



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mawrth, 19 Mehefin 2012
Tuesday, 19 June 2012**

Cynnwys
Contents

3	Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister
30	Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order
31	Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes Business Statement and Announcement
39	Datganiad: Buddsoddi i Arbed Statement: Invest-to-Save
53	Datganiad: Gwella Ysgolion Statement: School Improvement
70	Datganiad: Adolygiad o Wasanaethau Cyngori Statement: Review of Advice Services
86	Datganiad: Cynllunio a Chyflenwi Integredig Statement: Integrated Planning and Delivery
97	Datganiad: Plant a Phobl Ifanc Egniol Statement: Active Children and Young People
111	Gofal Iechyd y Llygaid yng Nghymru Eye Health Care in Wales
138	Cyfnod Pleidleisio Voting Time

Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y Siambr.
Yn y golofn dde, cynhwyswyd cyfieithiad.

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 has been included.

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 1.30 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd (Rosemary Butler) yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 1.30 p.m. with the Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) in the Chair.*

Y Llywydd: Galwaf Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i drefn. **The Presiding Officer:** I call the National Assembly for Wales to order.

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Blaenoriaethau

1. David Rees: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer pobl Aberafan dros y 12 mis nesaf. OAQ(4)0577(FM)*

The First Minister (Carwyn Jones): Our priorities for the next 12 months are to be found in the programme for government.

David Rees: Thank you for that answer, First Minister. Last week, the Cabinet Minister with responsibility for transport issued a statement identifying the Welsh Government's proposal to survey the M4 between junctions 38 and 42, namely the section that goes through Port Talbot, to alleviate congestion and because of safety issues. Junctions 40 and 41 are heavily used by the residents of Port Talbot and the people of the Afan valley to get to and from work and to access health services across the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board area. Can you reassure those residents that their voices will be heard in any consultation, and will you also confirm that a full analysis of all road routes in Port Talbot will be undertaken so that the impact of any proposals can be fully assessed?

The First Minister: Yes. The traffic analysis and modelling for potential junction closures on the M4 will include the modelling of routes within Port Talbot, together with an analysis of the effect of the Port Talbot peripheral distributor road, which is currently under construction. I can assure the Member that the voice of residents will be heard clearly as part of the public consultation.

Suzy Davies: One of your Government's priorities, understandably, is increasing the amount of energy generated from renewable

Priorities

1. David Rees: *Will the First Minister outline the Welsh Government's priorities for the people of Aberavon for the next 12 months. OAQ(4)0577(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog (Carwyn Jones): Mae ein blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y 12 mis nesaf i'w gweld yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.

David Rees: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Brif Weinidog. Yr wythnos diwethaf, cyhoeddodd y Gweinidog yn y Cabinet sy'n gyfrifol am drafnidiaeth ddatganiad yn nodi cynnig Llywodraeth Cymru i wneud arolwg ar yr M4 rhwng cyffyrdd 38 a 42, sef y rhan sy'n mynd drwy Bort Talbot, er mwyn lliniaru tagfeydd ac oherwydd materion diogelwch. Caiff cyffyrdd 40 a 41 eu defnyddio'n helaeth gan drigolion Port Talbot a phobl Cwm Afan i fynd a dod o'r gwaith ac i ddefnyddio gwasanaethau iechyd yn ardal Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg. A allwch roi sicrwydd i'r trigolion hynny y bydd eu lleisiau yn cael eu clywed mewn unrhyw ymgynghoriad, ac a wnewch hefyd gadarnhau y bydd dadansoddiad llawn o'r holl ffyrdd ym Mhort Talbot yn cael ei wneud er mwyn gallu asesu effaith unrhyw gynigion yn llawn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gallaf. Bydd y dadansoddiad traffig a'r modelu ar gyfer y posibilrwydd o gau cyffyrdd ar yr M4 yn cynnwys modelu llwybrau ym Mhort Talbot, ynghyd â dadansoddiad o effaith ffordd ddosbarthu ymylol Port Talbot, sy'n cael ei chreu ar hyn o bryd. Gallaf sicrhau'r Aelod y bydd llais y trigolion yn cael ei glywed yn glir fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus.

Suzy Davies: Un o flaenoriaethau'ch Llywodraeth, a hynny'n ddealladwy, yw cynyddu faint o ynni a gynhyrchir o

sources. This is having a huge impact on the people of the upper Afan valley who are about to be surrounded by wind turbines. What steps are you taking, working with the UK Government, and considering technical advice note 8, to prevent the oversaturation of wind turbine coverage in particular areas?

The First Minister: We have suggested upper limits in each of the strategic search areas of TAN 8. The UK Government, unfortunately, has no such limits.

Bethan Jenkins: I, too, want to reiterate concerns regarding the M4 consultation that will be taking place, and I welcome the Minister's letter to AMs and MPs about that consultation. However, I want to ensure that the Environment Agency will also be involved in any discussions, considering the high-level potential effects on pollution, on air quality, that could result from any changes. I spoke with the director yesterday, and she assured me that that would be the case, but I would like that confirmed on record today.

The First Minister: The consultation is open to all. The intention is to alleviate congestion, which should mean a reduction in the amount of pollution caused by traffic jams.

Darparu Addysg

2. William Graham: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am y ddarpariaeth addysg yn Nwyrain De Cymru. OAQ(4)0574(FM)*

The First Minister: Our priority for South Wales East, as in other parts of Wales, is to implement the aims of the programme for government.

William Graham: I am grateful to the First Minister for his reply. He will know of the proposals for an entrepreneurial university in South Wales East, and the obvious benefits that would bring. What are his Government's proposals to make that come about?

ffynonellau adnewyddadwy. Caiff hyn effaith enfawr ar y bobl yng Nghwm Afan uchaf sydd ar fin cael eu hamgylchynu gan dyrbinau gwynt. Pa gamau yr ydych yn eu cymryd, gan weithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU, ac o ystyried nodyn cyngor technegol 8, i atal y gormodedd o dyrbinau gwynt mewn ardaloedd penodol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym wedi awgrymu terfynau uchaf ym mhob un o ardaloedd chwilio strategol TAN 8. Yn anffodus, nid oes gan Lywodraeth y DU derfynau o'r fath.

Bethan Jenkins: Hoffwn innau ailadrodd y pryderon ynghylch yr ymgynghoriad ar yr M4 a gynhelir, a chroesawaf lythyr y Gweinidog at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol am yr ymgynghoriad hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn gael sicrwydd y bydd Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd hefyd yn rhan o unrhyw drafodaethau, o ystyried yr effeithiau mawr posibl ar lygredd ac ansawdd aer a allai ddeillio o unrhyw newidiadau. Siaredais â'r cyfarwyddwr ddoe, ac mae hi wedi fy sicrhau mai dyna fyddai'n digwydd, ond hoffwn i'r cadarnhad hwnnw gael ei gofnodi heddiw.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r ymgynghoriad yn agored i bawb. Y bwriad yw lliniaru tagfeydd, a dylai hynny olygu gostyngiad ym maint y llygredd a achosir gan dagfeydd traffig.

Education Provision

2. William Graham: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the provision of education in South Wales East. OAQ(4)0574(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Ein blaenoriaeth ar gyfer Dwyrain De Cymru, fel mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, yw gweithredu amcanion y rhaglen lywodraethu.

William Graham: Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ateb. Bydd yn ymwybodol o'r cynigion ar gyfer prifysgol entrepreneuriaidd yn Nwyrain De Cymru, a'r manteision amlwg a ddôl yn sgîl hynny. Beth yw cynigion ei Lywodraeth er mwyn gwireddu hynny?

The First Minister: As you know, there are proposals that Glamorgan, Newport and Cardiff Metropolitan universities merge. My understanding is that Newport and Glamorgan have indicated broad support for such a merger, but I think it right to say that Cardiff Met is not in that position. Certainly, such a merger would help by providing the right number of students and the right choice of courses for those who wish to study in such an institution in the future.

Jocelyn Davies: In his original statement last year, your Minister for Education and Skills outlined the intervention in Blaenau Gwent. He made it clear that he would update the Assembly on a four-monthly basis. Are you able to inform us of the progress in Blaenau Gwent and tell us how that progress is being quantified?

The First Minister: Progress is being monitored very carefully as far as Blaenau Gwent is concerned, and the Minister will be in a position to update the Assembly shortly on how that is going.

Cwestiynau Heb Rybudd gan Arweinwyr y Pleidiau

The Leader of Plaid Cymru (Leanne Wood): The independent Holtham commission concluded that Wales is severely underfunded by the UK Government as a result of the Barnett formula. Based on the most recent Treasury figures, Plaid Cymru has estimated that that figure now stands at £540 million. Do you have an updated analysis of the current level of relative need and the corresponding level of underfunding?

The First Minister: I have not seen the work that has been done that has led to arriving at that figure, so I cannot comment on it. However, as the Member will agree, we know that Wales is underfunded. It is therefore crucial that we get a Barnett floor at the beginning to ensure that further convergence does not occur towards the end of this decade and then full Barnett reform, which is inevitable, in the short to medium

Y Prif Weinidog: Fel y gwyddoch, mae cynigion i uno prifysgolion Morgannwg, Casnewydd a Phrifysgol Fetropolitan Caerdydd. Rwyf yn cael ar ddeall bod Casnewydd a Morgannwg wedi dangos cefnogaeth gyffredinol i uno o'r fath, ond rwy'n credu fy mod yn iawn wrth ddweud nad yw Prifysgol Fetropolitan Caerdydd yn y sefyllfa honno. Yn sicr, byddai uno o'r fath yn helpu drwy ddarparu'r nifer iawn o fyfyrwyr a'r dewis iawn o gyrsiau ar gyfer y rhai sy'n dymuno astudio mewn sefydliad o'r fath yn y dyfodol.

Jocelyn Davies: Yn ei ddatganiad gwreiddiol y llynedd, amlinellodd eich Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau yr ymyrraeth ym Mlaenau Gwent. Gwnaeth yn glir y byddai'n rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad bob pedwar mis. A allwch ein hysbysu o'r cynnydd ym Mlaenau Gwent a dweud wrthym sut y caiff y cynnydd ei fesur?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r cynnydd yn cael ei fonitro'n ofalus iawn cyn belled ag y mae Blaenau Gwent yn y cwestiwn, a bydd y Gweinidog mewn sefyllfa i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad cyn hir am hynnt hynny.

Questions Without Notice from the Party Leaders

Arweinydd Plaid Cymru (Leanne Wood): Daeth comisiwn Holtham, sy'n gomisiwn annibynnol, i'r casgliad bod Cymru'n cael ei thanariannu'n ddifrifol gan Lywodraeth y DU o ganlyniad i fformiwla Barnett. Ar sail ffigurau diweddaraf y Trysorlys, mae Plaid Cymru wedi amcangyfrif bod y ffigur hwnnw bellach yn £540 miliwn. A oes gennych ddadansoddiad diweddar o'r lefel bresennol o angen cymharol a'r lefel gyfatebol o danariannu?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf wedi gweld y gwaith a wnaed er mwyn cael y ffigur hwnnw, felly ni allaf roi sylw arno. Fodd bynnag, fel y bydd yr Aelod yn cytuno, gwyddom fod Cymru'n cael ei thanariannu. Mae'n hanfodol felly inni gael terfyn isaf Barnett ar y dechrau i sicrhau nad oes cydgyfeirio pellach yn digwydd tua diwedd y degawd hwn ac yna diwygio Barnett yn llawn, sy'n anochel, yn y tymor byr i ganolig.

term.

Leanne Wood: The Holtham commission argued that the Barnett floor should be set at Wales's current level of need, which it argued to be at 115%. Can you tell us what level you are proposing for the Barnett floor? Are you prepared to make a commitment that you will not accept it to be set at any level lower than in accordance with Holtham's guidance?

The First Minister: No, I am not, because that is where we are at the moment. We know, from looking at the studies that have been carried out, that that figure will reduce—not in the next year or two but certainly in the years leading up to the end of the decade—and so that would be unacceptable for Wales.

Leanne Wood: Do you not accept, then, First Minister that a Barnett floor can become a Barnett ceiling, locking in that unfairness, and that the only long-term solution is a needs-based formula, as Plaid Cymru has always argued for but which your party has rejected for the 13 years in which you have been in Government? So far, First Minister, you have failed to convince your party leader of the need for a constitutional convention, and you have failed to negotiate for a needs-based formula. Is it not the case, First Minister, that you are failing to stand up for the people of Wales?

The First Minister: No. We are in a situation of wanting the Barnett floor to be set at 115%. We know that. The reality is that the convergence process started some years ago. We take the view that a floor is a start, but it is also important to persuade the Scottish National Party Government in Scotland to accept that the Barnett formula needs to be reformed, as it sees no need for reform. I am sure that the leader of Plaid Cymru will make her best efforts to persuade her colleague in Scotland of the merit of the Welsh case.

The Leader of the Opposition (Andrew R.T. Davies): Recently, Estyn reported that

Leanne Wood: Roedd comisiwn Holtham yn dadlau y dylai terfyn isaf Barnett gael ei bennu yn unol â faint sydd ei angen ar Gymru ar hyn o bryd, a honnai mai 115% yw hynny. A allwch ddweud wrthym pa lefel yr ydych yn ei chynnig ar gyfer terfyn isaf Barnett? A ydych yn barod i ymrwymo na fyddwch yn derbyn lefel a bennir sy'n is na'r hyn a nodir yng nghanllawiau Holtham?

Y Prif Weinidog: Na, nid wyf am wneud hynny, oherwydd dyna lle yr ydym ar hyn o bryd. Gwyddom, o edrych ar yr astudiaethau a gynhaliwyd, y bydd y ffigur hwnnw'n lleihau—nid yn y flwyddyn neu ddwy nesaf ond yn sicr yn y blynyddoedd yn arwain at ddiwedd y degawd—ac felly byddai hynny'n annerbyniol i Gymru.

Leanne Wood: Onid ydych yn derbyn, felly, Brif Weinidog, y gall terfyn isaf Barnett ddod yn derfyn uchaf Barnett, gan beri bod yr annhegwch hwnnw'n parhau, ac mai'r unig ateb hirdymor yw fformiwla sy'n seiliedig ar anghenion, sef rhywbeth y mae Plaid Cymru bob amser wedi dadlau drosto ond y mae eich plaid chi wedi'i wrthod yn ystod y 13 blynedd yr ydych wedi bod mewn Llywodraeth? Hyd yn hyn, Brif Weinidog, rydych wedi methu ag argyhoeddi arweinydd eich plaid fod angen confensiwn cyfansoddiadol, ac rydych wedi methu â negodi am fformiwla sy'n seiliedig ar anghenion. Onid yw'n wir, Brif Weinidog, eich bod yn methu â sefyll dros bobl Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nac ydy. Y sefyllfa yr ydym ynnddi yw bod arnom eisiau i derfyn isaf Barnett gael ei bennu'n 115%. Rydym yn gwybod hynny. Y gwir yw bod y broses gydgyfeirio wedi dechrau rai blynyddoedd yn ôl. Rydym o'r farn bod terfyn isaf yn fan cychwyn, ond mae hefyd yn bwysig darbwyllo Llywodraeth Plaid Genedlaethol yr Alban fod angen derbyn bod angen diwygio fformiwla Barnett, gan nad yw'n gweld bod angen ei diwygio. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd arweinydd Plaid Cymru yn gwneud ei gorau glas i ddarbwylllo ei chydweithiwr yn yr Alban ynghylch teilyngdod achos Cymru.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Andrew R.T. Davies): Cyflwynodd Estyn adroddiad yn

40% of pupils entering secondary school are unable to read properly. Who is responsible for that shocking figure?

The First Minister: We know that there is work to be done in education, which is why the Minister for Education and Skills has outlined his plans for literacy and numeracy, and to continue to assist teachers to improve outcomes for pupils.

Andrew R.T. Davies: First Minister, given that your party has formed the Government here at the Assembly and provided all the Ministers for education, yourself included, since devolution started, do you not think that the policies that your Government and previous Labour Governments have pursued in trying to improve literacy and numeracy in our schools have an element of responsibility? What confidence can we have that the new national literacy programme can deliver the improvements that the pupils, teachers and parents of Wales deserve, given that previous initiatives by the Labour Party in Government have failed to achieve them?

The First Minister: We have made clear our commitment to improve literacy standards in our schools. The national literacy programme sets out the actions that we will take to achieve this, and the national literacy and numeracy framework and national reading and numeracy tests, which are now out for consultation, are a key element of improving outcomes for pupils in the future.

Andrew R.T. Davies: It is regrettable that you fail to acknowledge any failures from the past, or the failure of your colleagues to deliver the improvements that we require in education. We all know what the Programme for International Student Assessment results were in 2009, and, regrettably, even though your Minister has been in place for some three years and has brought forward initiatives to improve educational levels in Wales, he seems to have written off the 2012 tests that will be undertaken this year. Why is it the case that the Minister said, in response to my colleague, Angela Burns, that it is unrealistic to expect to see improvements this

ddiweddar yn nodi na all 40% o'r disgyblion sy'n dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd ddarllen yn iawn. Pwy sy'n gyfrifol am y ffigur syfrdanol hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwyddom fod gwaith i'w wneud ym maes addysg, a dyna pam mae'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau wedi amlinellu ei gynlluniau llythrennedd a rhifedd, ac i barhau i gynorthwyo athrawon i wella canlyniadau disgyblion.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Brif Weinidog, o ystyried bod eich plaid wedi ffurfio Llywodraeth yma yn y Cynulliad a bod pob Gweinidog addysg, gan eich cynnwys chi eich hun, ers dechrau datganoli, wedi bod yn Aelod Llafur, onid ydych yn credu bod gan y polisïau y mae eich Llywodraeth chi a Llywodraethau Llafur blaenorol wedi eu dilyn wrth geisio gwella llythrennedd a rhifedd yn ein hysgolion elfen o gyfrifoldeb? Sut y gallwn fod yn hyderus y gall y rhaglen llythrennedd genedlaethol newydd gyflawni'r gwelliannau y mae disgyblion, athrawon a rhieni Cymru yn eu haeddu, o gofio bod mentrau blaenorol gan y Blaid Lafur yn y Llywodraeth wedi methu â'u cyflawni?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym wedi gwneud ein hymrwymiad i wella safonau llythrennedd yn ein hysgolion yn glir. Mae'r rhaglen llythrennedd genedlaethol yn nodi'r camau y byddwn yn eu cymryd i gyflawni hyn, ac mae'r fframwaith llythrennedd a rhifedd cenedlaethol a'r profion darllen a rhifedd cenedlaethol, sydd bellach yn destun ymgynghoriad, yn elfen allweddol o wella canlyniadau ar gyfer disgyblion yn y dyfodol.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Mae'n resyn nad ydych yn cydnabod unrhyw fethiannau o'r gorffennol, na methiant eich cyd-Weinidogion i gyflawni'r gwelliannau sydd eu hangen arnom ym maes addysg. Rydym i gyd yn gwybod beth oedd canlyniadau'r Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr yn 2009, ac, yn anffodus, er bod eich Gweinidog wedi bod mewn grym ers tair blynedd ac wedi cyflwyno mentrau i wella lefelau addysgol yng Nghymru, ymddengys ei fod wedi cydnabod na fydd profion 2012 a gynhelir eleni o ddefnydd. Pam y dywedodd y Gweinidog, mewn ymateb i'm cyd-Aelod, Angela Burns, ei bod yn afrealistig disgwyl

year and that we need to wait until 2015? Is it not the case that Labour has run out of ideas on education?

The First Minister: We prize education more than any other party does. We know what it means, raising people out of poverty, allowing them to acquire the skills that they need, and giving them opportunities, which people across the border, where his party is in Government, have been denied. Given the three questions that I have heard, I was amused to hear my Government being described as a 'mañana Government' in the Tory press conference this morning. It would be unfair to use that phrase to describe the leader of the opposition, as it would convey too great a sense of urgency with regard to his leadership.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats (Kirsty Williams): First Minister, if an allegation of wrongdoing is made against any of your Cabinet colleagues, who judges whether the Cabinet member has breached the ministerial code?

The First Minister: That is a matter for me.

Kirsty Williams: In Scotland, a panel of former presiding officers advises on the application of the ministerial code. In Westminster, the independent adviser on ministers' interests advises the Prime Minister. Allegations of misconduct by an Assembly Member are investigated by the commissioner for standards, and local councillors are referred to their standards board. Members of Parliament, of course, if they are accused of wrongdoing are held accountable by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. What makes the Welsh Government so special that it can avoid this important form of democratic scrutiny?

The First Minister: Ministers are accountable to me and I, in turn, am accountable to the people of Wales.

Kirsty Williams: First Minister, a description of your answers was adequately given by the *Wales on Sunday* this weekend,

gweld gwelliannau eleni a bod angen inni aros tan 2015? Onid y gwir yw nad oes gan Lafur syniadau bellach ynglŷn ag addysg?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym yn gweld mwy o werth mewn addysg nag a wneir gan ddim un blaid arall. Rydym yn gwybod beth y mae'n ei olygu, gall godi pobl allan o dlodi, a'u galluogi i gael y sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt, a rhoi cyfleoedd iddynt, er bod hynny wedi'i warafun i bobl yr ochr arall i glawdd Offa, lle y mae ei blaid mewn Llywodraeth. O ystyried y tri chwestiwn yr wyf wedi'u clywed, roedd yn ddoniol clywed fy Llywodraeth yn cael ei disgrifio fel 'Llywodraeth mañana' yn y gynhadledd i'r wasg gan y Torïaid y bore yma. Byddai'n annheg defnyddio'r ymadrodd hwnnw i ddisgrifio arweinydd yr wrthblaid, gan y byddai'n cyfleu gormod o ymdeimlad o frys o ran ei arweinyddiaeth.

Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Kirsty Williams): Brif Weinidog, os gwneir honiad o gamymddwyn yn erbyn unrhyw un o'ch cyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet, pwy sy'n barnu a yw'r aelod o'r Cabinet wedi torri'r cod gweinidogol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mater i mi yw hynny.

Kirsty Williams: Yn yr Alban, mae panel o gyn lywyddion yn cynghori ar y ffordd y gweithredir y cod gweinidogol. Yn San Steffan, mae'r cynghorydd annibynnol ar fuddiannau Gweinidogion yn rhoi cyngor i Brif Weinidog y DU. Y comisiynydd safonau sy'n ymchwilio i honiadau o gamymddwyn gan Aelod o'r Cynulliad, a chyfeirir cynghorwyr lleol at eu bwrdd safonau. Caiff Aelodau Seneddol, wrth gwrs, os cânt eu cyhuddo o gamymddwyn, eu dal yn atebol gan y Comisiynydd Safonau Seneddol. Beth sy'n gwneud Llywodraeth Cymru mor arbennig fel y gall osgoi'r ffurf bwysig hon ar graffu democrataidd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae Gweinidogion yn atebol i mi ac yr wyf finnau, yn fy nhro, yn atebol i bobl Cymru.

Kirsty Williams: Brif Weinidog, rhoddwyd disgrifiad eithaf derbynol o'ch atebion yn y *Wales on Sunday* y penwythnos hwn, pan

when it said that you had long ago given up giving proper answers to questions. I will ask you again: what makes the Welsh Government so special that it does not need to take the steps that every other administration has taken to ensure that there is independence in judging the ministerial code? You have often said in the Chamber that you want this Government to be as open, transparent and accountable as possible. Will you commit today, in the Chamber, to the establishment of an independent adviser on the ministerial code, just as every other level of government has done?

The First Minister: I always take advice if a complaint is made about a Minister but, ultimately, Ministers are responsible to me and I, in turn, am responsible to the electors of Wales. I know that the leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats does not have faith in the people of Wales because we saw that last week in the unfortunate way her party voted in the debate on the Green Paper, when its view was that the Liberal Democrats know what is best for the people of Wales and not the people of Wales themselves.

Trais Domestig

3. Christine Chapman: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â thrais domestig yng Nghymru. OAQ(4)0568(FM)

The First Minister: We are committed to reducing the rates of domestic abuse and violence against women. We will introduce a Bill to support our 'The Right to be Safe' integrated strategy, to transfer good practice through our 10000 Safer Lives project and to continue to promote the work of the anti-human trafficking co-ordinator for Wales.

Christine Chapman: I know that the effective use of multimedia campaigns is a key element of your Government's plans to tackle domestic violence by promoting greater awareness and reaching wider audiences. However, you will have seen reports from front-line police officers, as reported recently in the Welsh media, on the role that social networking sites can play in

ddywedodd eich bod wedi hen roi'r gorau i roi atebion iawn i gwestiynau. Gofynnaf ichi eto: beth sy'n gwneud Llywodraeth Cymru mor arbennig fel nad oes angen iddi gymryd y camau y mae pob gweinyddiaeth arall wedi'u cymryd i sicrhau annibyniaeth wrth farnu ar y cod gweinidogol? Rydych wedi dweud yn aml yn y Siambr eich bod am i'r Llywodraeth hon fod mor agored, tryloyw ac atebol â phosibl. A wnewch ymrwymo heddiw, yn y Siambr, i sefydlu cynghorydd annibynnol ar y cod gweinidogol, yn union fel y mae pob lefel arall o lywodraeth wedi gwneud?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rwyf bob amser yn cael cyngor os gwneir cwyn am Weinidog ond, yn y pen draw, mae'r Gweinidogion yn atebol i mi ac yr wyf finnau, yn fy nhro, yn atebol i etholwyr Cymru. Gwn nad oes gan arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru ffydd ym mhobl Cymru oherwydd gwelsom hynny yr wythnos diwethaf yn y ffordd anffodus y pleidleisodd ei phlaid yn y ddadl ar y Papur Gwyrdd, pan oedd o'r farn mai'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol sy'n gwybod beth sydd orau i bobl Cymru ac nid pobl Cymru eu hunain.

Domestic Violence

3. Christine Chapman: What is the Welsh Government doing to tackle domestic violence in Wales. OAQ(4)0568(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym wedi ymrwymo i leihau cyfraddau cam-drin domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod. Byddwn yn cyflwyno Bil i gefnogi ein strategaeth integredig 'Yr Hawl i fod yn Ddiogel', er mwyn trosglwyddo arferion da drwy ein prosiect 10,000 o Fywydau Diogelach ac i barhau i hyrwyddo gwaith y cydgyssylltydd atal masnachu mewn pobl yng Nghymru.

Christine Chapman: Gwn fod defnyddio ymgyrchoedd amlgyfrwng yn effeithiol yn elfen allweddol o gynlluniau'ch Llywodraeth i fynd i'r afael â thrais yn y cartref drwy hyrwyddo gwell ymwybyddiaeth a chyrraedd cynulleidfaoedd ehangach. Fodd bynnag, byddwch wedi gweld adroddiadau gan swyddogion rheng flaen yr heddlu, yn ôl adroddiad yn ddiweddar yn y cyfryngau yng

fuelling and exacerbating domestic violence. Could I have your response to that, and what action do you think your Government can take to tackle this issue?

The First Minister: We know that the effective use of multimedia campaigns is a key element of our plans to tackle domestic violence by promoting greater awareness and reaching wider audiences. Using social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter can give rise to domestic violence, and it is important that we deal with the bullying that we—*[Interruption.]* Sorry. I can hear a telephone ringing.

The Presiding Officer: Order. Alun Davies owes £5 for that. *[Laughter.]*

The First Minister: I am sure there would be support around the Chamber for such a fund to be created. *[Laughter.]*

We know how important social media are and how bullying and violence can be exacerbated through social media sites. That is why the publicity campaign that we ran last year used these sites to communicate that problem.

Mohammad Asghar: First Minister, while violence against women cannot be tolerated in any civilised society, victims of domestic abuse can often see their work suffer, with increased lateness and absences and poor performance as key indicators. Since women make up two thirds of the public sector workforce in Wales, do you agree that all public sector organisations should have a policy in place on violence against women, to identify and assist female employees who are the victims of violence?

The First Minister: Yes.

1.45 p.m.

Rebecca Evans: First Minister, children's charities have revealed a high level of

Nghymru, ar y rôl y gall safleoedd rhwydweithio cymdeithasol ei chwarae o ran ysgogi a gwaethygu trais yn y cartref. A allaf gael eich ymateb i hynny, a pha gamau y gall eich Llywodraeth eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn eich barn chi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwyddom fod defnyddio ymgyrchoedd amlgyfrwng yn effeithiol yn elfen allweddol o'n cynlluniau i fynd i'r afael â thrais yn y cartref drwy hyrwyddo gwell ymwybyddiaeth a chyrraedd cynulleidfaoedd ehangach. Gall defnyddio safleoedd rhwydweithio cymdeithasol megis Facebook a Twitter esgor ar drais yn y cartref, ac mae'n bwysig inni ymdrin â'r bwlio yr ydym—*[Torri ar draws.]* Mae'n ddrwg gennyf. Gallaf glywed ffôn yn canu.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Rhaid i Alun Davies dalu £5 am hynny. *[Chwerthin.]*

Y Prif Weinidog: Rwy'n siŵr y byddai'r Siambr yn cefnogi creu cronfa o'r fath. *[Chwerthin.]*

Gwyddom mor bwysig yw cyfryngau cymdeithasol a sut y gall bwlio a thrais waethygu drwy safleoedd cyfryngau cymdeithasol. Dyna pam y defnyddiodd yr ymgyrch gyhoeddusrwydd a gynhaliwyd gennym y llynedd y safleoedd hyn i gyfleu'r broblem honno.

Mohammad Asghar: Brif Weinidog, er na ellir goddef trais yn erbyn menywod mewn unrhyw gymdeithas wâr, gall gwaith dioddefwyr trais yn y cartref ddiodeff yn aml, gyda chynnydd mewn achosion o fod yn hwyr ac absenoldeb a pherfformiad gwael yn ddangosyddion allweddol. Gan mai menywod yw dwy ran o dair o weithlu'r sector cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, a ydych yn cytuno y dylai pob sefydliad sector cyhoeddus fod â pholisi ar waith ynghylch trais yn erbyn menywod, er mwyn nodi a helpu gweithwyr benywaidd sy'n diodeff trais?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydw.

Rebecca Evans: Brif Weinidog, mae elusennau plant wedi datgelu lefel uchel o

domestic abuse in teenage relationships. What is the Welsh Government doing to promote good attitudes to relationships through education?

The First Minister: The personal and social education framework for seven to 19-year-olds provides opportunities for schools to teach about all aspects of relationships, and the website has guidance for primary and secondary schools on effective approaches to teaching about domestic abuse and violence against women.

Manteision i Orllewin De Cymru

4. Suzy Davies: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu'r manteision y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u darparu i ranbarth Gorllewin De Cymru. OAQ(4)0578(FM)*

The First Minister: Yes. Those benefits are to be found in the programme for government.

Suzy Davies: As Andrew R.T. Davies highlighted earlier, Estyn has found that four out of 10 pupils start secondary school without being able to read properly. Will you place on record a guarantee that literacy standards in South Wales West will improve significantly as a result of the Minister for education's initiatives? If you can, will you tell us what percentage of pupils in South Wales West will be starting secondary school at the end of this fourth Assembly unable to read?

The First Minister: It is our intention to improve literacy and numeracy. We have said that many times, and I am happy to go on the record as stating that once again.

Bethan Jenkins: Brif Weinidog, yn ystod yr wythnosau diwethaf, rwyf wedi cael llawer o bobl yn dod ataf yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot i ddweud bod diffyg gweledigaeth o ran adfywio tref Castell-nedd, a bod angen mwy o weledigaeth i ddenu mwy o ymwelwyr i'r ardal. Cyn yr etholiadau lleol, addawodd Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot wario £80 miliwn ar adfywio'r dref. A fydd peth o'r arian hwnnw'n dod oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru, ac, os felly, sut ydych yn bwriadu defnyddio'r arian hwnnw neu

gam-drin domestig mewn perthynas ymysg pobl yn eu harddegau. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i hyrwyddo agweddau da at berthynas drwy addysg?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r fframwaith addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol ar gyfer dysgwyr rhwng 7 a 19 oed yng Nghymru yn darparu cyfleoedd i ysgolion addysgu am bob agwedd ar berthynas, a cheir canllawiau ar y wefan ar gyfer ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd ar ddulliau effeithiol o addysgu am gam-drin domestig a thrais yn erbyn menywod.

Benefits to South Wales West

4. Suzy Davies: *Will the First Minister outline the benefits the Welsh Government has brought to the South Wales West region. OAQ(4)0578(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaf. Mae'r manteision i'w cael yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.

Suzy Davies: Fel yr amlygwyd gan Andrew R.T. Davies yn gynharach, mae Estyn wedi canfod bod pedwar o bob 10 o ddisgyblion yn dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd heb allu darllen yn iawn. A wnewch gofnodi gwarant y bydd safonau llythrennedd yng Ngorllewin De Cymru yn gwella yn sylweddol o ganlyniad i fentrau'r Gweinidog addysg? A allwch ddweud wrthym pa ganran o ddisgyblion yng Ngorllewin De Cymru sy'n dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd ar ddiwedd y pedwerydd Cynulliad heb y gallu i ddarllen?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n fwriad gennym wella llythrennedd a rhifedd. Rydym wedi dweud hynny droeon, ac rwy'n fodlon dweud hynny ar goedd unwaith eto.

Bethan Jenkins: First Minister, over the past few weeks, I have had a number of people approach me in Neath Port Talbot to say that there is a lack of vision in respect of the regeneration of Neath town centre, and that more vision is needed in order to attract more visitors to the area. Before the local elections, Neath Port Talbot Council pledged to spend £80 million on the regeneration of the town. Will some of those funds come from the Welsh Government and, if so, how do you intend to use that funding or to assist the

helpu'r cyngor?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym yn ceisio gweithio gydag awdurdodau lleol ar unrhyw gynlluniau i wella trefi yng Nghymru. O ran unrhyw gynlluniau i adfywio Castell-nedd, rwy'n siŵr y bydd y cyngor eisiau gweld yr adfywio hwnnw'n digwydd.

Peter Black: First Minister, you will be aware of the problems that children's services in Neath Port Talbot have had recently, particularly the recent allegations of bullying in the service. How are your Ministers engaging with the authority on the issue, and are you keeping a close eye on the development and improvement of that service?

The First Minister: These are matters primarily for the local authority, but, as a Government, we always keep a watching eye on situations as they develop in different authorities in Wales. As Members will know, this has happened in the past and Government intervention has been swift, where that is merited.

Hybu'r Economi

5. Ieuan Wyn Jones: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau i hybu'r economi. OAQ(4)0569(FM)*

7. Alun Ffred Jones: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer yr economi. OAQ(4)0581(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Ein blaenoriaethau yw buddsoddi mewn seilwaith a sgiliau a chryfhau'r amodau ar gyfer creu a chadw gwaith.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Diolch i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ateb. A yw'n derbyn bod y sefyllfa economaidd wedi gwaethygu'n sylweddol ers mis Mai 2011, a hynny'n bennaf oherwydd yr argyfwng ym mharth yr ewro? Wedi'r cwbl, gwledydd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yw marchnad fwyaf cwmniau a busnesau Cymru. Yn eich rhaglen lywodraethu a'ch adroddiad amdani, roeddwn yn ei chael yn anodd gweld unrhyw beth newydd neu wahanol yn yr hyn

council?

The First Minister: We look to work with local authorities on any town-centre improvement schemes in Wales. As for any plans to regenerate Neath, I am sure that the council will want to see that regeneration happening.

Peter Black: Brif Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r problemau y mae gwasanaethau plant yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot wedi'u cael yn ddiweddar, yn enwedig yr honiadau diweddar o fwlio yn y gwasanaeth. Sut y mae eich Gweinidogion yn ymgysylltu â'r awdurdod ar y mater, ac a ydych yn cadw llygad barcud ar ddatblygu a gwella'r gwasanaeth hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Materion ar gyfer yr awdurdod lleol ydyw'r rhain yn bennaf, ond, fel Llywodraeth, rydym bob amser yn cadw llygad barcud ar sefyllfaoedd wrth iddynt ddatblygu mewn gwahanol awdurdodau yng Nghymru. Fel y gŵyr Aelodau, mae hyn wedi digwydd yn y gorffennol ac mae ymyrraeth y Llywodraeth wedi bod yn gyflym, lle y bo hynny'n ofynnol.

Boosting the Economy

5. Ieuan Wyn Jones: *Will the First Minister make a statement on his priorities to boost the economy. OAQ(4)0569(FM)*

7. Alun Ffred Jones: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's priorities for the economy. OAQ(4)0581(FM)*

The First Minister: Our priorities are to invest in infrastructure and skills and to strengthen the conditions for job creation and retention.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I thank the First Minister for his response. Does he accept that the economic situation has been in significant decline since May 2011, mainly because of the crisis in the eurozone? After all, the countries of the European Union are the biggest market for the companies and businesses of Wales. In your programme for government and your report on it, I found it difficult to identify anything new or different

yr oedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei gyflwyno i ymateb i'r her. Pa gynigion newydd a phawerau ychwanegol y buasech yn eu croesawu i gryfhau economi Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rwyf wedi rhoi rhestr o'r hyn y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i wneud i'r Cynulliad o'r blaen. Mae'r gronfa twf economaidd, y gronfa i fusnesau bach a chanolig eu maint ac i microfusnesau, cronfa JEREMIE, y gronfa datblygu digidol, a chronfa fuddsoddi gwyddorau bywyd Cymru, felly rydym wedi gwneud sawl peth. Rwyf yn rhannu pryderon yr Aelod, sef nad yw'r sefyllfa yn Ewrop yn helpu economi Cymru, nac economi'r Deyrnas Unedig, ond y broblem yw nad yw'r Deyrnas Unedig yng nghalon Ewrop, ac nid yw mewn sefyllfa i helpu datrys problemau Ewrop. Ar ôl yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yng Ngwlad Groeg, gobeithio bydd rhyw fath o symud ymlaen yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd.

Alun Ffred Jones: Mae cysylltiadau trafniadaeth yn gonglfaen i bob datblygiad economaidd, ac mae'r A487 rhwng Caernarfon a Bontnewydd yn gyswllt hollbwysig rhwng dwyrain a gogledd Cymru a'r gorllewin. Mae'r ffordd osgoi hon wedi'i chynnwys yn eich rhaglen drafniadaeth ond nid yw'r Llywodraeth wedi manylu ar lwybr y ffordd. Aeth dwy flynedd heibio ers yr ymgynghoriad ac mae'r Gweinidog wedi cael yr adroddiad ers dros flwyddyn. A wnewch chi roi addewid i bobl Arfon, sy'n bryderus iawn am y sefyllfa, y byddwch yn gwneud cyhoeddiad ar y llwybr dewisol cyn yr haf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd cyhoeddiad yn cael ei wneud cyn bo hir. Rwy'n deall bod pobl am gael sicrwydd ynglŷn â llwybr y ffordd newydd, i gysylltu gyda ffordd osgoi Penygroes, a agorwyd sawl blwyddyn yn ôl. Rwy'n deall y sefyllfa ym Mhontnewydd—rwy'n gyfarwydd iawn â'r sefyllfa i draffig o dref Caernarfon drwy Bontnewydd cyn troi i'r chwith ar yr A487 i fynd tuag at Benygroes. Mae'r Gweinidog yn ystyried y sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd.

Kenneth Skates: First Minister, last week the Wales Audit Office released a report into the aborted plan to turn the former River Lodge hotel in my constituency into a Shaolin

in what the Welsh Government was proposing to respond to this challenge. What new proposals and new additional powers would you welcome to strengthen the economy of Wales?

The First Minister: I have given a list to the Assembly previously of what the Government has done. There is the economic growth fund, the fund for small and medium-sized enterprises and for microbusinesses, the JEREMIE fund, and the life sciences Wales investment fund, so we have done a number of things. I share the Member's concerns, namely that the situation in Europe is not helping Wales's economy, or that of the United Kingdom, but the problem is that the UK is not at the heart of Europe, and is not in a position to help to resolve the problems in Europe. Following the events in Greece, we hope that there will be some sort of progress in the European Union.

Alun Ffred Jones: Transport links are the cornerstone of every economic development, and the A487 between Caernarfon and Bontnewydd is a crucial link between east and north Wales and the west. This bypass has been included in your transport programme but the Government has not gone into detail on the route to be taken. Two years have gone by since the consultation and the Minister has had the report for more than a year. Will you promise the people of Arfon, who are very concerned about this, that you will announce the chosen route before the summer?

The First Minister: An announcement will be made before long. I understand that people want to know for certain what route will be taken by the new road, linking up with the Penygroes bypass, which was opened some years ago. I understand the situation in Bontnewydd—I am very familiar with the traffic situation from the town of Caernarfon through Bontnewydd before turning left on the A487 towards Penygroes. The Minister is currently considering the situation.

Kenneth Skates: Brif Weinidog, yr wythnos diwethaf cyhoeddodd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru adroddiad ar y cynllun a aeth i'r gwellt i droi cyn westy'r River Lodge yn fy

martial arts centre. The report makes clear that the project was badly handled, that serious mistakes were made by the Department for Economic Development during the last Assembly in not acting on concerns raised, and that the project represented poor value for money for the taxpayer. Will you ensure that the report's lessons are learned and that the hotel is now used for the benefit of all my constituents in Clwyd South?

The First Minister: We note the report, of course. There have been changes within the Department for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science in recent years, in terms of its organisation, culture, governance and decision-making processes, which should reduce the risk of poor-quality decisions being made in the future. It is crucial that decisions are taken by Ministers; that is something that is now woven through that department. As far as the site is concerned, discussions are ongoing with Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, I understand, and a district valuer has been appointed to determine the market value of the property in order to ensure that it is used for the benefit of the community in the future.

Nick Ramsay: First Minister, there was a broad welcome in the Chamber last week for the long-awaited report of the review into business rates by Brian Morgan and his team. Many Assembly Members spoke about the hard work that has gone into that review. Your Government has said that it will not act on any of the report's recommendations until, I think, after the summer recess, which could be some 100 days from now. Given that your Government is not going to be doing anything to assist businesses in terms of the recommendations of this report until then, how are you proposing to support small businesses, in particular, over the months to come, when many of them will struggle and will be facing a very tough time? What will you do to support them, given that your Government has ruled out the kind of business rate relief that my party has proposed? We would have taken all small businesses with a rateable value of up to £12,000 out of business rates altogether.

etholaeth yn ganolfan ar gyfer crefft ymladd Shaolin. Mae'r adroddiad yn dangos yn glir i'r prosiect gael ei drin yn wael, bod camgymeriadau difrifol wedi'u gwneud gan yr Adran Datblygu Economaidd yn ystod y Cynulliad blaenorol wrth beidio â gweithredu ar bryderon a godwyd, a bod y prosiect wedi bod yn werth gwael am arian i'r trethdalwyr. A wnewch sicrhau bod gwersi'r adroddiad yn cael eu dysgu ac y bydd y gwesty'n cael ei ddefnyddio er budd y cyfan o'm hetholwyr yn Ne Clwyd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym yn cydnabod yr adroddiad, wrth gwrs. Bu newidiadau o fewn yr Adran Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, o ran ei threfniadaeth, ei diwylliant, ei llywodraethu a'i phrosesau gwneud penderfyniadau, a ddylai leihau'r perygl y gwneir penderfyniadau o ansawdd gwael yn y dyfodol. Mae'n hanfodol i benderfyniadau gael eu cymryd gan Weinidogion; mae hynny bellach yn 'n elfen annatod o'r adran honno. Cyn belled ag y mae'r safle yn y cwestiwn, mae trafodaethau'n parhau gyda Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, fel y deallaf, ac mae prisiwr dosbarth wedi'i benodi i bennu gwerth yr eiddo ar y farchnad er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn cael ei ddefnyddio er budd y gymuned yn y dyfodol.

Nick Ramsay: Brif Weinidog, cafwyd croeso cyffredinol yn y Siambr yr wythnos diwethaf i adroddiad hir-ddisgwyliedig yr adolygiad ar drethi busnes gan Brian Morgan a'i dîm. Siaradodd sawl Aelod Cynulliad am y gwaith caled sydd wedi'i gyflawni fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwnnw. Mae eich Llywodraeth wedi dweud na fydd yn gweithredu ar unrhyw un o argymhellion yr adroddiad tan ar ôl toriad yr haf, fe gredaf, a gallai hynny fod ymhen rhyw 100 diwrnod. O ystyried nad yw eich Llywodraeth yn mynd i wneud dim byd i helpu busnesau o ran argymhellion yr adroddiad hwn tan hynny, sut y bwriadwch gefnogi busnesau bach, yn arbennig, yn ystod y misoedd sydd i ddod, pan fydd llawer ohonynt yn ei chael yn anodd ac yn wynebu cyfnod dyrys iawn? Beth a wnewch i'w cefnogi, o ystyried bod eich Llywodraeth wedi diystyru'r math o ryddhad ardrethi busnes y mae fy mhlaidd wedi'i gynnig? Byddem wedi dileu ardrethi busnes yn gyfan gwbl i'r holl fusnesau bach sydd â gwerth

What will you do?

The First Minister: Your party is yet to say where the money would come from to do that. That is the issue. That is something that we, as a Government, have to consider very carefully. We also wish to see—as suggested in the report—business rates devolved to Wales; I hope that your party will support that. You ask what has been done. The Wales economic growth fund, small and medium-sized enterprise investment fund, microbusiness loans, the JEREMIE fund, the digital development fund, the life sciences fund, high potential starts project, the business start-up service—all these are projects that the Government has put in place in order to improve the Welsh economy.

Bethan Jenkins: First Minister, last week, your colleague the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science wrote to us as AMs with regard to the potential job losses at Unilever, some of which would affect Swansea and Bridgend in my area. Can you tell us whether the Minister has succeeded in arranging a meeting with the chairman of Unilever and what further steps the Government will be taking? Can we have an oral statement in the Chamber, given that so many jobs are involved in this instance?

The First Minister: Yes. First of all, we know that this announcement is a devastating blow to all those who are involved. It is, of course, very disappointing, but officials did recently meet with senior executives from Unilever to discuss the impact of the company's plans in Wales. The company was asked to fully consider the range of support offered to business by the Welsh Government, and it has been invited to work with us to implement a more sustainable solution for Wales, by seeking to maintain current operations at the Welsh sites that already exist. Those discussions are ongoing.

Eluned Parrot: Given the nature of those

ardrethol o hyd at £12,000. Beth a wnewch chi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw eich plaid wedi dweud eto o ble y byddai'r arian yn dod i wneud hynny. Dyna'r broblem. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae'n rhaid i ni, fel Llywodraeth, ei ystyried yn ofalus iawn. Rydym hefyd yn dymuno gweld ardrethi busnes yn cael eu datganoli i Gymru, fel yr awgrymir yn yr adroddiad; rwy'n gobeithio y bydd eich plaid yn cefnogi hynny. Rydych yn gofyn beth sydd wedi'i wneud. Mae cronfa twf economaidd Cymru, y gronfa fuddsoddi ar gyfer busnesau bach a chanolig, benthyciadau i ficrofusnesau, cronfa JEREMIE, y gronfa datblygu digidol, cronfa gwyddorau bywyd Cymru, y prosiect ar gyfer busnesau newydd a chanddynt botensial mawr, y gwasanaeth dechrau busnes—mae'r rhain i gyd yn brosiectau y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'u rhoi ar waith er mwyn gwella economi Cymru.

Bethan Jenkins: Brif Weinidog, yr wythnos diwethaf, ysgrifennodd eich cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth atom fel Aelodau Cynulliad ynghylch y posibilrwydd o golli swyddi yn Unilever—byddai colli rhai o'r swyddi hynny'n effeithio ar Abertawe a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr yn fy ardal i. A allwch ddweud wrthym a yw'r Gweinidog wedi llwyddo i drefnu cyfarfod gyda chadeirydd Unilever a pha gamau pellach y bydd y Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd? A gawn ddatganiad llafar yn y Siambr, o gofio bod cynifer o swyddi ynghlwm wrth y cyhoeddiad hwn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cewch. Yn gyntaf oll, gwyddom fod y cyhoeddiad hwn yn ergyd drom i bawb sy'n gysylltiedig ag ef. Mae'n hynod siomedig, wrth gwrs, ond bu i swyddogion gwrdd yn ddiweddar ag uwchweithredwyr o Unilever i drafod effaith cynlluniau'r cwmni yng Nghymru. Gofynnwyd i'r cwmni ystyried yn drylwyr yr amrywiaeth o gymorth a gynigir i fusnesau gan Lywodraeth Cymru, ac fe'i gwahoddiwyd i weithio gyda ni i roi ateb mwy cynaliadwy i Gymru ar waith, drwy geisio cynnal y gweithrediadau presennol yn y lleoliadau yng Nghymru sydd eisoes yn bodoli. Mae'r trafodaethau hynny'n parhau.

Eluned Parrot: O ystyried natur y

announcements, one way to boost the economy would seem to be to publish and deliver a manufacturing strategy. Early last year, the Government welcomed the publication by the Wales manufacturing forum of its strategy and, in May last year, your Minister for business told us that work was ongoing towards the publication of the Government's manufacturing strategy. There is still nothing, First Minister. This strategy has been longer in gestation than a baby elephant. When might we actually expect it to be delivered?

The First Minister: I have already referred the Assembly to all the steps that the Government has taken in order to assist businesses in Wales. I chaired a meeting of the council for economic renewal last week. I ask Members to listen to what business organisations are saying with regard to the help that they are receiving from the Welsh Government at the moment. If Members listen to what is being said, they will find that businesses are content with the way that things are going at the moment and will, of course, look to hold us to account in the months and years to come, if they feel that they are not getting the support that they need.

Mohammad Asghar: First Minister, business improvement districts are one way in which commercial areas can be improved to benefit the local economy. At present, Wales has only one business improvement district and that is in Swansea, with another being developed in Merthyr Tydfil. Will the First Minister update the Assembly on progress made to promote further business improvement districts, following the Enterprise and Business Committee's recommendation in January this year that the Welsh Government should consult with a broad range of stakeholders to inform further developments in Wales?

The First Minister: In terms of business improvement districts, I would expect local authorities to play a key role. Where they can identify such districts within their boundaries, we would look to work with them, as a Government, in order to ensure that such

cyhoeddiadau hynny, ymddengys mai un ffordd o roi hwb i'r economi fyddai cyhoeddi a chyflwyno strategaeth weithgynhyrchu. Yn gynnar y llynedd, croesawodd y Llywodraeth gyhoeddi strategaeth fforwm gweithgynhyrchu Cymru, ac, ym mis Mai y llynedd, dywedodd eich Gweinidog busnes wrthym fod gwaith yn parhau tuag at gyhoeddi strategaeth weithgynhyrchu'r Llywodraeth. Nid oes dim byd wedi'i gyhoeddi hyd yma, Brif Weinidog. Mae'r strategaeth hon wedi cael beichiogrwydd hwy na beichiogrwydd babi elffant. Pa bryd y gallwn ddisgwyl iddi gael ei chyflwyno?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rwyf eisoes wedi cyfeirio'r Cynulliad at yr holl gamau y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'u cymryd er mwyn helpu busnesau yng Nghymru. Bûm yn cadeirio cyfarfod o gyngor adnewyddu'r economi yr wythnos diwethaf. Gofynnaf i Aelodau wrando ar yr hyn y mae sefydliadau busnes yn ei ddweud o ran y cymorth y maent yn ei gael gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar hyn o bryd. Os bydd Aelodau yn gwrandao ar yr hyn a ddywedir, byddant yn gweld bod busnesau yn fodlon ar y ffordd y mae pethau'n mynd ar hyn o bryd a byddant, wrth gwrs, yn ceisio ein dwyn i gyfrif yn y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd sydd i ddod, os byddant yn teimlo nad ydynt yn cael y cymorth sydd ei angen arnynt.

Mohammad Asghar: Brif Weinidog, mae ardaloedd gwella busnes yn un ffordd o wella ardaloedd masnachol er budd yr economi leol. Ar hyn o bryd, dim ond un ardal gwella busnes sydd gan Gymru ac mae honno yn Abertawe, aac un arall yn cael ei datblygu ym Merthyr Tudful. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad am y cynnydd a wnaed i hyrwyddo ardaloedd gwella busnes ymhellach, yn dilyn argymhelliad y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes ym mis Ionawr eleni y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ymgynghori ag ystod eang o randdeiliaid i lywio datblygiadau pellach yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: O ran ardaloedd gwella busnes, byddwn yn disgwyl i awdurdodau lleol chwarae rhan allweddol. Pan fyddant yn gallu dynodi ardaloedd o'r fath o fewn eu ffiniau, byddwn yn ceisio gweithio gyda nhw, fel Llywodraeth, er mwyn sicrhau bod

districts become a reality.

Yr Economi yn y Gorllewin

6. Paul Davies: *Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i wella'r economi yng Ngorllewin Cymru. OAQ(4)0567(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r rhaglen lywodraethu yn nodi ein blaenoriaethau o ran datblygu'r economi yn mhob rhan o Gymru.

Paul Davies: Brif Weinidog, wythnos diwethaf, cwrddais â chynrychiolwyr un o'r cyflogwyr preifat mwyaf yn fy etholaeth. Un o'u problemau mwyaf nhw, a busnesau eraill, yw amharodrwydd banciau i gefnogi busnesau mewn cyfnod economaidd anodd. Gall yr amharodrwydd hwnnw gael effaith enfawr ar yr economi leol. Rwy'n derbyn nad yw hyn yn gyfrifoldeb uniongyrchol i Lywodraeth Cymru, ond a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu pa drafodaethau y mae ei Lywodraeth wedi'u cael gyda banciau yng Nghymru er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn cefnogi busnesau mewn cyfnod economaidd anodd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Y broblem yw bod cymaint o benderfyniadau'n cael eu cymryd tu fas i Gymru. Roedd adeg pan oedd rheolwyr lleol yn gallu gwneud penderfyniadau ynglŷn â benthyca yn eu cymunedau eu hunain, ond nid dyna'r model y mae llawer o fanciau yn ei ddilyn nawr. Rwyf wedi codi'r peth gyda Phrif Weinidog y DU a Dirprwy Brif Weinidog y DU. Mae'n rhaid i'r sefyllfa wella. O ran yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei wneud, mae gennym gynlluniau fel Cyllid Cymru a'r cynlluniau y soniais amdanynt yn gynharach, er mwyn sicrhau bod busnesau'n gallu cael mynediad at gyfalaf heb orfod dibynnu ar y banciau.

Rebecca Evans: Tourism businesses in Ceredigion are unfortunately reporting cancellations following the recent floods, even in areas that have not been directly affected. Will you send out a strong message that Ceredigion is certainly open for business and for tourism this summer, and that people can expect a really warm welcome and excellent facilities?

The First Minister: Absolutely. Work is

ardaloedd o'r fath yn cael eu gwireddu.

The West Wales Economy

6. Paul Davies: *What is the Welsh Government doing to improve the economy in west Wales. OAQ(4)0567(FM)*

The First Minister: The programme for government sets out our priorities for developing the economy in all parts of Wales.

Paul Davies: First Minister, last week, I met representatives of one of the largest private employers in my constituency. One of the greatest problems that they, and other businesses, are facing is the unwillingness of the banks to support businesses in a difficult economic time. That unwillingness can have a massive impact on the local economy. I accept that this is not a direct responsibility of the Welsh Government, but will the First Minister outline what discussions his Government has had with banks in Wales in order to ensure that they support businesses in a difficult economic time?

The First Minister: The problem is that so many decisions are taken outside Wales. There was a time when there were local managers who could make decisions about lending in their own communities, but that is not the model that many banks are following at present. I have raised the matter with the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister. The situation must improve. On what the Welsh Government has done, we have schemes such as Finance Wales and the ones that I mentioned earlier, in order to ensure that businesses are able to access capital without having to rely on the banks.

Rebecca Evans: Mae busnesau twristiaeth yng Ngheredigion yn anffodus yn dweud bod pobl yn canslo'u gwyliau yn dilyn y llifogydd diweddar, hyd yn oed mewn ardaloedd nad effeithiwyd arnynt yn uniongyrchol. A wnewch gyfleu neges gref bod Ceredigion yn sicr ar agor ar gyfer busnes a thwristiaeth yr haf hwn, ac y gall pobl ddisgwyl croeso cynnes iawn a chyfleusterau rhagorol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Wrth gwrs. Mae gwaith

now under way with local authorities and with Tourism Partnership Mid Wales to support local tourism businesses to get the message across to key markets that the middle of Wales, and Ceredigion in particular, is open for business. I will be spending a week there myself in August.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Brif Weinidog, yn eich ateb i gwestiwn Paul Davies, cyfeirioch at y ffaith bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn darparu gwasanaeth i gwmnïau drwy Cyllid Cymru. Ond, mae'n rhaid cydnabod, Brif Weinidog, mai ystod fach iawn o gwmnïau y mae Cyllid Cymru yn gallu ei gwasanaethu—swm bach iawn o arian sydd ar gael. Y cwestiwn roedd Paul Davies yn ei ofyn oedd: sut y gellir sicrhau bod banciau yn gyffredinol yn caniatáu i fusnesau fodoli ac yn sicrhau bod cefnogaeth iddynt?

2.00 p.m.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n ddigon teg dweud bod yn rhaid i'r banciau chwarae rhan, ond mae'n rhaid iddynt chwarae rhan ar lefel y Deyrnas Gyfunol, a dyna pham rydym wedi bod yn dweud wrth Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig ei bod yn bwysig dros ben sicrhau bod banciau yn benthyg arian yng Nghymru a hefyd yng ngweddill y Deyrnas Unedig.

Datblygu Cynaliadwy Rhyngwladol

8. Sandy Mewies: *Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi datblygiad cynaliadwy rhyngwladol. OAQ(4)0575(FM)*

The First Minister: At present, the Minister is at the United Nations summit on sustainable development. He will, as part of his work there, be gathering international perspectives on our sustainable development Bill. He is also promoting the role of regional Governments in international negotiations.

Sandy Mewies: I look forward to his report on his return. I am very proud of the role that the Welsh Government has taken in leading the way on developing sustainable policies, helping Welsh families and Welsh businesses become greener and more energy sufficient. I ask, First Minister, that sustainable development remains high on our agenda and

bellach ar y gweill gydag awdurdodau lleol a chyda Partneriaeth Twristiaeth Canolbarth Cymru i gefnogi busnesau twristiaeth lleol i gyfleu'r neges i farchnadoedd allweddol fod canolbarth Cymru, a Cheredigion yn benodol, ar agor ar gyfer busnes. Byddaf yn treulio wythnos yno fy hun ym mis Awst.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: First Minister, in your reply to Paul Davies's question, you referred to the fact that the Welsh Government provides a service to companies through Finance Wales. However, it has to be acknowledged, First Minister, that Finance Wales can serve only a small range of companies because there is only a very small sum of money available. The question that Paul Davies asked was: how can you ensure that banks generally allow businesses to exist and ensure that there is support for them?

The First Minister: It is fair to say that the banks have a part to play, but they have to play that part at a UK level, and that is why we have been telling the UK Government that it is extremely important to ensure that banks lend money in Wales and also in the rest of the United Kingdom.

International Sustainable Development

8. Sandy Mewies: *How is the Welsh Government supporting international sustainable development. OAQ(4)0575(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r Gweinidog yn uwchgynhadledd y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy. Fel rhan o'i waith yno, bydd yn casglu safbwyntiau rhyngwladol ar ein Bil datblygu cynaliadwy. Mae hefyd yn hyrwyddo rôl Llywodraethau rhanbarthol mewn trafodaethau rhyngwladol.

Sandy Mewies: Rwy'n edrych ymlaen at ei adroddiad ar ôl iddo ddychwelyd. Rwy'n falch iawn o'r ffordd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi arwain y ffordd ar ddatblygu polisiau cynaliadwy, gan helpu teuluoedd a busnesau Cymru i ddod yn fwy gwyrdd ac i ddefnyddio ynni'n fwy effeithlon. Brif Weinidog, gofynnaf fod datblygu cynaliadwy

that we continue to campaign for other countries to take similar action in developing a low carbon future.

The First Minister: We cannot afford to take our eye off the ball. We know that these are difficult times economically, but, when we are talking about the future of the planet, we cannot expect sustainable development to be downgraded. In any event, of course, sustainable development includes economic and social sustainability as well as environmental sustainability.

Byron Davies: I, too, would like to focus on the Welsh participation in the Rio+20 conference, which, of course, is assembling to shape how we can reduce poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection on an ever more crowded planet. You mentioned that your Minister, John Griffiths, is over there at the moment. What do you want to see emerge from this conference for Wales and the world? More specifically, what would you view as a measure of success for the conference?

The First Minister: I would view a measure of success as a commitment by national Governments to reduce their carbon outputs in future. I do not hold out much hope for that, given the history of it, but it is important that there is recognition that regional Governments—and, on an international scale, I have to include Wales in that definition—have a strong role to play in reducing carbon emissions. We are longstanding members of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development and that is why it is exceptionally important that there should be strong representation from sub-state Governments at events such as the Rio conference.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: Rwy'n croesawu rhai o'r sylwadau rydych newydd eu gwneud, ond y realiti yng Nghymru yw bod adwaith chwyrn yn aml iawn i brosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy, hyd yn oed rhai ar raddfa gymharol fach, yn anffodus, a bod y sector yn cael ei weld weithiau fel *fair game* pan mae'n dod i wrthwynebu cynlluniau. Pa neges mae hynny'n ei anfon i ardaloedd tlotaf y byd

yn aros yn uchel ar ein hagenda ac ein bod yn parhau i ddarbwylllo gwledydd eraill i gymryd camau tebyg o ran datblygu dyfodol carbon isel.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni allwn fforddio colli golwg ar hyn. Rydym yn gwybod bod hwn yn gyfnod anodd yn economaidd, ond, pan fyddwn yn sôn am ddyfodol y blaned, ni allwn ddisgwyl bod datblygu cynaliadwy yn cael ei israddio. Beth bynnag, mae datblygu cynaliadwy yn cynnwys cynaliadwyedd economaidd a chymdeithasol yn ogystal â chynaliadwyedd amgylcheddol.

Byron Davies: Hoffwn innau ganolbwyntio ar gyfranogiad Cymru yng nghynhadledd Rio+20, sydd, wrth gwrs, yn cael ei chynnal er mwyn llywio sut y gallwn leihau tloedi, hyrwyddo cydraddoldeb cymdeithasol a sicrhau bod yr amgylchedd yn cael ei diogelu ar blaned sy'n mynd yn yn fwy a mwy poblog. Gwnaethoch sôn bod eich Gweinidog, John Griffiths, yno ar hyn o bryd. Beth hoffech ei weld yn deillio o'r gynhadledd hon i Gymru a'r byd? Yn fwy penodol, beth fydddech chi'n ei ystyried fel mesur o lwyddiant y gynhadledd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddwn i'n ystyried mesur o lwyddiant fel ymrwymiad gan Lywodraethau cenedlaethol i leihau eu hallbynnau carbon yn y dyfodol. Nid wyf yn rhy obeithiol am hynny, o ystyried ei hanes, ond mae'n bwysig bod cydnabyddiaeth bod gan Lywodraethau rhanbarthol—ac, ar raddfa ryngwladol, rhaid i mi gynnwys Cymru yn y diffiniad hwnnw—rôl gref i'w chwarae o ran lleihau allyriadau carbon. Rydym yn aelodau hirsefydlog o Rwydwaith y Llywodraethau Rhanbarthol dros Ddatblygu Cynaliadwy a dyna pam ei bod yn eithriadol o bwysig y dylai fod gan Lywodraethau ar y lefel is-wladwriaeth gynrychiolaeth gref mewn digwyddiadau fel cynhadledd Rio.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: I welcome some of the comments that you have just made, but the reality in Wales is that there is often a fierce response to renewable energy projects, even those on a smaller scale, unfortunately, and that the sector is sometimes seen as fair game when it comes to opposing schemes. What message does that send to the poorest areas of the world that are facing the

sydd yn wynebu'r eithafion tywydd a achosir gan wledydd diwydiannol fel Cymru? Onid oes dyletswydd moesol arnom i wneud hyd yn oed mwy i liniaru'r niwed difrifol a achosir gan ein ffordd o fyw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r Llywodraeth yn cefnogi ynni adnewyddadwy—ynni gwynt ar y tir ac ar y môr, ac ynni o donnau hefyd. Mae'n bwysig dros ben bod ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi i ba fath o gynllun ar yr Hafren a all weithio yn economaidd ac yn amgylcheddol yn y dyfodol. Felly, fel Llywodraeth, rydym yn gefnogol iawn i ynni adnewyddadwy.

Gwasanaethau Newyddenedigol

9. Aled Roberts: *Pa waith monitro blynyddol y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i wneud ynghylch safonau gwasanaethau newyddenedigol y GIG yng Ngogledd Cymru. OAQ(4)0579(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae adroddiad yn cael ei roi i'r Gweinidog bob chwe mis, ond mater i'r byrddau iechyd yw monitro safonau'r gwasanaethau sy'n cael eu cynllunio a'u cyflenwi ganddynt. Fel Llywodraeth, rydym yn cael adroddiadau er mwyn sicrhau bod y safonau yn cael eu bodloni.

Aled Roberts: Rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o feirniadaeth o'r gwasanaeth yn y gogledd. Mae safonau Prydeinig wedi bod ar waith ers 2008. A yw'n ddigonol bod eich Llywodraeth yn derbyn gwybodaeth yn hytrach nag yn herio'r gwasanaeth iechyd ynglŷn â'i fethiant i wella gwasanaethau yn y gogledd dros gyfnod o bum mlynedd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae herio yn rhan bwysig o waith y Llywodraeth hefyd, wrth gwrs. Mae cynllun yn cael ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd er mwyn sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth yn cael ei wella yn y gogledd a sicrhau bod gwasanaethau yn cwrdd â'r safon y byddai'r Llywodraeth am ei gweld, a'r safon y byddai pobl y gogledd am ei gweld.

Janet Finch-Saunders: First Minister, since 2009, the number of maternity services staff at Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board has fallen by 32%. That represents 130

extremes of climate caused by industrial nations such as Wales? Is there not a moral duty upon us to do even more to alleviate the serious damage caused by our way of life?

The First Minister: The Government supports renewable energy—wind power, both onshore and offshore, and tidal power also. It is extremely important that consideration is given to what kind of scheme on the Severn could work economically and environmentally in the future. Therefore, as a Government, we are very supportive of renewable energy.

Neonatal Services

9. Aled Roberts: *What annual monitoring work has the Welsh Government undertaken regarding the standard of NHS neonatal services in North Wales. OAQ(4)0579(FM)*

The First Minister: A report is submitted to the Minister every six months, but it is for the health boards to monitor the standards of the services that are planned and delivered by them. As a Government, we receive reports in order to ensure that the standards are adhered to.

Aled Roberts: I am sure that you are aware of criticism of the service in north Wales. British standards have been in place since 2008. Is it sufficient that your Government receives information rather than challenges the health service about its failure to improve services in north Wales over a period of five years?

The First Minister: Challenging is also an important part of the work of Government, of course. A scheme is being considered at present to ensure that the service in north Wales is improved and to ensure that the services meet the standard that the Government would want to see, and the standard that the people of north Wales would want to see.

Janet Finch-Saunders: Brif Weinidog, ers 2009, mae niferoedd staff gwasanaethau mamolaeth Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr wedi gostwng 32%. Mae

staff. The charity Bliss has highlighted concerns that certain units do not comply with the all-Wales neonatal standards. What precise steps are you taking to address the concerns of the Auditor General for Wales, who states that there are neonatal capacity gaps in health boards across Wales?

The First Minister: This is why this issue is being examined at the moment—in order to provide a neonatal service across the whole of the north of Wales that is up to the standard that people expect. It is quite right to point out that there have been staffing shortages. It is on that basis that there must be change in the provision of some services in north Wales, particularly neonatal services.

Cod y Gweinidogion

10. Angela Burns: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ystyried diwygio'r cod gweinidogol. OAQ(4)0571(FM)*

The First Minister: I revised the ministerial code in July last year.

Angela Burns: Section 7 refers to the relationship between Ministers and the Assembly. It says that Ministers have a duty to the Assembly to account and that, therefore, when the Assembly is meeting, Ministers should ensure that important announcements are made, in the first instance, to the Assembly. I recognise that not every piece of Government business can possibly be announced here first, because of time constraints, but I am very concerned that more and more important pieces of Government business are either being trailed to the media or announced out of this place. The last three such items were on skills development, the national cancer plan and the provision of blood services. First Minister, it is vital that we are given the chance to scrutinise the Government. Many statements are made on Fridays and over half term recesses. With recess approaching, I fear that more statements will be made when we are not here to scrutinise them. Will you please consider revising section 7 to ensure that we have the ability to scrutinise your Government on behalf of the people of

hynny'n cyfateb i 130 o staff. Mae elusen Bliss wedi tynnu sylw at bryderon nad oedd rhai unedau yn cydymffurfio â safonau newyddenedigol Cymru gyfan. Pa gamau'n union yr ydych chi'n eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â phryderon Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru, sy'n nodi bod gan fyrddau iechyd ledled Cymru fylchau o ran capasiti newyddenedigol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyma pam mae'r mater hwn yn cael ei archwilio ar hyn o bryd—er mwyn darparu gwasanaeth newyddenedigol ledled gogledd Cymru gyfan sy'n cyrraedd y safon y mae pobl yn ei ddisgwyl. Mae'n gywir nodi y bu prinder staff. Hynny, felly, sy'n sail i sicrhau newid yn narpariaeth rhai gwasanaethau yn y gogledd, yn arbennig gwasanaethau newyddenedigol.

The Ministerial Code

10. Angela Burns: *Will the First Minister consider revising the ministerial code. OAQ(4)0571(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Adolygais y cod gweinidogol fis Gorffennaf y llynedd.

Angela Burns: Mae adran 7 yn cyfeirio at y berthynas rhwng Gweinidogion a'r Cynulliad. Dywed fod gan Weinidogion ddyletswydd i'r Cynulliad o ran bod yn atebol ac, felly, pan fydd y Cynulliad yn cyfarfod, dylai Gweinidogion sicrhau bod cyhoeddiadau pwysig yn cael eu gwneud, yn gyntaf, yn y Cynulliad. Rwy'n cydnabod na ellir cyhoeddi holl fusnes y Llywodraeth yma yn gyntaf, oherwydd cyfyngiadau amser, ond rwy'n bryderus iawn bod darnau cynyddol bwysig o fusnes y Llywodraeth naill ai'n cael eu crybwyll wrth y cyfryngau neu'n cael eu cyhoeddi y tu allan i'r lle hwn. Y tair enghraifft ddiweddaraf o hyn oedd ar ddatblygu sgiliau, y cynllun canser cenedlaethol a darparu gwasanaethau gwaed. Brif Weinidog, mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn cael y cyfle i graffu ar y Llywodraeth. Gwneir llawer o ddatganiadau ar ddydd Gwener ac yn ystod toriadau hanner tymor. Gyda'r toriad yn agosáu, rwy'n ofni y bydd mwy o ddatganiadau yn cael eu gwneud pan nad ydym ni yma i graffu arnynt. A wnewch chi ystyried diwygio adran 7 er mwyn sicrhau bod gennym y gallu i graffu ar eich

Wales?

The First Minister: The issue of scrutiny is a matter for the Assembly itself. However, looking at the agenda today, a number of statements have been tabled, as was the case last week, giving Members the opportunity to scrutinise Ministers, as they rightly should. There will be occasions when announcements have to be made outside the Chamber. However, wherever possible, we seek to ensure that announcements are made here first.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: Brif Weinidog, rydych eisoes wedi dweud eich bod yn gyfforddus â'r ffaith mai chi sy'n gyfrifol am heddlua cod y gweinidogion mae'r Gweinidogion rydych yn eu penodi yn atebol iddo. A fydddech, felly, yn barod i gyhoeddi unrhyw feini prawf y bydddech yn eu defnyddio wrth ystyried unrhyw gŵyn a allai ddod gerbron—nid ein bod yn disgwyl unrhyw gŵyn, wrth gwrs?

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddai'n fater difrifol pe bai unrhyw Weinidog yn cwmpo'n is na'r safon a geir yng nghod y gweinidogion. Pe bai hynny'n digwydd, byddai'n fater difrifol ac yn rhywbeth y byddem yn ei ystyried yn fanwl ac yn ddifrifol iawn. Fel y dywedais, mae Gweinidogion yn atebol i mi ac rwyf innau yn atebol, yn fy nhro, i bobl Cymru.

Blaenoriaethau Addysg

11. Kirsty Williams: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ei flaenoriaethau ar gyfer addysg ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed. OAQ(4)0572(FM)*

The First Minister: Yes. My priorities for Brecon and Radnorshire are to be found in the programme for government.

Kirsty Williams: Do you believe that it is counter-productive and detrimental to communities that, in the drive to cut the number of surplus places, any savings accrued from closing academically successful small schools are potentially eaten up by increased transport costs and/or capital expenditure to create room for children in the receiving schools?

Llywodraeth ar ran pobl Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r mater o graffu yn fater i'r Cynulliad ei hun. Fodd bynnag, o edrych ar agenda heddiw, mae nifer o ddatganiadau wedi'u cyflwyno, fel a ddigwyddodd yr wythnos diwethaf, gan roi cyfle i Aelodau graffu ar waith Gweinidogion, yn union fel y dylent. Bydd adegau pan fydd rhaid gwneud cyhoeddiadau y tu allan i'r Siambr. Fodd bynnag, lle bynnag y bo'n bosibl, rydym yn ceisio sicrhau bod cyhoeddiadau yn cael eu gwneud yma yn gyntaf.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: First Minister, you have already stated that you are comfortable with the fact that you are responsible for policing the ministerial code under which the Ministers whom you appoint are accountable. Therefore, are you willing to publish any criteria that you would use in considering any complaint that could be submitted—not that we are expecting any complaints, of course?

The First Minister: It would be a very serious matter if any Minister were to fall below the standard of the ministerial code. If that happened, it would be a serious matter that we would consider in detail and most gravely. As I said earlier, Ministers are accountable to me and I, in turn, am accountable to the people of Wales.

Educational Priorities

11. Kirsty Williams: *Will the First Minister make a statement on his priorities for education in Brecon and Radnorshire. OAQ(4)0572(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaf. Mae fy mlaenoriaethau ar gyfer Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed i'w cael yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.

Kirsty Williams: A ydych yn credu ei bod yn wrth-gynhyrchiol a niweidiol i gymunedau, yn yr ymgyrch i leihau nifer y lleoedd dros ben, bod unrhyw arbedion sy'n deillio o gau ysgolion bach sy'n academiaidd lwyddiannus, yn cael eu llyncu o bosibl gan gostau cludiant uwch a/neu wariant cyfalaf i greu lle i blant yn yr ysgolion sy'n derbyn?

The First Minister: No, I do not. There are excellent examples of brand-new schools being built offering fantastic facilities for pupils where the capital expenditure is entirely justified. I am aware, for example, of Ysgol Bro Sion Cwilt at Synod Inn, which opened following the closure of, I think, three primary schools in the local area. It is a brand-new school with excellent up-to-date facilities. I do not see that as something that should not be welcomed.

Angela Burns: First Minister, following on from the question from the leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, in Brecon and Radnorshire, there has been a big issue about children being faced with the possibility of having to move schools a number of times because the county council wanted to close a school, then build another one, and then move the children again. As your delivery unit is responsible for monitoring all cross-portfolio activity, as I understand it, will you ask it to look at ensuring that there are good liaison arrangements between the education and local government departments to ensure that county councils are pursuing their much-needed objectives in a clear and concise manner that involves minimal disruption for children?

The First Minister: Ultimately, it is for the local education authority to decide on the structure of schools in its area. It is right to say that, at present, the Minister has a role in taking decisions with regard to school closures and mergers. As far as the delivery unit is concerned, it is there to ensure that the Government does what it says it is doing and what it wishes to do. Many of the briefings—in fact, the vast majority of them—that I get from the delivery unit are oral rather than written and form part of a meeting that I have on a weekly basis.

Simon Thomas: Brif Weinidog, mae cryn anhapusrwydd a phryder mewn nifer o gymunedau ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed—er enghraifft, Llanfair Llythynwg a Bugeildy—yn glŷn â bwriadau i gau ac i symud ysgolion. Rydych newydd gyfeirio at rôl y Gweinidog yn y broses hon. Mae

Y Prif Weinidog: Nac ydw. Mae enghreifftiau ardderchog i'w cael o ysgolion newydd sbon yn cael eu hadeiladu sy'n cynnig cyfleusterau gwyh i ddisgyblion lle gellir cyfiawnhau'r gwariant cyfalaf. Rwy'n ymwybodol, er enghraifft, o Ysgol Bro Siôn Cwilt yn Synod Inn, a agorodd yn dilyn cau tair ysgol gynradd, rwy'n credu, yn yr ardal leol. Mae'n ysgol newydd sbon gyda'r cyfleusterau diweddaraf ardderchog. Nid wyf yn gweld hynny fel rhywbeth na ddylid ei groesawu.

Angela Burns: Brif Weinidog, yn dilyn o'r cwestiwn gan arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, mae mater pwysig wedi bod ym Mrycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed o ran plant yn wynebu'r posibilrwydd o orfod symud ysgol nifer o weithiau oherwydd bod y cyngor sir yn awyddus i gau ysgol, yna adeiladu un arall, ac wedyn yn symud y plant eto. Gan fod eich uned gyflwyno yn gyfrifol am fonitro pob gweithgaredd trawsbortffolio, yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf i, a wnewch chi ofyn i'r uned ystyried sicrhau bod trefniadau cyswllt da rhwng yr adran addysg a'r adran llywodraeth leol i sicrhau bod cynghorau sir yn ceisio cyflwani eu hamcanion, sy'n ddirfawr eu hangen, mewn ffordd glir a chryno sy'n golygu'r amhariad lleiaf i blant?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn y pen draw, mater i'r awdurdod addysg lleol yw penderfynu ar strwythur ysgolion yn ei ardal. Mae'n iawn i ddweud bod gan y Gweinidog, ar hyn o bryd, rôl o ran gwneud penderfyniadau i gau ac uno ysgolion. O ran yr uned gyflwyno, ei diben yw sicrhau bod y Llywodraeth yn gwneud yr hyn y mae'n dweud ei bod yn ei wneud a'r hyn y mae'n dymuno ei wneud. Mae llawer o'r sesiynau briffio—yn wir, y mwyafrif helaeth ohonynt—yr wyf i'n eu cael gan yr uned yn rhai llafar yn hytrach nag yn rhai ysgrifenedig ac maent yn rhan o gyfarfod y byddaf yn ei gael yn wythnosol.

Simon Thomas: First Minister, there is significant disquiet and concern within many communities in Brecon and Radnorshire—for example, in Gladestry and Beguildy—about the intention to close and move schools. You have just referred to the role of the Minister in this process. Your Government's intention

bwriad eich Llywodraeth i ddeddfu yn y maes ac i newid y broses yn llwyr wedi'i feirniadu yn hallt gan Michael Imperato yn y dystiolaeth y mae newydd ei rhoi i'r pwyllgor. Beth sydd gennych i'w ddweud wrth drigolion mewn lleoedd fel Brycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed ynglŷn â sut y bydd eu rôl a'u llais fel trigolion lleol yn cael eu hadlewyrchu yn y Bil sy'n cael ei drafod yn y Cynulliad ar hyn o bryd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae llawer o bobl yn meddwl mai rôl Llywodraeth Cymru yw gwrthdroi unrhyw benderfyniad a wnaed gan awdurdod lleol. Weithiau mae hynny yn digwydd, ond mae'n bwysig bod awdurdodau lleol yn gallu gwneud penderfyniadau, er enghraifft mewn sefyllfa lle nad oes neb yn erbyn yr hyn a gynigiwyd. Yn ddiweddar, roedd ysgol yn sir Frycheiniog lle nad oedd neb—rhieni, llywodraethwyr a staff—yn anghytuno â phenderfyniad i gau'r ysgol. Mewn sefyllfa o'r fath, neu mewn sefyllfa lle mai ychydig iawn o bobl sydd yn erbyn yr hyn mae'r awdurdod lleol eisiau ei wneud, mae'n gwneud synnwyr mai'r awdurdod lleol sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad. Mewn rhai achosion, bydd nifer fawr o bobl yn erbyn yr hyn mae'r awdurdod lleol eisiau ei wneud. Fel Llywodraeth, rydym am ystyried lle yn union y dylai'r ffin fod rhwng y penderfyniadau sy'n cael eu rhoi i'r Gweinidog a'r penderfyniadau sy'n cael eu gwneud gan yr awdurdod lleol.

Pencampwriaethau Pêl-droed Ewrop

12. Bethan Jenkins: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog amlinellu'r camau y byddai angen i Lywodraeth Cymru eu cymryd er mwyn gwneud cais ar y cyd gan y gwledydd Celtaidd ar gyfer Pencampwriaethau Pêl-droed Ewrop yn 2020. OAQ(4)0570(FM)*

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae hwn yn rhywbeth i Gymdeithas Bêl-droed Cymru ei ystyried, ond rydym yn ddigon parod i weithio gyda'r gymdeithas er mwyn gweld beth fydd yn rhaid ei wneud i helpu unrhyw gais gyda'r Alban a Gweriniaeth Iwerddon.

Bethan Jenkins: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw. Wrth gwrs, mae gennym dair stadiwm yng Nghymru y gellid eu datblygu ar gyfer cystadleuaeth o'r fath—Stadiwm y

to legislate in this area and to completely transform the process has just been harshly criticised by Michael Imperato in his evidence to the committee. What do you have to say to people in places like Brecon and Radnorshire about how their role and their voice as local people will be reflected in the Bill that is being discussed in the Assembly at the moment?

The First Minister: Many people think that the role of the Welsh Government is to overturn any decisions made by a local authority. That sometimes happens, but it is important that local authorities are able to take decisions, for example in a situation where no-one objects to a proposal. Recently, there was a case of a school in Breconshire where no-one—parents, governors or staff—disagreed with a decision to close the school. In such a situation, or in a situation where very few people disagree with what a local authority wants to do, it makes sense that the local authority should take the decision. In some cases, lots of people will object to a local authority's proposals. As a Government, we want to look at where the boundary should lie between decisions taken by the Minister and those taken by the local authority.

The European Football Championships

12. Bethan Jenkins: *Will the First Minister outline the steps the Welsh Government would need to take in order to initiate a joint Celtic nations bid for the European Football Championships in 2020. OAQ(4)0570(FM)*

The First Minister: This is something for the Football Association of Wales to consider, but we are willing to work with the association to see what needs to be done to facilitate any bid that it wishes to submit with Scotland and the Republic of Ireland.

Bethan Jenkins: Thank you for that response. Of course, we have three stadiums in Wales that could be developed for such a competition—the Millennium Stadium, the

Mileniwm, Stadiwm Dinas Caerdydd a Stadiwm Liberty yn fy rhanbarth i. A ydych yn gwybod pa feini prawf cymhwyster ar gyfer maint stadiwm mae UEFA yn eu defnyddio wrth ystyried ceisiadau o'r fath? Beth fydd eich mewnbwn chi fel Llywodraeth, ar y cyd gyda'r FAW, os bydd cais o'r fath yn cael ei roi gerbron?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf mai 30,000 yw'r terfyn isaf sydd ei angen. Ni fyddai'n rhy anodd sicrhau bod Stadiwm Dinas Caerdydd a Stadiwm Liberty yn dod lan i'r safon honno. Nifer fach iawn o leoedd eraill allai wneud hynny. O ran y gwledydd eraill, credaf mai dim ond un stadiwm sy'n cyrraedd y safon honno yn Iwerddon, sef Stadiwm Aviva. Nid yw Croke Park yn cyrraedd y safon honno oherwydd bod teras yno. Mae sawl stadiwm yn y Weriniaeth sy'n fawr ond mae ganddynt derasau, fel Stadiwm Sempie, Páirc Uí Chaoimh a'r Gaelic Grounds yn Limerick. Felly, mae gwaith i'w wneud er mwyn sicrhau bod y cyfleusterau ar gael yng Nghymru er mwyn i Gymru allu helpu i adeiladu'r cais yn y dyfodol.

Mike Hedges: The First Minister is correct; a capacity of 30,000 is needed. How does the First Minister expect ground improvements, including the increase in capacity for at least one of the grounds, for a European tournament to be funded?

The First Minister: That is the question that has to be looked at very carefully. I understand that Swansea City Football Club has 16,000 season-ticket holders, so it would be very much in its interest to see the ground expanded. The same is true of Cardiff City FC; there are large attendances at the city stadium, therefore, again, there is a case for expanding that stadium. However, how this might be financed is a matter that has to be explored in detail with the FAW.

2.15 p.m.

Andrew R.T. Davies: First Minister, are you in a position to confirm whether any approach has been made for assistance from the Welsh Government's major sporting events unit on logistical support and to

Cardiff City Stadium and the Liberty Stadium in my region. Do you know what criteria on the size of stadiums UEFA uses in considering bids of this sort? What kind of input would you have as a Government, jointly with the FAW, if such a bid was submitted?

The First Minister: I believe that the minimum capacity is 30,000. It would not be too difficult to ensure that the Cardiff City Stadium and the Liberty Stadium achieved that standard. Very few other venues could do that. Looking at the other countries, I believe that there is only one stadium in Ireland that comes up to that standard, namely the Aviva Stadium. Croke Park does not achieve it, because of the fact that it has terracing. There are a number of large stadiums in the Republic, such as the Sempie Stadium, Páirc Uí Chaoimh and Limerick's Gaelic Grounds, but they have terracing. So, there is work to be done to ensure that the facilities are available in Wales so that Wales can assist in building any future bid.

Mike Hedges: Mae'r Prif Weinidog yn iawn; mae angen stadiwm sy'n dal 30,000. Sut y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn disgwyl i welliannau i stadiymau gael eu hariannu ar gyfer twrnament Ewropeaidd, gan gynnwys cynyddu faint mae o leiaf un o'r stadiymau hynny yn ei ddal?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dyna'r cwestiwn y mae'n rhaid ei ystyried yn ofalus iawn. Rwy'n deall bod gan 16,000 o bobl docyn tymor i Glwb Pêl-droed Dinas Abertawe, felly, yn sicr byddai cynyddu maint y stadiwm o fudd i'r clwb hwnnw. Mae'r un peth yn wir am Glwb Pêl-droed Dinas Caerdydd; mae nifer o bobl yn mynd i stadiwm y clwb, felly, unwaith eto, mae achos dros ehangu'r stadiwm hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid ystyried sut y gellir ariannu hyn yn fanwl gyda'r gymdeithas.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Brif Weinidog, a ydych mewn sefyllfa i gadarnhau a oes rhywun wedi cysylltu â chi am gymorth logistaidd gan uned digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr Llywodraeth Cymru ac i gydnabod bod

recognise that the Football Association of England has also indicated that it might wish to make a bid? Are you aware of any explanatory talks to see whether we could co-host with it, if the Celtic nations' bid proves unfruitful?

The First Minister: No approach has been made to me, but then I would not expect it at this stage. At this stage, it is an expression of interest that has been outlined. There are, I believe, 18 months before that bid has to be solidified. I would be surprised if the FA wanted to co-host an event with another nation, as it has plenty of stadia, but, nevertheless, there is now a period of time when the expression of interest can be looked at with a view to seeing whether a bid is feasible.

William Powell: As you will be aware, the Show Racism the Red Card organisation has done considerable, fantastic work over recent years in Wales and beyond. Were Wales to be successful in securing, along with the other Celtic nations, the Euro 2020 tournament, it is to be anticipated that the organisation would need to upscale its work and profile in the months leading up to the bid. What considerations would you make as to the resources that would need to be made available to support that work and what lessons has the Welsh Government learnt in recent years from hosting world-class sporting events?

The First Minister: We have been largely free from incidents of racism. We can never be wholly free, because there will always be one individual who wishes to act in an idiotic and offensive way, but we should take one step at a time. The first thing to do is to see whether the bid can be brought to fruition, and then to work with organisations like Show Racism the Red Card in order to make sure that when people come to Wales, they receive a welcome regardless of where they are from.

Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer Gogledd Cymru

13. Llyr Huws Gruffydd: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Gogledd Cymru.*

Cymdeithas Bêl-droed Lloegr hefyd wedi nodi y gallai ddymuno gwneud cynnig? A ydych yn ymwybodol o unrhyw drafodaethau eglurhaol i weld a allem gynnal y digwyddiad ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Bêl-droed Lloegr, os bydd cais y gwledydd Celtaidd yn aflwyddiannus?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes unrhyw un wedi cysylltu â mi, ond ni fyddwn yn disgwyl hynny ar hyn o bryd. Ar hyn o bryd, mynegiant o ddiddordeb sydd wedi cael ei amlinellu. Deallaf fod 18 mis cyn bod yn rhaid i'r cynnig gael ei gwblhau'n derfynol. Byddwn yn synnu pe byddai'r gymdeithas am gynnal digwyddiad ar y cyd â chenedl arall, gan fod ganddi ddigon o stadia, ond, serch hynny, mae cyfnod nawr pan ellir edrych ar y mynegiant o ddiddordeb gyda'r bwriad o weld a yw cynnig yn bosibl.

William Powell: Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r sefydliad Dangos y Cerdyn Coch i Hiliaeth wedi gwneud cryn dipyn o waith gwych yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf yng Nghymru a thu hwnt. Pe byddai Cymru yn llwyddo, ynghyd â'r gwledydd Celtaidd eraill, i gynnal twrnament Ewro 2020, rhagwelir y byddai angen i'r sefydliad gynyddu ei waith a'i broffil yn y misoedd sy'n arwain at y cynnig. Beth fyddai eich ystyriaethau o ran yr adnoddau y byddai angen iddynt fod ar gael i gefnogi'r gwaith hwnnw a pha wersi y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u dysgu yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf yn sgîl cynnal digwyddiadau chwaraeon o'r radd flaenaf?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rydym wedi bod yn rhydd, i raddau helaeth, o achosion o hiliaeth. Ni allwn byth fod yn hollol rydd, oherwydd bydd ambell unigolyn bob amser a fydd yn dymuno gweithredu mewn ffordd wirion a sarhaus, ond dylem gymryd un cam ar y tro. Y peth cyntaf i'w wneud yw gweld a all y cynnig ddwyn ffrwyth, ac yna gweithio gyda sefydliadau fel Dangos y Cerdyn Coch i Hiliaeth er mwyn sicrhau, pan fydd pobl yn dod i Gymru, eu bod yn cael croeso ni waeth o le y maent yn dod.

Priorities for North Wales

13. Llyr Huws Gruffydd: *Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's priorities for North Wales.*

OAQ(4)0580(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r blaenoriaethau yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw. Mae gweithwyr Remploy yn Wrecsam wedi colli eu prif gontract preifat oherwydd yr ansicrwydd presennol. Nid yw Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam ychwaith wedi arwyddo cytundeb £2 filiwn ar gyfer dodrefn cegin na gwneud datganiad pendant o blaid y ffatri ers i Lafur gipio grym yno. Nid yw'r gweithlu wedi clywed unrhyw beth gan Lywodraeth Cymru ers i'ch Gweinidog ofyn am ddatganoli cyllid Remploy i Gymru a chael ei wrthod, ac mae'r ymgynghoriad statudol 90 diwrnod yn dod i ben ddydd Llun. Beth, felly, mae'r Llywodraeth yn bwriadu ei wneud yn ymarferol er mwyn sicrhau dyfodol y swyddi yn Wrecsam ac, yn wir, gweithluoedd Remploy eraill ar draws Cymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae trafodaethau yn dal i gymryd lle rhyngom ni a Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig er mwyn sicrhau dyfodol i ffatrioedd Remploy. Mae'r trafodaethau yn gyfrinachol am resymau masnachol ar hyn o bryd ond unwaith y bydd canlyniad iddynt, bydd Aelodau yn gwybod amdano. Mae'n bwysig dros ben bod awdurdodau lleol yn dangos eu bod eisiau cefnogi ffatrioedd Remploy ar draws Cymru ac rwy'n gobeithio y bydd hynny yn digwydd yn y misoedd nesaf.

Joyce Watson: First Minister, you will be aware, I am sure, that last week Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board took the decision to temporarily close the minor injuries unit at Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital, stating that staffing issues meant that it needed to close it for four weeks. The decision has been taken also to reduce the number of in-patient beds from 12 to 10. The health board says that patients can either contact their local GP or visit the minor injuries unit at Ysbyty Alltwen during that time, but anyone who understands the geography of the area will appreciate the strategic importance of Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital. Can you assure me that the Welsh Government will monitor the situation in Blaenau Ffestiniog?

OAQ(4)0580(FM)

The First Minister: The priorities are outlined in the programme for government.

Llyr Huws Gruffydd: Thank you for that answer. Remploy staff in Wrexham have lost their main private contract because of the current uncertainty. Wrexham County Borough Council has not signed a £2 million contract for kitchen furniture or made a definite statement in favour of the factory since Labour took control there either. The workforce has not heard anything from the Welsh Government since your Minister asked for the devolution of Remploy funding to Wales and was rejected, and the 90-day statutory consultation ends on Monday. What, therefore, does the Government intend to do practically in order to ensure the future of the jobs in Wrexham and, indeed, of other Remploy workforces across Wales?

The First Minister: Discussions are still ongoing between us and the United Kingdom Government in order to secure a future for the Remploy factories. The discussions are commercially confidential at present, but once they lead to an outcome, Members will know about it. It is exceptionally important that local authorities demonstrate that they wish to support Remploy factories throughout Wales, and I hope that that will happen in the ensuing months.

Joyce Watson: Brif Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol, rwy'n siŵr, bod Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr wedi penderfynu cau'r uned mân anafiadau dros dro yn Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog yr wythnos diwethaf, gan nodi bod materion staffio yn golygu bod angen cau'r ysbyty am bedair wythnos. Gwnaed y penderfyniad hefyd i ostwng nifer y gwelyau i gleifion mewnol o 12 i 10. Mae'r bwrdd iechyd yn dweud y gall cleifion naill ai gysylltu â'u meddyg teulu lleol neu fynd i'r uned mân anafiadau yn Ysbyty Alltwen yn ystod y cyfnod hwnnw, ond bydd unrhyw un sy'n deall daearyddiaeth yr ardal yn ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd strategol Ysbyty Coffa Ffestiniog. A allwch fy sicrhau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn monitro'r sefyllfa ym Mlaenau Ffestiniog?

The First Minister: Yes, our understanding is that it is a four-week closure due to staff sickness. The advice has been given, as you rightly said, to local people either to visit their GPs, who are able to carry out the same level of service as the minor injuries unit, or, if they are unavailable, to travel to Ysbyty Alltwen, which is between Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth—I think that that is the best description of it. When the staff sickness situation is resolved, it will be possible for the trust to reopen the unit.

Mark Isherwood: Reference was made earlier by a previous questioner to the auditor general's report on the former River Lodge hotel site in Llangollen in north Wales. I have, in my possession, copies of the partly blanked-out correspondence exchanged between the former constituency AM and the former First Minister. I am aware that the Information Rights Tribunal has directed the Welsh Government to release full copies of those documents, and the Welsh Government is seeking a decision to have them set aside. Why does one of those documents show that the Welsh Government wrote to Betsi Cadwaladr health board in March 2010, stating that,

'the Minister has also requested an update on the Woodlands hotel'

—the other name for River Lodge—

'and the proposed health centre in Llangollen by this Friday. Is there any reason why the current building couldn't be demolished and the new health centre built on the site? We would like to be able to provide a positive brief to the Minister, if that is possible, prior to the launch of the options appraisal the following month'?

The First Minister: Given that I cannot read behind the Member's shoulder, I would invite him to write to me, including a copy of that letter, and then I can provide him with a detailed answer.

Buddsoddi yng Ngorllewin Cymru

Y Prif Weinidog: Gallaf, deallwn fod yr ysbyty wedi cau am bedair wythnos o ganlyniad i salwch staff. Rhoddwyd cyngor, fel y dywedaso, i bobl leol naill ai i ymweld â'u meddygon teulu, a all roi'r un lefel o wasanaeth â'r uned mân anafiadau, neu, os nad ydynt ar gael, i deithio i Ysbyty Alltwen, sydd rhwng Porthmadog a Phenrhyndeudraeth—rwy'n credu mai dyna'r disgrifiad gorau ohono. Pan fydd y sefyllfa o ran salwch staff wedi'i datrys, gall yr ymddiriedolaeth ailagor yr uned.

Mark Isherwood: Cyfeiriwyd mewn cwestiwn cynharach at adroddiad yr archwilydd cyffredinol ar safle hen westy'r River Lodge yn Llangollen yn y gogledd. Yn fy meddiant, mae gennyf gopïau o'r ohebiaeth sydd wedi'i chuddio'n rhannol rhwng y cyn-Aelod Cynulliad etholaethol a'r cyn-Brif Weinidog. Rwy'n ymwybodol bod y Tribiwnlys Hawliau Gwybodaeth wedi rhoi cyfarwyddyd i Lywodraeth Cymru ryddhau copïau cyflawn o'r dogfennau hynny, a bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio cael penderfyniad i'w neilltuo. Pam bod un o'r dogfennau hynny yn dangos bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ysgrifennu at fwrdd iechyd Betsi Cadwaladr ym mis Mawrth 2010 yn datgan bod,

y Gweinidog wedi gofyn hefyd am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am westy Woodlands

—sef yr enw arall ar River Lodge—

a'r ganolfan iechyd arfaethedig yn Llangollen erbyn dydd Gwener. A oes unrhyw reswm pam na ellir dymchwel yr adeilad presennol ac adeiladu canolfan iechyd newydd ar y safle? Hoffem allu darparu briff cadarnhaol i'r Gweinidog, os yw hynny'n bosibl, cyn lansiad y gwerthusiad o'r opsiynau y mis canlynol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gan na allaf ddarllen dros ysgwydd yr Aelod, gofynnaf iddo ysgrifennu ataf, gan gynnwys copi o'r llythyr hwnnw, ac yna gallaf roi ateb manwl iddo.

Investing in West Wales

14. Elin Jones: Beth yw cynlluniau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer buddsoddi yng Ngorllewin Cymru. OAQ(4)0573(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Maen nhw yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.

Elin Jones: Cwblhaodd y Llywodraeth flaenorol leoedd pasio ar y rheilffordd i Aberystwyth er mwyn caniatáu i drenau rhedeg yn amlach ar y llinell honno. Yn eich barn chi, pa bryd y bydd yn rhesymol i bobl yng Ngheredigion ddisgwyl i'r trenau hynny i redeg yn amlach?

Y Prif Weinidog: Wrth gwrs, mae'n bwysig sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth ar y rheilffordd honno'n gwella yn y dyfodol. Mae'r cynllun trafnidiaeth cenedlaethol yn dangos yr amserlen rydym yn gweithio iddi er mwyn sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth hwnnw'n gwella.

Vaughan Gething: First Minister, we know that the west Wales coast and port facilities offer significant opportunities for economic development and investment, including a deep-water port and the wider energy potential of the west Wales coast. Can you confirm what plans the Welsh Government has to invest in the potential of our ports and the coastline of west Wales?

The First Minister: Of course, we have the enterprise zone around the havens. However, I noticed that the Scottish Government no longer wishes to have the nuclear submarine base at Faslane. It no longer wishes to house the UK naval nuclear fleet. May I say that that fleet and those jobs would be more than welcome at Milford Haven?

Paul Davies: Rwyf yn falch i glywed y Prif Weinidog yn dweud hynny. Mae gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda gynlluniau i adeiladu canolfan meddygol cymunedol yng Nghrymlych, sydd yn fy etholaeth i. Bydd y cynllun hwn yn hanfodol i les pobl gogledd sir Benfro. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ein diweddarau ar y cynnydd sydd wedi ei wneud mewn perthynas â'r cynllun hwn, o ran cyllido'r prosiect sylweddol hwn? Yn ogystal, a all y Prif Weinidog rhoi amserlen

14. Elin Jones: What are the Welsh Government's plans for investing in west Wales. OAQ(4)0573(FM)

The First Minister: They are in the programme for government.

Elin Jones: The previous Government completed passing places on the railway line to Aberystwyth in order to ensure more frequent services on that line. In your opinion, when would it be reasonable for the people of Ceredigion to expect those trains to run more frequently?

The First Minister: Of course, it is important to ensure that services on that line improve for the future. The national transport plan includes the timetable that we are working to in order to ensure that services are improved.

Vaughan Gething: Brif Weinidog, rydym yn gwybod bod arfordir y gorllewin a'r cyfleusterau porthladd yno yn cynnig cyfleoedd sylweddol ar gyfer datblygu economaidd a buddsoddi, gan gynnwys porthladd dŵr dwfn a photensial ynni ehangach arfordir y gorllewin. A allwch chi gadarnhau pa gynlluniau sydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru i fuddsoddi ym mhotensial ein porthladdoedd ac arfordir y gorllewin?

Y Prif Weinidog: Wrth gwrs, rydym wedi pennu ardal fenter o amgylch dyfrffordd y ddau gleddau. Fodd bynnag, sylwais nad yw Llywodraeth yr Alban bellach yn dymuno cael safle'r llong danfor niwclear yn Faslane. Nid yw am gael fflyd niwclear llynges y DU mwyach. A gaf fi ddweud y byddai croeso mawr i'r fflyd hwnnw a'r swyddi hynny yn Aberdaugleddau?

Paul Davies: I am pleased to hear the First Minister say that. Hywel Dda Local Health Board has plans to build a community medical centre in Crymlych, in my constituency. This scheme will be vital for the welfare of the people of north Pembrokeshire. Can the First Minister give us a progress update on this scheme, in terms of the funding for this significant project? Also, will the First Minister provide us with a timetable as to when this project will be

inni o ran pa bryd y bydd y prosiect hwn yn completed?
cael ei gwblhau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r cwestiwn yn gofyn am fanylion. Rwy'n ddigon hapus i ysgrifennu at yr Aelod er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn cael ateb cynhwysfawr.

The First Minister: The question asks for details. I am more than happy to write to the Member in order to ensure that he receives a comprehensive response.

Seilwaith Ynni

Energy Infrastructure

15. Russell George: *A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu seilwaith ynni Cymru. OAQ(4)0576(FM)*

15. Russell George: *Will the First Minister make a statement on developing Wales' energy infrastructure. OAQ(4)0576(FM)*

The First Minister: It is a key priority of the Welsh Government. Despite the fact that we do not have direct control of energy infrastructure developments, we want to ensure that there are appropriate developments across Wales, with a benefit to the people of Wales.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n un o flaenoriaethau allweddol Llywodraeth Cymru. Er gwaethaf y ffaith nad oes gennym reolaeth uniongyrchol dros ddatblygiadau seilwaith ynni, rydym am sicrhau bod datblygiadau priodol ledled Cymru, gyda budd i bobl Cymru.

Russell George: The National Grid is on the verge of making a decision about the route corridor and associated infrastructure for the mid Wales connection project. First Minister, do you still stand by a Government letter that was issued to chief planning officers last July? The letter stated:

Russell George: Mae'r Grid Cenedlaethol ar fin gwneud penderfyniad ynghylch y coridor a'r seilwaith cysylltiedig ar gyfer prosiect cysylltiad y canolbarth. Brif Weinidog, a ydych yn dal i lynu at lythyr y Llywodraeth a anfonwyd at brif swyddogion cynllunio fis Gorffennaf diwethaf? Mae'r llythyr yn nodi:

'we do not believe that there is a need for the large, visually intrusive, high voltage grid network infrastructure and associated sub station of the kind proposed within Mid Wales.'

nid ydym yn credu bod angen seilwaith mawr, hynod amlwg, foltedd uchel ar gyfer y rhwydwaith grid a'r is-orsaf gysylltiedig fel y cynigir yn y canolbarth.

I am particularly keen that you reconfirm to my constituents that you still believe that there is no need for the sub-station proposed.

Rwy'n awyddus iawn ichi gadarnhau eto i'm hetholwyr eich bod yn dal i gredu nad oes angen yr is-orsaf arfaethedig.

The First Minister: If the suggested limits that were added to TAN 8 are respected, that remains the case. What is written in that letter is still correct.

Y Prif Weinidog: Os perchir y cyfyngiadau a awgrymir a ychwanegwyd at TAN 8, mae hynny'n parhau i fod yn wir. Mae'r hyn a ysgrifennwyd yn y llythyr hwnnw yn dal i fod yn gywir.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Ieuan Wyn Jones: This is a point of order arising out of conduct in the Siambr, and the way in which Members should show respect to other Members, particularly when they are being referred to by implication. Ken Skates,

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Pwynt o drefn yw hwn sy'n deillio o ymddygiad yn y Siambr, a'r ffordd y dylai Aelodau ddangos parch at Aelodau eraill, yn enwedig pan gyfeirir atynt drwy awgrym. Nododd Ken Skates, yn ei

in his question to the First Minister today, indicated that all the problems associated with Powys Fadog arose during the time when I was the Minister for the Department of Economy and Transport. He did not refer to me by name, but it was clear by implication.

The decision to purchase the site was made in March 2007, which was three months before I became a Minister. In those circumstances, I think that it is appropriate that Members, in raising the conduct of other Members, are at least correct in the information that they provide and that Ken Skates should therefore be invited to withdraw that comment.

Kenneth Skates: I shall reflect on the report. Am I able to then speak up after I have reflected on the report?

The Presiding Officer: On the report, or just your comment?

Kenneth Skates: On the Record, sorry. Am I able to reflect on that?

The Presiding Officer: The Member is suggesting that you might like to withdraw the comment.

Kenneth Skates: Okay. I will withdraw it.

The Presiding Officer: Graciously. Thank you very much.

gwestiwn i'r Prif Weinidog heddiw, bod yr holl broblemau sy'n gysylltiedig â Phowys Fadog wedi codi yn ystod yr amser pan roeddwn yn Weinidog yr Adran Economi a Thrafnidiaeth. Ni wnaeth gyfeirio ataf yn ôl fy enw, ond roedd yn amlwg drwy awgrym.

Gwnaed y penderfyniad i brynu'r safle ym mis Mawrth 2007, ac roedd hynny dri mis cyn imi ddod yn Weinidog. O dan yr amgylchiadau hynny, credaf ei bod yn briodol bod Aelodau, wrth gyfeirio at ymddygiad Aelodau eraill, o leiaf yn gywir o ran y wybodaeth y maent yn ei darparu ac y dylid gwahodd Ken Skates, felly, i dynnu'r sylw hwnnw'n ôl.

Kenneth Skates: Gwnaf ystyried yr adroddiad. A allaf siarad ar ôl ystyried yr adroddiad?

Y Llywydd: Ar yr adroddiad, neu eich sylw yn unig?

Kenneth Skates: Ar y Cofnod, mae'n ddrwg gennyf. A allaf ystyried hynny?

Y Llywydd: Mae'r Aelod yn awgrymu y dylech dynnu'r sylw yn ôl.

Kenneth Skates: Iawn. Rwy'n ei dynnu'n ôl.

Y Llywydd: Yn rasol. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes Business Statement and Announcement

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): I have one change to report to this week's planned business: the time allocated for questions to the Counsel General for Wales tomorrow has been reduced. Business for the next three weeks is as shown on the business statement and announcement, which can be found among the agenda papers that are available to Members electronically.

William Graham: I thank the Leader of the House for her statement. The purpose of my question today is slightly lost, in that the

Y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Jane Hutt): Mae gennyf un newid i'w hysbysu i fusnes arfaethedig yr wythnos hon: mae'r amser a neilltuwyd ar gyfer cwestiynau i Gwnsler Cyffredinol Cymru yfory wedi lleihau. Nodir y busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf yn y datganiad a'r cyhoeddiad busnes, sydd i'w weld ymhlith y papurau agenda sydd ar gael i Aelodau yn electronig.

William Graham: Diolch i Arweinydd y Tŷ am ei datganiad. Mae diben fy nghwestiwn wedi'i gollu ychydig heddiw gan fod y

Minister with responsibility has left the Chamber—I am sure that you will draw his attention to the matter, however. Some 10 years ago, on the banks of the river Usk at Newport, and in the mud, an almost complete medieval ship was discovered. There was tremendous cross-party support in the Assembly to preserve it as best as possible. The ship remains in pieces, though preserved reasonably well. Looking to the future, this could be an enormous asset, not just for Newport, but for Wales as a whole. In time, could the Minister come forward with a statement on the conservation and adequate display of this ship?

Jane Hutt: I thank William Graham for that question; I will certainly share it with the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage. Those of us who were here at the time will recall the discovery of that medieval ship's remains. I will certainly share this matter with the Minister for heritage and see if he can make a statement.

Joyce Watson: For the record, I thank the Minister for Education and Skills and the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services for the written statement issued last Tuesday on safeguarding arrangements for children in Pembrokeshire. Following that statement, the Minister and Deputy Minister summoned the leader of Pembrokeshire County Council to a meeting here last Wednesday. I understand that Pembrokeshire council has until Friday to respond to the Welsh Government's very serious concerns. I therefore ask that the Minister for Education and Skills and the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services bring forward a further statement to update Members and members of the public on the latest situation following Friday's deadline. You will appreciate, Minister, that people in Pembrokeshire want to be kept fully apprised of the latest situation.

Jane Hutt: In thanking Joyce Watson for the question, I can assure her and the Chamber that once the response has come back from Pembrokeshire, the Ministers will make a further statement to the Assembly.

Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol wedi gadael y Siambr—rwy'n siŵr y gwnewch dynnu ei sylw at y mater, serch hynny. Ryw 10 mlynedd yn ôl, ar lan afon Wysg yng Nghasnewydd, ac yn y mwd, darganfuwyd llong ganoloesol a oedd bron yn gyflawn. Cafwyd cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol aruthrol yn y Cynulliad i'w gwarchod gystal â phosibl. Mae'r llong yn parhau i fod yn ddarnau, er ei bod yn cael ei gwarchod yn eithaf da. Gan edrych i'r dyfodol, gallai hon fod yn ased enfawr, nid yn unig i Gasnewydd, ond i Gymru gyfan. Mewn amser, a allai'r Gweinidog gyflwyno datganiad ar warchod ac arddangos y llong hon?

Jane Hutt: Diolch i William Graham am y cwestiwn hwnnw; byddaf yn sicr yn ei rannu â'r Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth. Bydd y rheini ohonom a oedd yma ar y pryd yn cofio gweddillion y llong ganoloesol yn cael eu darganfod. Byddaf yn sicr yn rhannu'r mater hwn â'r Gweinidog treftadaeth ac yn gweld a all wneud datganiad.

Joyce Watson: Er gwybodaeth, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau a'r Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol am y datganiad ysgrifenedig a gyhoeddwyd ddydd Mawrth diwethaf ar drefniadau diogelu plant yn Sir Benfro. Yn dilyn y datganiad hwnnw, galwodd y Gweinidog a'r Dirprwy Weinidog ar arweinydd Cyngor Sir Penfro i ddod i gyfarfod yma ddydd Mercher diwethaf. Deallaf fod gan Gyngor Sir Penfro tan ddydd Gwener i ymateb i bryderon difrifol iawn Llywodraeth Cymru. Gofynnaf felly i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau a'r Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol gyflwyno datganiad pellach i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i Aelodau a'r cyhoedd am y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf ar ôl y dyddiad cau, sef dydd Gwener. Byddwch yn deall, Weinidog, fod pobl yn Sir Benfro am gael eu hysbysu'n llawn ynghylch y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf.

Jane Hutt: Wrth ddiolch i Joyce Watson am ei chwestiwn, gallaf ei sicrhau hi a'r Siambr, unwaith y ceir ymateb gan Sir Benfro, y bydd y Gweinidogion yn gwneud datganiad pellach i'r Cynulliad.

Simon Thomas: Further to the point just raised by Joyce Watson, I also thank the Ministers concerned for keeping Members informed. I very much appreciate that. Some of us are amazed at the patience of some Ministers with regard to what is happening in Pembrokeshire. That is not to say that they are not doing the right thing; it just seems that we are in a never-ending saga of sorting out problems down there. I would like to emphasise the point that when the time is right to bring forward another statement, it should be an oral statement that allows us to ask questions of the Ministers concerned, whoever is most appropriate, and to represent the concerns that many of our constituents have raised with us over the past few days. They are extremely concerned about what has been referred to as the worryingly slow progress of attainment and achievement in Pembrokeshire as regards safeguarding children.

Jane Hutt: I am sure that the Ministers will welcome the points made by Members here today. Simon Thomas, as you say, Ministers have kept relevant Members informed in relation to the events in Pembrokeshire, with written statements and copies of letters and minutes of meetings and calls. I am sure that they will take account of the point that you have made this afternoon.

Kirsty Williams: Leader of the House, I know that yours is a difficult job in balancing what comes to the floor, but I cannot help but notice that, this afternoon, we have five statements from the Government. While I am sure that they will all be timely and pertinent, and that they will actually announce that the Welsh Government is doing something, I am surprised that all five take precedence over the publication of the Government's Welsh cancer plan. That plan has been long-awaited by all Members of the Assembly, and it is a matter of regret to me that we have not had an early opportunity to question the Minister for Health and Social Services on its contents. Will you please look again at future business and find time for this very important policy announcement?

Simon Thomas: Yn ychwanegol at y pwynt a godwyd nawr gan Joyce Watson, rwyf hefyd am ddiolch i'r Gweinidogion dan sylw am roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Aelodau. Rwy'n gwerthfawrogi hynny. Mae rhai ohonom yn rhyfeddu at amynedd rhai Gweinidogion o ran yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn Sir Benfro. Nid yw hynny'n golygu nad ydynt yn gwneud y peth iawn, ond mae'n ymddangos ein bod mewn saga ddiwedd o ddatrys problemau yno. Hoffwn bwysleisio'r pwynt, pan fydd yn amser i wneud datganiad arall, y dylai'r datganiad fod yn un llafar sy'n ein galluogi i ofyn cwestiynau i'r Gweinidogion dan sylw, pwy bynnag sydd fwyaf priodol, ac i gyfleu'r pryderon y mae nifer o'n hetholwyr wedi'u codi gyda ni dros y dyddiau diwethaf. Maent yn bryderus iawn ynghylch yr hyn y cyfeiriwyd ato fel y cynnydd gofidus o araf o ran cyrhaeddiad a chyflawniad yn Sir Benfro wrth ddiogelu plant.

Jane Hutt: Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Gweinidogion yn croesawu'r pwyntiau a wnaed gan Aelodau yma heddiw. Simon Thomas, fel y dywedwch, mae Gweinidogion wedi rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i Aelodau perthnasol o ran digwyddiadau yn Sir Benfro, gyda datganiadau ysgrifenedig a chopïau o lythyrau a chofnodion cyfarfodydd a galwadau. Rwy'n siŵr y byddant yn ystyried y pwynt a wnaethoch y prynhawn yma.

Kirsty Williams: Arweinydd y Tŷ, gwn fod gennych swydd anodd o ran cydbwysu'r hyn a gyflwynir ar y llawr, ond ni allaf ond sylwi ein bod, y prynhawn yma, wedi cael pum datganiad gan y Llywodraeth. Er fy mod yn siŵr y bydd pob un ohonynt yn amserol ac yn berthnasol, ac y byddant yn cyhoeddi bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwneud rhywbeth, rwy'n synnu bod pob un o'r pump yn cael blaenoriaeth dros gyhoeddi cynllun canser y Llywodraeth ar gyfer Cymru. Mae holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi hir ddisgwyl am y cynllun hwnnw, ac mae'n destun gofid i mi nad ydym wedi cael cyfle cynnar i holi'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar ei gynnwys. A wnewch chi edrych eto ar fusnes yn y dyfodol a dod o hyd i amser ar gyfer y cyhoeddiad polisi pwysig iawn hwn?

2.30 p.m.

Jane Hutt: I am grateful to the leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats for recognising that the statements this afternoon are timely and pertinent. The serious point about the cancer delivery plan, which was launched last week, is that it will ensure that there is early diagnosis, surgery and other proven, effective treatments. It is providing that framework to inform and underpin action by health boards, and that was made clear in a statement to the Assembly.

Mark Isherwood: I call for two statements or Welsh Government responses. The first is on the Age Alliance Wales report, 'Wales: A Good Place to Grow Old?', published last week and distributed, I believe, to Ministers and Members over the last few days. It concludes that there is much more to be done before the vision of older people in Wales as engaged and empowered, and treated equally and with dignity, is a reality. Too many older people in Wales face lives in poverty with inadequate social care and limited social engagement, and Age Alliance Wales calls upon the Welsh Government, local authorities, health boards and other agencies to take urgent action to fulfil their pledges to equality and social justice for older people. It concludes that, without action, the prospects for older people look grim.

Secondly, I call for a statement from the Welsh Government updating us on progress with the autism strategy, given two reports. First, there is the new report from the National Autistic Society, which shows that a far higher proportion of people in Wales—47%, compared to just 34% in England—are waiting more than three years for a diagnosis. The report states that the national strategy is good, but that it is delivery that matters, and 63% say that it is difficult to receive a diagnosis. Secondly, there is the report on children's autistic spectrum disorder

Jane Hutt: Rwy'n ddiolchgar i arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru am gydnabod bod datganiadau'r prynhawn yma yn amserol ac yn berthnasol. Y pwynt difrifol am y cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer canser, a lansiwyd yr wythnos diwethaf, yw y bydd yn sicrhau diagnosis cynnar, llawdriniaeth a thriniaethau profedig ac effeithiol eraill. Mae'n darparu'r fframwaith hwnnw i lywio ac i ategu camau gweithredu gan fyrddau iechyd, a gwnaethpwyd hynny'n glir mewn datganiad i'r Cynulliad.

Mark Isherwood: Rwy'n galw am ddau ddatganiad neu ymatebion gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae'r cyntaf yn ymwneud ag adroddiad Cynghrair Henoed Cymru, 'Wales: A Good Place to Grow Old?', a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf ac a ddsbarthwyd, credaf, i Weinidogion ac Aelodau yn ystod y dyddiau diwethaf. Mae'n dod i'r casgliad bod llawer mwy i'w wneud cyn gallu gwireddu'r weledigaeth lle bydd bobl hŷn yng Nghymru yn cymryd rhan ac yn cael eu grymuso, a'u trin yn gyfartal a chydag urddas. Mae gormod o bobl hŷn yng Nghymru yn wynebu bywyd mewn tlodi gyda gofal cymdeithasol annigonol ac ymgysylltiad cymdeithasol cyfyngedig, ac mae Cynghrair Henoed Cymru yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru, awdurdodau lleol, byrddau iechyd ac asiantaethau eraill i weithredu ar frys i gyflawni eu haddewidion i sicrhau cydraddoldeb a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol i bobl hŷn. Mae'n dod i'r casgliad bod y rhagolygon ar gyfer pobl hŷn, heb weithredu, yn edrych yn ddifrifol.

Yn ail, galwaf am ddatganiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am y cynnydd a wnaed o ran y strategaeth awtistiaeth, o ystyried dau adroddiad. Yn gyntaf, mae adroddiad newydd gan y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth, sy'n dangos bod cyfran llawer uwch o bobl yng Nghymru—47%, o'i gymharu â dim ond 34% yn Lloegr—yn aros dros dair blynedd i gael diagnosis. Mae'r adroddiad yn datgan bod y strategaeth genedlaethol yn dda, ond mai'r cyflawni sy'n bwysig, a dywed 63% ei bod yn anodd cael diagnosis. Yn ail, ceir yr

diagnostic services in Wales, dated September 2010, which has now been revealed. The Deputy Minister for social services stated in the Chamber on 25 April that she was only then asking the Wales Autism Research Centre to evaluate those diagnostic services. Eighteen months have passed since this report identified a postcode lottery, failure to consistently commission services, a lack of understanding by senior management and many other concerns. I am sure that you, Minister, appreciate that, in the real world, until people receive their diagnosis they are not going to get the early intervention, statements or services, such as speech and language therapy, that they so desperately need from a young age.

Jane Hutt: Mark Isherwood has drawn the Assembly's attention to important reports and updates in terms of the Age Alliance Wales report and the national autism strategy. The Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services, and I, as Minister with responsibility for equality, take clear account of the Age Alliance Wales report in relation to addressing inequalities and ensuring that our older people's strategy and the fora delivering at a local level via local authorities and the third sector are engaged in this in a key way. This also applies to the national autism strategy. We, as a Welsh Government, have made the funding available and sustained it, and we were the first country in the UK to have a national autism strategy. Clearly, delivery has to be at a local level with a multi-agency response.

Mick Antoniw: You will have seen recent reports that the UK Government appears to be changing its position on regional pay. Are you able to give us any further clarification as to what changes there might be and what further representations the Welsh Government could make on this issue?

Jane Hutt: To respond to the Member for Pontypridd, I was delighted to see that there

adroddiad ar wasanaethau diagnostig anhwylderau'r sbectrwm awtistig ar gyfer plant yng Nghymru, dyddiedig Medi 2010, sydd bellach wedi ei ddatgelu. Nododd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros wasanaethau cymdeithasol yn y Siambr ar 25 Ebrill mai dim ond bryd hynny yr oedd yn gofyn i Ganolfan Ymchwil Awtistiaeth Cymru werthuso'r gwasanaethau diagnostig hynny. Mae deunaw mis wedi mynd heibio ers i'r adroddiad hwn ddatgelu loteri cod post, methiant i gomisiynu gwasanaethau yn gyson, diffyg dealltwriaeth gan uwch-reolwyr a nifer o bryderon eraill. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod chi, Weinidog, yn gwerthfawrogi nad yw pobl, yn y byd go iawn, yn mynd i gael ymyrraeth gynnar, datganiadau na ggwasanaethau, megis therapi lleferydd ac iaith, y mae eu hangen cymaint arnynt o oed cynnar, nes eu bod yn cael diagnosis.

Jane Hutt: Mae Mark Isherwood wedi tynnu sylw'r Cynulliad at adroddiadau a diweddariadau pwysig o ran adroddiad Cynghrair Henoed Cymru a'r strategaeth awtistiaeth genedlaethol. Mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, a minnau, fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am gydraddoldeb, yn rhoi ystyriaeth glir i adroddiad Cynghrair Henoed Cymru o ran mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau a sicrhau bod y strategaeth ar gyfer pobl hŷn, a'r fforymau sy'n gweithio ar lefel leol drwy awdurdodau lleol a'r trydydd sector, yn ymwneud â hyn mewn ffordd allweddol. Mae hyn hefyd yn berthnasol i'r strategaeth awtistiaeth genedlaethol. Rydym ni, fel Llywodraeth Cymru, wedi darparu'r cyllid ac wedi ei gynnal, a ni oedd y wlad gyntaf yn y DU i gael strategaeth awtistiaeth genedlaethol. Yn amlwg, rhaid darparu ar lefel leol gydag ymateb aml-asiantaeth.

Mick Antoniw: Byddwch wedi gweld adroddiadau diweddar bod Llywodraeth y DU yn ymddangos fel petai'n newid ei safbwynt ar gyflogau rhanbarthol. A allwch chi roi unrhyw eglurhad pellach ynghylch y newidiadau posibl a pha sylwadau pellach y gall Llywodraeth Cymru eu gwneud ar y mater hwn?

Jane Hutt: I ymateb i'r Aelod dros Bontypridd, roeddwn wrth fy modd i weld

is possibly a rethink by the UK Government. Across the Chamber, concern has been expressed very clearly about the adverse impact of the proposals for regional pay in terms of the economy, particularly with regard to low-paid workers and the gender pay gap that we are trying to address. I hope that the messages that are coming forward from the UK Government, through those sources, indicate that there will be a change of heart, reflecting upon the important evidence given by our chief economist, Jonathan Price. I will be following that through to get clarity on the position.

Aled Roberts: Weinidog, wrth ymateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig, cadarnhaodd y Gweinidog addysg o ran y canllawiau ar gyfer rhaglen ymsefydlu athrawon newydd—y daeth yr ymgynghoriad arni i ben ar 29 Mai—mai ei fwriad yw cyflwyno canllawiau newydd ar gyfer mis Medi eleni. A fydd yn bosibl i'r Llywodraeth, neu'r Gweinidog, ystyried gwneud datganiad i'r Senedd cyn diwedd y tymor er mwyn inni gael cyfle i ystyried unrhyw newidiadau i'r canllawiau?

Jane Hutt: The Minister for education has been quite clear about the new guidelines that are forthcoming and I am sure that he will be listening to any issues raised by Members accordingly.

Nick Ramsay: I have two issues to raise with the Leader of the House. First, I echo the calls of my colleague, William Graham, for a statement on conservation issues. William mentioned the Newport ship and a desire to see that better marketed to the public and tourists. You will be aware that, in recent weeks, we have had a new discovery, the Monmouth longhouse, which, it is believed, dates from 6,000 years ago. That puts it at 3,000 years old when Stonehenge was constructed. I would like to hear from the Minister for heritage as to whether he has had any discussions with Cadw about the preservation of that structure.

Secondly, there is the issue of pet microchipping, which I know many Assembly Members have been involved in

bod posibilrwydd bod Llywodraeth y DU yn ailfeddwl. Mynegwyd pryder clir iawn ar draws y Siambr ynghylch effaith andwyol y cynigion ar gyfer cyflogau rhanbarthol o ran yr economi, yn enwedig o ran gweithwyr cyflog isel a'r bwlch cyflog rhwng y rhywiau yr ydym yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â hwy. Gobeithio y bydd y negeseuon sy'n cael eu cyflwyno gan Lywodraeth y DU, drwy'r ffynonellau hynny, yn dangos y bydd newid meddwl, gan adlewyrchu ar y dystiolaeth bwysig a roddwyd gan ein prif economegydd, Jonathan Price. Byddaf yn dilyn hynny er mwyn cael eglurhad o'r sefyllfa.

Aled Roberts: Minister, in responding to a written question, the Minister for education confirmed in relation to the guidelines for the induction programme for new teachers—the consultation on which concluded on 29 May—that his intention is to introduce new guidelines for this September. Will it be possible for the Government, or the Minister, to consider making a statement to the Senedd before the end of term so that we can have an opportunity to consider any changes to the guidelines?

Jane Hutt: Mae'r Gweinidog addysg wedi bod yn eithaf clir am y canllawiau newydd sydd ar ddod, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd yn gwrandao ar unrhyw faterion a godir gan yr Aelodau yn unol â hynny.

Nick Ramsay: Mae gennyf ddau fater i'w codi gydag Arweinydd y Tŷ. Yn gyntaf, hoffwn adleisio galwadau fy nghyd-Aelod William Graham am ddatganiad ar faterion cadwraeth. Soniodd William am long Casnewydd a'i awydd i'w weld yn cael ei farchnata'n well i'r cyhoedd a thwristiaid. Byddwch yn ymwybodol ein bod, yn yr wythnosau diwethaf, wedi dod ar draws darganfyddiad newydd, sef tŷ hir Trefynwy, y tybir ei fod yn dyddio o 6,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Golyga hynny ei fod yn 3,000 o flynyddoedd oed pan adeiladwyd Côr y Cewri. Hoffwn glywed gan y Gweinidog treftadaeth i gadarnhau a yw wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau â Cadw ynghylch gwarchod yr adeilad hwnnw.

Yn ail, mae mater gosod microsglodion ar anifeiliaid anwes, a gwn fod nifer o Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi bod ynghlwm wrth

promoting, following campaigns by the Kennel Club and the Dogs Trust. Could we have an update on the position of the Welsh Government with regard to regulations to ensure microchipping and encouraging the public to ensure that their pets are microchipped? Only recently, in Monmouth, we heard about a cat that had been missing for seven years that was reunited with its owner because it was microchipped. It was missing an eye and was a bit confused, but it was nonetheless reunited with its owner. That was purely down to its being microchipped. I am sure that the public would want to ensure that they have the best opportunity to be reunited with their pets if they go missing.

Jane Hutt: I will ensure that the Minister for heritage is aware of not only the important issues relating to the Newport medieval ship, but also the discovery of the Monmouth longhouse in relation to his heritage responsibilities and Cadw's responsibility towards that. As regards the important point about microchipping, we are looking to bring forward measures and legislation to address the issue, particularly in relation to dangerous dogs. I recall the important event that Julie Morgan hosted on that issue a few weeks ago, and we will issue a consultation later this month.

Paul Davies: I also endorse the call by both Members for Mid and West Wales for a statement to be brought forward with regard to safeguarding arrangements for children in Pembrokeshire as soon as is practically possible. For the record, I thank the Minister for Education and Skills for updating me and the Member for Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire in a briefing last week. I would also be grateful if the Leader of the House could ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science to bring forward a statement on the delivery of broadband services throughout Wales. My understanding is that no decisions have yet been made with regard to the £56.9 million that the Welsh Government received from the UK Government last year. In a letter to me in August of last year, the Minister for business

hyrwyddo hynny, yn dilyn ymgyrchoedd gan y Kennel Club a'r Dogs Trust. A allem gael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am safbwynt Llywodraeth Cymru o ran rheoliadau i sicrhau gosod microsglodion ac annog y cyhoedd i sicrhau bod eu hanifeiliaid anwes yn cael microsglodyn? Clywsom yn ddiweddar clywsom am gath yn Nhrefynwy a oedd wedi bod ar goll am saith mlynedd a ddychwelodd at ei berchennog oherwydd bod arno ficrosglodyn. Roedd un llygad ar goll ac roedd ychydig yn ddryslyd, ond cafodd ei aduno â'i berchennog serch hynny. Yr unig reswm am hynny oedd y ffaith bod ganddo ficrosglodyn. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai'r cyhoedd yn awyddus i sicrhau bod ganddynt y cyfle gorau i gael eu haduno â'u hanifeiliaid anwes os ydynt yn mynd ar goll.

Jane Hutt: Byddaf yn sicrhau bod y Gweinidog treftadaeth yn ymwybodol o nid yn unig y materion pwysig yn ymwneud â llong ganoloesol Casnewydd, ond hefyd o ddarganfyddiad tŷ hir Trefynwy mewn perthynas â'i gyfrifoldebau treftadaeth a chyfrifoldeb Cadw tuag at hynny. O ran y pwynt pwysig am osod microsglodion, rydym yn bwriadu dod â mesurau a deddfwriaeth gerbron i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â chŵn peryglus. Rwy'n cofio'r digwyddiad pwysig a gynhaliodd Julie Morgan ar y mater hwnnw ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, a byddwn yn cyhoeddi ymgynghoriad yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn.

Paul Davies: Rwyf hefyd yn cefnogi'r alwad gan yr Aelodau ar gyfer Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru am ddatganiad ar drefniadau diogelu ar gyfer plant yn sir Benfro cyn gynted ag sy'n ymarferol bosibl. Hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau am fy niweddarau i a'r Aelod dros Orllewin Caerfyrddin a De Sir Benfro mewn sesiwn frifffio yr wythnos diwethaf. Byddwn hefyd yn ddiolchgar pe gallai Arweinydd y Tŷ ofyn i'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth i gyflwyno datganiad ar ddarparu gwasanaethau band eang ledled Cymru. Fy nealltwriaeth i yw nad oes unrhyw benderfyniadau wedi'u gwneud eto o ran y £56.9 miliwn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i dderbyn gan Lywodraeth y DU y llynedd. Mewn llythyr i mi ym mis Awst y

made it clear that bids from providers to deliver broadband services would be made in March 2012. As far as I am aware, no announcements have yet been made. Given that I continue to receive representations from my constituents who receive poor broadband services or none at all, I would be grateful if the Leader of the House could ask the Minister for business to bring forward a statement to address some of the issues that I have mentioned as soon as possible.

Jane Hutt: I thank Paul Davies for those two points on the business statement. As I have said, it is clear that Ministers will make a further statement with regard to Pembrokeshire once we have a response. The Ministers welcome the support and recognition of the fact that they have engaged with local and regional Members on this vital matter. We await the response.

I will ask the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science to update the Assembly on the delivery of broadband.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I lend my voice to the concerns that have been expressed today by Members in the Chamber, in particular about the cancer plan, which was released to Members last Thursday. I had read all about it in the printed press before I received the written statement as an Assembly Member. Given the emotions around this particular issue—I appreciate that the Government has many issues that it has to bring to Plenary—and given the debates that we have had in this Chamber, surely this should have been high in the list of priorities for matters for the Government to bring forward for scrutiny in the Chamber, so that the Minister could be questioned by elected representatives. Above all, what is of real concern to me—the First Minister touched on the fact that the Assembly also has a responsibility to ensure that these statements come here—was the extensive coverage in the press before Members were made aware of this statement. Had it happened in another place, action would have been taken against the relevant Minister to come before Plenary and answer

llynedd, roedd y Gweinidog busnes yn glir y byddai cynigion gan ddarparwyr i ddarparu gwasanaethau band eang yn cael eu gwneud ym Mawrth 2012. Cyn belled ag y gwn i, nid oes unrhyw gyhoeddiadau wedi eu gwneud eto. Gan fy mod yn parhau i dderbyn sylwadau gan fy etholwyr sy'n derbyn gwasanaethau band eang gwael neu ddim o gwbl, byddem yn ddiolchgar pe gallai Arweinydd y Tŷ ofyn i'r Gweinidog busnes gyflwyno datganiad i fynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion rwyf wedi'u crybwyll cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Jane Hutt: Diolch i Paul Davies am y ddau bwynt hynny ar y datganiad busnes. Fel y dywedais, mae'n amlwg y bydd Gweinidogion yn gwneud datganiad pellach mewn perthynas â sir Benfro ar ôl inni gael ymateb. Mae'r Gweinidogion yn croesawu'r gefnogaeth a'r gydnabyddiaeth i'r ffaith eu bod wedi ymgysylltu ag Aelodau lleol a rhanbarthol ar y mater hanfodol hwn. Rydym yn aros am ymateb.

Byddaf yn gofyn i'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad ar ddarparu band eang.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Rwy'n ategu'r pryderon a fynegwyd gan Aelodau heddiw yn y Siambr, yn arbennig ynghylch y cynllun canser a gafodd ei ryddhau i'r Aelodau ddydd Iau diwethaf. Roeddwn wedi darllen y cyfan amdano yn y wasg brintiedig cyn imi dderbyn y datganiad ysgrifenedig fel Aelod o'r Cynulliad. O ystyried yr emosiynau o amgylch y mater penodol hwn—a sylweddolaf fod gan y Llywodraeth nifer o faterion y mae'n rhaid iddi ddod gerbron y Cyfarfod Llawn—ac o ystyried y dadleuon yr ydym wedi'u cael yn y Siambr hon, oni ddylai hyn fod wedi bod yn uchel ar y rhestr o flaenoriaethau ar gyfer materion y dylai'r Llywodraeth eu cyflwyno ar gyfer craffu arnynt yn y Siambr, fel y gallai'r Gweinidog gael ei holi gan gynrychiolwyr etholedig? Yn anad dim, yr hyn sydd o bryder gwirioneddol i mi—soniodd y Prif Weinidog am y ffaith bod y Cynulliad hefyd yn gyfrifol am sicrhau bod y datganiadau yn dod yma—oedd y sylw helaeth i hyn yn y wasg cyn bod Aelodau yn ymwybodol o'r datganiad hwn. Pe bai hyn wedi digwydd mewn man arall, byddai

questions on the issue. I would be very interested to hear the view of the Leader of the House on the way that the Government tables its business and brings it before Members for scrutiny.

Jane Hutt: Clearly, the Minister has been developing and working to introduce this important cancer delivery plan, and I would have thought that the leader of the opposition should today have been welcoming the publication of that plan. It is a plan that, as the people of Wales will recognise, is designed to ensure that the NHS delivers in terms of diagnosis, surgery and other proven and effective treatments, as I said earlier. What the people of Wales want to know is that this Government is delivering on promises to produce a cancer plan, and that is what the Minister for health has done.

camau wedi eu cymryd yn erbyn y Gweinidog perthnasol i ddod gerbron y Cyfarfod Llawn i ateb cwestiynau ar y mater. Byddai gennyf ddi-ddordeb i glywed barn Arweinydd y Tŷ ar y ffordd y mae'r Llywodraeth yn cyflwyno'i busnes ac yn dod ag ef gerbron yr Aelodau ar gyfer craffu.

Jane Hutt: Yn amlwg, mae'r Gweinidog wedi bod yn datblygu ac yn gweithio i gyflwyno'r cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer cancer pwysig hwn, a chredaf y dylai arweinydd yr wrthblaid fod yn croesawu cyhoeddi'r cynllun hwnnw heddiw. Mae'n gynllun y bydd pobl Cymru yn cydnabod sydd wedi'i gynllunio i sicrhau bod y GIG yn darparu yn nhermau diagnosis, llawdriniaeth a thriniaethau profedig ac effeithiol eraill, fel y dywedais yn gynharach. Yr hyn y mae pobl Cymru eisiau ei wybod yw bod y Llywodraeth yn cyflawni addewidion i gynhyrchu cynllun cancer, a dyna'r hyn y mae'r Gweinidog iechyd wedi ei wneud.

Datganiad: Buddsoddi i Arbed Statement: Invest-to-Save

The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House (Jane Hutt): In these difficult financial times it is more important than ever that the public sector should make the best possible use of every Welsh pound. With that in mind, I am today updating the Assembly on the Welsh Government's invest-to-save fund, which is making a valuable contribution in helping public service providers to develop and maintain quality, effective and efficient citizen-centred services.

Through invest-to-save, the Welsh Government is providing pump-prime funding to help public sector organisations introduce new and/or proven ways of working that deliver improvements to our public services. Since the fund's introduction, it has supported over 50 projects, with some £52 million having already been invested. Collectively, the projects supported are forecasting significant improvements to public services and wider benefits, with projected annual savings of at least £74

Y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Jane Hutt): Yn y cyfnod ariannol anodd hwn, mae'n bwysicach nag erioed y dylai'r sector cyhoeddus wneud y defnydd gorau posibl o bob punt Gymreig. Gyda hynny mewn golwg, rwyf heddiw'n rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Cynulliad ar gronfa fuddsoddi i arbed Llywodraeth Cymru, sy'n gwneud cyfraniad gwerthfawr o ran helpu darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus i ddatblygu a chynnal gwasanaethau o safon, sy'n effeithiol ac effeithlon ac sy'n canolbwyntio ar ddinasyddion.

Drwy fuddsoddi i arbed, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn darparu arian ysgogi i helpu sefydliadau sector cyhoeddus i gyflwyno ffyrdd newydd a/neu brofedig o weithio sy'n darparu gwelliannau i'n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Ers cyflwyno'r gronfa, mae wedi cefnogi dros 50 o brosiectau, gyda rhywbeth tebyg i £52 miliwn wedi ei fuddsoddi eisoes. Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r prosiectau a gefnogir yn rhagweld gwelliannau sylweddol i wasanaethau cyhoeddus a budd-daliadau ehangach, gyda gwerth o leiaf £74 miliwn o

million.

The Welsh Government has a key role in supporting public service organisations to help them meet the challenge of reducing budgets while delivering quality services. The availability of invest-to-save funding is a practical example of such support. It has been taken up readily and is already demonstrating that it can help projects to progress successfully by providing repayable bridging finance. A good example is the One Newport information station project. It provides a range of accessible services under one roof, and has designed them around people in the local community rather than organisational structures. Economies of scale and savings are secured by bringing public service bodies together to share resources, equipment and office space and by releasing surplus assets. The Welsh Government wants to see this approach adopted across our public services, unlocking improvement, innovation and efficiency.

In supporting improvement to our services, it is imperative that we look to maximise what can be achieved from the resources available. The repayable nature of invest-to-save is a successful approach, where the provision of short-term transitional funding can help bridge the gap between project implementation and the delivery of financial and longer-term benefits. The need to repay invest-to-save funding instils an additional discipline to project delivery and we are seeing a change of mindset and a maturity from project promoters. There is greater recognition that the continued provision of non-returnable grant for projects that generate cash savings is no longer sustainable.

Investments made previously under the fund are now maturing and are successfully being recycled, with the sums available for reinvestment increasing as more projects reach maturity. Last year, existing projects repaid over £8 million and the funding was fully reinvested in new project proposals. This year, over £9 million is due to be repaid and reinvested, and a further £15 million is

arbedion amcanol yn flynyddol.

Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru rôl allweddol wrth gefnogi sefydliadau gwasanaethau cyhoeddus i'w helpu i ymateb i'r her o leihau cyllidebau wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau o ansawdd. Mae argaeledd arian buddsoddi i arbed yn enghraifft ymarferol o gymorth o'r fath. Mae wedi cael ei ddefnyddio'n hawdd ac mae eisoes yn amlwg ei fod yn gallu helpu prosiectau i symud ymlaen yn llwyddiannus drwy ddarparu cyllid pontio ad-daladwy. Enghraifft dda yw prosiect gorsaf wybodaeth Casnewydd yn Un. Mae'n darparu ystod o wasanaethau hygyrch o dan un to, ac mae wedi'i gynllunio gyda'r bobl yn y gymuned leol mewn golwg yn hytrach na strwythurau sefydliadol. Caiff arbedion maint ac arbedion eraill eu sicrhau drwy ddod â chyrrff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus at ei gilydd i rannu adnoddau, offer a gofod swyddfa a thrwy ryddhau asedau sydd dros ben. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru am weld y dull hwn yn cael ei fabwysiadu ar draws ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, gan wireddu gwelliant, arloesi ac effeithlonrwydd.

Wrth gefnogi gwelliant i'n gwasanaethau, mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn gwneud y gorau posibl o'r hyn a ellir ei gyflawni o'r adnoddau sydd ar gael. Mae natur ad-daladwy buddsoddi i arbed yn ddull llwyddiannus, lle gellir darparu arian trosiannol tymor byr i helpu pontio'r bwch rhwng gweithredu'r prosiect a chyflwyno manteision ariannol a thymor hwy. Mae'r angen i ad-dalu arian buddsoddi i arbed yn meithrin disgyblaeth ychwanegol i gyflwyno prosiect ac rydym yn gweld newid meddylfryd ac aeddfedrwydd o ran hyrwyddwyr prosiect. Ceir mwy o gydnabyddiaeth nad yw'r ddarpariaeth barhaus ar gyfer grantiau na chânt eu had-dalu ar gyfer prosiectau sy'n creu arbedion arian parod yn gynaliadwy.

Mae'r buddsoddiadau a wnaed yn flaenorol o dan y gronfa bellach yn aeddfedu ac yn cael eu hailgylchu yn llwyddiannus, gyda'r symiau sydd ar gael ar gyfer ail-fuddsoddi yn cynyddu wrth i fwy o brosiectau gyrraedd eu haeddfedrwydd. Y llynedd, ad-dalodd prosiectau presennol dros £8 miliwn a chafodd yr arian ei ailfuddsoddi'n llawn mewn cynigion ar gyfer prosiectau newydd.

forecast to be repaid next year.

Eleni, disgwylir i dros £9 miliwn gael ei ad-dalu a'i ailfuddsoddi, a rhagwelir y caiff £15 miliwn ei ad-dalu y flwyddyn nesaf.

2.45 p.m.

With the success to date of invest-to-save, I have decided to increase the size of the fund and supplement the moneys for new investments arising from repayments. I am making available an additional £20 million for invest-to-save over this and the next two financial years, starting with £10 million in 2012-13, which will be allocated via the impending supplementary budget. This additional funding will ensure the sustainability of the fund.

O ganlyniad i lwyddiant buddsoddi i arbed hyd yn hyn, rwyf wedi penderfynu cynyddu maint y gronfa ac ychwanegu at yr arian ar gyfer buddsoddiadau newydd sy'n deillio o ad-daliadau. Rwyf yn darparu swm ychwanegol o £20 miliwn ar gyfer buddsoddi i arbed ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol hon a'r ddwy flwyddyn ariannol nesaf, gan ddechrau â £10 miliwn yn 2012-13, a gaiff ei ddyrannu drwy gyfrwng y gyllideb atodol a gyhoeddir yn fuan. Bydd y cyllid ychwanegol yn sicrhau cynaliadwyedd y gronfa.

With future budgets established, I am also pleased to announce today the outcome of the latest invest-to-save funding round. Overall, I am investing £12.7 million to support seven new project proposals. This includes a total investment of £7.5 million to three projects that share similarities, in that they seek to address the issue of providing high-quality services to elderly and frail people in our communities, supporting them to live independently within their own homes. This includes three schemes led by local health boards: Hywel Dda Local Health Board's Care Closer to Home project, Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board's the Wyn Campaign: Regaining and Retaining Independence, and Cwm Taf Local Health Board's integrated whole-system intermediate care model. I am delighted that these new collaborative initiatives involving health boards, local government and the third sector have drawn directly from the experience and know-how that has emerged from the invest-to-save-supported Gwent frailty programme, Happily Independent. The groundbreaking Gwent programme has piloted new approaches and has been able to provide valuable insights into transforming services to our elderly and frail.

A chyllidebau'r dyfodol wedi'u pennu, rwyf hefyd yn falch o gyhoeddi heddiw ganlyniad y cylch cyllid diweddaraf ar gyfer buddsoddi i arbed. At ei gilydd, rwy'n buddsoddi £12.7 miliwn i gefnogi saith o gynigion ar gyfer prosiectau newydd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys buddsoddiad o £7.5 miliwn, yn gyfan gwbl, i dri phrosiect sydd â nodweddion tebyg, gan eu bod yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â darparu gwasanaethau o safon uchel i bobl oedrannus a bregus yn ein cymunedau a'u cefnogi i fyw'n annibynnol yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Mae hyn yn cynnwys tri chynllun dan arweiniad byrddau iechyd lleol: prosiect gofal yn nes adref Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda, Ymgyrch Wyn: Adennill a Chynnal Annibyniaeth Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro, a model gofal integredig canolradd system gyfan Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Cwm Taf. Rwyf wrth fy modd bod y cyd-fentrau newydd hyn sy'n cynnwys byrddau iechyd, llywodraeth leol a'r trydydd sector wedi elwa'n uniongyrchol o'r profiad a'r wybodaeth sydd wedi deillio o raglen eiddilwch Gwent, *Happily Independent*, a gafodd ei hariannu gan gronfa buddsoddi i arbed. Mae rhaglen arloesol Gwent wedi treialu dulliau newydd ac wedi darparu gwybodaeth werthfawr ynglŷn â thrawsnewid gwasanaethau i bobl oedrannus a bregus.

In this latest funding round, I am also supporting the next phase of the NHS's collaborative approach to procurement for mental health rehabilitation services. The project will build on the previous invest-to-

Yn y cylch cyllid diweddaraf, rwyf hefyd yn cefnogi cam nesaf dull caffael cydweithredol y GIG ym maes gwasanaethau adsefydlu iechyd meddwl. Bydd y prosiect yn adeiladu ar y gwaith blaenorol a gafodd genfogaeth

save supported work that has been successful in delivering improvements and generating significant savings. It recently won an award: the 2012 Government Opportunities Excellence in Public Procurement Award. This is recognition at a UK level of the achievement and success of the approach developed and delivered in Wales. I am also making provision for the NHS to support pilot work to explore the potential benefits of applying e-rostering/scheduling to the wider workforces, assisting the Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board to introduce medicines management practices to secondary care and to assist the continuing roll-out of the NHS voluntary early release scheme.

I referred earlier to the importance of learning from existing invest-to-save projects and the need to capture, cascade and promote this learning. Last October, I published a report entitled 'Investing-to-Save: short-term investment for long-term benefit', which provided an overview of projects supported by the fund. The report helped to raise awareness of supported projects by providing a directory of schemes and by providing a series of short case studies. When publishing the information, I said that I wanted others to benefit from the experience and lessons learned from invest-to-save projects. Furthermore, I wanted to encourage others to find out more about specific initiatives that had relevance and possibly wider applicability to their own areas of service delivery.

Last year's report was well received and therefore I am pleased to announce that I am today publishing a further tranche of short case studies, which have been provided by organisations in receipt of invest-to-save support. These include Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's e-procurement project, which will increase productivity and gain efficiencies through the introduction of e-procurement software and functionality. The project has been one of the most ambitious e-procurement initiatives undertaken by a Welsh local authority and has the potential of releasing £15 million-worth of efficiency savings over five years.

Continuing with the procurement theme, the second of the new case studies relates to the

buddsoddi i arbed a fu'n llwyddiannus o ran cyflwyno gwelliannau a chreu arbedion sylweddol. Yn ddiweddar, enillodd wobwr Rhagoriaeth mewn Caffael Cyhoeddus *Government Opportunities* 2012. Mae hyn yn gydnabyddiaeth ar lefel y DU o gyflawniad a llwyddiant y dull sydd wedi'i ddatblygu a'i gyflwyno yng Nghymru. Rwyf hefyd yn gwneud darpariaeth i'r GIG gefnogi gwaith peilot i edrych ar fanteision posibl cymhwyso e-restru/e-drefnu i'r gweithluoedd ehangach, gan gynorthwyo Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Aneurin Bevan i gyflwyno arferion rheoli meddyginiaethau mewn gofal eilaidd a chynorthwyo'r gwaith o barhau i gyflwyno cynllun rhyddhau cynnar gwirfoddol y GIG.

Cyfeiriais yn gynharach at bwysigrwydd dysgu o brosiectau presennol buddsoddi i arbed a'r angen i gasglu, rhaeadru a hyrwyddo'r hyn sydd wedi'i ddysgu. Fis Hydref diwethaf, cyhoeddais adroddiad o'r enw 'Buddsoddi i Arbed: buddsoddi yn y tymor byr er budd y tymor hir', a oedd yn rhoi trosolwg o'r prosiectau a gefnogir gan y gronfa. Roedd yr adroddiad yn helpu i godi ymwybyddiaeth o'r prosiectau a gefnogir drwy ddarparu cyfeirlyfr o gynlluniau a thrwy ddarparu cyfres o astudiaethau achos byr. Wrth gyhoeddi'r wybodaeth, dywedais fy mod am i eraill elwa o'r profiad a'r gwersi a ddysgwyd o brosiectau buddsoddi i arbed. Yn ogystal, roeddwn eisiau annog eraill i ddarganfod mwy am fentrau penodol a oedd yn berthnasol ac a oedd o bosibl yn fwy cymwys i'w meysydd eu hunain.

Cafodd yr adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd y llynedd dderbyniad da ac felly rwy'n falch o gyhoeddi heddiw gyfres ychwaengol o astudiaethau achos byr, sydd wedi cael eu darparu gan sefydliadau sy'n cael cefnogaeth buddsoddi i arbed. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys prosiect e-gaffael Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Merthyr Tudful, a fydd yn cynyddu cynhyrchiant a sicrhau effeithlonrwydd drwy gyflwyno meddalwedd a gallu e-gaffael. Mae'r prosiect wedi bod yn un o'r mentrau e-gaffael mwyaf uchelgeisiol gan awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru a gallai sicrhau gwerth £15 miliwn o arbedion effeithlonrwydd dros bum mlynedd.

Gan barhau â'r thema caffael, mae'r ail o'r astudiaethau achos newydd yn ymwneud â'r

award-winning collaborative procurement arrangements for the acquisition of mental health services for the NHS, which I mentioned earlier. Hywel Dda Local Health Board has provided a case study for its mental health rehabilitation project, and, finally, One Newport has prepared a case study for its successful Information Station project. I will continue to encourage the capture and sharing of learning from invest-to-save-supported projects and will look to publish further short case studies later in the year.

With the continuing need to look afresh at how public services are delivered, there is also a need for further support in taking forward the agenda. I am pleased with the progress reported by projects already in receipt of invest-to-save funding. These are delivering real change that will have lasting benefits, during a difficult and challenging financial period. I will therefore make a further round of invest-to-save funding available and will invite requests for interest-free, repayable investments in the autumn.

The fund will call for strategic projects that support the Welsh Government's improvement programme, including those promoted by the public services leadership group. I will at this time also set out the scope to provide greater levels of capital support through the invest-to-save fund, as outlined in the 'Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan'. The fund will open once again to new project applications on 5 November.

Paul Davies: I thank the Minister for her statement this afternoon. As she has already outlined, this is the sixth tranche of invest-to-save funding that the Welsh Government has made available to public service bodies, and I hope that this funding goes some way towards helping to deliver better value for money for our public services.

I am pleased that the Welsh Government has made a further £12.7 million available for seven projects seeking funding for this round. It is clear that there is demand for this

trefniadau ar y cyd arobryn ynglŷn â chaffael gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yn y GIG, a grybwyllais yn gynharach. Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda wedi darparu astudiaeth achos ar gyfer ei brosiect adsefydlu iechyd meddwl, ac, yn olaf, mae Casnewydd yn Un wedi paratoi astudiaeth achos ar gyfer ei brosiect Gorsaf Wybodaeth llwyddiannus. Byddaf yn parhau i annog casglu a rhannu'r hyn a ddysgir o brosiectau sy'n cael cefnogaeth buddsoddi i arbed a byddaf yn ceisio cyhoeddi mwy o astudiaethau achos byr yn ddiweddarach yn y flwyddyn.

Yn sgîl yr angen parhaus i edrych o'r newydd ar sut y caiff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus eu darparu, mae hefyd angen cymorth pellach wrth fwrw ymlaen â'r agenda. Rwy'n falch o'r cynnydd y mae prosiectau sydd eisoes yn cael arian buddsoddi i arbed wedi adrodd amdano. Mae'r prosiectau hyn yn cyflawni newid gwirioneddol a fydd o fudd parhaol, a hynny yn ystod cyfnod ariannol anodd a heriol. Felly, byddaf yn darparu cylch arall o arian buddsoddi i arbed a byddaf yn gwahodd ceisiadau am fuddsoddiadau di-log, ad-daladwy yn yr hydref.

Bydd y gronfa yn galw am brosiectau strategol sy'n cefnogi rhaglen wella Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys y rhai a hyrwyddir gan grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Bryd hynny, byddaf hefyd yn nodi'r posibilrwydd o ddarparu lefelau uwch o gymorth cyfalaf drwy'r gronfa buddsoddi i arbed, fel yr amlinellwyd yn y 'Cynllun Buddsoddi yn Seilwaith Cymru'. Bydd y gronfa yn agor unwaith eto i geisiadau ar gyfer prosiectau newydd ar 5 Tachwedd.

Paul Davies: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei datganiad y prynhawn yma. Fel y mae hi eisoes wedi amlinellu, dyma'r chweched gyfres o arian buddsoddi i arbed y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei ddarparu i gyrff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, a gobeithio y bydd y cyllid hwn yn gwneud tipyn i helpu i gyflawni gwell gwerth am arian i'n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus.

Rwy'n falch bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu £12.7 miliwn ychwanegol ar gyfer saith o brosiectau sy'n ceisio cyllid ar gyfer y cylch hwn. Mae'n amlwg bod galw am y

funding across Wales and it is important that the Welsh Government continue to provide funding for innovative collaborative projects. Given the demand for such projects, will the Minister in her response give us some more specific detail on the criteria used to determine which projects should go forward under this scheme? Perhaps she could publish these criteria to ensure that the process is open and transparent.

It is absolutely critical that these projects achieve efficiency savings in the long term. Perhaps the Minister will tell us what assessments the Welsh Government has made to test the effectiveness of completed projects. That is essential, because these tests will then help to inform the criteria used for potential projects in the future. In other words, how will the case studies that she has published today be used to inform future projects?

Naturally, there will be projects that have been unsuccessful in applying for this funding. Could the Minister reassure those unsuccessful applicants that they can reapply for support from the fund in the future?

Given the tight financial climate, there are undoubtedly unseen obstacles which can delay projects. In the event of this happening, can the Minister tell us whether the Welsh Government allows for a project to reapply for further moneys if it has missed a previous round of funding?

Clearly, a number of successful projects have emerged because of this scheme. Can the Minister tell us how the Welsh Government ensures best practice from previous successful projects is shared with potential projects so that they can be successful in applying for funding in future rounds?

I accept that the main objective of the scheme is to deliver significant cash-releasing efficiency gains. However, it is important to ensure that funding is spread fairly across

cyllid hwn ledled Cymru ac mae'n bwysig bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i ddarparu cyllid ar gyfer cyd-brosiectau arloesol. O ystyried y galw am brosiectau o'r fath, a wnaiff y Gweinidog yn ei hymateb roi rhywfaint o fanylion mwy penodol am y meini prawf a ddefnyddir i benderfynu pa brosiectau a ddylai fynd ymlaen o dan y cynllun hwn? Efallai y gallai gyhoeddi'r meini prawf hynny er mwyn sicrhau bod y broses yn agored ac yn dryloyw.

Mae'n gwbl hanfodol bod y prosiectau hyn yn cyflawni arbedion effeithlonrwydd yn y tymor hir. Efallai y bydd y Gweinidog yn dweud wrthym pa asesiadau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u gwneud i brofi effeithiolrwydd y prosiectau a gwblhawyd. Mae hynny'n hanfodol, oherwydd bydd y profion hyn wedyn yn sail i'r meini prawf a ddefnyddir ar gyfer prosiectau posibl yn y dyfodol. Mewn geiriau eraill, sut y bydd yr astudiaethau achos y mae hi wedi eu cyhoeddi heddiw yn cael eu defnyddio i lywio prosiectau yn y dyfodol?

Yn naturiol, bydd rhai prosiectau yn aflwyddiannus wrth wneud cais am yr arian hwn. A all y Gweinidog roi sicrwydd i'r ymgeiswyr aflwyddiannus hyn y byddant yn gallu gwneud cais arall am gymorth o'r gronfa yn y dyfodol?

O ystyried yr hinsawdd ariannol dynn, heb os, gall rhwystrau anweledig arwain at oedi prosiectau. Os bydd hyn yn digwydd, a all y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym a yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn caniatáu i brosiect wneud cais arall am arian pellach os yw wedi colli cylch blaenorol o gyllid?

Yn amlwg, mae nifer o brosiectau llwyddiannus wedi dod i'r amlwg oherwydd y cynllun hwn. A all y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn sicrhau bod arferion gorau prosiectau llwyddiannus blaenorol yn cael eu rhannu â phrosiectau posibl er mwyn iddynt fod yn llwyddiannus wrth wneud cais am gyllid mewn cylchoedd yn y dyfodol?

Rwy'n derbyn mai prif amcan y cynllun yw sicrhau enillion effeithlonrwydd sylweddol sy'n rhyddhau arian. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig sicrhau bod cyllid yn cael ei

projects in Wales. While it is up to public service bodies to apply for funding, it is important that the Welsh Government do all that it can to invest strategically in funds that will deliver for communities the length and breadth of Wales. It is vital that the whole of Wales benefit from these funds—in other words, that the support is spread across the whole of the country and that the effects are felt across the whole of Wales.

The Minister said in her statement that this tranche is aimed at collaborative projects, and I am sure that all parties in the Chamber would subscribe to that agenda. I understand that, in general terms, the investments from the fund will face no interest charges and will be given a degree of flexibility on the payback period. Perhaps the Minister could elaborate a little on how flexible the payback period is and, indeed, on how it is determined. Is the decision taken on a case-by-case basis, for example?

I note that in the invest-to-save fund, the funding is directed in large part towards the revenue costs associated with the implementation of a project. However, it is noted in the guidance that costs associated with preparatory work, such as feasibility studies and business cases, might also be considered. Could the Minister outline on what basis she would be willing to invest in these kinds of preparatory work? It is also stated in the guidance that, while any capital costs associated with a proposed project generally need to be mainstreamed through an organisation's existing funding arrangements and resources, the fund might also be able to assist with capital costs in some circumstances. Can the Minister tell us exactly what constitutes 'some circumstances'?

I also want to ask the Minister about how the invest-to-save fund works within the Welsh Government's overall efficiency funding. I would be grateful if she could provide an update on how the fund has worked in conjunction with the efficiency and innovation board, for example, to save money where possible and deliver good-quality

ddosbarthu'n deg ymysg prosiectau yng Nghymru. Er mai penderfyniad i gyrff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yw gwneud cais am arian, mae'n bwysig bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwneud popeth yn ei gallu i fuddsoddi'n strategol mewn cyllid a fydd yn darparu ar gyfer cymunedau ar hyd a lled Cymru. Mae'n hanfodol bod Cymru gyfan yn elwa o'r cyllid hwn—mewn geiriau eraill, bod y gefnogaeth yn cael ei dosbarthu ar draws y wlad i gyd a bod yr effeithiau'n cael eu teimlo ledled Cymru gyfan.

Dywedodd y Gweinidog yn ei datganiad fod yr arian y tro hwn wedi ei anelu at brosiectau cydweithredol, ac rwy'n siŵr y byddai pob plaid yn y Siambr yn cyd-fynd â'r agenda honno. Rwy'n cael ar deall, yn gyffredinol, na fydd y buddsoddiadau o'r gronfa yn wynebu taliadau llog ac y bydd peth hyblygrwydd o ran y cyfnod ad-dalu. Efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog ymhelaethu ychydig ynghylch pa mor hyblyg yw'r cyfnod ad-dalu ac, yn wir, ynghylch sut y caiff ei benderfynu. A yw'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud fesul achos, er enghraifft?

Sylwaf, yn y gronfa buddsoddi i arbed, fod y cyllid yn cael ei gyfeirio i raddau helaeth at y costau refeniw sy'n gysylltiedig â chyflawni prosiect. Fodd bynnag, nodir yn y canllawiau y gallai costau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r gwaith paratoi, megis astudiaethau dichonoldeb ac achosion busnes, hefyd gael eu hystyried. A all y Gweinidog amlinellu ar ba sail y byddai'n barod i fuddsoddi yn y mathau hyn o waith paratoi? Dywedir hefyd yn y canllawiau, er bod angen i unrhyw gostau cyfalaf sy'n gysylltiedig â phrosiect arfaethedig gael eu prif ffrydio trwy drefniadau ac adnoddau cyllido presennol y sefydliad, efallai y gall y gronfa hefyd helpu gyda chostau cyfalaf mewn rhai amgylchiadau. A all y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym beth yn union y mae 'rhai amgylchiadau' yn ei olygu?

Rwyf hefyd eisiau gofyn i'r Gweinidog am y modd y mae'r gronfa buddsoddi i arbed yn gweithio o fewn cyllid effeithlonrwydd cyffredinol Llywodraeth Cymru. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai roi diweddariad am sut y mae'r gronfa wedi gweithio ar y cyd â'r bwrdd effeithlonrwydd ac arloesi, er enghraifft, i arbed arian lle y bo hynny'n

public services across Wales.

Finally, once again, I thank the Minister for her statement. I look forward to hearing more about these projects over the coming weeks.

Jane Hutt: I thank Paul Davies for those pertinent questions and for his welcome and support for the statement. As he says, this is about better value for money, efficiency and innovation in our public services. His final point is important as regards how this links with the work led by the Minister for Local Government and Communities, Carl Sargeant, and the role of the public service leadership group, which is steering a collaborative agenda and ensuring that we are learning lessons and taking through proposals emerging from the Simpson review, the front-line resources review, social services reform and the NHS five-year strategic plan.

On the first point, the objective of the fund is to deliver improved public services in line with our wider efficiency and improvement agenda, encouraging stronger collaboration across organisations and administrative boundaries where we can clearly ascertain that that leads to measurable benefit in public service delivery. Your point about promoting the dissemination of lessons learned and best practice arising from the projects is key to their applicability and the transfer of good practice that can emerge. We are targeting projects that support key aspects of the Welsh Government's public services efficiency agenda. On how the finance operates and the level of support available, contributions of up to 75% of eligible implementation of project costs are available and there can be higher investment where we have the possibility of stimulating significant cash-releasing efficiency benefits.

On the repayments, all investments are on a repayable basis, interest-free, but the repayments are negotiable to ensure that flexibility. Therefore, there are no set terms for the repayments, but we aim to agree a repayment profile that serves the successful

bosibl, a darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus o ansawdd da ledled Cymru.

Yn olaf, hoffwn ddiolch unwaith eto i'r Gweinidog am ei datganiad. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed mwy am y prosiectau hyn dros yr wythnosau nesaf.

Jane Hutt: Diolch, Paul Davies, am y cwestiynau perthnasol hynny ac am y croeso a'r gefnogaeth i'r datganiad. Fel y dywed, mae hyn yn ymwneud â gwell gwerth am arian, effeithlonrwydd, ac arloesi yn ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Roedd ei bwynt olaf yn bwysig o ran sut y mae hyn yn cysylltu â'r gwaith sydd dan arweiniad Carl Sargeant, y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, a rôl grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, sy'n llywio agenda o gydweithio ac yn sicrhau ein bod yn dysgu gwersi a gweithredu'r cynigion sy'n deillio o adolygiad Simpson, yr adolygiad o adnoddau gwasanaethau rheng flaen, diwygio'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a chynllun strategol pum mlynedd y GIG.

O ran y pwynt cyntaf, amcan y gronfa yw darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gwell yn unol â'n hagenda effeithlonrwydd a gwella ehangach, gan annog cydweithio cryfach ar draws sefydliadau a ffiniau gweinyddol lle y gallwn ganfod yn glir fod hynny'n arwain at fudd mesuradwy o ran darparu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Mae eich pwynt am hyrwyddo lledaenu'r gwersi a ddysgwyd a'r arferion gorau sy'n deillio o'r prosiectau yn allweddol o ran eu cymhwysedd a throsglwyddo arferion da a all godi. Rydym yn targedu prosiectau sy'n cefnogi agweddau allweddol ar agenda effeithlonrwydd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus Llywodraeth Cymru. O ran sut y mae'r cyllid yn gweithredu a lefel y cymorth sydd ar gael, mae cyfraniadau o hyd at 75% o gostau gweithredu dilys y prosiect ar gael a gellir cael buddsoddiad uwch lle y mae posibilrwydd o ysgogi buddion effeithlonrwydd sylweddol sy'n rhyddhau arian.

O ran yr ad-daliadau, mae'r holl fuddsoddiadau'n ad-daladwy, ac yn ddi-log, ond gellir trafod amodau'r ad-daliadau er mwyn sicrhau hyblygrwydd. Felly, nid oes amodau penodol ar gyfer yr ad-daliadau, ond rydym yn anelu at gytuno ar broffil ad-daliad

delivery of a project while also ensuring the prompt repayment of funding because we want further investments to take place. It is important to recognise that we have had full recovery of all the sums due.

You also make an important point about project proposals that may come forward that do not quite meet the criteria. We have the flexibility of allowing them to come back with revised proposals. It may be that there has not been sufficient collaboration or lessons learned from predecessor projects, but you will see that the announcements that I made today are building on the lessons of the Gwent frailty project, which has been widely trailed as an example of collaboration led by the health service across the five local authorities and the third sector. Lessons are now being learned in the new projects that we are now approving and funding. On best practice guidance, I have referred to the guidance and case studies that we are publishing this month and that we published last year to ensure that the public sector has an indication of what is working, what is appropriate and what is seeking support.

Your point about geographical spread is important, Paul. Obviously, it is not one of the fund's criteria. I can give you more details about the distribution of funding. In fact, Gwent features well, partly because of our investment in the Gwent frailty project. However, Mid and West Wales is on 9%, Swansea bay is on 19%, and North Wales is on 21%. It is also important to recognise that more than half the funding has gone into NHS projects, which have been successful in respect of that collaborative agenda. Therefore, the key point about the invest-to-save fund is that it is delivering efficiency and innovation as part of the public services leadership group, which is very engaged in considering the proposals coming forward and actively stimulating them.

3.00 p.m.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Rwyf hefyd yn **Ieuan Wyn Jones:** I also welcome the

sy'n galluogi'r prosiect i gael ei gyflwyno'n llwyddiannus ond gan sicrhau hefyd fod yr arian yn cael ei ad-dalu'n brydlon, gan ein bod am i fuddsoddiadau pellach ddigwydd. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod yr holl symiau dyledus wedi'u had-dalu'n llawn.

Rydych hefyd yn gwneud pwynt pwysig ynglŷn â chynigion ar gyfer prosiectau a all gael eu gwneud nad ydynt yn bodloni'r holl feini prawf. Mae gennym yr hyblygrwydd i ganiatáu iddynt ddod yn ôl â chynigion diwygiedig. Efallai na fu digon o gydweithio na digon o ddysgu gwersi yn sgîl prosiectau blaenorol, ond fe welwch fod y cyhoeddiadau yr wyf wedi'u gwneud heddiw yn adeiladu ar y gwersi a ddysgwyd o brosiect eiddilwch Gwent, sydd wedi cael sylw teilwng fel enghraifft o gydweithio dan arweiniad y gwasanaeth iechyd ar draws y pum awdurdod lleol a'r trydydd sector. Bellach, mae gwersi'n cael eu dysgu yn y prosiectau newydd yr ydym yn eu cymeradwyo a'u hariannu. O ran canllawiau arferion gorau, rwyf wedi cyfeirio at y canllawiau a'r astudiaethau achos yr ydym yn eu cyhoeddi y mis hwn ac a gyhoeddwyd gennym y llynedd er mwyn sicrhau bod y sector cyhoeddus yn cael syniad o'r hyn sy'n gweithio, yr hyn sy'n briodol a'r hyn sy'n ceisio cefnogaeth.

Mae eich pwynt am y dosbarthiad daearyddol yn bwysig, Paul. Yn amlwg, nid yw'n un o feini prawf y gronfa. Gallaf roi rhagor o fanylion am ddsbarthiad y cyllid. Yn wir, mae Gwent yn gwneud yn dda, yn rhannol oherwydd ein buddsoddiad ym mhrosiect eiddilwch Gwent. Fodd bynnag, mae Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru wedi cael 9%, bae Abertawe wedi cael 19%, a Gogledd Cymru wedi cael 21%. Mae hefyd yn bwysig cydnabod bod mwy na hanner yr arian wedi mynd i brosiectau'r GIG, sydd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus mewn perthynas â'r agenda gydweithio. Felly, y pwynt allweddol am y gronfa buddsoddi i arbed yw ei bod yn sicrhau effeithlonrwydd ac arloesedd fel rhan o grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, sy'n cymryd rhan lawn o ran ystyried y cynigion sy'n dod gerbron ac o ran mynd ati i'w hysgogi.

croesawu'r datganiad gan y Gweinidog. Erbyn hyn, mae hi a'i rhagflaenydd wedi dyrannu £52 miliwn ar gyfer prosiectau buddsoddi i arbed ers 2009 ac mae'n cyhoeddi £12.7 miliwn ychwanegol heddiw, sy'n gwneud cyfanswm o £64.7 miliwn. Sylwais fod y prosiectau newydd i gyd yn y sector iechyd. Er ein bod yn croesawu hynny, gan fod cymaint o bwysau ar y sector yn sgîl y sefyllfa economaidd ac ariannol, mae'n bryder weithiau nad yw'r sectorau eraill yn gwneud y ceisiadau neu nad ydynt o leiaf yn llwyddo yn eu ceisiadau gystal â'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

Mae rhai cwestiynau yn codi yn sgîl cyhoeddiad heddiw. Roeddwn yn gwrandio ar ateb y Gweinidog i gwestiynau gan Paul Davies, yn arbennig am ddyraniad daearyddol y cynlluniau ers 2009. Er bod y Gweinidog wedi cyfeirio at ganrannau yn ei hateb, gall hynny weithiau fod yn gamarweiniol oherwydd nid ydynt yn nodi'r arian sy'n cael ei neilltuo. Felly, a wnaiff y Gweinidog ein hatgoffa—drwy gyhoeddi ar wefan y Llywodraeth neu mewn llythyr i Aelodau—am y prosiectau sydd wedi cael eu caniatáu hyd yma, a hynny ar sail ddaearyddol? Mae wedi gwneud y pwynt nad yw'n ystyried prosiectau mewn cyd-destun daearyddol wrth iddynt wneud cais, ond rwy'n meddwl ei bod yn bwysig bod pobl yn gwybod pa rannau o Gymru sydd wedi elwa. Byddem ni fel Aelodau wedyn yn gallu perswadio rhai sectorau yn ein hardaloedd ni i wneud mwy o waith ar y cynlluniau hyn.

Yr ail gwestiwn yw: pa sectorau sydd wedi elwa fwyaf? Mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud yn ei hymateb i Paul Davies fod 50% o'r cynlluniau yn dod o'r gwasanaeth iechyd. Rwy'n credu ei bod yn wir dweud bod byrddau iechyd, yn y gorffennol, wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn yn y ceisiadau, ond mae hynny'n gadael y sectorau addysg, tai ac awdurdodau lleol i ofyn pam nad ydynt wedi bod mor llwyddiannus. Gwnaed pwynt ynglŷn â'r ceisiadau sydd wedi cael eu gwrthod; efallai y byddai cyhoeddi'r rheini o leiaf yn caniatáu inni wybod pa sectorau na wnaeth ddigon o waith ar eu cynlluniau.

Mae'r cwestiwn olaf sydd gennyf yn ymwneud ag arbedion gwirioneddol a wnaed.

Minister's statement. By now, the Minister and her predecessor have allocated £52 million for invest-to-save projects since 2009 and she has announced an additional £12.7 million today, which comes to a total of £64.7 million. I noted that the new projects are all in the health sector. Even though this is to be welcomed, given the pressure on the sector as a result of the financial and economic situation, it is a cause of concern at times that other sectors do not make bids or have not been as successful as the health service has been in making bids.

I have some questions in the light of today's statement. I heard the Minister's response to Paul Davies's questions, particularly on the geographical spread of projects since 2009. Although the Minister referred to percentages in her response, these can be misleading at times because they do not set out the actual amounts allocated. Therefore, would the Minister be willing to remind us—by providing the information on the Government website or in a letter to Members—about the geographical spread of projects approved to date? She made the point that she does not consider projects in a geographical context when bids are made, but I think that it is important that people know which parts of Wales have benefited. We as Members could then persuade certain sectors in our areas to do more work on the proposals and bids.

The second question is this: which sectors have benefited most? The Minister said in response to Paul Davies that 50% of the schemes come from the health service. I think it is true to say that, in the past, health boards have been very successful in preparing bids, but that leaves the education, housing and local authority sectors to ask why they have not been as successful. A point was made about rejected applications; perhaps publishing their details would at least allow us to see which sectors did not work hard enough on their proposals.

My final question relates to the real savings that have been made.

I read the statement with interest. The two references to savings in the statement are in the third paragraph, which talks about projected annual savings of at least £74 million. You refer to a Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council project with a potential of releasing £15 million of efficiency savings over five years. As these schemes have been announced since 2009, there must be schemes that have been concluded since then for which it is possible for us to be told the actual savings that have occurred. Since this is an invest-to-save programme, I think we are entitled, at some point, to be given a list of the actual savings made as a result of the proposals that have been introduced. Will the Minister be prepared to commit herself today to releasing information in relation to those projects? Given that we live in straitened economic and financial times, will the Minister, adding to what I said previously, encourage those sectors who are not already fully engaged in invest-to-save projects to get their act together so that the whole public sector can benefit from something that is an excellent initiative?

Jane Hutt: I thank the finance spokesperson for Plaid Cymru for his response to this statement. I responded on that geographical point in response to Paul Davies earlier and I am very happy to publish the statistics on the geographical spread. On the points raised about the fact that over half of the funding invested has gone to NHS projects, this compares with approximately 42% being paid to local government or local government and partner projects.

I also mentioned in my statement the important project that I visited, as I am sure have other Members who represent that area, namely the Newport information station, which is a local government-led project. The former Newport station, which the Presiding Officer knows well, as do other local and regional Members, is now used effectively as part of a citizen-focused approach by agencies led by local government, but including the third sector with citizen advice bureaux information and advice points, with access to technology and one-stop-shop

Darllenais y datganiad gyda diddordeb. Mae'r ddau gyfeiriad at arbedion yn y datganiad yn y trydydd paragraff, sy'n sôn am o leiaf £74 miliwn o arbedion amcanol yn flynyddol. Rydych yn cyfeirio at brosiect gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Merthyr Tudful a allai ryddhau £15 miliwn o arbedion effeithlonrwydd dros bum mlynedd. Gan fod y cynlluniau hyn wedi cael eu cyhoeddi ers 2009, mae'n rhaid bod cynlluniau wedi cael eu cwblhau ers hynny ac y byddai'n bosibl inni gael gwybod beth yw'r arbedion gwirioneddol sydd wedi digwydd. Gan mai rhaglen buddsoddi i arbed yw hon, credaf bod gennym hawl, ar ryw adeg, i gael rhestr o'r arbedion gwirioneddol a wnaed o ganlyniad i'r cynigion sydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno. A fydd y Gweinidog yn barod i ymrwymo heddiw i ryddhau gwybodaeth mewn perthynas â'r prosiectau hynny? O ystyried ein bod yn byw mewn cyfnod economaidd ac ariannol helbulus, a wnaiff y Gweinidog, gan ychwanegu at yr hyn a ddywedais yn flaenorol, annog y sectorau hynny nad ydynt eisoes yn cymryd rhan gyflawn mewn prosiectau buddsoddi i arbed i gael trefn ar bethau fel bod y sector cyhoeddus cyfan yn gallu elwa o'r fenter ragorol hon?

Jane Hutt: Diolch yn fawr i lefarydd cyllid Plaid Cymru am ei ymateb i'r datganiad hwn. Ymatebais ar y pwynt daearyddol hwnnw mewn ymateb i Paul Davies yn gynharach ac rwy'n falch iawn o gyhoeddi'r ystadegau ar y dosbarthiad daearyddol. O ran y pwyntiau a godwyd am y ffaith bod dros hanner yr arian a fuddsoddwyd wedi mynd at brosiectau yn y GIG, mae hyn yn cymharu â thua 42% yn cael ei dalu i lywodraeth leol neu i lywodraeth leol a phrosiectau mewn partneriaeth.

Bu imi hefyd grybwyll yn fy natganiad y prosiect pwysig yr ymwelais ag ef, ac rwy'n siŵr bod Aelodau eraill sy'n cynrychioli'r ardal honno wedi gwneud yr un modd, sef gorsaf wybodaeth Casnewydd, sy'n brosiect a arweinir gan lywodraeth leol. Mae cyn-orsaf Casnewydd—ac mae'r Llywydd yn gyfarwydd iawn â hi, yn ogystal ag Aelodau lleol a rhanbarthol eraill—yn cael ei defnyddio'n effeithiol bellach fel rhan o ddull sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd gan asiantaethau a arweinir gan lywodraeth leol, ond sy'n cynnwys y trydydd sector, gyda

support. It is also important that we recognise that local government can learn lessons, for example, from the Merthyr Tydfil e-procurement project, as identified in the statement, which released £15 million of efficiency savings. If that is the case, where are the other local authorities in responding to that?

This goes to the important point in your question about how this links into the public service reform agenda, which is being taken forward, as I said, under the public services leadership group, and the work stream on collaborative procurement and asset management, which is led by a local government chief executive, namely Tracey Lee, the chief executive of Newport City Council. Local government is clearly aware of the fact that it needs to take this forward in terms of the lessons learned and to put its own proposals forward to benefit from the invest-to-save fund.

I am happy to share the savings that have been made and are forecast to be made over the coming years. I said in my statement, of course, that existing projects have repaid over £8 million, and we have fully reinvested that funding. This year, more than £9 million is due to be repaid and reinvested, with a further £15 million forecast to be repaid next year. I very much welcome the interest in the fund and will be happy to provide more information, as indicated, to Members.

Peter Black: May I also welcome this statement, Minister, and the extra investment that you are putting into this invest-to-save programme. It is important, however, as has been raised by previous speakers, that we are able to properly evaluate this programme. I also share the concerns of Ieuan Wyn Jones about identifying the savings that are being made through this, in terms not just of cash savings, but of how this applies across the public sector. As regards the concerns I have, the Gwent frailty project is a good example. It is a very successful project that has done a huge amount in bringing together public services in Gwent and delivering a better

mannau gwybodaeth a chyngor y gwasanaeth cyngor ar bopeth a mynediad at dechnoleg a chymorth siop un stop. Mae hefyd yn bwysig inni gydnabod y gall llywodraeth leol ddysgu gwersi, er enghraifft, gan brosiect e-gaffael Merthyr Tudful, fel y nodwyd yn y datganiad, a ryddhaodd £15 miliwn o arbedion effeithlonrwydd. Os yw hynny'n wir, ble y mae'r awdurdodau lleol eraill wrth ymateb i hynny?

Mae hyn yn ymwneud â'r pwynt pwysig yn eich cwestiwn ynghylch sut y mae hyn yn cysylltu â'r agenda diwygio gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, sy'n cael ei datblygu, fel y dywedais, o dan grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, a'r ffrwd waith ar gaffael ar y cyd a rheoli asedau, a arweinir gan brif weithredwr llywodraeth leol, sef Tracey Lee, prif weithredwr Cyngor Dinas Casnewydd. Mae llywodraeth leol yn amlwg yn ymwybodol o'r ffaith bod angen datblygu hyn o ran y gwersi a ddysgwyd a chyflwyno'i gynigion ei hun i elwa o'r gronfa buddsoddi i arbed.

Rwy'n fodlon rhannu'r arbedion a wnaed ac y rhagwelir y byddant yn cael eu gwneud dros y blynyddoedd nesaf. Dywedais yn fy natganiad, wrth gwrs, bod prosiectau presennol wedi ad-dalu dros £8 miliwn, ac rydym wedi ailfuddsoddi'r arian hwnnw'n llawn. Eleni, bydd mwy na £9 miliwn yn cael ei ad-dalu a'i ailfuddsoddi, a rhagwelir y bydd £15 miliwn ychwanegol yn cael ei ad-dalu y flwyddyn nesaf. Rwy'n croesawu'n fawr y diddordeb yn y gronfa a byddaf yn fodlon rhoi rhagor o wybodaeth, fel y nodwyd, i Aelodau.

Peter Black: Hoffwn innau groesawu'r datganiad hwn, Weinidog, a'r buddsoddiad ychwanegol yr ydych yn ei roi i'r rhaglen buddsoddi i arbed. Mae'n bwysig, fodd bynnag, fel y mae siaradwyr blaenorol wedi dweud, ein bod yn gallu gwerthuso'r rhaglen hon yn briodol. Rwyf hefyd yn pryderu, fel y mae Ieuan Wyn Jones, am nodi'r arbedion a wneir drwy hyn, nid yn unig o ran arbedion ariannol, ond hefyd o ran sut y mae hyn yn berthnasol ar draws y sector cyhoeddus. O ran fy mhryderon, mae rhaglen eiddilwch Gwent yn enghraifft dda. Mae'n brosiect llwyddiannus iawn sydd wedi gwneud llawer iawn o ran dod â gwasanaethau cyhoeddus

service for people. The service was made possible by some £9 million from the invest-to-save fund from the Welsh Government. If you were to seek to replicate that service elsewhere in Wales, you would most probably need similar funding from the Welsh Government. Therefore, the opportunity to roll out good practice from that particular project is dependent on similar resources being made available for what is no longer an innovative project, but one that could become a mainstream project around Wales. Therefore, the question is how you turn innovative projects that have proven to be successful as a result of invest-to-save funding into mainstream projects across Wales without having to put in substantial extra resources and sustain them. I would be grateful for your views on that, Minister.

There also needs to be an evaluation of outcomes as well as the savings from projects, and I would be interested to know what performance indicators you apply when you come to evaluate those projects. How do you determine whether a project has been successful in what it has sought to achieve and how do you determine whether that project has delivered the sort of savings that you looked for? Are you just interested in monetary savings or are you looking for a better quality of project and better working together across the public sector? All those criteria demand a much more detailed report from the Government on this than is possible in an oral statement. It would be useful, Minister, if you were to consider providing a written report so that we could evaluate and scrutinise properly through one of the Assembly committees—possibly the Finance Committee.

Jane Hutt: I thank the Member for that very important contribution. In terms of evaluating the programme and gaining clarity about the cash savings and the focus on innovation and efficiency, I think that it would be very appropriate for me to come forward with my officials to clarify those points, if the Finance Committee felt that that would be appropriate. The point about the Gwent frailty programme is that it was a pioneer in

ying Ngwent ynghyd a darparu gwell gwasanaeth i bobl. Roedd y gwasanaeth yn bosibl oherwydd y £9 miliwn a roddwyd o'r gronfa buddsoddi i arbed gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Pe baech yn ceisio ail-greu'r gwasanaeth hwnnw mewn manau eraill yng Nghymru, mae'n debyg y byddai angen cyllid tebyg gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Felly, mae'r cyfle i gyflwyno arferion da o'r prosiect penodol hwnnw'n dibynnu ar ddarparu adnoddau tebyg ar gyfer rhywbeth nad ydyw bellach yn brosiect arloesol, ond yn rhywbeth a allai ddod yn brosiect brif ffrwd ledled Cymru. Felly, y cwestiwn yw sut yr ydych yn troi prosiectau arloesol sydd wedi profi eu bod yn llwyddiannus o ganlyniad i arian buddsoddi i arbed yn brosiectau prif ffrwd ar draws Cymru, heb orfod cynnig adnoddau ychwanegol sylweddol a chynnal yr adnoddau hynny. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar o glywed am eich barn am hynny, Weinidog.

Rhaid cael gwerthusiad hefyd o ganlyniadau yn ogystal â'r arbedion yn sgîl prosiectau, a hoffwn wybod pa ddangosyddion perfformiad a ddefnyddiwyd wrth werthuso'r prosiectau hynny. Sut yr ydych yn penderfynu a yw prosiect wedi bod yn llwyddiannus o ran yr hyn yr oedd yn ceisio'i gyflawni a sut yr ydych yn penderfynu a yw'r prosiect wedi esgor ar y math o arbedion yr oeddech yn gobeithio eu cael? Ai arbedion ariannol yn unig sydd o ddiddordeb ichi neu a ydych chi'n chwilio am brosiect sydd o ansawdd gwell ac am well cydweithio ar draws y sector cyhoeddus? Mae'r holl feini prawf hynny'n gofyn am adroddiad llawer manylach gan y Llywodraeth ar hyn nag sy'n bosibl mewn datganiad llafar. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol, Weinidog, pe baech yn ystyried darparu adroddiad ysgrifenedig er mwyn inni allu gwerthuso a chraffu'n briodol drwy un o bwyllgorau'r Cynulliad—y Pwyllgor Cyllid o bosibl.

Jane Hutt: Diolch i'r Aelod am y cyfraniad pwysig iawn hwnnw. O ran gwerthuso'r rhaglen a chael eglurder ynghylch yr arbedion ariannol a'r ffocws ar arloesi ac effeithlonrwydd, credaf y byddai'n briodol iawn imi ddod gerbron gyda'm swyddogion i egluro'r pwyntiau hynny, os mai dyna sy'n briodol ym marn y Pwyllgor Cyllid. Y pwynt ynghylch rhaglen eiddilwch Gwent yw ei bod yn arloesol o ran y £9 miliwn a fuddsoddiwyd

terms of the £9 million that we invested in it. Today, I have announced three projects that very much build on the lessons learned from the Gwent frailty programme. Those three projects are worth £7.5 million. The Gwent frailty programme is a large scheme covering a large geographical area. It was a pioneer scheme, and Hywel Dda Local Health Board, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and Cwm Taf Local Health Board have all developed their own schemes as a result. I would draw Members' attention to the two invest-to-save case studies in the report that I am publishing today, which could inform full scrutiny of the invest-to-save scheme, which is a pioneer scheme in the UK, by the Finance Committee. I hope that that might be considered.

Mike Hedges: First, I welcome the invest-to-save initiative, especially the fact that people have to pay the money back and the idea that people do not see free money coming in. I have several questions. When will the £52 million be fully repaid? You have identified when £32 million will be repaid, but when is the other £20 million going to be repaid? Also, how will you ensure that the success of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's e-procurement project can be shared with other local authorities that do not use e-procurement? If this can save Merthyr £15 million, some of the larger authorities could save an awful lot more, and in these difficult times, that is needed. You may say that I should ask my final question to the Minister for Local Government and Communities: is it being suggested that local authorities use some of their own money for invest-to-save, as well as money from the Assembly?

Jane Hutt: I thank Mike Hedges for those questions. They would all form part of wider scrutiny of the invest-to-save programme. Clearly, I have made some responses and comments about the arrangements for repayments. I need to ensure that I give Members a clearer profile of the repayment plans. Every project has a repayment profile that accords with objectives on successful delivery. Now, the lessons being learned are

gennym ynddi. Heddiw, rwyf wedi cyhoeddi tri phrosiect sydd i raddau helaeth yn adeiladu ar y gwersi a ddysgwyd yn sgîl rhaglen eiddilwch Gwent. Mae'r tri phrosiect hynny yn werth £7.5 miliwn. Mae rhaglen eiddilwch Gwent yn gynllun mawr sy'n cwmpasu ardal ddaearyddol fawr. Roedd yn gynllun arloesol, ac mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda, Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Cwm Taf i gyd wedi datblygu eu cynlluniau eu hunain o ganlyniad. Hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Aelodau at y ddwy astudiaeth achos o ran buddsoddi i arbed yn yr adroddiad a gyhoeddaf heddiw, a allai fod yn sail i gael craffu llawn ar y cynllun buddsoddi i arbed, sy'n gynllun arloesol yn y DU, gan y Pwyllgor Cyllid. Rwy'n gobeithio y gellid ystyried hynny.

Mike Hedges: Yn gyntaf, rwy'n croesawu'r fenter buddsoddi i arbed, yn enwedig y ffaith bod yn rhaid i bobl dalu'r arian yn ôl a'r syniad nad yw pobl yn gweld arian yn dod am ddim. Mae gennyf nifer o gwestiynau. Pryd y bydd y £52 miliwn yn cael ei ad-dalu'n llawn? Rydych wedi nodi pryd y bydd y £32,000,000 yn cael ei ad-dalu, ond pryd y bydd yr £20 miliwn sy'n weddill yn cael ei ad-dalu? Hefyd, sut y byddwch yn sicrhau y gall llwyddiant prosiect e-gaffael Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Merthyr Tudful gael ei rannu ag awdurdodau lleol eraill nad ydynt yn defnyddio e-gaffael? Os gall hyn arbed £15 miliwn i Ferthyr, gallai rhai o'r awdurdodau mwy arbed llawer iawn mwy, ac yn y cyfnod anodd hwn, mae angen gwneud hynny. Efallai y byddwch yn dweud y dylwn ofyn fy nghwestiwn olaf i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau: a oes awgrym y dylai awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio rhywfaint o'u harian eu hunain ar gyfer buddsoddi i arbed, yn ogystal ag arian gan y Cynulliad?

Jane Hutt: Diolch i Mike Hedges am y cwestiynau hynny. Byddent i gyd yn rhan o'r gwaith craffu ehangach ar y rhaglen buddsoddi i arbed. Yn amlwg, rwyf wedi gwneud rhai ymatebion a sylwadau am y trefniadau ar gyfer ad-daliadau. Mae angen imi sicrhau fy mod yn cynnig proffil cliriach o'r cynlluniau ad-dalu i Aelodau. Mae gan bob prosiect broffil ad-daliad sy'n cyd-fynd ag amcanion cyflawni'n llwyddiannus. Mae'r

being shared across Wales, and this is very much a public service leadership group objective, in terms of delivery. If the Member looks at the original value of Welsh Government funding, he will see that we invested nearly £30 million in the fund's first two years, and we are investing an additional £20 million in the next three years. We know that, in terms of the recovery of our sums due—more than £9 million this year and next year—we are on course to deliver a further £25 million in terms of repayments. I have already responded to the points on lessons learned, and they fit very clearly with the public service leadership group's ambitions.

gwersi sy'n cael eu dysgu yn awr yn cael eu rhannu ar draws Cymru, ac mae hyn i raddau helaeth iawn yn amcan ar gyfer grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, o ran cyflawni. Os yw'r Aelod yn edrych ar werth gwreiddiol cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru, gwêl ein bod wedi buddsoddi bron £30 miliwn yn y gronfa yn y ddwy flynedd gyntaf, ac rydym yn buddsoddi £20 miliwn yn ychwanegol dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Rydym yn gwybod, o ran adennill y symiau sy'n ddyledus i ni—sy'n fwy na £9 miliwn eleni a'r flwyddyn nesaf—ein bod ar y trywydd iawn i sicrhau £25 miliwn arall o ran ad-daliadau. Rwyf eisoes wedi ymateb i'r pwyntiau am y gwersi a ddysgwyd, ac maent yn cyd-fynd yn glir iawn ag uchelgais grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus.

Datganiad: Gwella Ysgolion **Statement: School Improvement**

The Minister for Education and Skills (Leighton Andrews): Today, I wish to focus on two areas specific to our school improvement agenda—the actions that we are taking to tackle the link between poverty and low levels of attainment, and the steps that we are taking to strengthen the professionalism of the whole workforce. Members will be aware that our school effectiveness framework has three priorities: literacy, numeracy and breaking the link between poverty and low levels of attainment. We published the national literacy programme on 17 May, and we began the consultation on the national literacy and numeracy frameworks on 11 June. The national literacy programme for Wales sets out the actions that will be taken by the Welsh Government and our partners to achieve a step-change in standards of literacy over the next five years. It brings together a number of key initiatives to drive up standards, and it also outlines the steps needed to support teachers in taking these actions forward. Our national numeracy programme will be published in the autumn.

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau (Leighton Andrews): Heddiw, rwyf am ganolbwyntio ar ddau faes sy'n ymwneud yn benodol â'n hagenda gwella ysgolion—y camau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r cysylltiad rhwng tlodi a lefelau isel o gyrhaeddiad, a'r camau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i gryfhau proffesiynoldeb yr holl weithlu. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol bod tair blaenoriaeth i'n fframwaith effeithiolrwydd ysgolion: llythrennedd, rhifedd a thorri'r cysylltiad rhwng tlodi a lefelau isel o gyrhaeddiad. Cyhoeddwyd y rhaglen llythrennedd genedlaethol ar 17 Mai, ac rydym wedi dechrau'r ymgynghoriad ar y fframweithiau llythrennedd a rhifedd cenedlaethol ar 11 Mehefin. Mae rhaglen llythrennedd genedlaethol Cymru yn nodi'r camau a fydd yn cael eu cymryd gan Lywodraeth Cymru a'n partneriaid i gyflawni newid sylweddol mewn safonau llythrennedd dros y pum mlynedd nesaf. Mae'n dwyn ynghyd nifer o fentrau allweddol i godi safonau, ac mae hefyd yn amlinellu'r camau sydd eu hangen i gefnogi athrawon wrth roi'r camau hyn ar waith. Bydd ein rhaglen rhifedd genedlaethol yn cael ei chyhoeddi yn yr hydref.

3.15 p.m.

In terms of the third priority of the school effectiveness framework, we all know that

O ran trydedd flaenoriaeth y fframwaith effeithiolrwydd ysgolion, rydym oll yn

education has a fundamental role in helping to lift people out of poverty and in protecting those at risk of poverty and disadvantage. There is a strong link between poor educational attainment, low skills, poverty and poor health and wellbeing. As a Government, we are committed to tackling poverty by raising aspirations, improving standards in education and increasing skill levels.

In addition to specific funding programmes and grants, such as free school breakfasts, the pupil deprivation grant, and our continuing commitment to education maintenance allowances, approaches that combine whole-school improvement with specific pupil-level interventions will be necessary to ensure that schools improve overall and that attainment gaps narrow. Our new £32.4 million pupil deprivation grant provides a key opportunity for schools to invest in effective approaches for tackling the impact of deprivation. The full 100% of grant funding will be delegated to schools. Each school will receive an allocation according to the number of pupils of compulsory school age eligible for free school meals.

Our guidance for the pupil deprivation grant strongly encourages schools in areas of high socioeconomic disadvantage to link and work closely with the Communities First programme, to maximise the resources available for initiatives to raise school standards and to break the link between poverty and poor educational outcomes.

The early years are a critical time for children's physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional development, and research is also beginning to show that what happens to children in the early years can have lasting physiological effects. Poverty begins to exert its effects from a young age: by age 5, children from the most advantaged groups were found to be over a year ahead in vocabulary compared with those from disadvantaged backgrounds. We know that interventions to support children in the early years are highly effective in tackling the effects of deprivation on educational attainment. That is why we are investing

gwybod bod gan addysg rôl hanfodol o ran helpu i godi pobl allan o dlodi ac amddiffyn y rhai sydd mewn perygl o dlodi ac anfantais. Mae cysylltiad cryf rhwng cyrhaeddiad addysgol gwael, sgiliau isel, tlodi ac iechyd a lles gwael. Fel Llywodraeth, rydym wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â thlodi drwy godi dyheadau, gwella safonau mewn addysg a chynyddu lefelau sgiliau.

Yn ogystal â rhaglenni cyllid a grantiau penodol, megis brecwast ysgol am ddim, y grant amddifadedd disgyblion, a'n hymrwymiad parhaus i lwfansau cynhalieth addysg, bydd angen dulliau sy'n cyfuno gwella'r ysgol gyfan ag ymyriadau ar lefel disgyblion penodol er mwyn sicrhau bod ysgolion yn gwella yn gyffredinol a bod bylchau cyrhaeddiad yn cau. Mae ein grant amddifadedd disgyblion gwerth £32.4 miliwn, sy'n grant newydd, yn rhoi cyfle allweddol i ysgolion fuddsoddi mewn dulliau effeithiol er mwyn mynd i'r afael ag effaith amddifadedd. Bydd y grant yn cael ei drosglwyddo i'r ysgolion yn gyfan gwbl. Bydd pob ysgol yn cael dyraniad yn ôl nifer y disgyblion o oedran ysgol gorfodol sy'n gymwys i gael prydau ysgol am ddim.

Mae ein canllawiau ar gyfer y grant amddifadedd disgyblion yn annog ysgolion mewn ardaloedd o amddifadedd economaidd-gymdeithasol uchel i gysylltu a chydweithio'n agos â'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, er mwyn gwneud y gorau o'r adnoddau sydd ar gael i fentrau i godi safonau'r ysgol ac i dorri'r cysylltiad rhwng tlodi a chanlyniadau addysgol gwael.

Mae'r blynyddoedd cynnar yn amser hollbwysig o ran datblygiad corfforol, gwybyddol, ieithyddol, cymdeithasol ac emosiynol plant, ac mae gwaith ymchwil hefyd yn dechrau dangos y gall yr hyn sy'n digwydd i blant yn y blynyddoedd cynnar gael effeithiau ffisiolegol parhaol. Mae effeithiau tlodi yn dod i'r amlwg yn gynnar: erbyn y bydd plant yn bump oed, canfuwyd bod geirfa plant o'r grwpiau mwyaf breintiedig dros flwyddyn ar y blaen i'r rhai o gefndiroedd difreintiedig. Gwyddom fod ymyriadau i gefnogi plant yn y blynyddoedd cynnar yn hynod effeithiol wrth fynd i'r afael ag effeithiau amddifadedd ar gyrhaeddiad

significantly in the foundation phase.

The Welsh Government's overall reforms to raise school standards play a key role in reducing the impact of poverty on educational attainment. By raising the performance of all schools, and by reducing the variations found between and within schools, standards of learning will increase for all learners, and those from deprived backgrounds should benefit most. This, in turn, will equip young people and adults to meet their potential and secure sustainable employment. Secondary school banding has already been valuable. It has helped us to identify which schools need support and enabled the consortia to differentiate the support available for schools in specific circumstances.

In terms of the professionalism of our workforce, we have already been clear about the high value that we attribute to teaching and training staff, whether they are based in schools, colleges, work-based learning or informal learning settings. They directly support our children and young people to achieve their full potential. This in turn means that the Welsh Government has a responsibility to support practitioners working in our education system, to value their contribution and to enable them to achieve the highest standards. To support this commitment, last December, I published a consultation document that proposed extending the current requirement for teachers to register with a professional registration body to include practitioners in further education, work-based learning and teaching assistants in schools. As a result of the consultation, I am proposing that further education, work-based learning staff and teaching and learning assistants will be required to register with the new registration body. I am also proposing at this stage that only those youth workers who have gained a recognised qualification through a higher education institution will be required to register.

I also see this consultation as an opportunity to consider how we can improve the consistency of initial professional standards, training and continued professional

addysgol. Dyna pam yr ydym yn buddsoddi'n sylweddol yn y cyfnod sylfaen.

Mae diwygiadau cyffredinol Llywodraeth Cymru i godi safonau ysgolion yn chwarae rhan allweddol o ran lleihau effaith tlodi ar gyrraedd addysgol. Trwy godi perfformiad pob ysgol, a lleihau'r amrywiadau sy'n bodoli rhwng ac o fewn ysgolion, bydd safonau dysgu pob dysgwr yn cynyddu, a'r rhai o gefndiroedd difreintiedig ddylai elwa fwyaf. Bydd hyn, yn ei dro, yn paratoi pobl ifanc ac oedolion i gyrraedd eu potensial a sicrhau cyflogaeth gynaliadwy. Mae bandio ysgolion uwchradd eisoes wedi bod yn werthfawr. Mae wedi ein helpu i nodi pa ysgolion sydd angen cefnogaeth ac mae wedi galluogi'r consortia i wahaniaethu'r gefnogaeth sydd ar gael i ysgolion o dan amgylchiadau penodol.

O ran proffesiynoldeb ein gweithlu, rydym eisoes wedi bod yn glir ynghylch y gwerth uchel yr ydym yn ei roi ar addysgu a hyfforddi staff, boed y staff mewn ysgolion, colegau, lleoliadau dysgu seliedig ar waith neu leoliadau dysgu anffurfiol. Maent yn rhoi cefnogaeth uniongyrchol i'n plant a'n pobl ifanc wireddu eu holl botensial. Mae hyn yn ei dro yn golygu bod gan Lywodraeth Cymru gyfrifoldeb i gefnogi ymarferwyr sy'n gweithio yn ein system addysg, gwerthfawrogi eu cyfraniad a'u galluogi i gyrraedd y safonau uchaf. I gefnogi'r ymrwymiad hwn, fis Rhagfyr diwethaf, cyhoeddais ddogfen ymgynghori a oedd yn cynnig ymestyn y gofyniad presennol i athrawon gofrestru â chorff cofrestru proffesiynol a chynnwys ymarferwyr mewn addysg bellach, dysgu seiliedig ar waith a cynorthwywyr addysgu mewn ysgolion. O ganlyniad i'r ymgynghoriad, rwy'n cynnig y dylid ei gwneud yn ofynnol i staff addysg bellach, staff dysgu seiliedig ar waith a chynorthwywyr dysgu ac addysgu gofrestru â'r corff cofrestru newydd. Rwyf hefyd yn cynnig ar hyn o bryd mai dim ond gweithwyr ieuentid sydd wedi ennill cymhwyster cydnabyddedig mewn sefydliad addysg uwch fydd yn gorfod cofrestru.

Rwyf hefyd yn gweld yr ymgynghoriad hwn yn gyfle i ystyried sut y gallwn wella cysondeb safonau proffesiynol cychwynnol, hyfforddiant a datblygiad proffesiynol

development. The new body must be directly engaged with initial training organisations, just as in Ireland, where the respective body has a role in endorsing both teacher and further education training. These new functions would be phased in over time in line with an agreed delivery plan.

Although I have identified professions that will be required to register, I do not want to close the door on groups such as volunteers and other support staff who also provide a valuable contribution to the education and training of our children and young people. I will therefore commission further work to explore registration and training and the development needs of these staff and volunteers.

The consultation document made clear that the scope and functions of the General Teaching Council for Wales, as currently constituted, were too narrowly focused to achieve fully our vision for the education workforce. In light of the current financial pressures facing us, it is not my intention to establish a completely new registration body for Wales. My intention now is to consult further and in more detail on how we envisage the new registration body operating, its roles and functions, and the delivery plan for implementation. We will, therefore, publish a further consultation document next month dealing with these issues.

Angela Burns: Minister, thank you for your statement, but I must say that we have already heard from you about most of the items in it. That brings me to the comment that Kirsty Williams made earlier about it being timely and pertinent. However, I understand your role in the Government as action man—you are filling in the gaps because of the lack of legislation, policy and initiatives coming from your colleagues. Thank heavens for you or we would be ending very early on a Tuesday.

In your statement, I note that you refer to

‘the actions we are taking to tackle the link

parhaus. Rhaid i'r corff newydd ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â sefydliadau hyfforddiant cychwynnol, yn union fel yn Iwerddon, lle y mae gan y corff priodol rôl o ran cymeradwyo'r hyfforddiant i athrawon a hyfforddiant addysg bellach. Bydd y swyddogaethau newydd hyn yn cael eu cyflwyno'n raddol dros amser yn unol â chynllun cyflawni y cytunwyd arno.

Er fy mod wedi nodi proffesiynau a fydd yn gorfod cofrestru, nid wyf am gau'r drws ar grwpiau fel gwirfoddolwyr a staff cymorth eraill sydd hefyd yn gwneud cyfraniad gwerthfawr i addysg a hyfforddiant ein plant a'n pobl ifanc. Felly, byddaf yn comisiynu gwaith pellach i ymchwilio i gofrestru a hyfforddiant ac anghenion datblygu'r staff a'r gwirfoddolwyr hyn.

Roedd y ddogfen ymgynghori yn glir bod cwmpas a swyddogaethau Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru, ar eu ffurf bresennol, yn rhy gyfyng i gyflawni ein gweledigaeth lawn ar gyfer y gweithlu addysg. Yn wyneb y pwysau ariannol presennol sy'n ein hwynebu, nid fy mwriad yw sefydlu corff cofrestru cwbl newydd i Gymru. Fy mwriad nawr yw ymgynghori ymhellach ac yn fwy manwl ar sut yr ydym yn rhagweld y bydd y corff cofrestru newydd yn gweithredu, ei rolau a'i swyddogaethau, a'r cynllun cyflawni er mwyn ei roi ar waith. Byddwn, felly, yn cyhoeddi dogfen ymgynghori arall fis nesaf i ymdrin â'r materion hyn.

Angela Burns: Weinidog, diolch am eich datganiad, ond mae'n rhaid imi ddweud ein bod wedi clywed eisoes gennych am y rhan fwyaf o'r eitemau ynddo. Daw hyn â mi at y sylw a wnaeth Kirsty Williams yn gynharach fod y ddogfen yn amserol ac yn berthnasol. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n deall eich rôl yn y Llywodraeth fel *action man*—chi sy'n llenwi'r bylchau oherwydd diffyg deddfwriaeth, polisiau a mentrau eich cyd-Weinidogion. Diolch i'r nefoedd amdanoch chi neu byddem yn gorffen yn gynnar iawn bob dydd Mawrth.

Yn eich datganiad, nodaf eich bod yn cyfeirio at

‘y camau yr ydym yn eu cymryd i fynd i'r

between poverty and low levels of attainment’.

That is something that we would all share. However, a number of these children will be children with disabilities. As you know, there is a strong correlation between the families of children with disabilities and poverty. The latest research, ‘Reaching Families in Wales: Mapping Families with Disabled Children’, shows that the highest concentration of families with disabled children is to be found in the most deprived areas of Wales. Children in poverty tend to have lower levels of educational attainment, so that triangle starts to join up. Therefore, what specific actions are you taking to help families with severely disabled children who are in poverty?

In your statement you say that

‘approaches that combine whole-school improvement with specific pupil-level interventions will be necessary to ensure that schools improve overall and that attainment gaps narrow’.

You then mention the pupil deprivation grant about which, as you know, Minister, I am lukewarm. If you do the sums, it is just over £400 per child—if you take last year’s statistics, you will find that something like £446 per child who is in receipt of free school meals would go into the magical £32.4 million. I understand the seduction that the Liberal Democrats must have felt in having a policy adopted by a Government, but £32.4 million is a small amount of money for which to sell your soul. My concern, Minister—based on £400 per child and the £10,000 that you are going to give schools in bands 4 and 5—is that there seems to be an awful lot of throwing around of money. Minister, how are you going to be targeting it and analysing it? How can we look to the future? All of these are one-off payments, and I am concerned about the lack of sustainability. I recall that you used to talk about that—that money and projects needed to be sustainable and able to grow.

I am delighted to see that you are investing significantly in the foundation phase.

afael â’r cysylltiad rhwng tlodi a lefelau isel o gyrhaeddiad’.

Mae hynny’n rhywbeth y byddem oll yn ei rannu. Fodd bynnag, bydd nifer o’r plant hyn yn blant ag anableddau. Fel y gwyddoch, mae cydberthynas gref rhwng teuluoedd plant ag anableddau a thlodi. Mae’r ymchwil ddiweddaraf, ‘Reaching Families in Wales: Mapping Families with Disabled Children’, yn dangos mai yn ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig Cymru y ceir mwyaf o deuluoedd syda â phlant anabl. Mae plant mewn tlodi yn tueddu i fod â lefelau is o gyrhaeddiad addysgol, felly mae’r triongl hwnnw yn dechrau dod i’r amlwg. Felly, pa gamau penodol yr ydych yn eu cymryd i helpu teuluoedd â phlant ag anabledd difrifol sydd mewn tlodi?

Yn eich datganiad rydych yn dweud

‘bydd angen dulliau sy’n cyfuno gwella’r ysgol gyfan ag ymyriadau ar lefel disgyblion penodol er mwyn sicrhau bod ysgolion yn gwella yn gyffredinol a bod bylchau cyrhaeddiad yn cau’.

Yna, rydych yn sôn am y grant amddifadedd disgyblion yr wyf, fel y gwyddoch, Weinidog, yn llugoeer yn ei gylch. Os gwnewch eich symiau, mae’r grant yn werth ychydig dros £400 y plentyn—os edrychwch ar ystadegau y llynedd, fe welwch y byddai tua £446 y plentyn sy’n cael prydau ysgol am ddim yn cyfateb i’r £32.4 miliwn hudol. Rwy’n deall yr atyniad i’r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol o gael y Llywodraeth yn mabwysiadu un o’u polisïau, ond mae £32.4 miliwn yn swm bach o arian i werthu eich enaid. Fy mhryder i, Weinidog—ar sail y £400 y plentyn a’r £10,000 yr ydych am ei roi i ysgolion bandiau 4 a 5—yw ei bod yn ymddangos bod llawer iawn o arian yn cael ei daflu o gwmpas. Weinidog, sut yr ydych yn mynd i’w dargedu a’i ddadansoddi? Sut y gallwn edrych i’r dyfodol? Mae pob un o’r rhain yn daliadau untro, ac rwy’n pryderu am y diffyg cynaliadwyedd. Rwy’n cofio eich bod yn arfer siarad am hynny—bod angen i arian a phrosiectau fod yn gynaliadwy a gallu tyfu.

Rwyf wrth fy modd gweld eich bod yn buddsoddi’n sylweddol yn y cyfnod sylfaen.

Minister, will you give us information on whether some of that money will be used to enhance the training of teachers in the early years and, even more importantly, to ensure that the people to whom they report—the headteachers and so on—are also trained on the ethos behind the foundation phase? I think that Estyn and any number of other organisations have said that the five-day training was not rigorous enough to ensure that everybody who participates in the foundation phase understands what it is about: it is also about literacy and numeracy, and not just play and free expression.

I would quickly like to touch on your desire to have another look at the registration of all of those involved with children and teaching them. I am with you on a lot of this. You commented that the scope and functions of the GTCW are too narrowly focused and you say that you do not want to set up a new organisation at present. However, is there any possibility of widening its scope and function to incorporate some of these new initiatives?

Finally, I accept your comment that you do not want to close the door on the groups of people who help in schools—volunteers and other support staff who provide a valuable contribution to the education and training of our children and young people. Of course, it is not just about literacy and numeracy; these are the people who help take them out to sports days and so on. A lot of them, as you said, are volunteers. Many of them already find some of the stuff that they have to go through quite onerous, which is tough on them, but absolutely necessary—we need the health and safety and the Criminal Records Bureau checks and so on. I would like to re-emphasise the importance of ensuring that those people are not turned away, because they play such a valuable part in our schools today. Otherwise, thank you. As I say, an awful lot of it we know already but, as ever, it is a pleasure to re-understand it.

Leighton Andrews: I kind of think that that was one-and-a-half cheers that I got from the

Weinidog, a wnewch roi gwybodaeth inni ynghylch a fydd rhywfaint o'r arian hwnnw yn cael ei ddefnyddio i wella hyfforddiant athrawon yn y blynyddoedd cynnar ac, yn bwysicach byth, i sicrhau bod y bobl y maent yn atebol iddynt—y penaethiaid ac yn y blaen—hefyd wedi cael hyfforddiant ar yr ethos sydd wrth wraidd y cyfnod sylfaen? Rwy'n credu bod Estyn a llawer o sefydliadau eraill wedi dweud nad oedd yr hyfforddiant pum diwrnod yn ddigon trylwyr i sicrhau bod pawb sy'n cymryd rhan yn y cyfnod sylfaen yn deall beth yw ei bwmpas: mae'n ymwneud â llythrennedd a rhifedd, ac nid yn unig â chwarae a mynegiant rhydd.

Hoffwn sôn yn gyflym am eich dyhead i gael golwg arall ar gofrestru pawb sy'n ymwneud â phlant ac â'u dysgu. Rwy'n cytuno â chi i raddau helaeth ar hyn. Gwnaethoch sylw bod cwmpas a swyddogaethau Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru yn rhy gyfyng ac rydych yn dweud nad ydych am sefydlu corff newydd ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, a oes unrhyw bosibilrwydd o ehangu ei gwmpas a'i swyddogaeth i ymgorffori rhai o'r mentrau newydd hyn?

Yn olaf, rwy'n derbyn eich sylw nad ydych yn dymuno cau'r drws ar y grwpiau o bobl sy'n helpu mewn ysgolion—gwirfoddolwyr a staff cymorth eraill sy'n gwneud cyfraniad gwerthfawr i addysg a hyfforddiant ein plant a'n pobl ifanc. Wrth gwrs, nid yw hyn yn ymwneud â llythrennedd a rhifedd yn unig; y rhain yw'r bobl sy'n eu helpu i fynd â hwy i ddiwrnodau chwaraeon ac yn y blaen. Mae llawer ohonynt, fel y dywedaso, yn wirfoddolwyr. Mae llawer ohonynt eisoes yn gweld rhai o'r pethau y mae'n rhaid iddynt fynd drwyddynt yn eithaf beichus, ac mae hynny'n anodd iddynt, ond yn gwbl angenrheidiol—mae angen y gwiriadau iechyd a diogelwch a gwiriadau'r Swyddfa Cofnodion Troseddol ac yn y blaen. Hoffwn ailbwysleisio pwysigrwydd sicrhau nad yw'r bobl hynny yn cael eu troi i ffwrdd, gan eu bod yn chwarae rhan mor werthfawr yn ein hysgolion heddiw. Fel arall, diolch. Fel y dywedais, rydym eisoes yn gwybod am lawer o'r pethau hyn ond, fel arfer, mae'n bleser cael eu hailddeal.

Leighton Andrews: Rwy'n teimlo mai rhyw hanner cymeradwyaeth a gefais gan lefarydd

opposition spokesperson today, which is an improvement on some days, but less than I get from her on others. I will just have to make do with that.

I do not think that she can accuse me or this Government of a lack of legislation—we have a whole series of initiatives on the go at the present time, including the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill, the Local Government Byelaws (Wales) Bill, the organ donation work, the housing White Paper—so many different initiatives across the Government. I am delighted that we are bringing forward a clear programme for school improvement at the present time, much of which enjoys the support of the opposition spokesperson, although some of it does not; that is a matter for her.

She asked a series of questions. Clearly, a number of initiatives are being taken by some of the best-performing schools in terms of specific interventions with pupils, particularly looking at the pupil tracking schemes that are in place in many of the best schools for achieving beyond the odds in terms of their results. I set out some of those examples of best practice in a speech that I delivered in March. She asked about sport for disabled children, and there are clearly a number of ways in which we support children with specific disabilities, including the funding that we are putting in for post-16 special needs, which of course we have been discussing on the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill, and a series of other initiatives. However, I will write to her in more detail on some of those, because it is important that the work that we are doing is more widely shared.

In respect of the pupil deprivation grant, it is roughly £450 per pupil in receipt of free school meals. It is a significant amount of investment and I am pleased that it is going directly to schools—100% of it—and that we have published clear guidance as to how that money can be spent. She also referred to the money that we have made available to schools in bands 4 and 5 and accused me of throwing money around; well, I am glad that I have money to throw around, because if we adopted the policies of the party opposite

yr wrthblaid heddiw, sy'n well na rhai diwrnodau ond yn waeth nag eraill. Bydd yn rhaid i mi fodloni ar hynny.

Nid wyf yn credu y gall hi fy nghyhuddo i na'r Llywodraeth hon o ddiffyg deddfwriaeth—mae gennym amryw byd o fentrau ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd, gan gynnwys Bil Safonau a Threfn Ysgolion (Cymru), Bil Is-ddeddfau Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru), y gwaith ar roi organau, y Papur Gwyn ar dai—cynifer o wahanol fentrau ar draws y Llywodraeth. Rwy'n falch iawn ein bod yn cyflwyno rhaglen bendant ar gyfer gwella ysgolion ar hyn o bryd, a bod llawer ohoni'n cael ei chefnogi gan lefarydd yr wrthblaid, er nad yw rhannau eraill yn cael eu cefnogi ganddi; mater iddi hi yw hynny.

Gofynnodd gyfres o gwestiynau. Yn amlwg, mae nifer o fentrau ar y gweill gan rai o'r ysgolion sy'n perfformio orau o ran ymyriadau penodol gyda disgyblion, yn enwedig wrth edrych ar y cynlluniau tracio disgyblion sydd ar waith mewn llawer o'r ysgolion gorau ar gyfer cyflawni y tu hwnt i'r disgwyl o ran eu canlyniadau. Soniais am rai o'r enghreifftiau hynny o arferion gorau mewn araith a roddais ym mis Mawrth. Holodd am chwaraeon i blant anabl, ac mae nifer o ffyrdd gennym o gefnogi plant ag anableddau penodol, gan gynnwys y cyllid yr ydym yn ei roi ar gyfer addysg anghenion arbennig ôl-16, yr ydym wrth gwrs wedi bod yn ei drafod fel rhan o'r Bil Safonau a Threfniadaeth Ysgolion (Cymru), a chyfres o fentrau eraill. Fodd bynnag, ysgrifennaf ati gyda rhagor o fanylion ar rai o'r rhain, oherwydd ei bod yn bwysig bod y gwaith yr ydym yn ei wneud yn cael ei rannu'n ehangach.

O ran y grant amddifadedd disgyblion, mae'n cyfateb i tua £450 y disgybl sy'n cael prydau ysgol am ddim. Mae'n swm sylweddol o fuddsoddiad ac rwy'n falch ei fod yn mynd yn uniongyrchol i ysgolion—y cyfan ohono—a'n bod wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau clir ynglŷn â sut y gellir gwario'r arian hwnnw. Cyfeiriodd hefyd at yr arian yr ydym wedi'i ddarparu i ysgolion bandiau 4 a 5, a chyhuddodd fi o daflu arian o gwmpas; wel, rwy'n falch bod gennyf arian i'w daflu o gwmpas, oherwydd pe baem yn mabwysiadu

there would be less money in the education budget, so I would not be able to ensure that the money was going where it needs to go. We are very clear that the money that we are putting into the system has to be used specifically for the purposes of school improvement, and we will hold local authorities to account for the way in which they spend money. I am pleased also that local authorities have agreed to implement the policy of delegating 80% of the money that we give them to schools by September this year, and 85% two years hence. This is important progress.

In respect of the foundation phase, we are wholly committed to it. This is the year in which it is finally being rolled out across the age cohort. I suspect that, in due course, we will need to look at what that means for the curriculum in key stage 2, because the children who have been through the foundation phase will have different expectations of learning as they move through the school system. I very much share her concerns around Estyn reports in respect of ensuring that literacy and numeracy standards are maintained through the development of the foundation phase, and we have put in place measures to follow that through. In the local authorities where this is being implemented best, those things were always integrated, right from the start. We have very good evidence of that.

In respect of registration, I have made clear the groups that we wish to include following the consultation. We will now consult on the ways in which we are going to follow that through in more detail, because this will become a subject for legislation later in the Assembly term, and it is important that we get that right. I am very open to further suggestions about how that operates in due course. We want to adopt a registration model here that works for us in Wales. Increasingly, there are different approaches across the border, which we will view with interest. As I said to Mr Gove two years ago this month, one of the advantages of devolution is that it allows England to be a laboratory for experiments.

polisiâu'r blaidd gyferbyn byddai llai o arian yn y gyllideb addysg, felly ni fyddwn yn gallu sicrhau bod yr arian yn mynd lle y mae angen iddo fynd. Rydym yn glir iawn bod yn rhaid i'r arian yr ydym yn ei roi yn y system gael ei ddefnyddio yn benodol at ddibenion gwella ysgolion, a byddwn yn dwyn awdurdodau lleol i gyfrif am y ffordd y maent yn gwario arian. Rwy'n falch hefyd fod awdurdodau lleol wedi cytuno i weithredu'r polisi o drosglwyddo 80% o'r arian a roddwn iddynt i ysgolion erbyn mis Medi eleni, ac 85% ymhenn dwy flynedd. Mae hyn yn gynnydd pwysig.

O ran y cyfnod sylfaen, rydym wedi ymrwmo'n llwyr iddo. Dyma'r flwyddyn y caiff ei gyflwyno ar draws y cyfan o'r garfan oedran, o'r diwedd. Rwy'n tybio, maes o law, y bydd angen inni edrych ar yr hyn y mae hynny'n ei olygu i'r cwricwlwm yng nghyfnod allweddol 2, oherwydd bydd gan y plant sydd wedi bod drwy'r cyfnod sylfaen ddisgwyliadau gwahanol o ran dysgu wrth iddynt symud drwy'r system ysgol. Rwy'n pryderu fel y mae hi ynghylch adroddiadau Estyn o ran sicrhau bod safonau llythrennedd a rhifedd yn cael eu cynnal wrth i'r cyfnod sylfaen gael ei ddatblygu, ac rydym wedi rhoi mesurau ar waith i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Yn yr awdurdodau lleol sy'n gweithredu hyn orau, mae'r pethau hynny bob amser wedi'u hintegreiddio, a hynny o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Mae gennym dystiolaeth dda iawn o hynny.

O ran cofrestru, rwyf wedi esbonio'n glir pa grwpiau yr ydym am eu cynnwys yn dilyn yr ymgynghoriad. Yn awr, byddwn yn ymgynghori ar y ffyrdd y byddwn yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny'n fanylach, oherwydd bydd hyn yn dod yn destun deddfwriaeth yn ddiweddarach yn ystod tymor y Cynulliad, ac mae'n bwysig inni wneud hynny'n iawn. Rwy'n agored iawn i awgrymiadau pellach ynglŷn â sut y bydd hynny'n gweithredu maes o law. Rydym yn awyddus i fabwysiadu model cofrestru sy'n gweithio i ni yma yng Nghymru. Yn gynyddol, mae dulliau gwahanol ar waith dros y ffin, a byddwn yn eu dilyn gyda diddordeb. Fel y dywedais wrth Mr Gove ddwy flynedd yn ôl i'r mis hwn, un o fanteision datganoli yw ei fod yn caniatáu i Loegr fod yn labordy ar gyfer arbrosion.

3.30 p.m.

Simon Thomas: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad. Mae rhai yn dweud bod cawl wedi'i aildwymo yn blasu'n well yr ail dro. Mae hynny'n dibynnu ar ba mor dwym yr ydych yn twymo'r cawl yn fy marn i, ac nid yw hwn yn ddatganiad arbennig o boeth.

Wedi dweud hynny, mae cwpwl o bethau newydd ynddo, yn enwedig ynglŷn â'r ymgynghoriad a'r penderfyniad ynglŷn â Chyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru. Dof at hynny yn y man. Rwyf am osod cwpwl o gwestiynau i'r Gweinidog ynglŷn â rhai sylwadau y mae'n gwneud yng nghorff y datganiad. Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr â'r hyn mae'n ei ddweud ynglŷn ag ymyrraeth yn y blynyddoedd cynnar, a phe baem ni'n gallu adeiladu hyd yn oed mwy o gonsensws na'r hyn sydd gyda ni nawr ynglŷn â'r angen i bwysleisio a thargedu ein hadnoddau prin ni fel cenedl at y blynyddoedd hynny, byddem yn y pen draw yn arbed yn sylweddol fel cymdeithas ac fel economi.

Gwelais hyn yn glir yr wythnos diwethaf wrth fynd i gynhadledd gwledydd y Gymanwlad yn yr Alban a thrafod gyda seneddwyr o seneddau eraill a gweld tystiolaeth o beth maen nhw'n ei wneud gyda blynyddoedd cynnar yn yr Alban. Fe'i gwelais yn bersonol ddydd Gwener wrth ymweld â chynllun Gweithredu dros Blant yn Nhrimsaran. Pa bynnag ffigurau yr ydych yn credu ynddynt—maent yn amrywio o elw o £1 i £5 neu £9, yn dibynnu ar ba ymchwil rydych chi'n ei ddilyn—mae un peth yn sicr, bod yr arian mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wario ar y blynyddoedd cynnar yn arwain at arbedion sylweddol yn y pen draw wrth i blentyn fynd drwy'r system, a pheidio efallai mynd i'r system cyfiawnder troseddol. Wrth gwrs, nid yw'r rheiny wastad yn arbedion i'r Llywodraeth hon, sydd o bryd i'w gilydd yn broblem wleidyddol. Felly, cytunaf yn llwyr a chefnogaf yr hyn y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei ddweud ynglŷn â'r mater hwnnw.

Mae hynny, wrth gwrs, yn tanlinellu pa mor bwysig yw hi felly bod unrhyw wariant ar y blynyddoedd cynnar, yn enwedig i dorri'r cysylltiad hwn rhwng amddifadedd a diffyg cynnydd, yn cael ei gadw. Mae wedi beirniadu'r blaid Dori'aid am ei chynlluniau

Simon Thomas: I thank the Minister for his statement. Some say that reheated cawl is more tasty the second time. It depends how much you reheat it, in my opinion, and this is not a particularly hot statement.

Having said that, there are a few new elements in it, particularly in terms of the consultation and the decision on the General Teaching Council for Wales. I will come on to that in a moment. I want to set out a few questions to the Minister on some of the comments that he has made in the statement. I agree entirely with him on what he said on intervention in the early years, and if we could build even more consensus than we have currently on the need to emphasise and target our nation's scarce resources at those early years, we would ultimately make significant savings as a society and an economy.

I saw this clearly last week when I attended a Commonwealth conference in Scotland, and discussed with parliamentarians from other parliaments, and saw evidence of what they are doing with the early years in Scotland. I saw it personally on Friday when visiting an Action for Children scheme in Trimsaran. Whichever figures you believe—they vary from benefitting from £1 to £5 or £9, depending on what research you follow—one thing is certain, that the money that the Government spends on the early years leads to significant savings in the long term as a child goes through the system and perhaps does not enter the criminal justice system. Of course, they are not always savings for this Government here, and that can be a political problem at times. So, I agree entirely and support what the Minister has said on that issue.

This, of course, underlines how important it is that any expenditure on the early years is retained, particularly to break the link between deprivation and a lack of progress. He has criticised the Tory party for its plans for funding education. It is true to say

cyllidol ar gyfer addysg. Mae'n wir felly i ddweud ei bod hi'n bwysig bod y grant amddifadedd y mae'n cyfeirio ato, a'r arian ar gyfer ysgolion mewn bandiau isel, yn parhau o flwyddyn i flwyddyn, doed a ddel o ran unrhyw fargen y bydd yn ei tharo gydag unrhyw blaid yn y Senedd hon. Felly, hoffwn glywed datganiad ganddo ei fod yn bwriadu cario ymlaen, beth bynnag sy'n digwydd gydag unrhyw blaid arall, gyda'r arian arbennig hwn, gan ei fod ef ei hunan yn dweud yn y datganiad bod yr arian hwn yn allweddol. Os nad yw'n gallu cario ymlaen gyda'r arian, bydd sail bwysig yn cael ei cholli o'i gynlluniau.

Mae'n cyfeirio at y rhaglen llythrennedd genedlaethol. Rwyf eisiau gofyn un cwestiwn ar hyn. Rwy'n deall bod ymgynghori'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd, a chawn weld beth fydd yr ymgynghoriad yn ei ddweud, ond un peth sy'n glir yn yr ymateb cynnar yw bod rhai yn pryderu y byddwn yn cwmpo i wendidau'r hen system TAsau o addysgu i'r profion yn hytrach na darparu'r addysg ehangach y mae ef wedi cyfeirio ato sawl gwaith, ac yn y datganiad hwn hefyd. Rhaid addysgu i baratoi ein plant a'n pobl ifanc i fod yn ystwyth ac yn abl i gymryd profion megis profion y Rhaglen Ryngwladol Asesu Myfyrwyr, yn hytrach na'u haddysgu i basio prawf yn ystod rhyw flwyddyn arbennig o'u taith drwy'r ysgol. Os oes gan y Gweinidog unrhyw amcan o sut y bydd hynny'n gweithio, byddwn yn falch o'i glywed.

I orffen gyda'r newid i Gyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru, rwy'n gweld pam nad yw'n cytuno bod corff newydd yn briodol ar yr adeg bresennol. Mae gen i ddiddordeb arbennig yn yr hyn mae'n ei ddweud am fod eisiau gweld ymarfer dysgu yn dod mewn i rychwant y cyngor. Buaswn yn licio clywed bach mwy ynglŷn â'r hyn y cyfeiriodd ato o ran profiad Iwerddon a sut y mae'n gweld hynny'n datblygu, ar y cyd gyda'i syniadau ar gyfer gradd Meistr a datblygu proffesiynol ac ati. Os gallem gael mwy o undod rhwng yr hyfforddiant mae pobl yn ei gael wrth ymarfer dysgu, yr hyfforddiant y maent yn ei gael yn y dosbarth, a'r ffocws ar lythrennedd a rhifedd, byddwn yn croesawu hynny, ond rwy'n gweld hynny fel tasg eithaf anodd, gyda gwahanol gyrrff yn gyfrifol am y gwahanol *stages*. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn

therefore that it is important that the deprivation grant to which he has referred, and the funding for schools in the lower bands, is continued year on year, come what may in terms of any bargain that may be struck with any party in this Senedd. Therefore, I would like to hear a statement from him that he intends to continue with this particular funding, whatever happens with any other party, as he himself has said in the statement that this funding is crucial. Unless he can continue with the funding, an important foundation will be missing from his plans.

He refers to the national literacy programme. I want to ask one question on this. I understand that a consultation is currently ongoing, and we await the outcome of that, but one thing is clear in the early responses, that some people are concerned that we will fall into the weaknesses of the old SATs system of teaching to the tests instead of providing the broader education to which he has referred on a number of occasions, and in this statement as well. We must teach to prepare our children and young people to be flexible and to be able to take tests such as PISA, rather than just teaching them to pass a test during a certain year of their school life. If the Minister has any idea how that will work, I would be glad to hear it.

To conclude with the change to the General Teaching Council for Wales, I see why he does not agree that a new body would be appropriate at this particular time. I am particularly interested in what he said about wanting to see teacher training coming into the remit of the council. I would like to hear a little more about what he referred to in terms of the experience in Ireland and how he sees that developing, jointly with his ideas about a Master's degree and professional development and so on. If we could get greater consistency in the training that people receive during teaching practice, the training they receive in the classroom, and the focus on literacy and numeracy, I would welcome that, but I see that as quite a difficult task, with various bodies responsible for the various stages. However, I would like to hear

glywed os oes ganddo unrhyw amcan penodol.

if he has any specific aims in that regard.

I will finish with a particular question about free school meals. All of us have accepted, and the Minister has said in evidence to committees in the past, that free school meals are a proxy for deprivation and poverty; they are not an accurate representation of where it is, particularly in some rural areas. I have some concerns that we are seeing more and more emphasis on a link between free school meals and the additional spending that is needed to break the relationship between poverty and aspiration and attainment. I believe that it is a very good way of starting this, but the Government has a duty over the next few years to develop a much more sophisticated understanding of where poverty is, where the lack of attainment is and where the difficulties are—as Angela Burns referred to in relation to disabled children, for example, who are not necessarily recognised through the free school meals system. Although I do not oppose it, I would like to see the Government take this a little more seriously in developing alternative models in future. Therefore, I hope that the Minister will be able to say that he is at least looking at that and, particularly as the Government in Westminster is redefining child poverty, for example, looking at ways that we in Wales might have a better understanding of the reality of the links between poverty and attainment and the stretch and reach of that throughout all our communities, even those that do not necessarily come up when using the benchmark of free school meals.

Leighton Andrews: I will return to where the Member started. I like cawl, but my objective as a Minister is not to end up in the soup. I am glad to have the endorsement of the Member for the early years programme that we have implemented through the foundation phase. He will be aware also that my colleague, the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services, has implemented the proposal in our manifesto to double the spending on Flying Start as well. We are committed to that investment in the early years as we recognise that it is critical.

Rwyf am orffen gyda chwestiwn penodol ynglŷn â chinio ysgol am ddim. Mae pob un ohonom wedi derbyn, ac mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud mewn tystiolaeth i bwyllgorau yn y gorffennol, fod cinio ysgol am ddim yn ddull o fesur amddifadedd a thlodi; nid yw'n cynrychioli'n gywir lle y mae'r amddifadedd, yn enwedig mewn rhai ardaloedd gwledig. Pryderaf ein bod yn gweld mwy a mwy o bwyslais ar gyswllt rhwng cinio ysgol am ddim a'r gwariant ychwanegol sydd ei angen i chwalu'r berthynas rhwng tlodi a dyheadau a chyrhaeddiad. Credaf ei bod yn ffordd dda iawn o ddechrau hyn, ond mae gan y Llywodraeth ddyletswydd dros y blynyddoedd nesaf i ddatblygu dealltwriaeth llawer mwy soffistigedig o lle mae tlodi, lle mae diffyg cyrhaeddiad a lle mae'r anawsterau—fel y nododd Angela Burns wrth sôn am blant anabl, er enghraifft, nad ydynt o reidrwydd yn cael eu cydnabod drwy'r system cinio ysgol am ddim. Er nad wyf yn ei wrthwynebu, hoffwn weld y Llywodraeth yn cymryd hyn ychydig mwy o ddifrif wrth ddatblygu modelau eraill yn y dyfodol. Felly, gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn gallu dweud ei fod o leiaf yn edrych ar hynny ac, yn enwedig gan fod y Llywodraeth yn San Steffan yn ailddiffinio tlodi plant, er enghraifft, edrych ar ffyrdd y gallem yng Nghymru gael gwell dealltwriaeth o realiti'r cysylltiadau rhwng tlodi a chyrhaeddiad ac estyn hynny drwy bob un o'n cymunedau, hyd yn oed y rhai nad ydynt o reidrwydd yn ymddangos wrth ddefnyddio'r meincnod cinio ysgol am ddim.

Leighton Andrews: Rwyf am ddychwelyd i lle y dechreuodd yr Aelod. Rwy'n hoffi cawl, ond fy nod, fel Gweinidog, yw peidio â bod yn y cawl. Rwy'n falch o gael cefnogaeth yr Aelod ar gyfer y rhaglen blynyddoedd cynnar yr ydym wedi'i gweithredu drwy'r cyfnod sylfaen. Bydd yn ymwybodol hefyd bod fy nghydweithiwr, y Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, wedi gweithredu'r cynnig yn ein maniffesto i ddyblu'r gwariant ar Dechrau'n Deg hefyd. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i'r buddsoddiad hwnnw yn y blynyddoedd cynnar gan ein bod yn cydnabod ei fod yn hanfodol.

In respect of the pupil deprivation grant, I am delighted that we are implementing that at present and I am clear on the guidance that we have put in place. As I have said, I am delighted that the money is going 100% through to schools. However, I would not—and neither would any other Minister—want to pre-empt any discussions regarding the budget for future years. If we tried to do that, we would very rapidly be put in our box by the Minister for Finance.

In respect of the national literacy programme, we are, of course, currently out to consultation on the national literacy and numeracy framework. As I have said, we will publish the national numeracy plan in the autumn. The reading tests that we are introducing will have a very strong formative element. In other words, they will be there to enable teachers to assess the performance of the young people they are working with.

You mentioned PISA, and the one thing that we are very clear about, and I think that all of the academics would confirm this, is that you cannot teach to PISA; it is not possible to do that. However, what we can do is ensure a better understanding within the education system and within schools of what is expected within the PISA system and how that relates more generally to the overall approaches to learning and teaching that we have.

We are looking at initial teacher training. We have made some initial proposals in respect of the numbers going into teacher training year on year. Through the money that we are putting into the system, through the school effectiveness grant alongside the pupil deprivation grant, we are providing opportunities for continuing professional development. We are also introducing the Master's degree in educational practice, so there is a continuum of learning within the profession that enables people to access different stages of learning as they move forward.

I agree that free school meals are very much a proxy for measurements of poverty, and there is work that we have looked at in terms of alternatives, but everyone has come back to the sense that free school meals are the

O ran y grant amddifadedd disgyblion, rwy'n falch iawn ein bod yn ei weithredu ar hyn o bryd ac rwy'n glir ynghylch y canllawiau yr ydym wedi'u rhoi ar waith. Fel y dywedais, rwy'n falch iawn bod yr arian yn mynd 100% drwy'r ysgolion. Fodd bynnag, ni fyddwn—ac ni fyddai unrhyw Weinidog arall—yn dymuno achub y blaen ar unrhyw drafodaethau am y gyllideb yn y dyfodol. Pe byddwn yn ceisio gwneud hynny, buan iawn y byddai'r Gweinidog Cyllid yn ein hatal.

O ran y rhaglen lythrennedd genedlaethol, rydym, wrth gwrs, wrthi'n ymgynghori ar y fframwaith llythrennedd a rhifedd cenedlaethol. Fel y dywedais, byddwn yn cyhoeddi'r cynllun rhifedd cenedlaethol yn yr hydref. Bydd gan y profion darllen yr ydym yn eu cyflwyno elfen ffurfiannol gref iawn. Hynny yw, byddant yno i alluogi athrawon i asesu perfformiad y bobl ifanc y maent yn gweithio gyda hwy.

Gwnaethoch sôn am PISA, ac un peth yr ydym yn glir iawn amdano, ac rwy'n siŵr y byddai pob academydd yn cadarnhau hyn, yw na allwch chi ddysgu yn unol â PISA; nid yw hynny'n bosibl. Fodd bynnag, gallwn sicrhau gwell dealltwriaeth yn y system addysg ac mewn ysgolion o'r hyn a ddisgwyllir yn y system PISA a sut mae hynny'n perthyn yn fwy cyffredinol i'r dulliau dysgu ac addysgu cyffredinol sydd gennym.

Rydym yn edrych ar hyfforddiant cychwynnol athrawon. Rydym wedi gwneud rhai cynigion cychwynnol o ran y niferoedd sy'n cychwyn cyrsiau hyfforddiant athrawon bob blwyddyn. Drwy'r arian yr ydym yn ei roi i'r system, drwy'r grant effeithiolrwydd ysgolion ochr yn ochr â'r grant amddifadedd disgyblion, rydym yn rhoi cyfleoedd ar gyfer datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus. Rydym hefyd yn cyflwyno'r radd Feistr mewn ymarfer addysgol, felly mae continwwm o ddysgu yn y proffesiwn sy'n galluogi pobl i ddefnyddio cyfnodau gwahanol o ddysgu wrth iddynt symud yn eu blaenau.

Rwy'n cytuno bod cinio ysgol am ddim yn sicr yn ddull o fesur tlodi, ac rydym wedi edrych ar ddewisiadau eraill, ond mae pawb yn dod i'r casgliad yn y pen draw mai cinio ysgol am ddim yw'r mesur gorau sydd

best measure that we have to operate with. It is probably going to become slightly more complicated in the context of the UK Government's welfare reforms and the impact that some of the changes that are being introduced there in respect of passported benefits will have, and we will no doubt return to that in the Assembly in due course. My colleague, the Minister for Local Government and Communities, is leading on our anti-poverty strategy, and he will have more to say about that, I am sure, in due course.

Aled Roberts: Rwy'n siŵr ein bod i gyd yn croesawu'r datganiad er ein bod yn cytuno â rhai o'r pwyntiau sydd wedi cael eu gwneud eisoes nad oes llawer sy'n newydd yn y datganiad hwn y prynhawn yma. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n siŵr bod pob plaid yn croesawu ymdrechion y Gweinidog i wella cyrhaeddiad addysgol. Rwyf am wneud ychydig o bwyntiau nad ydynt wedi cael eu gwneud hyd yn hyn.

Fel y buasech yn disgwyl, nid wyf yn cytuno gydag Angela Burns ynglŷn â'r grant. Credaf ei fod yn bwysig ein bod yn ceisio rhoi mwy o arian i mewn i addysg. Rwy'n meddwl hefyd bod y canllawiau mae'r Gweinidog wedi eu cyhoeddi ynglŷn â'r grant i'w croesawu. Un pwynt sy'n codi ar ôl hynny, wrth inni weld bod 100% o'r arian yn mynd i'r ysgolion, yw bod cyfrifoldeb ar benaethiaid i ddangos eu bod yn gwneud gwir ddefnydd o'r arian wrth wella cyrhaeddiad. A yw'r Gweinidog wedi ystyried y gofynion sydd ar ysgolion yn Lloegr i gyhoeddi sut y maent yn defnyddio'r grant a roddwyd gan y Llywodraeth er mwyn gwella cyrhaeddiad plant mwyaf anghenus ein cymdeithas? A fydd gofyn hefyd ar Estyn o fewn yr arolwg ysgol i nodi sut yn union mae'r ysgolion hynny yn canolbwyntio eu hadnoddau ar y plant sydd yn derbyn cinio am ddim?

Rwyf hefyd yn cytuno â'r hyn a ddywedodd Simon Thomas bod y cysylltiad rhwng tlodi ac addysg yn hollol glir erbyn hyn, a'i bod hefyd yn bwysig ein bod yn ymyrryd yn fuan iawn yn y sefyllfa. A ydych yn fodlon, fel y Gweinidog addysg, ar y cysylltiadau sydd gennych gyda Gweinidogion eraill o ran rhaglenni megis Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf,

gennym i'w weithredu. Mae'n debyg y bydd yn dod ychydig yn fwy cymhleth yng nghydestun diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU a'r effaith a welir yn sgîl rhai o'r newidiadau a gyflwynir yno mewn cysylltiad â budd-daliadau pasbort, ac rwy'n sicr y byddwn yn dychwelyd i drafod y pwnc hwnnw yn y Cynulliad maes o law. Mae fy nghydweithiwr, y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, yn arwain y strategaeth wrthdlodi, a bydd ganddo fwy i'w ddweud am hynny, rwy'n siŵr, maes o law.

Aled Roberts: I am sure that we all welcome the statement, even though we might agree with some of the points that have been made that there is not much that is new in this afternoon's statement. However, I am sure that every party welcomes the efforts of the Minister to improve educational attainment. I would like to make a few points that have not been raised so far.

As you would expect, I do not agree with Angela Burns regarding the grant. I think that it is important that we try to put more money into education. I also believe that the guidelines that the Minister has announced for the grant should be welcomed. One point arising from that, as we see that 100% of the money is to be passed to schools, is that there is a responsibility on headteachers to demonstrate that they make proper use of these funds in improving attainment. Has the Minister considered the requirement placed on schools in England to publish how they use the grant provided by the Government to improve attainment of children from the most deprived backgrounds in society? Will there be a requirement for Estyn, within school inspections, to assess how exactly those schools focus their resources on children in receipt of free school meals?

I also agree with what Simon Thomas said that the link between poverty and education is now clear, and that it is important that we should intervene very early in the situation. Are you happy, as the Minister for education, with the links that you have with other Ministers with regard to programmes such as Families First, Flying Start and so on to

Dechrau'n Deg ac ati i wneud yn siŵr bod y cynlluniau hynny yn cefnogi'r gwaith rydych yn ceisio ei wneud o fewn yr adran ac o fewn ysgolion unigol?

Wrth sôn am ddatblygiad proffesiynol, a allech ein diweddarau ynglŷn â'r cymhwyster Meistr? A ydych yn fodlon erbyn hyn bod y canllawiau ar gyfer y cyrsiau a fydd ar gael wedi eu sefydlu efo'r prifysgolion? Hefyd, a oes awgrym erbyn hyn am faint o athrawon fydd yn cyflawni'r cymhwyster hwn yn flynyddol?

Wrth gloi, mae Simon Thomas ac Angela Burns wedi trafod y newidiadau o ran ffocws Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru. Rwy'n cydweld bod yn rhaid ichi ymgynghori yn drwyadl, ond a oes gennych unrhyw amserlen ynglŷn â pha bryd y bydd y gwahaniaeth mewn ffocws yn dod i rym?

I would like to support the comments that Angela Burns made with regard to disability. I think that the foundation phase is quite exciting; I was in a school meeting last week that discussed the very issue that you raised, Minister, with regard to children who appear to flourish in the foundation phase, but who perhaps do not have their needs met sufficiently in key stage 2. There was a real debate in the school as to how it was to meet that particular challenge. Given that, there is a need for us to look again at some of the issues with regard to children with disabilities. The prevalence of dyslexia and autism is a matter that we perhaps need to focus on more clearly in Wales. The reports that have been published previously might need to be looked at once again.

Finally, are you, as a Government, considering the implications of welfare reform, the fact that universal credit may mean that the criteria with regard to free school meals will change and whether or not, as you say, we might need to look at a different system in Wales to that which might be pursued in England?

Leighton Andrews: I welcome the Member's further endorsement of the pupil deprivation grant. We have published extensive guidance and we will expect

ensure that those schemes support the work that you are endeavouring to do within the department and within individual schools?

In talking about professional development, can you give us an update on the Master's qualification? Are you content that the guidance for the courses available has been established with the universities? Also, is there any indication as to how many teachers will attain this qualification on an annual basis?

In conclusion, Simon Thomas and Angela Burns mentioned the changes to the focus of the General Teaching Council for Wales. I agree that you must consult thoroughly on this, but do you have any timetable for when this change of focus is likely to come into force?

Hoffwn gefnogi'r sylwadau a wnaed gan Angela Burns am anabledd. Credaf fod y cyfnod sylfaen yn eithaf cyffrous; roeddwn mewn cyfarfod ysgol yr wythnos diwethaf lle trafodwyd yr union fater a godwyd gennych, Weinidog, ynghylch plant sy'n ymddangos fel pe baent yn ffynnu yn y cyfnod sylfaen, ond nad yw eu hanghenion, o bosibl, yn cael eu diwallu'n ddigonol yng nghyfnod allweddol 2. Cafwyd trafodaeth fawr yn yr ysgol o ran sut y gellid ateb yr her honno. O ystyried hynny, mae'n rhaid inni edrych eto ar rai o'r materion mewn perthynas â phlant ag anableddau. Efallai bod nifer y bobl sydd â dyslecsia ac awtistiaeth yn fater y mae angen inni ganolbwyntio arno'n fwy clir yng Nghymru. Efallai bod angen edrych unwaith eto ar yr adroddiadau a gyhoeddwyd yn flaenorol.

Yn olaf, a ydych chi, fel Llywodraeth, yn ystyried goblygiadau diwygio lles, y ffaith y gall credyd cynhwysol olygu y bydd y meini prawf o ran cinio ysgol am ddim yn newid a ph'un a oes angen inni, fel y dywedwch, edrych ar system wahanol yng Nghymru i'r hyn y mae'n bosibl a ddefnyddir yn Lloegr?

Leighton Andrews: Croesawaf gefnogaeth bellach yr Aelod i'r grant amddifadedd disgyblion. Rydym wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau helaeth a byddwn yn disgwyl i ysgolion roi

schools to report on how they are using that grant. I do not think that we can use Estyn's normal inspection process to look at that, because that inspection process takes place every six years. However, I will consider whether we might want Estyn to look, in the course of the next year, at a special examination of how the grant is being used.

In respect of other Government programmes, I work very closely with the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services. We have discussions on early years in the context of Flying Start and other initiatives. My colleague, the Minister for Local Government and Communities, has addressed the issue of learning and teaching in his future plans for Communities First as well.

The Master's degree is making good progress. As the Member will know, we have tendered for this, but it is too early to say what the specific numbers will be in respect of take-up of the Master's in educational practice.

3.45 p.m.

In respect of the General Teaching Council for Wales, we consulted on the registration process and, as I said in the statement, we will be consulting further on that matter next month.

I am glad to have the Member's endorsement of what I said on the foundation phase and the move into key stage 2. The Member referred to a number of additional learning needs, such as dyslexia. I had a meeting with officials on that matter last week with regard to some proposals that have been brought to us and I have asked them to look further at what we can do in this area. The Member also referred to autism. We have undertaken a number of pilot schemes in respect of additional learning needs. Those are being evaluated and we will have more to say about those. At this point, I want to refer to the visit I made with my colleague the Member for Pontypridd on Friday to Ysgol Bryn Celynnog in his constituency, where we saw

gwybod sut maent yn defnyddio'r grant hwnnw. Nid wyf yn credu y gallwn ddefnyddio proses arolygu arferol Estyn i edrych ar hynny, oherwydd mae'r broses arolygu honno yn digwydd bob chwe blynedd. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn ystyried p'un a ydym am i Estyn, yn ystod y flwyddyn nesaf, ystyried archwiliad arbennig ar sut y defnyddir y grant.

O ran rhaglenni eraill y Llywodraeth, rwy'n gweithio'n agos iawn gyda'r Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol. Rydym yn trafod y blynyddoedd cynnar yng nghyd-destun Dechrau'n Deg a mentrau eraill. Mae fy nghydweithiwr, y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, wedi trafod y mater o ddysgu ac addysgu yn ei gynlluniau yn y dyfodol ar gyfer Cymunedau yn Gyntaf hefyd.

Mae'r radd Feistr yn gwneud cynnydd da. Fel y gŵyr yr Aelod, rydym wedi tendro ar gyfer hyn, ond mae'n rhy gynnar i ddweud beth fydd y niferoedd penodol a fydd am ddilyn y radd Feistr mewn ymarfer addysgol.

O ran Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru, buom yn ymgynghori ar y broses gofrestru, a byddwn, fel y dywedais yn y datganiad, yn ymgynghori ymhellach ar y mater hwnnw fis nesaf.

Rwy'n falch o gael cymeradwyaeth yr Aelod am yr hyn a ddywedais am y cyfnod sylfaen a symud i gyfnod allweddol 2. Cyfeiriodd yr Aelod at nifer o anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, fel dyslecsia. Cefais gyfarfod â swyddogion i drafod y mater hwnnw yr wythnos diwethaf, o ran rhai cynigion sydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno i ni, ac rwyf wedi gofyn iddynt ystyried ymhellach yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud yn y maes hwn. Cyfeiriodd yr Aelod at awtistiaeth hefyd. Cynhaliwyd nifer o gynlluniau peilot gennym mewn perthynas ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Mae'r rhain yn cael eu gwerthuso, a bydd gennym ragor i'w ddweud yn eu cylch. Hoffwn yn awr gyfeirio at fy ymweliad i a fy nghydweithiwr, yr Aelod dros Bontypridd, ag

the excellent work being done with young people with additional learning needs, including autism. The work we saw in that learning environment in particular was very heartening.

With regard to welfare reform, the Member asked about universal credit. We have considered many of these issues in detail, but I am afraid there is a lack of information forthcoming from the Department for Work and Pensions. When I went to the joint ministerial committee with the First Minister last month I raised a whole series of questions on universal credit with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Lord Freud. At that stage, he seemed unable to answer them and, interestingly, after I had asked those questions, the person chairing the meeting said that they had had to ask a similar series of questions to Lord Freud and that they were still waiting for answers as well. That person was the Deputy Prime Minister.

Christine Chapman: I thank the Minister for his statement. Last Friday, I visited Perthcelyn Community Primary School in my constituency, which is undertaking Save the Children's Families and Schools Together programme, with great results. This is about building a community in the school around the individual child and is helping to tackle the issues associated with poverty, such as illiteracy. I have seen similar successes in my constituency in Glyncoch, where there is some really good partnership working and school-focused attempts to tackle poverty are having a ripple effect that is benefitting the wider community. I want to touch on a few issues that other Members have raised. First, like other Members, I welcome the pupil deprivation grant. I know that it is early days in some respects, Minister, but I wonder whether you could say something about how it is being used to take a much more holistic approach to poverty in education. Can you say anything about any best practice that has been shared among schools?

Ysgol Bryn Celynnog, yn ei etholaeth, ddydd Gwener lle gwelsom y gwaith rhagorol a wneir gyda phobl ifanc sydd ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, gan gynnwys awtistiaeth. Mae'r gwaith a welsom yn yr amgylchedd dysgu penodol hwnnw'n galonogol iawn.

O ran diwygio lles, gofynnodd yr Aelod ynghylch credyd cynhwysol. Rydym wedi ystyried nifer o'r materion hyn yn fanwl, ond rwy'n ofni nad oedd llawer o wybodaeth ar gael gan yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Pan euthum i'r Cyd-bwyllgor Gweinidogion gyda'r Prif Weinidog fis diwethaf, gofynnais nifer o gwestiynau i'r Arglwydd Freud, yr Isygrifennydd Seneddol, am gredyd cynhwysol. Bryd hynny, roedd yn ymddangos na allai eu hateb, ac, yn ddiddorol, ar ôl i mi ofyn y cwestiynau hynny, dywedodd y sawl a oedd yn cadeirio'r cyfarfod ei fod ef wedi gorfod gofyn cyfres o gwestiynau tebyg i'r Arglwydd Freud a'i fod yntau'n dal i aros am atebion hefyd. Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog oedd y person hwnnw.

Christine Chapman: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad. Ddydd Gwener diwethaf, ymwelais ag Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Perthcelyn, yn fy etholaeth, sy'n cymryd rhan yn y rhaglen Teuluoedd ac Ysgolion Gyda'i Gilydd, a drefnir gan Achub y Plant, gyda chanlyniadau da. Mae'r rhaglen yn ymwneud ag adeiladu cymuned yn yr ysgol, o amgylch y plentyn unigol, ac mae'n helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau sy'n gysylltiedig â thlodi, fel anllythrennedd. Rwyf wedi gweld llwyddiannau tebyg yn fy etholaeth i, yng Nglyncoch, lle y gwelir enghreifftiau da iawn o weithio mewn partneriaeth, ac ymdrechion sy'n canolbwyntio ar fynd i'r afael â thlodi yn yr ysgol. Maent yn cael effaith bellgyrhaeddol sy'n dod â budd i'r gymuned ehangach. Rwyf am grybwyll rhai materion a godwyd gan Aelodau eraill. Yn gyntaf, fel Aelodau eraill, croesawaf y grant amddifadedd disgyblion. Gwn ei bod yn gynnar yn y broses mewn rhai agweddau, Weinidog, ond tybed a allech ddweud rhywbeth ynghylch sut y mae'n cael ei ddefnyddio i fabwysiadu dull gweithredu llawer mwy cyfannol o ran tlodi mewn addysg. A allwch ddweud unrhyw beth am unrhyw arfer gorau sydd wedi cael ei rannu ymhllith ysgolion?

I also want to touch on the issue of workforce training. We know that the expectations we place on teachers in 2012 are very different from those in previous years, as teachers, in addition to their subject expertise, are required to innovatively integrate a variety of cross-cutting priorities and soft skills across the curriculum. Minister, how can we ensure that all Welsh teachers are fully equipped to meet these challenges and expectations and deliver on these vital objectives?

Finally, I want to mention that I have been visiting quite a lot of primary schools recently and, overwhelmingly, the message I am getting from primary school headteachers is that they are very concerned about the language and speaking skills of quite a lot of very young children coming into school. Has any specific work been done on this? This is such an important area. If we do not get it right, it is going to have an impact on their future development.

Leighton Andrews: My colleague the Member for Cynon Valley has raised a number of issues. It is early days to report back on the pupil deprivation grant. However, we have some best practice from the earlier RAISE—Raising Attainment and Individual Standards in Education in Wales—scheme that we implemented in an earlier Government. It was the subject of reports from Estyn and I think it encapsulated some of the good work that had been done in schools. I would hope that, in the implementation of pupil deprivation grant guidance, we have learned from some of the conclusions that were drawn from that research.

She is right to stress the issues of workforce training, but I also want to pick up on what she said around the curriculum in primary schools, because it is important that we do not overload the curriculum, particularly in primary schools. It is one of the concerns that a number of people in the teaching profession have and there are always organisations coming forward with initiatives for new matters to be incorporated in schools. We

Rwyf hefyd am grybwyll y mater o hyfforddi'r gweithlu. Rydym yn gwybod bod y disgwyliadau a roddwn ar athrawon yn 2012 yn wahanol iawn i'r disgwyliadau yn y blynyddoedd a fu, gan ei bod yn ofynnol i athrawon, yn ychwanegol at eu harbenigedd yn eu pwnc, integreiddio amrywiaeth o flaenoriaethau trawsbynciol a sgiliau meddal mewn modd arloesol, ar draws y cwricwlwm. Weinidog, sut y gallwn ni sicrhau bod holl athrawon Cymru yn cael eu paratoi i gwrdd â'r heriau a'r disgwyliadau hyn a'u bod yn cyflawni'r amcanion hollbwysig hyn?

Yn olaf, hoffwn sôn fy mod wedi bod yn ymweld â chryn dipyn o ysgolion cynradd yn ddiweddar, a'r neges a gaf gan benaethiaid ysgolion cynradd gan amlaf yw eu bod yn bryderus iawn am sgiliau iaith a siarad cryn dipyn o'r plant ifanc iawn sy'n dod i'r ysgol. A oes unrhyw waith penodol wedi'i wneud yn hyn o beth? Mae hwn yn faes mor bwysig. Os na fyddwn yn gwneud pethau'n iawn, bydd hyn yn effeithio ar eu datblygiad yn y dyfodol.

Leighton Andrews: Mae fy nghydweithiwr, yr Aelod dros Gwm Cynon wedi codi nifer o faterion. Mae'n gynnar i adrodd yn ôl ar fater y grant amddifadedd disgyblion. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym rai enghreifftiau o arfer gorau o gynllun cynharach, Codi Cyrhaeddiad a Safonau Addysgol Unigolion yng Nghymru (RAISE), a roddwyd ar waith gennym mewn Llywodraeth gynharach. Roedd y cynllun hwnnw'n destun adroddiadau gan Estyn, ac rwy'n credu ei fod yn crynhoi rhywfaint o'r gwaith da a wnaed mewn ysgolion. Byddwn yn gobeithio, wrth weithredu'r canllawiau ar y grant amddifadedd disgyblion, ein bod wedi dysgu o rai o'r casgliadau y daethpwyd iddynt o'r ymchwil hwnnw.

Mae hi'n gywir i bwysleisio'r mater o hyfforddi'r gweithlu, ond rwyf hefyd am gyfeirio at yr hyn a ddywedodd ynghylch y cwricwlwm mewn ysgolion cynradd, oherwydd mae'n bwysig nad ydym yn gorlwytho'r cwricwlwm, yn enwedig mewn ysgolion cynradd. Mae'n un o'r pryderon sydd gan nifer o bobl yn y proffesiwn addysgu, ac mae sefydliadau'n cyflwyno mentrau ar gyfer ymgorffori materion

have to be genuinely wary about adding to the burdens on the teaching profession and our expectations of what the school system can deliver.

She is absolutely right to identify the challenges of oracy and the speaking skills that young people have when they come into primary school. We clearly have—I referred to this in a speech earlier this year—a significant problem in certain areas where there has been a lack of engagement by parents with their children and lack of effective talking to children. We have run a number of programmes ourselves as part of our parenting plan and this is a matter that I have discussed with the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services, who I know also has strong views on this. It is, I am afraid, a subject that we will have to return to. We know that a large part of the life chances and opportunities available to young people depend on the previous education of their parents. Our role, through the state, is to try to ensure that we even things out for young people and give them greater life chances through the education system. However, there are fundamental issues that we have to address at an even earlier stage.

newydd yng ngwaith ysgolion byth a hefyd. Mae'n rhaid i ni fod yn wirioneddol wyliadwrus ynghylch ychwanegu at faich y proffesiwn addysgu ac at ein disgwyliadau ynghylch beth y gall y system ysgolion ei darparu.

Mae hi'n gwbl gywir i nodi'r heriau o ran llefaredd a sgiliau siarad plant ifanc pan fyddant yn dod i'r ysgol gynradd. Yn amlwg mae gennym broblem sylweddol mewn rhai ardaloedd—cyfeiriais at hyn mewn araith yn gynharach eleni—lle bu diffyg ymgysylltiad a siarad effeithiol rhwng plant a'u rhieni. Rydym wedi cynnal nifer o raglenni ein hunain, fel rhan o'n cynllun rhianta ac mae hwn yn fater yr wyf wedi ei drafod â'r Dirprwy Weinidog Plant a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, a gwn fod gan yntau farn gref am hyn. Mae'n bwnc y bydd yn rhaid i ni ei ystyried eto, mae arnaf ofn. Gwyddom fod llawer o'r cyfleoedd bywyd a'r cyfleoedd eraill sydd ar gael i bobl ifanc, yn dibynnu ar addysg flaenorol eu rhieni. Ein rôl ni, drwy'r wladwriaeth, yw ceisio sicrhau ein bod yn rhoi'r un cyfleoedd i'n holl bobl ifanc, a rhoi mwy o gyfleoedd iddynt yn eu bywydau, drwy'r system addysg. Fodd bynnag, mae materion sylfaenol y mae'n rhaid inni fynd i'r afael â hwy yn gynharach fyth.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.51 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.51 p.m.*

Datganiad: Adolygiad o Wasanaethau Cynghori Statement: Review of Advice Services

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): I am grateful for the opportunity to bring forward this statement today. I am making this statement to update Members on the current position regarding the review of advice services and to set out the importance of this review. The Welsh Government's programme for government sets out the foundation for the tackling poverty action plan, which will bring together the levers available to the Welsh Government and our social partners to help individuals out of poverty. It includes a commitment to increase benefit take-up. The take-up of benefits claimed successfully is a key indicator by

Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Carl Sargeant): Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gyflwyno'r datganiad hwn heddiw. Rwy'n gwneud y datganiad hwn i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i Aelodau am y sefyllfa bresennol o ran yr adolygiad o wasanaethau cynghori, ac i nodi pwysigrwydd yr adolygiad. Mae rhaglen lywodraethu Llywodraeth Cymru yn nodi'r sail ar gyfer cynllun gweithredu ynghylch mynd i'r afael â thlodi, a fydd yn dwyn ynghyd y dulliau sydd ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru a'n partneriaid cymdeithasol, i helpu unigolion allan o dlodi. Mae'n cynnwys ymrwymiad i gynyddu faint o bobl sy'n defnyddio budd-daliadau. Mae'r nifer sy'n

which we know that actions to raise household income, as part of our efforts to tackle poverty, are on track. It also states that the Welsh Government will aim to mitigate the impact of changes to the benefits system proposed by the UK Government. The accompanying delivery programme includes the commitment to support third sector advice providers to assist people who have debt problems and to help people manage their finances better.

In April, a significant funding package was awarded to Citizens Advice Cymru to consolidate the existing Welsh Government benefit take-up schemes. These are Better Advice: Better Health, council tax and housing benefit take-up, and benefit take-up for children with disabilities. The financial commitment for this is £2.2 million annually for three years and now includes generic advice provision. This will provide support to individuals facing debt, housing or employment issues. Against the backdrop of funding cuts to the sector, this funding is an important contribution to tackling the problems being faced by people across Wales. Further funding has also been provided for advice agencies; I secured £753,550 of consequential funds received from the UK Government for advice services. These will also help mitigate the impact of funding cuts and support services threatened with closure. I am grateful to Citizens Advice Cymru for agreeing to distribute these funds to other advice providers, including citizen's advice bureaux, Shelter Cymru, the Speakeasy Advice Centre and Riverside Advice.

Instead of advice being delivered in a piecemeal fashion, I am keen to see an advice network that can respond to people's individual needs and guide them towards longer-term solutions offered by organisations, such as credit unions, as an affordable alternative to high-cost lenders and payday loan companies. This holistic approach would, in addition to advising on how to increase benefit income, also provide advice on a range of issues from improving skills and confidence to more specialised

hawlio budd-daliadau yn llwyddiannus yn ddangosydd allweddol sy'n adlewyrchu bod y camau gweithredu i godi incwm y cartref, fel rhan o'n hymdrechion i fynd i'r afael â thlodi, ar y trywydd iawn. Mae hefyd yn nodi y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio lliniaru ar effaith y newidiadau i'r system fudd-daliadau a gynigiwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Mae'r rhaglen ddarparu sy'n cyd-fynd ag ef yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i gefnogi darparwyr cyngor yn y trydydd sector i gynorthwyo pobl sydd â phroblemau dyledion ac i helpu pobl i reoli eu harian yn well.

Ym mis Ebrill, dyfarnwyd pecyn cyllid sylweddol i Gyngor ar Bopeth Cymru i gyfuno cynlluniau defnyddio budd-daliadau cyfredol Llywodraeth Cymru. Y rhain yw, Cyngor Da: Iechyd Da, defnyddio budd-dal y dreth gyngor a'r budd-dal tai, a defnyddio'r budd-daliadau ar gyfer plant ag anableddau. Yr ymrwymiad ariannol ar gyfer hyn yw £2.2 miliwn y flwyddyn am dair blynedd ac mae bellach yn cynnwys darparu cyngor cyffredinol. Bydd hyn yn rhoi cymorth i unigolion sy'n wynebu problemau dyledion, problemau tai neu gyflogaeth. Mewn cyfnod o doriadau ariannol yn y sector, mae'r arian hwn yn gyfraniad pwysig i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau a wynebir gan bobl ledled Cymru. Darparwyd cyllid pellach hefyd i'r asiantaethau cynghori; rwyf wedi sicrhau £753,550 o arian canlyniadol a gafwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU ar gyfer y gwasanaethau cynghori. Bydd hwn hefyd yn helpu i liniaru ar effaith y toriadau ariannol a'r bygythiadau i gau'r gwasanaethau cefnogi. Rwy'n ddiolchgar i Gyngor ar Bopeth Cymru am gytuno i ddsbarthu'r arian i ddarparwyr cyngor eraill, gan gynnwys canolfannau Cyngor ar Bopeth, Shelter Cymru, Canolfan Gyngori Speakeasy a Riverside Advice.

Yn hytrach na daparu cyngor mewn dull tameidiog, rwy'n awyddus i weld rhwydwaith cyngor yn cael ei sefydlu, a all ymateb i anghenion unigol pobl, a'u harwain at atebion tymor hwy a gynigir gan sefydliadau, fel undebau credyd, sy'n ddewis arall, mwy fforddiadwy, na benthycwyr sy'n codi crocbris a chwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog. Byddai dull gweithredu cyfannol o'r math hwn, yn ogystal â rhoi cyngor ar sut i gynyddu incwm o fudd-daliadau, hefyd yn darparu cyngor ar

services provided for substance misuse, mental health or domestic violence. Co-ordinating the Welsh Government support to deliver a consolidated benefit take-up programme provides a sound platform on which we can build future provision.

It is clear that advice services are key to the Welsh Government's efforts to tackle poverty. It is imperative that we improve access to advisory services that are delivered consistently and universally across Wales. This is of particular relevance in view of the forthcoming changes to the welfare and benefit arrangements, which will change the benefits landscape beyond recognition and have significant implications for how support on benefit take-up and wider advice are delivered. It is important that all the organisations that we work with give consistent and accurate advice to people on the implications of welfare reform.

In addition to the changes to the welfare and benefits system, the advice sector is facing a time of unprecedented change, such as the ending of the financial inclusion fund, the face-to-face debt advice fund, legal aid reform, and pressure on local government funding to advice services. All of that is compounded by the economic downturn. This threatens the capacity of advisory services in Wales, precisely at the point when demand for their services is increasing.

Due to the magnitude of the challenges, the Minister for Finance and I agreed to undertake an in-depth review of advisory services in Wales to align them with Welsh Government priorities. Key to this will be seeking input from experts in the field, users and funders of the services and other key stakeholders. The review will commence this summer and will explore how a stronger advisory network in Wales can be developed. Now more than ever, there is a need to make the case for easier access to advice and access to the right advice, whatever the problem may be. I have agreed the terms of reference,

amrywiaeth o faterion, o wella sgiliau a hyder, i wasanaethau mwy arbenigol a ddarperir ar gyfer camddefnyddio sylweddau, materion yn ymwneud ag iechyd meddwl neu drais yn y cartref. Byddai cydgysylltu cefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cymru i ddarparu rhaglen gyfunol ar ddefnyddio budd-daliadau, yn sicrhau llwyfan cadarn ar gyfer datblygu'r ddarpariaeth ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Mae'n amlwg bod y gwasanaethau cynghori yn elfen allweddol ar ymdrechion Llywodraeth Cymru i fynd i'r afael â thlodi. Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn gwella mynediad at y gwasanaethau cynghori a ddarperir yn gyson ac yn gyffredinol ar draws Cymru. Mae hyn yn arbennig o berthnasol o ystyried y newidiadau arfaethedig i'r trefniadau lles a budd-daliadau, a fydd yn newid y drefn o ran budd-daliadau yn ddirfawr, ac yn effeithio'n sylweddol ar sut y bydd cefnogaeth i ddefnyddio budd-daliadau a chynghor ehangach, yn cael ei darparu. Mae'n bwysig bod yr holl sefydliadau yr ydym yn gweithio gyda hwy yn rhoi cynghor cyson a chywir i bobl ar oblygiadau diwygio lles.

Yn ogystal â'r newidiadau i'r system lles a budd-daliadau, mae'r sector cynghori yn wynebu cyfnod o newid nas gwelwyd mo'i debyg, fel diwedd y gronfa cynhwysiant ariannol, y gronfa cynghori ar ddyled wyneb-yn-wyneb, diwygio cymorth cyfreithiol, a'r pwysau ariannol sydd ar lywodraeth leol o ran y gwasanaethau cynghori. Mae'r dirywiad economaidd yn cymhlethu pob un o'r rhain. Mae hyn yn bygwth gallu'r gwasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru, ar yr union adeg y bydd y galw am eu gwasanaethau'n cynyddu.

O ganlyniad i faint yr heriau, cytunodd y Gweinidog Cyllid a minnau i ymgymryd ag adolygiad manwl o wasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru i'w gwneud yn gydnaws â blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru. Bydd cael mewnbwn arbenigwyr yn y maes, defnyddwyr, y rhai sy'n ariannu'r gwasanaethau a rhanddeiliaid allweddol eraill, yn hollbwysig. Bydd yr adolygiad yn dechrau yn ystod yr haf, a bydd yn edrych ar sut y mae modd i rwydwaith cynghori cryfach gael ei ddatblygu yng Nghymru. Erbyn hyn, mae paratoi'r achos ar gyfer cael mynediad haws at gynghor, a mynediad at y

scope and methodology for the review. The scope will be the whole range of advisory services across Welsh Government portfolios and will also take into account welfare advice services funded by Welsh local government and the third sector. The review will also help deliver the objective in the strategic equality plan of strengthening advice, information and advocacy services to help people with protected characteristics to understand and exercise their rights and to make informed choices.

The overall concept is that we construct a network of advice that can respond to people's individual needs and help guide them towards longer-term solutions. A priority for the review will be to explore how a stronger network of generic advice can be developed that improves the quality of service and provides people with support on all aspects of financial, housing and other related needs. It will also consider the specialist support that many advice providers may need to enable them to deliver a high-quality service to their clients. The review will also identify the impact of funding cuts, assess levels of demand over the next five years and identify how Welsh Government funds can be used most effectively to support the advice network in Wales. It will be crucial to identify any gaps or duplication of services that exist and any potential for improvement. We will also need to consider the role of local authorities and identify barriers that stand in the way of better partnership and collaboration and early action and intervention.

To assist this work, an external group will be established. The group will be made up of key stakeholders and will provide support as the review develops. The aim is to have the review completed by December so that I can consider the recommendations in January. I will keep colleagues informed of progress and have asked my officials to continue to liaise closely with their counterparts in other

cyngor cywir, waeth beth yw'r broblem, yn bwysicach nag erioed. Rwyf wedi cytuno ar y cylch gwaith, cwmpas a methodoleg yr adolygiad. Bydd cwmpas yr adolygiad yn cynnwys yr ystod cyfan o wasanaethau cynghori ar draws portffolios Llywodraeth Cymru, a bydd hefyd yn ystyried y gwasanaethau cynghori lles a ariennir gan lywodraeth leol yng Nghymru a'r trydydd sector. Bydd yr adolygiad hefyd yn helpu i gyflawni'r amcan yn y cynllun cydraddoldeb strategol i gryfhau'r gwasanaethau cynghori, gwybodaeth ac eiriolaeth i helpu pobl sydd â nodweddion gwarchoddedig i ddeall ac arfer eu hawliau a gwneud dewisiadau gwybodus.

Y cysyniad cyffredinol yw ein bod yn adeiladu rhwydwaith cynghori a all ymateb i anghenion unigol pobl a helpu i'w harwain at atebion tymor hwy. Un flaenoriaeth ar gyfer yr adolygiad fydd ystyried sut y gall rhwydwaith cryfach o gyngor cyffredinol gael ei ddatblygu, a bod y rhwydwaith hwnnw'n gwella ansawdd y gwasanaeth ac yn rhoi cymorth i bobl ar bob agwedd ar eu hanghenion ariannol, eu hanghenion o ran tai a'r anghenion cysylltiedig eraill sydd ganddynt. Bydd hefyd yn ystyried y cymorth arbenigol y mae'n bosibl sydd ei angen ar lawer o ddarparwyr cyngor i alluogi iddynt ddarparu gwasanaeth o'r radd flaenaf i'w cleientiaid. Bydd yr adolygiad hefyd yn nodi effaith y toriadau ariannol, yn asesu lefelau galw dros y pum mlynedd nesaf ac yn nodi sut y gall arian Llywodraeth Cymru gael ei ddefnyddio yn y modd mwyaf effeithiol er mwyn cefnogi'r rhwydwaith cynghori yng Nghymru. Bydd yn hanfodol i nodi unrhyw fylchau yn y gwasanaeth neu achosion o ddyblygu gwasanaethau, ac unrhyw bosibilrwydd ar gyfer gwella. Bydd angen i ni hefyd ystyried rôl awdurdodau lleol a nodi'r rhwystrau i weithio'n well mewn partneriaeth a chydweithio, ynghyd â'r rhwystrau i weithredu ac ymyrryd yn gynnar.

I gynorthwyo yn y gwaith hwn, caiff grŵp allanol ei sefydlu. Bydd y grŵp yn cynnwys rhanddeiliaid allweddol a bydd yn darparu cymorth wrth i'r adolygiad fynd rhagddo. Y nod yw cwblhau'r adolygiad erbyn mis Rhagfyr fel bod modd i mi ystyried yr argymhellion ym mis Ionawr. Byddaf yn rhoi gwybod i gydweithwyr am hynt yr adolygiad ac rwyf wedi gofyn i fy swyddogion barhau i

departments across the Welsh Government.

gysylltu'n agos â'u cymheiriaid mewn adrannau eraill Llywodraeth Cymru.

Mark Isherwood: As the Minister says, he is launching 'an in-depth review of advisory services in Wales to align them with Welsh Government priorities'.

Mark Isherwood: Fel y dywed y Gweinidog, bydd yn lansio 'adolygiad manwl o wasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru i'w gwneud yn gydnaws â blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru'.

How will he therefore ensure that they are also aligned with the priorities of the regions and communities of Wales and across all sectors?

Sut y bydd ef, felly, yn sicrhau eu bod hefyd yn gydnaws â blaenoriaethau rhanbarthau a chymunedau Cymru, ac ar draws pob sector?

He advises that:

Dywed:

'The review will commence this summer and will explore how a stronger advisory network in Wales can be developed.'

'Bydd yr adolygiad yn dechrau yn ystod yr haf, a bydd yn edrych ar sut y mae modd i rwydwaith cynghori cryfach gael ei ddatblygu yng Nghymru.'

providing

gan roi

'people with support on all aspects of financial, housing and other related needs.'

'cymorth i bobl ar bob agwedd ar eu hanghenion ariannol, eu hanghenion o ran tai a'r anghenion cysylltiedig eraill sydd ganddynt.'

Clearly, we support all efforts to secure that. He talks of an external group of key stakeholders being established to provide support. We, of course, welcome the fact that extra funding from the UK Treasury has allowed the Minister to increase spending on advice services alongside the Welsh Government money already committed. How will the Minister ensure that existing good practice on advice service provision is engaged and supported and ensure that it is not duplicated or metaphorically thrown out with the bath water? Four years ago, in 2008, the director of Citizens Advice Cymru said that,

Yn amlwg, rydym yn cefnogi pob ymdrech i sicrhau y gweithredir hyn. Mae'n sôn am grŵp allanol o randdeiliaid allweddol yn cael eu sefydlu i ddarparu cymorth. Rydym, wrth gwrs, yn croesawu'r ffaith bod arian ychwanegol gan Drysorlys y DU wedi caniatáu i'r Gweinidog gynyddu gwariant ar wasanaethau cynghori ochr yn ochr ag arian a neilltuwyd eisoes gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Sut y bydd y Gweinidog yn sicrhau bod yr arfer da presennol o ran darparu gwasanaethau cynghori yn cael ei ddefnyddio a bod cefnogaeth iddo, ac yn sicrhau nad yw'n cael ei ddyblygu na'i fwrw o'r neilltu, fel petai? Bedair blynedd yn ôl, yn 2008, dywedodd cyfarwyddwr Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru:

4.00 p.m.

'in the current economic climate of tightening lending criteria; rising unemployment; and rising inflation in essential household goods and services—we expect demand on our money advice services to increase substantially in the short to medium term'.

yn yr hinsawdd economaidd sydd ohoni lle ceir meini prawf llymach wrth fenthyca; cynnydd mewn diweithdra; a chwyddiant sy'n codi ar gyfer nwyddau i'r cartref a gwasanaethau hanfodol, rydym yn disgwyl i'r galw am ein gwasanaethau cyngor ar arian gynyddu'n sylweddol yn y tymor byr i

ganolig.

Clearly, in this era of deficit reduction and a crisis in the eurozone, things are not getting any easier; indeed, they are getting much harder for many people. The Minister says that he will need to consider the role of local authorities. How does he therefore respond to the recommendation by the Communities and Culture Committee, following its inquiry into financial inclusion and the impact of financial education in 2010, which was recognised by the-then Welsh Government and the Minister's colleague, who still sits in the Cabinet with him, namely that the Welsh Government should engage with local authorities and third sector advice services to ensure a proactive approach to enabling benefit take-up? In other words, the recommendation was not just about considering that role, but working proactively with those organisations.

The Minister talked about increased funding and support for a consolidated Citizens Advice Cymru advice line. We very much welcome that. The provision of support for callers, such as providing information and setting up face-to-face Citizens Advice appointments, is needed, as well as recommending local organisations and services that can help further. Last year, citizens advice bureaux in Wales dealt with 440,000 issues, a 10% increase on the previous year. The biggest increase was in people seeking benefits advice, against the background of reform in legal aid, which will affect the advice provided for debt, benefit, employment and housing. Does the Minister therefore recognise the importance of advice being independent, whether it is statutorily funded or not, and how does the Welsh Government plan to ensure that the review will help the providers of independent advice in Wales? What role does the Minister see for networks such as the north Wales financial capability forum, with which I know the Minister is familiar, and for Welsh Government-supported bodies such as the Wales housing debt helpline? How will he engage with the Legal Services Commission in cases for which legal aid will still be routinely available? These include civil and family cases where life or liberty is at stake, or where people are at risk of serious physical

Yn amlwg, yn yr oes hon o leihau diffyg ariannol a'r argyfwng yn ardal yr ewro, nid yw pethau'n mynd yn ddim haws; yn wir, maent yn mynd yn anos i nifer o bobl. Dywed y Gweinidog y bydd angen iddo ystyried rôl awdurdodau lleol. Sut felly y mae'n ymateb i'r argymhelliad gan y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant, yn dilyn ei ymchwiliad i gynhwysiant ariannol ac effaith addysg ariannol yn 2010, a gafodd ei gydnabod gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar y pryd a chydweithiwr y Gweinidog, sy'n parhau i fod yn rhan o'r Cabinet gydag ef, sef y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru ymgysylltu ag awdurdodau lleol a gwasanaethau cynghori'r trydydd sector i sicrhau agwedd ragweithiol tuag at alluogi pobl i hawlio budd-daliadau? Hynny yw, nid oedd yr argymhelliad yn glŷn ag ystyried y rôl honno yn unig, ond ynghylch gweithio'n rhagweithiol gyda'r sefydliadau hynny.

Soniodd y Gweinidog am fwy o arian a chymorth ar gyfer llinell gynghori gyfunol Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru. Rydym yn croesawu hynny'n fawr. Mae angen darparu cymorth i bobl sy'n ffonio, fel darparu gwybodaeth a threfnu apwyntiadau wyneb-yn-wyneb gyda Chyngor ar Bopeth, yn ogystal ag argymell sefydliadau a gwasanaethau lleol a all helpu ymhellach. Y llynedd, ymdriniodd canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth yng Nghymru â 440,000 o achosion, sef cynnydd o 10% o'i gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Roedd y cynnydd mwyaf yn nifer y bobl sy'n gofyn am gyngor ar fudd-daliadau, tra bo cymorth cyfreithiol yn cael ei ddiwygio, a fydd yn effeithio ar y cyngor a roddir ar ddyled, budd-daliadau, cyflogaeth a thai. A yw'r Gweinidog, felly, yn cydnabod ei bod yn bwysig bod y cyngor yn annibynnol, p'un a gaiff ei ariannu'n statudol ai peidio, a sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu sicrhau y bydd yr adolygiad yn helpu'r rhai sy'n darparu cyngor annibynnol yng Nghymru? Pa rôl sydd gan y Gweinidog mewn golwg ar gyfer rhwydweithiau megis fforwm capasiti ariannol y gogledd, y gwn y mae'r Gweinidog yn gyfarwydd ag ef, a chyrrff a gefnogir gan Lywodraeth Cymru fel llinell gymorth dyledion tai Cymru? Sut y bydd yn ymgysylltu â'r Comisiwn Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol mewn achosion lle bydd cymorth cyfreithiol yn dal i fod ar gael

harm or immediate loss of their home, or where their children may be taken into care. These also include private family cases, in respect of victims of domestic violence and children who are at risk of abuse or abduction, and special educational needs cases.

How will he engage with the social enterprises Moneyline Cymru and Community Housing Cymru, which are working with Citizens Advice and the Wales housing debt helpline to help tenants to access money and debt advice? We are talking here about tenants and other individuals with thin or negative credit files, who are usually denied finance and advice by mainstream outlets such as banks or even credit unions. How will he engage with the new Citizens Advice service announced by the UK Government on 11 April 2012? It will now be delivered by Citizens Advice Wales as the publicly funded voice of consumers, taking over the consumer advocacy and education empowerment functions of Consumer Focus and the Office of Fair Trading. How will he engage with the money advice service itself—the free independent service that was established by the UK Government and that is funded by a levy on the financial services industry, but that is independent of both? It provides free, unbiased money advice online, over the phone and face to face.

On fuel poverty, how will he engage with the Energy Retailers Association's Home Heat helpline and the Welsh Government's own fuel poverty scheme, Nest, and the advice helpline provided by the Energy Saving Trust?

Minister, we support the initiative, and if you can truly engage with these existing projects that deliver well and that already work together in many cases, we will be supportive of what you are seeking to achieve.

fel mater o drefn? Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys achosion sifil a theuluol lle mae bywyd neu ryddid yn y fantol, neu lle mae pobl mewn perygl o gael niwed corfforol difrifol neu golli eu cartref yn ddi-oed, neu lle y gellir cymryd eu plant i'w rhoi mewn gofal. Mae'r rhain hefyd yn cynnwys achosion teulu preifat, o ran dioddefwyr trais yn y cartref a phlant sydd mewn perygl o gael eu cam-drin neu eu herwgipio, ac achosion o anghenion addysgol arbennig.

Sut y bydd yn ymgysylltu â mentrau cymdeithasol Moneyline Cymru a Chartrefi Cymunedol Cymru, sy'n gweithio gyda Chyngor ar Bopeth a'r llinell gymorth dyledion tai Cymru i helpu tenantiaid i gael gafael ar gyngor ar arian a dyled? Rydym yn sôn yma am denantiaid ac unigolion eraill sydd â ffeiliau credyd tenau neu negyddol, y gwrthodir arian a chyngor iddynt fel arfer gan fusnesau prif ffrwd fel banciau neu hyd yn oed undebau credyd. Sut y bydd yn ymgysylltu â'r gwasanaeth Cyngor ar Bopeth newydd a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU ar 11 Ebrill 2012? Bydd bellach yn cael ei ddarparu gan Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru fel llais y defnyddwyr a ariennir yn gyhoeddus, a fydd yn mabwysiadu swyddogaethau ymrymuso eiriolaeth ac addysg defnyddwyr gan Llais Defnyddwyr a'r Swyddfa Masnachu Teg. Sut y bydd yn ymgysylltu â'r gwasanaeth cyngor ar arian—y gwasanaeth annibynnol am ddim a sefydlwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU ac sy'n cael ei ariannu gan ardoll ar y diwydiant gwasanaethau ariannol, ond sy'n annibynnol ar y ddau? Mae'n darparu cyngor diddied am ddim ar arian, dros y ffôn ac wyneb yn wyneb.

O ran tlodi tanwydd, sut y bydd yn ymgysylltu â llinell gymorth Cartrefi Cynnes y Gymdeithas Manwerthwyr Ynni a chynllun tlodi tanwydd Llywodraeth Cymru ar dlodi tanwydd, Nyth, a'r llinell gyngor a ddarperir gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth Arbed Ynni?

Weinidog, rydym yn cefnogi'r fenter, ac os gallwch, mewn gwirionedd, ymgysylltu â'r prosiectau hyn sy'n bodoli eisoes sy'n darparu'n dda ac sydd eisoes yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd mewn nifer o achosion, byddwn yn cefnogi'r hyn yr ydych yn ceisio ei gyflawni.

Carl Sargeant: I am grateful for the Member's contribution, particularly the final part of it, where he said that he supports the initiative on the basis of engagement. Let me give the Member some reassurance on this. We are already—and have been for many years—in discussion with many of the organisations that he mentioned. This is about reviewing the procedure, and his questions pre-empted the review, really. I ask the Member to consider the outcome of the review, as I will make an announcement in the following December or January, when I have made decisions on that. However, the points that he raised on engagement and taking up the expertise in the sectors will be important to my team and the independent review team that will look at this matter and advise me on the future services that we will need to provide.

On the reality of where we are, there will be an increased demand for benefits support and advice services. Changes to welfare and benefit reform, and council tax benefits, will all come with an increasing pressure on families throughout Wales and the UK. We have to be ready to deliver these services, but as there will be greater demand for the service and less money to provide it, we must remove the duplication and make sure that we have good quality advice for the people who seek it. I look forward to working across Government with my ministerial colleagues to ensure that we can increase output for the service and the sector as the finances, as I mentioned earlier, get ever tighter.

I work very closely with Citizens Advice Cymru. We have been working extremely hard. My team has been looking at Consumer Focus's former duties and at how people can access independent quality information. That is as important to me as it is to the Member on the opposite benches. I welcome his contribution today and I thank him.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog yn ei ymateb iddo, mae'n rhyfeddol bod Mark Isherwood wedi llwyddo gofyn nifer mor helaeth o gwestiynau ar ddechrau'r broses adolygu. Y gwir amdani

Carl Sargeant: Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gyfraniad yr Aelod, yn enwedig y rhan olaf ohono, lle dywedodd ei fod yn cefnogi'r fenter ar sail ymgysylltu. Gadewch imi roi rhywfaint o sicrwydd ar hyn i'r Aelod. Rydym eisoes yn trafod hyn â nifer o'r sefydliadau y soniodd amdanynt—a buom yn gwneud hynny am nifer o flynyddoedd. Mae hyn yn ymwneud ag adolygu'r weithdrefn, ac mae ei gwestiynau yn achub y blaen ar yr adolygiad, mewn gwirionedd. Gofynnaf i'r Aelod ystyried canlyniad yr adolygiad, gan y byddaf yn gwneud cyhoeddiad yn ystod y mis Rhagfyr neu Ionawr canlynol, pan fyddaf wedi gwneud penderfyniadau ar hynny. Fodd bynnag, bydd y pwyntiau a gododd ynghylch ymgysylltu a defnyddio'r arbenigedd yn y sectorau yn bwysig i fy nhîm a'r tîm adolygu annibynnol a fydd yn edrych ar y mater hwn ac yn rhoi cyngor imi ar y gwasanaethau y bydd angen inni eu darparu yn y dyfodol.

O ran realiti ein sefyllfa, bydd mwy o alw am wasanaethau cymorth a chyngor ar fudd-daliadau. Bydd newidiadau i les a diwygio budd-daliadau, a budd-daliadau'r dreth gyngor, oll yn rhoi pwysau cynyddol ar deuluoedd ledled Cymru a'r DU. Mae'n rhaid inni fod yn barod i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hyn, ond gan y bydd mwy o alw am y gwasanaeth a llai o arian i'w darparu, mae'n rhaid inni gael gwared ar ddyblygu a gwneud yn siŵr bod gennym gyngor o safon i bobl sydd am ei gael. Edrychaf ymlaen at weithio ar draws y Llywodraeth gyda'm cydweithwyr gweinidogol i sicrhau y gallwn gynyddu canlyniadau'r gwasanaeth a'r sector wrth i'r sefyllfa o ran cyllid dynhau, fel y soniais yn gynharach.

Rwy'n gweithio'n agos iawn gyda Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru. Bum yn gweithio'n eithriadol o galed. Bu fy nhîm yn edrych ar gynyddletsyddau Llais Defnyddwyr a sut y gall pobl gael gafael ar wybodaeth annibynnol o safon. Mae hynny yr un mor bwysig i mi ag y mae i'r Aelod ar y meinciau gyferbyn. Rwy'n croesawu ei gyfraniad heddiw ac yn diolch iddo.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: As the Minister said in his response to him, it is amazing that Mark Isherwood managed to find such a vast number of questions to ask at the beginning of this review process. The truth is that we

yw ein bod ar ddechrau'r broses o ran yr adolygiad hwn o wasanaethau cynghori ac, mewn egwyddor, rydym yn sicr yn gallu cefnogi'r Gweinidog. Mae mawr angen yr adolygiad hwn. Os cofiaf yn iawn, dechreuodd y broses o geisio tynnu ynghyd yr holl gynlluniau sy'n rhoi'r gallu i bobl gael mynediad i fudd-daliadau o dan y Llywodraeth flaenorol, sef Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un. Roeddem yn cefnogi'r broses bryd hynny ac rydym yn parhau i wneud.

Os cofiaf yn gywir, mae hyn i gyd wedi digwydd oherwydd i'r Llywodraeth dynnu arian yn ôl o Lais Defnyddwyr, a oedd yn golygu bod yn rhaid adolygu'r broses hon ac edrych o'r newydd ar y ffordd y mae cyngor yn cael ei ddarparu i bobl. Yn sicr, yn y cyddestun sy'n ein hwynebu, gwelwn fudd-daliadau'n cael eu torri, ac mae mwy a mwy o bobl yn dod atom ni Aelodau'r Cynulliad gyda'u pryderon am fudd-daliadau'n cael eu tynnu oddi wrthynt, a'r taliadau iddynt yn lleihau. Mae nifer o bobl yn awr yn canfod eu hunain yn ddi-waith ac yn gorfod troi am y tro cyntaf at fudd-daliadau i gynnal eu teuluoedd. Felly, rwy'n mawr obeithio, Weinidog, y bydd yr adolygiad hwn yn arwain at broses a fydd yn fwy cynhwysfawr ac effeithiol yn y gwaith hwn.

Hoffwn wybod ychydig yn fwy, os caf, am Gyngor ar Bopeth Cymru. A allwch roi rhyw gymaint o wybodaeth am y corff hwnnw, gan nad wyf yn gyfarwydd iawn ag ef, ac am y modd y bydd yn cydweithio â'r cyrff hynny yr ydych wedi cyfeirio atynt yn eich datganiad, megis Shelter Cymru, sy'n cynnig cyngor am wahanol agweddau ar gymorth i bobl? Sut yn union y bydd y cysylltiad hwnnw'n cael ei ddatblygu—neu ai dosrannu'r arian yn unig y bydd Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru yn ei wneud ar ran y Llywodraeth?

Mae'r ail gwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r arian a glustnodwyd gennych, sef £2.2 miliwn yn flynyddol, rwy'n tybio, dros dair blynedd, felly cyfanswm o £6.6 miliwn. A yw hwnnw i gyd yn arian newydd neu a ydych yn ailgyfeirio arian a oedd yno'n barod ar gyfer gwasanaethau i fod o dan un corff? Byddwn yn falch o gael esboniad llawnach am hynny, Weinidog.

are just at the start of the process for this review of advice services and, in principle, we certainly feel able to support the Minister. This review is greatly needed. If I recall correctly, the process of trying to pull together all the schemes that enable people to have access to benefits was started under the previous Government, namely the One Wales Government. We supported this process at that time, and we continue to do so.

If I remember correctly, this has all come about because the Government withdrew funding from Consumer Focus, which meant that this process had to be reviewed and that we had to look afresh at how advice is provided to people. Certainly in the context that we are faced with, we see benefits being cut, and more and more people are coming to see us as Assembly Members with their concerns about benefits being taken away from them, and the payments that they receive being reduced. Many people are now finding themselves unemployed and are having to turn to benefits for the first time to support their families. Therefore, I hope very much, Minister, that this review will lead to a process that will be more comprehensive and effective in respect of this work.

I want to find out a little more, if I may, about Citizens Advice Cymru. Can you give us some more information about that organisation, as it is not one that I am very familiar with it, and about the way in which it collaborates with those organisations that you referred to in your statement, such as Shelter Cymru, which offer advice to people on various aspects of the support available? How exactly will those links be developed—or will it simply be a matter of Citizens Advice Cymru distributing funding on behalf of the Government?

The second question relates to the funding that you have allocated, namely the £2.2 million annually, I suppose, over three years, making a total of £6.6 million. Is that all new money or are you diverting funding that was already there for other services and bringing it all under one umbrella organisation? I would appreciate a fuller explanation of that, Minister.

Rydym yn edrych ymlaen at weld canlyniadau'r adolygiad hwn a'ch datganiad ar ddiwedd y broses hon. Bryd hynny, efallai y byddwn yn gallu canfod mwy o gwestiynau i'r gofyn ichi—ond heb fod cynifer â Mark Isherwood, mae'n siŵr.

Carl Sargeant: I am grateful for the Member's contribution. As regards the £6.6 million, that was in an announcement that I made earlier in the year. It is a consolidation of the funding that is available from the three schemes that have been rolled into one for delivery through Citizens Advice Cymru. The reason that we have done that is because some of the administration costs surrounding that are a burden to delivery, so we brought them together for better distribution and, hopefully, better outputs compared with where they were before.

Let us make no mistake: there is less money going into the service. You are quite right to raise the point that Consumer Focus was abolished in the UK and its service has had to be delivered through Citizens Advice in Wales and the UK. However, the service will not be a Consumer Focus service as we know it. It will have a different style of delivery, and I would be happy to write to the Member with the details.

On the delivery of services, I am grateful that the Member recognises that we are at the start of the review. It is important that we take out the duplication, and that will mean that we have to consider how to proceed with further funding for any organisations currently delivering services that are not up to the mark or services that are available elsewhere. That is just because there is not the money to give everybody the same amount of funding as they currently receive. Hopefully, by working across the Welsh Government and with the sector, we can devise a better way of delivering these services. Ultimately, the important people here are the people seeking the advice services, and we have to be mindful of that.

Along the journey of the review, I am sure that many questions will be raised. As I said

We look forward to seeing the outcomes of this review and your statement at the end of the process. By then, perhaps we will be able to find more questions to ask you—but not as many as Mark Isherwood, I am sure.

Carl Sargeant: Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gyfraniad yr Aelod. O ran y £6.6 miliwn, roedd hwnnw mewn cyhoeddiad a wnes yn gynharach yn y flwyddyn. Mae'n cyfuno'r cyllid sydd ar gael o'r tri chynllun sydd wedi eu rhoi mewn un i'w ddarparu drwy Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru. Y rheswm y gwnaethom hynny yw oherwydd bod rhywfaint o'r costau gweinyddol cysylltiedig yn faich o ran darparu, felly rydym wedi dod â hwy ynghyd er mwyn eu dosbarthu'n well a, gobeithio, cael gwell canlyniadau o'u cymharu â'r hyn a gafwyd yn flaenorol.

Heb unrhyw amheuaeth, mae llai o arian yn mynd i mewn i'r gwasanaeth. Rydych yn llygad eich lle i godi'r pwynt bod Llais Defnyddwyr wedi'i ddi-ddymu yn y DU a bod ei wasanaeth wedi gorfod cael ei ddarparu drwy Cyngor ar Bopeth yng Nghymru a'r DU. Fodd bynnag, ni fydd y gwasanaeth yn wasanaeth Llais Defnyddwyr fel yr ydym yn ei adnabod. Bydd ganddo ddull darparu gwahanol, a byddaf yn fwy na pharod i ysgrifennu at yr Aelod gyda'r manylion.

O ran darparu gwasanaethau, rwy'n ddiolchgar bod yr Aelod yn cydnabod ein bod ar ddechrau'r arolwg. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cael gwared ar y dyblygu, a bydd hynny'n golygu bod yn rhaid inni ystyried sut i fwrw ymlaen â chyllid pellach ar gyfer unrhyw sefydliad sy'n darparu gwasanaethau ar hyn o bryd nad ydynt yn cyrraedd y safon neu wasanaethau sydd ar gael mewn manau eraill. Yr unig reswm dros hynny yw nad oes arian ar gael i roi yr un faint o gyllid i bawb ag y maent yn ei gael ar hyn o bryd. Gobeithio, drwy weithio ar draws Llywodraeth Cymru a chyda'r sector, gallwn lunio ffordd well o ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hyn. Yn y pen draw, y bobl bwysig yma yw'r bobl sydd am ddefnyddio'r gwasanaethau cynghori, a rhaid inni fod yn ystyriol o hynny.

Ar hyd taith yr adolygiad, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd nifer o gwestiynau yn cael eu gofyn. Fel

earlier, I am more than happy to report back to the Chamber in January with a response, but I would welcome any input from Members about their experiences or about access to services. The services are wide-ranging and their accessibility is very different across Wales, so I would welcome Members' comments.

Peter Black: I welcome the statement and the review that the Minister has announced will start in the summer. Having been an Assembly Member since 1999, I know that we have been discussing the review of advice services since the first day, particularly in relation to homelessness. On the homelessness commission, we looked at reviewing the services back in 2001, so it is pleasing to see that the Minister has finally got around to doing this after so long.

Minister, a couple of issues arise from this. First, I am pleased that you have acknowledged the £753,550 that the UK Government gave you to help to consolidate advice services in Wales. That is important and shows its commitment to this. There is a dilemma regarding advice services in Wales, in relation to funding face-to-face advice as against strategic funding. The £2.2 million that you are giving to Citizens Advice Cymru is largely strategic funding, for putting various programmes in place. However, if you go to the various citizens advice bureaux around Wales, you will find that many of them are strapped for cash, are reliant on local authority grants, and are in a situation of not even being able to open five days a week, never mind the full eight hours a day. As a result, they have huge backlogs of people waiting to get advice and support from them. It is important for the review to look at that balance to ensure that we can somehow direct resources to front-line and face-to-face advice services to help the people who need them the most.

4.15 p.m.

The second question relates to the practical

y dywedais yn gynharach, yr wyf yn fwy na pharod i adrodd yn ôl i'r Siambr ym mis Ionawr gydag ymateb, ond byddwn yn croesawu unrhyw sylwadau gan yr Aelodau am eu profiadau neu am fynediad at wasanaethau. Mae'r gwasanaethau yn amrywiol iawn ac mae eu hygyrchedd yn wahanol iawn ledled Cymru, felly byddwn yn croesawu sylwadau'r Aelodau.

Peter Black: Rwyf yn croesawu'r datganiad a'r adolygiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i gyhoeddi a fydd yn dechrau yn yr haf. Gan imi fod yn Aelod o'r Cynulliad er 1999, rwyf yn gwybod y buom yn trafod yr adolygiad o wasanaethau cynghori ers y diwrnod cyntaf, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â digartrefedd. O ran y comisiwn digartrefedd, buom yn edrych ar adolygu'r gwasanaethau yn ôl yn 2001, felly mae'n braf gweld bod y Gweinidog yn gwneud hyn o'r diwedd ar ôl cymaint o amser.

Weinidog, mae un neu ddau o faterion yn codi o hyn. Yn gyntaf, rwyf yn falch eich bod wedi cydnabod y £753,550 y mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi ei roi i chi i helpu i atgyfnerthu gwasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru. Mae hynny'n bwysig ac yn dangos ei hymrwymiad i hyn. Mae penbleth ynglŷn â gwasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru, o ran cyllid ar gyfer cyngor wyneb-yn-wyneb yn hytrach na chyllid strategol. Mae'r £2.2 filiwn yr ydych yn ei rhoi i Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru yn arian strategol i raddau helaeth, ar gyfer rhoi rhaglenni amrywiol ar waith. Fodd bynnag, os ewch i ganolfannau cyngor ar bopeth amrywiol ledled Cymru, gwelwch fod nifer ohonynt yn brin o arian, yn dibynnu ar grantiau awdurdodau lleol, ac mewn sefyllfa lle nad ydynt hyd yn oed yn gallu bod ar agor bum niwrnod yr wythnos, heb sôn am y cyfanswm o wyth awr y dydd. O ganlyniad, mae ganddynt ôl-groniadau mawr o bobl yn aros i gael cyngor a chefnogaeth ganddynt. Mae'n bwysig i'r adolygiad edrych ar y cydbwysedd hwnnw er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn gallu cyfeirio adnoddau rhywsut i wasanaethau cynghori rheng flaen a gwasanaethau wyneb-yn-wyneb i helpu'r bobl sydd eu hangen fwyaf.

Mae'r ail gwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r cyngor

advice that people get when they come to agencies like the citizens advice bureaux, and also the offices of Assembly Members and Members of Parliament. There is an increasingly large number of tribunals taking place in relation to benefits, particularly around the disability living allowance and its successor—I think the figure is that something like 60% of appeals are successful on that particular benefit. There was also scarcity of advice and support for people in terms of going to those tribunals and successfully prosecuting. I wonder whether the Minister could confirm whether, as well as looking at the advice services, he would look at that wider support network for people who need to take their claims for benefits to tribunal, having been refused the benefit in the first place.

Carl Sargeant: I thank the Member for his contribution and again welcome the Liberal Democrats' support and commitment to taking this advice review forward. The Member will recognise that I have not been in post since 1999 to take these actions and to change the way we look at this review. However, I am pleased that he recognises that we have taken swift action more recently.

The consequential of £550,000 is very welcome and I would not want to start playing politics on such an important issue. I welcome that point and the additional consequential that we receive. However, we must not get too excited by that process when we place that against the actual reduction in funding for advice services across the sector, and particularly regarding Citizens Advice in Wales, which was very hard-pressed given the finances that it received from the UK Government. It is a rob-Peter-to-pay-Paul kind of scenario, but nevertheless we have to look at what funding is available now in terms of taking that forward for a better service for the client.

The Member is quite right in terms of the increased demand, and certainly as a constituency Assembly Member I am seeing

ymarferol y mae pobl yn ei gael pan fyddant yn dod i asiantaethau megis y canolfannau cyngor ar bopeth, a hefyd swyddfeydd Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol. Mae nifer gynyddol fawr o dribiwnlysoedd yn cael eu cynnal ar fudd-daliadau, yn enwedig ar y lwfans byw i'r anabl a'i olynydd—credaf mai'r ffigur yw bod tua 60% o apeliadau yn llwyddiannus o ran y budd-dal penodol hwnnw. Hefyd, roedd prinder cyngor a chefnogaeth i bobl o ran mynd i'r tribiwnlysoedd hynny ac erlyn yn llwyddiannus. Tybed a fyddai modd i'r Gweinidog gadarnhau, yn ogystal ag edrych ar y gwasanaethau cynghori, y bydd yn edrych ar y rhwydwaith cymorth ehangach ar gyfer pobl y mae angen iddynt fynd â'u hawliadau am fudd-daliadau i dribiwnlys, ar ôl i'r budd-dal gael ei wrthod iddynt yn y lle cyntaf.

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i'r Aelod am ei gyfraniad a chroesawaf unwaith eto gefnogaeth ac ymrwymiad y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol i fynd â'r adolygiad cyngor yn ei flaen. Bydd yr Aelod yn cydnabod na fûm yn y swydd er 1999 i gymryd y camau hyn ac i newid y ffordd rydym yn ystyried yr adolygiad hwn. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n falch ei fod yn cydnabod ein bod wedi cymryd camau cyflym yn fwy diweddar.

Mae'r swm canlyniadol o £550,000 i'w groesawu'n fawr ac ni fyddwn am ddechrau chwarae gemau ar fater mor bwysig. Rwy'n croesawu'r pwynt hwnnw a'r swm canlyniadol ychwanegol a gawn. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni beidio â chael ein cynhyrfu gormod gan y broses honno pan fyddwn yn gosod hynny yn erbyn y gostyngiad gwirioneddol mewn cyllid ar gyfer gwasanaethau cynghori ar draws y sector, ac yn enwedig o ran Cyngor ar Bopeth yng Nghymru, a oedd o dan bwysau mawr o ystyried yr arian a gafodd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Mae'n sefyllfa lle mae'n rhaid cymryd arian o un lle i'w roi i rywbeth arall, ond, er hynny, rhaid inni edrych ar y cyllid sydd ar gael yn awr o ran bwrw ymlaen â hynny er mwyn cael gwell gwasanaeth ar gyfer y cleient.

Mae'r Aelod yn llygad ei le o ran y galw cynyddol ac, yn sicr, fel Aelod Cynulliad etholaeth, gwelaf fwy o bobl yn fy

more people at my surgeries with cases related to benefit reform and how that is being handled. Working with my colleague the Minister for Education and Skills I am looking at new services such as council tax benefit, the social fund and other welfare reform implications, where funding will be passported across to the Welsh Government, and trying to streamline processes for delivery. I met with Lord Freud and Iain Duncan Smith yesterday, and they were trying to indicate to me that they believed that the increase in benefit take-up would decline over the next 12 months; I was not quite sure how they had come to those figures, and that is something that our officials will be working on to try to better understand the proposals. I hope that they are right that there will be less benefit take-up, but for the right reasons, not because people are being displaced because they cannot claim when they should be allowed to.

The Member's contribution is welcome. I also want to see the best outcomes with the small amount of funding that we have. I want well-placed, quality information for people who are vulnerable and most need advice services. That is something that this review will hopefully come back with when it reports to me in January.

Julie Morgan: I also welcome this review. It is urgently needed in view of the cuts to legal aid and the other benefit cuts coming from the UK Government. I ask the Minister whether the review will measure the success of the organisations that are involved in trying to maximise money for people and trying to deal with issues of debt and housing. Could that be part of the review—looking at how successful those organisations are in actually doing it, so that, when resources are scant, they are placed with those who are most successful in this work? Does the Minister agree that the review, as well as including the CABs and the voluntary sector, should include the very successful firms of solicitors who use legal aid to work very hard on behalf of their clients, and of course will lose much of that legal aid, which will mean that there is a huge amount of expertise that will be lost in Wales? Would

ngymorthfeydd sydd ag achosion sy'n ymwneud â diwygio budd-daliadau a sut yr ymdrinnir â hynny. Gan weithio gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, rwy'n edrych ar wasanaethau newydd megis budd-dal y dreth gyngor, y gronfa gymdeithasol a goblygiadau eraill diwygio lles, lle bydd cyllid yn cael ei drosglwyddo i Lywodraeth Cymru, ac yn ceisio symleiddio prosesau ar gyfer cyflawni. Cyfarfûm â'r Arglwydd Freud ac Iain Duncan Smith ddoe, ac roeddynt yn ceisio dangos i mi eu bod yn credu y byddai'r cynnydd yn nifer y bobl sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau yn gostwng dros y 12 mis nesaf; nid oeddwn yn hollol siŵr sut y bu iddynt gyfrifo'r ffigurau hynny, a bydd ein swyddogion yn gweithio ar hynny i geisio deall y cynigion yn well. Rwy'n gobeithio y byddant yn iawn ac y byddwn yn gweld llai o bobl yn hawlio budd-daliadau, ond am y rhesymau iawn, nid oherwydd bod pobl yn cael eu dadleoli oherwydd na allant eu hawlio er bod ganddynt hawl i wneud hynny.

Rwy'n croesawu cyfraniad yr Aelod. Rwyf hefyd am weld y canlyniadau gorau gyda'r swm bychan o arian sydd gennym. Rwyf am gael gwybodaeth o ansawdd yn y lle iawn ar gyfer pobl fregus y mae ganddynt yr angen mwyaf am wasanaethau cynghori. Gobeithio y bydd yr adolygiad hwn yn nodi hynny pan fyddaf yn cael adroddiad arno ym mis Ionawr.

Julie Morgan: Rwyf hefyd yn croesawu'r adolygiad hwn. Mae ei angen ar frys o ystyried y toriadau i gymorth cyfreithiol a'r toriadau budd-dal eraill y bydd Llywodraeth y DU yn eu gwneud. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog a fydd yr adolygiad yn mesur llwyddiant y sefydliadau sy'n ymwneud â cheisio sicrhau bod y swm mwyaf o arian ar gael ar gyfer pobl ac sy'n ceisio ymdrin â materion sy'n ymwneud â dyled a thai. A allai hynny fod yn rhan o'r adolygiad—gan edrych ar ba mor llwyddiannus yw'r sefydliadau hynny o ran gwneud hynny mewn gwirionedd, fel y bydd yr adnoddau, pan fyddant yn brin, yn cael eu rhoi i'r rheini sydd fwyaf llwyddiannus wrth wneud y gwaith hwn? Yn ogystal â chynnwys y canolfannau Cyngor ar Bopeth a'r sector gwirfoddol, a yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno y dylai'r adolygiad gynnwys y cwmnïau cyfreithwyr llwyddiannus iawn sy'n defnyddio cymorth cyfreithiol i weithio'n

he include that?

I echo the comments about the amount of work that is brought to Assembly Members and Members of Parliament. All of the evidence shows that if you have an advocate with you in an appeal, your chances of winning that appeal increase hugely. Therefore, I hope that he will also be able to take that into account.

Carl Sargeant: The Member has raised some very important issues. I also want to ensure that we have a full review of the service provision required for the best service delivery in Wales. However—and I cannot say this enough—we will have a review of organisations and the success of organisations, but it will ultimately be based on affordability; that is, which organisations can receive additional funding to provide the best service for clients who require benefit support. Therefore, I daresay that there will be organisations that are successful, but, unfortunately, because of the way that the funding is tightening up, some organisations will still be unable to receive the funding that they may have been used to in the past. That is why it is really important to get a full review of the position of services. Indeed, the legal aid element of this also concerns me and I would want it to be included in that process.

Julie Morgan is quite right to mention the success rate with an advocate. Once again, there are limitations on provision and the cost of services will have to be taken into account here. However, this is the very reason why we must start looking at the review of the whole service. Working with my colleague the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage we have already had some discussions about particular advice in relation to housing and homelessness. Once again, we want to include that part of his Green Paper in terms of what these elements could be and how better we can serve the public with the limited amount of money, on a collective

galed iawn ar ran eu cleientiaid, ond a fydd, wrth gwrs, yn colli llawer o'r cymorth cyfreithiol hwnnw, a fydd yn golygu bod llawer iawn o arbenigedd yn cael ei gollu yng Nghymru? A fyddai'n cynnwys hynny?

Ategaf y sylwadau am y swm o waith sy'n dod gerbron Aelodau'r Cynulliad ac Aelodau Seneddol. Mae'r holl dystiolaeth yn dangos bod eich siawns o ennill apêl yn cynyddu'n fawr iawn os oes gennych eiriolwr gyda chi. Felly, gobeithiaf y bydd hefyd yn gallu ystyried hynny.

Carl Sargeant: Mae'r Aelod wedi codi materion pwysig iawn. Rwyf hefyd am sicrhau ein bod yn cael adolygiad llawn o'r gwasanaethau y mae angen eu darparu fel bod y gwasanaeth gorau'n cael ei ddarparu yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag—ac ni allaf ddweud hyn ddigon—byddwn yn cael adolygiad o sefydliadau a llwyddiant sefydliadau ond, yn y pen draw, bydd yn seiliedig ar fforddiadwyedd; hynny yw, pa sefydliadau sy'n gallu cael arian ychwanegol i ddarparu'r gwasanaeth gorau ar gyfer cleientiaid y mae angen cymorth budd-daliadau arnynt. Felly, mae'n debygol iawn y bydd sefydliadau sy'n llwyddiannus ond, yn anffodus, oherwydd y ffordd y mae'r arian yn mynd yn brinnach, bydd rhai sefydliadau yn dal i fetu â chael y cyllid yr oeddynt yn arfer ei gael yn y gorffennol. Dyna pam ei bod yn bwysig iawn cael adolygiad llawn o sefyllfa'r gwasanaethau. Yn wir, mae'r elfen sy'n ymwneud â chymorth cyfreithiol hefyd yn peri pryder i mi a byddwn eisiau i hynny gael ei gynnwys yn y broses honno.

Mae Julie Morgan yn iawn i sôn am y gyfradd llwyddiant gydag eiriolwr. Unwaith eto, mae cyfyngiadau ar ddarpariaeth a bydd yn rhaid ystyried cost y gwasanaethau yn hyn o beth. Fodd bynnag, dyma'r union reswm pam mae'n rhaid inni ddechrau edrych ar adolygu'r gwasanaeth cyfan. Gan weithio gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth, rydym eisoes wedi cael rhywfaint o drafodaethau am gyngor penodol mewn perthynas â thai a digartrefedd. Unwaith eto, rydym am gynnwys y rhan honno o'i Bapur Gwyrdd o ran yr hyn y gallai'r elfennau hyn fod a sut y gallwn, ar y cyd, wasanaethu'r cyhoedd yn

basis, from the Welsh Government. I know that the Member is very interested in this field and I would welcome her comments as part of this review.

Kirsty Williams: Minister, I have two questions. Is it the goal of your review to cut back on the number of organisations that the Government funds in this way? Some community-based groups, despite their size, are no less competent, capable or important than some of the larger organisations that operate on an all-Wales basis. How will those small community-based groups be able to have their work recognised and assessed in your review? Would you agree with me that, despite the temptation for governments to deal with only a limited number of funding partners, we should avoid at all costs what I would call 'the Tesco-isation of services'? That is, that we fund only those organisations that have a pan-Wales, well-known brand image at the expense of individual local charities and advice groups that have provided a service for their communities very well over very many years.

Carl Sargeant: The Member is absolutely right in raising the excellent work that some of the smaller independent advice services provide, and the review will look at the wide range of issues around that, particularly making sure that the independent advice providers are represented on the external working group. Once again, I share her views in terms of not wanting to have the big-is-beautiful approach to the delivery of services. Notwithstanding the fact that we have to have some consistency across Wales, we want services to be delivered and accessible to as many people as possible. That is why I mentioned earlier in my response to Rhodri Glyn Thomas that the availability of a service in one region will be very different to that of another. That might mean that some of the smaller independent services are better placed to deliver in some of our smaller conurbations. However, they will be a part of the review. We have to take a holistic view of all of the services that are delivered, but I take on board the Member's views on that particular issue. I am not pre-empting the outcome of the review in terms of reducing

well gyda'r swm cyfyngedig o arian a ddaw o Lywodraeth Cymru. Gwn fod gan yr Aelod ddiddordeb mawr yn y maes hwn a byddwn yn croesawu ei sylwadau fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwn.

Kirsty Williams: Weinidog, mae gennyf ddau gwestiwn. Ai nod eich adolygiad chi yw cwtogi ar nifer y sefydliadau y mae'r Llywodraeth yn eu hariannu yn y modd hwn? Nid yw rhai grwpiau cymunedol, er gwaethaf eu maint, yn llai cymwys, medrus neu bwysig na rhai o'r sefydliadau mwy sy'n gweithredu ar sail Cymru gyfan. Sut fydd y grwpiau cymunedol bach hynny'n gallu sicrhau bod eu gwaith hwy'n cael ei gydnabod a'i asesu yn eich adolygiad? Er gwaethaf y demtasiwn i lywodraethau ymdrin â nifer cyfyngedig o bartneriaid ariannu yn unig, a gytunwch â mi y dylem osgoi ar bob cyfrif yr hyn y byddwn yn ei alw'n 'ddull Tesco o ddarparu gwasanaethau'? Hynny yw, ein bod yn ariannu'r sefydliadau hynny sydd â delwedd brand Cymru gyfan ac sy'n adnabyddus yn unig, ar draul elusennau lleol a grwpiau cynghori unigol sydd wedi darparu gwasanaeth da iawn i'w cymunedau dros nifer fawr o flynyddoedd.

Carl Sargeant: Mae'r Aelod yn hollol gywir wrth gyfeirio at y gwaith rhagorol y mae rhai o'r gwasanaethau cyngor annibynnol llai yn ei wneud, a bydd yr arolwg yn edrych ar yr ystod eang o faterion sy'n ymwneud â hynny, yn enwedig o ran sicrhau bod y darparwyr cyngor annibynnol yn cael eu cynrychioli ar y gweithgor allanol. Unwaith eto, rhannaf ei barn ynghylch peidio â mabwysiadu'r agwedd bod rhywbeth mawr yn well wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau. Er gwaethaf y ffaith bod yn rhaid inni gael rhywfaint o gysondeb ledled Cymru, rydym am i wasanaethau gael eu darparu ac i fod yn hygyrch i gymaint o bobl â phosibl. Dyna pam y soniais yn gynharach yn fy ymateb i Rhodri Glyn Thomas y bydd argaeledd gwasanaeth mewn un rhanbarth yn wahanol iawn i'w argaeledd mewn rhanbarth arall. Gallai hynny olygu bod rhai o'r gwasanaethau annibynnol llai mewn sefyllfa well i gyflawni mewn rhai o'n trefi llai. Fodd bynnag, byddant yn rhan o'r adolygiad. Mae'n rhaid inni gymryd golwg gyfannol o'r holl wasanaethau a ddarperir, ond rwy'n derbyn barn yr Aelodau ar y mater penodol hwnnw. Nid wyf yn achub y blaen ar

the number of service providers here; we need to ensure that the services that we provide are affordable and are of good quality, and that we can deliver to however many people who are seeking that advice despite the economic downturn and the increasing need for these services. This will be extremely challenging, but we need to review these services now.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: We are running over time, but I have two Members left to speak. I will allow them a minute each to ask a single question. I will cut them off if they go over that time.

Russell George: I very much agree with Kirsty Williams's comments, and that was one thing that I wanted to touch upon so I will be even briefer in my contribution. The one thing that I would like to impress upon you in relation to the review is the importance of small independent advice service providers. All too often, Government looks at the big players such as Citizens Advice Cymru—that is not to devalue it, of course—but there are other smaller independent advisers. For example, in Montgomeryshire, we have the Bro Ddyfi Advice Centre in Machynlleth, which gives advice, information and support. I would argue that in areas of rural Wales, where, more often than not, access is poor, transport links are poor and access to the internet is inadequate, the demand is considerable on those small organisations. Can you give me some assurance, Minister, that in the terms of reference and scope of this review, there will be an opportunity for small independent organisations to be involved, for their views to be listened to and for their workstreams to be properly mapped?

Carl Sargeant: I can confirm that. [*Laughter.*]

Antoinette Sandbach: In relation to the advice given by citizens advice bureaux, one of the most vulnerable financial groups is lone parents. One of the areas in which they miss out on funding the most is in securing the child support that they should get through

ganlyniad yr adolygiad o ran lleihau nifer y darparwyr gwasanaeth; rhaid inni sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau a ddarparwn yn fforddiadwy ac o ansawdd da, ac y gallwn eu cyflwyno i'r bobl hynny, faint bynnag sydd ohonynt, sy'n ceisio'r cyngor hwnnw er gwaethaf y dirywiad economaidd a'r angen cynyddol am y gwasanaethau hyn. Bydd hyn yn heriol iawn, ond mae angen inni adolygu'r gwasanaethau hyn yn awr.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Rydym yn rhedeg dros amser, ond mae dau Aelod arall sydd am siarad. Byddaf yn caniatáu munud yr un iddynt i ofyn un cwestiwn. Byddaf yn torri ar eu traws os y byddant yn mynd dros yr amser hwnnw.

Russell George: Cytunaf yn llwyr â sylwadau Kirsty Williams, ac roedd hynny'n un o'r pethau yr oeddwn am ei godi felly bydd fy nghyfraniad hyd yn oed yn fyrrach. Yr un mater yr hoffwn ei gyfleu ichi mewn perthynas â'r adolygiad yw pwysigrwydd darparwyr gwasanaethau cyngor annibynnol bach. Yn rhy aml, bydd Llywodraeth yn edrych ar y cyfranwyr mawr fel Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru—ac nid wyf yn dibrisio ei gyfraniad, wrth gwrs—ond ceir cyngorwyr annibynnol llai eraill. Er enghraifft, yn sir Drefaldwyn, mae gennym Ganolfan Cyngori Bro Ddyfi ym Machynlleth, sy'n rhoi cyngor, gwybodaeth a chefnogaeth. Yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, lle, yn amlach na pheidio, mae mynediad at wasanaethau yn anodd, mae'r cysylltiadau trafnidiaeth yn wael, ac mae'r cysylltiad â'r rhyngwrwyd yn annigonol, byddem yn dadlau bod pwysau mawr ar y sefydliadau bach hynny. A allwch chi roi rhywfaint o sicrwydd, Weinidog, o ran cylch gorchwyl a chwmpas yr adolygiad hwn, y bydd cyfle i sefydliadau annibynnol bach gymryd rhan, y bydd eu barn yn cael ei ystyried ac y bydd eu ffrydiau gwaith yn cael eu mapio'n iawn?

Carl Sargeant: Gallaf gadarnhau hynny. [*Chwerthin.*]

Antoinette Sandbach: O ran y cyngor a roddir gan ganolfannau cyngor ar bopeth, un o'r grwpiau sydd fwyaf bregus yn ariannol yw rhieni sengl. Un o'r meysydd lle maent yn colli allan ar gyllid fwyaf yw o ran cael y budd-dal cynnal plant y dylent ei gael drwy'r

the Child Support Agency. Will you make sure that that is included, because that financial payment to lone parents has a huge impact?

Secondly, I echo what has been said about the smaller providers, particularly the benefits advice shop in Rhyl. It provides advocates, and it is an example of a smaller organisation that provides well-trained advocates who are not lawyers but are extremely experienced in welfare law. There is a concern that local authorities are appointing welfare officers who do not have the same independence and expertise, and are not able to cover as wide an area as organisations such as the benefits advice shop can.

Carl Sargeant: I thank the Member for raising that issue with me. We know that lone parents and disabled people will be the worst affected in terms of the council tax and housing benefit reform. At least there is a 10% reduction in the core value to the person involved in this, and it is important that the people seeking support while under pressure get the right benefit advice.

I welcome the Member's comments on the independent advice service providers, which are really important to me and they will be part of that review. It is also important that we recognise that duplication in the system has to be streamlined so that we can get better service delivery to the people who need this service.

Datganiad: Cynllunio a Chyflenwi Integredig Statement: Integrated Planning and Delivery

The Minister for Local Government and Communities (Carl Sargeant): Following extensive engagement with our partners in the public sector, I have today published 'Shared Purpose—Shared Delivery', which is guidance for local authorities and their partners on integrated planning and service delivery. This is a substantial step forward in realising the Welsh approach to improvement, characterised by collaboration between service providers and a focus on giving people and communities a voice in

Asiantaeth Cynnal Plant. A wnewch chi sicrhau y bydd hynny'n cael ei gynnwys, oherwydd mae'r taliad ariannol hwnnw i rieni sengl yn cael effaith enfawr?

Yn ail, ategaf yr hyn a ddywedwyd am darparwyr llai, yn enwedig y siop cyngor ar fudd-daliadau yn y Rhyl. Mae'n darparu eiriolwyr, ac mae'n enghraifft o sefydliad llai o faint sy'n darparu eiriolwyr sydd wedi'u hyfforddi'n dda, ac er nad ydynt yn gyfreithwyr, maent yn brofiadol iawn ym maes cyfraith lles. Mae pryder bod awdurdodau lleol yn penodi swyddogion lles nad oes ganddynt yr un annibyniaeth ac arbenigedd, ac nad ydynt yn gallu gwasanaethu ardaloedd mor eang â sefydliadau megis y siop cyngor ar fudd-daliadau.

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i'r Aelod am godi'r mater gyda mi. Rydym yn gwybod mai rhieni sengl a phobl anabl fydd yn dioddef fwyaf o ran y dreth gyngor a diwygio budd-dal tai. O leiaf bod gostyngiad o 10% yn y gwerth craidd i'r person sy'n ymwneud â hyn, ac mae'n bwysig bod y bobl sy'n chwilio am gymorth pan fyddant o dan bwysau yn cael y cyngor cywir ar fudd-daliadau.

Rwy'n croesawu sylwadau'r Aelodau ar y darparwyr gwasanaethau cyngor annibynnol, sy'n bwysig iawn i mi a byddant yn rhan o'r adolygiad hwnnw. Mae hefyd yn bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod bod yn rhaid symleiddio'r dyblygu yn y system fel y gallwn ddarparu gwasanaethau i'r bobl sydd eu hangen.

Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau (Carl Sargeant): Yn dilyn ymgysylltiad helaeth â'n partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus, rwyf wedi cyhoeddi 'Cydamcanu—Cydymdrechu' heddiw, sef canllaw i awdurdodau lleol a'u partneriaid ar gynllunio integredig a chyflenwi gwasanaethau. Mae hwn yn gam sylweddol ymlaen o ran darparu'r dull Cymreig o wella, a nodweddir gan gydweithio rhwng darparwyr gwasanaethau a ffocws ar roi llais i bobl a chymunedau o ran y modd y darperir

how their services are delivered. This is different from the illusion of choice that is promoted elsewhere, and which only serves to widen inequity and embed privilege.

Integrated planning significantly reduces bureaucratic burdens on local public services at a time of financial challenge, ensures a focus on outcomes rather than outputs, while ensuring statutory duties continue to be met. It consolidates local partnership working and clearly defines the agenda for local service boards. It also sets out the role of local democratic scrutiny in holding partnership working more fully to account. It is an essential element of our programme of public service reform, which includes refreshing the partnership council for Wales, establishing the public service leadership group and its work programmes, the compact for change and the regional collaborative footprint.

People and communities in Wales, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, rightly have rising expectations that public services will be more responsive and more personalised. At the same time, our financial settlement from the UK Government is getting ever tighter and benefits to the most vulnerable are slashed. Simply keeping up with the rest of the UK means that we will have to work harder and run faster. This puts a moral duty on service providers in Wales to revolutionise the way they work together and consistently challenge themselves to improve.

The approach set out in ‘Shared Purpose—Shared Delivery’ provides local providers with the tools to do this, including more flexibility and freedom to innovate. In return, change must happen more quickly. My watchwords are priorities, pace and performance.

4.30 p.m.

I expect to make this happen through local service boards. The boards are not statutory decision-making bodies holding budgets or

eu gwasanaethau. Mae hyn yn wahanol i'r rhith o ddewis a hyrwyddir mewn mannau eraill, ac sydd ond yn arwain at ehangu annhegwch ac ymsefydlu braint.

Mae cynllunio integredig yn lleihau beichiau biwrocraidd ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol yn sylweddol ar adeg heriol yn ariannol, mae'n sicrhau ffocws ar ganlyniadau yn hytrach nag ar allbynnau, wrth sicrhau bod dyletswyddau statudol yn parhau i gael eu cyflawni. Mae'n cydgrynhoi gweithio mewn partneriaeth yn lleol ac yn diffinio'n eglur yr agenda ar gyfer byrddau gwasanaethau lleol. Mae hefyd yn pennu rôl gwaith craffu democrataidd lleol yn y gwaith o ddwyn gweithio mewn partneriaeth i gyfrif mewn modd mwy cyflawn. Mae'n elfen hanfodol o'n rhaglen i ddiwygio gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, sy'n cynnwys adnewyddu cyngor partneriaeth Cymru, sefydlu grŵp arweinyddiaeth y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus a'i raglenni gwaith, y compact ar gyfer newid a'r ôl-troed cydweithredu rhanbarthol.

Mae gan bobl a chymunedau yng Nghymru, yn enwedig y rhai mwyaf bregus a difreintiedig, ddisgwyliadau sy'n cynyddu, a hynny'n briodol, y bydd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn fwy ymatebol ac yn fwy personol. Ar yr un pryd, mae ein setliad ariannol oddi wrth Lywodraeth y DU yn mynd yn llymach fyth ac mae budd-daliadau i'r rhai mwyaf bregus yn cael eu torri. Mae cadw i fyny â gweddill y DU yn golygu y bydd yn rhaid inni weithio'n galetach a rhedeg yn gynt. Mae hyn yn gosod dyletswydd foesol ar ddarparwyr gwasanaeth yng Nghymru i chwyldroi'r ffordd y maent yn cydweithio ac i herio eu hunain yn gyson i wella.

Mae'r dull a nodwyd yn ‘Cydamcanu—Cydymdrechu’ yn rhoi'r dulliau i ddarparwyr lleol allu gwneud hyn, gan gynnwys mwy o hyblygrwydd a rhyddid i arloesi. O ganlyniad i hynny, rhaid i newid ddigwydd yn gyflymach. Fy arwyddeiriau yw blaenoriaethau, cyflymder a pherfformiad.

Rwy'n disgwyl y bydd hyn yn digwydd drwy'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol. Nid yw'r byrddau yn gyrrff statudol sy'n gwneud

spending money, but there is strength in this in the sense that those public services at the table must commit individually to implementing jointly agreed actions. They have a critical role to play in ensuring that the main service providers agree local priorities on the issues of shared concern, such as services for families and young people; services for vulnerable adults, such as victims of domestic abuse, those with mental health problems and armed forces veterans; and services to help the frail elderly living dependently at home. They must also agree to deliver more sustainable services by ensuring that they invest in early intervention, preventing problems rather than repeatedly fixing them. Together, the leaders of local public services on the LSBs represent a very significant investment of public money in good decision making, and there is no excuse for not making this happen.

Single integrated plans are an innovation that represents a big simplification in how local authorities and their partners work. Local public service providers can now set out their common priorities in one document. These will replace the separate plans for children and young people, health, social care and wellbeing, community safety and community strategy. Across Wales, this will mean 22 plans rather than 88. This must be supported by a reduction in the number of local partnerships by half at least. If partners are to achieve this required scale of improvement, it is essential that they have a simplified, agile and accountable decision-making process.

I am glad to report that, in many areas, they are well advanced in their preparation of single plans and are reviewing their partnerships. I commend those making this progress and urge those who have delayed to grasp that nettle now. Looking forward, there are two areas in which I would like to see further progress over the coming year. The

penderfyniadau, ac nid ydynt yn dal cyllidebau nac yn gwario arian, ond mae cryfder yn hyn yn yr ystyr bod yn rhaid i'r gwasanaethau cyhoeddus hynny sydd o amgylch y bwrdd ymrwymo'n unigol i weithredu'r camau y cytunwyd arnynt ar y cyd. Mae ganddynt rôl allweddol i'w chwarae o ran sicrhau bod y prif ddarparwyr gwasanaethau yn cytuno ar flaenoriaethau lleol ar y materion cyffredin sy'n peri pryder, megis gwasanaethau i deuluoedd a phobl ifanc; gwasanaethau i oedolion sy'n agored i niwed, fel dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig, pobl â phroblemau iechyd meddwl a chyn-aelodau o'r lluoedd arfog, a gwasanaethau i helpu'r henoed bregus i fyw'n annibynnol yn eu cartrefi. Rhaid iddynt hefyd gytuno i ddarparu gwasanaethau mwy cynaliadwy drwy sicrhau eu bod yn buddsoddi mewn ymyrraeth gynnar, ac atal problemau yn hytrach na'u datrys dro ar ôl tro. Gyda'i gilydd, mae arweinwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol ar y byrddau gwasanaethau lleol yn cynrychioli buddsoddiad sylweddol o arian cyhoeddus mewn gwneud penderfyniadau da, ac nid oes esgus dros beidio â gwneud i hyn ddigwydd.

Mae'r un cynllun integredig yn gynllun arloesol sy'n cynrychioli ffordd llawer symlach i awdurdodau lleol a'u partneriaid weithio. Gall darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus lleol bellach nodi eu blaenoriaethau cyffredin mewn un ddogfen. Bydd y rhain yn disodli'r cynlluniau ar wahân ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc, iechyd, gofal a lles cymdeithasol, diogelwch cymunedol a'r strategaeth gymunedol. Ledled Cymru, bydd yn golygu 22 o gynlluniau yn hytrach nag 88. Rhaid i hyn gael ei gefnogi gan haneru nifer y partneriaethau lleol o leiaf. Os yw partneriaid am sicrhau'r raddfa ofynnol o welliant, mae'n hanfodol bod ganddynt broses o wneud penderfyniadau sy'n symlach, yn ystwyth ac yn atebol.

Rwy'n falch o adrodd bod nifer o ardaloedd wedi gwneud llawer o'r gwaith paratoi ar eu cynlluniau unigol ac yn adolygu eu partneriaethau. Rwy'n canmol y rhai sy'n gwneud y cynnydd hwn ac yn annog y rhai sydd wedi oedi i afael ynddi yn awr. I edrych ymlaen, mae dau faes lle byddwn yn hoffi gweld cynnydd pellach yn ystod y flwyddyn

first concerns integrated delivery and whether anything further can be done to ensure that we use different funding streams more effectively, particularly when addressing related outcomes. This will be a collective challenge but one that can potentially realise more value for the Welsh pound at the same time as improving outcomes. We will be seeking partners' views on this. The second concerns the fact that some partners have said that the burden and complexity of statutory duties on local government are part of the problem. Our current consultation on the sustainable development Bill provides an opportunity for partners to clarify these issues, and responses to the consultation will help us to frame any further action.

I thank the Assembly and I thank the Deputy Presiding Officer for allowing me to make this statement today.

Janet Finch-Saunders: Thank you for your statement, Minister. We welcome the statement in a positive manner, particularly the further initiatives on simplification and streamlining of the current costly and bureaucratic workings of local government here in Wales. It is fair to say that this is an issue that we have raised on numerous occasions in the Chamber, certainly since I have been here, and long before. In the first paragraph of your statement, you say:

'This is very different from the illusion of choice that is promoted elsewhere and which only serves to widen inequity and embed privilege.'

As we know, choice is proven to drive up standards and, of course, 'choice' was the buzzword of the last Labour Government. Therefore, there is a bit of a mixed message there. In the second paragraph, you referred to a focus on outcomes rather than outputs. It would be good if you could explain what you mean by that. I also note that you refer to 'refreshing' the partnership council for Wales. That sounds good. When you do this, I ask that you look at making it more democratically balanced in terms of a geographical spread. From my perspective, I would like to see more north Wales representation on that.

sydd i ddod. Mae'r cyntaf yn ymwneud â darparu integredig ac a oes unrhyw beth pellach i'w wneud i sicrhau ein bod yn defnyddio gwahanol ffrydiau cyllid yn fwy effeithiol, yn enwedig wrth fynd i'r afael â chanlyniadau cysylltiedig. Bydd hon yn her i bawb ond mae'n un a allai sicrhau mwy o werth am y bunt Gymreig, a gwella canlyniadau ar yr un pryd. Byddwn yn gofyn am farn partneriaid ar hyn. Mae'r ail yn ymwneud â'r ffaith bod rhai partneriaid wedi dweud bod baich a chymhlethdod dyletswyddau statudol llywodraeth leol yn rhan o'r broblem. Mae ein hymgyngoriad presennol ar y Bil datblygu cynaliadwy yn rhoi cyfle i bartneriaid egluro'r materion hyn, a bydd ymatebion i'r ymgyngoriad yn ein helpu i lunio unrhyw gamau pellach.

Diolch i'r Cynulliad a hoffwn ddiolch i'r Dirprwy Lywydd am ganiatáu imi wneud y datganiad hwn heddiw.

Janet Finch-Saunders: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Rydym yn croesawu'r datganiad mewn modd cadarnhaol, yn enwedig y mentrau pellach ar symleiddio'r ffordd gostus a biwrocraataidd y mae llywodraeth leol yn gweithio yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Mae'n deg dweud bod hwn yn fater yr ydym wedi ei godi droeon yn y Siambr, yn sicr ers i mi fod yma, ac ymhell cyn hynny. Ym mharagraff cyntaf eich datganiad, rydych yn dweud:

'Mae hyn yn wahanol i'r rhith o ddewis a hyrwyddir mewn mannau eraill, ac sydd ond yn arwain at ehangu annhegwch ac ymgorffori braint.'

Fel y gwyddom, mae wedi'i brofi bod dewis yn codi safonau ac, wrth gwrs, 'dewis' oedd gair mawr y Llywodraeth Lafur ddiwethaf. Felly, mae'r neges ychydig yn gymysg. Yn yr ail baragraff, roeddech yn cyfeirio at ganolbwyntio ar ganlyniadau yn hytrach nag allbynnau. Byddai'n dda pe gallech egluro beth a olygwch wrth hynny. Nodaf hefyd eich bod yn cyfeirio at 'adnewyddu' cyngor partneriaeth Cymru. Mae hynny'n swnio'n dda. Pan fyddwch yn gwneud hyn, gofynnaf ichi edrych ar ei wneud yn fwy democrataidd gytbwys o ran dosbarthiad daearyddol. O'm safbwynt i, hoffwn weld mwy o gynrychiolaeth o ogledd Cymru ar hwnnw.

You refer to the case for change, and to people having rising expectations that public services will be more responsive and more personalised. We must be careful that that is achieved. However, in doing so, we must ensure that we do not have a mediocre top-down and one-size-fits-all approach to our public services, because Wales is a diverse nation.

Moving on, the statement refers to giving people and communities a voice in how their services are provided and mentions endorsing local democratic scrutiny in holding partnership working more fully to account. You also state that our most vulnerable and most disadvantaged, quite rightly, have rising expectations that public services will be more responsive and more personalised. Therefore, Minister what plans do you have in place to ensure that our residents and their communities are fully engaged in this process and are included in the forthcoming sustainable development Bill? In other words, how confident are you that local authorities are engaging with residents in putting across this new agenda? I believe that increased community engagement is the way to go.

Carl Sargeant: I thank the Member for her contribution. I would not agree with her that the partnership council is not democratic, in its membership or in any other way. The refreshed partnership council does include members from north Wales and from across Wales. Based around the regions is a new strengthened committee that will give it the ability to operate alongside the public service leadership group and make the right political decisions to drive the collaboration message in conjunction with the compact for change to which the 22 local authorities have signed up. This will give the partnership council a new focus on delivery, particularly around outcomes. That is the key for me; the difference between outcomes and outputs. We have to be able to measure and demonstrate to people what we are doing. I welcome the opportunity to demonstrate to Members in the Chamber that the partnership

Rydych yn cyfeirio at yr achos dros newid, ac at ddisgwyliadau cynyddol sydd gan bobl y bydd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn fwy ymatebol a phersonol. Mae'n rhaid inni fod yn ofalus bod hynny'n cael ei gyflawni. Fodd bynnag, wrth wneud hynny, mae'n rhaid inni sicrhau nad dull diddrwg didda, o'r brig i lawr ac un-maint-i-bawb sydd gennym yn ein gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, gan fod Cymru yn genedl amrywiol.

Gan symud ymlaen, mae'r datganiad yn cyfeirio at roi llais i bobl a chymunedau o ran y ffordd y darperir eu gwasanaethau, ac at gymeradwyo gwaith craffu democrataidd lleol o ran dwyn i gyfrif y gwaith partneriaeth mewn modd mwy cyflawn. Rydych hefyd yn datgan bod gan y bobl fwyaf agored i niwed a difreintiedig, yn gwbl briodol, ddisgwyliadau uwch y bydd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn fwy ymatebol a phersonol. Felly, Weinidog, pa gynlluniau sydd gennych ar waith i sicrhau bod ein trigolion a'u cymunedau yn cael eu cynnwys yn llawn yn y broses hon ac yn cael eu cynnwys yn y Bil datblygu cynaliadwy sydd ar y gweill? Mewn geiriau eraill, pa mor hyderus ydych chi fod awdurdodau lleol yn ymgysylltu â thrigolion wrth gyfathrebu neges yr agenda newydd hon? Rwyf i'n credu mai rhagor o ymgysylltu â'r gymuned yw'r ffordd iawn o wneud pethau.

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i'r Aelod am ei chyfraniad. Nid wyf yn cytuno â hi bod y cyngor partneriaeth yn annemocrataidd, o ran ei aelodaeth nac mewn unrhyw ffordd arall. Mae'r cyngor partneriaeth adnewyddedig yn cynnwys aelodau o ogledd Cymru ac o bob rhan o Gymru. Yn seiliedig ar y rhanbarthau, mae pwyllgor newydd cryfach a fydd yn rhoi'r gallu iddo weithredu ochr yn ochr â grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus a gwneud y penderfyniadau gwleidyddol cywir i ledaenu'r neges ynghylch cydweithio, a hynny ar y cyd â'r compact ar gyfer newid y mae'r 22 awdurdod lleol wedi ymrwymo iddo. Bydd hynny'n rhoi ffocws newydd i'r cyngor partneriaeth ar ddarparu, yn enwedig o ran canlyniadau. Dyna'r allwedd i mi; y gwahaniaeth rhwng canlyniadau ac allbynnau. Mae'n rhaid inni allu mesur a dangos i bobl yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud. Rwy'n croesawu'r cyfle i ddangos i Aelodau

council and the other bodies are involved in the case for change in terms of delivery.

The Member raises the issue of choice or delivery of services. I remind the Member that the problem is that we are having a significant reduction in our budgets in terms of delivery. For me, it is about ensuring that the citizens that we represent across Wales have a public service that they can be proud of. Therefore, sometimes the choice element has to be passported through to an equitable distribution of delivery of services. That is what is key to me. I do not care to discuss the issues around structure too much, in terms of regions or delivery mechanisms. For me, this is about the public service at the end and what people receive. If we can provide better services with less funding, that has to be the right thing to do.

I do not want to get into micromanaging local authorities or local organisations; I am often accused of tinkering with the way in which these services operate. The fact of the matter is that these services are to be developed locally, but beyond the natural boundaries of a local authority. This is about building on relationships within the rest of the public sector, working with health, fire and police. The great example of the public service leadership group, with representatives of all the public sector around the table delivering services alongside the partnership council, has to be good for delivery. Removing bureaucracy, simplifying things and going down from 88 separate plans to 22 has to be good, and I am glad that the Member welcomes that.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Rwy'n croesawu'r datganiad hwn ac yn croesawu'r ymdrech wirioneddol i fynd i'r afael â biwrocratiaeth ac i sicrhau mai un ddogfen fydd bellach ym mhob sir ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau, yn hytrach na'r 88 y cyfeiriwyd atynt, Weinidog. Credaf fod hynny'n gam pwysig ymlaen. Nid oes modd inni anghytuno â'r egwyddorion sylfaenol; rydym i gyd eisiau symud i'r

yn y Siambr fod y cyngor partneriaeth a chyrrff eraill yn ymwneud â'r achos dros newid o ran darparu gwasanaethau.

Mae'r Aelod yn codi'r mater o ddewis neu ddarparu gwasanaethau. Hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelod mai'r broblem yw ein bod yn cael gostyngiad sylweddol yn ein cyllidebau o ran darparu. I mi, mae'n ymwneud â sicrhau bod y dinasyddion yr ydym yn eu cynrychioli ledled Cymru yn cael gwasanaethau cyhoeddus y gallant fod yn falch ohonynt. Felly, weithiau mae'n rhaid i'r elfen o ddewis gael ei throsglwyddo i ddsbarthiad teg o ran darparu gwasanaethau. Dyna'r hyn sy'n allweddol i mi. Nid oes gennyf fawr o awydd trafod y materion sy'n ymwneud â strwythur yn ormodol, o ran rhanbarthau neu ddulliau darparu. I mi, mae hyn yn ymwneud â'r gwasanaeth cyhoeddus ar ddiwedd y broses a'r hyn y mae pobl yn ei gael. Os gallwn ddarparu gwasanaethau gwell gyda llai o arian, rhaid i hynny fod y peth iawn i'w wneud.

Nid wyf i eisiau microreoli awdurdodau lleol neu sefydliadau lleol; rwy'n aml yn cael fy nghyhuddo o chwarae o gwmpas â'r ffordd y mae'r gwasanaethau hyn yn gweithredu. Y ffaith amdani yw bod y gwasanaethau hyn yn cael eu datblygu'n lleol, ond y tu hwnt i ffiniau naturiol awdurdod lleol. Mae hyn yn ymwneud ag adeiladu ar y berthynas o fewn gweddill y sector cyhoeddus, gan weithio gydag iechyd, tân a'r heddlu. Mae enghraifft wych grŵp arwain y gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, sydd â chynrychiolwyr o'r holl sector cyhoeddus o amgylch y bwrdd yn darparu gwasanaethau ochr yn ochr â'r cyngor partneriaeth, yn gorfod bod yn dda i ddarparu gwasanaethau. Mae cael gwared ar fiwrocratiaeth, symleiddio pethau a gostwng nifer y cynlluniau o 88 i 22 yn gorfod bod yn beth da, ac rwy'n falch bod yr Aelod yn croesawu hynny.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I welcome this statement and the real effort to get to grips with bureaucracy and to ensure that there will be a single document in each county for service provision, rather than the 88 that have been mentioned, Minister. I believe that that is an important step forward. There is no way in which we can disagree with the fundamental principles; we all want to move

cyfeiriad o gael gwared ar ddyblygu ac at ddarparu gwasanaethau mewn ffordd effeithiol. Mae hynny'n golygu sefydlu partneriaethau, yn hytrach na bod pob awdurdod yn ceisio gweithredu ar ei ben ei hun. Rwyf hefyd yn croesawu, Weinidog, y newid yn eich tôn wrth ichi sôn am yr angen i weld awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithredu ar draws ffiniau ac â chyrrff allanol. Llynedd, wrth gyflwyno'r agenda hon, roedd eich tôn ychydig yn fwy ymosodol. Erbyn hyn, mae eich tôn yn ceisio bod yn fwy cynhwysol wrth ichi gyflwyno'r newidiadau hyn.

Rydych wedi dweud bod rhai awdurdodau yn symud yn gynt na'i gilydd ar yr agenda hon. Nid wyf yn disgwyl ichi ddweud y prynhawn yma pa awdurdodau sydd ar y blaen a pha rai sydd yn llusgo eu traed ar y materion hyn, ond sut y byddwch yn sicrhau bod y symud ymlaen hwn yn digwydd drwy'r 22 awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru ac na fydd yr un ohonynt yn cael ei adael ar ôl yn y broses hon?

Soniodd hefyd am yr angen i wasanaethau tân, gwasanaethau iechyd, gan gynnwys ambiwlansys, a'r holl ystod o wasanaethau lleol hynny, gydweithredu. Mae awdurdodau lleol yn apwyntio aelodau i fod ar fyrddau'r gwasanaethau hyn. Rwyf i wedi gwneud rhyw gymaint o ymchwil i hyn, ac mae fy swyddfa wedi cysylltu â 15 o awdurdodau lleol Cymru. Mae cryn amrywiaeth yn y broses o apwyntio aelodau i'r byrddau hyn a byddwn yn awgrymu bod rhai prosesau yn fwy democrataidd na'i gilydd. Hynny yw, mewn rhai awdurdodau—o leiaf un—arweinydd y cyngor sydd yn penderfynu pwy sy'n cael eu hapwyntio i'r byrddau hyn, ac mae enghreifftiau o'r arweinydd yn penderfynu nad yw'n dymuno gweld aelodau arbennig o bleidiau eraill o fewn y cyngor yn cael eu hapwyntio. A ydych yn mynd i edrych ar hyn, Weinidog, a sicrhau bod cynghorau yn dilyn proses sydd yn ddemocrataidd? A wnewch sicrhau nad barn un person sydd yn penderfynu pwy sydd yn cynrychioli'r awdurdod ar y byrddau hyn, a bod y penodiadau'n adlewyrchu'r sefyllfa o ran cynrychiolaeth y pleidiau o fewn y cyngor?

Rydych wedi cyfeirio at y byrddau gwasanaethau lleol. Mae gan rai cynghorau eisoes fyrddau felly—mae gan Gyngor Sir

in the direction of eradicating duplication and towards the provision of services in an effective manner. That means establishing partnerships, rather than seeing all authorities trying to work alone. I also welcome, Minister, the change in your tone as you dealt with the need to see local authorities collaborating across boundaries and with external organisations. Last year, in presenting this agenda, your tone was a little more aggressive, whereas it is now trying to be more inclusive, as you introduce these changes.

You have said that some authorities are moving more swiftly than others on this agenda. I do not expect you to tell us this afternoon which authorities are surging ahead and which are lagging behind on these issues, but how will you ensure that this progress happens consistently across Wales's 22 local authorities, and that none are left behind in this process?

You also mentioned the need for fire services, health services, including ambulances, and all those local services, to collaborate. Local authorities appoint members to the boards of these services. I have been doing some research on this, and my office has been in touch with 15 local authorities in Wales. There is a great deal of variation in terms of the process of appointing people to these boards, and I would suggest that some processes are more democratic than others. That is, in some authorities—at least one—it is the council leader who decides who is to be appointed to these boards, and there are examples of the leader deciding that he does not want to see particular members of other parties within the council being appointed. Are you going to look into that, Minister, to ensure that councils adhere to a democratic process? Will you ensure that it is not the opinion of an individual that determines who represents the authority on these boards, and that the appointments reflect the political make-up of the council?

You then make reference to the local service boards. Some councils already have such boards—Carmarthenshire County Council

Caerfyrddin fwrdd gwasanaethau lleol lle mae'r gwahanol wasanaethau lleol yn dod at ei gilydd i drafod yn gyson. Ai swyddogion cynghorau a ddylai eistedd ar y byrddau hyn, a ddylai fod yn gyfuniad o swyddogion ac aelodau etholedig, ynteu a ddylai fod yn aelodau etholedig yn unig, wedi'u cynghori gan swyddogion? Sut ydych yn rhagweld y caiff y byrddau hyn eu ffurfio, ac a oes gennych fwriad i sicrhau bod hynny'n gyson drwy Gymru?

Rwy'n croesawu hyn yn fawr, Weinidog, gan edrych ymlaen at weld y datblygiadau, a byddwn yn ddiolchgar am ryw gymaint o eglurhad ar y cwestiynau rwyf wedi eu codi.

Carl Sargeant: The Member has raised important questions. The full membership of an LSB should consist of leaders of local authorities—political or from the executive, police representatives, health service representatives, county voluntary council representatives and senior representatives from the Welsh Government, including representatives from other organisations such as police and crime commissioners, when they are appointed.

The Member asked me about the condition of the authorities and where they are in terms of procedures, but not to go through a long list of where they all sit. I can let the Member know that Cardiff is well advanced on the single integrated plan. It is doing particularly well and has led on this process through its LSB.

It would be fair to say that LSBs across Wales are a mixed bag on delivery. There are some excellent LSBs and there are some that, as the Minister for education might say, could do better. For me, it is about lifting the ones that are less effective up to a level that is consistent with delivering a better service. Again, the Member will be aware of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, which was introduced to drive improvement forward. That is always a test that we will apply to local authorities on the delivery of services.

4.45 p.m.

has a local service board where the various local services regularly come together for discussions. Is it council officials who should be members of these boards, should it be a combination of officials and elected members, or should it only be elected members, advised by officials? How do you anticipate these boards being formed, and do you have any intention of ensuring that that happens consistently across Wales?

I warmly welcome this, Minister, and look forward to seeing developments, and would be grateful for some clarity on the questions that I have raised.

Carl Sargeant: Mae'r Aelod wedi gofyn cwestiynau pwysig. Dylai aelodaeth lawn bwrdd gwasanaeth lleol gynnwys arweinwyr o awdurdodau lleol—arweinwyr gwleidyddol neu o'r weithrediaeth, cynrychiolwyr yr heddlu, cynrychiolwyr o'r gwasanaeth iechyd, cynrychiolwyr cynghorau gwirfoddol sirol ac uwch gynrychiolwyr o Lywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys cynrychiolwyr o sefydliadau eraill fel comisiynwyr yr heddlu a throseddau, pan gânt eu penodi.

Gofynnodd yr Aelod i mi am gyflwr yr awdurdodau a lle maent arni o ran gweithdrefnau, ond nid i fynd drwy restr hir o ble maent i gyd yn eistedd. Gallaf roi gwybod i'r Aelod bod Caerdydd wedi gwneud llawer o waith paratoi ar yr un cynllun integredig. Mae'n gwneud yn arbennig o dda ac mae wedi arwain ar y broses hon drwy ei fwrdd gwasanaeth lleol.

Byddai'n deg dweud bod byrddau gwasanaethau lleol ledled Cymru yn eithaf cymysg o ran darparu. Mae rhai byrddau gwasanaethau lleol ardderchog ac mae rhai, fel y byddai'r Gweinidog dros addysg yn ei ddweud, a allai wneud yn well. I mi, mae'n ymwneud â chodi'r rhai sy'n llai effeithiol i gyrraedd lefel sy'n gyson â darparu gwasanaeth gwell. Unwaith eto, bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol o Fesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2009, a gyflwynwyd i ysgogi gwelliant. Mae hwnnw bob amser yn brawf y byddwn yn ei gymhwyso i awdurdodau lleol o ran darparu gwasanaethau.

I remind the Member that I have already started meeting with new councillors and council officials; I started with the new administrations last week. I have been talking to them about what the future of local government looks like, the finances and how they need to address some of the financial pressures that they find themselves facing. Not doing something is not an option any longer. The fact of the matter is that the whole finance experience will change for them, and we have to be able to measure them with the framework measurement tools that the auditor general has helped us to create with the public service leadership group. There are a few mechanisms there of the tests for driving improvement forward, for the ones that may not be as willing as others to be encouraged to collaborate. I am surprised that the Member made reference to my stance on collaboration not so long ago and to my stance now. I do not believe that my stance has changed at all. I have always tried to use the encouragement of good authorities to bring along some of the authorities that did not want to engage in the first place.

The Member raised a very important issue about the membership of external bodies, and the way that that is looked at by different organisations. I will take note of the Member's contribution. I have always tried to encourage political balance, where appropriate, in these organisations. I will ask my officials to update me on the mechanisms that are in place across the 22 authorities.

Peter Black: The two statements from the Minister today have very much been a case of going back in time for me, in terms of what we were discussing back in 1999. When we first came in to the Assembly, we talked about reducing the number of plans that local authorities had to deal with, and that has been ongoing. I accept that the Minister was not an Assembly Member at that time. Clearly, however, he has been looking back in the archives and pulling out some of the ideas that various committees were discussing at that time. The irony, of course, is that the children and young people plans and the health, social care and wellbeing and community safety strategies were not in

Rwy'n atgoffa'r Aelod fy mod eisoes wedi dechrau cyfarfod â chynghorwyr newydd a swyddogion y cyngor; dechreuais gyda'r gweinyddiaethau newydd yr wythnos diwethaf. Bûm yn siarad â hwy ynghylch ffurf llywodraeth leol yn y dyfodol, â'r cyllid a sut y mae angen iddynt fynd i'r afael â'r pwysau ariannol y maent yn ei wynebu. Nid yw peidio â gwneud dim yn opsiwn mwyach. Y gwir amdani yw y bydd y profiad cyllid cyfan yn newid iddynt, ac mae'n rhaid inni allu eu mesur gyda dulliau mesur y fframwaith, y mae'r archwilydd cyffredinol wedi ein helpu i'w creu gyda grŵp arwain y gwasanaeth cyhoeddus. Mae ychydig o fecanweithiau yno o ran y profion ar gyfer sicrhau gwelliant, ar gyfer y rhai nad ydynt efallai mor barod ag eraill i gael eu hannog i gydweithio. Rwy'n synnu bod yr Aelod wedi cyfeirio at fy safbwynt ar gydweithio yn ddiweddar, ac at fy safbwynt nawr. Nid wyf yn credu bod fy safbwynt wedi newid. Rwyf bob amser wedi ceisio defnyddio annog awdurdodau da i gynnwys rhai o'r awdurdodau nad oeddent am gymryd rhan yn y lle cyntaf.

Cododd yr Aelod fater pwysig iawn, am aelodaeth cyrff allanol, a'r ffordd y mae gwahanol sefydliadau yn dehongli hyn. Nodaf gyfraniad yr Aelod. Rwyf wedi ceisio sicrhau cydbwysedd gwleidyddol yn y sefydliadau hyn erioed, lle y bo'n briodol. Gofynnaf i fy swyddogion am y newyddion diweddaraf am y mecanweithiau sydd ar waith drwy'r 22 awdurdod.

Peter Black: Bu'r ddau ddatganiad gan y Gweinidog heddiw yn fater o fynd yn ôl i'r gorffennol i mi, o ran yr hyn a drafodwyd gennym yn 1999. Pan ddaethom i'r Cynulliad gyntaf, buom yn siarad am leihau nifer y cynlluniau y mae awdurdodau lleol yn gorfod ymdrin â hwy, a bu hynny'n nod parhaus. Rwy'n derbyn nad oedd y Gweinidog yn Aelod o'r Cynulliad ar y pryd. Yn amlwg, fodd bynnag, bu'n edrych yn yr archifau ac yn defnyddio rhai o'r syniadau a drafodwyd gan y gwahanol bwyllgorau ar y pryd. Yr hyn sy'n eironig, wrth gwrs, yw nad oedd y cynlluniau plant a phobl ifanc a'r strategaeth iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a lles na'r strategaeth diogelwch cymunedol yn bodoli

existence when we were discussing those issues. They have come into being since then. Now, the Minister is amalgamating them into one plan, and I very much welcome that, if the plan proves to be practicable and deliverable, and if local authorities are able to deliver on the Minister's expectations in terms of how the plans are put together and, more importantly, implemented and monitored in terms of outcomes.

However, I share Rhodri Glyn Thomas's concerns in relation to local service boards. He raises some very important questions about the make-up of the boards, who appoints them and, more importantly, how they are scrutinised by councillors. There is a danger that, by placing the responsibility for these plans in the hands of local service boards, or certainly giving them the lead on this and making them the focus, we are going to end up with a scrutiny and accountability deficit in local councils, in terms of examining how these plans have been formulated and holding people to account for their delivery. Maybe the Minister could outline in more detail how he is going to reform local service boards to ensure more consistency across Wales in terms of their appointment, to ensure that they are accountable to local councils, and to ensure that the partners involved in the local service boards are also accountable to local council scrutiny boards, which is not the case at the moment. Also, how is he going to strengthen the boards to make them more democratic and accountable? If he can get that right, the idea of reducing the number of plans into a single, integrated plan has a chance of success. If he does not get it right, the danger is that local authorities are going to fall over again, in terms of delivering on this plan, and that these single, integrated plans will prove not to be as much of a success as the Minister is hoping.

Carl Sargeant: I thank the Member for his positive contribution. I share his concerns about removing the functions of some plans and putting them into a single plan. I am particularly keen that the LSBs do not lose sight of the importance of the individual aspects of that. Of course, elements of the children and young people plan are in statute, and this is about ensuring that, while the plan

pan drafodwyd y materion hyn gennym. Daethant i fodolaeth ers hynny. Yn awr, mae'r Gweinidog yn eu cyfuno i ffurfio un cynllun, ac rwy'n croesawu hynny'n fawr, os bydd y cynllun yn ymarferol a bod modd ei gyflwyno, ac os bydd awdurdodau lleol yn llwyddo i gyflawni disgwyliadau'r Gweinidog o ran sut y llunnir y cynlluniau, ac yn bwysicach, sut y cânt eu gweithredu a'u monitro o ran canlyniadau.

Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf finnau bryderon, fel Rhodri Glyn Thomas, ynghylch byrddau gwasanaethau lleol. Mae'n codi rhai cwestiynau pwysig iawn am gyfansoddiad y byrddau, pwy sy'n penodi iddynt, ac, yn bwysicach, sut y bydd cynghorwyr yn craffu arnynt. Y perygl yw, drwy roi'r cyfrifoldeb dros y cynlluniau hyn i'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol, neu roi rôl arwain iddynt yn hyn o beth, o leiaf, a chanolbwyntio arnynt, y bydd diffyg o ran craffu ac atebolrwydd yn y cynghorau lleol, o ran edrych yn fanwl ar sut y lluniwyd y cynlluniau hyn, a dwyn pobl i gyfrif am eu cyflawni. Efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog amlinellu'n fwy manwl sut y mae am ddiwygio'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol i sicrhau bod mwy o gysondeb ar draws Cymru o ran eu penodi, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn atebol i'r cynghorau lleol, ac i sicrhau bod y partneriaid sy'n ymwneud â'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol hefyd yn atebol i fyrdau craffu'r cynghorau lleol, oherwydd nid yw hynny'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Hefyd, sut y bydd yn mynd ati i gryfhau'r byrddau i'w gwneud yn fwy democrataidd ac atebol? Os gall lwyddo yn hyn o beth, mae'n bosibl y bydd lleihau nifer y cynlluniau i greu cynllun integredig sengl yn llwyddo. Os na fydd yn llwyddo yn hyn o beth, y perygl yw y bydd yr awdurdodau lleol yn baglu eto wrth gyflawni'r cynllun hwn, ac na fydd y cynlluniau integredig sengl yn gymaint o lwyddiant ag y gobeithia'r Gweinidog.

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i'r Aelod am ei gyfraniad cadarnhaol. Rwy'n pryderu, fel y mae ef, ynghylch cael gwared ar swyddogaethau rhai cynlluniau a'u rhoi mewn cynllun sengl. Rwy'n arbennig o awyddus i sicrhau na fydd y byrddau gwasanaethau lleol yn colli golwg ar bwysigrwydd yr agweddau unigol ar hynny. Wrth gwrs, mae elfennau o'r cynllun plant a

in its essence is removed, it falls into the single plan and retains its importance. We also have to ensure that we monitor performance.

The Member raised an issue that I mentioned earlier, namely the issue relating to elements of the LSB. We will have political leadership on this. LSBs are not new to the Assembly or Members. They are already doing some very good work in some areas. I will give an example relating to a proposal on protecting vulnerable adults in a domestic abuse situation. In RCT, the LSB was the driver in bringing in a Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service project on this. Emma, a victim of this crime, worked through this proposal with the LSB and it is now delivering a quality package that I would say is saving people's lives. We should roll that out throughout Wales. I have recently written to all the LSBs across Wales to make sure that domestic abuse is an agenda item for all of them, and I expect a response.

Scrutiny is a concern that goes beyond this Chamber in terms of members having ownership of the changes to, and differences in, services. The Member will be aware that the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 placed a new requirement on local authorities to scrutinise committees and designated public service providers. This is likely to include all or most of the LSB members. I will issue a ministerial Order setting out this proposal shortly. There are elements of joint scrutiny operating across Wales already, where progressive councils have taken the opportunity to look beyond their boundaries to scrutinise across local authorities and the broader public sector. Where we have good practice, we must drive it forward.

Mike Hedges: I welcome the single

phobl ifanc mewn statud, ac mae hyn yn ymwneud â sicrhau, er y bydd y cynllun yn ei hanfod yn cael ei ddileu, y bydd yn cael ei gynnwys yn y cynllun sengl ac yn cadw ei bwysigrwydd. Rhaid inni sicrhau hefyd ein bod yn monitro'r perfformiad.

Cododd yr Aelod fater y soniais amdano'n gynharach, sy'n ymwneud ag elfennau o'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol. Gennym ni y bydd yr arweiniad gwleidyddol ar hyn. Nid yw'r byrddau gwasanaethau lleol yn ddiethr i'r Cynulliad na'r Aelodau. Maent eisoes yn gwneud gwaith da iawn mewn rhai ardaloedd. Mae un enghraifft yn ymwneud â chynnig ynghylch amddiffyn oedolion agored i niwed mewn sefyllfa o gam-drin domestig. Yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, y bwrdd gwasanaethau lleol oedd yr ysgogwr a ddaeth â phrosiect Gwasanaeth Cynghori a Chynorthwyo Llys i Blant a Theuluoedd i gynorthwyo yn hyn o beth. Gweithiodd Emma, dioddefwr yn y drosedd hon, ar y cynnig hwn gyda'r bwrdd gwasanaethau lleol ac mae bellach yn darparu pecyn safonol sy'n arbed bywydau pobl, yn fy marn i. Dylem ymestyn y ddarpariaeth hon drwy Gymru. Yn ddiweddar rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at bob bwrdd gwasanaethau lleol yng Nghymru i wneud yn siŵr bod cam-drin yn y cartref yn eitem ar yr agenda gan bob un ohonynt, ac rwy'n disgwyl ymateb.

Mae craffu'n bryder sy'n mynd y tu hwnt i'r Siambr hon o ran aelodau'n cael perchnogaeth o newidiadau, ac o'r gwahaniaethau yn y gwasanaethau. Bydd yr Aelod yn gwybod bod Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2011 yn gosod gofyniad newydd ar awdurdodau lleol i graffu ar bwyllgorau a darparwyr gwasanaethau cyhoeddus dynodedig. Mae hyn yn debygol o gynnwys holl aelodau'r bwrdd gwasanaethau lleol neu'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt o leiaf. Byddaf yn cyhoeddi Gorchymyn gan y Gweinidog i nodi'r cynnig hwn yn fuan. Mae elfennau o graffu ar y cyd ar waith drwy Gymru eisoes, lle y mae cynghorau blaengar wedi achub y cyfle i edrych y tu hwnt i'w ffiniau i graffu ar draws awdurdodau lleol a'r sector cyhoeddus yn ehangach. Lle y mae arfer da ar waith gennym, rhaid i ni ei yrru yn ei flaen.

Mike Hedges: Rwy'n croesawu'r cynllun

integrated plan and the savings that local authorities ought to be able to make from having only one plan. I have three simple questions. How many authorities are making progress on the single plan? Will the plan have to be agreed by the full council, or can it be agreed as an executive function? The Assembly previously set up joint budgets for health and social services to try to deal with some of the cracks that exist between them; are you considering doing that now?

Carl Sargeant: Thank you for the short, effective questioning. How many are making progress? The 22 local authorities are making progress. The degree of progress being made, however, varies. I will monitor, with my team, how effectively they are performing.

The issue for me is the funding element, and joint funding packages between health and social services in local government are important. I am already looking at how we can provide regional structures of pay to provide support for collaboration and effective working beyond boundaries. I have spoken to ministerial colleagues about how they can support our collective objective of taking this forward.

I will have to write to the Member with the detail as to whether it is the executive or the full council that will decide, as I do not have it to hand. I will make that available through the Library.

integredig sengl a'r arbedion y dylai awdurdodau lleol allu eu gwneud yn sgîl cael un cynllun yn unig. Mae gen i dri chwestiwn syml. Faint o awdurdodau sy'n gwneud cynnydd ar y cynllun sengl? A fydd angen i'r cyngor llawn gytuno ar y cynllun, neu a fydd modd cytuno arno fel un o swyddogaethau'r weithrediaeth? Mae'r Cynulliad wedi sefydlu cyllidebau ar y cyd eisoes, ar gyfer maes ieched a'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i geisio ymdrin ag ambell hollt sy'n eu rhannu; a ydych yn ystyried gwneud hynny yn awr?

Carl Sargeant: Diolch i chi am y cwestiynau byr, effeithiol. Faint sy'n gwneud cynnydd? Mae'r 22 awdurdod lleol yn gwneud cynnydd. Mae faint o gynnydd a wneir ganddynt, fodd bynnag, yn amrywio. Gyda fy nhîm, byddaf yn monitro pa mor effeithiol y maent yn perfformio.

Y mater sy'n mynd â'm bryd yw'r elfen ariannu, ac mae'r pecynnau cyllido ar y cyd rhwng ieched a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol mewn llywodraeth leol yn bwysig. Rwyf eisoes yn edrych sut y bydd modd darparu strwythurau cyflog rhanbarthol i ddarparu cymorth ar gyfer cydweithredu a gweithio effeithiol y tu hwnt i ffiniau. Rwyf wedi siarad â'm cyd-Weinidogion ynghylch sut y gallant gefnogi ein nod cyffredinol o fwrw ymlaen â hyn.

Bydd yn rhaid imi ysgrifennu at yr Aelod i egluro'n fanwl iddo ai'r weithrediaeth neu'r cyngor llawn a fydd yn penderfynu, gan nad yw'r wybodaeth gen i ar hyn o bryd. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod y wybodaeth hon ar gael drwy'r Llyfrgell.

Datganiad: Plant a Phobl Ifanc Egniol **Statement: Active Children and Young People**

The Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage (Huw Lewis): This statement sets out how the Welsh Government proposes to support Welsh children and young people to live active lives and become active adults. It is only 38 days to the opening of the Olympic Games, when Welsh athletes will be taking part in the greatest sporting event on earth. The majority of us will, of course, be no more than armchair spectators of the games. We should, however, use the

Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth (Huw Lewis): Mae'r datganiad hwn yn nodi sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu cefnogi plant a phobl ifanc Cymru i fyw bywydau egniol ac i ddod yn oedolion egniol. Dim ond 38 diwrnod sydd tan agoriad y Gemau Olympaidd, pan fydd athletwyr o Gymru yn cymryd rhan yn nigwyddiad chwaraeon mwya'r byd. Gwylwyr y gemau yn ein cadair freichiau fydd y rhan fwyaf ohonom, wrth gwrs. Dylem, fodd bynnag,

momentum of the Olympics, the Paralympics and other major, televised sporting events to encourage more people to be more active through this summer and beyond. We need to persuade people to translate the sporting activities they watch on tv into things they can do in practice—making the leap from ‘I see’ to ‘I do’.

The programme for government sets out clearly that we believe that physical literacy should be as important a developmental skill as reading and writing. Every young person is entitled to learn basic physical skills and, regardless of their ability, should be encouraged to participate in some sort of physical activity. Our aim is to make physical activity a natural part of people’s lives from an early age. ‘Creating an Active Wales’, our physical activity action plan, sets an ambitious target of ‘one day more’ to ensure that every child between 11 and 16 does an additional 60 minutes of activity each week by 2020.

Physical activity is essential for both short-term and long-term physical and mental health. Sport and physical activity can provide an important arena in which youngsters can be successful, and this can lead to positive effects on self-esteem and self-perceptions of competence and body image. Other potential benefits linked to physical activity include the development of social skills through active play, better concentration in school and displacement of anti-social and criminal behaviour.

Children who are physically active have a better chance of becoming healthy adults, yet a significant proportion of children are not reaching the recommended levels of activity. The latest figures show that barely a third of girls and half of boys aged between 11 and 16 report moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 60 minutes a day on five or more days a week. Children’s enjoyment of physical education and sport seems to decline from year 7 to year 10 in secondary school and, by year 10, a quarter of girls say they do not enjoy PE and nearly half of girls

ddefnyddio momentwm y Gemau Olympaidd, y Gemau Paralympaidd a digwyddiadau chwaraeon mawr eraill ar y teledu, i annog mwy o bobl i fod yn fwy egniol drwy’r haf a thu hwnt. Rhaid inni berswadio pobl i drosi’r gweithgareddau chwaraeon y maent yn eu gwyllo ar y teledu yn bethau y gallant eu gwneud yn ymarferol, ac i wneud y cam o ‘rwy’n gweld’ i ‘rwy’n gwneud’.

Mae’r rhaglen lywodraethu yn amlinellu’n glir ein bod yn credu y dylai gallu corfforol fod yn sgil ddatblygiadol sydd yr un mor bwysig â darllen ac ysgrifennu. Mae gan bob person ifanc yr hawl i ddysgu sgiliau corfforol sylfaenol a chael eu hannog i gymryd rhan mewn rhyw fath o weithgarwch corfforol, beth bynnag fo’u gallu. Ein nod yw gwneud gweithgarwch corfforol yn rhan naturiol o fywydau pobl o fore oes. Mae ‘Creu Cymru Egniol’, ein cynllun gweithredu gweithgarwch corfforol, yn gosod targed uchelgeisiol o ‘un diwrnod yn rhagor’ i sicrhau bod pob plentyn rhwng 11 a 16 oed yn gwneud 60 munud o weithgarwch ychwanegol bob wythnos erbyn 2020.

Mae gweithgarwch corfforol yn hanfodol ar gyfer iechyd corfforol a meddyliol tymor byr a hirdymor. Gall chwaraeon a gweithgarwch corfforol roi cyfle pwysig i bobl ifanc fod yn llwyddiannus, a gall hyn arwain at effeithiau cadarnhaol ar hunan-barch a chanfyddiadau pobl ifanc ynghylch eu gallu a’r ddelwedd sydd ganddynt o ran eu cyrff eu hunain. Y manteision posibl eraill sy’n gysylltiedig â gweithgarwch corfforol yw datblygu sgiliau cymdeithasol drwy chwarae egniol, canolbwyntio’n well yn yr ysgol a gwaredu ymddygiad gwrth-gymdeithasol a throreddol.

Mae gan blant sy’n gorfforol egniol well siawns o ddod yn oedolion iach, ond mae cyfran sylweddol o blant nad ydynt yn cyrraedd y lefelau a argymhellir o ran gweithgarwch ar hyn o bryd. Yn ôl y ffigurau diweddaraf, cwta draean y merched a hanner y bechgyn rhwng 11 a 16 oed sy’n ymgymryd â gweithgarwch corfforol egniol neu gymedrol am o leiaf 60 munud y dydd, bum diwrnod yr wythnos neu’n amlach. Ymddengys fod mwynhad plant o addysg gorfforol a chwaraeon yn gostwng o flwyddyn 7 i flwyddyn 10 yn yr ysgol

do not enjoy any kind of extra-curricular sport in school. While levels of participation in extra-curricular sport in primary schools are very positive, we have work to do to increase participation in secondary schools, particularly among girls and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. The promotion of sport, leisure and active recreation cannot on its own change a culture of inactivity—and even obesity—overnight. However, there must be more we can do to make a difference to the statistics.

I do not underestimate the challenge we face in making the change. As chair of the ministerial advisory group on physical activity, however, I am committed to challenging my ministerial colleagues and our partners in the public, private and third sectors to do everything that they can to help us to achieve the stretching targets we have set ourselves.

We have already put in place a range of actions to support individuals to build activity into their lives. For example, almost 34,000 families and adults have signed up to Change4Life Wales, the Welsh Government's social marketing campaign to support families to eat well, be more active and live longer. Sport Wales has recently launched its community strategy, which is designed to make it easier for everyone to access opportunities to participate in sport and to stay involved in sport throughout their lives. It is backed by £9 million in lottery funding. My colleague Leighton Andrews has pledged new funding for the physical education and school sport initiative to focus on improving standards in secondary schools. My colleague Lesley Griffiths has allocated a further two years' funding to the Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It! programme to help overweight and obese children and their families. The Welsh network of healthy school schemes, which supports a whole-school approach to physical activity, is being expanded to cover early years settings. Carl

uwchradd, ac, erbyn blwyddyn 10, fod chwarter y merched yn dweud nad ydynt yn mwynhau ymarfer corff ac nid yw bron hanner y merched yn mwynhau unrhyw fath o weithgareddau chwaraeon allgyrsiol yn yr ysgol. Er bod y niferoedd sy'n cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon allgyrsiol mewn ysgolion cynradd yn gadarnhaol iawn, mae gennym waith i'w wneud i gynyddu'r niferoedd sy'n cymryd rhan yn ein hysgolion uwchradd, yn arbennig ymhlith merched a phobl ifanc o gefndiroedd difreintiedig. Ni all hyrwyddo chwaraeon a gweithgareddau hamdden egniïol ynddo'i hun newid diwylliant o anweithgarwch—a hyd yn oed gordewdra—dros nos. Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg bod rhagor y gallwn ei wneud i sicrhau bod gwahaniaeth yn yr ystadegau.

Nid wyf heb wybod am yr her sy'n ein hwynebu wrth gyflawni'r newid. Fel cadeirydd grŵp cynghori'r Gweinidog ar weithgarwch corfforol, fodd bynnag, rwyf wedi ymrwymo i herio fy nghyd-Weinidogion, a'n partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector i wneud popeth sy'n bosibl i'n helpu i gyrraedd y targedau heriol yr ydym wedi'u gosod i ni ein hunain.

Rydym eisoes wedi sefydlu ystod o gamau gweithredu i gynorthwyo unigolion sydd am gynnwys gweithgarwch yn eu bywydau. Er enghraifft, mae bron 34,000 o deuluoedd ac oedolion wedi ymuno â Newid am Oes Cymru, ymgyrch marchnata cymdeithasol Llywodraeth Cymru i helpu teuluoedd i fwyta'n dda, i fod yn fwy egniïol ac i fyw'n hwy. Mae Chwaraeon Cymru wedi lansio ei strategaeth gymunedol yn ddiweddar, ac mae'r strategaeth wedi'i chynllunio i'w gwneud yn haws i bawb gael cyfleoedd i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon ac i barhau i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon drwy gydol eu hoes. Fe'i cefnogir gan £9 miliwn o arian y loteri. Mae fy nghyd-Weinidog, Leighton Andrews, wedi addo arian newydd ar gyfer y fenter addysg gorfforol a chwaraeon mewn ysgolion, a fydd yn canolbwyntio ar wella safonau mewn ysgolion uwchradd. Mae fy nghyd-Weinidog, Lesley Griffiths, wedi dyrannu cyllid am ddwy flynedd arall i'r rhaglen Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It! sy'n helpu plant sydd dros eu pwysau neu blant gordew, a'u teuluoedd. Bydd

Sargeant will use his forthcoming active travel Bill to achieve a step change in the opportunities for walking and cycling in Wales. *[Interruption.]* I am not sure whether my colleague is heckling me.

These are positive developments, but to meet our ambitions we need to do even more. Knowledge and experience are vital and we must be systematic in identifying and sharing best practice. However, sometimes, the key to generating truly innovative ideas is having the confidence to challenge the status quo and trying ideas that are outside the norm. As a first step, Leighton Andrews and I are pleased to announce that we are setting up a small, focused task and finish group to develop innovative but practical recommendations on what more can be done to develop the role of schools in increasing the levels of physical activity undertaken by children and young people. It is a challenging remit and we are delighted to announce that our most successful Paralympic athlete, Baroness Grey-Thompson, has agreed to chair the task and finish group. We know that she will bring a great deal of energy, expertise and experience to the group, which will include representatives from Sport Wales, Estyn, the Education and School Improvement Service, the University of Glamorgan and the teaching profession.

These are tough financial times, but that is no excuse to forget the health and wellbeing of our young people. In years to come, when the current recession is a memory, we will need our young people to be a healthy workforce to lead a healthy and prosperous Wales. Therefore, I will be challenging my colleagues and our stakeholders to do more. I am confident that, by harnessing the expertise, talent and creativity of our partners, including the thousands of people working hard in schools, communities and clubs across Wales, we can meet the challenge and achieve our vision of an active

rhwydwaith cynlluniau ysgolion iach Cymru, sy'n cefnogi dull ysgol gyfan o ymdrin â gweithgarwch corfforol, yn cael ei ehangu i gynnwys lleoliadau blynyddoedd cynnar. Bydd Carl Sargeant yn defnyddio'i Fesur teithio llesol, sydd ar y gweill, i sicrhau y bydd newid sylweddol yn y cyfleoedd sydd ar gael ar gyfer cerdded a beicio yng Nghymru. *[Torri ar draws.]* Tybed a yw fy nghyd-Aelod yn fy heclo?

Mae'r rhain yn ddatblygiadau cadarnhaol, ond i gyflawni ein huchelgais mae angen inni wneud mwy fyth. Mae gwybodaeth a phrofiad yn hanfodol, a rhaid inni fod yn systematig o ran nodi a rhannu arferion gorau. Fodd bynnag, weithiau, yr hyn sy'n allweddol i greu syniadau gwirioneddol arloesol yw cael yr hyder i herio'r statws cwo a rhoi cynnig ar syniadau sydd ychydig yn anghyffredin o bosibl. Fel cam cyntaf, mae Leighton Andrews a minnau'n falch o gyhoeddi ein bod yn sefydlu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen bach, sy'n canolbwyntio ar ddatblygu argymhellion arloesol ond ymarferol ar faint rhagor y gellir ei wneud i ddatblygu rôl ysgolion ar gyfer cynyddu lefelau gweithgarwch corfforol plant a phobl ifanc. Mae'n gylch gwaith heriol, ac rydym yn falch iawn o gyhoeddi bod ein hathletwraig Baralympaidd fwyaf llwyddiannus erioed, y Farwnes Grey-Thompson, wedi cytuno i gadeirio'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen. Gwyddom y bydd hi'n rhannu llawer iawn o'i brwdfrydedd, ei harbenigedd a'i phrofiad â'r grŵp, a fydd yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr o Chwaraeon Cymru, Estyn, y Gwasanaeth Addysg a Gwella Ysgolion, Prifysgol Morgannwg a'r proffesiwn addysgu.

Mae hwn yn gyfnod anodd yn ariannol, ond nid yw hynny'n esgus dros anghofio iechyd a lles ein pobl ifanc. Ymhen blynyddoedd, pan fydd y dirwasgiad presennol yn rhan o hanes, bydd angen i'n pobl ifanc fod yn weithlu iach i arwain Cymru iach a ffyniannus. Felly, byddaf yn herio fy nghyd-Aelodau a'n rhanddeiliaid i wneud rhagor. Rwy'n hyderus, drwy fanteisio ar arbenigedd, talentau a chreadigrwydd ein partneriaid, gan gynnwys y miloedd o bobl sy'n gweithio'n galed mewn ysgolion, cymunedau a chlybiau ledled Cymru, gallwn ateb yr her a chyflawni ein gweledigaeth i greu Cymru egniol ac

and healthy Wales.

5.00 p.m.

Mark Isherwood: Thank you for your statement, Minister. As you say, there is no excuse for forgetting the health and wellbeing of our children and young people. We welcome the fact that Baroness Grey-Thompson will be chairing the task and finish group that you referred to as a first step, focused on developing the role of schools in increasing physical activity. Clearly, the Olympics can be an impetus, although, like yourself, I have heard that said many times over the decades about sporting tournaments, and they have not necessarily delivered the hoped-for increased levels of activity, although interest in armchair sport may have risen dramatically. I hope that you will use terminology that people will understand, especially the people whom we are trying to talk to: parents, children and young people. People might struggle with terms such as 'physical literacy', whereas 'play' or 'sport' or 'physical activity' would be terms that people will understand. As you say, children who are physically active have a better chance of becoming healthy adults, yet a significant proportion of children are not reaching the recommended levels of activity.

In your statement you refer to moderate or vigorous physical activity, and quite rightly so. You also focus on physical exercise, organised sport, participation in extra-curricular sport, physical education at school, and school sport. Do you recognise the difference between organised sport and play? I note that you refer to benefits linked to physical activity including the development of social skills through play. However, do you recognise that play and organised recreational sport are different things? In that context, how would you respond to the consultation response from Play Wales on the Welsh Government guidance on play opportunities? It stated that:

iach.

Mark Isherwood: Diolch ichi am eich datganiad, Weinidog. Fel y dywedwch, nid oes esgus am anghofio iechyd a lles ein plant a'n pobl ifanc. Rydym yn croesawu'r ffaith y bydd y Farwnes Grey-Thompson yn cadeirio'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen y cyfeiriasoch ato fel y cam cyntaf o ganolbwyntio ar ddatblygu rôl ysgolion yn y gwaith o gynyddu gweithgaredd corfforol. Yn amlwg, gall y Gemau Olympaidd fod yn ysgogiad er, fel chi, rwyf wedi clywed hynny droeon dros y degawdau am dwrnameintiau chwaraeon, ac nid ydynt o reidrwydd wedi sicrhau'r lefelau uwch o weithgarwch y gobeithiwyd eu cael, er bod y diddordeb mewn chwaraeon o'r gadair freichiau efallai wedi cynyddu'n ddramatig. Rwy'n gobeithio y byddwch yn defnyddio terminoleg y bydd pobl yn ei deall, yn enwedig y bobl yr ydym yn ceisio siarad â hwy: rhieni, plant a phobl ifanc. Efallai y bydd pobl yn cael anhawster â thermau fel 'llythrennedd corfforol', tra byddai 'chwarae' neu 'chwaraeon' neu 'gweithgaredd corfforol' yn dermau y byddai pobl yn eu deall. Fel y dywedwch, mae gan blant sy'n weithgar yn gorfforol well siawns o ddatblygu i fod yn oedolion iach, ond mae cyfran sylweddol o blant yn methu â chyrraedd y lefelau o weithgaredd a argymhellir.

Yn eich datganiad, cyfeiriasoch at weithgarwch corfforol cymedrol neu egniol, a hynny'n gwbl briodol. Rydych hefyd yn canolbwyntio ar ymarfer corff, chwaraeon wedi'u trefnu, cyfranogiad mewn chwaraeon allgyrsiol, addysg gorfforol yn yr ysgol, a chwaraeon ysgol. A ydych yn cydnabod y gwahaniaeth rhwng chwaraeon wedi'u trefnu a chwarae? Sylwaf eich bod yn cyfeirio at y budd sy'n gysylltiedig â gweithgaredd corfforol, gan gynnwys datblygu sgiliau cymdeithasol drwy chwarae. Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn cydnabod bod chwarae a chwaraeon hamdden wedi'u trefnu yn bethau gwahanol? Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, sut y byddech yn ymateb i ymateb Chwarae Cymru i'r ymgynghoriad ar ganllaw Llywodraeth Cymru i gyfleoedd chwarae? Mae'n datgan y canlynol:

'Children and young people do not ask for more recreational activities; in fact they often tell us that there are too many and that they would prefer to be "playing" rather than participating in organised recreational activities. The children's commissioner has advised that is his experience also; that what children are asking for is not more opportunities for structured recreation but a greater freedom for free play. That is not to say that recreational activities are wrong; simply that there is an imbalance between the ready availability of them and what children tell us are the restricted opportunities to play freely.'

Does the Minister still hold to the original Welsh Government definition of play as something that:

'encompasses children's behaviour which is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. It is performed for no external goal or reward'?

Does he share the concerns of organisations such as NEW Play, in north-east Wales, that, if you start bringing terms like 'recreational activity' into the definition, that pulls against play work principles, which could be a backwards step for the health and wellbeing of children in Wales? Where has the Welsh Government got to with the play sufficiency audits for each local authority area that were included, if I recall rightly, in the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010, which you steered through the Assembly, and which I shadowed you on? How will we define what is sufficient play provision where sufficiency does not necessarily relate to quality? The value of play is difficult to measure, but value is what we need to be striving for. Do you agree that play is a developmental process rather than a sport, and an innate human need without parameters and measurable outcomes? How will you address age appropriateness, that is, recreational activity for toddlers to teens and young adults? How will you address the needs of children of mixed abilities, including children with disabilities, who clearly need physical activity but cannot play for the rugby first

Nid yw plant a phobl ifanc yn gofyn am fwy o weithgareddau hamdden; mewn gwirionedd, maent yn aml yn dweud wrthym fod gormod ohonynt ac y byddai'n well ganddynt fod yn 'chwarae' yn hytrach na chymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau hamdden wedi'u trefnu. Mae'r comisiynydd plant wedi datgan mai dyna yw ei brofiad yntau hefyd; mae plant yn gofyn am fwy o ryddid i chwarae yn rhydd ac nid am fwy o gyfleoedd ar gyfer gweithgareddau hamdden strwythuredig. Nid yw hynny'n golygu bod gweithgareddau hamdden yn beth drwg, ond, yn syml, bod anghydbwysedd rhwng y gweithgareddau sydd ar gael a'r hyn y mae plant yn ei ddweud wrthym yw'r cyfleoedd cyfyngedig i chwarae'n rhydd.

A yw'r Gweinidog yn dal i gytuno â diffiniad gwreiddiol Llywodraeth Cymru sef

'bod chwarae'n ymddygiad y mae'r plentyn wedi'i ddewis o'i wirfodd, yn ei lywio ei hun ac yn ei wneud er ei fwyn ei hun. Mae'n cael ei wneud heb olwg ar unrhyw nod na gwobr allanol'?

A yw'n rhannu pryderon sefydliadau fel NEW Play, yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, fod dechrau defnyddio termau fel 'gweithgaredd hamdden' yn y diffiniad yn tynnu'n groes i egwyddorion gwaith a chwarae, a allai fod yn gam yn ôl o ran iechyd a lles plant yng Nghymru? Pa gynnydd a wnaeth y Llywodraeth o ran yr archwiliadau i ddigonolrwydd cyfleoedd chwarae ar gyfer pob ardal awdurdod lleol a gafodd ei gynnwys, os cofiaf yn iawn, ym Mesur Plant a Theuluoedd (Cymru) 2010 y bu ichi ei lywio drwy'r Cynulliad ac y bu imi eich cysgodi arno. Sut y byddwn yn diffinio beth yw darpariaeth chwarae ddigonol gan nad yw digonolrwydd o reidrwydd yn ymwneud ag ansawdd? Mae'n anodd mesur gwerth chwarae, ond rhaid inni ymdrechu tuag at sicrhau gwerth. A gytunwch fod chwarae yn broses ddatblygiadol yn hytrach nag yn fath o chwaraeon, ac yn angen dynol cynhenid heb ffiniau a chanlyniadau mesuradwy? Sut y byddwch yn mynd i'r afael â phriodoldeb oedran, hynny yw gweithgaredd hamdden ar gyfer plant bach, pobl yn eu harddegau ac oedolion ifanc? Sut y byddwch yn mynd i'r afael ag anghenion

XV and therefore need their right to activity addressed? How will you constitute sufficient play opportunities when organisations such as Fields in Trust have said in the past that it was unclear what would constitute play sufficiency? Children in Wales questioned who would judge the level of sufficiency in an area where what an adult says is play sufficiency might be very different from what a child or young person would say if you were to consult with them. Therefore, my final question is: what role will children and young people have in informing the development of this agenda?

Huw Lewis: I thank Mark Isherwood for those points and his broad welcome of the thrust of the statement, and particularly of the agreement of Baroness Grey-Thomson to assist us in this work. He is quite right to point out that, in a previous role, as Deputy Minister for Children, I undertook a great deal of work on play and the situation regarding opportunities for children to participate in unstructured activity and ways in which we could improve them. I often think that barriers between structured play, sport and activity, and unstructured activity, exist only in the mind of policy makers and adults and not in the minds of children and young people, who see good opportunities for having fun through physical activity as either being available or not.

There is a role for unstructured play. We cleave to the original definition of play that the Welsh Government adopted some years ago. It is also true to say that we have a demographic problem. If you look at the age ranges of those taking part in activities, where there is play and sport and they are accepted as a day-to-day part of school and home life, among children of primary school age in particular, you will see that we have very good results; we have very good statistics in terms of physical activity, both in structured and unstructured activity, and there are high levels of participation. Something

plant o alluoedd cymysg, gan gynnwys plant ag anableddau, y mae'n rhaid iddynt wneud gweithgaredd corfforol, yn amlwg, ond ni allant gael eu cynnwys yn y XV cyntaf mewn tîm rygbi ac felly rhaid i'w hawl i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau gael sylw? Sut y byddwch chi'n ystyried beth yw cyfleoedd chwarae digonol pan y bu i sefydliadau megis Fields in Trust ddatgan yn y gorffennol nad oedd yn glir ynghylch beth fyddai'n cael ei ystyried yn nifer digonol o gyfleoedd chwarae? Bu i Plant yng Nghymru gwestiynu pwy fyddai'n barnu lefel y digonolrwydd mewn ardal lle mae'r hyn a ystyrir yn nifer digonol o gyfleoedd chwarae gan oedolyn yn wahanol iawn i'r hyn a ystyrir yn nifer digonol gan blentyn neu berson ifanc pe baech chi'n ymgynghori â hwy. Felly, fy nghwestiwn olaf yw: beth fydd rôl plant a phobl ifanc wrth lywio'r gwaith o ddatblygu'r agenda hon?

Huw Lewis: Diolch i Mark Isherwood am y pwyntiau hynny ac am y ffaith iddo groesawu byrdwn y datganiad yn gyffredinol, ac yn enwedig cytundeb y Farwnes Grey-Thomson i'n cynorthwyo yn y gwaith hwn. Mae'n iawn nodi fy mod, mewn rôl flaenorol, fel y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Blant, wedi gwneud llawer iawn o waith ar chwarae ac ar y sefyllfa o ran y cyfleoedd i blant gymryd rhan mewn gweithgaredd distrwythur a ffyrdd y gallem eu gwella. Rwy'n aml yn meddwl bod rhwystrau rhwng chwarae strwythuredig, chwaraeon a gweithgaredd, a gweithgaredd distrwythur, yn bodoli yn unig ym meddyliau gwneuthurwyr polisi ac oedolion ac nid ym meddyliau plant a phobl ifanc, sy'n gweld bod cyfleoedd da i gael hwyl drwy weithgaredd corfforol yn bosibl neu beidio.

Mae rôl ar gyfer chwarae distrwythur. Rydym yn glynu at y diffiniad gwreiddiol o chwarae a fabwysiadwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru rai blynyddoedd yn ôl. Mae hefyd yn wir dweud bod gennym broblem ddemograffig. Os edrychwch ar ystod oedran y rhai sy'n cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau, lle ceir chwarae a chwaraeon a dderbynnir fel rhan o fywyd o ddydd i ddydd yn yr ysgol ac yn y cartref, ymysg plant sy'n mynychu ysgolion cynradd yn benodol, gwelwch fod gennym ganlyniadau da iawn; mae gennym ystadegau da iawn o ran gweithgaredd corfforol, o ran

happens when the teenage years arrive, particularly with regard to the commitment of girls to sport or to any other kind of physical activity, such as walking, cycling and so on. That is why it is so crucial to look, in this case, at a whole-school response to this issue—not to throw up definitional arguments about structured and unstructured activity, but to look at how the whole school, from the journey to and from school and everything in between, is structured to encourage physical activity, so that walking or cycling to school is as legitimate an aim as taking part in a structured game of rugby. You will notice that I was at pains during my statement to point out that we are not engaged, in this particular piece of work, in chasing down elite sportspeople. We are looking to raise the game for all levels of ability. It is physical activity that is at the forefront of my mind, whether it is unstructured or structured.

Bethan Jenkins: Thank you very much for this particular document, Minister. I have some concerns regarding the current picture, which came largely from the Sport Wales survey on school sports published last year. That shows that there is a clear divide between primary and secondary schools, and this seems to be down to less participation by girls, as has been mentioned, and by those who feel that they are excluded more than others from certain sporting activities. Can you tell us what monitoring processes you have put in place to look at what has happened up to this point? I would like to understand how young people are participating in sport, given that we do not already have this task and finish group in place. Can you also tell us what you are doing to encourage stronger links between schools and clubs so that they can share facilities? We know that schools close at certain times and then community groups cannot utilise those vital facilities.

We have also had information from the Urdd that it has asked for a new centre to be

gweithgaredd strwythuredig a distrwythur, ac mae lefelau uchel o gyfranogiad. Mae rhywbeth yn digwydd pan fydd plant yn cyrraedd eu harddegau, yn enwedig o ran ymrwymiad merched i chwaraeon neu i unrhyw fath arall o weithgaredd corfforol, fel cerdded, seiclo ac yn y blaen. Dyna pam ei bod mor hanfodol, yn yr achos hwn, cael ymateb ar sail yr ysgol gyfan ar y mater hwn, ac i beidio â dechrau dadleuon wedi'u diffinio am weithgaredd strwythuredig a distrwythur, ond i edrych ar sut y mae'r ysgol gyfan, o'r daith i'r ysgol ac yn ôl a phopeth yn y canol, wedi ei strwythuro i annog gweithgaredd corfforol, fel bod cerdded neu feicio i'r ysgol yn nod sydd yr un mor ddilys â chymryd rhan mewn gêm strwythuredig o rygbi. Byddwch yn sylwi fy mod yn awyddus iawn yn ystod fy natganiad i dynnu sylw at y ffaith nad ydym yn ymwneud, yn y darn penodol hwn o waith, â dod o hyd i chwaraewyr elitaidd. Rydym eisiau gweld gwelliant ar gyfer pob lefel o allu. Gweithgaredd corfforol yw'r peth pwysicaf i mi, boed hwnnw'n ddistrwythur neu'n strwythuredig.

Bethan Jenkins: Diolch yn fawr iawn am y ddogfen hon, Weinidog. Mae gennyf rai pryderon ynghylch y darlun presennol, a grewyd i raddau helaeth o ganlyniad i arolwg Chwaraeon Cymru ar chwaraeon ysgol a gyhoeddwyd y llynedd. Mae'n dangos bod rhaniad clir rhwng ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd, ac ymddengys mai'r rheswm dros hyn yw llai o gyfranogiad gan ferched, fel y crybwyllwyd, a hefyd gan y rhai sy'n teimlo eu bod yn cael eu heithrio'n fwy nag eraill o weithgareddau chwaraeon penodol. A allwch chi ddweud wrthym ba brosesau monitro yr ydych wedi'u rhoi ar waith i edrych ar yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd hyd yma? Hoffwn ddeall sut mae pobl ifanc yn cyfranogi mewn chwaraeon, o ystyried nad yw'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen wedi'i sefydlu eto. A allwch chi ddweud wrthym hefyd beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i annog cysylltiadau cryfach rhwng ysgolion a chlybiau er mwyn iddynt allu rhannu cyfleusterau? Rydym yn gwybod bod ysgolion yn cau ar adegau penodol ac wedyn ni all grwpiau cymunedol ddefnyddio'r cyfleusterau hanfodol hynny.

Rydym hefyd wedi cael gwybodaeth gan yr Urdd am y ffaith ei bod wedi gofyn i

created in the Valleys. For Welsh speakers and Welsh learners, the Urdd plays a vital role in encouraging physical activity.

I have seen who you have on your task and finish group and it does not seem to include representation from local authorities. I think that you should perhaps reconsider that, because, in my area and in other areas, local authorities provide leisure facilities. Many local authorities, such as Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend, have recently transferred leisure facilities to a third party organisation or to a private company, which could potentially lead to an increase in costs as a result. I know that costs have risen for Pontardawe junior football club, and I have been helping it to try to get costs down with the chief executive of Celtic Community Leisure. We need to be mindful of that if we are to encourage young people to take part, because we do not want them to be priced out of being able to use the facilities in their local communities.

My other question is also on the task and finish group. I could not see whether any young people would be taking part in this task and finish group. I know that you want to keep it small and tight, but, if it is going to be about young people, we need to hear their voices loud and clear about what sports they would like to see more of, what does and does not engage them, whether they feel pressurised in school to take part in certain sports, and whether girls feel put off because of issues to do with their body image and confidence levels. All of these things need to be addressed with young people.

I agree that Tanni Grey-Thompson is a great advocate, but perhaps more than creating these groups, and setting up group upon group of advisory boards and so forth, we need to see how we can get people doing sport and being active. I know that you have noble intentions in setting up this group, but I would like to see many more young people involved in sport, whether structured or unstructured. We need to make sure that they are involved, because, from personal

ganolfan newydd gael ei hadeiladu yn y Cymoedd. Mae'r Urdd yn chwarae rhan hanfodol o ran annog siaradwyr Cymraeg a dysgwyr Cymraeg i gyfranogi mewn gweithgaredd corfforol.

Rwyf wedi gweld pwy yw aelodau eich grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen ac ymddengys nad yw'n cynnwys cynrychiolaeth gan awdurdodau lleol. Rwy'n meddwl y dylech efallai ailystyried hynny oherwydd, yn fy ardal i ac mewn ardaloedd eraill, mae awdurdodau lleol yn darparu cyfleusterau hamdden. Mae nifer o awdurdodau lleol, megis Castell-nedd Port Talbot a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr, wedi trosglwyddo eu cyfleusterau hamdden i sefydliad trydydd parti neu i gwmni preifaf yn ddiweddar, a allai arwain at gynnydd yn y costau o ganlyniad. Gwn fod costau wedi cynyddu ar gyfer clwb pêl-droed iau Pontardawe, a bŵm yn helpu i geisio lleihau'r costau gyda phrif weithredwr Hamdden Cymunedol Celtic. Rhaid inni fod yn ymwybodol o hynny os ydym am annog pobl ifanc i gymryd rhan, oherwydd nid ydym am iddynt gael eu hatal rhag defnyddio'r cyfleusterau yn eu cymunedau lleol.

Mae fy nghwestiwn arall hefyd am y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen. Nid oeddwn yn gallu gweld a fyddai unrhyw bobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan yn y grŵp. Gwn eich bod am ei gadw'n fach ac yn dynn ond, os yw'n ymwneud â phobl ifanc, mae angen inni glywed eu lleisiau'n uchel ac yn glir o ran pa chwaraeon yr hoffent weld cynnydd ynddynt, yr hyn sy'n gwneud iddynt ymgysylltu ai peidio, a ydynt yn teimlo o dan bwysau yn yr ysgol i gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon penodol, ac a yw merched yn diystyru chwaraeon oherwydd materion sy'n ymwneud â delwedd gorfforol a lefelau hyder. Rhaid mynd i'r afael â'r holl bethau hyn gyda phobl ifanc.

Rwy'n cytuno bod Tanni Grey-Thompson yn eiriolwr da iawn, ond yn hytrach na chreu'r grwpiau hyn, a sefydlu grwpiau lu o fyrddau ymgynghorol ac yn y blaen, efallai fod yn rhaid inni weld sut y gallwn annog pobl i gyfranogi mewn chwaraeon a gweithgaredd corfforol. Gwn fod gennych fwriadau bonheddig wrth sefydlu'r grŵp hwn, ond hoffwn weld llawer iawn mwy o bobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon, boed hwy'n chwaraeon strwythuredig neu

experience, having run the Llanelli 10k on Sunday, I know that to be active in sport helps your mental health. It can also help people if they have eating disorders or suffer from obesity. We can help those two different sectors of society in this way.

I would like to finish by saying that I am passionate about getting more women into sport. When I was at school, there used to be excuses upon excuses given to teachers by women in order to not take part in certain activities. Perhaps we need to adapt the sporting criteria for women to take into account how they feel during their teenage years. They may feel sensitive about taking part in certain sports during those years. I welcome this report.

Huw Lewis: I thank Bethan Jenkins for those points, and I offer her my congratulations on her completion of the Llanelli 10k. I take my hat off to you; well done. It is not something that I aspire to this year, but we will see.

You are quite right to point out that all the statistics show us that there are two clear trends: a fall-off in activity between primary and secondary schools, and an even greater fall-off in activity among girls—it also occurs among boys, but not to such a great extent. I will underscore the fact that the task and finish group has a specific remit to look at schools as an agency for what can be done about this. We are awash with statistics and research on why these things are happening, and it is clear that they are happening. The task and finish group will have a remit to look at the attitude of schools and their enthusiasm for the agenda and how that can be improved. There is no doubt that schools are the most powerful agency that we can recruit as allies in this agenda. I am particularly of the opinion that we should look at the attitudes and enthusiasm of individual headteachers, which can have a huge effect on how physical activity is viewed as part of the overall life of a school. The connection with clubs outside of school will also be very much a part of what the task

ddistrwythur. Mae angen inni wneud yn siŵr eu bod yn cymryd rhan, oherwydd, o brofiad personol, ar ôl rhedeg ras 10k Llanelli ddydd Sul, rwy'n gwybod bod cyfranogi mewn chwaraeon yn helpu'ch iechyd meddwl. Gall hefyd helpu pobl ag anhwylderau bwytia neu'r rhai sy'n dioddef o ordewdra. Gallwn helpu'r ddwy garfan wahanol hynny o gymdeithas yn y modd hwn.

Hoffwn orffen drwy ddweud fy mod yn angerddol ynghylch annog mwy o fenywod i gyfranogi mewn chwaraeon. Pan oeddwn yn yr ysgol, rhoddwyd esgusodion lu i athrawon gan ferched er mwyn peidio â chymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau penodol. Efallai fod angen inni addasu'r meini prawf o ran chwaraeon i ferched er mwyn ystyried sut maent yn teimlo yn ystod eu harddegau. Efallai y byddant yn sensitif ynghylch cymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon penodol yn ystod y blynyddoedd hynny. Croesawaf yr adroddiad hwn.

Huw Lewis: Diolch i Bethan Jenkins am y pwyntiau hynny, ac rwy'n ei llongyfarch am gwblhau ras 10k Llanelli. Rwy'n codi fy het; da iawn. Nid yw hynny'n uchelgais gennyf eleni, ond cawn weld.

Rydych yn llygad eich lle i nodi bod yr holl ystadegau yn dangos inni fod dau duedd clir: cwmp mewn gweithgaredd rhwng ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd, a chwmp hyd yn oed yn fwy o ran y gweithgaredd ymysg merched—mae hefyd yn digwydd ymhlith bechgyn, ond nid i'r fath raddau. Tanlinellaf y ffaith bod gan y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gylch gwaith penodol i edrych ar ysgolion fel asiantaeth ar gyfer edrych ar yr hyn y gellir ei wneud am hyn. Mae gennym fôr o ystadegau a gwaith ymchwil ynghylch pam mae'r pethau hyn yn digwydd, ac mae'n amlwg eu bod yn digwydd. Bydd gan y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gylch gwaith i edrych ar agwedd ysgolion a'u brwdfrydedd ynghylch yr agenda a sut y gellir ei wella. Nid oes amheuaeth mai ysgolion yw'r asiantaeth fwyaf pwerus y gallwn ei recriwtio fel cynghreiriaid yn yr agenda hon. Rwyf yn arbennig o'r farn y dylem edrych ar agweddau a brwdfrydedd penaethiaid unigol, a all gael effaith enfawr ar sut yr ystyrir gweithgaredd corfforol fel rhan o fywyd cyffredinol yr ysgol. Bydd y cysylltiad gyda

and finish group looks at. We know that there are some examples of excellent practice, but we know that other parts of Wales cannot boast of that. So, the questions will be: how is the good practice established, and who are the agents that need to be recruited?

I take on board your points on the Urdd. There are others out there too, such as the boys' and girls' clubs of Wales, that need to be a part of this, and their voices need to be heard.

5.15 p.m.

I take your point about the representation of local authorities, and I will undertake to take a particular look at that. You are right to be very concerned about the physical activity levels of women and girls. There are some fantastic success stories out there. Football has had a great tale to tell over the past few years—just a very few years—about boosting participation levels among women and girls by 30% through the activity of the Wales Football Trust. It is doing something right. However, that is a particular sport and an organised sport. There must be a wider menu on offer for women and girls to step up their levels of activity, but we do have something to learn from the Wales Football Trust.

Peter Black: Minister, you say that you have a wealth of evidence for why young people drop out of sport. Perhaps you could share that with us so that we can better understand that phenomenon. I have two questions on your statement. First, there is an absence of any reference to healthy eating in your statement. I know that this is a statement about active children and young people, but if, for example, Jenny Randerson's Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2009 had been brought into effect, we could at least have said that there was a basis for encouraging young people not just to be active but to eat more healthily. We would therefore be able to demonstrate a healthier younger population and one that does not

chlybiau y tu allan i'r ysgol hefyd yn rhan fawr o'r hyn y mae'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen yn ei ystyried. Rydym yn gwybod bod enghreifftiau o arfer rhagorol, ond rydym yn gwybod na all rhannau eraill o Gymru frolio bod ganddynt hynny. Felly, y cwestiynau fydd: sut y caiff arfer da ei sefydlu, a phwy yw'r asiantau y mae angen eu recriwtio?

Derbyniaf eich pwynt am yr Urdd. Mae angen i sefydliadau eraill hefyd, fel y clybiau i fechgyn ac i ferched yng Nghymru, fod yn rhan o hyn, a rhaid clywed eu lleisiau hwy hefyd.

Derbyniaf eich pwynt am y gynrychiolaeth gan awdurdodau lleol, ac ymrwymaf i ystyried hynny'n benodol. Rydych yn iawn i fod yn bryderus iawn am lefelau gweithgarwch corfforol menywod a merched. Mae rhai hanesion o lwyddiant gwych i gael. Mae pêl-droed wedi cael stori wych i'w hadrodd dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf—dim ond ychydig iawn o flynyddoedd—ynghylch rhoi hwb o 30% i lefelau cyfranogiad ymysg menywod a merched drwy weithgaredd Ymddiriedolaeth Bêl-droed Cymru. Mae'n gwneud rhywbeth yn iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae honno'n gamp benodol a ffurfiol. Rhaid bod dewis ehangach ar gael i fenywod a merched i gynyddu eu lefelau o weithgarwch, ond mae gennym rywbeth i'w ddysgu oddi wrth Ymddiriedolaeth Bêl-droed Cymru.

Peter Black: Weinidog, rydych yn dweud bod gennym gyfoeth o dystiolaeth i ddangos pam y mae pobl ifanc yn rhoi'r gorau i chwaraeon. Efallai y gallech ei rhannu gyda ni fel y gallwn ddeall yn well y ffenomen honno. Mae gennyf ddau gwestiwn ar eich datganiad. Yn gyntaf, nid oes unrhyw gyfeiriad at fwyta'n iach yn eich datganiad. Gwn fod hwn yn ddatganiad am blant a phobl ifanc egniïol, ond os, er enghraifft, y byddai Mesur Bwyta'n Iach mewn Ysgolion (Cymru) 2009 a gyflwynwyd gan Jenny Randerson wedi dod i rym, gallem o leiaf fod wedi dweud bod sail ar gyfer annog pobl ifanc nid yn unig i fod yn egniïol ond i fwyta'n fwy iach. Felly, byddem yn gallu dangos poblogaeth iau iachach ac un nad

suffer from obesity to the extent that it does. Therefore, as part of this programme, perhaps you can tell us when the healthy eating Measure will be commenced and when the measures in it will be put in place.

Secondly, the aspirations expressed in your statement are very generous and ambitious. You refer to the task and finish group. Will that group set out how we can measure the success of this strategy and what indicators will be used to determine whether this strategy of making young people more active is bearing fruit? What will we be comparing it against in a year's time to assess how successful your programme is?

Huw Lewis: I thank Peter Black for those points. Yes, I could offer a list of evidence. There is a welter of academic studies out there attempting to discover what is going on with levels of physical activity and participation, what is happening particularly during those teenage years, and why there is a differential effect as regards girls in particular. These are well-established symptoms. I am sure that we could develop a bibliography on this, but we have a good handle on the issue. This is a specific piece of work. The task and finish group is there to provide me with advice and guidance. It is not there to implement anything. On other programmes and the impact of healthy eating, I would point to the impact of Change4Life. It is not for the task and finish group to deliver a strategy. It is there to do a quick, informed expert piece of work to inform me and the Welsh Government of the best way forward, specifically with regard to the role of schools as partner organisations in this agenda.

Christine Chapman: I thank the Minister for his statement and welcome his commitment to the development of physical literacy skills among our children and young people becoming as fundamental as reading and writing.

As you say in your statement, Minister, there are particular problems in ensuring that girls take part in sport, and I echo other Members'

yw'n dioddef o ordewdra i'r graddau y mae'n ei wneud. Felly, fel rhan o'r rhaglen hon, efallai y gallwch ddweud wrthym pryd y bydd y Mesur bwyta'n iach yn dechrau a phryd bydd y mesurau'n cael eu rhoi ar waith.

Yn ail, mae'r dyheadau a fynegwyd yn eich datganiad yn hael ac yn uchelgeisiol iawn. Rydych yn cyfeirio at y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen. A fydd y grŵp hwnnw'n nodi sut y gallwn fesur llwyddiant y strategaeth hon ac yn nodi'r dangosyddion a fydd yn cael eu defnyddio i benderfynu a yw'r strategaeth hon i wneud pobl ifanc yn fwy egniol yn dwyn ffrwyth? Beth fyddwn yn ei gymharu â'ch rhaglen ymhen blwyddyn i asesu pa mor llwyddiannus yw hi?

Huw Lewis: Diolch i Peter Black am y pwyntiau hynny. Gallwn gynnig rhestr o dystiolaeth. Mae llwyth o astudiaethau academiaidd ar gael sy'n ceisio darganfod beth sy'n digwydd o ran lefelau o weithgaredd corfforol a chyfranogiad, beth sy'n digwydd yn ystod yr ardegau yn benodol, a pham mae effaith wahanol o ran merched yn arbennig. Mae'r symptomau hyn wedi'u hen sefydlu. Rwy'n siŵr y gallem ddatblygu llyfryddiaeth ynghylch y mater hwn, ond rydym wedi cael trefn dda arno. Mae hwn yn ddarn penodol o waith. Mae'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen yno i roi cyngor ac arweiniad i mi. Nid yw yno i weithredu unrhyw beth. O ran rhaglenni eraill ac effaith bwyta'n iach, byddwn yn tynnu eich sylw at effaith Newid am Oes. Nid swyddogaeth y grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen yw darparu strategaeth. Mae'r grŵp wedi'i sefydlu i wneud darn arbenigol gwybodus a chyflym o waith i lywio'r Llywodraeth a minnau o ran y ffordd orau ymlaen, yn benodol o ran rôl ysgolion fel sefydliadau partner yn yr agenda hwn.

Christine Chapman: Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad a chroesawaf ei ymrwymiad y bydd datblygu sgiliau llythrennedd corfforol ymhlith ein plant a phobl ifanc yn datblygu'n bethau mor sylfaenol â darllen ac ysgrifennu.

Fel rydych yn dweud yn eich datganiad, Weinidog, mae yna broblemau penodol o ran sicrhau bod merched yn cymryd rhan mewn

comments on this. I welcome the involvement of Tanni Grey-Thompson, and I hope that the Olympics and Paralympics will provide a new generation of role models. However, I want to press the issue of the particular measures that we can take to get more girls interested in sporting activities. It is right that we try to understand this better. There may be some deep-seated reasons why that is the case, particularly when it comes to girls from poorer backgrounds. As you said, Minister, there is a huge range of academic research on this, but it is a question of our looking at this research and trying to drill down and come up with some practical solutions. One piece of academic research, which is quite old now but did strike me a few years ago, showed that even when girls and boys undertake sport on a fairly equal basis, as they get older and possibly get married or go into relationships and have families, it is the women who do less sport, while the men continue. That is an issue and shows that it is not just a problem for women, but for wider society. If we want to do something about this, we need to address it head on. Also on this issue, although the research is a few years old, I know that team games have helped to reduce the rates of teenage pregnancy in other European countries. I think that the Netherlands was quoted. Therefore, it is a good solution if we can get this right.

Moving to my second point, Mark Isherwood talked about unstructured physical activity, and I think that that is absolutely right. I am pleased that it forms part of the statement, because we know the importance of unstructured physical activity in ensuring healthy lifestyles and in teaching valuable life skills. It is what the sociologist Frank Furedi defines as 'the ability to cope', which I think is really important. We know, for example, from the work by Richard Reeves that the sense of wanting to protect our children from a range of real and perceived dangers is central to parents prohibiting their children from playing outdoors. Even within a generation, we know that children are playing

chwaraeon, ac rwy'n ategu sylwadau'r Aelodau eraill ar hyn. Croesawaf gyfranogiad Tanni Grey-Thompson, a gobeithiaf y bydd y Gemau Olympaidd a Pharalympaidd yn darparu cenedlaeth newydd o fodolau rôl. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn bwysleisio'r mesurau penodol y gallwn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod mwy o ferched yn ymddiddori mewn chwaraeon. Mae'n briodol ein bod yn ceisio deall hyn yn well. Efallai y bydd rhai rhesymau sylfaenol pam bod hynny'n wir, yn enwedig o ran merched o gefndiroedd tlawd. Fel y dywedasoch, Weinidog, mae ystod eang o waith ymchwil academiaidd ar hyn, ond mae'n fater o edrych ar y gwaith ymchwil hwnnw a cheisio turio iddo er mwyn cael rhai atebion ymarferol. Rai blynyddoedd yn ôl, cefais fy nharo gan un darn o waith ymchwil academiaidd, sy'n eithaf hen erbyn hyn, a ddangosodd, hyd yn oed pan fydd merched a bechgyn yn ymgymryd â chwaraeon yn weddol gyfartal, wrth iddynt fynd yn hŷn ac o bosibl yn priodi neu'n dechrau perthynas ac yn cael teuluoedd, y menywod sy'n gwneud chwaraeon yn llai aml, tra bod y dynion yn parhau. Mae hynny'n broblem ac yn dangos nid yn unig bod hyn yn broblem i ferched, ond i'r gymdeithas ehangach hefyd. Os ydym am wneud rhywbeth am y sefyllfa hon, mae angen mynd i'r afael â hi yn uniongyrchol. Hefyd ar y mater hwn, er bod yr ymchwil ychydig flynyddoedd oed, gwn fod gemau tîm wedi helpu i leihau cyfraddau beichiogrwydd yn yr arddegau mewn gwledydd Ewropeaidd eraill. Credaf fod yr Iseldiroedd wedi'i grybwyll fel esiampl. Felly, mae'n ateb da os allwn wneud hyn yn iawn.

Gan symud at fy ail bwynt, soniodd Mark Isherwood am weithgarwch corfforol distrwythur, ac rwy'n meddwl bod hynny'n gwbl gywir. Rwy'n falch ei fod yn ffurfio rhan o'r datganiad, oherwydd ein bod yn gwybod am bwysigrwydd gweithgarwch corfforol distrwythur o ran sicrhau ffyrdd iach o fyw ac wrth addysgu sgiliau bywyd gwerthfawr. Mae'r hyn y diffiniodd y cymdeithasegwr Frank Furedi fel y gallu i ymdopi, yn fy marn i, yn wirioneddol bwysig. Gwyddom, er enghraifft, o waith Richard Reeves bod y teimlad ein bod am amddiffyn ein plant rhag ystod o beryglon gwirioneddol a chanfyddedig yn ganolog i rieni'n gwahardd plant rhag chwarae yn yr

outside far less than they did in the past and, of course, that has an impact on their future health levels.

Therefore, Minister, what is the Government doing to help to tackle these fears and to ensure that parents feel safe letting their children out to enjoy active lifestyles? In respect of the rest of your portfolio—regeneration and housing and so on—what can you tell me about how these aspects are being incorporated into the strategies that you have undertaken for this?

Huw Lewis: I thank Chris Chapman, the Member for the Cynon Valley, for those points. She is quite right to point out that there are deep and strong forces at work here, working against this agenda. She is right to say that there is a socioeconomic effect. It is not just the gender effect; it is also an effect that is connected to the relative prosperity of a child's family, the least well-off being the least active. She is right to point out that a great deal of research shows us that there is definitely a gender-driven and perhaps a body-image-driven problem at work here. She is also right to point out—at least I cannot point to a study on this, but I agree that there is anecdotal evidence of this—that the attitude of parents particularly to the risk of outdoor play and activity has changed over the past couple of decades, and that is a problem.

Chris Chapman's questions are almost too big to answer in this statement, but I can assure her that I will be taking them on board, as a result of this piece of work with the task and finish group, and taking an expanded look at how schools can help with that activity agenda in the wider sense. It will be about outside space and physical activity in the round and how the school plays a part, working alongside parents in that regard. I will also undertake to meet with my colleague, the Deputy Minister for children, to take another look at how parents' attitudes towards risk and outdoor play opportunities can be developed alongside this agenda.

awyr agored. Hyd yn oed o fewn cenhedlaeth, gwyddom fod plant yn cael chwarae y tu allan lawer yn llai aml nag yr oeddent yn y gorffennol ac, wrth gwrs, mae hynny'n cael effaith ar eu lefelau iechyd yn y dyfodol.

Felly, Weinidog, beth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud i helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r pryderon hyn ac i sicrhau bod rhieni'n teimlo'n ddiogel wrth adael i'w plant fynd allan i fwynhau ffyrdd gweithgar o fyw? O ran gweddill eich portffolio—adfywio a thai ac yn y blaen—beth allwch ddweud wrthyf am y ffordd y mae'r agweddau hyn yn cael eu hymgorffori yn y strategaethau rydych wedi'u rhoi ar waith i'r perwyl hwn?

Huw Lewis: Diolch i Chris Chapman, yr Aelod dros Gwm Cynon, am y pwyntiau hynny. Mae hi'n llygaid ei lle i nodi bod grymoedd dwfn a chryf ar waith yma, yn gweithio yn erbyn yr agenda hwn. Mae hi'n gywir i ddweud bod effaith economaidd-gymdeithasol. Nid rhywedd yn unig sy'n cael effaith; mae hefyd effaith sydd wedi'i gysylltu â ffyniant cymharol teulu plentyn, a'r lleiaf cefnog yw'r lleiaf gweithgar. Mae hi'n iawn i nodi bod llawer iawn o ymchwil yn dangos yn bendant mai problem a effeithir gan rhywedd a delwedd gorfforol sydd ar waith yma. Mae hi hefyd yn iawn i dynnu sylw—o leiaf ni allaf dynnu sylw at astudiaeth ar hyn, ond rwy'n cytuno bod tystiolaeth anecdotaidd o hyn—at y modd y mae agwedd rhieni tuag at y perygl o chwarae yn yr awyr agored wedi newid dros y ddwy ddegawd ddiwethaf, ac mae hynny'n problem.

Roedd cwestiynau Chris Chapman bron yn rhy fawr i'w hateb yn y datganiad hwn, ond gallaf roi sicrwydd iddi y byddaf yn eu hystyried, o ganlyniad i'r darn hwn o waith gyda'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen, ac wrth fwrw golwg ehangach ar sut y gall ysgolion helpu gyda'r agenda gweithgarwch yn yr ystyr ehangach. Bydd yn ymwneud â manau chwarae awyr agored a gweithgarwch corfforol yn ei gyfanrwydd a sut mae'r ysgol yn chwarae rhan wrth weithio ochr yn ochr â rhieni yn y cyswllt hwnnw. Byddaf hefyd yn ymrwmo i gwrdd â'm cyd-Weinidog, y Dirprwy Weinidog dros blant, i fwrw golwg arall ar sut y gall agweddau rhieni tuag at risg

a chyfleoedd i chwarae yn yr awyr agored gael eu datblygu ochr yn ochr â'r agenda hon.

Gofal Iechyd y Llygaid yng Nghymru Eye Health Care in Wales

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of William Graham, amendment 6 in the name of Aled Roberts and amendment 7 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Rwyf wedi dethol gwelliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw William Graham, gwelliant 6 yn enw Aled Roberts a gwelliant 7 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Cynnig NDM5009 Jane Hutt

Motion NDM5009 Jane Hutt

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn nodi'r camau a gymerwyd hyd yma i wella gofal iechyd y llygaid; a

1. Notes the progress made to-date to improve eye health care; and

2. Yn cydnabod bod yna fwy o waith i'w wneud ac y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn datblygu cynllun yn amlinellu ei hymrwymiad i wella gofal iechyd y llygaid ar gyfer pobl Cymru ymhellach fel rhan o raglen iechyd y cyhoedd ehangach.

2. Recognises that there is more work to be done and that the Welsh Government will be developing a plan setting out its commitment to further improve eye health care for the people of Wales as part of a wider public health programme.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): I move the motion.

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Lesley Griffiths): Cynigiau y cynnig.

I would like to provide Members with an update on the good work that we have undertaken in Wales in relation to eye health care and to set out our plans for further improvements to services. Our Wales eye care initiative leads the way in the UK and is recognised as a significant advance in the provision of eye care services. This initiative aims to preserve sight, through the early detection of eye disease, and to provide support to those who have low vision and whose sight is unlikely to improve.

Hoffwn roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i Aelodau am y gwaith da yr ydym wedi'i wneud yng Nghymru mewn perthynas â gofal iechyd y llygaid, ac i nodi ein cynlluniau ar gyfer gwelliannau pellach i wasanaethau. Mae ein menter gofal llygaid Cymru yn arwain y ffordd yn y DU ac yn cael ei gydnabod fel cam sylweddol ymlaen yn narpariaeth gwasanaethau gofal llygaid. Mae'r fenter hon yn anelu at gadw golwg, drwy ganfod clefyd llygaid yn gynnar, ac at roi cymorth i'r rhai sydd â golwg gwan a'r rhai y mae eu golwg yn annhebygol o wella.

The Wales eye care initiative includes the diabetic retinopathy screening service and the eye health examination, as well as the low-vision service. The diabetic retinopathy screening service is unique in its field and aims to preserve sight through the early detection of eye disease. Its key purpose is to detect diabetic retinopathy. However, the

Mae menter gofal llygaid Cymru yn cynnwys y gwasanaeth sgrinio retinopathi diabetig a'r archwiliad iechyd llygaid, yn ogystal â'r gwasanaeth golwg gwan. Mae'r gwasanaeth sgrinio retinopathi diabetig yn unigryw yn ei faes, a'i nod yw cadw golwg drwy ganfod clefyd y llygaid yn gynnar. Ei brif bwrpas yw canfod retinopathi diabetig. Fodd bynnag,

screening is sophisticated enough to detect other lesions also. With early identification of eye care problems, patients are quickly referred to accredited optometrists, GPs or the hospital eye service to receive the appropriate treatment.

We have established the Wales eye health examination to ensure that those people who are vulnerable to eye disease can visit an accredited optometrist to receive a thorough check and diagnosis of any potential problems. Again, this enables referral for early and timely treatments as appropriate.

The low-vision service aims to provide help to those who have visual impairment for whom further treatment would not be beneficial. The service provides a range of aids to help people in their day-to-day life and to maintain independence as far as possible. The aids now provided are much more user-friendly, compact and sophisticated than in previous years.

All services are provided by community-based optometrists who have gained accreditation by undertaking specific training in the assessment of patients and the provision of low-vision aids. Direct referrals into the service are accepted from GPs, ophthalmologists, optometrists, social services and, importantly, from patients themselves.

The Wales optometric postgraduate education centre provides the training and accreditation for optometrists relating to the Wales eye care initiative and is the first postgraduate centre for optometry in the world. More recently, we have established our Focus On pathways for glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration and unscheduled care. These ensure the provision of integrated eye care services to improve the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients. Further pathways, which will include cataracts, are being developed and will begin to be implemented over the coming year. The Focus On pathway is a good example of health professionals working together across primary and

mae'r sgrinio yn ddigon soffistigedig i ganfod namau eraill hefyd. Wrth ganfod problemau gofal llygaid yn gynnar, mae cleifion yn cael eu hatgyfeirio'n gyflym at optometryddion achrededig, meddygon teulu neu i'r gwasanaeth llygaid mewn ysbyty i gael y driniaeth briodol.

Rydym wedi sefydlu prawf iechyd llygaid Cymru i sicrhau y gall y bobl hynny sydd mewn perygl o gael clefyd y llygaid ymweld ag optometrydd achrededig i gael prawf trylwyr a diagnosis ar gyfer unrhyw broblemau posibl. Eto, mae hyn yn galluogi atgyfeirio ar gyfer triniaethau cynnar ac amserol fel y bo'n briodol.

Mae'r gwasanaeth golwg gwan yn anelu at ddarparu cymorth i'r rhai sydd â nam ar eu golwg na fyddai triniaeth bellach yn fuddiol iddynt. Mae'r gwasanaeth yn darparu amrywiaeth o gymhorthion i helpu pobl yn eu bywyd dyddiol ac i gynnal eu hannibyniaeth cyn belled ag y bo modd. Mae'r cymhorthion a ddarparwyd yn awr yn llawer haws eu defnyddio, yn fwy cryno ac yn fwy soffistigedig nag mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol.

Mae pob gwasanaeth yn cael ei ddarparu gan optometryddion yn y gymuned sydd wedi ennill achrediad drwy gael hyfforddiant penodol o ran asesu cleifion a darparu cymhorthion golwg gwan. Derbynnir atgyfeiriadau uniongyrchol i'r gwasanaeth gan feddygon teulu, offthalmolegwyr, optometryddion, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac, yn bwysig, gan y cleifion eu hunain.

Mae canolfan addysg ôl-raddedig optometreg Cymru yn darparu'r hyfforddiant a'r achrediad ar gyfer optometryddion yn ymwneud â menter gofal llygaid Cymru, a dyma'r ganolfan ôl-raddedig cyntaf yn y byd ar gyfer optometreg. Yn fwy diweddar, rydym wedi sefydlu ein llwybrau sydd â ffocws ar glawcoma, dirywiad macwlaidd sy'n gysylltiedig ag oedran a gofal heb ei drefnu. Mae'r rhain yn sicrhau y darperir gwasanaethau gofal llygad integredig i wella diagnosis, triniaeth a gofal cleifion. Mae llwybrau pellach, a fydd yn cynnwys cataractau, yn cael eu datblygu a byddant yn dechrau cael eu gweithredu yn ystod y flwyddyn i ddod. Mae'r llwybrau hyn yn

secondary care to improve services for patients.

We need to ensure that every part of Wales has services that meet the needs of the local community. Therefore, the programme for government sets out our commitment to establish ophthalmic and diagnostic treatment centres throughout Wales to further improve services for patients. These services are all unique to Wales and are providing high-quality services and support to people who have eye care problems.

While the Wales eye care initiative and the Focus On pathways have been extremely successful, the increasing age of the population has led to an increased demand. Therefore, it is time to further develop, modernise and improve eye care services and support. We are currently developing an eye health care plan for Wales, which will set out our priorities for the next five years.

We need to raise public awareness of eye health care and ensure that people are aware of the importance of having regular sight tests. This includes people of all ages. For children, we are committed to ensuring that there is a comprehensive screening programme across Wales. There are also age-related conditions and people who are particularly vulnerable to eye disease, and we need specifically to target those at risk to ensure that their eyes are examined as early as possible. This will enable early diagnosis and treatment to preserve their sight.

Loss of sight is devastating, and we will do everything that we can to prevent it happening. We will also ensure that people receive the physical and the emotional support that they need to minimise its impact on their quality of life. I have recently committed to making avoidable sight loss a public health priority in a debate in the Chamber on 9 May. We are committed to ensuring that the people of Wales have access to the highest quality eye care services and support, including general advice on eye health care, good-quality screening and early

enghraifft dda o weithwyr iechyd proffesiynol yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd ar draws gofal sylfaenol a gofal eilaidd i wella gwasanaethau i gleifion.

Mae angen inni sicrhau bod gan bob rhan o Gymru wasanaethau sy'n diwallu anghenion y gymuned leol. Felly, mae'r rhaglen lywodraethu yn nodi ein hymrwymiad i sefydlu canolfannau triniaeth offthalmig a diagnostig ledled Cymru i wella gwasanaethau i gleifion. Mae'r gwasanaethau hyn oll yn unigryw i Gymru ac yn darparu gwasanaethau a chefnogaeth o safon uchel i bobl sydd â phroblemau gofal llygaid.

Er bod menter gofal llygaid Cymru a'r llwybrau y soniais amdanynt wedi bod yn hynod lwyddiannus, mae oedran cynyddol y boblogaeth wedi arwain at fwy o alw. Felly, mae'n bryd i ddatblygu gwasanaethau gofal a chymorth llygaid ymhellach, yn ogystal â'u moderneiddio a'u gwella. Rydym wrthi'n datblygu cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid ar gyfer Cymru, a fydd yn nodi ein blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y pum mlynedd nesaf.

Mae angen i ni godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd ynghylch gofal iechyd llygaid a sicrhau bod pobl yn ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd cael profion llygaid rheolaidd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys pobl o bob oed. Ar gyfer plant, rydym wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod rhaglen sgrinio gynhwysfawr ledled Cymru. Mae hefyd cyflyrau sy'n gysylltiedig ag oedran a phobl sydd â risg arbennig o gael clefyd llygaid, ac mae angen targedu'r rheini yn benodol i sicrhau bod eu llygaid yn cael eu harchwilio cyn gynted â phosibl. Bydd hyn yn galluogi diagnosis cynnar a thriniaeth er mwyn iddynt gadw eu golwg.

Mae colli golwg yn ddinistriol, a byddwn yn gwneud popeth y gallwn i atal hyn rhag digwydd. Byddwn hefyd yn sicrhau bod pobl yn cael y gefnogaeth gorfforol ac emosiynol sydd ei hangen arnynt i leihau'r effaith ar ansawdd eu bywydau. Yn ddiweddar, ymrwymais i wneud colli golwg mewn modd y gellir ei osgoi yn flaenoriaeth iechyd cyhoeddus mewn dadl yn y Siambr ar 9 Mai. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod pobl Cymru yn cael mynediad at wasanaethau a chymorth gofal llygaid o'r ansawdd uchaf, yn cynnwys cyngor cyffredinol ar ofal iechyd

access to diagnosis and treatment. I look forward to listening to Members' contributions to this important debate.

Gwelliant 1 William Graham

Ym mhwynt 1, dileu 'camau a gymerwyd hyd yma' a rhoi 'datblygiadau a wireddwyd gan y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector' yn ei le.

Gwelliant 2 William Graham

Ym mhwynt 2, dileu popeth ar ôl 'i'w wneud,' a rhoi'r canlynol yn ei le:

'ac y bydd hyn yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Lywodraeth Cymru gydlyn rhaglen iechyd y cyhoedd ehangach a fydd yn ymgorffori newidiadau mewn prosesau monitro a chasglu data, sy'n angenrheidiol er mwyn galluogi cynlluniau gwasanaethau a gwaith hybu iechyd y llygaid mwy gwybodus'.

Gwelliant 3 William Graham

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn cydnabod y cynnydd sy'n deillio o Strategaeth Olwg Cymru, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod cynlluniau gofal llygaid yn y dyfodol yn cysylltu â'r gwaith hwn ac yn adeiladu arno.

Gwelliant 4 William Graham

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn nodi toriadau Llywodraeth Cymru i gyllideb y Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol yng Nghymru a oedd yn fwy nag erioed o'r blaen, a bod modd i'r rhain beryglu'r broses o weithredu'r cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid.

Gwelliant 5 William Graham

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn croesawu'r gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i sicrhau bod gostyngiad mesuradwy mewn achosion o golli golwg y mae modd eu hosgoi

llygaid, sgrinio o ansawdd da a mynediad cynnar at ddiagnosis a thriniaeth. Edrychaf ymlaen at wrando ar gyfraniadau Aelodau i'r ddadl bwysig hon.

Amendment 1 William Graham

In point 1 delete 'progress made to date' and replace with 'advances realised by the public, private and third sectors'.

Amendment 2 William Graham

In point 2 delete all after 'done' and replace with:

'and this will require the Welsh Government to co-ordinate a wider public health programme which will incorporate improvements in data collection and monitoring which are needed to enable more informed service planning and eye health promotion work'.

Amendment 3 William Graham

Add as new point at end of motion:

Acknowledges the progress arising from the Wales Vision Strategy and calls on the Welsh Government to ensure the future eye care plan links to and builds on this work.

Amendment 4 William Graham

Add as new point at end of motion:

Notes the Welsh Government's record-breaking cuts to the Welsh National Health Service budget and that these have the potential to jeopardise the implementation of an eye health care plan.

Amendment 5 William Graham

Add as new point at end of motion:

Welcomes cross party support for making a measurable reduction in avoidable sight loss a public health priority for Wales.

yn flaenoriaeth ar gyfer iechyd y cyhoedd yng Nghymru.

William Graham: I move amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in my name.

More than 100,000 people in Wales are living with some form of sight loss, and this number is, sadly, expected to double by 2035. Every day, 100 people in the United Kingdom will start to lose their sight. Figures from the RNIB reveal that two thirds of children do not have a regular eye health check. As many as one in 10 children could be suffering from undiagnosed problems, which could include short-sightedness or squinting, thus preventing them from reading a blackboard or completing their school work properly.

5.30 p.m.

It is important to note the work of, and the advances made by, the private and third sectors, particularly organisations like Sight Support, formerly known as the Gwent Association for the Blind. The director of the Royal College of Nursing in Wales has said that Wales is making progress in trying to overcome inconsistent and patchy services in eye health care, using groups such as the Welsh Eye Care Initiative and the Wales Glaucoma Alliance. In January last year, Optometry Wales said that optometrists wanted to take the lead in improving eye health care in Wales, but it warned that services were at risk from the failure of successive Governments to use optometrists to their full potential and the closure of small and rural practices. The Royal College of Nursing noted in June last year how waiting times have increased massively in Wales. It said that the hospital eye service is now struggling to meet demand. The number of people waiting to begin ophthalmology treatment on the NHS has risen by 13% over the year to March 2012. The number of people waiting over 26 weeks has risen by 68% over the same period.

William Graham: Cynigiau welliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn fy enw.

Mae mwy na 100,000 o bobl yng Nghymru yn byw gyda rhyw fath o nam ar eu golwg, ac, yn anffodus, disgwylir i'r nifer hwn ddyblu erbyn 2035. Bob dydd, bydd 100 o bobl yn y Deyrnas Unedig yn dechrau colli eu golwg. Mae ffigurau o'r RNIB yn datgelu nad yw dwy ran o dair o blant yn cael prawf iechyd llygaid rheolaidd. Gall cynifer ag un o bob 10 o blant fod yn dioddef problemau sydd heb eu canfod, a allai gynnwys pobl sy'n fyr eu golwg, sy'n golygu eu bod yn cael trafferth darllen bwrdd du neu gwblhau eu gwaith ysgol yn iawn.

Mae'n bwysig nodi gwaith y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector, a'r datblygiadau a wnaed ganddynt, yn enwedig gan sefydliadau fel Sight Support, yr enw newydd ar Gymdeithas y Deillion Gwent. Mae cyfarwyddwr Coleg Brenhinol y Nyrsys yng Nghymru wedi dweud bod Cymru yn gwneud cynnydd wrth geisio goresgyn gwasanaethau anghyson a bylchog mewn gofal iechyd llygaid, gan ddefnyddio grwpiau fel Menter Gofal Llygaid Cymru a Chynghrair Glawcoma Cymru. Ym mis Ionawr y llynedd, dywedodd Optometreg Cymru fod optometryddion yn awyddus i gymryd yr awenau o ran gwella gofal iechyd llygaid yng Nghymru, ond mae'n rhybuddio bod gwasanaethau mewn perygl oherwydd methiant y naill Lywodraeth ar ôl y llall i ddefnyddio optometryddion hyd at eu potensial llawn ac oherwydd cau practisau bach a gwledig. Nododd Coleg Brenhinol y Nyrsys ym mis Mehefin y llynedd sut yr oedd amseroedd aros wedi cynyddu'n sylweddol yng Nghymru. Dywedodd fod y gwasanaeth llygaid mewn ysbytai bellach yn ei chael yn anodd ateb y galw. Mae nifer y bobl sy'n aros i ddechrau cael triniaeth offthalmoleg ar y GIG wedi cynyddu 13% dros y flwyddyn hyd at fis Mawrth 2012. Mae nifer y bobl sy'n aros dros 26 wythnos wedi codi 68% yn ystod yr un cyfnod.

Incorporating improvements in data Bydd ymgorffori gwelliannau mewn casglu a

collection and monitoring, which are needed, will enable more informed service planning and eye health promotion work. The RNIB states that, as things stand, there is very little information being collected on outpatients, resulting in services being planned without any detailed understanding of prevalence or demand. The RNIB would like to see the Welsh Government working with health boards to design and implement more robust data collection and reporting systems. Health boards should be required to publish data on those at risk of sight loss as part of their needs assessments. The Welsh Conservatives would like to see the Welsh Government working with providers to collect data in relation to sight tests paid for privately, and also to look to reform the way that general ophthalmic services data is collected for free eye tests, so that it is possible to get a more accurate picture of those patients. If we had a better picture of who was having regular eye tests, campaigns aimed at increasing the numbers going for eye tests could be more effectively targeted and evaluated.

The Welsh Government's forthcoming eye care plan should link to the Wales vision strategy. The UK vision strategy was produced by a coalition of organisations in 2008, in response to the World Health Organization's Vision 2020 initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness. In Wales, an advisory group of professionals working across the public, private and third sectors produced the 'Wales Vision Strategy Implementation Plan 2010 to 2014', to co-ordinate the delivery of the UK vision strategy in Wales. Despite not being an official Government strategy, it is supported by the Welsh Government. By working in partnership, the implementation group has made significant progress in a number of key areas, and we are keen that the eye care plan links to, and builds on, these achievements.

The RNIB states that it would be counterproductive to have two sets of similar, but not quite matching, objectives that the same sets of people are trying to work

monitro data, y mae eu hangen, yn galluogi cynllunio gwasanaeth mwy gwybodus a rhagor o waith i hybu iechyd llygaid. Dywed yr RNIB, fel y mae pethau ar hyn o bryd, mai ychydig iawn o wybodaeth sy'n cael ei chasglu am gleifion allanol, sy'n arwain at gynllunio gwasanaethau heb dealltwriaeth fanwl o nifer yr achosion na'r galw. Byddai'r RNIB yn hoffi gweld Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio gyda byrddau iechyd i gynllunio a gweithredu systemau casglu a chofnodi data sy'n fwy cadarn. Dylai byrddau iechyd orfod cyhoeddi data ar y rhai sydd mewn perygl o golli eu golwg fel rhan o'u hasesiadau o anghenion. Byddai'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn hoffi gweld Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio gyda darparwyr i gasglu data ar brofion golwg y telir amdanynt yn breifat, a hefyd i edrych i ddiwygio'r ffordd y mae data gwasanaethau offthalmig cyffredinol yn cael eu casglu ar brofion llygaid am ddim, fel ei bod yn bosibl cael darlun mwy cywir o'r cleifion hynny. Petai gennym well darlun ynghylch pwy oedd yn cael profion llygaid rheolaidd, gallai ymgyrchoedd sydd wedi'u hanelu at gynyddu'r niferoedd sy'n mynd am brofion llygaid gael eu targedu a'u gwerthuso yn fwy effeithiol.

Dylai cynllun gofal llygaid Llywodraeth Cymru, sydd ar y gweill, gysylltu â strategaeth olwg Cymru. Lluniwyd strategaeth olwg y DU gan glymblaid o sefydliadau yn 2008, a hynny mewn ymateb i fenter Vision 2020 Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd i ddileu dallineb y gellir ei osgoi. Yng Nghymru, cyhoeddodd grŵp ymgynghorol o weithwyr proffesiynol sy'n gweithio ar draws y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector 'Strategaeth Olwg Cymru: Cynllun Gweithredu 2010 i 2014', i gydlyn cyflwyno strategaeth olwg y DU yng Nghymru. Er nad yw'n strategaeth swyddogol gan y Llywodraeth, mae'n cael ei chefnogi gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Drwy weithio mewn partneriaeth, mae'r grŵp gweithredu wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol mewn nifer o feysydd allweddol, ac rydym yn awyddus i'r cynllun gofal llygaid gysylltu â'r cyflawniadau hyn ac adeiladu arnynt.

Dywed yr RNIB y byddai'n wrthgynhyrchiol cael dwy set o amcanion, sy'n debyg i'w gilydd ond nad ydynt yn cyfateb yn union i'w gilydd, y mae'r un setiau o bobl yn ceisio

towards. The Welsh Conservatives welcome cross-party support for making a measurable reduction in avoidable sight loss a public health priority for Wales. I will remind you of the remarks made by my colleague Suzy Davies on 9 May. She said:

‘Unlike many conditions, preventable sight loss may not require huge changes in lifestyle, and may not even have any personal financial implications. For some, all that it will ever mean is a regular free eye check and free prescription glasses.’

We must remember that not all sight loss is preventable, but 50% of sight loss is preventable. However, despite tests being free for many people, and despite the implementation plan being in its third year, uptake is surprisingly low. Less than half of older people in Wales are taking up the test entitlement; just as worrying is the fact that almost a third of children are failing to get their eyes tested. Optometry Wales states that, at present, it is still working under the 1948 terms of service, which are not fit for purpose. Optometry is the only contractor profession in Wales not to have a modernised contract. Wales has been left behind by England and Scotland, which have both recently had new contracts. Despite ministerial agreement, the current and previous Governments have not yet delivered a contract for optometry in Wales. Optometric care has evolved and optometry is now able to deliver high-quality clinical care from well-equipped practices in the community. The uptake of eye examinations in Scotland has increased significantly since the new contract was introduced, helping to prevent sight loss and ease pressure on secondary care.

Dealing with avoidable sight loss would ultimately save public money. The estimated direct costs of sight loss are £113 million, and the indirect costs run to £325 million. More importantly, however, it would end the misery and depression that sight loss causes

gweithio i’w cyflawni. Mae’r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn croesawu’r gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i wneud lleihad mesuradwy mewn achosion o golli golwg y gellir eu hosgoi yn flaenoriaeth iechyd cyhoeddus i Gymru. Fe’ch atgoffaf o’r sylwadau a wnaed gan fy nghyd-Aelod Suzy Davies ar 9 Mai. Dywedodd:

‘Yn wahanol i lawer o gyflyrau, mae’n bosibl na fydd atal achosion o golli golwg yn gofyn am newidiadau enfawr i ffordd o fyw, ac mae’n bosibl na fydd hyd yn oed yn arwain at oblygiadau ariannol personol. I rai, y cyfan y bydd yn ei olygu yw cael prawf llygaid rhad ac am ddim yn rheolaidd a chael sbectol rad ac am ddim ar bresgripsiwn.’

Rhaid inni gofio na ellir atal pob achos o golli golwg, ond gellir atal 50% ohonynt. Fodd bynnag, er gwaethaf profion am ddim i lawer o bobl, ac er gwaethaf y ffaith bod y cynllun gweithredu yn ei drydedd flwyddyn, mae’r nifer sy’n manteisio ar brofion am ddim yn rhyfeddol o isel. Llai na hanner y bobl hŷn yng Nghymru sy’n mynd am brofion; yr un mor bryderus yw’r ffaith nad yw bron traean o blant yn mynd am brawf llygaid. Mae Optometreg Cymru yn nodi, ar hyn o bryd, ei fod yn parhau i weithio o dan delerau gwasanaeth 1948, sy’n anaddas i’r diben. Optometreg yw’r unig broffesiwn sydd â chontract yng Nghymru sydd heb gontract modern. Mae Cymru wedi cael ei gadael ar ei hôl hi oherwydd bod Lloegr a’r Alban ill dau wedi cael contractau newydd yn ddiweddar. Er gwaethaf cytundeb y Gweinidog, nid yw’r Llywodraeth bresennol na’r rhai blaenorol wedi darparu contract eto ar gyfer optometreg yng Nghymru. Mae gofal optometreg wedi datblygu ac erbyn hyn gall optometreg ddarparu gofal o ansawdd clinigol uchel mewn practisau â chyfarpar da yn y gymuned. Mae nifer yr archwiliadau llygaid yn yr Alban wedi cynyddu’n sylweddol ers i’r contract newydd gael ei gyflwyno, gan helpu i atal colli golwg a lleihau’r pwysau ar ofal eilaidd.

Byddai ymdrin ag achosion o golli golwg y gellir eu hosgoi yn arbed arian cyhoeddus yn y pen draw. Yr amcangyfrif o gostau uniongyrchol colli golwg yw £113 miliwn, ac mae’r costau anuniongyrchol yn £325 miliwn. Yn bwysicach, fodd bynnag,

for thousands of people.

byddai'n rhoi terfyn ar yr anhapusrwydd a'r iselder y mae colli golwg yn eu hachosi i filoedd o bobl.

Gwelliant 6 Aled Roberts

Amendment 6 Aled Roberts

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Add as new point at end of motion:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod unrhyw gynllun gofal llygaid sy'n cael ei gyhoeddi yn sicrhau bod pob plentyn pedair a phum mlwydd oed yng Nghymru yn cael profion golwg yn yr ysgol.

Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that any eye care plan that is to be published ensures that all four and five year olds in Wales receive vision screening in school.

Kirsty Williams: I move amendment 6, tabled in the name of Aled Roberts, on behalf of the Welsh Liberal Democrat group.

Kirsty Williams: Cynigaf welliant 6, a gyflwynwyd yn enw Aled Roberts, ar ran grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru.

I begin by saying that I agree with the Minister that there is much that we can be very proud of. The work undertaken by the Assembly's first Minister for health, Jane Hutt, saw a real focus on eye health and real change at that time. We extended free tests to groups of Welsh citizens. We ensured that better services and better screening were in place for those who were known to be at risk of losing their sight. We had better referral systems that began to engage community providers in taking on certain roles that had previously been held by hospital providers, and for those who needed assistance, the low-vision aid scheme was truly revolutionary for its time. As I said, there was much to be proud of.

Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddweud fy mod yn cytuno â'r Gweinidog fod llawer y gallwn fod yn falch iawn ohono. Rhoddodd y gwaith a wnaeth Gweinidog iechyd cyntaf y Cynulliad, Jane Hutt, bwyslais go iawn ar iechyd y llygaid a chafwyd newid gwirioneddol bryd hynny. Gwnaethom ymestyn profion am ddim i grwpiau o ddinasyddion Cymru. Gwnaethom sicrhau bod gwell gwasanaethau a gwell sgrinio ar waith ar gyfer y rhai y gwyddem eu bod mewn perygl o golli eu golwg. Cawsom well systemau atgyfeirio, a dechreuodd darparwyr cymunedol gymryd rolau penodol a arferai gael eu gwneud gan ddarparwyr mewn ysbytai, ac i'r rhai yr oedd arnynt angen cymorth, roedd y cynllun golwg gwan yn wirioneddol chwyldroadol yn ei gyfnod. Fel y dywedais, roedd llawer i ymfalchïo ynddo.

Since that time, it is almost as though the Government feels that it has ticked that particular box and it is time to move on to another aspect of developing services. I am glad to see the focus, if you will forgive the pun, returning once more to what we can do to improve services for those who need help. Let us remind ourselves, as we did most recently in the cross-party debate, that 50% of sight loss is avoidable if we put the right public health messages in place to encourage people to take action that can preserve their sight.

Ers hynny, mae'r Llywodraeth bron fel pe bai'n teimlo ei bod wedi ticio'r blwch penodol hwnnw a'i bod yn bryd symud ymlaen at agwedd arall ar ddatblygu gwasanaethau. Rwy'n falch o weld y ffocws, os maddeuwch y gair mwys, yn dychwelyd unwaith eto ar yr hyn y gallwn ei wneud i wella gwasanaethau i'r rhai y mae angen cymorth arnynt. Gadewch inni atgoffa ein hunain, fel y gwnaethom yn fwyaf diweddar yn y ddadl drawsbleidiol, y gellir osgoi 50% o'r achosion o golli golwg petaem yn trosglwyddo'r negeseuon iechyd cyhoeddus iawn er mwyn annog pobl i gymryd camau a allai gadw eu golwg.

The meat of the Liberal Democrat amendment concerns children. The UK screening body has agreed with the Hall report that every four and five-year-old should have access to screening, and that early intervention and diagnosis of a particular sight issue can have a huge impact on a youngster's ability to engage in their education, which, in turn, will have an impact on their life chances. From work done by RNIB, we know that testing for four and five-year-olds is hugely patchy. There are parts of Wales where the service is almost comprehensive and every child has an opportunity to be screened, but there are also parts where no child is offered that opportunity. Despite the fact that the eye tests are free, we know that children is one of those groups that simply does not take advantage—parents are not aware of the tests, for whatever reason, or they are possibly frightened of taking their child for an eye test, even though it will cost them nothing at all. That is why we want to see the Government committing to making this a comprehensive service, so that every child in Wales, at the age of four or five, will receive a school-based screening opportunity that would triage them to further services should that be necessary.

Children are not the only group of people with a very low uptake of what is a free eye test opportunity. The Government needs to redouble its efforts in this regard. It would be interesting to hear from the Minister about how she sees the promotion of eye tests and eye health fitting into her over-50s health check plans, whatever they will be and whenever they materialise from her department.

Of course, getting people to go for eye checks is what we need to do, but the upstream cost of that falls on access to services, should they be needed. We already know that, in some cases, our services are not coping. Some 23%—almost a quarter—of the people who need to be referred are not being seen within the Government's old specified waiting time. So, if we do have more people presenting for eye checks who need to go on to other services, we need to make sure that there is the capacity in the system, and that

Mae byrdwn gwelliant y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn ymwneud â phlant. Mae'r corff sgrinio ar gyfer y DU wedi cytuno ag adroddiad Hall y dylai bob plentyn pedair a phump oed gael mynediad at sgrinio, ac y gall ymyrraeth a diagnosis cynnar gael effaith enfawr ar allu person ifanc i gymryd rhan yn eu haddysg, a bydd hynny, yn ei dro, yn cael effaith ar eu cyfleoedd mewn bywyd. Ar sail y gwaith y mae'r RNIB wedi'i wneud, rydym yn gwybod bod profion i blant pedair a phum mlwydd oed yn hynod o anghyson. Mae rhannau o Gymru lle y mae'r gwasanaeth bron iawn yn gynhwysfawr lle y mae gan bob plentyn gyfle i gael ei sgrinio, ond mewn rhai ardaloedd nid oes yr un plentyn yn cael cynnig y cyfle hwnnw. Er gwaethaf y ffaith bod y profion llygaid am ddim, rydym yn gwybod bod plant yn un o'r grwpiau hynny nad yw'n cymryd mantais—nid yw rhieni'n ymwybodol o'r profion, beth bynnag fo'r rheswm dros hynny, neu efallai fod arnynt ofn mynd â'u plentyn am brawf llygaid, er nad yw'n costio dim. Dyna pam yr ydym am weld y Llywodraeth yn ymrwymo i wneud hwn yn wasanaeth cynhwysfawr, fel bod pob plentyn yng Nghymru, yn bedair neu bump oed, yn cael cyfle i gael eu sgrinio yn yr ysgol a fyddai'n eu cyfeirio ymlaen at wasanaethau pellach yn ôl yr angen.

Nid plant yw'r unig grŵp o bobl sydd â niferoedd isel iawn yn manteisio ar y cyfle i gael profion llygaid am ddim. Mae angen i'r Llywodraeth ddyblu ei hymdrechion yn hyn o beth. Byddai'n ddiddorol clywed gan y Gweinidog sut y mae'n gweld y gwaith o hyrwyddo profion llygaid ac iechyd y llygaid yn cyd-fynd â'i chynlluniau i gynnig archwiliad iechyd i bobl dros 50 oed, beth bynnag fydd y rheini a phryd bynnag y byddant yn cael eu cyhoeddi gan ei hadran.

Wrth gwrs, cael pobl i fynd i gael profion llygaid yw'r hyn sydd angen inni ei wneud, ond mae cost o ran mynediad at wasanaethau yn dod yn sgîl hynny, pe bai eu hangen. Gwyddom eisoes, mewn rhai achosion, nad yw ein gwasanaethau yn gallu ymdopi. Nid yw rhyw 23%—bron chwarter—y bobl sydd angen eu hatgyfeirio yn cael eu gweld o fewn yr hen amser aros yr oedd y Llywodraeth wedi'i bennu. Felly, os oes gennym fwy o bobl yn cael profion llygaid sydd angen symud ymlaen i wasanaethau eraill, mae

greater linkages between those services in the community and those in secondary care are co-ordinated, so that people are seen at the right time and by the right professionals.

I will close on the issue of the contract. It is time to look at a new contract for our optometrists. They have been left behind when we have looked at new contracts for GPs, dentists and community pharmacies. We need to look at whether the contract is fit for purpose for this group of professionals—I do not believe that it is. It can come as no surprise that the change in the contract in Scotland has led to a huge increase in the uptake of free eye tests. That is a lesson that we cannot afford to ignore, given what we know about our uptake figures. I urge the Minister to make progress on this long-awaited change to the contract.

Gwelliant 7 Jocelyn Davies

Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i fynd i'r afael â chasgliadau ymchwil sy'n awgrymu bod strwythur a chyfeiriad canfyddedig optometreg o ran gwerthu sbectolau yn annog y gymuned i ystyried bod profion llygaid (a gynhelir mewn siopau) yn wahanol i gamau gwarchod iechyd sylfaenol eraill.

Elin Jones: Cynigiau welliant 7 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Rwy'n barod i gefnogi cynnig y Llywodraeth ac yn cytuno â byrdwn y cynnig hwnnw, sef y dylid datblygu cynllun gofal iechyd y llygaid fel rhan o raglen ehangach ar iechyd y cyhoedd. Mae colli golwg yn llwyr neu'n rhannol yn cael effaith bellgyrhaeddol ar ansawdd bywyd unigolion a'u teuluoedd, eu bywyd gwaith ac ar eu gallu i hamddena a theithio. Mae'r rheini'n enghreifftiau amlwg iawn o effaith colli golwg. Fodd bynnag, er yr effeithiau sylweddol hyn, mae modd osgoi hyd at 50% o achosion o golli golwg, drwy ofal llygaid da, gwisgo'r sbectol gywir ac ymyraethau meddygol cynnar. Felly, mae

angen inni sicrhau bod capasiti ar gael yn y system, a bod mwy o gysylltiadau cydlynol rhwng gwasanaethau yn y gymuned a gwasanaethau gofal eilaidd, fel bod pobl yn cael eu gweld ar yr adeg gywir a chan y bobl broffesiynol iawn.

Byddaf yn cloi ar fater y contract. Mae'n amser edrych ar gontract newydd ar gyfer ein optometryddion. Maent wedi cael eu gadael ar ôl pan ydym wedi edrych ar gontractau newydd i feddygon teulu, deintyddion a fferyllfeydd cymunedol. Mae angen inni ystyried a yw'r contract yn addas i'r diben ar gyfer y grŵp hwn o weithwyr proffesiynol—nid wyf yn credu ei fod. Nid yw'n syndod bod y newid yn y contract yn yr Alban wedi arwain at gynnydd enfawr yn y nifer sy'n manteisio ar brofion llygaid am ddim. Mae honno'n wers na allwn fforddio ei hanwybyddu, o ystyried yr hyn a wyddom am ein ffigurau presennol. Anogaf y Gweinidog i wneud cynnydd o ran y newid hir-ddisgwyliedig hwn yn y contract.

Amendment 7 Jocelyn Davies

Add as new point at end of motion:

Calls on the Welsh Government to address research findings that the perceived structure and orientation of optometry towards the sale of glasses appears to encourage the community to view eye examinations (undertaken in retail premises) as different from other primary health prevention.

Elin Jones: I move amendment 7 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

I am happy to support the Government motion and I agree with its proposition, which is that an eye health care scheme should be developed as part of a wider public health programme. Partial or complete sight loss can have far-reaching effects on the quality of life of individuals and their families, on their work life and on their ability to take part in leisure activities and to travel. These are obvious examples of the effects that sight loss can have. However, despite these significant effects, up to 50% of sight loss cases could be avoided through good eye care, wearing the right glasses and

angen gwell ymwybyddiaeth ymysg unigolion a rhieni o'r angen i brofi llygaid yn gyson.

Mae'r Llywodraeth yn ariannu profion llygaid i bobl mewn grwpiau y mae risg iddynt ddatblygu clefydau llygaid. Mae rhaglen retinopathi i bobl sy'n dioddef o'r clefyd siwgr yn enghraifft dda o hyn. O dan raglen iechyd cyhoeddus, gellid edrych ar gynnwys hyrwyddo iechyd y llygaid a phroffion cyson fel rhan o ddyletswyddau swyddogion sydd eisoes yn gweithio i hyrwyddo iechyd cyhoeddus da. Er enghraifft, gellid cynnwys cyngor ar brofi llygaid ymhlith dyletswyddau'r rhai sy'n gweithio gyda rhieni a phlant ar ofal dannedd o dan Gynllun Gwên y Llywodraeth.

Mae'n bryder, fel y mae pobl eraill wedi nodi, mai dim ond 30% o'r plant a 50% o'r oedolion sy'n gymwys am brofion llygaid am ddim fydd yn profi eu llygaid yn gyson. Mae tystiolaeth fod poeni am gost sylweddol os bydd angen sbectol yn golygu nad yw rhai pobl yn mynd am brawf llygaid. Mae tystiolaeth hefyd fod pobl hyn yn credu bod dirywiad mewn golwg yn anorfod ac nad oes llawer i'w wneud i atal y dirywiad hwnnw, ac felly byddant yn osgoi mynd am brofion llygaid.

Mae'r dystiolaeth yn dangos yn glir felly fod angen rhaglen iechyd cyhoeddus i hyrwyddo gwell gofal iechyd i'r llygaid. Wrth gwrs, dim ond un agwedd yw ymwybyddiaeth o iechyd y llygaid. Os gwneir diagnosis o glefyd llygaid, fel glawcoma neu ddirywiad macwlaidd sy'n gysylltiedig â henaint, yna mae angen ymyrraeth feddygol briodol. Nid yw 23% o gleifion yn cael eu gweld o fewn targed presennol y Llywodraeth ar driniaeth. Bydd hyd yr amser y byddant yn aros cyn cael eu trin yn cael effaith niweidiol ar gyflwr y llygaid.

Mae pryder arall, sydd wedi cael ei amlygu eisoes yn ystod y ddadl hon, ynghylch y capasiti a'r gyllideb yn y GIG i drin clefydau llygaid megis glawcoma a retinopathi diabetig, lle mae'r galw am driniaethau a gofal yn cynyddu. Mae tystiolaeth gynyddol fod diffyg capasiti i gynnig llawdriniaethau cataractau, ac mae hynny'n golygu bod

early medical intervention. Therefore, we need greater awareness among individuals and parents of the need for regular sight tests.

The Government funds sight tests for people who are at risk of developing certain eye conditions. The retinopathy programme for diabetic people is a good example. As part of a public health programme, we could consider including the promotion of eye health and regular eye tests as a responsibility of officers who are already responsible for the promotion of good public health. For example, providing advice to parents and children on eye tests could be made the responsibility of those who promote the Government's Designed to Smile scheme.

As others have mentioned, it is a concern that only 30% of children and 50% of adults who qualify for free sight tests take up the opportunity to have their eyes tested regularly. Evidence suggests that concern about significant costs should glasses be required means that some people do not want to have their eyes tested. There is also evidence to suggest that older people feel that deterioration in sight is an inevitable part of the ageing process and that not much can be done to prevent it, therefore they too do not go for sight tests.

The evidence clearly demonstrates, therefore, that we need a public health programme in order to promote better eye health care. Of course, eye health awareness would only be one aspect. If an eye condition such as glaucoma or age-related macular degeneration is diagnosed, then appropriate medical intervention would be needed. Some 23% of patients are not seen within the Government target on treatment, and having to wait a long time for treatment will inevitably have a detrimental impact on the condition of people's eyes.

Another concern that has been raised in this debate is the capacity and budget available within the NHS to treat conditions such as glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, where the demand for treatment and care services is on the increase. There is increasing evidence of a lack of capacity to perform cataract surgery, which means that some health boards offer

ambell fwrdd iechyd ddim ond yn cynnig llawdriniaeth ar gyfer un llygad. Mae'r rhestr aros ar gyfer llawdriniaeth cataractau yn hir ac yn cynyddu. Daeth etholwr i'm gweld yn ddiweddar, rhywun sy'n gweithio'n llawn amser ac y mae ei swydd yn dibynnu ar y gallu i weld. Dywedodd ei bod wedi aros dros 33 wythnos am lawdriniaeth cataractau. Mae'n teimlo mai dim ond drwy wneud cwyn swyddogol i'r bwrdd iechyd y cafodd y driniaeth, hyd yn oed ar ôl 33 wythnos.

Felly, i gynnal gwasanaeth gofal iechyd y llygaid, mae angen gweithlu sy'n cynnwys swyddogion iechyd cyhoeddus, optometryddion ac ymgynghorwyr offthalmoleg. Mae eraill wedi sôn am y ffaith bod ein hoptometryddion yn dibynnu ar gytundeb sy'n deillio o 1948. Mae cytundebau modern wedi'u cytuno yn Lloegr a'r Alban, ac mae'n hen bryd i'r Llywodraeth edrych ar gytuno ar gytundeb ar gyfer optometryddion yma yng Nghymru hefyd. Mae llawer o waith eto i'w wneud yn y maes hwn, fel y mae cynnig y Llywodraeth, i fod yn deg iddi, yn cydnabod. Rwy'n gobeithio y bydd cynllun y Llywodraeth yn un cynhwysfawr sy'n cwrdd â'r holl ofynion.

5.45 p.m.

Sandy Mewies: I suspect that we will have a great deal of consent across the Chamber today over these issues, because there is an enormous amount of agreement on what needs to be done. I am pleased to say that I have chaired the cross-party vision group—I was the founder chair—and we have been in existence for more than two years now. It has worked very consistently across parties, and I pay tribute to its members, who have looked at what people need and listened to organisations like RNIB, Guide Dogs and the other stakeholders who have come to meet us on a regular basis. We have listened to them and come forward with ideas for how things can be improved. We have written to the Minister for Health and Social Services and had very positive replies in the past, and continue to do so.

Many of the things that we have heard today—about 50% of sight loss being preventable, and the tsunami of sight loss that

surgery on only one eye. The waiting list for cataract surgery is long and becoming ever longer. A constituent came to see me recently to discuss the fact that, as someone who works full time and whose job depends on her sight, she has had to wait more than 33 weeks for cataract surgery. She feels that, even after 33 weeks, the treatment was only made available after she made an official complaint to the health board.

Therefore, in order to provide an eye health care service, we need a workforce made up of public health officers, optometrists and consultants in ophthalmology. Other speakers have referred to the fact that our optometrists depend on a contract drawn up in 1948. More recent contracts have been agreed in England and Scotland, and it is high time that the Government here looked at agreeing a new contract for optometrists in Wales as well. There is a great deal of work yet to be done, as the Government's motion, to be fair to it, recognises. I hope that the Government's proposal will be comprehensive and meet all of these needs.

Sandy Mewies: Credaf y bydd gennym lawer iawn o gytundeb ar draws y Siambr heddiw ar y materion hyn, gan fod llawer o gytundeb ar yr hyn sydd angen ei wneud. Rwy'n falch o ddweud fy mod wedi cadeirio'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar olwg—fi oedd y cadeirydd cyntaf—a buom mewn bodolaeth am fwy na dwy flynedd bellach. Mae wedi gweithio'n gyson ar draws y pleidiau, ac rwy'n talu teyrnged i'w aelodau, sydd wedi edrych ar beth y mae pobl ei angen ac wedi gwrandao ar sefydliadau fel RNIB, Cŵn Tywys a'r rhanddeiliaid eraill a ddaeth i gwrdd â ni yn rheolaidd. Rydym wedi gwrandao arnynt ac wedi cyflwyno syniadau ar sut y gellir gwella pethau. Rydym wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ac wedi cael atebion cadarnhaol iawn yn y gorffennol, ac rydym yn parhau i wneud hynny.

Mae nifer o'r pethau yr ydym wedi eu clywed heddiw—ynghylch y ffaith y gellir atal 50% o'r achosion o golli golwg, a'r don enfawr o

we can expect in future if we do not act now—are things that Assembly Members have become more and more aware of, certainly in my time here and certainly in the last couple of years. What is very encouraging is that there has been considerable progress by the Welsh Government to improve eyecare in recent years, and those improvements in service provision should continue, I hope, thanks to the decision to develop an eyecare plan for Wales together with continued investment. For example, the Welsh Government is investing £1 million of additional funding to modernise and develop the Wales eyecare initiative over the next 12 months.

However, I do not think that anyone thinks that we are where we want to be. Everybody agrees that there is a way to go, because I seriously think that there was a huge lack of awareness of the problems that people with vision loss faced, and indeed of the enormity of the problem here in Wales. That has been recognised in past years by the Welsh Government, but I do not think that anyone thinks that we are where we want to be.

Last week I hosted the Wales vision strategy event. It is an annual event here in the Senedd and was attended by more than 80 people from across Wales, many of whom had vision loss themselves, and many of whom were stakeholders. It is always a popular event, because people want to come to meet their Assembly Members and talk about what they face on a day-to-day basis. You gave a speech, Minister, about the eyecare plan that was later played to the Vision 2020 conference being held in Westminster that same afternoon. You talked about the synergy that we need to find in the eyecare plan with the Welsh vision strategy. I can tell you that your video met with resounding applause and the chair of Vision 2020, Nick Astbury, said that it would be fantastic to have a Welsh eyecare plan backed by the Welsh Government, and something to which England should aspire. So, perhaps the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition Government in Westminster would like to follow our lead.

achosion o golli golwg y gallwn ei disgwyl yn y dyfodol os nad ydym yn gweithredu yn awr—yn bethau y mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi dod yn gynyddol ymwybodol ohonynt, yn sicr yn fy amser i yma ac yn sicr yn ystod yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf. Yr hyn sy'n galonogol yw bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol o ran gwella gofal llygaid yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a dylai'r gwelliannau hynny yn y ddarpariaeth barhau, gobeithio, diolch i'r penderfyniad i ddatblygu cynllun gofal llygaid i Gymru ynghyd â buddsoddiad parhaus. Er enghraifft, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn buddsoddi £1 filiwn o gyllid ychwanegol i foderneiddio a datblygu menter gofal llygaid Cymru dros y 12 mis nesaf.

Fodd bynnag, ni chredaf fod neb yn credu ein bod yn lle rydym eisiau bod. Mae pawb yn cytuno bod tipyn o ffordd i fynd, gan fy mod yn credu o ddifrif fod diffyg ymwybyddiaeth enfawr o'r problemau yr oedd pobl a oedd yn colli eu golwg yn wynebu, ac yn wir maint anferthol y broblem yma yng Nghymru. Mae hynny wedi cael ei gydnabod yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf gan Lywodraeth Cymru, ond nid wyf yn credu bod neb yn meddwl ein bod yn lle rydym eisiau bod.

Yr wythnos diwethaf, cynhaliais ddigwyddiad strategaeth olwg Cymru. Mae'n ddigwyddiad blynyddol yma yn y Senedd a daeth mwy na 80 o bobl o bob rhan o Gymru iddo, yr oedd nifer ohonynt wedi colli eu golwg a nifer ohonynt yn randdeiliaid. Mae bob amser yn ddigwyddiad poblogaidd, gan fod pobl eisiau dod i gyfarfod eu Haelodau Cynulliad a siarad am yr hyn y maent yn ei wynebu o ddydd i ddydd. Rhoesoch chi araith, Weinidog, am y cynllun gofal llygaid, a gafodd ei chwarae yn ddiweddarach yn y gynhadledd Vision 2020 a oedd yn cael ei chynnal yn San Steffan y prynhawn hwnnw. Soniasoch am yr angen i gysylltu'r cynllun gofal llygaid â strategaeth olwg Cymru. Gallaf ddweud wrthyh y cafodd eich fideo gymeradwyaeth ysgubol a bod cadeirydd Vision 2020, Nick Astbury, wedi dweud y byddai'n wych cael cynllun gofal llygaid i Gymru sydd â chefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cymru, ac y byddai'n rhywbeth y dylai Lloegr anelu ato. Felly, efallai yr hoffai Llywodraeth glymblaid y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn San Steffan

ddilyn ein hesiampl.

However, as I have said, there are key issues that need to be addressed in ensuring that the eyecare plan is successful. It is worth repeating, as many have said here, that high on the agenda must be the uptake of sight tests. People have to wear correctly prescribed glasses or have the right treatment at the right time. Kirsty made the point that it is all very well having the test, and finding something wrong, but treatment must then be made available; in many cases, it must be made available very quickly indeed.

Unfortunately, despite being free, the uptake of sight tests in Wales is low. Available data suggest that only 30% of children and fewer than half of older people in Wales are taking up their free test entitlement. 4. RNIB has identified some of the reasons why: a lack of understanding about the importance and purpose of sight tests, an acceptance that deterioration does happen because we are all getting older, and the cost of glasses. There is a suggestion that we try a lot harder to publicise that there are vouchers available for certain groups of people and that they can pick them up.

We have to change people's perception of sight loss. To do this, we need to raise awareness of the importance of regular eye tests, particularly among the risk groups. I would like the eyecare plan to include a strategy for raising awareness about this importance. Could the 50-plus health check, for example, be used to encourage older people to go for a sight test? I think that Elin mentioned the Designed to Smile initiative for cleaning your teeth, which is hugely popular and has done a lot of good work; could something similar not be done in this respect? I know that you have recently articulated the public health approach, Minister, and this will certainly help to strengthen preventive measures. We have done a lot of good work. Let us continue to do it, let us listen to what people are saying. Thank you, Minister, and I hope that you will continue to listen to what they are saying.

Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedais, ceir materion allweddol y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hwy er mwyn sicrhau bod y cynllun gofal llygaid yn llwyddiannus. Mae'n werth ailadrodd, fel y dywedodd nifer o bobl yma, y dylai cynyddu nifer y bobl sy'n cael prawf llygaid fod yn uchel ar yr agenda. Rhaid i bobl wisgo sbectol sydd â'r presripsiwn cywir neu gael y driniaeth gywir ar yr adeg iawn. Gwnaeth Kirsty'r pwynt mai un peth yw cael y prawf, a dod o hyd i rywbeth o'i le, ond mai peth arall yw sicrhau bod triniaeth ar gael; mewn nifer o achosion, mae'n rhaid iddi fod ar gael yn gyflym iawn.

Yn anffodus, er ei fod yn rhad ac am ddim, ychydig o bobl sy'n mynd am brawf golwg yng Nghymru. Mae'r data sydd ar gael yn awgrymu mai dim ond 30% o blant a llai na hanner y bobl hŷn yng Nghymru sy'n manteisio ar eu hawl i gael prawf am ddim. Mae'r RNIB wedi nodi rhai o'r rhesymau dros hyn: diffyg dealltwriaeth ynghylch pwysigrwydd a diben y profion golwg, cydnabyddiaeth bod dirywiad yn digwydd oherwydd bod pawb ohonom yn mynd yn hŷn, a chost sbectol. Mae awgrym y dylem geisio'n llawer caletach i roi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r ffaith bod talebau ar gael ar gyfer grwpiau penodol o bobl ac y gallant eu hawlio.

Mae'n rhaid inni newid canfyddiad pobl ynghylch colli golwg. I wneud hyn, mae angen inni godi ymwybyddiaeth o bwysigrwydd profion llygaid rheolaidd, yn arbennig ymysg y grwpiau risg. Hoffwn i'r cynllun gofal llygaid gynnwys strategaeth ar gyfer codi ymwybyddiaeth am bwysigrwydd hyn. A ellid defnyddio'r archwiliad iechyd i bobl 50 oed a hŷn, er enghraifft, i annog pobl hŷn i fynd i gael prawf llygaid? Credaf y soniodd Elin am y fenter Cynllun Gwên ar gyfer glanhau eich dannedd, sy'n eithriadol o boblogaidd, ac sydd wedi gwneud llawer o waith da; a ellir gwneud rhywbeth tebyg yn y maes hwn? Gwn eich bod wedi canu clodydd y dull iechyd cyhoeddus yn ddiweddar, Weinidog, a bydd hyn yn bendant yn helpu i gryfhau mesurau ataliol. Rydym wedi gwneud llawer o waith da. Gadewch inni barhau i wneud hynny, gadewch inni wrando ar yr hyn y mae pobl yn ei ddweud. Diolch,

Weinidog, a gobeithio y byddwch yn parhau i wrando ar yr hyn maent yn ei ddweud.

Suzy Davies: I am pleased to take part in this important debate today, and I would like to focus my contribution on children's eye health as well. As Kirsty Williams said, the Hall report recommended that children, at the age of four or five, should be screened for visual impairments by an orthoptics-led service. This recommendation was supported by the UK National Screening Committee. As we know, RNIB Cymru has revealed that there is a wide variation in screening in Wales. In some areas, there is zero provision. Members may remember Ceredigion's claim that it could not test children's eyesight in school because it was too dark.

Suzy Davies: Rwy'n falch o gymryd rhan yn y ddadl bwysig hon heddiw, a dymunaf i'm cyfraniad ganolbwytio ar iechyd llygaid plant hefyd. Fel y dywedodd Kirsty Williams, mae adroddiad Hall yn argymhell y dylai plant, pan yn bedair neu bump oed, gael eu sgrinio i weld a oes nam ar eu golwg gan wasanaeth orthopteg. Cefnogwyd yr argymhelliad hwn gan Bwyllgor Sgrinio Cenedlaethol y DU. Fel y gwyddom, nododd RNIB Cymru fod amrywiaeth eang o ran sgrinio yng Nghymru. Mewn rhai ardaloedd, nid oes dim darpariaeth. Efallai y bydd yr Aelodau'n cofio honiad Ceredigion na allai brofi golwg plant yn yr ysgol am ei bod yn rhy dywyll.

The Welsh Government, quite rightly, puts great emphasis on prevention and screening in healthcare. Designed to Smile, which has already been mentioned by Elin Jones, is aimed at improving the dental health of children in Wales and offers regular checks by a dentist at school. It also encourages families to take an interest in their children's oral health and to recognise the value of check-ups. We should be considering the same approach to eye health. Vision problems need to be detected at an early age so that they can be treated and steps taken to reduce the impact of those problems. Undetected eye conditions can have serious effects, not only on children's educational performance, as Kirsty Williams mentioned, but also on a child's confidence, which can, in turn, affect how they mature socially.

Yn briodol iawn, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi pwyslais mawr ar atal a sgrinio ym maes gofal iechyd. Nod y Cynllun Gwên, y soniodd Elin Jones amdano eisoes, yw gwella iechyd deintyddol plant yng Nghymru ac mae'n cynnig archwiliadau rheolaidd gan ddeintydd yn yr ysgol. Mae hefyd yn annog teuluoedd i gymryd diddordeb yn iechyd y geg eu plant, ac i gydnabod gwerth archwiliadau. Dylem ystyried yr un dull gweithredu o ran iechyd y llygaid. Rhaid i broblemau'r golwg gael eu canfod pan fydd plentyn yn ifanc, fel bod modd trin y problemau a sicrhau bod camau'n cael eu cymryd i leihau effaith y problemau hynny. Gall cyflyrau ar y llygaid sydd heb eu canfod gael effeithiau difrifol, nid yn unig ar berfformiad plant yn yr ysgol, fel y soniodd Kirsty Williams, ond hefyd ar hyder plentyn, a all, yn ei dro, effeithio ar y modd y mae'n aeddfedu'n gymdeithasol.

In recent research carried out by City University in London, 12% of children were found to have undetected visual problems and a further 43% had not had an eye examination for more than two years. While I acknowledge what the Minister said in her speech about progress being made, children still seem to be slipping through the system. According to the Association of Optometrists, tens of thousands of children in Wales could have undetected vision problems. Getting difficult to reach families to take up a community-based service can be

Mewn gwaith ymchwil diweddar, a wnaed gan Brifysgol y Ddinas, Llundain, canfuwyd bod gan 12% o blant problemau golwg a oedd heb eu canfod ac nad oedd 43% arall wedi cael prawf llygaid ers dros ddwy flynedd. Er fy mod yn cydnabod y cynnydd a wnaed, fel y soniodd y Gweinidog yn ei haraith, ymddengys bod plant yn dal i lithro drwy'r rhwyd. Yn ôl Cymdeithas yr Optometryddion, gallai degau o filoedd o blant yng Nghymru fod â phroblemau golwg nad ydynt wedi'u canfod. Gall fod yn anodd cael teuluoedd sy'n anodd eu cyrraedd i

difficult, as highlighted by the Children and Young People Committee's report on Flying Start. A comprehensive screening programme may be your aim, Minister, but the RNIB revelations show that it is not, unfortunately, quite as comprehensive as you might like. Therefore, that different approach, as with Designed to Smile, is worth considering, looking particularly at school attendance as a point of early intervention within the public health approach to reducing avoidable sight loss, especially if it also presents an opportunity to help parents to understand the value of regular eye tests to their children's wellbeing.

The Hall report recommended orthoptics-led vision screening. However, with fewer than 1,000 orthoptists in the UK, this will be difficult, particularly in Wales. Therefore, the Welsh Government's eyecare plan for Wales needs to plan for teams to be trained and supported by an orthoptist, to be able to carry out school-based screening. We simply do not know how many children have failed to achieve their potential because we failed to detect vision problems at an early age. We know that 66% of people of working age who have sight problems are unemployed and that undetected sight problems can affect a child's educational attainment. We also know that, with proper screening, we can do something about it, whether that is treating the sight problem or mitigating its effect.

I know that you agree with that, Minister, and I know that we all agree that screening is not the end of the story. The strategy must ensure that those diagnosed with vision problems get the help and care that they need from all sectors. In that respect, the Welsh Government's support for the children's low vision project was very welcome, and I particularly welcome the role of the third sector in achieving the objectives of that project. However, I would like to be more confident that the Welsh Government is monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of its financial support for any health-related work, including projects like this, but more specifically in-house practices. There is always a fear that investment in a project that involves parties outside the NHS may be

fanteisio ar wasanaethau yn y gymuned, fel yr amlygir gan adroddiad y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc ar Dechrau'n Deg. Efallai mai cael rhaglen sgrinio gynhwysfawr yw eich nod, Weinidog, ond dengys yr hyn a ddatgelodd RNIB nad yw, yn anffodus, mor gynhwysfawr ag y dymunwch iddi fod. Felly, mae'n werth ystyried dull gwahanol, fel yn achos y Cynllun Gwên, ac edrych yn benodol ar bresenoldeb yn yr ysgol fel man i ymyrryd yn gynnar o fewn y dull iechyd cyhoeddus o leihau colli golwg y gellir ei osgoi, yn enwedig os bydd hefyd yn rhoi cyfle i helpu rhieni i ddeall gwerth y profion llygaid rheolaidd i les eu plant.

Mae adroddiad Hall yn argymhell sgrinio'r golwg o dan arweiniad maes orthopteg. Fodd bynnag, gyda llai na 1,000 o orthoptyddion yn y DU, bydd hyn yn anodd, yn enwedig yng Nghymru. Felly, mae angen i gynllun gofal llygaid Llywodraeth Cymru i Gymru gynllunio ar gyfer cael orthoptyddion i hyfforddi timau a'u cefnogi, fel y gellir cyflawni'r dasg o sgrinio yn yr ysgol. Ni wyddom faint o blant sydd wedi methu â chyflawni eu potensial oherwydd ein bod wedi methu â chanfod eu problemau golwg tra bônt yn ifanc. Gwyddom fod 66% o bobl o oedran gweithio sydd â phroblemau golwg yn ddi-waith, ac y gall problemau golwg sydd heb eu canfod effeithio ar gyrhaeddiad addysgol plentyn. Gwyddom hefyd, gyda dulliau sgrinio priodol, y gallwn wneud rhywbeth yn ei gylch, boed hynny drwy drin y broblem olwg neu drwy liniaru ei heffaith.

Gwn eich bod yn cytuno â hynny, Weinidog, a gwn ein bod oll yn cytuno nad sgrinio yw diwedd y stori. Rhaid i'r strategaeth sicrhau bod y rhai sydd wedi cael gwybod bod ganddynt broblemau golwg yn cael y cymorth a'r gofal sydd eu hangen arnynt gan bob sector. Yn hynny o beth, roedd cefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer y prosiect plant prin eu golwg yn dderbyniol iawn, ac rwyf finnau'n croesawu'n arbennig rôl y trydydd sector o ran cyflawni amcanion y prosiect hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn fod yn fwy hyderus bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn monitro a gwerthuso effeithiolrwydd ei chymorth ariannol ar gyfer unrhyw waith sy'n gysylltiedig ag iechyd, gan gynnwys prosiectau fel hyn ond, yn fwy penodol, effeithiolrwydd yr arferion mewnol. Mae'n

vulnerable to cuts if expenditure within the NHS is not scrupulously monitored by someone accountable to the taxpayer. It is essential that the Minister satisfies herself that wasteful practices elsewhere in the NHS system do not jeopardise financial support for the children's low vision project and its like.

Jenny Rathbone: I also applaud the multidisciplinary approach that we have in our Wales vision strategy, where people with sight loss, users of eyecare services and front-line professionals all play their part in helping to develop it, which is important as we look at the reasons why people do not take up the free service that is offered to them. It is important that we have that multidisciplinary approach in trying to tackle ways in which we can get more people to take up the service to which they are entitled. It is surprising that only half of older people take up a free eye test, given that we are bound to develop more eye problems as we get older.

As other people have already said, it is of considerable concern that screening of children's eyesight is significantly low. The 30% overall uptake masks the fact that only one in five children in some regions take up the free eye test, compared with the better areas where it is two in five. There must be some specific regions where we need to ask why that is.

Several Members have talked about having a universal screening service when children start their statutory education, which I applaud. However, it would be useful if we considered having a regular ophthalmology clinic in schools, so that education professionals could refer children who they thought might be developing an eyesight problem. They often may be able to detect children who are straining to see the blackboard or the computer screen, which a parent might not notice, because they do not

bryder bob amser y gallai buddsoddiad mewn prosiect sy'n cynnwys partiön y tu allan i'r GIG brofi toriadau os na fydd gwariant o fewn y GIG yn cael ei fonitro'n ofalus iawn gan rywun sy'n atebol i'r trethdalwr. Mae'n hanfodol bod y Gweinidog yn fodlon nad yw arferion gwastraffus mewn mannau eraill yn system y GIG yn peryglu'r cymorth ariannol sydd ar gael ar gyfer y prosiect plant prin eu golwg a phrosiectau tebyg.

Jenny Rathbone: Rwyf hefyd yn canmol y dull amlddisgyblaethol sydd gennym o ran ein strategaeth olwg yng Nghymru, lle mae pobl sydd wedi colli'u golwg, defnyddwyr gwasanaethau gofal llygaid a gweithwyr proffesiynol rheng flaen oll yn chwarae eu rhan i helpu i'w datblygu, ac mae hynny'n bwysig wrth inni ystyried y rhesymau pam nad yw pobl yn manteisio ar y gwasanaeth am ddim sy'n cael ei gynnig iddynt. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn mabwysiadu dull amlddisgyblaethol i fynd i'r afael â sut y gallwn gael mwy o bobl i fanteisio ar y gwasanaeth y mae ganddynt hawl iddo. Mae'n syndod mai dim ond hanner nifer y bobl hyn sy'n cael prawf llygaid am ddim, o gofio ein bod yn siŵr o ddatblygu rhagor o broblemau gyda'n llygaid wrth inni fynd yn hyn.

Fel y mae pobl eraill eisoes wedi'i ddweud, mae'n destun pryder sylweddol mai ychydig o sgrinio golwg plant sy'n digwydd. Mae'r gyfradd gyffredinol o 30% o blant sy'n cael y prawf llygaid am ddim yn cuddio'r ffaith mai dim ond un o bob pum plentyn mewn rhai rhanbarthau sy'n ei gael o'i gymharu â'r ardaloedd gwell, lle mae dau o bob pum plentyn yn ei gael. Yn sicr, mae rhai rhanbarthau penodol lle mae angen inni ofyn pam mae hynny'n digwydd.

Mae nifer o Aelodau wedi sôn am gael gwasanaeth sgrinio cyffredinol pan fydd plant yn dechrau ar eu haddysg statudol, ac rwy'n cymeradwyo hynny. Fodd bynnag, byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe baem yn ystyried cael clinig offthalmoleg rheolaidd mewn ysgolion, fel bod modd i weithwyr proffesiynol ym maes addysg gyfeirio plant y credant y gallent fod yn datblygu problemau gyda'u golwg. Maent hwy, yn aml, yn sylwi ar blant sy'n cael trafferth gweld y bwrdd du neu sgrin y cyfrifiadur, sy'n rhywbeth na

see other children in the class with whom to compare. Will the Minister consider looking at the possibility of offering a more consistent ophthalmology service in schools to improve take-up and to prevent avoidable sight loss?

I also want to mention the success of the free eye examinations for everyone in Scotland, which started in 2006; one or two other Members have mentioned it. It is interesting that a report published last month for the Association of Optometrists demonstrated the significant economic impact of these free eye tests in Scotland. In the first year of free eye tests, in 2006, over 600,000 extra people were tested. On average, every year since then, a further 58,000 people have taken up these free eye tests. Although the initial cost of testing more people was between £20 million and £30 million in the first year, and there was an additional cost because of the increase in the number of people who were identified as needing treatment, it is interesting that in the last full year, 2011, there was a reduction in the cost of the overall general ophthalmology services. It is estimated in this report that the overall benefit in terms of sight loss prevented is 10 times the extra cost of these free eye tests, and that the economic benefits in terms of loss of employment, absenteeism and reduced cost of care of catching people's eyesight problems early is about £440 million just in one year.

So, just as Wales has pioneered free medical prescriptions for the whole population, would the Minister consider extending this benefit to eye tests, in light of the Scottish evidence?

Janet Finch-Saunders: As a member of the cross-party vision group, I am also pleased to speak today in this important debate, and to endorse the concerns raised by the RNIB that sight loss has not been seen as a public health priority, because it is not as high on the political agenda as it might be.

fyddai rhiant yn sylwi arno o bosibl, am nad yw'n gweld plant eraill yn y dosbarth, er mwyn cymharu. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ystyried y posibilrwydd o gynnig gwasanaeth offthalmoleg mwy cyson mewn ysgolion, i wella'r niferoedd sy'n cael eu sgrinio er mwyn atal achosion o golli golwg y gellir eu hosgoi?

Rwyf hefyd am sôn am lwyddiant yr archwiliadau llygaid am ddim i bawb yn yr Alban, a ddechreuodd yn 2006; mae un neu ddau Aelod arall wedi sôn am hyn. Mae'n ddi-ddorol bod adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd fis diwethaf ar gyfer Cymdeithas yr Optometryddion wedi dangos yr effaith economaidd sylweddol a gafodd profion llygaid am ddim yn yr Alban. Ym mlwyddyn gyntaf y profion llygaid am ddim, yn 2006, cafodd dros 600,000 o bobl ychwanegol eu profi. Ar gyfartaledd, bob blwyddyn ers hynny, mae 58,000 o bobl ychwanegol wedi manteisio ar y profion llygaid am ddim. Er y bu cost gychwynnol profi mwy o bobl rhwng £20 miliwn a £30 miliwn yn y flwyddyn gyntaf, a bod cost ychwanegol yn sgîl y cynnydd yn nifer y bobl a nodwyd bod angen triniaeth arnynt, mae'n ddi-ddorol y bu gostyngiad yng nghost y gwasanaethau offthalmoleg cyffredinol yn y flwyddyn lawn ddiwethaf, sef 2011. Amcangyfrifir yn yr adroddiad hwn bod y budd cyffredinol, o ran atal colli golwg, ddeg gwaith yn fwy na chost ychwanegol y profion llygaid am ddim, a bod y manteision economaidd o ddal problemau golwg pobl yn gynnar, o ran colli gwaith, absenoldeb a chost lai'r gofal, oddeutu £440 miliwn mewn un flwyddyn yn unig.

Felly, yn union fel y mae Cymru wedi arloesi o ran presgripsiynau meddygol am ddim ar gyfer y boblogaeth gyfan, a fyddai'r Gweinidog yn ystyried ymestyn y budd i gynnwys profion llygaid, yng ngoleuni'r dystiolaeth yn yr Alban?

Janet Finch-Saunders: Fel aelod o'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar olwg, rwyf finnau hefyd yn falch o gael siarad yn y ddadl bwysig hon heddiw, ac i ategu'r pryderon a fynegwyd gan RNIB nad yw colli golwg wedi'i ystyried fel blaenoriaeth iechyd cyhoeddus, oherwydd nad yw mor uchel ar yr agenda gwleidyddol ag y gallai fod.

6.00 p.m.

With an annual cost of £325 million, a 66% unemployment rate for people with sight problems, a prevalence rate that is 9% higher than that in England, as well as related social support issues, I welcome the proposals brought here today. While I acknowledge some improvements in Wales, such as the Welsh eyecare initiative and some investment in treatment for wet age-related macular degeneration, there is always scope for improvement. Certainly, working with optometrists across Wales could help to realise this. For example, the cost-effective Welsh eye health examination and primary eyecare acute referral scheme has reduced pressure on our hospital eye service departments while utilising the valuable skills of our qualified optometrists. However, this could be further enhanced to deal with the management of ocular hypertensive patients with suspected glaucoma. Additionally, the low vision service has given a more convenient and faster route to comprehensive assessments and follow-up care for many, but, again, there are concerns around long waiting times and the availability of this service, given the standard 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. business opening hours.

Where we have not seen such an improvement is in prevention and early diagnosis. A staggering 50% of sight loss and 70% of blindness in Wales are avoidable through early detection. While it is reassuring to see a 3.3% rise in the number of sight tests paid for by the NHS, we still have a long way to go. Emphasis should be placed on overturning the figures that show that two thirds of children in Wales do not have regular eye checks, that one in 10 could be suffering from an undiagnosed problem and that 23% of new patients are not seen within the referral to treatment time target. By 2020, the number of people dependent on social services due to their poor sight will increase by over 180%, to 43,000, with a 20% increase in cataracts, a 25% increase in glaucoma-related sight loss and a 31% increase in blindness or partial sight due to age-related macular degeneration.

Gyda chost flynyddol o £325 miliwn, cyfradd diweithdra o 66% ar gyfer pobl â nam ar eu golwg, a 9% yn fwy o achosion nag yn Lloegr, yn ogystal â materion cymorth cymdeithasol cysylltiedig, rwyf yn croesawu'r cynigion a wnaed yma heddiw. Er fy mod yn cydnabod rhai gwelliannau a wnaed yng Nghymru, fel menter gofal llygaid Cymru a rhywfaint o fuddsoddiad yn y driniaeth ar gyfer dirywiad macwlaidd gwlyb sy'n gysylltiedig â henaint, mae lle bob amser i wella. Yn sicr, gallai gweithio gydag optometryddion ledled Cymru helpu i wireddu hyn. Er enghraifft, mae archwiliad iechyd llygaid Cymru—sy'n gosteffeithiol— a'r cynllun atgyfeirio i gael gofal llygaid mewn achosion aciwt wedi lleihau'r pwysau ar ein hadrannau gwasanaeth llygaid mewn ysbytai gan ddefnyddio sgiliau gwerthfawr ein hoptometryddion cymwys. Fodd bynnag, gellir gwella hyn ymhellach i ymdrin â rheoli cleifion sy'n dioddef o orbwysedd golygol yr amheuir bod ganddynt glawcoma. Yn ogystal, mae'r gwasanaeth golwg gwan wedi rhoi llwybr mwy cyfleus a chyflymach i asesiadau cynhwysfawr a gofal dilynol i lawer ond, eto, mae pryderon ynghylch amseroedd aros hir ac argaeledd y gwasanaeth hwn, o ystyried yr oriau agor safonol ar gyfer busnes, sef rhwng 9 a.m. a 5 p.m.

Nid ydym wedi gweld gwelliant o'r fath o ran atal a chael diagnosis cynnar. Gellir osgoi 50% o achosion o nam ar y golwg a 70% o'r achosion o ddallineb yng Nghymru, sy'n niferoedd anhygoel, drwy ddulliau canfod yn gynnar. Er ei bod yn galonogol gweld cynnydd o 3.3% yn nifer y profion golwg y talwyd amdanynt gan y GIG, mae gennym ffordd bell i fynd. Dylid rhoi pwyslais ar wrydroi'r ffigurau sy'n dangos nad yw dwy ran o dair o blant yng Nghymru yn cael profion llygaid rheolaidd, y gallai un o bob 10 fod yn dioddef o broblem nad yw wedi'i chanfod ac nad yw 23% o gleifion newydd yn cael eu gweld o fewn y targed ar gyfer y cyfnod rhwng atgyfeirio a'r driniaeth. Erbyn 2020, bydd nifer y bobl sy'n ddibynnol ar wasanaethau cymdeithasol oherwydd eu golwg gwael yn cynyddu mwy na 180%, i 43,000, gyda chynnydd o 20% mewn cataractau, cynnydd o 25% yn nifer y bobl

sy'n colli eu golwg oherwydd glawcoma a chynnydd o 31% yn nifer y bobl sy'n mynd yn ddall neu sydd â golwg rhannol oherwydd dirywiad macwlaidd sy'n gysylltiedig â henaint.

With the personal and financial costs of eye health set to increase in the future, the Welsh Conservative amendments today raise a very important point. If we take preventative actions for those suffering with poor eyesight today, we can reduce potential costs tomorrow. *Mañana*. If we are serious about eye health in Wales, why do we not have an eye-health-related sister to the Designed to Smile initiative, as has been mentioned here today? It could be a real and meaningful initiative. We know that those living in deprivation are less likely to access primary care services, so we need to look at ways of getting services out to people. Free eye tests in Scotland have benefited the country by £440 million per year, and I was pleased to see that, in her letter to the cross-party vision group, our Minister for Health and Social Services has acknowledged the concerns put forward in terms of raising awareness of regular eye tests. This is something that I very much hope will be prioritised in the forthcoming Wales eyecare plan, as part of an alignment between the plan and the objectives of the Wales vision strategy.

The facts speak for themselves and, clearly, demand is high. We have the opportunity to really bring Wales to the forefront of global eye health care, and I hope that the Wales eyecare plan grabs this with both hands and drives forward combined emotional, social and medical care and, more importantly, a preventative public health approach. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

Rebecca Evans: I will focus my contribution on the all-Wales diabetic retinopathy screening service. The service began life as the UK's first community-based eye screening programme designed to detect and treat diabetic retinopathy. With Welsh Government investment, it has progressively

Ar sail y ffaith y bydd costau personol ac ariannol iechyd y llygaid yn debygol o gynyddu yn y dyfodol, mae gwelliannau'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig heddiw yn codi pwynt pwysig iawn. Pe byddem yn cymryd camau ataliol ar gyfer y rhai sy'n dioddef o olwg gwael heddiw, gallem leihau costau posibl yfory. *Mañana*. Os ydym o ddifrif ynghylch iechyd y llygaid yng Nghymru, pam nad oes gennym fenter ar gyfer iechyd y llygaid sy'n debyg i'r fenter Cynllun Gwên, fel y crybwyllwyd yma heddiw? Gallai fod yn fenter wirioneddol ac ystyrllon. Rydym yn gwybod bod y rhai sy'n byw mewn amddifadedd yn llai tebygol o gael mynediad at wasanaethau gofal sylfaenol, felly mae angen inni edrych ar ffyrdd o ddarparu gwasanaethau i bobl. Mae profion llygaid am ddim yn yr Alban wedi dod â budd o £440 miliwn y flwyddyn i'r wlad, ac roeddwn yn falch o weld yn llythyr y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol at y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar olwg ei bod yn cydnabod y pryderon a fynegwyd ynghylch codi ymwybyddiaeth o'r profion llygaid rheolaidd. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth y gobeithiaf yn fawr iawn y bydd yn cael blaenoriaeth yn y cynllun gofal llygaid sydd ar ddod yng Nghymru, fel rhan o'r aliniad rhwng y cynllun ac amcanion strategaeth olwg Cymru.

Mae'r ffeithiau'n glir ac, yn amlwg, mae'r galw'n fawr. Mae gennym gyfle i ddod â Chymru i flaen y gad o ran gofal iechyd llygaid byd-eang, ac rwyf yn gobeithio y bydd cynllun gofal llygaid Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â hyn gyda dwy law ac yn datblygu gofal emosiynol, cymdeithasol a meddygol ar y cyd ac, yn bwysicach fyth, dull ataliol o ymdrin ag iechyd cyhoeddus. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

Rebecca Evans: Bydd fy nghyfraniad yn canolbwyntio ar y gwasanaeth sgrinio yng Nghymru ar gyfer retinopathi diabetig. Y rhaglen hon—rhaglen yn y gymuned i sgrinio llygaid a luniwyd i ganfod a thrin retinopathi diabetig—oedd y gyntaf o'i bath yn y DU pan ddechreuodd y gwasanaeth. Gyda

been extended from a local service into a successful Wales-wide programme. Diabetic retinopathy affects 40% of diabetics and it is the leading cause of blindness throughout the world among people of working age. Sight cannot be restored once it has been lost to diabetic retinopathy.

The service works with GPs to invite all of Wales's diabetic patients for annual screening, as early detection is vital and there are no early warning signs. I understand that Cardiff and Vale University Local Health Board has just completed a review of the service, and has produced a draft report with recommendations for the future direction of provision. Although that report has not yet been made public, I understand that the health board intends to consult stakeholders on it. I would be grateful if the Minister would ensure that a range of service users from different communities are consulted, as their perspective will be particularly valuable. I would also welcome a statement from the Minister in due course on the review and the Government's response to it.

The quality of access to the screening programme is key. On a recent visit to the service, I was pleased to see how making the screening demand-responsive, and delivering it as close to where people live as possible, were priorities. The service is delivered in GPs' surgeries and in community health settings and two mobile screening vans are also available to take the screening to where it is needed, whether that be more rural communities or city-centre supermarket car parks. Patients are always offered the opportunity to change their appointments so as to attend a screening clinic that is more convenient to them. For some people, that might be a clinic nearer to their place of work, rather than to their home. Around 8,000 patients a month take up that offer. I see that as a really positive sign of people's engagement with the screening service and their own healthcare.

buddsoddiad Llywodraeth Cymru, cafodd ei ymestyn yn raddol o fod yn wasanaeth lleol i fod yn rhaglen lwyddiannus i Gymru gyfan. Mae retinopathi diabetig yn effeithio ar 40% o bobl sydd â diabetes a dyma yw prif achos dallineb ledled y byd ymhlith pobl o oedran gweithio. Ni ellir adfer golwg unwaith y bydd wedi ei golli oherwydd retinopathi diabetig.

Mae'r gwasanaeth yn gweithio gyda meddygon teulu i wahodd holl gleifion diabetig Cymru i gael eu sgrinio bob blwyddyn, oherwydd mae canfod hyn yn gynnar yn hanfodol ac nid oes unrhyw arwyddion rhybudd cynnar. Deallaf fod Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro newydd gwblhau adolygiad o'r gwasanaeth, ac mae wedi llunio adroddiad drafft gydag argymhellion ar gyfer cyfeiriad y ddarpariaeth yn y dyfodol. Er nad yw'r adroddiad hwnnw wedi'i gyhoeddi eto, deallaf fod y bwrdd iechyd yn bwriadu ymgynghori â rhanddeiliaid arno. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai'r Gweinidog yn sicrhau yr ymgynghorir ag ystod o ddefnyddwyr y gwasanaeth o wahanol gymunedau, gan y bydd eu safbwynt yn arbennig o werthfawr. Byddwn hefyd yn croesawu datganiad gan y Gweinidog maes o law am yr adolygiad ac ymateb y Llywodraeth iddo.

Mae safon y mynediad at y rhaglen sgrinio yn allweddol. Ar ymweliad diweddar â'r gwasanaeth, roeddwn yn falch o weld bod sicrhau bod y sgrinio yn ymateb i'r galw, a'i fod yn cael ei ddarparu mor agos at gartrefi pobl ag y bo modd, yn flaenoriaethau. Cyflwynir y gwasanaeth mewn meddygfeydd ac mewn lleoliadau iechyd cymunedol ac mae dwy fan sgrinio symudol ar gael hefyd i sgrinio lle y bo angen hynny, boed hynny mewn cymunedau mwy gwledig neu mewn meysydd parcio archfarchnadoedd yng nghanol dinasoedd. Cynigir y cyfle i gleifion newid eu hapwyntiadau bob tro er mwyn iddynt allu mynd i glinig sgrinio sy'n fwy cyfleus iddynt. I rai pobl, gallai'r clinig hwnnw fod yn un sy'n agosach at eu man gwaith, yn hytrach na'u cartref. Mae tua 8,000 o gleifion y mis yn derbyn y cynnig hwnnw. Ystyriaf fod hynny'n arwydd cadarnhaol iawn o ymgysylltiad pobl â'r gwasanaeth sgrinio a'u gofal iechyd eu hunain.

As the future of the service is being considered, I would stress the importance of making sure that the service continues to be demand-responsive, flexible and local, and keeps travel to a minimum. Consideration must be given to the fact that some people attending the screening will have an existing visual impairment or mobility problems. The accessibility of the screening is one reason why the service has managed to reach a screening rate of 82% of invitees, which outperforms that of all other screening services in Wales. There are variations across Wales, however, that need to be addressed. Screening attendance in Hywel Dda LHB area, for example, was 77% of invitees last year. Therefore, we need to explore whether the number of screening sites needs to be further increased across that health board area, while acknowledging that 35 sites are already being used, or whether the service can work further with other bodies and organisations to raise awareness and increase engagement among specific groups.

Across Wales, non-attendance among ethnic minorities and travelling communities is disproportionately high. Avenues to address this must, therefore, be explored. We must also ensure that there is equity in access to screening for people who are homeless. Fortunately, the service collects masses of data, which means that the non-attendance of individuals or groups can be addressed. Analysis of data on an all-Wales basis reveals that there is an increasing number of young people with diabetic retinopathy, which challenges us to direct support and awareness-raising at younger people. The data gathered are also increasingly used for research projects in collaboration with universities, and will be used in a UK-wide project to explore whether the screening intervals for low-risk patients can be extended, which would ease the strain on capacity and save the NHS money. As many Members have said, capacity is an issue.

As more and more people are diagnosed with diabetes, the demand on the service will increase, and the service requires investment and funding in order to meet that need. Of

Wrth i ddyfodol y gwasanaeth gael ei ystyried, byddwn yn pwysleisio pa mor bwysig yw sicrhau bod y gwasanaeth yn parhau i ymateb i'r galw ac i fod yn hyblyg a lleol, ac nad oes yn rhaid teithio'n bell. Rhaid rhoi ystyriaeth i'r ffaith y bydd gan rai pobl sy'n mynd i gael eu sgrinio nam ar eu golwg eisoes neu broblemau symudedd. Hygyrchedd y sgrinio yw un rheswm pam y mae'r gwasanaeth wedi llwyddo i gyrraedd cyfradd sgrinio o 82% o'r gwahoddedigion, sy'n gyfradd well na chyfradd yr holl wasanaethau sgrinio eraill yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, mae amrywiadau ledled Cymru y mae angen rhoi sylw iddynt. Er enghraifft, aeth 77% o'r gwahoddedigion yn ardal Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda i gael eu sgrinio. Felly, mae angen ymchwilio i weld a oes angen cynyddu nifer y safleoedd sgrinio ymhellach ar draws ardal y bwrdd iechyd, gan gydnabod bod 35 o safleoedd eisoes yn cael eu defnyddio, neu a all y gwasanaeth weithio ymhellach gyda chyrff a sefydliadau eraill i godi ymwybyddiaeth a chynyddu'r ymgysylltiad ymhlith grwpiau penodol.

Ledled Cymru, mae'r diffyg presenoldeb ymysg cymunedau lleiafrifoedd ethnig a theithwyr yn anghymesur o uchel. Felly, rhaid archwilio'r dulliau o fynd i'r afael â hyn. Rhaid inni hefyd sicrhau bod tegwch o ran mynediad at sgrinio ar gyfer pobl sy'n ddigartref. Yn ffodus, mae'r gwasanaeth yn casglu llu o ddata, sy'n golygu y gellir mynd i'r afael â diffyg presenoldeb unigolion neu grwpiau. Mae'r broses o ddadansoddi data drwy Gymru gyfan yn dangos bod nifer gynyddol o bobl ifanc â retinopathi diabetig, sy'n ein herio i gyfeirio cymorth at bobl iau a chodi ymwybyddiaeth yn eu mysg. Mae'r data a gasglwyd hefyd yn cael eu defnyddio fwyfwy ar gyfer prosiectau ymchwil ar y cyd â phrifysgolion, a byddant yn cael eu defnyddio mewn prosiect ledled y DU i ymchwilio i weld a all y cyfnodau rhwng sgrinio ar gyfer cleifion risg isel gael eu hestyn. Byddai hynny'n lleddfu'r pwysau ar y capasiti ac yn arbed arian i'r GIG. Fel y dywedodd nifer o Aelodau, mae capasiti yn broblem.

Wrth i diabetes gael ei ddiagnosisio mewn mwy a mwy o bobl, bydd y galw ar y gwasanaeth yn cynyddu, ac mae ar y gwasanaeth angen buddsoddiad a chyllid er

those screened, 50% will have some degree of retinopathy or other lesions and will be referred to an optometrist, and I share the concerns that other Members have already raised about the long waits that some people experience.

To conclude, the Wales diabetic retinopathy screening service has been recognised as the most advanced of its kind in Europe. It is vital that this screening service is kept as a demand-responsive, locally accessible service, and that the necessary investment is made to meet increasing demand, because, if retinopathy is identified early, sight loss can be prevented in up to 90% of those at risk.

Mark Drakeford: As you have already heard, the last backbench debate on this subject to be held in the Chamber called on the Welsh Government to make tackling avoidable sight loss in Wales a public health priority. Those of us who were involved in bringing that motion before the Assembly were very pleased to see the level of support that we gained across the Chamber and from the Government itself. It is also pleasing to see the public health approach that we outlined at that time being endorsed in today's Government motion. However, I wonder whether the Minister, in her reply, might say a little more about how that approach is to be worked up. In the Health and Social Care Committee, in our inquiry into community pharmacy, we heard evidence that the effectiveness of public health campaigns can vary. At their best, they combine a strong professional commitment with an effective campaign of public communication and engagement. At their weakest, they amount to a few dusty leaflets and an obscurely located poster.

Tackling avoidable sight loss is a matter of persuading people to recognise the problem at its onset, to be confident that there is something that can be done about it, and then to contact the services that already exist, which can make a big difference to people and their future sight. It is an issue of

mwyn ateb yr angen hwnnw. O'r rhai a sgriniwyd, bydd gan 50% rywfaint o retinopathi neu namau eraill a byddant yn cael eu hatgyfeirio at optometrydd. Rwyf finnau, felag Aelodau eraill, yn pryderu ynghylch yr amser aros hir y mae rhai pobl yn ei wynebu.

I gloi, mae gwasanaeth sgrinio Cymru ar gyfer retinopathi diabetig wedi cael ei gydnabod fel y mwyaf datblygedig o'i fath yn Ewrop. Mae'n hanfodol bod y gwasanaeth sgrinio yn cael ei gadw fel gwasanaeth sy'n ymateb i'r galw ac sydd ar gael yn lleol, a bod y buddsoddiad angenrheidiol yn cael ei wneud i ateb y galw cynyddol, oherwydd, os caiff retinopathi ei ganfod yn gynnar, gellir atal hyd at 90% o'r rhai sydd mewn perygl rhag colli eu golwg.

Mark Drakeford: Fel y clywsoch eisoes, roedd y ddadl ddiwethaf o'r meinciau cefn ar y pwnc hwn a gynhaliwyd yn y Siambr yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i wneud mynd i'r afael â nam ar y golwg y gellir ei osgoi yng Nghymru yn flaenoriaeth iechyd cyhoeddus. Roedd y rhai ohonom a fu'n ymwneud â dod â'r cynnig hwnnw gerbron y Cynulliad yn falch iawn o weld lefel y gefnogaeth a gawsom ar draws y Siambr ac oddi wrth y Llywodraeth ei hun. Mae hefyd yn dda gweld bod y dull o ymdrin ag iechyd cyhoeddus a amlinellwyd gennym ar y pryd yn cael ei gefnogi yng nghynnig y Llywodraeth heddiw. Fodd bynnag, tybed a allai'r Gweinidog, yn ei hateb, ddweud ychydig mwy am sut y bydd y dull hwnnw'n cael ei lunio? Yn y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol, yn ein hymchwiliad i fferylliaeth gymunedol, clywsom dystiolaeth y gall effeithiolrwydd ymgyrchoedd iechyd cyhoeddus amrywio. Ar eu gorau, maent yn cyfuno ymrwymiad proffesiynol cryf ag ymgyrch effeithiol i gyfathrebu ac ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd. Ar eu gwannaf, y cyfan a geir yw ychydig o daflenni llychlyd a phoster sydd wedi'i leoli mewn man lle na ellir ei weld.

Mae mynd i'r afael â nam ar y golwg yn fater o berswadio pobl i ganfod y broblem o'r dechrau, i fod yn hyderus bod rhywbeth y gellir ei wneud am y peth, ac yna i gysylltu â'r gwasanaethau sydd eisoes yn bodoli, sy'n gallu gwneud gwahaniaeth mawr i bobl ac i'w golwg yn y dyfodol. Mae'n fater o

education, information and a whole-population shift in the way we think about the onset and development of sight loss.

In that sense, it is a classic public health problem that needs a classic public health response. I think that the Minister is absolutely right to identify public health programmes as the way to make the real gains that are there to be made. However, those gains depend on having a public health programme that meets that challenge and is of a standard and a calibre that delivers the outcomes that the Minister is looking for. I look forward to hearing just a little more from her on the way in which she hopes those gains can be made.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Lesley Griffiths): I thank Members for their contributions to this debate today. I have described some of the initiatives that we have introduced and the work that we have undertaken in recent years, and I am pleased that Members have welcomed those initiatives. However, we all agree that there is still more work to be done.

Rising life expectancy means that we will have an increase in the number of older people needing to access eyecare services. There are also increasing numbers of people developing eyecare problems, so we have to ensure that we have high-quality services and support in place to meet the increasing demand. That is why we are developing the eye health care plan for Wales, which will set our priorities for the next five years.

One key component of the plan includes raising public awareness of eye health care. Our sight is precious and it is essential for everyone to be aware of the importance of regular sight tests. We need to promote the use of optometrists, and encourage the general public to access regular sight tests from their local optometrist on the high street. In Wales, as has been said, sight tests are provided free of charge to children and people over the age of 60, and there is also

addysg, gwybodaeth a newid agwedd ymysg y boblogaeth gyfan ynghylch y ffordd yr ydym yn meddwl am y broses o ddechrau colli golwg a datblygiad hynny.

Yn yr ystyr hwnnw, mae'n broblem iechyd cyhoeddus glasurrol y mae angen ymateb iechyd cyhoeddus clasurrol iddi. Credaf fod y Gweinidog yn hollol gywir wrth nodi mai rhaglenni iechyd cyhoeddus yw'r ffordd o sicrhau'r cynnydd gwirioneddol y mae modd ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, mae'r cynnydd hwnnw'n dibynnu ar gael rhaglen iechyd cyhoeddus sy'n bodloni'r her honno ac sydd o safon sy'n rhoi'r canlyniadau y mae'r Gweinidog yn chwilio amdanynt. Edrychaf ymlaen at glywed ychydig mwy ganddi am y ffordd y mae'n gobeithio y gellir gwneud y cynnydd hwnnw.

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Lesley Griffiths): Diolch i'r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau i'r ddadl hon heddiw. Rwyf wedi disgrifio rhai o'r mentrau yr ydym wedi'u cyflwyno a'r gwaith yr ydym wedi ei wneud yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ac rwy'n falch bod yr Aelodau wedi croesawu'r mentrau hynny. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym oll yn cytuno bod mwy o waith i'w wneud o hyd.

Mae'r ffaith bod disgwyliad oes yn codi yn golygu y bydd cynnydd yn nifer y bobl hŷn y mae angen mynediad at wasanaethau gofal llygaid arnynt. Mae nifer gynyddol hefyd o bobl yn dangos arwyddion o broblemau gofal llygaid, felly mae'n rhaid inni sicrhau bod gennym wasanaethau o ansawdd uchel a chefnogaeth ar gael i ateb y galw cynyddol. Dyna pam yr ydym yn datblygu cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid i Gymru, a fydd yn pennu ein blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y pum mlynedd nesaf.

Mae un elfen allweddol o'r cynllun yn cynnwys codi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o ofal iechyd llygaid. Mae ein golwg yn werthfawr ac mae'n hanfodol bod pawb yn ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd cael profion golwg rheolaidd. Mae angen inni hyrwyddo'r defnydd o optometryddion, ac annog y cyhoedd i gael profion golwg rheolaidd gan eu hoptometrydd lleol ar y stryd fawr. Yng Nghymru, fel y dywedwyd, rhoddir profion golwg yn rhad ac am ddim i blant a phobl

provision to allow those who are claiming benefits to receive sight tests free of charge.

It is really important that we also ensure that we have effective screening programmes in place, focusing specifically on age-related conditions. Elin Jones raised an important point about people accepting failing sight as part of the ageing process, but we need to do all that we can to ensure early screening for those conditions that can be helped.

The establishment of ophthalmic and diagnostic treatment centres across Wales ensures that we have that early diagnosis and treatment for patients. We will continue to utilise the skills, experiences and resources of professionals in primary and secondary care settings to provide those high-quality integrated services for patients. The annual all-Wales eyecare conference will be held during National Eye Health Week in September. That event will provide an opportunity for us all to celebrate the good work that has been undertaken in Wales and, this year, I will use it to launch our eye health care plan.

I turn now to some of the issues raised by Members. I was pleased to speak at the Wales vision strategy event last week, at the invitation of Sandy Mewies. I would like to pay tribute, Sandy, to the work that you do as a cross-party group on vision loss. I am pleased that the video went down so well at Westminster. I am always happy to show England the way. The eye health care plan for Wales will incorporate the aims of the UK vision strategy and Vision 2020 to ensure that the best services and high-quality support are delivered for the people of Wales. While it is not our strategy document, we are working closely with the RNIB, whose representative, as you know, chairs the UK vision strategy group.

Several Members mentioned the issue of screening children's sight. As part of the eye health care plan development work, I propose to establish a task and finish group to look at

dros 60 oed, ac mae darpariaeth hefyd i ganiatáu i'r rhai sy'n hawlio budd-daliadau gael profion golwg am ddim.

Mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod hefyd yn sicrhau bod gennym raglenni sgrinio effeithiol ar waith, sy'n canolbwytio'n benodol ar gyflyrau y mae pobl o oedran penodol yn eu dioddef. Cododd Elin Jones bwynt pwysig am bobl sy'n methu derbyn bod colli golwg yn rhan o'r broses o heneiddio, ond mae angen inni wneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i sicrhau bod sgrinio cynnar ar gael ar gyfer y cyflyrau hynny y gellir ymdrin â hwy.

Mae sefydlu canolfannau triniaeth offthalmig a diagnostig ledled Cymru yn sicrhau bod diagnosis a thriniaeth gynnar ar gael i gleifion. Byddwn yn parhau i ddefnyddio sgiliau, profiadau ac adnoddau gweithwyr proffesiynol mewn lleoliadau gofal sylfaenol ac eilaidd i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau integredig hynny sydd o ansawdd uchel i gleifion. Bydd y gynhadledd gofal llygaid flynyddol i Gymru gyfan yn cael ei chynnal yn ystod Wythnos Genedlaethol Iechyd y Llygaid ym mis Medi. Bydd y digwyddiad hwnnw'n rhoi cyfle inni oll ddatlu'r gwaith da a wnaed yng Nghymru ac, eleni, byddaf yn ei ddefnyddio i lansio ein cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid.

Trof yn awr at rai o'r materion a godwyd gan yr Aelodau. Roeddwn yn falch o siarad yn y digwyddiad ar strategaeth olwg Cymru yr wythnos diwethaf, ar wahoddiad Sandy Mewies. Hoffwn dalu teyrnged, Sandy, i'r gwaith a wnewch fel grŵp trawsbleidiol ar golli golwg. Rwyf yn falch bod y fideo wedi cael derbyniad mor dda yn San Steffan. Rwyf bob amser yn hapus i ddangos y ffordd i Loegr. Bydd cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid Cymru yn ymgorffori amcanion strategaeth olwg y DU a Vision 2020 i sicrhau bod y gwasanaethau gorau a chymorth o ansawdd uchel yn cael eu darparu i bobl Cymru. Er nad yw yn ein dogfen strategaeth, rydym yn gweithio'n agos â'r RNIB, y mae ei gynrychiolydd, fel y gwyddoch, yn cadeirio grŵp strategaeth olwg y DU.

Crybwyllodd nifer o'r Aelodau sgrinio golwg plant. Fel rhan o'r gwaith o ddatblygu'r cynllun gofal iechyd llygaid, rwyf yn bwriadu sefydlu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen i

the services that will be required to meet the vision needs of children and young people across Wales. During the debate last month, I committed to ensuring that we had such a screening programme. I think that it was Jenny Rathbone who pointed out that, although the figure throughout Wales is that 30% of children access tests, in some areas, it could be as low as 20%.

The issue of an eyecare contract was also raised by William Graham. While we do not have one, we have developed our Wales eye health care initiative, and we are looking to develop that further as part of the five-year plan. I have certainly discussed it with officials.

Rebecca Evans mentioned the diabetic retinopathy screening service, and I think that it is unique in its field. Our colleague Jeff Cuthbert has asked me to say that he is having his diabetic retinopathy screening next week. It is good that we have first-hand information about this service.

6.15 p.m.

It is currently being reviewed, as Rebecca Evans mentioned. It is really important that we know that it is fit for purpose and whether further improvements need to be made to the service. A project manager has been appointed and I am expecting the report in July. After the report, I will be taking advice on how we take any proposals forward. I assure Members that there will be extensive consultation, to which they referred.

Elin Jones mentioned the difficulties about cataract surgery. I know that Hywel Dda health board in particular had problems and is implementing a revised cataract management scheme, whereby patients who have undergone cataract surgery in one eye will be referred back to their optometrist for monitoring, to see whether there are signs of a cataract present in the other eye. The patient will then be referred directly back to ophthalmology according to agreed protocols. We are undertaking some work on

edrych ar y gwasanaethau y bydd eu hangen i ddiwallu anghenion golwg plant a phobl ifanc ledled Cymru. Yn ystod y ddadl y mis diwethaf, ymrwymais i sicrhau ein bod yn cael rhaglen sgrinio o'r fath. Rwyf yn meddwl mai Jenny Rathbone a nododd, er mai'r ffigur ledled Cymru yw bod 30% o blant yn cael profion, mewn rhai ardaloedd, gallai fod mor isel â 20%.

Cyfeiriodd William Graham hefyd at y contract gofal llygaid. Er nad oes gennym un, rydym wedi datblygu ein menter gofal iechyd llygaid i Gymru, ac rydym yn bwriadu datblygu honno ymhellach fel rhan o'r cynllun pum mlynedd. Rwyf yn sicr wedi ei drafod â swyddogion.

Crybwyllodd Rebecca Evans y gwasanaeth sgrinio retinopathi diabetig, a chredaf ei fod yn unigryw yn ei faes. Mae ein cydweithiwr, Jeff Cuthbert, wedi gofyn imi nodi y bydd yn cael ei sesiwn sgrinio retinopathi diabetig yr wythnos nesaf. Mae'n beth da y byddwn yn cael gwybodaeth uniongyrchol am y gwasanaeth hwn.

Mae'n cael ei adolygu ar hyn o bryd, fel y dywed Rebecca Evans. Mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod yn gwybod ei fod yn addas i'r diben, ac yn ystyried a fydd angen gwneud gwelliannau pellach i'r gwasanaeth. Mae rheolwr prosiect wedi cael ei benodi ac rwy'n disgwyl cael yr adroddiad ym mis Gorffennaf. Ar ôl gweld yr adroddiad, byddaf yn cael cyngor ynghylch sut y byddwn yn bwrw ymlaen ag unrhyw gynigion. Gallaf sicrhau'r Aelodau y bydd ymgynghori helaeth arno, a chyfeiriwyd at hynny.

Soniodd Elin Jones am yr anawsterau mewn perthynas â llawdriniaethau cataract. Gwn fod Bwrdd Iechyd Hywel Dda, yn benodol, wedi cael problemau a'i fod yn gweithredu cynllun rheoli cataractau diwygiedig, lle bydd cleifion sydd wedi cael llawdriniaeth cataract mewn un llygad yn cael eu cyfeirio'n ôl at yr optometrydd ar gyfer eu monitro, i weld a oes arwyddion bod cataract yn y llygad arall. Cyfeirir y claf yn ôl yn uniongyrchol i'w uned offthalmoleg yn unol â phrotocolau y cytunwyd arnynt. Rydym yn gwneud

data and information to give us more robust data on waiting times, which can then be monitored.

Mark Drakeford raised the issue of the public health commitment that I made in the debate and how we will take that forward. Officials are discussing this with Public Health Wales and we are going to see the establishment of three regional optometric adviser posts. They will be responsible for contributing to the development, implementation and evaluation of the Wales eyecare service plan on behalf of the Welsh Government. Where appropriate, they will lead the services to support general optometrist provision and the WECE in primary care. I also want much greater co-ordination of national public health campaigns to be delivered by optometrists.

On the amendments tabled, I oppose amendment 4, as there have not been any cuts to the eye health care budget, and I also oppose amendment 7. In relation to the other amendments, I support 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. I have previously acknowledged the dedication and support of all key stakeholders, including the public, private and third sectors, in enabling the effective delivery of and support for eye health care in Wales. I also committed during last month's debate to ensuring that we improve the quality of the information provided. I think that that is very important and a key component of the plan, as I said, will include the development of robust data and information so that we can plan and monitor the delivery and effectiveness of eye health care services. I will be establishing a task and finish group to take that work forward.

I have already reiterated my commitment to making avoidable sight loss a public health commitment for Wales and to ensuring that there is a comprehensive screening programme across Wales for children. I was very interested that two Members referred to Designed to Smile and whether something could be incorporated in that. That is something that we can look at, along with the

rhywfaint o waith ar ddata a gwybodaeth fel bod gennym ddata mwy cadarn ar amseroedd aros, ac yna gellir eu monitro.

Cododd Mark Drakeford fater yr ymrwymiad iechyd cyhoeddus a wneuthum yn ystod y ddadl, a sut y byddwn yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny. Mae swyddogion yn trafod hyn ag Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, a bydd tair swydd cynghorydd optometrig rhanbarthol yn cael eu creu. Byddant yn gyfrifol am gyfrannu at ddatblygu, gweithredu a gwerthuso cynllun gwasanaeth gofal y llygaid Cymru, ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru. Lle y bo'n briodol, byddant yn arwain y gwasanaethau i gefnogi'r broses o ddarparu gwasanaeth optometryddion cyffredinol a phrawf iechyd y llygaid Cymru mewn gofal sylfaenol. Hoffwn hefyd weld llawer mwy o gydlynw o ran ymgyrchoedd iechyd cyhoeddus cenedlaethol a ddarperir gan optometryddion.

O ran y gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd, rwy'n gwrthwynebu gwelliant 4, gan na fu unrhyw doriadau yn y gyllideb gofal iechyd y llygaid, ac rwyf hefyd yn gwrthwynebu gwelliant 7. O ran y gwelliannau eraill, rwy'n cefnogi gwelliannau 1, 2, 3, 5 a 6. Rwyf eisoes wedi cydnabod ymroddiad a chefnogaeth yr holl randdeiliaid allweddol, gan gynnwys y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector, o ran sicrhau bod gofal iechyd y llygaid yng Nghymru yn cael ei ddarparu'n effeithiol a bod cefnogaeth ar ei gyfer. Rwyf hefyd wedi ymrwmo, yn ystod y ddadl fis diwethaf, i sicrhau ein bod yn gwella ansawdd y wybodaeth a ddarperir. Credaf fod hynny'n bwysig iawn ac yn rhan allweddol o'r cynllun, fel y dywedais, a bydd yn cynnwys datblygu data a gwybodaeth gadarn fel bod modd inni gynllunio sut y darperir gwasanaethau gofal iechyd y llygaid a monitro'r gwasanaethau hynny a pha mor effeithiol ydynt. Byddaf yn sefydlu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen i fwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith.

Rwyf eisoes wedi ail-ddatgan fy ymrwymiad i sicrhau bod colli golwg y mae modd ei osgoi yn ymrwymiad iechyd cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, ac i sicrhau bod rhaglen sgrinio gynhwysfawr ar gyfer plant ledled Cymru. Roedd gennyf ddiddordeb mawr yn y ffaith bod dau Aelod wedi cyfeirio at y Cynllun Gwên ac wedi gofyn a oes rhywbeth y gellid ei ymgorffori yn hwn. Mae hynny'n

health checks for the over 50s.

rhywbeth y byddai modd inni edrych arno, ynghyd â gwiriadau iechyd ar gyfer pobl dros 50 oed.

Finally, I would like to place on record my thanks to all our eye care professionals in Wales and our public, private and third sector partners for their commitment and hard work in the delivery of such high-quality eye health care services. We will continue to work with all stakeholders to further improve eye health care services for the people of Wales.

Yn olaf, hoffwn nodi fy niolch i bob un o'n gweithwyr proffesiynol ym maes gofal y llygaid yng Nghymru a'n partneriaid yn y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector am eu hymrwymiad a'u gwaith caled wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau gofal iechyd y llygaid sydd o safon mor uchel. Byddwn yn parhau i weithio gyda'r holl randdeiliaid i wella gwasanaethau gofal iechyd y llygaid i bobl Cymru.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree amendment 1. Does any Member object? I see that there are no objections. Amendment 1 is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 12.36.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw a ddylid derbyn gwelliant 1. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Felly, derbynnir gwelliant 1 yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 12.36.

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is to agree amendment 2. Does any Member object? I see that there are objections. I therefore defer all further voting on this item until voting time, which will now follow. Before we proceed with the votes, are there three Members who wish for the bell to be rung? I see that there are not.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw a ddylid derbyn gwelliant 2. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf fod gwrthwynebiad. Felly, gohiriaf bob pleidlais arall ar yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio, a fydd yn dilyn yn awr. Cyn inni symud ymlaen at y pleidleisiau, a oes tri Aelod sy'n dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Gwelaf nad oes.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio Voting Time

Gwelliant 2 i NDM5009: O blaid 43, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 9.

Amendment 2 to NDM5009: For 43, Abstain 0, Against 9.

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

Andrews, Leighton
Antoniw, Mick
Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Burns, Angela
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Byron
Davies, Keith
Davies, Paul

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

Davies, Jocelyn
Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Thomas, Simon
Wood, Leanne

Davies, Suzy
Drakeford, Mark
Evans, Rebecca
Finch-Saunders, Janet
George, Russell
Gething, Vaughan
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Hedges, Mike
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
James, Julie
Jones, Carwyn
Lewis, Huw
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Julie
Neagle, Lynne
Parrott, Eluned
Powell, William
Price, Gwyn R.
Ramsay, Nick
Rathbone, Jenny
Rees, David
Roberts, Aled
Sandbach, Antoinette
Sargeant, Carl
Skates, Kenneth
Thomas, Gwenda
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment agreed.*

*Gwelliant 3 i NDM5009: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 3 to NDM5009: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Antoniw, Mick
Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Burns, Angela
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Byron
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Keith
Davies, Paul
Davies, Suzy

Drakeford, Mark
 Evans, Rebecca
 Finch-Saunders, Janet
 George, Russell
 Gething, Vaughan
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
 Hedges, Mike
 Hutt, Jane
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Julie
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Julie
 Neagle, Lynne
 Parrott, Eluned
 Powell, William
 Price, Gwyn R.
 Ramsay, Nick
 Rathbone, Jenny
 Rees, David
 Roberts, Aled
 Sandbach, Antoinette
 Sargeant, Carl
 Skates, Kenneth
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Thomas, Simon
 Watson, Joyce
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment agreed.*

*Gwelliant 4 i NDM5009: O blaid 12, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 40.
 Amendment 4 to NDM5009: For 12, Abstain 0, Against 40.*

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

Asghar, Mohammad
 Burns, Angela
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Byron
 Davies, Paul
 Davies, Suzy
 Finch-Saunders, Janet

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Antoniwi, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Jocelyn

George, Russell
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Ramsay, Nick
Sandbach, Antoinette

Davies, Keith
Drakeford, Mark
Evans, Rebecca
Gething, Vaughan
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
Hedges, Mike
Hutt, Jane
James, Julie
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Julie
Neagle, Lynne
Parrott, Eluned
Powell, William
Price, Gwyn R.
Rathbone, Jenny
Rees, David
Roberts, Aled
Sargeant, Carl
Skates, Kenneth
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Thomas, Simon
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment not agreed.*

*Gwelliant 5 i NDM5009: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 5 to NDM5009: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Antoniw, Mick
Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Burns, Angela
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Byron
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Keith

Davies, Paul
Davies, Suzy
Drakeford, Mark
Evans, Rebecca
Finch-Saunders, Janet
George, Russell
Gething, Vaughan
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
Hedges, Mike
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
James, Julie
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Julie
Neagle, Lynne
Parrott, Eluned
Powell, William
Price, Gwyn R.
Ramsay, Nick
Rathbone, Jenny
Rees, David
Roberts, Aled
Sandbach, Antoinette
Sargeant, Carl
Skates, Kenneth
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Thomas, Simon
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment agreed.*

*Gwelliant 6 i NDM5009: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 6 to NDM5009: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Antoniw, Mick
Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Burns, Angela

Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Byron
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Keith
Davies, Paul
Davies, Suzy
Drakeford, Mark
Evans, Rebecca
Finch-Saunders, Janet
George, Russell
Gething, Vaughan
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
Hedges, Mike
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
James, Julie
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Julie
Neagle, Lynne
Parrott, Eluned
Powell, William
Price, Gwyn R.
Ramsay, Nick
Rathbone, Jenny
Rees, David
Roberts, Aled
Sandbach, Antoinette
Sargeant, Carl
Skates, Kenneth
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Thomas, Simon
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment agreed.*

*Gwelliant 7 i NDM5009: O blaid 26, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 26.
Amendment 7 to NDM5009: For 26, Abstain 0, Against 26.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Asghar, Mohammad
 Black, Peter
 Burns, Angela
 Davies, Andrew R.T.
 Davies, Byron
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Davies, Paul
 Davies, Suzy
 Finch-Saunders, Janet
 George, Russell
 Graham, William
 Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jenkins, Bethan
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Parrott, Eluned
 Powell, William
 Ramsay, Nick
 Roberts, Aled
 Sandbach, Antoinette
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Thomas, Simon
 Williams, Kirsty
 Wood, Leanne

The following Members voted against:

Andrews, Leighton
 Antoniwi, Mick
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davies, Alun
 Davies, Keith
 Drakeford, Mark
 Evans, Rebecca
 Gething, Vaughan
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, Lesley
 Hedges, Mike
 Hutt, Jane
 James, Julie
 Jones, Carwyn
 Lewis, Huw
 Mewies, Sandy
 Morgan, Julie
 Neagle, Lynne
 Price, Gwyn R.
 Rathbone, Jenny
 Rees, David
 Sargeant, Carl
 Skates, Kenneth
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Watson, Joyce

Gan fod nifer y pleidleisiau yn gyfartal, defnyddiodd y Dirprwy Lywydd ei bleidlais fwrw yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.20(ii)

As there was an equality of votes, the Deputy Presiding Officer used his casting vote in accordance with Standing Order No. 6.20(ii)

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment not agreed.*

Cynnig NDM5009 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

1. Yn nodi'r datblygiadau a wireddwyd gan y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r trydydd sector i wella llofal iechyd y llygaid;

2. Yn cydnabod bod yna fwy o waith i'w wneud ac y bydd hyn yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Lywodraeth Cymru gydlynu rhaglen iechyd y cyhoedd ehangach a fydd yn ymgorffori newidiadau mewn prosesau monitro a chasglu data, sy'n angenrheidiol er mwyn galluogi cynlluniau gwasanaethau a gwaith hybu iechyd y llygaid mwy gwybodus;

Motion NDM5009 as amended:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Notes the advances realised by the public, private and third sectors to improve eye health care; and

2. Recognises that there is more work to be done and this will require the Welsh Government to co-ordinate a wider public health programme which will incorporate improvements in data collection and monitoring which are needed to enable more informed service planning and eye health promotion work.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3. <i>Yn cydnabod y cynnydd sy'n deillio o Strategaeth Olwg Cymru, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod cynlluniau gofal llygaid yn y dyfodol yn cysylltu â'r gwaith hwn ac yn adeiladu arno;</i></p> | <p>3. <i>Acknowledges the progress arising from the Wales Vision Strategy and calls on the Welsh Government to ensure the future eye care plan links to and builds on this work.</i></p> |
| <p>4. <i>Yn croesawu'r gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i sicrhau bod gostyngiad mesuradwy mewn achosion o golli golwg y mae modd eu hosgoi yn flaenoriaeth ar gyfer iechyd y cyhoedd yng Nghymru; a</i></p> | <p>4. <i>Welcomes cross party support for making a measurable reduction in avoidable sight loss a public health priority for Wales.</i></p> |
| <p>5. <i>Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau bod unrhyw gynllun gofal llygaid sy'n cael ei gyhoeddi yn sicrhau bod pob plentyn pedair a phum mlwydd oed yng Nghymru yn cael profion golwg yn yr ysgol.</i></p> | <p>5. <i>Calls on the Welsh Government to ensure that any eye care plan that is to be published ensures that all four and five year olds in Wales receive vision screening in school.</i></p> |

*Cynnig NDM5009 fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion NDM5009 as amended: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Antoniw, Mick
Asghar, Mohammad
Black, Peter
Burns, Angela
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davies, Alun
Davies, Andrew R.T.
Davies, Byron
Davies, Jocelyn
Davies, Keith
Davies, Paul
Davies, Suzy
Drakeford, Mark
Evans, Rebecca
Finch-Saunders, Janet
George, Russell
Gething, Vaughan
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, Lesley
Gruffydd, Llyr Huws
Hedges, Mike
Hutt, Jane
Isherwood, Mark
James, Julie
Jenkins, Bethan
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Elin

Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Lewis, Huw
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Julie
Neagle, Lynne
Parrott, Eluned
Powell, William
Price, Gwyn R.
Ramsay, Nick
Rathbone, Jenny
Rees, David
Roberts, Aled
Sandbach, Antoinette
Sargeant, Carl
Skates, Kenneth
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Thomas, Simon
Watson, Joyce
Williams, Kirsty
Wood, Leanne

*Derbyniwyd cynnig NDM5009 fel y'i diwygiwyd.
Motion NDM5009 as amended agreed.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â busnes concludes today's business. heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.21 p.m.
The meeting ended at 6.21 p.m.*

Aelodau a'u Pleidiau Members and their Parties

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
Antoniw, Mick (Llafur – Labour)
Asghar, Mohammad (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
Burns, Angela (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
Davies, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
Davies, Andrew R.T. (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Davies, Byron (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Davies, Keith (Llafur – Labour)
Davies, Paul (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Davies, Suzy (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Drakeford, Mark (Llafur – Labour)
Elis-Thomas, Yr Arglwydd/Lord (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
Evans, Rebecca (Llafur – Labour)
Finch-Saunders, Janet (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
George, Russell (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
Gething, Vaughan (Llafur – Labour)

Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, Lesley (Llafur – Labour)
 Gruffydd, Llyr Huws (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hedges, Mike (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Julie (Llafur – Labour)
 Jenkins, Bethan (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Millar, Darren (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Julie (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Parrott, Eluned (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Powell, William (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Price, Gwyn R. (Llafur – Labour)
 Ramsay, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Rathbone, Jenny (Llafur – Labour)
 Rees, David (Llafur – Labour)
 Roberts, Aled (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Sandbach, Antoinette (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
 Skates, Kenneth (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Thomas, Simon (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Watson, Joyce (Llafur – Labour)
 Whittle, Lindsay (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)

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