cyfartal a datblygu cynaliadwy;*

*acknowledges the role played by tenant representatives, housing agencies and professionals in the process of developing the emerging strategy;*

*yn cydnabod rôl cynrychiolwyr tenantiaid, yr asiantaethau tai a phobl broffesiynol yn y broses o ddatblygu'r strategaeth newydd hon;*

*supports the policies currently being developed including the housing strategy for black, minority ethnic groups, the establishment of the homeless commission, the extension of the categories of homeless people classified as having priority need and the coverage of care and repair services to all parts of Wales;*

*yn cefnogi'r polisiau sydd yn cael eu datblygu ar hyn o bryd gan gynnwys y strategaeth dai i bobl dduon a lleiafrifoedd ethnig, sefydlu comisiwn y digartref, ymestyn y categorïau o bobl ddigartref y dyfarnwyd bod angen blaenoriaethu eu hanghenion ac ymestyn cwmpas gwasanaethau gofal a thrwsio i gynnwys Cymru gyfan;*

*welcomes the increases in funding for housing contained in the draft budget, reversing the downward trend of the past decade;*

*yn croesawu'r cynnydd yn y cyllid ar gyfer tai yn y gyllideb ddrafft, sydd yn gwrthdroi tueddiad y degawd diwethaf i leihau gwariant;*

*requires the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities to draw up a national housing strategy, taking account of the responses to the consultation and report within six months to the Local Government and Housing Committee; and*

*yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau lunio strategaeth dai genedlaethol, gan ystyried yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a chyflwyno adroddiad o fewn chwe mis i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai; ac*

*calls on the First Minister to make representations to the UK Government through the Secretary of State for Wales for the need to simplify housing benefit including equal treatment for under 25s; removing access grants from the housing benefit*

*yn galw ar y Prif Weinidog i gyflwyno sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU trwy Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynglyn â'r angen i symleiddio budd-daliadau tai gan gynnwys cydraddoldeb triniaeth i'r rhai dan 25; dileu grantiau nynediad o'r dull cyfrif*

*calculation; and urgently reviewing the budd-dâl tai; a chynnal adolygiad brys o'r ceiling for housing benefits. nenfwd ar gyfer budd-daliadau tai.*

*Cynnig: O blaid 46, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 8.*

*Motion: For 46, Abstain 0, Against 8.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine  
Bates, Mick  
Black, Peter  
Butler, Rosemary  
Chapman, Christine  
Dafis, Cynog  
Davidson, Jane  
Davies, Andrew  
Davies, Geraint  
Davies, Janet  
Davies, Jocelyn  
Davies, Ron  
Edwards, Richard  
Essex, Sue  
Evans, Delyth  
Feld, Val  
German, Michael  
Gibbons, Brian  
Gregory, Janice  
Griffiths, John  
Gwyther, Christine  
Halford, Alison  
Hancock, Brian  
Hart, Edwina  
Hutt, Jane  
Jarman, Pauline  
Jones, Ann  
Jones, Carwyn  
Jones, Elin  
Jones, Gareth  
Jones, Ieuan Wyn  
Law, Peter  
Lewis, Huw  
Lloyd, David  
Middlehurst, Tom  
Morgan, Rhodri  
Neagle, Lynne  
Randerson, Jenny  
Ryder, Janet  
Sinclair, Karen  
Thomas, Gwenda  
Thomas, Owen John  
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn  
Wigley, Dafydd  
Williams, Kirsty  
Williams, Phil

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

Bourne, Nick  
Cairns, Alun  
Davies, David  
Davies, Glyn  
Graham, William  
Melding, David  
Morgan, Jonathan  
Rogers, Peter

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.  
Amended motion adopted.*

**Y Llywydd:** Diolch i'r Aelodau am eu cydweithrediad.

**The Presiding Officer:** I thank Members for their co-operation.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.12 p.m.  
The session ended at 5.12 p.m.*

