

Cofnod y Trafodion

The Record of Proceedings

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Cynnwys Contents

[Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau](#)
[Questions to the Minister for Education and Skills](#)

[Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau](#)
[Questions to the Minister for Local Government and Communities](#)

[Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol ar yr Ymchwiliad ynghylch Sefydlu Awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru](#)
[The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's Report on the Inquiry into the Establishment of a Separate Welsh Jurisdiction](#)

[Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Datblygu Economaidd](#)
[Welsh Conservatives Debate: Economic Development](#)

[Dadl Plaid Cymru: Menywod, Teuluoedd a'r Economi a Newidiadau i Fudd-daliadau](#)
[Plaid Cymru Debate: Women, Families and the Economy and Welfare Benefit Changes](#)

[Cyfnod Pleidleisio](#)
[Voting Time](#)

[Dadl Fer: Cefnogi'r Economi Wledig](#)
[Short Debate: Supporting the Rural Economy](#)

Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau

Safonau Addysg

13:30 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

1. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am safonau addysg ysgolion uwchradd yn adran Caerdydd De Caerdydd a Phenarth. OAQ(4)0247(ESK)

13:30 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau / The Minister for Education and Skills

There are three high schools in an Estyn category in the area, which seems unacceptably high. You will, of course, be aware of the action I propose with regard to Llanrumney High School.

13:31 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Fitzalan High School serves a significant portion of my constituents and you will know that there have been improvements at Willows High School in this last year, but I agree that standards are not what they should be in the Cardiff section of my constituency. I am sure that you would agree that it reinforces the need to have an unrelenting and unapologetic drive to raise standards. The problem did not start in May 2012, but can you confirm what discussions you have had with the new leadership at Cardiff Council and the consortia to ensure that a significantly improved strategic approach is taken to support and challenge schools in Cardiff to raise standards?

Questions to the Minister for Education and Skills

Education Standards

1. Will the Minister make a statement on the standards in high school education within the Cardiff section of Cardiff South and Penarth. OAQ(4)0247(ESK)

Mae tair ysgol uwchradd mewn categori Estyn yn yr ardal, sy'n ymddangos yn annerbyniol o uchel. Byddwch, wrth gwrs, yn ymwybodol o'r camau gweithredu a gynigiwyd gennyf o ran Ysgol Uwchradd Llanrhymni.

Mae Ysgol Uwchradd Fitzalan yn gwasanaethu cyfran sylweddol o'm hetholwyr a gwyddoch am y gwelliannau yn Ysgol Uwchradd Willows yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, ond cytunaf nad yw safonau cystal ag y dylent fod yn rhan Caerdydd o'm etholaeth. Rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cytuno ei fod yn atgyfnerthu'r ffaith bod angen ymdrech gadarn, ddi-baid i godi safonau. Nid ym mis Mai 2012 y dechreuodd y broblem, ond a allwch gadarnhau pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gydag arweinwyr newydd Cyngor Caerdydd a'r consortia i sicrhau y caiff dull gweithredu strategol llawer gwell ei roi ar waith er mwyn cefnogi a herio ysgolion yng Nghaerdydd i godi safonau?

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13:31 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I have had a number of conversations with the cabinet member for education in Cardiff Council and I am very impressed with the action that she is taking, with the support of the relevant director in the authority. She is bringing a forensic approach to addressing poor standards that have endured over several years. The right approach is being adopted to ensure that standards in our capital city can be the envy of other places in Wales.

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Cefais sawl sgwrs gyda'r aelod o'r cabinet dros addysg yng Nghyngor Caerdydd ac mae'r camau gweithredu y mae'n eu cymryd, gyda chymorth y cyfarwyddwr perthnasol yn yr awdurdod, wedi creu cryn argraff arnaf. Mae'n mynd ati i ymdrin â'r safonau gwael a fu'n amlwg ers sawl blwyddyn mewn ffordd ffrensig. Mae'r dull gweithredu priodol yn cael ei fabwysiadu er mwyn sicrhau bod safonau yn ein prifddinas yn destun eiddgedd ledled Cymru.

13:32 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition
Minister, the transition from primary to secondary school has been identified as an important area for improvement by Estyn and by many educational experts. One improvement that we have seen over recent years in particular has been in the feeder school system and in the liaison between the secondary school and the primary school so that children do not have a sudden shock in the transition to secondary school. Is that a good model for local authorities to maintain in particular in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan? On those relationships between the secondary and primary schools, is that a sensible way to improve the middle cohort of our children?

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Weinidog, nodwyd gan Estyn a llawer o arbenigwyr addysgol bod y cyfnod pontio o ysgolion cynradd i ysgolion uwchradd yn faes pwysig i'w wella. Un gwelliant a welsom yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf yn arbennig fu'r system ysgolion bwydo a'r cyswllt rhwng ysgolion uwchradd ac ysgolion cynradd fel na fydd plant yn cael sioc sydyn wrth symud i'r ysgol uwchradd. A yw hynny'n fodel da i awdurdodau lleol ei ddilyn, yn arbennig yng Nghaerdydd a Bro Morgannwg? O ran y cydberthnasau hynny rhwng yr ysgolion uwchradd a'r ysgolion cynradd, ai dyna'r ffordd synhwyrol o wella carfan ganol ein plant?

13:32 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Close relationships between secondary schools and their feeder primary schools are very important. I have seen good examples of best practice in a number of authorities in south Wales and beyond where there has been a real attempt to ensure proper engagement between the secondary schools and the primary schools, ensuring that, for example, form teachers who will be receiving those children get to know those children when they are still in primary school. Therefore, there are lots of good examples and it is something that we wish to encourage.

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Mae cydberthnasau agos rhwng ysgolion uwchradd a'r ysgolion cynradd sy'n bwydo iddynt yn bwysig iawn. Gwelais enghreifftiau da o arfer gorau mewn nifer o awdurdodau yn y de a thu hwnt lle y gwnaed ymdrech wirioneddol i sicrhau cyswllt priodol rhwng yr ysgolion uwchradd a'r ysgolion cynradd, gan sicrhau, er enghraifft, bod yr athrawon dosbarth a fydd yn derbyn y plant hynny yn dod i'w hadnabod tra byddant yn dal yn yr ysgol gynradd. Felly, mae llawer o enghreifftiau da ac mae'n rhywbeth rydym yn awyddus i'w annog.

Our new literacy and numeracy framework goes across the key stages and enables schools to plan on that basis across key stages.

Mae ein fframwaith llythrennedd a rhifedd newydd yn croesi'r cyfnodau allweddol ac yn galluogi ysgolion i gynllunio ar y sail honno ar draws cyfnodau allweddol.

13:33 **Leanne Wood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru
Apart from causing anxiety to school staff, pupils and their parents, your desire to close Llanrumney High School ahead of the 2014 timetable is sending some very strange signals to parents across Wales. After being ranked as the worst-performing secondary school in Wales, according to your school banding system, it has climbed more than 20 places in the latest banding table. This is not a question about that specific school, but about your banding system in general. Is it not the case that this decision about this school has undermined the banding system by rewarding those that improve with closure?

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Yn ogystal â pheri pryder i staff yr ysgol, disgyblion a'u rhieni, mae eich awydd i gau Ysgol Uwchradd Llanrhymni cyn amserlen 2014, yn cyfleu negeseuon rhyfedd iawn i rieni ledled Cymru. Ar ôl cael ei henwi fel yr ysgol uwchradd sy'n perfformio waethaf yng Nghymru, yn ôl eich system bandio ysgolion, mae wedi codi mwy nag 20 safle yn y tabl bandio diweddaraf. Nid cwestiwn am yr ysgol benodol honno sydd gennyf, ond am eich system bandio yn gyffredinol. Onid yw'r penderfyniad hwn am yr ysgol hon wedi tansilio'r system bandio drwy wobrwyo'r ysgolion hynny sy'n gwella drwy eu cau?

13:34	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>No. The Plaid Cymru leader is clearly not interested in school improvement and does not understand the banding system. The truth is that most secondary schools remained in the same band or moved up or down one place. We saw significant improvements in schools in bands 4 and 5 and in the number of young people getting five good GCSE grades. I wish, for once, that I would hear something from Plaid Cymru that shows that they have an interest in improving the performance of young people throughout Wales. Young people in Wales deserve the best and we will ensure that the system gives them that.</p>	<p>Nac ydy. Mae'n amlwg nad oes gan arweinydd Plaid Cymru ddiddordeb mewn gwella ysgolion ac nad yw'n deall y system bandio. Y gwir amdani yw bod y rhan fwyaf o ysgolion uwchradd wedi aros yn yr un band neu wedi codi neu ostwng un safle. Gwelsom welliannau sylweddol gan ysgolion ym mandiau 4 a 5 ac yn nifer y bobl ifanc a enillodd bum gradd TGAU dda. Hoffwn glywed, am unwaith, rywbeth gan Blaid Cymru sy'n dangos bod ganddi ddiddordeb mewn gwella perfformiad pobl ifanc ledled Cymru. Mae pobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn haeddu'r gorau a byddwn yn sicrhau bod y system yn cynnig hynny iddynt.</p>
	Gwefan Fy Ysgol Leol	My Local School Website
13:35	Ieuan Wyn Jones Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y wefan Fy Ysgol Leol. OAQ(4)0244(ESK)</p>	<p>2. Will the Minister make a statement on the My Local School website. OAQ(4)0244(ESK)</p>
13:35	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Aelod am dynnu sylw at y wefan hon. Cafodd Fy Ysgol Leol ei lansio ym mis Chwefror. Mae'n rhoi darlun clir i rieni o berfformiad eu hysgol leol. Ers i'r wefan gael ei lansio, mae 16,000 wedi ymweld â hi, gan edrych ar dros 90,000 o dudalennau.</p>	<p>I wish to thank the Member for drawing attention to this website. My Local School was launched in February. It presents parents with a clear picture of how their local school is performing. The site has had 16,000 visitors and over 90,000 pages have been viewed since launching.</p>
13:35	Ieuan Wyn Jones Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. Ymddengys, fel yr awgrymodd y Gweinidog, mai pwrpas y wefan newydd yw rhoi gwybodaeth i rieni am ysgolion yn eu hardal. Dyna hefyd yw'r rheswm y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei roi dros fandio. Os yw hyn yn digwydd yn y ddwy ffordd, oni fyddai hi'n well canolbwyntio ar ddatblygu'r wefan, a chael gwared ar y system fandio?</p>	<p>I thank the Minister for his response. It would appear, as he has suggested, that the purpose of this new website is to provide information to parents on schools in their areas. That is also the reason given by the Minister for banding schools. If this information is being presented in both ways, would it not be better to concentrate on developing the website, and to abolish the banding system?</p>
13:36	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>The banding system is working, as I have just explained to the Member's party leader. It is making significant improvements, and we have seen those improvements in performance in bands 4 and 5. We have seen an increase in the numbers of young people getting 5 good GCSEs, namely 36% of young people in band 5 rising to 41% getting 5 good GCSEs, and 41% of young people in band 4 rising to 46% getting 5 good GCSEs. Therefore, it is clear that the focus that we have put in place has worked. The My Local School website has been thoroughly welcomed across Wales for the information that it allows parents and pupils to see about their schools. I have heard nothing but good about it.</p>	<p>Mae'r system fandio yn gweithio, fel rwyf newydd esbonio i arweinydd plaid yr Aelod. Mae'n gwneud gwelliannau sylweddol, ac rydym wedi gweld y gwelliannau hynny o ran perfformiad ym mandiau 4 a 5. Rydym wedi gweld cynnydd yn nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n ennill pum TGAU dda, sef cynnydd o 36% o bobl ifanc ym mand 5 yn ennill pum TGAU dda i 41%, a chynnydd o 41% o bobl ifanc ym mand 4 yn ennill pum TGAU dda i 46%. Felly, mae'n amlwg bod y ffocws sydd ar waith gennym wedi gweithio. Cafodd gwefan Fy Ysgol Leol groeso mawr ledled Cymru am y wybodaeth y mae'n galluogi i rieni a disgyblion ei gweld am eu hysgolion. Nid wyf wedi clywed dim byd ond canmoliaeth iddi.</p>

13:36	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I have the My Local School website on my screen at the moment, and it really is an excellent website. However, I would not go as far as Plaid Cymru in saying that it can replace the banding or the monitoring of schools, but it does what it does very well. Often with these initiatives, Minister, they start to a fanfare, and are successful, and have many hits in the early days, and then, later on, that tails off. What will you do to ensure that this website is kept up to date, and that parents know that it is there and that they can access it for information about their local schools?</p>	<p>Mae gwefan Fy Ysgol Leol ar fy sgrin ar hyn o bryd, ac, o ddifrif, mae'n wefan ardderchog. Fodd bynnag, ni chytunaf â Plaid Cymru wrth ddweud y gall ddisodli'r broses o fandio neu fonitro ysgolion, ond mae'n gwneud yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud yn dda iawn. Yn aml, Weinidog, mae'r mentrau hyn yn cael cryn dipyn o sylw ar y dechrau, ac yn llwyddiannus gyda llawer o ymweliadau â'u tudalennau yn ystod y cyfnod cychwynnol, ac wedyn, yn ddiweddarach, mae'r diddordeb yn pylu. Beth a wnewch i sicrhau bod y wefan hon yn gyfredol, a bod rhieni yn gwybod amdani ac yn gwybod y gallant fynd ati i gael gwybodaeth am eu hysgolion lleol?</p>
13:37	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I would encourage the Member to build on his enthusiasm for the website by ensuring that he publicises it locally to parents in his constituency. Indeed, I would encourage all Members to do the same. We will keep that website updated with relevant information, and we have ensured that it has been given widespread coverage across Wales through the media.</p>	<p>Byddwn yn annog yr Aelod i ddefnyddio ei frwdfrydedd tuag at y wefan drwy sicrhau ei fod yn rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd lleol iddi i rieni yn ei etholaeth. Yn wir, byddwn yn annog pob Aelod i wneud hynny. Caiff y wybodaeth honno ei diweddarau â gwybodaeth berthnasol, ac rydym wedi sicrhau ei bod wedi cael cyhoeddusrwydd helaeth ledled Cymru drwy'r cyfryngau.</p>
	Colegau Diogel	Secure Colleges
13:37	Aled Roberts Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p><i>3. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cynnal gyda Gweinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder y DU ynghylch sefydlu colegau diogel yng Nghymru a Lloegr. OAQ(4)0243(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>3. What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Ministry of Justice regarding the establishment of secure colleges in Wales and England. OAQ(4)0243(ESK)</i></p>
13:37	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Dim.</p>	<p>None.</p>
13:37	Aled Roberts Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Weinidog, mae ymgynghoriad ar hyn o bryd gan Lywodraeth Prydain ar y pwnc hwn. Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n gyfrifol am addysg mewn carchardai i ieuencid, wrth gwrs, felly a ydych yn cefnogi'r syniad bod angen mwy o bendantrwydd ynglŷn ag addysg yn hytrach na charcharu pobl ifanc yng Nghymru?</p>	<p>Minister, a consultation is being run at present by the United Kingdom Government. The Welsh Government is of course responsible for education within youth prisons, therefore are you supportive of the idea that we should be more definite about education rather than incarcerating young people in Wales?</p>
13:38	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>The Secretary of State for Justice wrote to the Minister for Local Government and Communities on 14 February about this issue, and I was copied in on that letter. The letter advised that the UK Government was launching a consultation entitled 'Transforming Youth Custody: Putting Education at the Heart of Detention'. I welcome the recognition that is being given to the role of education in the Ministry of Justice's consultation.</p>	<p>Ysgrifennodd yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Gyfiawnder at y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau ar 14 Chwefror am y mater hwn, a chefais gopi o'r llythyr hwnnw. Nododd y llythyr fod Llywodraeth y DU yn lansio ymgynghoriad o'r enw 'Transforming Youth Custody: Putting Education at the Heart of Detention'. Croesawaf y gydnabyddiaeth sy'n cael ei rhoi i rôl addysg fel rhan o ymgynghoriad y Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder.</p>
13:38	Aled Roberts Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Yr oedd pwyllgor yn ystod y trydydd Cynulliad yn feiriadol o'r trefniadau ar gyfer troseddwr ifanc, gan nodi nad oedd lle ar eu cyfer yng ngogledd na chanolbarth Cymru. A fyddwch yn barod, yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad hwn, i bwysu ar Lywodraeth Prydain i sicrhau bod troseddwr o Gymru yn cael eu haddysgu mewn colegau diogel yng Nghymru, os caiff colegau diogel eu sefydlu yma?</p>	<p>A committee during the third Assembly was critical of the arrangements for young offenders, stating that there was nowhere in north or Wales for these offenders. Would you be willing, within the consultation, to urge the United Kingdom Government to ensure that offenders from Wales should be taught within secure colleges in Wales, if they are established here?</p>

13:39	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>I believe that we understand those issues. If the Member wishes to write to me, I will discuss those issues with the Minister for Local Government and Communities. I think that the Member will be aware of the evidence that the Welsh Government has given on youth justice to the Silk commission.</p>	<p>Credaf ein bod yn deall y materion hynny. Os hoffai'r Aelod ysgrifennu ataf, trafodaf y materion hynny gyda'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau. Credaf y bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol o'r dystiolaeth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i rhoi ar gyfiawnder ieuencid i gomisiwn Silk.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:39	<p>Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>It is almost three years since the Welsh Government accepted recommendation 12 of the Communities and Culture Committee's report on the experience of Welsh children in the secure estate. I was one of those who helped to put that report together. Recommendation 12, which you accepted, called for the development of new secure children's homes in Wales, especially in north Wales, to provide a child-centred service. Therefore, what action have you taken on the basis of that recommendation, which was accepted in June 2010?</p>	<p>Mae bron tair blynedd ers i Lywodraeth Cymru dderbyn argymhelliad 12 adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant ar brofiad plant Cymru mewn sefydliadau diogel. Roeddwn yn un o'r rhai a helpodd i lunio'r adroddiad hwnnw. Roedd argymhelliad 12, a dderbyniwyd gennych, yn galw am ddatblygu cartrefi diogel newydd i blant yng Nghymru, yn enwedig yn y gogledd, i ddarparu gwasanaeth sy'n canolbwyntio ar y plentyn. Felly, pa gamau a gymerwyd gennych ar sail yr argymhelliad hwnnw, a dderbyniwyd ym mis Mehefin 2010?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:39	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>I believe that the Government has taken forward these issues, not least in our recent evidence to the Silk commission.</p>	<p>Credaf fod y Llywodraeth wedi gweithredu ar y materion hyn, gan gynnwys yn ein tystiolaeth ddiweddar i gomisiwn Silk.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:40	<p>Lindsay Whittle Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, 50% of young offenders in custody are known to have serious language deficiencies. Therefore, action needs to be taken to ensure that these young people receive the necessary education to develop the skills that they need for a better future in both languages. Do you agree therefore that the decisions on the education of young people in custody should be made in Wales, and will you say that on record?</p>	<p>Weinidog, gwyddys fod gan 50% o droseddwyr ifanc yn y ddalfa ddiffygion iaith difrifol. Felly, mae angen gweithredu er mwyn sicrhau bod y bobl ifanc hyn yn cael yr addysg angenrheidiol i feithrin y sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i sicrhau gwell dyfodol yn y ddwy iaith. Felly a gytunwch y dylid gwneud y penderfyniadau am addysg pobl ifanc yn y ddalfa yng Nghymru, ac a ddywedwch hynny ar gofnod?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:40	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>We have made our position clear in our submission to the Silk commission and I have nothing to add to that submission.</p>	<p>Rydym wedi egluro ein safbwynt yn ein cyflwyniad i gomisiwn Silk ac nid oes gennyf ddim i'w ychwanegu at y cyflwyniad hwnnw.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
	<p>Dyfodol Addysg</p>	<p>Future of Education</p>	
13:40	<p>Darren Millar Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol addysg yng Nghymru. OAQ(4)0235(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>4. Will the Minister make a statement on the future of education in Wales. OAQ(4)0235(ESK)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:40	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>My priorities for the future of education in Wales are set out in the programme for government.</p>	<p>Nodwyd fy mlaenoriaethau ar gyfer dyfodol addysg yng Nghymru yn y rhaglen lywodraethu.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

13:40	<p>Darren Millar Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Thank you for that answer, Minister. You will be aware that one of the issues that we return to in this Chamber on a regular basis is school discipline and the need for better behaviour by a small number of unruly pupils in our schools. The school day starts with school transport. What discussions have you had with headteachers and the wider stakeholder community about the behaviour of pupils on school buses? There was a particularly awful incident in my own constituency involving pupils from Ysgol Brynhyfryd hurling abuse at the bus driver, disobeying instructions to sit down and being intimidating towards passengers. That is clearly unacceptable. What action are you taking to stamp out such behaviour on our school buses?</p>	<p>Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Byddwch yn ymwybodol mai un o'r materion a gaiff ei drafod yn rheolaidd yn y Siambr hon yw disgyblaeth mewn ysgolion a'r angen i wella ymddygiad nifer fach o ddisgyblion anstywallt yn ein hysgolion. Mae'r diwrnod ysgol yn dechrau â thrafnidiaeth ysgol. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch gyda phenaethiaid a'r gymuned rhanddeiliaid ehangach am ymddygiad disgyblion ar fysiau ysgol? Bu digwyddiad echrydus yn fy etholaeth gyda disgyblion o Ysgol Brynhyfryd yn hyrddio sylwadau sarhaus at yrrwr y bws, yn anwybyddu cyfarwyddiadau i eistedd i lawr ac yn bygwth teithwyr. Mae hynny'n amlwg yn annerbyniol. Pa gamau rydych yn eu cymryd i gael gwared ar ymddygiad o'r fath ar ein bysiau ysgol?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:41	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Learner travel is the responsibility of my colleague the Minister for Local Government and Communities and we have had conversations about these issues. The kind of behaviour the Member depicts is, of course, to be deplored.</p>	<p>Cyfrifoldeb fy nghyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, yw'r trefniadau teithio ar gyfer dysgwyr ac rydym wedi trafod y materion hyn. Mae'r math o ymddygiad y mae'r Aelod yn ei ddisgrifio, wrth gwrs, yn warthus.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:41	<p>Simon Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Weinidog, flwyddyn yn ôl dywedoch mewn araith,</p> <p>'I said that I wanted my department to focus on better implementation, on fewer initiatives, and to keep it simple.'</p> <p>Dywedoch ymhellach,</p> <p>'I said we would not create new initiatives which did not contribute to the goal of driving up standards.'</p> <p>Ers dod yn Weinidog, rydych chi wedi creu dros 30 o wahanol dasgluoedd, adolygiadau neu ymgynghoriadau. Pa safonau sydd wedi gwella yn sgîl pob un o'r rheiny?</p>	<p>Minister, a year ago in a speech you said,</p> <p>Dywedais fy mod am i'm hadran roi ffocws ar weithredu'n well, ar lai o gynlluniau a chadw pethau'n syml.</p> <p>You went on to say,</p> <p>Dywedais na fyddem yn creu mentrau newydd nad oeddent yn cyfrannu at y nod o wella safonau.</p> <p>Since becoming a Minister, you have created over 30 taskforces, reviews or consultations. What standards have improved as a result of each of those?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:42	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Standards of attendance are going up and we are closing the gap in GCSE performance as well. Fewer young people are leaving school without qualifications.</p>	<p>Mae safonau presenoldeb yn gwella ac rydym yn cau'r bwlch o ran perfformiad TGAU hefyd. Mae llai o bobl ifanc yn gadael yr ysgol heb gymwysterau.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:42	<p>Simon Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Mae'n siŵr y byddech yn cyfaddef bod tipyn o waith, serch hynny, i godi safonau yng Nghymru, gan eich bod wedi cydnabod bod y system yn methu. Fodd bynnag, un fenter y sonioch amdano yn ddiweddar oedd y posibilrwydd o gael cwmni preifat i mewn i redeg y gwasanaethau addysg ym Merthyr. Ers gwneud y datganiad hwnnw, rydych wedi cael amser i ailystyried. A wnech chi osgoi'r hynny'n llwyr a dweud yn glir na fydd unrhyw gwmni preifat yn rhedeg unrhyw wasanaeth addysg yng Nghymru o dan eich teyrnasiad chi fel Gweinidog?</p>	<p>I am sure that you would admit that there is quite some work still to be done to raise standards in Wales, given that you have acknowledged that the system is failing. However, one initiative that you mentioned recently was the possibility of having a private company to run education services in Merthyr. Since making that statement, you have had time to reconsider. Will you completely evade that possibility and tell us clearly that there will be no private company running any education services in Wales while you remain in post?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

13:43	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography I made my statement on Merthyr and Monmouthshire last week. I made it clear at the time that my preferred option was for the education service for Merthyr to be delivered by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. That remains my preferred position.	Gwneuthum fy natganiad ar Ferthyr a Sir Fynwy yr wythnos diwethaf. Eglurais bryd hynny mai fy hoff ddeuw oedd i wasanaeth addysg Merthyr gael ei gyflwyno gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf. Dyna'r sefyllfa ddymunol o hyd, yn fy marn i.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:43	Kirsty Williams Bywgraffiad Biography <i>Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru / The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats</i> A look at My Local School website would reveal that Brecon High School has a deficit budget of £704,000 for 2011-12. That is in a school with fewer than 800 pupils. What advice and guidance do you give to individual schools and local authorities on how such large and significant budget deficits can be overcome and dealt with without impacting on the current education for children within that school, while at the same time ensuring that the school is dealt with equitably, along with other schools in that particular local authority?	O edrych ar wefan Fy Ysgol Leol, gwelir bod gan Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu ddiffyg cyllidebol o £704,000 ar gyfer 2011-12. Mae hynny mewn ysgol a chanddi lai nag 800 o ddisgyblion. Pa gyngor ac arweiniad a roddir gennych i ysgolion unigol ac awdurdodau lleol o ran sut y gellid goresgyn diffygion mor fawr a sylweddol yn eu cyllidebau gan ymdrin â hwy heb effeithio ar yr addysg a ddarperir ar y pryd i blant yn yr ysgol honno, gan sicrhau ar yr un pryd yr ymdrinnir â'r ysgol mewn ffordd deg, ynghyd ag ysgolion eraill yn yr awdurdod lleol penodol hwnnw?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:44	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography These are matters for Powys County Council.	Materion i Gyngor Sir Powys eu hystyried yw'r rhain.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:44	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography I am glad that you mentioned GCSE performance. You recently announced the introduction of a Wales-only grading system for GCSE English language, and you have recognised the importance of an appropriate methodology, as you call it, in determining Welsh grade boundaries. We know that there were issues around marking last summer. Can you offer assurances that the action you took was not taken to crudely lower grade boundaries in Wales to try to cut an attainment gap legacy?	Rwy'n falch eich bod wedi crybwyll perfformiad o ran TGAU. Yn ddiweddar, gwnaethoch gyhoeddi bod system graddio ar gyfer TGAU Saesneg iaith yn cael ei chyflwyno ar gyfer Cymru'n unig, ac rydych wedi cydnabod pwysigrwydd methodoleg briodol, fel y'i gelwir gennych, wrth bennu ffiniau graddau yng Nghymru. Gwyddom am y problemau o ran marcio a gafwyd haf llynedd. A allwch ein sicrhau nad ymgais anaeddfed i ostwng ffiniau graddau yng Nghymru er mwyn ceisio cael gwared ar y bwlch cyrhaeddiad etifeddol oedd y camau a gymerwyd gennych?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:44	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography Yes.	Gallaf.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:44	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography I am grateful for the Minister's clarity on that. You will be aware that there are concerns that we are looking at a greater differential in GCSE English language attainment here, and concerns about the amount of money that goes towards pupils and school buildings in Wales compared with that across the border. There are very real concerns that the new grades that are being created here might not be as portable as they are across the border. What are you doing to make sure that people have confidence in GCSE results here, particularly in the area of English language?	Rwy'n ddiolchgar am eglurder y Gweinidog ar hynny. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod pryderon am y gwahaniaeth mwy o ran cyrhaeddiad mewn TGAU Saesneg iaith yma, a phryderon o ran faint o arian a gaiff ei wario ar ddisgyblion ac adeiladau ysgol yng Nghymru o gymharu â'r swm dros y ffin. Mae pryderon gwirioneddol na fydd y graddau newydd sy'n cael eu creu yma mor gludadwy o bosibl â'r graddau dros y ffin. Beth a wnewch i sicrhau bod gan bobl ffydd yn y canlyniadau TGAU yma, yn enwedig o ran Saesneg iaith?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:45	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography We are ensuring that the grades will be developed appropriately. We do not believe that the key stage 2 indicator, which was imposed last year by Ofqual, is an appropriate route for calculating grades. Therefore, we are taking steps, as has the regulator in Northern Ireland, to ensure that the approach taken is appropriate for our jurisdiction. I would encourage the Member to not talk down Welsh qualifications.	Rydym yn sicrhau y caiff y graddau eu datblygu'n briodol. Ni chredwn fod y dangosydd ar gyfer cyfnod allweddol 2, a orfodwyd y llynedd gan Ofqual, yn llwybr priodol o ran cyfrifo graddau. Felly, rydym yn cymryd camau, fel y gwnaeth y rheoleiddiwr yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, i sicrhau bod y dull a ddefnyddir yn briodol ar gyfer ein hawdurdodaeth. Byddwn yn annog yr Aelod i beidio â bychanu cymwysterau Cymru.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video

Gwella Cydweithrediad

Improve Collaboration

13:46

Kenneth Skates [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei gynlluniau i wella cydweithrediad rhwng sefydliadau Addysg Uwch yng Nghymru. OAQ(4)0239(ESK)

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[Fideo Video](#)

5. Will the Minister outline his plans to improve collaboration between Higher Education institutions in Wales. OAQ(4)0239(ESK)

13:46

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Collaboration is a key feature of the HE reconfiguration agenda, which I think has been largely achieved. I will continue to work with the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales to encourage deeper collaborative working between institutions to build a strong and competitive Welsh higher education sector.

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Mae cydweithredu yn un o nodweddion allweddol agenda ailgyflunio AU, sydd wedi'i chyflawni i raddau helaeth, yn fy marn i. Byddaf yn parhau i weithio gyda Chyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru i annog mwy o gydweithredu rhwng sefydliadau er mwyn sicrhau sector addysg uwch cryf a chystadleuol yng Nghymru.

13:46

Kenneth Skates [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A recent report by the Learned Society of Wales showed that Welsh universities lead the UK in terms of output quality for every pound invested, but they were still not winning their fair share of funding from the higher spending research councils. What work are you doing across Wales to ensure that the Government's arrangements in Welsh higher education are working effectively to encourage greater collaboration and to ensure that we have the critical mass needed to draw in a bigger share of research funding?

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Dangosodd adroddiad diweddar gan Gymdeithas Ddysgedig Cymru fod prifysgolion Cymru ar y brig o gymharu â gweddill y DU o ran ansawdd allbwn fesul punt a fuddsoddir, ond nid oeddent yn llwyddo i ennill eu cyfran deg o gyllid gan y cyngorau ymchwil gwariant uwch. Pa waith rydych yn ei wneud ledled Cymru i sicrhau bod trefniadau'r Llywodraeth ym maes addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn effeithiol wrth annog mwy o gydweithredu ac wrth sicrhau bod gennym y màs critigol sydd ei angen i ddenu cyfran fwy o gyllid ymchwil?

13:47

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

My colleague the member for Clwyd South makes an important point. I think that our Welsh higher education institutions do very well in arts and humanity research and in respect of social sciences. It has been in the area of science and medical research that we have not won as high a proportion of research council funding. It is important that higher education institutions ensure that some of their more able scholars are playing their part within the research council frameworks. We have identified, as has the chief scientific adviser, that we do not have a high enough proportion of places on those committees. We have been discussing that with the research council and the higher education sector.

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Mae fy nghyd-Aelod dros Dde Clwyd yn gwneud pwynt pwysig. Credaf fod ein sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru yn gwneud yn dda iawn o ran ymchwil ym maes y celfyddydau a'r dyniaethau ac o ran y gwyddorau cymdeithasol. Ym maes ymchwil wyddonol a meddygol rydym wedi methu ag ennill cyfran cystal o gyllid gan y cyngorau ymchwil. Mae'n bwysig bod sefydliadau addysg uwch yn sicrhau bod rhai o'u hysgolheigion mwyaf galluog yn chwarae eu rhan o fewn fframweithiau'r cyngorau ymchwil. Rydym wedi nodi, fel y gwnaeth y prif gynghorydd gwyddonol, nad oes gennym gyfran ddigon uchel o leoedd ar y pwyllgorau hynny. Rydym wedi bod yn trafod hynny gyda'r cyngor ymchwil a'r sector addysg uwch.

Separately from that, we have announced the Sêr Cymru programme with the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science, which will make a significant difference to higher education institutions in Wales in terms of their ability to recruit leading academics who will drive forward research in the science area particularly.

Ar wahân i hynny, rydym wedi cyhoeddi rhaglen Sêr Cymru gyda'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth, a fydd yn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i sefydliadau addysg uwch yng Nghymru o ran eu gallu i recriwtio academyddion blaenllaw a fydd yn ysgogi gwaith ymchwil ym maes gwyddoniaeth yn arbennig.

13:48 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, you will be aware of the excellent research being undertaken at Glyndŵr University and its world-class reputation in the field of optics, which has allowed it and the UK to play a leading role in the construction of the £900-million European Extremely Large Telescope. Given the example of elite American universities that are highly specialised, yet small in size, can you confirm whether you are minded to maintain the independence of universities in north-east Wales, and that you appreciate that biggest is not always best?

Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r gwaith ymchwil ardderchog sy'n mynd rhagddo ym Mhrifysgol Glyndŵr a'i henw da fel sefydliad o'r radd flaenaf ym maes opteg, sydd wedi rhoi cyfle iddi hi ac i'r DU chwarae rhan flaenllaw yn y broses o adeiladu Telegop Eithriadol o Fawr Ewrop, sy'n werth £900 miliwn. O ystyried esiampl prifysgolion elit America, sy'n hynod arbenigol ond yn fach eu maint, a allwch gadarnhau pa un a ydych yn bwriadu cynnal annibyniaeth prifysgolion yn y gogledd-ddwyrain, a'ch bod yn gwerthfawrogi nad y sefydliadau mwyaf yw'r rhai gorau bob tro?

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13:48 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I was pleased to visit the telescope development in the OpTIC centre at St Asaph with the vice-chancellor of the university and its new chair in the autumn, and to see precisely what is being done there. I was also pleased that the vice-chancellor was one of a number of vice-chancellors to join me at the St David's day reception held at the Foreign Office last week, which enabled us to promote the quality of Welsh higher education internationally to ambassadors and representatives of embassies. I expect to receive the report on higher education in north-east Wales later this year.

Roedd yn bleser gennyf ymweld â datblygiad y telesgop yng nghanolfan OpTIC yn Llanelwy gydag is-ganghellor y brifysgol a'i chadeirydd newydd yn yr hydref, ac i weld yn union beth sy'n mynd rhagddo yno. Roeddwn yn falch hefyd bod yr is-ganghellor yn un o blith nifer o is-gangellorion a ymunodd â mi yn y dderbynwest Dydd Gŵyl Dewi a gynhaliwyd yn y Swyddfa Dramor yr wythnos diwethaf, a roddodd gyfle inni hyrwyddo ansawdd addysg uwch yng Nghymru ar lefel ryngwladol i lysgenhadon a chynrychiolwyr llysgenadaethau. Disgwyliaf dderbyn adroddiad ar addysg uwch yn y gogledd-ddwyrain yn ddiweddarach eleni.

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13:49 **Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, mae'r cytundeb ar y gyllideb rhwng Plaid Cymru a'r Blaid Lafur yn fodd o hyrwyddo cydweithrediad ymhellach rhwng prifysgolion Aberystwyth a Bangor, gyda'r ariannu ar gyfer y parc gwyddoniaeth. A ydych chi yn blês bod y model o gydweithio yn hytrach nag o uno yn gweithio'n dda ar gyfer y ddwy brifysgol hyn?

Minister, the agreement on the budget between Plaid Cymru and the Labour Party is a way of promoting further collaboration between Aberystwyth and Bangor universities as regards the funding for the science park. Are you happy that the model of collaboration rather than amalgamation is working well for both of these universities?

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13:49 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There has been excellent collaboration between Aberystwyth and Bangor universities and I have heard about it from both vice-chancellors. I was delighted that they were able to join us at the Foreign Office last week. It was a unique opportunity to enable us to promote the higher education sector and, indeed, the qualities of the Welsh schools base to industry at that event. It was also interesting to get the views of representatives of embassies worldwide on the difficulties caused by the UK Government's immigration and visa initiatives.

Bu cydweithredu ardderchog rhwng prifysgolion Aberystwyth a Bangor, a chlywais hynny gan y ddau is-ganghellor. Roeddwn wrth fy modd eu bod wedi gallu ymuno â ni yn y Swyddfa Dramor yr wythnos diwethaf. Roedd y digwyddiad hwnnw yn gyfle unigryw inni allu hyrwyddo'r sector addysg uwch ac, yn wir, rinweddau ysgolion yng Nghymru i ddiwydiant. Roedd hefyd yn ddiddorol cael barn cynrychiolwyr llysgenadaethau ledled y byd ar yr anawsterau a achoswyd gan fentrau mewnfudo a mentrau fisa Llywodraeth y DU.

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13:50 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, you have already alluded to questions regarding research collaboration being a critical factor in driving the HE agenda and creating world-leading institutions, and you have responded to Ken Skates regarding UK research council funding. Of course, there is also framework programme 7 funding, which is European research funding, and, of course, Horizon 2020 would be a major vehicle to support collaborative research between Welsh HE institutions and other institutions across the UK and Europe. Has the Welsh Government undertaken any analysis of the impact of the multi-annual financial framework agreement on H2020, particularly in relation to Welsh HE? What action will be taken to improve performance with regard to winning research funding in Europe?

Weinidog, gwnaethoch gyfeirio eisoes at gwestiynau yn ymwneud â'r ffaith bod cydweithredu ym maes ymchwil yn ffactor hanfodol wrth roi'r agenda AU ar waith a chreu sefydliadau o'r radd flaenaf, ac rydych wedi ymateb i Ken Skates ynghylch cyllid cynghorau ymchwil yn y DU. Wrth gwrs, ceir cyllid fframwaith rhaglen 7 hefyd, sef cyllid ymchwil Ewropeaidd, ac, wrth gwrs, byddai Horizon 2020 yn ffordd bwysig o gefnogi gwaith ymchwil cydweithredol rhwng sefydliadau AU yng Nghymru a sefydliadau eraill ledled y DU ac Ewrop. A yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cynnal unrhyw waith dadansoddi o ran effaith y cytundeb fframwaith ariannol aml-flwydd ar H2020, yn enwedig mewn perthynas ag AU yng Nghymru? Pa gamau a gaiff eu cymryd i wella perfformiad o ran ennill cyllid ymchwil yn Ewrop?

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13:50	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>My colleague the Member for Aberavon is right to raise this issue, and it is being addressed by the Sêr Cymru national research networks. Horizon 2020 funding certainly encourages close collaboration between industry and business and research-intensive universities. This will be a strong component of the national research networks and the research chairs, which we expect to see arising from the Sêr Cymru initiative. It is important, of course, that any future round of European funding is used to help us to strengthen our ability to deliver more of these Europe-wide programmes.</p>	<p>Mae fy nghyd-Aelod, yr Aelod dros Aberafan, yn llygad ei le wrth godi'r mater hwn, ac mae rhwydweithiau ymchwil cenedlaethol Sêr Cymru yn ymdrin ag ef. Yn sicr, mae arian Horizon 2020 yn annog cydweithredu agos rhwng diwydiant a busnes a phrifysgolion ymchwil-ddwys. Bydd yn elfen amlwg o'r rhwydweithiau ymchwil cenedlaethol a'r cadeiryddion ymchwil, y disgwyliwn iddynt ddeillio o fenter Sêr Cymru. Mae'n bwysig, wrth gwrs, y caiff unrhyw gylch o arian Ewropeaidd yn y dyfodol ei ddefnyddio i'n helpu i atgyfnerthu ein gallu i ddarparu mwy o'r rhaglenni hyn sy'n cwmpasu Ewrop gyfan.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
	<p>System Fandio</p>	<p>Banding System</p>	
13:51	<p>Llyr Huws Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am effaith y system fandio ar niferoedd disgyblion mewn ysgolion yn y bandiau isel. OAQ(4)0240(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>6. Will the Minister make a statement on the effect of the banding system on pupil numbers in schools in low bands. OAQ(4)0240(ESK)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:51	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Mae niferoedd y disgyblion mewn ysgolion uwchradd yn gostwng. Mae'r niferoedd mewn ysgolion band 4 a band 5 wedi bod yn gostwng hefyd, cyn i'r system fandio gael ei chyflwyno ac wedi hynny.</p>	<p>Pupil numbers are decreasing in secondary schools. Numbers in band 4 and 5 schools have also been decreasing, before and after the introduction of banding.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:52	<p>Llyr Huws Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog, ond rwy'n siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol o gonsŷrn nifer o ysgolion ynglŷn â'r posibilrwydd y bydd enw da ysgol, efallai, yn dioddef o ganlyniad i'r system fandio ac y bydd ffigurau yn gostwng yn sgîl hynny. Petai modd dangos bod cysylltiad rhwng y ddau ffactor, a fyddai hynny, yn eich tyb chi, yn sail dderbyniol i ailedrych ar y system fandio?</p>	<p>Thank you for that response, Minister, but I am sure that you will be aware of the concern of a number of schools regarding the possibility that a school's reputation might be damaged as a result of the banding system and that pupil numbers will reduce as a result. If it were possible to prove a connection between those two factors, would that, in your opinion, be a basis for looking again at the banding system?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:52	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Banding was a manifesto commitment, banding is working, banding is driving up standards and banding will stay.</p>	<p>Roedd bandio yn un o ymrwymadau'r manifestio, mae bandio yn gweithio, mae bandio yn gwella safonau a bydd y system fandio yn parhau.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:52	<p>Antoinette Sandbach Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, when the banding of primary schools is implemented in 2014, it is estimated that 30% of schools will be excluded due to their small size, and the majority of these schools will be in rural areas. Given the importance that you have placed on banding to drive up standards, can you explain how these small rural schools will be given the scope and the support to improve when they have, in effect, been excluded from these plans?</p>	<p>Weinidog, pan gaiff y system fandio ar gyfer ysgolion cynradd ei rhoi ar waith yn 2014, amcangyfrifir y caiff 30% o ysgolion eu heithrio am eu bod yn fach o ran maint, a bydd y rhan fwyaf o'r ysgolion hyn mewn ardaloedd gwledig. O ystyried y pwysigrwydd a roddwyd gennych ar y system fandio o ran gwella safonau, a allwch egluro sut y caiff yr ysgolion gwledig bach hyn y cyfle a'r cymorth i wella o ystyried eu bod wedi cael eu heithrio, i bob pwrpas, o'r cynlluniau hyn?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:52	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>We will announce our proposals for the grading of primary schools later this year.</p>	<p>Byddwn yn cyhoeddi ein cynigion ar gyfer graddio ysgolion cynradd yn ddiweddarach eleni.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

Acwsteg Ysgolion

School Acoustics

13:53

Ann Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gynnydd Llywodraeth Cymru o ran gwella acwsteg ysgolion yn Nyffryn Clwyd. OAQ(4)0245(ESK)

Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)

7. Will the Minister make a statement on the Welsh Government's progress on improving school acoustics in the Vale of Clwyd. OAQ(4)0245(ESK)

13:53

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Government is sympathetic to the need to ensure that aurally challenged learners can engage fully. Compliance with building bulletin acoustic standards is a condition of grant for education capital funding contracts and this will continue in the twenty-first century schools programme.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydymdeimlo â'r angen i sicrhau y gall dysgwyr â phroblemau clywedol ymgysylltu'n llawn. Mae cydymffurfio â safonau acwsteg y bwletin adeiladau yn un o amodau grant y contractau arian cyfalaf addysg a bydd hyn yn parhau fel rhan o'r rhaglen ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif.

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13:53

Ann Jones [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much; I am very pleased to hear that, Minister. The National Deaf Children's Society Cymru has done a lot of good work to raise awareness regarding the barriers that deaf and hard-of-hearing children face within the education system and in other walks of life, yet many schools across the authority still have poor acoustics, which does prove to be a barrier to those children who are attempting to learn. The Minister will know how much I value the commitment to ensuring that all school buildings under the twenty-first century schools programme will meet those exemplary acoustic standards, but what can you do to make sure that any new school or nursery that is built—not necessarily funded through the twenty-first century schools programme—will also have the highest acoustic standards to avoid barriers for those children who are attempting to learn?

Diolch yn fawr iawn; rwy'n falch iawn clywed hynny, Weinidog. Mae'r Gymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Byddar yng Nghymru wedi gwneud llawer o waith da i godi ymwybyddiaeth ynghylch y rhwystrau y mae plant byddar a thrwm eu clyw yn eu hwynebu o fewn y system addysg ac mewn agweddau eraill ar fywyd, ac eto mae acwsteg mewn llawer o ysgolion ar draws yr awdurdod yn wael o hyd, sy'n rhwystr i'r plant hynny sy'n ceisio dysgu. Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod fy mod yn gwerthfawrogi'n fawr yr ymrwymiad i sicrhau y bydd pob adeilad ysgol o dan y rhaglen ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif yn cyrraedd y safonau acwsteg ardderchog hynny, ond beth y gallwch ei wneud i sicrhau y bydd gan unrhyw ysgol neu ysgol feithrin newydd a gaiff ei hadeiladu—nid o reidrydd wedi'i hariannu drwy'r rhaglen ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif—hefyd yr un safonau acwsteg uchel er mwyn osgoi rhwystrau i'r plant hynny sy'n ceisio dysgu?

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[Fideo Video](#)

13:54

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I join my colleague the Member for the Vale of Clwyd in welcoming the work that has been done by the National Deaf Children's Society, which has been very helpful to us. Acoustic standards are set out in building bulletin 3, and these have been applied to all new-build projects currently being delivered through tranches 2 and 3 of the transitional schools building grant and wherever we are providing capital grant assistance. We will, of course, take that work forward into the twenty-first century schools programme as well.

Ymunaf â'm cyd-Aelod, yr Aelod dros Ddyffryn Clwyd, wrth groesawu'r gwaith a wnaed gan y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Byddar, sydd wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol iawn inni. Nodir safonau acwstig ym mwletin adeiladau 3, ac fe'u cymhwyswyd i bob prosiect adeilad newydd sy'n mynd rhagddo ar hyn o bryd drwy haenau 2 a 3 o'r grant adeiladau ysgolion trosiannol a ble bynnag rydym yn darparu cymorth grant cyfalaf. Byddwn, wrth gwrs, yn parhau â'r gwaith hwnnw drwy'r rhaglen ysgolion ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif hefyd.

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[Fideo Video](#)

13:54

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As someone who spoke about this in the Assembly a year ago, as the father, son and brother of hard-of-hearing people and as someone who is hard of hearing myself, I urge the Welsh Government to respond positively to the National Deaf Children's Society Cymru campaign that has just been referred to. I think that 38 Assembly Members have signed up to it. How have you responded to the local authority responses to freedom of information requests that showed a woeful lack of knowledge about the acoustic regulations across Wales?

Fel rhywun a siaradodd am hyn yn y Cynulliad flwyddyn yn ôl, fel tad, mab a brawd pobl trwm eu clyw ac fel rhywun sy'n drwm fy nghlyw fy hun, erfyniaf ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r ymgyrch rydym newydd gyfeirio ati gan y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Byddar yng Nghymru. Credaf fod 38 o Aelodau'r Cynulliad wedi ymrwymo iddi. Sut rydych wedi ymateb i ymatebion awdurdodau lleol i geisiadau rhyddid gwybodaeth a ddangosodd anwybodaeth druenus o ran y rheoliadau acwstig ledled Cymru?

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[Fideo Video](#)

13:55	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>I respect the Member's views and work in this particular area. We have taken great care to ensure that, as capital projects come to us from local authorities, they understand the responsibilities that we have outlined and which I outlined in my answer to my colleague the Member for the Vale of Clwyd. We want the work done by the National Deaf Children's Society Cymru and the acoustics standards set out in the building bulletin to be taken forward. My officials will interrogate schemes that come forward from local authorities on that basis.</p>	<p>Rwy'n parchu safbwyntiau'r Aelod a'i waith yn y maes penodol hwn. Rydym wedi bwrw ati o ddirif i sicrhau, wrth i awdurdodau lleol gyflwyno prosiectau cyfalaf inni, eu bod yn deall y cyfrifoldebau a amlinellwyd gennym ac a amlinellwyd gennyf yn fy ateb i'm cyd-Aelod, yr Aelod dros Ddyffryn Clwyd. Rydym am i'r gwaith a wnaed gan y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol i Blant Byddar yng Nghymru a'r safonau acwsteg a nodir yn y bwletin adeiladau gael eu rhoi ar waith. Bydd fy swyddogion yn ystyried cynlluniau a gaiff eu cyflwyno gan awdurdodau lleol ar y sail honno.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:55	<p>Llyr Huws Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>O ystyried yr effaith mae trafferthion clywed yn y dosbarth yn gallu ei chael ar addysg plentyn, a fydddech yn derbyn, mewn egwyddor, fod acwsteg da mewn ystafelloedd dosbarth, er enghraifft, yn fater o bwys o safbwynt hygyrchedd ac yr un mor dyngedfennol â materion hygyrchedd eraill mwy traddodiadol?</p>	<p>Bearing in mind the impact that hearing difficulties in the classroom can have on a child's education, would you accept, in principle, that good acoustics in classrooms, for example, are an issue of importance in terms of accessibility and just as crucial as other issues of accessibility that are more traditional perhaps?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:56	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Yes, I would. Unfortunately, as the Member will understand, we have a lot of school buildings that date from an era when these challenges were not properly understood or dealt with. We are trying to put that right.</p>	<p>Byddwn. Yn anffodus, fel y bydd yr Aelod yn ei ddeall, mae adeiladau llawer o'n hysgolion yn deillio o gyfnod pan nad oedd dealltwriaeth lawn o'r heriau hyn neu pan nad ymdriniwyd â'r heriau hyn yn briodol. Rydym yn ceisio unioni hynny.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
	<p>Cynllun Ysgolion ar gyfer yr Unfed Ganrif ar Hugain</p>	<p>Twenty-first Century Schools Scheme</p>	
13:56	<p>Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gynnydd gyda'r cynllun Ysgolion ar gyfer yr unfed ganrif ar hugain. OAQ(4)0236(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>8. Will the Minister make a statement on progress on the Twenty-first Century Schools scheme. OAQ(4)0236(ESK)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:56	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Local authorities determine the pace of delivery of their programmes. The published programme start date is 2014 but, wherever possible, priority projects are now being identified and brought forward. The local government borrowing initiative announced in December is also seeking to reduce the delivery timescales of the programme.</p>	<p>Awdurdodau lleol sy'n pennu cyflymder cyflawni eu rhaglenni. Y dyddiad dechrau a gyhoeddwyd ar gyfer y rhaglen yw 2014 ond, lle bynnag y bo hynny'n bosibl, caiff prosiectau blaenoriaeth eu nodi yn awr a'u rhoi ar waith. Mae menter benthycu llywodraeth leol a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Rhagfyr hefyd yn anelu at leihau graddfeydd amser cyflawni'r rhaglen.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:56	<p>Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Thank you for that answer, Minister. A number of local authority officers have told me that they are under the impression that the 50% grant contribution from the Welsh Government may be changed so that some of it will be delivered as a borrowing approval. Is it the intention to continue having a 50% grant element on this scheme?</p>	<p>Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae swyddogion nifer o awdurdodau lleol wedi dweud wrthyf eu bod wedi cael yr argraff y caiff y cyfraniad grant o 50% gan Lywodraeth Cymru ei newid fel y caiff rhywfaint ohono ei roi fel cymeradwyaeth benthycu. Ai'r bwriad yw parhau i gynnig elfen grant o 50% fel rhan o'r cynllun hwn?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
13:57	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>They can continue to plan on the basis of a 50% grant element.</p>	<p>Gallant barhau i gynllunio ar sail elfen grant o 50%.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

13:57	Mike Hedges Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>Will the Minister ask local authorities to produce the programme that they intend to follow and which has some indication of the year in which they intend to build these schools?</p>	<p>A wnaiff y Gweinidog ofyn i awdurdodau lleol gynhyrchu'r rhaglen y maent yn bwriadu ei dilyn gan roi rhyw syniad o'r flwyddyn y maent yn bwriadu adeiladu'r ysgolion hyn?</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:57	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>In the planning that we are seeking to obtain from local authorities, as they profile their work, we want them to be clear about when they expect to be able to deliver. Certainly, we retain flexibility, if we need to, to switch funding between programmes. If the Member has any specific examples in mind, I invite him to write to me.</p>	<p>Fel rhan o'r cynlluniau rydym am i awdurdodau lleol eu cyflwyno, wrth iddynt broffilio eu gwaith, rydym am iddynt fod yn eglur ynghylch pryd y maent yn disgwyl gallu cyflawni'r gwaith. Yn sicr, mae'r hyblygrwydd gennym, os bydd ei angen, i symud arian rhwng rhaglenni. Os oes gan yr Aelod unrhyw enghreifftiau penodol, mae croeso iddo ysgrifennu ataf.</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:57	William Graham Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>Minister, you will know that the key element of this programme is the reduction of empty places in our schools. Are you minded to look again at the criteria?</p>	<p>Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol mai prif nod y rhaglen hon yw lleihau nifer y lleoedd gwag yn ein hysgolion. A ydych yn bwriadu ailystyried y meini prawf?</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:57	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>No.</p>	<p>Nac ydw.</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:58	Simon Thomas Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>Weindiog, mae cyfres o newidiadau yn digwydd yn sir Powys o dan raglen ysgolion yr unfed ganrif ar hugain, ac yn eu plith mae bwriad i gau ysgol Carno. Mae hon yn un o'r ysgolion sy'n darparu addysg Gymraeg yn y sir. Mae canllawiau'r Llywodraeth ynglŷn â rhaglen ysgolion yr unfed ganrif ar hugain yn ei gwneud yn glir bod effaith ar addysg Gymraeg yn un o'r ystyriaethau y dylai cyngor sir roi sylw iddi wrth ymwneud â'r rhaglen. A ydych yn glir ac yn fodlon bod hyn wedi digwydd yn briodol yn achos y bwriad i gau ysgol Carno?</p>	<p>Minister, a series of changes are taking place in Powys being driven by the twenty-first century schools programme and amongst them is the intention to close Carno school. This is one of the schools providing Welsh-medium education in the county. Government guidelines on the twenty-first century schools programme make it clear that the impact on Welsh-medium education is one of the considerations that a county council should take into account in dealing with the programme. Are you clear and content that this has been done appropriately in the case of the closure of Carno school?</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:58	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>As the Member is aware, I never comment on individual school closure issues. However, in the general scheme of things, we would expect local authorities to take account of what is said in the school organisation code and other guidance on the priority that should be given to Welsh-medium education.</p>	<p>Fel y gŵyr yr Aelod, nid wyf byth yn gwneud sylwadau am faterion sy'n ymwneud â chau ysgolion unigol. Fodd bynnag, yn gyffredinol, byddem yn disgwyl i awdurdodau lleol ystyried cynnwys y cod trefniadaeth ysgolion a chanllawiau eraill o ran y flaenoriaeth y dylid ei rhoi i addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg.</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
Gwasanaeth Ieuencid		Youth Service		
13:58	Mark Drakeford Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddyfodol y Gwasanaeth Ieuencid yng Nghymru. OAQ(4)0237(ESK)</p>	<p>9. Will the Minister make a statement on the future of the Youth Service in Wales. OAQ(4)0237(ESK)</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
13:59	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	<p>A vision for a new national youth service strategy will be prepared for public consultation by May 2013, with a view to implementation from September 2013. The consultation will provide an opportunity for a full debate on the future approach of youth services in Wales.</p>	<p>Caiff gweledigaeth ar gyfer strategaeth genedlaethol newydd i'r gwasanaeth ieuencid ei pharatoi erbyn mis Mai 2013 er mwyn cynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus arni, gyda'r bwriad o'i rhoi ar waith o fis Medi 2013. Fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad, ceir cyfle i gynnal dadl lawn ar sut y dylid darparu gwasanaethau ieuencid yn y dyfodol yng Nghymru.</p>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video

- 13:59 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- This is a demanding time for the youth service, as with so many other public services, as social pressures arise and budgets are under pressure. Would you agree with me that informal education, open to all, where young people have a chance to interact with adults outside the confines of the school and the family, remains the key distinguishing feature of the youth service and that that view of the service ought to be reflected in the consultation exercise that you are about to undertake?
- Mae'n gyfnod heriol i'r gwasanaeth ieuencid, fel yn achos llawer o wasanaethau cyhoeddus eraill, wrth i bwysau cymdeithasol godi ac i gyllidebau ddod o dan bwysau. A fydddech yn cytuno â mi mai addysg anffurfiol, sydd ar gael i bawb, lle y caiff pobl ifanc gyfle i ryngweithio ag oedolion y tu allan i ffiniau'r ysgol a'r teulu, yw nodwedd wahaniaethol allweddol y gwasanaeth ieuencid o hyd ac y dylid adlewyrchu'r farn honno o'r gwasanaeth yn yr ymgynghoriad rydych ar fin ei gynnal?
- 13:59 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- Informal and non-formal education in support of young people's wider learning and development lie at the heart of the youth service offer. I agree that it is important that all young people have access to opportunities that support their wider learning, development and participation in society. We want to use the forthcoming consultation on the youth service strategy to focus the efforts of statutory and voluntary youth services, and to strengthen the recognition of the contribution that youth services make to the lives of young people.
- Mae addysg anffurfiol ac addysg heb fod yn ffurfiol i gefnogi dysg a datblygiad ehangach pobl ifanc wrth wraidd yr hyn a gynigir gan y gwasanaeth ieuencid. Cytunaf ei bod yn bwysig sicrhau y gall pob person ifanc fanteisio ar gyfleoedd sy'n ategu eu dysg, eu datblygiad a'u cyfranogiad ehangach mewn cymdeithas. Rydym yn awyddus i ddefnyddio'r ymgynghoriad arfaethedig ar strategaeth y gwasanaeth ieuencid i roi ffocws i ymdrechion gwasanaethau ieuencid statudol a gwirfoddol, ac i atgyfnerthu'r gydnabyddiaeth a roddir i'r cyfraniad a wna gwasanaethau ieuencid i fywydau pobl ifanc.
- 14:00 **Byron Davies** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- Minister, your Government has announced a range of new youth services to nurture and develop the entrepreneurs of the future, and we welcome any support for young business innovators. Can you outline how you have synchronised this with youth services in Wales? How do you envisage that these services will interact with and complement each other?
- Weinidog, mae eich Llywodraeth wedi cyhoeddi ystod o wasanaethau ieuencid newydd i feithrin a datblygu entrepreneuriaid y dyfodol, ac rydym yn croesawu unrhyw gymorth i arloeswyr busnes ifanc. A allwch amlinellu sut mae hyn yn cyd-fynd â gwasanaethau ieuencid yng Nghymru? Sut rydych yn rhagweld y bydd y gwasanaethau hyn yn rhyngweithio â'i gilydd ac yn ategu ei gilydd?
- 14:00 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- There is regular dialogue between the officials who are working on youth entrepreneurship schemes and those who are working on youth services. We would expect them to have an understanding of the issues therein.
- Ceir trafodaethau rheolaidd rhwng y swyddogion sy'n gweithio ar gynlluniau entrepreneuriaeth ieuencid a'r rheini sy'n gweithio ar wasanaethau ieuencid. Byddem yn disgwyl iddynt feddu ar ddealltwriaeth o'r materion cysylltiedig.
- 14:00 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- Minister, I very much welcome your warm remarks about the importance of the youth service in our communities. As you will be aware, local authorities are struggling very much with their budgets at this time, and the youth service is also coming under considerable pressure in that context. In any proposals that come forward for the closure of particular youth centres, what level of regard should be paid to the status of those communities in terms of multiple deprivation and related matters?
- Weinidog, croesawaf eich sylwadau gwresog am bwysigrwydd y gwasanaeth ieuencid yn ein cymunedau yn fawr. Fel y byddwch yn ymwybodol, mae awdurdodau lleol yn ei chael hi'n anodd iawn gweithredu o fewn eu cyllidebau ar hyn o bryd, ac mae'r gwasanaeth ieuencid hefyd yn wynebu cryn bwysau yn hynny o beth. O fewn unrhyw gynigion a gaiff eu cyflwyno i gau canolfannau ieuencid penodol, faint o sylw y dylid ei roi i statws y cymunedau hynny o ran amddifadedd lluosog a materion cysylltiedig?
- 14:01 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo Video](#)
- I would expect local authorities that are looking at prioritisation within their services to give great consideration to the balance of support for communities where there is acute social deprivation. I would hope that that would be considered in any impact assessment by any local authority making changes to its provision.
- Byddwn yn disgwyl i awdurdodau lleol sy'n ystyried blaenoriaethu eu gwasanaethau roi cryn ystyriaeth i'r gefnogaeth a roddir i gymunedau lle ceir lefelau uchel o amddifadedd cymdeithasol. Byddwn yn gobeithio y câi hynny ei ystyried o fewn unrhyw asesiad o effaith gan unrhyw awdurdod lleol sy'n newid ei ddarpariaeth.

14:01	Christine Chapman Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Minister, the forthcoming review of youth services offers us an opportunity to add value to the lives of young people. I recently visited Park Lane Special School in my constituency, where concerns were expressed to me about the opportunities offered outside of school hours to young people with learning difficulties. How can we ensure that their specific needs are taken into account during this process?	Weinidog, mae'r adolygiad arfaethedig o wasanaethau ieuenctid yn rhoi cyfle inni ychwanegu gwerth i fywydau pobl ifanc. Yn ddiweddar, ymwelais ag Ysgol Arbennig Park Lane yn fy etholaeth, lle y mynegwyd pryderon imi ynghylch y cyfleoedd a gynigir y tu allan i oriau ysgol i bobl ifanc ag anawsterau dysgu. Sut y gallwn sicrhau y caiff eu hanghenion penodol eu hystyried yn ystod y broses hon?
14:02	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	My colleague the Member for Cynon Valley will be aware that the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 places a duty on local authorities to have regard to the needs of disabled children in their play sufficiency assessments. Since April 2012, local authorities have been able to use Families First funding to support disabled children and their families. Additionally, our out-of-school childcare grant supports local authorities to provide wraparound childcare out of school hours and during school holidays. Local authorities can use this to fund one-to-one care for children with disabilities or additional needs based on identified local needs.	Bydd fy nghyd-Aelod, sef yr Aelod dros Gwm Cynon, yn ymwybodol bod Mesur Plant a Theuluoedd (Cymru) 2010 yn rhoi dyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i ystyried anghenion plant anabl yn eu hasesiadau o ddigonolrwydd cyfleoedd chwarae. Ers mis Ebrill 2012, mae awdurdodau lleol wedi gallu defnyddio arian Teuluoedd yn Gyntaf i helpu plant anabl a'u teuluoedd. Yn ogystal, mae ein grant gofal plant y tu allan i'r ysgol yn helpu awdurdodau lleol i ddarparu gofal plant coffeidiol y tu allan i oriau ysgol ac yn ystod gwyliau'r ysgol. Gall awdurdodau lleol ddefnyddio hyn i ariannu gofal un-i-un i blant ag anabledau neu anghenion ychwanegol yn seiliedig ar yr anghenion lleol a nodwyd.
	Entrepreneuriaeth	Entrepreneurship
14:03	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<i>10. Sut y mae'r Gweinidog yn hybu entrepreneuriaeth mewn ysgolion. OAQ(4)0248(ESK)</i>	<i>10. How is the Minister promoting entrepreneurship in schools. OAQ(4)0248(ESK)</i>
14:03	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	I want all learners to have access to high-quality entrepreneurship education. To support this, my department has recently issued guidance to schools to help embed entrepreneurial thinking and learning skills in the curriculum. Schools are also encouraged to work with local businesses.	Rwy'n awyddus i bob dysgwr allu cael addysg entrepreneuriaeth o ansawdd uchel. Er mwyn ategu hyn, cyhoeddodd fy adran ganllawiau i ysgolion yn ddiweddar i'w helpu i gyflwyno sgiliau meddwl a dysgu entrepreneuriaidd fel rhan o'r cwricwlwm. Anogir ysgolion hefyd i gydweithio â busnesau lleol.
14:03	Nick Ramsay Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	The Minister will be aware of the Young Enterprise organisation, which goes into schools to promote entrepreneurship to pupils. Sadly, its funding is being cut, as one of its core funders, Careers Wales, is being consumed into the Welsh Government. I agree that entrepreneurship is key to the future prosperity of the Welsh economy, Minister, and I think that you have also said that it is a key component of the Welsh baccalaureate, which is to be welcomed. How will it be incorporated into the Welsh bac, and how do you intend for young people in school to have full access to information on how they can become the entrepreneurs and businesspeople of the future?	Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o sefydliad Menter yr Ifanc, sy'n ymweld ag ysgolion i hyrwyddo entrepreneuriaeth i ddisgyblion. Yn anffodus, mae llai o arian ar gael iddo, gan fod un o'i arianwyr craidd, sef Gyrfa Cymru, yn dod yn rhan o Lywodraeth Cymru. Cytunaf fod entrepreneuriaeth yn allweddol i ffyniant economi Cymru yn y dyfodol, Weinidog, a chredaf eich bod hefyd wedi dweud ei fod yn elfen allweddol o faglورياeth Cymru, sydd i'w groesawu. Sut y caiff ei gynnwys o fewn bagloriaeth Cymru, a sut rydych yn bwriadu sicrhau y gall pobl ifanc yn yr ysgol gael gafael ar wybodaeth lawn am sut y gallant ddod yn entrepreneuriaid a phobl fusnes y dyfodol?

14:04	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>It has been incorporated within the Welsh bac for some time, and careers and the world of work form part of the basic curriculum for all registered pupils aged 11 to 16 at maintained schools in Wales. It is also part of the core learning requirements of learning pathways 14-19. I think that the Member will be aware of the youth entrepreneurship strategy action plan for 2010-15, which draws together elements from the Welsh Government's economic development and education portfolios, and which renews our commitment to equipping young people with entrepreneurial skills.</p>	<p>Bu'n rhan o fagloriaeth Cymru ers peth amser, ac mae gyrfaoedd a'r byd gwaith yn rhan o'r cwricwlwm sylfaenol ar gyfer pob disgybl cofrestredig 11 i 16 oed mewn ysgolion a gynhelir yng Nghymru. Mae hefyd yn rhan o ofynion dysgu craidd llwybrau dysgu 14-19. Credaf y bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol o gynllun gweithredu'r strategaeth entrepreneuriaeth ieuencid ar gyfer 2010-15, sy'n dwyn ynghyd elfennau o bortffolio datblygu economaidd a phortffolio addysg Llywodraeth Cymru, ac yn adnewyddu ein hymrwymiad i sicrhau bod pobl ifanc yn meddu ar sgiliau entrepreneuraidd.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:04	<p>Alun Ffred Jones Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Yn yr 20 pwynt gweithredu sydd gennych er mwyn codi safonau mewn ysgolion, a yw entrepreneuriaeth yn cael ei amlygu yn un ohonynt?</p>	<p>In your 20 action points to raise standards in schools, is entrepreneurship included in any one of them?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:04	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Entrepreneurship is not one of the 20 action points, which are focused specifically on school improvement issues.</p>	<p>Nid yw entrepreneuriaeth yn un o'r 20 pwynt gweithredu, sy'n canolbwyntio'n benodol ar faterion gwella ysgolion.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:05	<p>Eluned Parrott Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, there are many excellent examples of ways in which entrepreneurship can be promoted. Nick Ramsay mentioned young entrepreneurs, but it can also be promoted in our further and higher education institutions. However, what assessment have you made of how those models might be adapted for young people who are not currently in formal education, employment or training?</p>	<p>Weinidog, mae sawl enghraifft ardderchog o ffyrdd y gellir hyrwyddo entrepreneuriaeth. Soniodd Nick Ramsay am entrepreneuriaid ifanc, ond gellir hefyd ei hyrwyddo yn ein sefydliadau addysg bellach ac uwch. Fodd bynnag, pa asesiad a gynhaliwyd gennych o'r ffordd y gellid addasu'r modelau hynny ar gyfer pobl ifanc nad ydynt ar hyn o bryd mewn addysg, cyflogaeth neu hyfforddiant ffurfiol?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:05	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>The youth entrepreneurship strategy sets out a number of ways in which these issues can be addressed. In addition, within the framework of the work that Careers Wales undertakes, it also looks at the opportunities for young people to start businesses.</p>	<p>Mae'r strategaeth entrepreneuriaeth ieuencid yn nodi nifer o ffyrdd y gellir ymdrin â'r materion hyn. Yn ogystal, o fewn fframwaith y gwaith y mae Gyrfa Cymru yn ymgymryd ag ef, mae'n ystyried hefyd y cyfleoedd i bobl ifanc ddechrau busnesau.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
Hyfforddiant i Lywodraethwyr Ysgolion		Training for School Governors	
14:05	<p>Bethan Jenkins Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am hyfforddiant i Lywodraethwyr ysgolion cynradd. OAQ(4)0242(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>11. Will the Minister make a statement on training for school Governors in primary schools. OAQ(4)0242(ESK)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:05	<p>Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Yn sgil pasio'r Mesur yn 2011, rydym yn cyflwyno hyfforddiant gorfodol i lywodraethwyr ysgol. Bydd hynny'n rhoi'r hyder iddynt herio penaethiaid a gofyn cwestiynau perthnasol am safonau ysgolion a sut i'w gwella.</p>	<p>Following the Measure passed in 2011, we are introducing mandatory training for school governors. This will give them the confidence to challenge headteachers and ask relevant questions about the standards the school achieves and how to make improvements.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

- 14:06 **Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae achos yn fy ardal i lle mae menyw sydd â phrofiad cynhwysfawr ac sy'n rhiant mewn ysgol benodol wedi cynnig bod ar dîm llywodraethu'r ysgol, ond wedi cael ei gwrthod, er bod agoriad ar gyfer llywodraethwr yn yr ysgol. Beth y gallwch ei wneud i annog timau llywodraethwyr i edrych ar gymdeithas yn fwy eang er mwyn cael y bobl fwyaf deallus a'r bobl gyda phrofiad i fod ar y timau llywodraethu, er mwyn sicrhau bod y timau yn effeithiol ac yn helpu i weithio tuag at ddyfodol llewyrchus i'r ysgol?
- Thank you for that reply, Minister. There is a case in my area of a woman with comprehensive experience who is a parent in a local school who has offered to serve on the school's governing body, but has been refused, although there is a vacancy there for a governor. What can you do to encourage governing bodies to look at society more widely in order to attract the most intelligent and experienced people onto the governing bodies, to ensure that the teams are effective and help to work towards a successful future for the school?
- 14:06 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- I very much welcome the point that the Member makes. It is important that we have governing bodies with a breadth of experience and expertise. If there are issues in relation to a particular school, I invite her to write to me.
- Croesawaf yn fawr y pwynt a wna'r Aelod. Mae'n bwysig sicrhau bod cyrff llywodraethu yn cynnwys amrywiaeth o brofiad ac arbenigedd. Os oes problemau mewn perthynas ag ysgol benodol, mae croeso iddi ysgrifennu ataf.
- 14:07 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- What role does Estyn play in ensuring that the quality of LEA governor training is robust? What more can be done to encourage our school governors into the classroom and to adopt a proactive role in monitoring teaching standards on a more regular basis?
- Pa ran y mae Estyn yn ei chwarae wrth sicrhau bod ansawdd yr hyfforddiant a gaiff llywodraethwr gan AALLau yn gadarn? Beth yn rhagor y gellir ei wneud i annog ein llywodraethwyr ysgol i fynd i ystafelloedd dosbarth a chwarae rhan ragweithiol wrth fonitro safonau addysgu yn fwy rheolaidd?
- 14:07 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- Clearly, Estyn does look at the quality of governors and governor training when it looks at local authorities. It also looks at the input that is made by school governing bodies when it is conducting school inspections. I asked Estyn to ensure that all school governing bodies discussed the school data that were available when they were considering their school development plans. In respect of governors' roles in the classroom, we have some very good practice across Wales, which was highlighted at a conference 12 months ago. In some schools, governors take specific responsibility for particular areas of the classroom. We would want to encourage that best practice to be rolled out across Wales.
- Yn amlwg, mae Estyn yn ystyried ansawdd llywodraethwyr a hyfforddiant llywodraethwyr wrth ystyried awdurdodau lleol. Mae hefyd yn ystyried cyfraniad cyrff llywodraethu ysgolion wrth gynnal arolygiadau ysgolion. Gofynnais i Estyn sicrhau bod corff llywodraethu pob ysgol yn trafod y data ysgolion a oedd ar gael wrth ystyried eu cynlluniau datblygu ysgol. O ran rolau llywodraethwyr yn yr ystafell ddosbarth, mae gennym enghreifftiau o arfer da iawn ledled Cymru, y tynnwyd sylw atynt mewn cynhadledd 12 mis yn ôl. Mewn rhai ysgolion, mae gan llywodraethwyr gyfrifoldeb penodol dros feysydd penodol o arfer yn yr ystafell ddosbarth. Byddem yn awyddus i annog trefniadau lle y caiff arfer gorau ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru.

Dinasyddiaeth Ehangach

- 14:08 **Gwyn R. Price** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- 12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am sut y gallwn ddefnyddio cyngorau ysgol i helpu plant i ddysgu am faterion dinasyddiaeth ehangach. OAQ(4)0246(ESK)*

Wider Citizenship

- 12. Will the Minister make a statement on how we can use school councils to help children learn about wider citizenship issues. OAQ(4)0246(ESK)*

- 14:08 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- School councils promote active citizenship by providing school pupils with the skills, knowledge and understanding to become active citizens. They teach pupils about social and moral responsibility, community involvement and political literacy, and empower learners to participate in their schools and communities as active, responsible citizens locally, nationally and globally.

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- Mae cyngorau ysgol yn hyrwyddo dinasyddiaeth weithgar drwy sicrhau bod disgyblion ysgol yn meddu ar y sgiliau, y wybodaeth a'r ddealltwriaeth i ddod yn ddinasyddion gweithgar. Maent yn addysgu disgyblion am gyfrifoldeb cymdeithasol a moesol, cyfranogiad cymunedol a llythrennedd gwleidyddol, ac yn galluogi dysgwyr i gyfranogi yn eu hysgolion a'u cymunedau fel dinasyddion gweithgar, cyfrifol yn lleol, yn genedlaethol ac yn fyd-eang.

- 14:08 **Gwyn R. Price** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 Minister, school councils across Wales continue to encourage children to get involved in the running of their school. Will you join me in congratulating Caerphilly County Borough Council on taking a step further with its youth forum events? [Interruption.]
 Weinidog, mae cynghorau ysgol ledled Cymru yn parhau i annog plant i gymryd rhan yn y broses o reddeg eu hysgol. A ymunwch â mi wrth longyfarch Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili am fynd gam ymhellach gyda'i ddiwyddiadau fforwm ieuencid? [Torri ar draws.]
- 14:09 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 Order. Trefn.
- 14:09 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 I very much welcome any approach taken by local authorities to encourage involvement in school councils. In that regard, I particularly congratulate Caerphilly.
 Croesawaf unrhyw ymgais gan awdurdodau lleol i annog cyfranogiad mewn cynghorau ysgol yn fawr. Yn hynny o beth, hoffwn longyfarch Caerffili yn arbennig.
- 14:09 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 Minister, it is a sad fact that many citizens in Wales lack basic background knowledge about the structure of Government, leading to increasing disengagement from the political process. Does the Minister agree that school councils are a good way of teaching children about how Government works and to involve them in the political process?
 Weinidog, yn anffodus, nid oes gan lawer o ddinasyddion yng Nghymru wybodaeth gefndir sylfaenol am strwythur y Llywodraeth, sy'n arwain at sefyllfa lle y maent yn ymddieithrio'n gynyddol o'r broses wleidyddol. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno bod cynghorau ysgol yn ffordd dda o addysgu plant sut mae'r Llywodraeth yn gweithio a'u cynnwys yn y broses wleidyddol?
- 14:09 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 I certainly agree that the process of being involved in a school council helps young people to develop citizenship skills, including the skills of addressing issues such as decision taking and budget setting.
 Yn sicr, cytunaf fod y broses o gymryd rhan mewn cyngor ysgol yn helpu pobl ifanc i feithrin sgiliau dinasyddiaeth, gan gynnwys sgiliau o ran ymdrin â materion megis gwneud penderfyniadau a phennu cyllidebau.

Anhwylder ar y Sbectrwm Awtistig

Autism Spectrum Disorder

- 14:09 **Paul Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
13. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am yr hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i gefnogi plant ag anhwylder ar y sbectrwm awtistig mewn ysgolion. OAQ(4)0238(ESK)
13. Will the Minister make a statement on what the Welsh Government is doing to support children with autism spectrum disorder within the school setting. OAQ(4)0238(ESK)
- 14:10 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
 Mae darparu cymorth priodol yn yr ysgol i ddisgyblion ag anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig yn ddyletswydd statudol ar yr awdurdod lleol perthnasol. Ym Mehefin y llynedd, lansiais ddogfen ymgynghori a oedd yn nodi cynigion i ddiwygio'r fframwaith deddfwriaethol ar gyfer anghenion addysgol arbennig. Bydd ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru yn cael ei gyhoeddi maes o law.
 Providing appropriate school support for pupils with ASD is the statutory duty of the relevant local authority. In June last year, I launched a consultation document setting out proposals to reform the legislative framework for special educational needs. The Welsh Government response will be published in due course.

14:10

Paul Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Fel y deallaf, yn sir Benfro, mae plant ag awtistiaeth yn gorfod aros am hyd at saith mlynedd cyn bod diagnosis yn cael ei wneud, sy'n wahanol iawn i ardaloedd eraill, fel sir Gaerfyrddin a Cheredigion. Drwy'r cyfnod ansicr hwn, mae'r plant yn dal i symud ymlaen drwy'r system addysg, heb gael diagnosis. A allwch ddweud wrthym pa drafodaethau rydych yn eu cael â'r Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y mater hwn? Yn ogystal â'r hyn rydych wedi'i ddweud heddiw, beth mae eich adran yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem benodol hon, i sicrhau bod plant mewn ysgolion yn sir Benfro yn cael y gefnogaeth y maent yn ei haeddu?

I am grateful to the Minister for that response. As I understand it, in Pembrokeshire, children with autism have to wait up to seven years before diagnosis is made, which is quite different to other areas, such as Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion. During this period of uncertainty the children continue to progress through the education system without a diagnosis. What discussions are you having with the Minister for Health and Social Services on this issue? Also, in addition to what you have said today, what is your department doing to tackle this specific problem to ensure that children in schools in Pembrokeshire are given the support that they deserve?

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14:11

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I know that you have written to me on this issue in the last week or so in respect of the speed of diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder in Pembrokeshire. I take very seriously the issues that you have raised and I will want to look at them in some detail. We are currently working on the approach to additional learning needs to ensure that individual development plans are in place for young people to replace the statementing system. I have discussed this with the Minister for Health and Social Services, and I am keen for us to try to ensure that these assessments are made on a multidisciplinary basis. I am afraid that there are still local authorities where there are major challenges on this issue. I think that the Member will be well aware of the work of SNAP Cymru and other organisations that give support to parents when they have to take up such issues within particular local authorities. However, I am looking into the situation to which he has alerted me with his letter.

Gwn eich bod wedi ysgrifennu ataf ar y mater hwn yn ystod yr wythnos neu ddwy ddiwethaf gan gyfeirio at gyflymder y broses o wneud diagnosis o anhwylder ar y sbectrum awtistiaeth yn Sir Benfro. Rwy'n cymryd y materion a godwyd gennych yn wirioneddol o ddirif a byddaf yn awyddus i ymchwilio iddynt yn fanwl. Rydym wrthi'n gweithio ar hyn o bryd ar yr ymagwedd tuag at anghenion dysgu ychwanegol er mwyn sicrhau bod cynlluniau datblygu unigol ar waith ar gyfer pobl ifanc yn lle'r system datganiadau. Rwyf wedi trafod y mater hwn gyda'r Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ac rwy'n awyddus inni geisio sicrhau y caiff yr asesiadau hyn eu cynnal ar sail amlddisgyblaethol. Yn anffodus, ceir heriau sylweddol o hyd yn hyn o beth mewn rhai awdurdodau lleol. Credaf y bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol iawn o waith SNAP Cymru a sefydliadau eraill sy'n rhoi cymorth i rieni wrth ymdrin â materion o'r fath o fewn awdurdodau lleol penodol. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ymchwilio i'r sefyllfa y cefais wybod amdani yn ei lythyr.

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Addysg Rhyw

Sex Education

14:12

Jenny Rathbone [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

14. Pa lefel o addysg rhyw yr ydych yn disgwyl i ysgolion ei darparu ym mhob cyfnod allweddol a pha ran y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei chwarae o ran sicrhau bod ysgolion yn cydymffurfio. OAQ(4)0249(ESK)

14. What level of sex education do you expect schools to provide at each key stage and what role does the Government play in ensuring that schools are compliant. OAQ(4)0249(ESK)

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14:12

Leighton Andrews [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

All maintained schools are required to have a written sex and relationship education policy, and secondary schools are required to deliver sex and relationship education that meets the needs of their learners. My department has issued statutory guidance to which all schools are required to have regard, to help them to deliver appropriate provision.

Mae'n ofynnol bod gan bob ysgol a gynhelir bolisi addysg rhyw a pherthnasoedd ysgrifenedig ac mae'n ofynnol i ysgolion uwchradd ddarparu addysg rhyw a pherthnasoedd sy'n diwallu anghenion eu dysgwyr. Mae fy adran wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau statudol y mae'n ofynnol i bob ysgol eu hystyried, i'w helpu i gyflwyno'r ddarpariaeth briodol.

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14:12	Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I raise this issue today in relation to the continuing rise in the numbers of people who are being treated for HIV, which also includes a number of undiagnosed people with HIV infection. Obviously, the best way of preventing that rise is to increase safe sex messages, so that all young people realise that they must use condoms if they are going to have sex. What can we do to educate young people more to realise that?</p>	<p>Codaf y mater hwn heddiw mewn perthynas â'r cynnydd parhaus yn nifer y bobl sy'n cael eu trin am HIV, sydd hefyd yn cynnwys nifer o bobl â haint HIV nad ydynt wedi cael diagnosis. Yn amlwg, y ffordd orau o atal y cynnydd hwnnw yw cynyddu negeseuon am ryw diogel, er mwyn sicrhau bod pob person ifanc yn sylweddoli bod yn rhaid iddynt ddefnyddio condomau os byddant yn bwriadu cael rhyw. Beth y gallwn ei wneud i addysgu pobl ifanc yn fwy i sylweddoli hynny?</p>
14:13	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>We have issued the guidance on sex and relationship education in school to schools and local authorities to help them to meet their statutory requirements. Our guidance relates to sex and relationship education from primary school onwards. Estyn is meant to report on these issues and to ensure that the contribution made by schools is addressed. I will look at what the Member has raised, refer to the guidance and write to her.</p>	<p>Rydym wedi cyflwyno'r canllawiau ar addysg rhyw a pherthnasoedd yn yr ysgol i ysgolion ac awdurdodau lleol i'w helpu i fodloni eu gofynion statudol. Mae ein canllawiau yn berthnasol i addysg rhyw a pherthnasoedd o'r ysgol gynradd ymlaen. Disgwylir i Estyn gyflwyno adroddiad ar y materion hyn a sicrhau yr ymdrinnir â'r cyfraniad a wneir gan ysgolion. Ymchwiliad i'r materion a godwyd gan yr Aelod, cyfeiriaf at y canllawiau ac ysgrifennaf ati.</p>
14:13	Byron Davies Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Minister, could you outline what you think the role of the parent in sex education should be, and the level of sex education that may be expected to be provided at each key stage? It is obviously a very emotive issue. In line with parental views, can you outline specifically the role of governing bodies in interpreting parental expectations for sex education in our schools and how this fits in with ensuring that schools are compliant?</p>	<p>Weinidog, a allech amlinellu rôl rhieni o ran addysg rhyw, yn eich barn chi, a'r lefel o addysg rhyw y gellid disgwyl iddi gael ei darparu yn ystod pob cyfnod allweddol? Mae'n amlwg yn fater sensitif iawn. Yn unol â safbwyntiau rhieni, a allwch amlinellu'n benodol rôl cyrff llywodraethu wrth ddehongli disgwyliadau rhieni o ran addysg rhyw yn ein hysgolion a sut y mae hyn yn cyd-fynd â'r broses o sicrhau bod ysgolion yn cydymffurfio â hynny?</p>
14:14	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>We would expect schools to work in partnership with parents and carers, and we would expect them to consult parents and carers regularly on the content of the sex and relationship education programme. All maintained schools must, by law, have an up-to-date written sex education policy that is available for inspection, particularly by parents.</p>	<p>Byddem yn disgwyl i ysgolion weithio mewn partneriaeth â rhieni a gofalwyr, a byddem yn disgwyl iddynt ymgynghori â rhieni a gofalwyr yn rheolaidd ar gynnwys rhaglen addysg rhyw a pherthnasoedd. Rhaid bod gan bob ysgol a gynhelir, yn ôl y gyfraith, bolisi addysg rhyw ysgrifenedig cyfredol sydd ar gael i'w archwilio, yn enwedig gan rieni.</p>
	Bwlch Sgiliau	Skills Gap
14:14	Llyr Huws Gruffydd Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p><i>15. A wnaiff y Gweinidog, ddatganiad am faint y bwlch sgiliau yng Nghymru. OAQ(4)0241(ESK)</i></p>	<p><i>15. Will the Minister make a statement on the extent of the skills gap in Wales. OAQ(4)0241(ESK)</i></p>
14:14	Leighton Andrews Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Mae archwiliad cenedlaethol sgiliau strategol i Gymru 2012 yn tynnu sylw at yr anghenion sgiliau yn y prif alwedigaethau a sectorau cysylltiedig ar hyn o bryd ac yn y dyfodol. Roedd arolwg sgiliau cyflogwyr Comisiwn y DU dros Gyflogaeth a Sgiliau 2011 yn cofnodi bod 5% o'r staff yn llai na hollol hyfedr, a nodwyd bod swyddi gwag oherwydd prinder sgiliau penodol i'r swydd, gweithio fel tîm a delio â chwsmeriaid.</p>	<p>Wales's national strategic skills audit 2012 highlights current and future needs of key occupations and related sectors. The UKCES employer skills survey 2011 reported 5% of staff as being less than fully proficient and identified skill shortage vacancies relating to job specific skills, team working and customer handling.</p>

14:15 **Llyr Huws Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch i chi am yr ateb hwnnw. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch chi, Weinidog, yn cytuno â Phlaid Cymru bod y diwydiant ynni gwyrdd yn cynnig nifer fawr o gyfleoedd o safbwynt datblygu economi cynaliadwy. Byddai Llywodraeth Plaid Cymru'n sefydlu coleg sgiliau adeiladu gwyrdd er mwyn ennyn y sgiliau pwysig hyn a chreu canolfan ragoriaeth. Pa waith penodol y mae eich Llywodraeth chi'n ei wneud i wella sgiliau ein pobl ifanc ni a'u paratoi ar gyfer swyddi newydd mewn diwydiannau ynni gwyrdd yn benodol?

Thank you for that response. I am sure, Minister, that you would agree with Plaid Cymru that the green energy sector provides a number of opportunities for us in terms of developing a sustainable economy. A Plaid Cymru Government would establish a green skills college to develop these important skills and create a centre for excellence. What specific work is your Government doing to improve the skills of our young people and to prepare them for new jobs in the green energy sector in particular?

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14:15 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Government has been involved in the development of green skills training for some five or six years. We have worked with a number of energy organisations and with Business in the Community on the development of green skills training and the needs of the sector. We have had a number of initiatives in which the Welsh Government has co-operated, such as the British Gas green skills training centre at Tredegar, which was established some five or six years ago. We will continue to collaborate with the industry in developing these skills, which we agree are essential to our economy.

Bu Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhan o'r broses o ddatblygu hyfforddiant sgiliau gwyrdd ers tua phump neu chwe blynedd. Rydym wedi gweithio gyda nifer o sefydliadau ynni a chyda Busnes yn y Gymuned i ddatblygu hyfforddiant sgiliau gwyrdd ac i ystyried anghenion y sector. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cydweithredu â nifer o fentrau, fel canolfan hyfforddiant sgiliau gwyrdd Nwy Prydain yn Nhredeg, a sefydlwyd tua phump neu chwe blynedd yn ôl. Byddwn yn parhau i gydweithredu â'r diwydiant i ddatblygu'r sgiliau hyn, rydym yn cytuno eu bod yn hanfodol i'n heconomi.

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14:16 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, you will be well aware of the value of encouraging Welsh students to take up STEM subjects and of the demand for these key skills in north Wales, particularly from businesses in the Deeside enterprise zone. Do you therefore share my concern that only 151 female pupils from Wales achieved a B or above in A-level physics last year, and that Airbus was unable to fill its graduate programme due to a shortage? It had 28 specified places for female graduates, but the requirement was for grade B or above in A-level physics. Only half those places were filled. Can you outline what steps the Welsh Government is taking to address this shortfall?

Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol iawn o werth annog myfyrwyr o Gymru i astudio pynciau gwyddoniaeth, technoleg, peirianeg a mathemateg a'r galw am y sgiliau allweddol hyn yn y gogledd, yn enwedig gan fusnesau yn ardal fenter Glannau Dyfrdwy. A rannwch felly fy mhryder mai dim ond 151 o ddisgyblion benywaidd o Gymru a gyflawnodd radd B neu'n uwch mewn ffiseg Safon Uwch y llynedd, ac na lwyddodd Airbus i lenwi ei raglen i raddedigion oherwydd prinder? Roedd ganddo 28 o leoedd penodol i raddedigion benywaidd, ond roedd angen gradd B neu'n uwch mewn ffiseg Safon Uwch. Dim ond hanner y lleoedd hynny a lenwyd. A allwch amlinellu pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i ymdrin â'r diffyg hwn?

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14:17 **Leighton Andrews** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do agree that this is an area of significant concern. Indeed, I was discussing this matter with the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science, the chief scientific adviser and other Ministers just on Monday. Clearly, we are seeing a turn back towards science subjects among young people, but we do want to continue to promote science and engineering particularly among young women. It is therefore important that we have a sufficient number of role models coming forward to help us to do that.

In respect of Airbus, I have not had particular representations from it on this subject, although I am aware of the issue. It is something that I think we will have to have another look at.

Cytunaf fod hyn yn faes sy'n peri pryder sylweddol. Yn wir, roeddwn yn trafod y mater hwn gyda'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth, y prif gynghorydd gwyddonol a Gweinidogion eraill ddydd Llun. Yn amlwg, mae pobl ifanc yn dychwelyd at bynciau gwyddonol, ond rydym am barhau i hyrwyddo gwyddoniaeth a pheirianeg, yn enwedig ymhlith merched ifanc. Felly mae'n bwysig sicrhau bod digon o fodelau rôl ar gael ac yn barod i'n helpu i wneud hynny.

O ran Airbus, nid wyf wedi cael sylwadau penodol ganddo yn hyn o beth, er fy mod yn ymwybodol o'r mater. Mae'n rhywbeth y credaf y bydd yn rhaid inni ei ystyried unwaith eto.

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Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau

Cynllun Cynghrair Trafnidiaeth De-ddwyrain Cymru

Questions to the Minister for Local Government and Communities

South East Wales Transport Alliance Plan

- 14:18 **Mick Antoniw** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
1. Pa ystyriaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u rhoi i'r cynllun SEWTA sy'n ymwneud yn benodol ag ailagor y rheilffordd rhwng Pontypridd a Beddau. OAQ(4)0249(LGC)
- 14:18 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau / The Minister for Local Government and Communities
- 14:18 **Mick Antoniw** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- 14:19 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- 14:19 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- 14:20 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- 1. What considerations has the Welsh Government given to the SEWTA plan specifically relating to the reopening of the Pontypridd to Beddau line. OAQ(4)0249(LGC)*
- I thank the Member for Pontypridd for his question. On 4 December, I announced the creation of a taskforce for integrated transport in south-east Wales, led by a partnership of the Welsh Government and SEWTA. I am awaiting the recommendations of the taskforce, which will be published later this year.*
- Thank you for that, Minister. I do hope that when the considerations are taking place, they will reflect on the enormous development that is taking place in those areas, the need to get people off the roads, and the tremendous opportunity that I think still exists by virtue of the line effectively having been mothballed for future use.*
- I am aware of the Member's interest in this particular line. The rebuilding of a rail connection in this area has been under consideration by SEWTA, and I eagerly await the response in the network plans.*
- Minister, on Monday, I met the Vale 50+ older persons' forum, whose members raised the issue of integrated travel between bus and rail, and the obstacles that many face by not having the joined-up approach of being able to purchase one ticket that would be transferable between the two modes of transport. The previous Welsh Government had four pilot schemes across Wales. Can you confirm that such an operation will be rolled out across Wales by the end of this Assembly term, in 2016? If it is not going to be rolled out, what are the reasons why the Government is not taking those proposals forward?*
- There are schemes available where you can use your bus pass on the train in areas of Wales, for example, the borderlands and on the Heart of Wales line. These are the challenges that we face in terms of the finance that the Welsh Government has: £1.7 billion less going into the Welsh economy from the UK Government will have an effect on public services.*
- Diolch i'r Aelod dros Bontypridd am ei gwestiwn. Ar 4 Rhagfyr, cyhoeddais y gwaith o greu tasglu ar gyfer trafndiaeth integredig yn y de-ddwyrain, a arweinir gan bartneriaeth rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a SEWTA. Rwy'n disgwyl argymhellion y tasglu, a gaiff eu cyhoeddi yn ddiweddarach eleni.*
- Diolch ichi am hynny, Weinidog. Pan fydd yr ystyriaethau'n cael eu cynnal, gobeithiaf y byddant yn ystyried y datblygiad enfawr sy'n digwydd yn yr ardaloedd hynny, yr angen i gael pobl oddi ar y ffyrdd, a'r cyfle gwych sy'n bodoli o hyd yn fy marn i gan fod y llinell i bob pwrpas wedi cael ei rhoi o'r neilltu at ddefnydd yn y dyfodol.*
- Rwy'n ymwybodol o ddiddordeb yr Aelod yn y llinell arbennig hon. Mae SEWTA wedi bod yn ystyried ailadeiladu cysylltiad rheilffordd yn yr ardal hon, ac rwy'n aros yn eiddgar am yr ymateb yn y cynlluniau rhwydwaith.*
- Weinidog, ddydd Llun, cyfarfûm â fforwm pobl hŷn 50+ y Fro, y mae ei aelodau wedi codi mater teithio integredig rhwng bws a thrên, a'r rhwystrau sy'n wynebu llawer am nad oes dull cydgyssylltiedig o allu prynu un tocyn a fyddai'n trosglwyddo rhwng y ddau ddull o deithio. Roedd gan y Llywodraeth Cymru flaenrol bedwar cynllun peilot ledled Cymru. A allwch gadarnhau y caiff gweithrediad o'r fath ei gyflwyno ledled Cymru erbyn diwedd tymor y Cynulliad hwn, yn 2016? Os na chaiff ei gyflwyno, beth yw rhesymau'r Llywodraeth dros beidio â datblygu'r cynigion hynny?*
- Mae cynlluniau ar gael lle y gallwch ddefnyddio eich cerdyn bws ar y trên mewn ardaloedd o Gymru, er enghraifft, y gororau ac ar linell Calon Cymru. Dyma'r heriau sy'n ein hwynebu o ran y cyllid sydd gan Lywodraeth Cymru: bydd £1.7 biliwn yn llai yn mynd i economi Cymru oddi wrth Lywodraeth y DU yn cael effaith ar wasanaethau cyhoeddus.*
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14:20	<p>Leanne Wood Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, any reopening of the line between Pontypridd and Beddau would have the support of Plaid Cymru. There must be opportunities to time any reopening with the electrification of the Valleys lines so that a new electric service could be provided there. Plaid Cymru is of the view that, in general, public transport should be made more affordable so that more people can use it. Have you had any discussions about whether fare freezes can be pursued as part of the next rail franchise, as has been suggested in Scotland?</p>	<p>Weinidog, byddai unrhyw fwriad i ailagor y rheilffordd rhwng Pontypridd a Beddau yn cael cefnogaeth Plaid Cymru. Rhaid cael cyfleoedd i amseru unrhyw ailagor gyda thrydaneiddio rheilffyrdd y Cymoedd fel y gellid darparu gwasanaeth trydan newydd yno. Mae Plaid Cymru o'r farn, yn gyffredinol, y dylai trafndiaeth gyhoeddus fod yn fwy fforddiadwy fel y gall mwy o bobl ei defnyddio. A ydych wedi cael unrhyw drafodaethau ynghylch a ellir ystyried rhewi prisiau fel rhan o'r fasnachfaint rheilffyrdd nesaf, fel yr awgrymwyd yn yr Alban?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:21	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>The Member raises an important issue about the affordability of transport. This is something that my work in tackling poverty also involves, to ensure that we can get the greatest possible benefit for consumers across Wales. I have not yet considered that in terms of the new franchise, as it is a little bit premature with regard to the detail. I acknowledge the Member's point and will consider that in future discussions.</p>	<p>Mae'r Aelod yn codi mater pwysig ynghylch fforddiadwyedd trafndiaeth. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth y mae fy ngwaith o fynd i'r afael â thlodi hefyd yn ei gynnwys, er mwyn sicrhau y gallwn gael y budd mwyaf posibl i ddefnyddwyr ar draws Cymru. Nid wyf eto wedi ystyried hynny, o ran y fasnachfaint newydd, gan ei fod ychydig yn gynamserol o ran y manylion. Cydnabyddaf bwynt yr Aelod a byddaf yn ystyried hynny mewn trafodaethau yn y dyfodol.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
<p>Pwerau Trwyddedu Awdurdodau Lleol</p>		<p>Local Authority Licensing Powers</p>	
14:21	<p>Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am bolisiâu Llywodraeth Cymru o ran pwerau trwyddedu awdurdodau lleol. OAQ(4)0250(LGC)</i></p>	<p><i>2. Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government policies in relation to local authority licensing powers. OAQ(4)0250(LGC)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:21	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Local authorities exercise many licensing and registration functions, including alcohol, entertainment, gambling, taxis, housing and zoos, to name just a few. They are best placed to understand the impact of these powers in their areas, both on communities and businesses.</p>	<p>Mae'r awdurdodau lleol yn ymarfer llawer o swyddogaethau trwyddedu a chofrestru, gan gynnwys alcohol, adloniant, gamblo, taccis, tai a swâu, i enwi ond ychydig. Nhw sydd yn y sefyllfa orau i ddeall effaith y pwerau hyn yn eu hardaloedd, ar gymunedau a busnesau.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:21	<p>Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, as a member of the Musicians' Union, I have a particular interest in proposed changes to licensing regulation with regard to small venues' exemptions and the potential increase in the audience threshold from 200 to 500. Will the Welsh Government be giving any consideration in due course to the impact of changes that might be taking place in Westminster on local authorities in Wales?</p>	<p>Weinidog, fel aelod o Undeb y Cerddorion, mae gennyf ddiddordeb arbennig yn y newidiadau arfaethedig i reoliadau trwyddedu o ran eithriadau lleoliadau bach a'r cynnydd posibl yn y trothwy cynulleidfa o 200 i 500. A fydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn rhoi unrhyw ystyriaeth maes o law i effaith newidiadau a allai fod yn digwydd yn San Steffan ar awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:22	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>I recognise the Member's interest too in this important issue of music. The regulation of live music is not devolved, but the Welsh Government's evidence to the Silk commission advocates that, along with the licensing of the sale of alcohol and late-night refreshments, the legislative competence for the regulation of live music should be transferred to Wales.</p>	<p>Rwy'n cydnabod diddordeb yr Aelod hefyd yn y mater pwysig hwn o gerddoriaeth. Nid yw rheoleiddio cerddoriaeth fyw wedi'i ddatganoli, ond mae tystiolaeth Llywodraeth Cymru i gomisiwn Silk yn dadlau y dylai'r cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar gyfer rheoleiddio cerddoriaeth fyw, ynghyd â thrwyddedu gwerthu alcohol a lluniaeth hwyr y nos, gael ei drosglwyddo i Gymru.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

14:22 **Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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Minister, caravan parks are vital to the north Wales tourism industry, as I know you are aware, but I am concerned about the growing trend of people using holiday caravans as their permanent homes. Given that no council tax is derived from people using holiday caravans, but that there are people among them who are intensive users of social services and other services from local authorities, what are you doing to ensure that that is reflected in the settlement that is received through the revenue support grant?

Weinidog, mae parciau carafannau yn hanfodol i ddiwydiant twristiaeth y gogledd, fel y gwyddoch, mi wn, ond rwy'n pryderu am y duedd gynyddol sydd lle mae pobl yn defnyddio carafannau gwyliau fel eu cartrefi parhaol. O ystyried nad oes unrhyw dreth gyngor yn deillio o'r ffaith bod pobl yn defnyddio carafannau gwyliau, ond fod yna pobl yn eu plith sy'n ddefnyddwyr dwys gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a gwasanaethau eraill gan awdurdodau lleol, beth ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau yr adlewyrchir hynny yn y setliad a geir drwy'r grant cynnal refeniw?

14:23 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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We have to have a full understanding of the processes around the licensing of caravan parks. I have had a discussion with the Minister with responsibility for planning already with regard to my responsibility around resilience, to ensure that we can be confident that actions that may be needed on emergency provision also reflect the day-to-day issues raised by the Member, such as health and other services that would need to be developed for the general public stopping in these parks.

Rrhaid inni gael dealltwriaeth lawn o'r prosesau sy'n gysylltiedig â thrwyddedu parciau carafannau. Rwyf eisoes wedi cael trafodaeth â'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am gynllunio o ran fy nghyfrifoldeb ynghylch cydnherthedd, er mwyn sicrhau y gallwn fod yn hyderus fod y camau gweithredu y gall fod angen eu cymryd o ran darpariaeth frys hefyd yn adlewyrchu'r materion o ddydd i ddydd a godwyd gan yr Aelod, megis iechyd a gwasanaethau eraill y byddai angen eu datblygu ar gyfer y cyhoedd sy'n aros yn y parciau hyn.

14:24 **Lindsay Whittle** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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Minister, on Monday the Minister for housing released the consultation responses regarding the proposed scheme to improve the regulation of the private rented housing sector in Wales and the licensing of landlords in that sector. That will have a major impact on local authorities. What powers do you envisage will need to be given to local authorities to allow them to properly manage this scheme? Will you ensure that extra costs related to the scheme are not passed on to local authorities?

Weinidog, ddydd Llun cyhoeddodd y Gweinidog tai yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad ynghylch y cynllun arfaethedig i wella'r broses o reoleiddio'r sector tai rhent preifat yng Nghymru a thrwyddedu landlordiaid yn y sector hwnnw. Bydd hynny'n cael effaith fawr ar awdurdodau lleol. Pa bwerau a ragwelwch y bydd angen eu rhoi i awdurdodau lleol i'w galluogi i reoli'r cynllun hwn yn gywir? A fyddwch yn sicrhau nad yw'r costau ychwanegol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cynllun yn cael eu trosglwyddo i awdurdodau lleol?

14:24 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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The issue of licensing and housing is a matter for the Minister for housing and we have had several discussions on the opportunities for local government to be involved in that process. Any financial impact on local authorities will have been considered in any legislation being brought forward.

Materion i'r Gweinidog tai yw trwyddedu a thai a chawsom sawl trafodaeth ar y cyfleoedd i lywodraeth leol fod yn rhan o'r broses honno. Bydd unrhyw effaith ariannol ar awdurdodau lleol wedi cael ei hystyried mewn unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth a gyflwynir.

Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned

Town and Community Councils

14:24 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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3. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i ddarparu cyllid uniongyrchol i Gynghorau Tref a Chymuned er mwyn cyflenwi gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn eu hardaloedd. OAQ(4)0246(LGC)

3. What plans does the Minister have to provide direct funding to Town and Community Councils for the delivery of public services in their areas. OAQ(4)0246(LGC)

14:24 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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Town and community councils are funded mainly through council tax precepts, reflecting the fact that they are largely funded by their own communities to serve those communities. There are no plans to change that.

Ariennir cynghorau tref a chymuned yn bennaf drwy braeseptau'r dreth gyngor, gan adlewyrchu'r ffaith eu bod yn cael eu hariannu i raddau helaeth gan eu cymunedau eu hunain i wasanaethu'r cymunedau hynny. Nid oes unrhyw gynlluniau i newid hynny.

- 14:25 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- I thank the Minister very much for that clarification. Concerns have been expressed to me by a number of community councillors in Carmarthenshire that the county council is forcing them to assume responsibility for the running of public toilets in particular, and without any transfer of budgetary resources. In some cases, this could in fact lead to the doubling of the local precept, the alternative being the closure of the service, which, for a number of reasons, would be unacceptable. Is it not time to consider some element of direct funding from the Welsh Government to town and community councils in order to stop unitary authorities effectively holding a gun to the head of the local council in providing these vital services?
- Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn i'r Gweinidog am yr eglurhad hwnnw. Mynegwyd pryderon imi gan nifer o gynghorwyr cymuned yn Sir Gaerfyrddin fod y cyngor sir yn eu gorfodi i gymryd cyfrifoldeb am gynnal toiledau cyhoeddus yn benodol, a heb drosglwyddo unrhyw adnoddau cyllidebol. Mewn rhai achosion, gallai hyn mewn gwirionedd arwain at ddyblu'r praesept lleol, a'r dewis amgen fyddai cau'r gwasanaeth, a fyddai, am sawl rheswm, yn annerbyniol. Onid yw'n bryd ystyried rhyw elfen o gyllid uniongyrchol gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gynghorau tref a chymuned er mwyn atal awdurdodau unedol rhag rhoi pwysau ar bennaeth y cyngor lleol i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hollbwysig hyn i bob pwrpas?
- 14:25 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Let me be very clear. Town and community councils cannot be forced by unitary authorities to take on any duty that is currently the function of that unitary authority. The normal route would be through a charter proposal agreed between the two bodies, to ensure that services for the general public can be delivered better between the two organisations. However, this is certainly not a position where I would advocate any transfer of functions to a town and community council without the adequate funding following that.
- Gadewch imi fod yn glir iawn. Ni all cynghorau tref a chymuned gael eu gorfodi gan awdurdodau unedol i ymgymryd ag unrhyw ddyletswydd sydd ar hyn o bryd yn un o swyddogaethau'r awdurdod unedol. Y llwybr arferol fyddai drwy gynnig siarter y cytunwyd arno rhwng y ddau gorff, er mwyn sicrhau y gall gwasanaethau ar gyfer y cyhoedd gael eu darparu'n well rhwng y ddau sefydliad. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hyn yn sicr yn sefyllfa lle y byddwn yn argymhell trosglwyddo swyddogaethau i gyngor tref a chymuned heb y cyllid digonol yn dilyn hynny.
- 14:26 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, I am grateful for your commitment. Will you reiterate so that I can be absolutely certain that, where these responsibilities are devolved down to town and community councils, the funding will follow directly?
- Weinidog, rwy'n ddiolchgar am eich ymrwymiad. A wnewch chi ailadrodd fel y gallaf fod yn hollol sicr, lle y caiff y cyfrifoldebau hyn eu datganoli i lawr i gynghorau tref a chymuned, y bydd y cyllid yn dilyn yn uniongyrchol?
- 14:26 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- As I mentioned to the previous Member, this is a discussion between unitary authorities and town and community councils. Town and community councils can offer an awful lot of close-to-the-community support. This is something that I would encourage, but of course I would not expect them to do that without the appropriate funding from the unitary authority being transferred.
- Fel y soniais wrth yr Aelod blaenorol, trafodaeth rhwng awdurdodau unedol a chynghorau tref a chymuned yw hon. Gall cynghorau tref a chymuned gynnig llawer iawn o gymorth agos at y gymuned. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth y byddwn yn ei annog, ond wrth gwrs ni fyddwn yn disgwyl iddynt wneud hynny heb i'r cyllid priodol gael ei drosglwyddo gan yr awdurdod unedol.
- 14:27 **Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, I was wondering if you had any plans to give town and community councils greater powers in areas where they are consultees. One example might be planning, where we often hear of town and community councils being at odds with planning authorities. I know that this is not your area, and that it is for your Cabinet colleague John Griffiths, but if you could explain whether this would be considered as part of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Bill, I would be very grateful for your reply.
- Weinidog, tybed a oes gennych unrhyw gynlluniau i roi pwerau uwch i gynghorau tref a chymuned mewn ardaloedd lle maent yn ymgynghoreion. Gallai cynllunio fod yn un enghraifft, lle y dlywn yn aml am gynghorau tref a chymuned yn mynd yn groes i awdurdodau cynllunio. Gwn nad hwn yw eich maes chi, ac mai cyfrifoldeb eich cyd-Weinidog yn y Cabinet, John Griffiths ydyw, ond os gallech esbonio a fyddai hyn yn cael ei ystyried yn rhan o Fil Llywodraeth Leol (Democratiaeth) (Cymru), byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn am eich ateb.
- 14:27 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- I am grateful for the Member's question, and her recognition that it sits within another Minister's portfolio. However, he has noted your comment, and I am sure that he will write to you accordingly.
- Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gwestiwn yr Aelod, a'i chydabyddiaeth ei fod yn rhan o bortffolio Gweinidog arall. Fodd bynnag, mae wedi nodi eich sylw, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd yn ysgrifennu atoch yn unol â hynny.

Cymunedau yn Gyntaf

Communities First

- 14:27 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am glystyrau'r rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf newydd. OAQ(4)0239(LGC)
- 14:27 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I thank the Member for Swansea East for his question. In January 2013, I approved the final Communities First cluster area. All 52 clusters are now working to recruit staff as well as further developing robust, measurable delivery plans and community involvement plans to ensure that the programme makes a real impact on tackling poverty.
- 14:28 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
As someone who has three clusters in my constituency, I thank the Minister for his response and welcome the bringing in of the new clusters. Will he ensure that local residents are involved at every level? Will he conduct a review of progress after the clusters have been operating for 12 months?
- 14:28 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I am grateful for the positive comments the Member makes in terms of the development of the new clusters. The clusters, operating under the new Communities First programme, will be subject to ongoing reviews and will be required to submit an annual monitoring report. I will be happy to consider the request from the Member in terms of the position on the 12-month review for the clusters across Wales.
- 14:28 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I understand that 16 of the 19 clusters have local authorities as grant recipient bodies, and one of the other three is north Denbighshire Communities First. What action are you taking to hasten to a conclusion discussions with the grant recipient body, which I understand is the Co-op, and which is holding up implementation of the programme and causing concern in an area that is particularly sensitive, given the joining together of west Rhyl and south-west Rhyl?
- 14:29 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I do not believe there are any impacts in terms of the delivery of the scheme. Of course, there are ongoing discussions with the grant recipient bodies, and future opportunities there. Funding is still being transferred to the organisations to complete the duties that I would expect in those areas.
4. Will the Minister provide a progress update on the new Communities First programme clusters. OAQ(4)0239(LGC)
- Diolchaf i'r Aelod dros Ddwyrain Abertawe am ei gwestiwn. Ym mis Ionawr 2013, cymeradwyais ardal glwstwr olaf Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae pob un o'r 52 clwstwr bellach yn gweithio i recriwtio staff yn ogystal â datblygu ymhellach gynlluniau cyflawni cadarn a mesuradwy a chynlluniau cynnwys y gymuned i sicrhau bod y rhaglen yn cael effaith wirioneddol ar fynd i'r afael â thlodi.
- Fel rhywun sydd â thri chlwstwr yn fy etholaeth, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ymateb a chroesawaf y broses o gyflwyno clystyrau newydd. A wnaiff sicrhau bod trigolion lleol yn cael eu cynnwys ar bob lefel? A fydd yn cynnal adolygiad o gynnydd ar ôl i'r clystyrau fod ar waith am 12 mis?
- Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y sylwadau cadarnhaol a wna'r Aelod o ran datblygiad y clystyrau newydd. Bydd y clystyrau, sy'n gweithredu o dan raglen newydd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yn destun adolygiadau parhaus a bydd yn ofynnol iddynt gyflwyno adroddiad monitro blynyddol. Byddaf yn hapus i ystyried y cais gan yr Aelod mewn perthynas â'r sefyllfa o ran yr adolygiad 12 mis ar gyfer y clystyrau ledled Cymru.
- Deallaf fod gan 16 o'r 19 clwstwr awdurdodau lleol fel cyrff sy'n derbyn grant, ac un o'r tri arall yw Cymunedau yn Gyntaf gogledd Sir Ddinbych. Pa gamau rydych yn eu cymryd i brysuero i gynnal trafodaeth ar gasgliadau â'r corff sy'n derbyn grant, sef y Co-op yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf, ac sy'n arafu'r gwaith o weithredu'r rhaglen ac yn achosi pryder mewn ardal sy'n arbennig o sensitif, o gofio bod gorllewin y Rhyl a de-orllewin y Rhyl wedi uno?
- Ni chredaf fod unrhyw effeithiau o ran cyflawni'r cynllun. Wrth gwrs, mae trafodaethau yn mynd rhagddynt gyda'r cyrff sy'n derbyn grant, a chyfleoedd ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae cyllid yn dal i gael ei drosglwyddo i'r sefydliadau er mwyn cwblhau'r dyletswyddau y byddwn yn eu disgwyl yn yr ardaloedd hynny.

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14:29

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Sadly, I no longer live in a Communities First ward following this reorganisation. Nevertheless, how can these clusters help households with indebtedness in their areas? I draw your attention to the Office of Fair Trading report today on pay-day lenders, which has shown that 90% of the market is working not illegally as such, but against the interests of consumers. In particular, there are lenders failing to conduct adequate assessments of affordability, aggressive debt collection practices and not treating borrowers with forbearance. Those practices are happening in our Communities First areas. What can these programmes now do to help people overcome how they have been ripped off by these pay-day lenders?

Yn anffodus, nid wyf bellach yn byw mewn ward Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn dilyn yr ad-drefnu hwn. Serch hynny, sut y gall y clystyrau hyn helpu cartrefi sydd mewn dyled yn eu hardaloedd? Tynnaf eich sylw at adroddiad y Swyddfa Masnachu Teg heddiw ar fenthycwyr diwrnod cyflog, sydd wedi dangos bod 90% o'r farchnad yn gweithio nid yn anghyfreithlon fel y cyfryw, ond yn groes i fuddiannau defnyddwyr. Yn benodol, ceir sefyllfa lle mae benthycwyr yn methu â chynnal asesiadau digonol o fforddiadwyedd, arferion casglu dyledion ymosodol a ddim yn trin benthycwyr â goddefgarwch. Mae'r arferion hyn yn digwydd yn ein hardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Beth all y rhaglenni hyn ei wneud yn awr er mwyn helpu pobl i oresgyn y modd y maent wedi cael eu twyllo gan y benthycwyr diwrnod cyflog hyn?

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14:30

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I recognise the points that you raise. I suppose, in relation to the first point, that we are a victim of our own success—the fact that you are no longer living in a Communities First ward means that the area no longer qualifies under a Communities First needs assessment. We should celebrate the fact that the good work that has been going on in the community has been a success.

Cydnabyddaf y pwyntiau a godwch. Mewn perthynas â'r pwynt cyntaf, tybiaf ein bod yn dioddef oherwydd ein llwyddiant ein hunain—mae'r ffaith nad ydych yn byw mwyach mewn ward Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn golygu nad yw'r ardal mwyach yn gymwys o dan asesiad anghenion Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Dylem ddathlu'r ffaith bod y gwaith da sydd wedi bod yn mynd rhagddo yn y gymuned wedi bod yn llwyddiant.

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On the point that the Member raises about legal loan sharks or illegal loan sharks, I am concerned that there is not much difference between the two. Communities First can be very helpful in terms of financial inclusion, with credit unions and sharing best practice on how to save effectively and have good financial management of the sometimes very difficult processes that families have to go through, particularly under the UK Government's welfare reforms.

O ran y pwynt y mae'r Aelod yn ei godi ynghylch benthycwyr arian didrwydded cyfreithlon neu anghyfreithlon, rwy'n pryderu nad oes llawer o wahaniaeth rhwng y ddau. Gall Cymunedau yn Gyntaf fod o gymorth mawr o ran cynhwysiant ariannol, undebau credyd a rhannu arfer gorau ar sut i gynilo'n effeithiol a chael rheolaeth ariannol dda dros brosesau sy'n anodd iawn ar adegau y mae'n rhaid i deuluoedd eu hwynebu, yn enwedig o dan ddiwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU.

14:31

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that reply. I wish to draw your attention to the fact that Wonga.com is addressing the Labour Party in the House of Commons in May on how to deal with family indebtedness. I very much hope that we will not get that Wonga.com approach from the Minister. He just mentioned credit unions and alternative sources of lending. What further work can be done, particularly with housing associations and social landlords in Wales, to build up those alternative methods? Some very good schemes are available, but they are not generally available in all of the Communities First areas. Could we see action from the Government to ensure that that now happens so that all parts of Wales can access alternative funding arrangements?

Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw. Hoffwn dynnu eich sylw at y ffaith bod Wonga.com yn annerch y Blaid Lafur yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ym mis Mai ar sut i ddelio â dyled teulu. Gobeithiaf yn fawr na chawn y dull Wonga.com hwnnw gan y Gweinidog. Soniodd am undebau credyd a ffynonellau amgen o fenthycwyr. Pa waith arall y gellir ei wneud, yn enwedig gyda chymdeithasau tai a landlordiaid cymdeithasol yng Nghymru, er mwyn datblygu'r dulliau amgen hynny? Mae rhai cynlluniau da iawn ar gael, ond nid ydynt ar gael yn gyffredinol ym mhob ardal Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. A allai'r Llywodraeth gymryd camau i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd nawr fel y gall pob rhan o Gymru gael gafael ar drefniadau cyllido amgen?

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14:31

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I assure the Member that there will be no Wonga.com puppets in this Chamber on the Labour Party benches. My good friend, Stella Creasy in Westminster, is having a very interesting discussion with the said company. I also assure the Member that my Communities First team understands very clearly that it is an essential part of financial inclusion that we are able to roll out, in as many clusters as possible across Wales, support for financial advice services within our most deprived communities.

Gallaf sicrhau'r Aelod na fydd unrhyw bypedau Wonga.com yn y Siambr hon ar feinciau'r Blaid Lafur. Mae fy ffrind da, Stella Creasy yn San Steffan, yn cael trafodaeth ddiddorol iawn gyda'r cwmni hwn. Rwyf hefyd am sicrhau'r Aelod bod fy nhim Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn deall yn glir iawn mai rhan hanfodol o gynhwysiant ariannol yw ein bod, mewn cymaint o glystyrau â phosibl ledled Cymru, yn gallu rhoi cymorth i wasanaethau cyngor ariannol o fewn ein cymunedau mwyaf difreintedig.

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14:32	Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	I call the Welsh Liberal Democrat spokesperson, Peter Black.	Galwaf ar lefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Peter Black.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
14:32	Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography	Since the introduction of clusters, there are now very few Communities First areas in rural areas. Given that many anti-poverty programmes are depend on Communities First area status for eligibility, how do you intend to address that and ensure that those pockets of poverty in rural areas will receive assistance in future?	Ers cyflwyno clystyrau, prin iawn yw'r ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf mewn ardaloedd gwledig. O gofio bod llawer o raglenni gwrth-dlodi yn dibynnu ar statws ardal Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ar gyfer cymhwysedd, sut ydych yn bwriadu mynd i'r afael â hynny a sicrhau y caiff y pocedi hynny o dlodi mewn ardaloedd gwledig gymorth yn dyfodol.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
14:32	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Respectfully, the whole issue of redefining clusters for Communities First gave the programme the flexibility to include smaller areas of deprivation within wards, which, as we all recognise, were not previously included.	Gyda pharch, rhoddodd y mater cyfan o ailddiffinio clystyrau ar gyfer Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yr hyblygrwydd i'r rhaglen gynnwys ardaloedd o amddifadedd llai o faint o fewn wardiau, na chawsant eu cynnwys o'r blaen, fel y gwyr pob un ohonom.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
		With regard to rural areas, Communities First is only part of our action plan to tackle poverty. Many other schemes work alongside it. Credit unions have bases in the 22 local authorities across Wales and I am working with them to see how we can develop outreach working to ensure that we tackle poverty and financial inclusion right across our communities, whether in rural or urban areas.	O ran ardaloedd gwledig, dim ond rhan o'n cynllun gweithredu i fynd i'r afael â thlodi yw Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae llawer o gynlluniau eraill yn gweithio ochr yn ochr â hi. Mae gan undebau credyd ganolfannau yn y 22 awdurdod lleol ledled Cymru ac rwy'n gweithio gyda nhw i weld sut y gallwn ddatblygu gwaith allgymorth er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â thlodi a chynhwysiant ariannol ar draws ein cymunedau, boed mewn ardaloedd gwledig neu drefol.	
14:33	Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography	Thank you for that answer, Minister; nevertheless, it is not the function of credit unions to do the Government's job of tackling poverty. You have programmes to do that and those programmes are dependent in many cases on an area being designated as a Communities First area in order to receive funding. So, I will repeat the question: how are you ensuring that funding is getting to those small pockets of poverty in rural areas that are now being deprived of it because of changes to the Communities First banding?	Diolch ichi am hynny, Weinidog; er hynny, nid swyddogaeth undebau credyd yw gwneud gwaith y Llywodraeth o fynd i'r afael â thlodi. Mae gennych raglenni i wneud hynny ac mae'r rhaglenni hynny yn ddibynnol, mewn llawer o achosion, ar ardal yn cael ei dynodi yn ardal Cymunedau yn Gyntaf er mwyn cael cyllid. Felly, ailadroddaf y cwestiwn: sut ydych yn sicrhau bod cyllid yn cyrraedd y pocedi bach hynny o dlodi mewn ardaloedd gwledig sydd bellach yn cael eu hamddifadu ohono oherwydd newidiadau i fandio Cymunedau yn Gyntaf?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
14:33	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	I do not accept the Member's point. The fact of the matter is that the Communities First programme has been assessed on the basis of poverty needs. Areas such as that which Simon Thomas raised earlier have come out of Communities First because they have moved out of the poverty trap. That is what the statistics tell us.	Nid wyf yn derbyn pwynt yr Aelod. Y ffaith amdani yw bod rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf wedi cael ei hasesu ar sail anghenion tldi. Mae ardaloedd megis yr un a gododd Simon Thomas yn gynharach wedi deillio o raglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf gan eu bod wedi symud allan o'r fagl tldi. Dyna'r hyn y mae'r ystadegau'n ei ddweud wrthym.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	System Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Integredig		An Integrated Public Transport System	
14:34	Jenny Rathbone Bywgraffiad Biography	<i>5. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i gefnogi system trafndiaeth gyhoeddus integredig ar gyfer ein prifddinas. OAQ(4)0254(LGC)</i>	<i>5. What is the Welsh Government doing to support an integrated public transport system for our capital city. OAQ(4)0254(LGC)</i>	Senedd.tv Fideo Video

- 14:34 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Improved public transport in Cardiff is one of the key considerations of the Welsh Government and the South East Wales Transport Alliance-led taskforce for integrated transport in south-east Wales. I am awaiting recommendations from the taskforce, which is due to end later this year.
- Gwell trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yng Nghaerdydd yw un o ystyriaethau allweddol Llywodraeth Cymru a thasglu Cynghrair Trafnidiaeth De-ddwyrain Cymru ar gyfer trafndiaeth integredig yn y de-ddwyrain. Rwy'n aros am argymhellion gan y tasglu, y mae disgwyl iddo ddo i ben yn ddiweddarach eleni.
- 14:34 **Jenny Rathbone** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Sadly, the Cabinet member for transport for Cardiff Council said recently that there was no money for a new bus station in this council term. Nevertheless, the draft corporate plan now says that
- Yn anffodus, dywedodd yr aelod Cabinet dros drafnidiaeth ar gyfer Cyngor Caerdydd yn ddiweddar nad oedd arian ar gael ar gyfer gorsaf fysiau newydd yn nhymor y cyngor hwn. Serch hynny, mae'r cynllun corfforaethol drafft bellach yn dweud
- 'it is vital that the city is equipped with a bespoke transport plan that can be put in place should the opportunities and funding streams be identified'.
- ei bod yn hanfodol bod y ddinas yn cael cynllun trafndiaeth pwrpasol y gellir ei roi ar waith os nodir y cyfleoedd a'r ffrydiau ariannu.
- An iconic design for rebuilding the bus station north of the railway station would make this an attractive location for business premises, as this is one of the things that they look for. Therefore, how can we get Cardiff Council to collaborate with the private sector to develop what is an essential bus station for the health and the wellbeing of all Cardiff residents?
- Byddai dyluniad eiconig ar gyfer ailadeiladu'r orsaf fysiau i'r gogledd o'r orsaf reilffordd yn gwneud hwn yn lleoliad atyniadol ar gyfer safle busnes, gan fod hwn yn un o'r pethau yr oeddent yn chwilio amdano. Felly, sut y gallwn gael Cyngor Caerdydd i gydweithredu â'r sector preifat i ddatblygu'r hyn sy'n orsaf fysiau hanfodol er budd ac iechyd holl drigolion Caerdydd?
- 14:35 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I recognise the Member's commitment to having a fully integrated transport network for the capital city, and I welcome her comments, as well as those of other Members who represent the Cardiff area. I will raise this issue with Cardiff Council in terms of the responsibilities it has for delivering such a station and integrated transport network. I will contact the Member after I have had those discussions with the authority.
- Cydnabyddaf ymrwymiad yr Aelod i gael rhwydwaith trafndiaeth cwbl integredig i'r brifddinas, a chroesawaf ei sylwadau, yn ogystal â rhai'r Aelodau eraill sy'n cynrychioli ardal Caerdydd. Codaf y mater hwn gyda Chyngor Caerdydd o ran y cyfrifoldebau sydd ganddo i ddarparu gorsaf a rhwydwaith trafndiaeth integredig o'r fath. Byddaf yn cysylltu â'r Aelod ar ôl imi gael y trafodaethau hynny gyda'r awdurdod.
- 14:36 **Byron Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- Minister, leading on from Jenny Rathbone's point, I am sure that you might well share my disbelief at the stark contrast between the bus stations in Swansea and in Cardiff. Swansea has one of the best-planned bus stations in our country, but it is in completely the wrong place, whereas Cardiff has one of the worst bus stations in our country, but it is in the most ideal place. Our capital city has a crumbling public transport infrastructure, which brings shame on this Government. What are you doing to ensure that local authorities do not fritter away the opportunity of taxpayers' money by either not investing in integrated public transport systems, or investing in a meaningless way?
- Weinidog, yn dilyn pwynt Jenny Rathbone, rwy'n siŵr eich bod o bosibl, fel minnau, yn methu â chredu'r gwrthgyferbyniad llwyr sydd rhwng y gorsafedd bysiau yn Abertawe a Chaerdydd. Mae gan Abertawe un o'r gorsafedd bysiau gorau o ran cynllun yn ein gwlad, ond mae yn y lle hollol anghywir, tra bod gan Gaerdydd un o'r gorsafedd bysiau gwaethaf yn ein gwlad, ond mae yn y lle mwyaf delfrydol. Mae gan ein prifddinas seilwaith trafndiaeth gyhoeddus bregus sy'n dwyn gwarth ar y Llywodraeth hon. Beth ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau nad yw awdurdodau lleol yn gwastraffu arian trethdalwyr drwy naill ai beidio â buddsoddi mewn systemau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus integredig, neu fuddsoddi mewn ffordd ddiystyr?

- 14:36 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- We have many great examples across Wales, including in Cardiff, of delivering on integrated transport. I am often criticised for trying to micromanage local authorities: one minute, the Members on the benches opposite want me to intervene in local authorities, and the next they do not want me to get involved at all. This is a balance on the basis that Cardiff Council and other authorities have to make their decisions on local development plans. Whether the council decides that it wants a new bus station or not will be done at the appropriate time.
- Mae gennym lawer o enghreifftiau gwych ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys yng Nghaerdydd, o ddarparu trafndiaeth integredig. Yn aml caf fy meirniadu am geisio microreoli awdurdodau lleol: un funud, mae'r Aelodau ar y meinciau gyferbyn am imi ymyrryd yng ngwaith awdurdodau lleol, a'r funud nesaf nid ydynt am imi ymyrryd o gwbl. Mae hyn yn gydbwysedd ar y sail bod Cyngor Caerdydd ac awdurdodau eraill yn gorfod gwneud eu penderfyniadau ar gynlluniau datblygu lleol. Caiff penderfyniad y cyngor ynghylch a oes angen gorsaf fysiau newydd ai peidio ei wneud ar yr adeg briodol.
- 14:37 **Leanne Wood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, I reiterated Plaid Cymru's support for an integrated transport system for the south-east Wales region during the Plaid Cymru conference in Ynys Môn last weekend. In pursuing this issue, what discussions have you had regarding the financing of a metro scheme? Also, can you outline whether you have discussed any options for operating a metro system under a not-for-dividend model, or any other alternative or innovative form of ownership that would best benefit the Welsh public interest?
- Weinidog, ailadroddais gefnogaeth Plaid Cymru i system drafndiaeth integredig ar gyfer rhanbarth y de-ddwyrain yn ystod cynhadledd Plaid Cymru yn Ynys Môn y penwythnos diwethaf. Wrth ymdrin â'r mater hwn, pa drafodaethau a gawsoch ynglŷn ag ariannu cynllun metro? Hefyd, a allwch nodi a ydych wedi trafod unrhyw opsiynau ar gyfer gweithredu system fetro o dan fodel di-ddifidend, neu unrhyw ddewis arall neu ffurf arloesol ar berchenogaeth a fyddai o'r budd gorau i'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru?
- 14:37 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- With regret, I missed the Plaid Cymru conference and the Member's speech. [Laughter.] However, the Member raises an important issue about integrated transport across south Wales. That is why I have established the south-east Wales taskforce, which will report to me over the next few months about the priorities for the region.
- Yn anffodus, collais gynhadledd Plaid Cymru ac araith yr Aelod. [Chwerthin.] Fodd bynnag, cyfyd yr Aelod fater pwysig ynghylch trafndiaeth integredig ar draws y de. Dyna pam yr wyf wedi sefydlu tasglu de-ddwyrain Cymru, a fydd yn cyflwyno adroddiad imi dros yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf ynghylch y blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y rhanbarth.
- 14:38 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, you will be aware that the previous Cardiff Council administration had developed a fully-costed proposal for a brand-new bus station on the site adjacent to the railway station. That was an example of exactly the kind of private-public sector partnership approach that the Member for Cardiff Central has just suggested. What impact do you think this really regrettable decision has had on the delivery of a truly integrated public transport system for our capital city?
- Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol bod gweinyddiaeth flaenorol Cyngor Caerdydd wedi datblygu cynnig wedi'i gostio'n llawn ar gyfer gorsaf fysiau newydd sbon ar y safle gyferbyn â'r orsaf reilffordd. Roedd honno'n enghraifft o'r union fath o ddull partneriaeth sector preifat-cyhoeddus y mae'r Aelod dros Ganol Caerdydd newydd ei awgrymu. Pa effaith y mae'r penderfyniad gwirioneddol anffodus hwn wedi ei gael yn eich barn chi ar ddarparu system trafndiaeth gyhoeddus wirioneddol integredig ar gyfer ein prifddinas?
- 14:38 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I am not sure to what regrettable decision the Member refers. The fact of the matter is that the electorate of Cardiff was clear in its decision on the proposals that were made by all parties in the council elections, and the Member's party's proposals did not fare well at the time.
- Nid wyf yn siŵr at ba benderfyniad anffodus y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio. Y ffaith amdani yw bod etholwyr Caerdydd wedi nodi'n glir eu penderfyniad ar y cynigion a wnaed gan yr holl bleidiau yn etholiadau'r cyngor, ac ni wnaeth cynigion plaid yr Aelod yn dda ar y pryd.
- Y Dreth Gyngor** **Council Tax**
- 14:39 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
6. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu ei gynlluniau i gadw codiadau yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru mor isel â phosibl. OAQ(4)0245(LGC)
6. Will the Minister outline his plans to keep Welsh council tax rises to a minimum. OAQ(4)0245(LGC)

- 14:39 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- The setting of council tax is a matter for each council and police and crime commissioner. Councils are currently setting their budgets for the next financial year.
- Mater i bob cyngor a'r comisiynydd heddlu a throseddu yw pennu'r dreth gyngor. Mae cynghorau wrthi'n pennu eu cyllidebau ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf.
- 14:39 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, as I am sure you are aware, the Conservative-Lib Dem Monmouthshire County Council is one of only a handful of authorities—only two in Wales—that are freezing council tax for residents this year. That is despite your Government's failure to pass on the support that councils in England have received to make a freeze. Monmouthshire council has only been able to do that as a result of innovation and introducing different ways of working. What are you doing to ensure that that good practice in the Conservative-Lib Dem Monmouthshire council is being spread across to less efficient councils in Wales?
- Weinidog, fel y gwyddoch mae'n siŵr, dim ond un o blith llond llaw o awdurdodau yw Cyngor Sir Fynwy dan arweiniad y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—un o ddim ond dau yng Nghymru—sy'n rhewi treth gyngor ar gyfer trigolion eleni. Mae hynny er bod eich Llywodraeth wedi methu â throsglwyddo'r cymorth y mae cynghorau yng Lloegr wedi ei gael i rewi'r dreth gyngor. Dim ond o ganlyniad i arloesedd a chyflwyno ffyrdd gwahanol o weithio y mae Cyngor Sir Fynwy wedi llwyddo i wneud hynny. Beth ydych yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod yr arferion da hynny yng nghyngor Sir Fynwy dan arweiniad y Ceidwadwyr a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cael eu dosbarthu i gynghorau llai effeithlon yng Nghymru?
- 14:39 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- I am grateful for the Member's broadly positive question. The council tax rate is a matter for them, but I would ask councils to ensure, when they set low precepts, that their house is in order across the whole organisation, and you will be aware of the Minister for education's recent statement on that particular authority.
- Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gwestiwn cymharol gadarnhaol yr Aelod. Mater iddynt hwy yw cyfradd y dreth gyngor, ond byddwn yn gofyn i gynghorau sicrhau, pan osodant braeseptau isel, fod popeth mewn trefn ar draws y sefydliad cyfan, a byddwch yn ymwybodol o ddatganiad diweddar y Gweinidog addysg ar yr awdurdod penodol hwnnw.
- 14:40 **Kenneth Skates** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- One way to keep council tax low is to ensure that councils collaborate effectively to save money. Last year, Conwy and Denbighshire councils abandoned the merger of their highways departments, despite a previous collaboration initiative saving £300,000 by working together on road networks. Is there a greater mediation role for the Welsh Government in resolving collaboration problems, and will you give further consideration to commissioning work to understand what barriers still exist to preventing practical partnerships on the ground?
- Un ffordd o gadw treth gyngor yn isel yw drwy sicrhau bod cynghorau yn cydweithredu'n effeithiol i arbed arian. Y llynedd, rhoddodd cynghorau Conwy a Sir Ddinbych y gorau i uno eu hadrannau priffyrdd, er gwaethaf menter cydweithredu flaenorol a oedd yn arbed £300,000 drwy gydweithio ar y rhwydweithiau ffyrdd. A oes rôl gyfryngu fwy i Lywodraeth Cymru o ran datrys problemau cydweithredu, ac a wnewch chi roi ystyriaeth bellach i gomisiynu gwaith i ddeall pa rwystrau sy'n dal i fodoli i atal partneriaethau ymarferol ar lawr gwlad?
- 14:40 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- We already know what the barriers are in terms of collaboration; people just do not want to do it sometimes. The Member raises an interesting point with regard to Conwy and Denbighshire. I recently met both authorities and I am encouraged by some of the work that they are considering taking forward. Collaboration is not always going to be the right answer for improved service delivery, but it should be a starting point for serious consideration between two or more local authorities, to seriously look at the public sector delivery models within which they operate. Long gone are the days when authorities could work on an individual basis. It is inevitable at some point, due to the financial pressures that they are under, that they will have service failure. That is not acceptable.
- Gwyddom eisoes beth yw'r rhwystrau o ran cydweithredu; nid yw pobl am wneud hynny weithiau. Mae'r Aelod yn codi pwynt diddorol o ran Conwy a Sir Ddinbych. Yn ddiweddar cyfarfûm â'r ddau awdurdod a chaf fy nghalonogi gan rywfaint o'r gwaith y maent yn ystyried ei ddatblygu. Nid cydweithredu yw'r ateb priodol bob tro ar gyfer gwella'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir, ond dylai fod yn fan cychwyn ar gyfer ystyriaeth ddifrifol rhwng dau neu fwy o awdurdodau lleol, i edrych o ddifrif ar fodolau cyflawni'r sector cyhoeddus y maent yn gweithredu ynddynt. Mae'r dyddiau pan allai awdurdodau weithio ar eu pen eu hunain wedi hen fynd. Mae'n anochel ar ryw adeg, oherwydd y pwysau ariannol y maent yn eu hwynebu, y bydd gwasanaethau'n methu. Nid yw hynny'n dderbyniol.

14:41	<p>Jocelyn Davies Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Minister, I agree that councils should make sure that their houses are in order, and, like other council taxpayers in Caerphilly, I am extremely unhappy. The Wales Audit Office public interest report on Caerphilly council shames that council and shames local government. The auditor does not mince his words when he says that it is important that the public should have full awareness of the goings on at that council. Why are you not making an oral statement today on this issue, and will you commit to making one once you have had your meeting with the leader of that authority?</p>	<p>Weinidog, cytunaf y dylai cynghorau sicrhau bod popeth mewn trefn, ac, fel talwyr eraill y dreth gyngor yng Nghaerffili, rwy'n eithriadol o anhapus. Mae adroddiad budd y cyhoedd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru ar gyngor Caerffili yn cywilyddio'r cyngor hwnnw ac yn cywilyddio llywodraeth leol. Nid yw'r archwilydd yn hel dail pan ddywed ei fod yn bwysig y dylai'r cyhoedd fod yn llwyr ymwybodol o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y cyngor hwnnw. Pam nad ydych yn gwneud datganiad llafar heddiw ar y mater hwn, ac a ymrwymwch i wneud un ar ôl ichi gael eich cyfarfod ag arweinydd yr awdurdod hwnnw?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:42	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>I have committed to making a written statement today. I have spoken to the authority this morning and I share the views of the auditor general.</p>	<p>Rwyf wedi ymrwmo i wneud datganiad ysgrifenedig heddiw. Rwyf wedi siarad â'r awdurdod y bore yma a rhannaf farn yr archwilydd cyffredinol.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
<p>Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus yn Nwyrain Caerdydd</p>	<p>Public Transport in East Cardiff</p>		
14:42	<p>Vaughan Gething Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p><i>7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y rhagolygon ar gyfer gwella trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn nwyrain Caerdydd. OAQ(4)0244(LGC)</i></p>	<p><i>7. Will the Minister make a statement on the prospects for improving public transport in east Cardiff. OAQ(4)0244(LGC)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:42	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Improved public transport in east Cardiff, including the need for improved cross-city links, is one of the considerations of the taskforce for integrated transport for south-east Wales.</p>	<p>Mae gwella trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn nwyrain Caerdydd, gan gynnwys yr angen am well cysylltiadau ar draws y ddinas, yn un o ystyriaethau'r tasglu ar gyfer trafndiaeth integredig i dde-ddwyrain Cymru.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:42	<p>Vaughan Gething Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Thank you for that response, Minister. You will be aware that there are number of businesses in east Cardiff, and I recently visited the new office opened by one of them, Capita Symonds, with your colleague, the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science. There are a range of other businesses already in that area, and plans for more, with a business park being proposed in the local development plan. Can you confirm whether you have specific expectations of SEWTA and the metro task and finish group on measures to improve public transport to an area of the city that is currently poorly served in terms of the frequency and timeliness of public transport?</p>	<p>Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Gwyddoch fod nifer o fusnesau yn nwyrain Caerdydd, ac ymwelais yn ddiweddar â'r swyddfa newydd a agorwyd gan un ohonynt, Capita Symonds, gyda'ch cyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth. Mae amrywiaeth o fusnesau eraill eisoes yn yr ardal honno, a chynlluniau ar gyfer mwy, gyda pharc busnes yn cael ei gynig yn y cynllun datblygu lleol. A allwch gadarnhau a oes gennych ddisgwyliadau penodol o SEWTA a'r grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen metro ar fesurau i wella trafndiaeth gyhoeddus mewn ardal o'r ddinas sy'n cael ei gwasanaethu'n wael ar hyn o bryd o ran amlder a phrydlondeb trafndiaeth gyhoeddus?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>
14:43	<p>Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography</p> <p>Of course, the purpose of the taskforce on the metro is to improve services; that is the whole point. I am aware of the importance of improving the integrated network across not only that part of Cardiff, but also the south Wales region, and I look forward to the recommendations that will be made by the taskforce later this year.</p>	<p>Wrth gwrs, diben y tasglu ar y metro yw gwella gwasanaethau; dyna'r holl bwynt. Rwy'n ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd gwella'r rhwydwaith integredig nid yn unig ar draws y rhan honno o Gaerdydd, ond hefyd ranbarth y de, ac edrychaf ymlaen at yr argymhellion a wneir gan y tasglu yn ddiweddarach eleni.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv Fideo Video</p>

14:43 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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One of the important assets in public transport are buses. The Minister has recently brought forward a new proposal to support bus operators since the bus service operators grant has been taken out of service by the Government. There has been speculation that the new scheme does not meet European rules and regulations. Is the Minister confident that it will meet the European test for competition, and, if not, what action will he be taking to ensure that he addresses the concerns of the European Commission?

Un o'r asedau pwysig mewn trafndiaeth gyhoeddus yn bysiau. Yn ddiweddar, mae'r Gweinidog wedi cyflwyno cynnig newydd i gefnogi gweithredwyr bysiau gan fod y Llywodraeth wedi dod â'r grant gweithredwyr gwasanaethau bysiau i ben. Bu sôn nad yw'r cynllun newydd yn bodloni rheolau a rheoliadau Ewropeaidd. A yw'r Gweinidog yn hyderus y bydd yn bodloni'r prawf Ewropeaidd ar gyfer cystadleuaeth, ac os na fydd, pa gamau y bydd yn eu cymryd i sicrhau ei fod yn mynd i'r afael â phryderon y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd?

14:44 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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I am not aware of the concerns that the Member raises, but I would expect my team, working with the transport consortia and bus operators, to deliver a scheme that is much more effective than the old fuel subsidy scheme that was in place before.

Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o'r pryderon y mae'r Aelod yn eu codi, ond byddwn yn disgwyl i'm tîm, sy'n gweithio gyda'r consortia trafndiaeth a chwmnïau bysiau, gyflwyno cynllun sy'n llawer mwy effeithiol na'r hen gynllun cymhorthdal tanwydd a oedd ar waith o'r blaen.

14:44 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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Part of my constituency of Cardiff North encompasses the east of Cardiff and the bus service is obviously essential to my constituents. Does the Minister agree that the main consideration in developing any new bus service, or any new integrated transport system for Cardiff, is that the needs that should be addressed are the needs of the transport users, rather than focus on developmental issues and property portfolios, which have blighted development, for example the development of a bus station, during previous council administrations?

Mae rhan o'm hetholaeth sef Gogledd Caerdydd yn cwmpasu dwyrain Caerdydd ac mae'r gwasanaeth bus yn amlwg yn hanfodol i'm hetholwyr. A yw'r Gweinidog yn cytuno mai'r brif ystyriaeth wrth ddatblygu unrhyw wasanaeth bus newydd, neu unrhyw system drafndiaeth integredig newydd ar gyfer Caerdydd, yw mai'r anghenion y dylid ymdrin â hwy yw anghenion y defnyddwyr trafndiaeth, yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar faterion datblygu a phorffolios eiddo, sydd wedi difetha datblygiad, er enghraifft datblygu gorsaf fysiau, yn ystod gweinyddiaethau blaenorol y cyngor?

14:45 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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It is important that any council taking plans forward takes into consideration the needs of its constituents seriously. I am confident that your local authority will be taking every action that it needs to take to engage with the general public and service users around integrated transport.

Mae'n bwysig bod unrhyw gynlluniau a ddatblygir gan gyngor yn ystyried anghenion ei etholwyr o ddirif. Rwy'n hyderus y bydd eich awdurdod lleol yn cymryd pob cam sydd angen iddo ei gymryd i ymgysylltu â'r cyhoedd a defnyddwyr gwasanaethau ynghylch trafndiaeth integredig.

Cynhwysiant Ariannol

14:45 **Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ymdrechion Llywodraeth Cymru i wella Cynhwysiant Ariannol. OAQ(4)0248(LGC)

8. Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's efforts to enhance Financial Inclusion. OAQ(4)0248(LGC)

14:45 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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I thank the Member for her important question. Through our financial inclusion delivery group, we are making good progress on implementing the 60 action points set out in our financial inclusion strategy, published in 2009.

Diolchaf i'r Aelod am ei chwestiwn pwysig. Drwy ein grŵp cyflawni cynhwysiant ariannol, rydym yn gwneud cynnydd da ar weithredu'r 60 o bwyntiau gweithredu a nodir yn ein strategaeth cynhwysiant ariannol, a gyhoeddwyd yn 2009.

14:46 **Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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I heard what you said earlier that there is little difference between some illegal lenders and some legal lenders; there are similarities. According to figures that I have obtained from the Wales illegal money lending unit, there have been reports of 52 cases of illegal moneylending in my region, yet, so far, only six convictions. I am sure that you would agree that enhancing financial inclusion must involve eradicating illegal moneylending. Have you discussed this very disappointing conviction rate with your counterparts in Westminster, the police and the Crown Prosecution Service, because the major difference is that illegal lenders can be brought before the courts?

Clywais yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn gynharach nad oes llawer o wahaniaeth rhwng rhai benthycwyr anghyfreithlon a rhai benthycwyr cyfreithlon; mae tebygrwydd. Yn ôl ffigurau a gefais gan uned benthycyca arian anghyfreithlon Cymru, bu adroddiadau am 52 o achosion o fenthycyca arian yn anghyfreithlon yn fy rhanbarth, ac eto, hyd yn hyn, dim ond chwe chollfarn. Rwy'n siŵr y cytunech fod yn rhaid i'r gwaith o wella cynhwysiant ariannol gynnwys dileu benthycyca arian yn anghyfreithlon. A ydych wedi trafod y gyfradd gollfarnu siomedig iawn hon gyda'ch cyd-aelodau yn San Steffan, yr heddlu a Gwasanaeth Erlyn y Goron, oherwydd y gwahaniaeth mawr yw y gellir dwyn benthycwyr anghyfreithlon gerbron y llysoedd?

14:46 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am grateful for the Member's detailed question. I will take that up with the Crown Prosecution Service and the police next time I meet with them.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gwestiwn manwl yr Aelod. Byddaf yn codi hynny gyda Gwasanaeth Erlyn y Goron a'r heddlu y tro nesaf y byddaf yn cyfarfod â hwy.

14:46 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
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Credit unions play a vital role in extending financial inclusion by offering a safe and affordable alternative source of funding to other providers. Will the Minister provide an update on the action taken by local councils to help promote credit union membership in Wales?

Mae undebau credyd yn chwarae rôl hanfodol o ran ymestyn cynhwysiant ariannol drwy gynnig ffynhonnell amgen o gyllid i ddarparwyr eraill sy'n ddiogel ac yn fforddiadwy. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y camau a gymerir gan gynghorau lleol er mwyn helpu i hyrwyddo aelodaeth o undebau credyd yng Nghymru?

14:47 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I have met with the local government leadership and the WLGA to discuss issues around promoting credit unions within local authority areas. I have also written to ministerial colleagues on the opportunities for the broader public sector membership to be increased. I hope that that will have a positive effect.

Rwyf wedi cwrdd ag arweinwyr llywodraeth leol a CLILC i drafod materion yn ymwneud â hyrwyddo undebau credyd o fewn ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol. Rwyf hefyd wedi ysgrifennu at gydweithwyr gweinidogol ar y cyfleoedd i gynyddu aelodaeth ehangach y sector cyhoeddus. Gobeithiaf y bydd hynny'n cael effaith gadarnhaol.

Newidiadau i Fudd-daliadau

Benefit Changes

14:47 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

9. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'u cael gydag undebau credyd yng Nghymru ynghylch cefnogi eu haelodau ar ôl y newidiadau i fudd-daliadau. OAQ(4)0253(LGC)

9. What discussions has the Minister had with credit unions in Wales on supporting their members following benefit changes. OAQ(4)0253(LGC)

14:47 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

A regular dialogue has been maintained with Welsh credit unions about the impact of UK Government welfare reforms through the Wales credit union liaison group. The group will meet quarterly from April, as the reforms are implemented in the UK and in Wales.

Mae deialog rheolaidd wedi mynd rhagddo gydag undebau credyd Cymru am effaith diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU drwy grŵp cyswllt undebau credyd Cymru. Bydd y grŵp yn cyfarfod bob chwarter o fis Ebrill, wrth i'r diwygiadau gael eu rhoi ar waith yn y DU ac yng Nghymru.

14:48

David Rees [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. The impending welfare reforms will increase pressure and stress on many of our most vulnerable people as more direct payments are made and greater financial management is required. The additional pressure they may face as a result of pay-day loans has already been mentioned. If the credit union has already had discussions with local housing suppliers and the Department for Work and Pensions in order to help its members to manage their budgets and pay standing orders for housing, rent et cetera, with direct payments into those accounts, what support can the Welsh Government give to expand such schemes to help the credit unions to accept the direct payments and to provide financial management for Members?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Bydd y diwygiadau lles sydd ar fin digwydd yn cynyddu'r pwysau a'r straen ar lawer o'n pobl fwyaf agored i niwed wrth i fwy o daliadau uniongyrchol gael eu gwneud a mwy o reolaeth ariannol ddod yn ofynnol. Mae'r pwysau ychwanegol y gallant eu hwynebu o ganlyniad i fenthyciadau diwrnod cyflog eisoes wedi ei grybwyll. Os yw'r undeb credyd eisoes wedi cynnal trafodaethau â chyflenwyr tai lleol a'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau er mwyn helpu ei haelodau i reoli eu cyllidebau a thalu archebion sefydlog ar gyfer tai, rhent ac ati, gyda thaliadau uniongyrchol i mewn i'r cyfrifon hynny, pa gymorth y gall Llywodraeth Cymru ei roi i ehangu cynlluniau o'r fath er mwyn helpu'r undebau credyd i dderbyn y taliadau uniongyrchol a darparu rheolaeth ariannol i Aelodau?

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14:48

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We face the great unknown. We will start to understand the effects of some of the welfare reform measures, and there will be a great lag period in terms of the effects of the financial exclusion that people will experience. I am keen to work with colleagues across Cabinet and with credit unions to look at how we can better support people who are financially challenged due to no fault of their own.

Rydym yn wynebu'r hyn na wŷr neb. Byddwn yn dechrau deall effeithiau rhai o'r mesurau diwygio lles, a bydd cyfnod o oedi mawr o ran effeithiau'r allgáu ariannol y bydd pobl yn ei phrofi. Rwy'n awyddus i weithio gyda chyd-Weinidogion yn y Cabinet a chydag undebau credyd i edrych ar sut y gallwn gefnogi'n well y bobl hynny sy'n cael eu herio yn ariannol heb unrhyw fai arnynt hwy o gwbl.

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14:49

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As I am sure you know, most credit unions in Wales belong to the Association of British Credit Unions Limited. What discussions have you had with ABCUL members in Wales regarding their work with housing providers and on the development of budgeting account solutions, which can assist claimants to manage finances once they begin to receive housing benefit directly? I understand that the UK Government is due to announce further information on funding for such a service later this month.

Fel y gwyddoch mae'n siŵr, mae'r rhan fwyaf o undebau credyd yng Nghymru yn perthyn i Gymdeithas Undebau Credyd Prydain Cyfyngedig. Pa drafodaethau a gawsoch ag aelodau ABCUL yng Nghymru ar eu gwaith gyda darparwyr tai ac ar ddatblygu atebion o ran cyfrifon cyllidebu, a all gynorthwyo hawlwy'r reoli eu harian pan fyddant yn dechrau cael budd-dal tai yn uniongyrchol? Deallaf fod disgwyl i Lywodraeth y DU gyhoeddi rhagor o wybodaeth am gyllid ar gyfer gwasanaeth o'r fath yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn.

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14:49

Carl Sargeant [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I have been trying to arrange meetings with the chief executive of ABCUL in Wales, but, unfortunately, we have not been able to align our diary commitments for that to happen, but further dialogue is under way. I meet with credit unions on a regular basis and my team, as I mentioned earlier, has regular discussions across the network. I am keen to promote financial products that the Welsh Government can support to enhance the development of credit unions and access to credit unions for the people who most need that provision.

Rwyf wedi bod yn ceisio trefnu cyfarfodydd gyda phrif weithredwr ABCUL yng Nghymru, ond, yn anffodus, mae'r ymrwymadau yn ein dyddiaduron yn golygu na ydym wedi gallu gwneud hynny, ond mae deialog pellach ar y gweill. Rwy'n cyfarfod ag undebau credyd yn rheolaidd ac mae fy nhîm, fel y soniais yn gynharach, yn cynnal trafodaethau rheolaidd ar draws y rhwydwaith. Rwy'n awyddus i hyrwyddo cynhyrchion ariannol y gall Llywodraeth Cymru eu cefnogi i wella datblygiad undebau credyd a mynediad i undebau credyd i'r bobl sydd angen y ddarpariaeth honno fwyaf.

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14:50	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Of course, the Government's current credit union action plan is due to end in September, and the UK Government's credit union expansion project will soon announce the winner of a tender for a delivery consortium of credit unions to work to double credit union membership by 2019 and put the credit union system on a fully self-sustaining footing by the same year. This is open to credit unions in Wales, and I understand that several credit unions in Wales have joined consortia bidding for the £35 million contract. Given the benefits that this could have for welfare claimants and the wider community in Wales, what steps has the Welsh Government taken to support this work and to complement its own programme of support for Welsh credit unions after September?</p>	<p>Wrth gwrs, mae disgwyl i gynllun gweithredu undebau credyd presennol y Llywodraeth ddod i ben ym mis Medi, a bydd prosiect ehangu undebau credyd Llywodraeth y DU yn cyhoeddi enillydd tendr ar gyfer consortiwm cyflawni o undebau credyd i weithio er mwyn dyblu aelodaeth undebau credyd erbyn 2019 a rhoi'r system undebau credyd ar sail hunangynhaliol lawn erbyn yr un flwyddyn. Mae hyn yn agored i undebau credyd yng Nghymru, a deallaf fod sawl undeb credyd yng Nghymru wedi ymuno â chonsortia i wneud cynnig am y contract £35 miliwn. O ystyried y manteision y gallai hyn eu rhoi i hawlwr lles a'r gymuned ehangach yng Nghymru, pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'u cymryd i gefnogi'r gwaith hwn ac ategu ei rhaglen ei hun o gefnogaeth i undebau credyd Cymru ar ôl mis Medi?</p>
14:50	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Yet again, I find the Member's contribution astonishing. He is asking me about protecting the most vulnerable people in our communities while his Government in the UK is slashing budgets, cutting support by £1.7 billion with regard to benefits to the Welsh economy and Welsh people. The Member should reflect on his question. However, I will commit to ensuring that credit unions in Wales continue to support the most vulnerable in our communities.</p>	<p>Unwaith eto, mae cyfraniad yr Aelod yn fy synnu. Mae'n fy holi ynghylch amddiffyn y bobl sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymunedau tra bod ei Lywodraeth yn y DU yn torri cyllidebau, yn torri £1.7 biliwn oddi ar y cymorth sydd ar gael o ran budd-daliadau i economi Cymru a phobl Cymru. Dylai'r Aelod fyfyrto ar ei gwestiwn. Fodd bynnag, ymrwymaf i sicrhau y bydd undebau credyd yng Nghymru yn parhau i gefnogi'r rhai sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yn ein cymunedau.</p>
14:51	Alun Ffred Jones Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Weinidog, mae canllawiau cryf i undebau credyd i sicrhau rheolaeth ariannol cyfrifol—ac mae hynny'n hollol iawn. Yn wyneb condemnad llym yr ombwdsmon o ddiffyg rheolaeth ariannol o fewn cyngor Llafur Caerffili, a ydych yn barod i ystyried gosod canllawiau o'r fath ar gynghorau Cymru?</p>	<p>Minister, there are strong guidelines for credit unions to ensure appropriate financial management—and that is quite right. In the face of the harsh condemnation of the ombudsman of the lack of control within the Labour council in Caerphilly, are you willing to consider placing such guidance on Welsh councils?</p>
14:51	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I am not quite sure that the question links very well, but I have made by views very clear on the performance and openness of authorities, including Caerphilly County Borough Council.</p>	<p>Nid wyf yn hollol siŵr bod y cwestiwn yn cysylltu'n dda iawn, ond rwyf wedi mynegi fy marn yn glir ar berfformiad a natur agored awdurdodau, gan gynnwys Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili.</p>
14:52	Peter Black Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>Minister, last autumn, credit unions were told by Welsh Government officials that they cannot necessarily expect Welsh Government support to achieve sustainability past September 2013. Given that that is the objective of your Government, what objectives and time frame do you have for the continuation of funding to Welsh credit unions past that date?</p>	<p>Weinidog, yr hydref diwethaf, dywedwyd wrth undebau credyd gan swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru na allant o reidrydd ddisgwyl i gefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cymru gyflawni cynaliadwyedd ar ôl mis Medi 2013. O gofio mai dyna yw amcan eich Llywodraeth, pa amcanion ac amserlen sydd gennych ar gyfer parhau i roi cyllid i undebau credyd Cymru ar ôl y dyddiad hwnnw?</p>
14:52	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>As I said earlier, I am committed to the credit union network. This Government has acknowledged and supports the great work that credit unions do. However, I will be looking for them to work towards sustainability within their own means. While I can continue to support credit unions financially, using the reduced budget of the Welsh Government from the UK Government, I will continue to do so.</p>	<p>Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, rwy'n ymrwymedig i'r rhwydwaith undebau credyd. Mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi cydnabod ac yn cefnogi'r gwaith gwych a wna undebau credyd. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn disgwyl iddynt weithio tuag at gynhaliadwyedd o fewn eu ffyrdd eu hunain. Er y gallaf barhau i gefnogi undebau credyd yn ariannol, gan ddefnyddio cyllideb ostyngol Llywodraeth Cymru gan Lywodraeth y DU, byddaf yn parhau i wneud hynny.</p>

14:52	Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Question 10, OAQ(4)0251(LGC) will not be asked.	Ni chaiff cwestiwn 10, OAQ(4)0251(LGC) ei ofyn.
	Praesept yr Heddlu	Police Precept
14:52	Andrew R.T. Davies Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<i>11. Pa ystyriaeth y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i rhoi i ddefnyddio ei bwerau i roi cap ar braesept yr heddlu. OAQ(4)0252(LGC)</i>	<i>11. What consideration has the Minister given to the use of his powers to cap the police precept. OAQ(4)0252(LGC)</i>
14:53	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	It is the responsibility of each police and crime commissioner to set the police precept for their area. I have written to the south Wales police commissioner with regard to the increase in the police precept for that area.	Cyfrifoldeb pob comisiynydd heddlu a throeddau yw gosod praesept yr heddlu ar gyfer ei ardal. Rwyf wedi ysgrifennu at gomisiynydd heddlu y de o ran y cynnydd ym mhraesept yr heddlu ar gyfer yr ardal honno.
14:53	Andrew R.T. Davies Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Thank you for that answer, Minister. Crime in south Wales is at a 30-year low, mostly due to the dedication of the hard-working police force that we have in this area and its support staff. However, regrettably, the new police and crime commissioner in south Wales has decided that there is a need for a 7% precept increase on council tax this year. Do you think that such an increase is acceptable in the current climate? If you do not think that it is acceptable, why have you not intervened to make sure that a more acceptable figure, such as the 3.9% increase in Dyfed-Powys from the Conservative police and crime commissioner, would be delivered for ratepayers?	Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Mae troeddau yn ne Cymru ar ei isaf ers 30 mlynedd, yn bennaf oherwydd ymroddiad yr heddlu gweithgar sydd gennym yn yr ardal hon a'i staff cymorth. Fodd bynnag, yn anffodus, mae'r comisiynydd heddlu a throeddau newydd yn ne Cymru wedi penderfynu bod angen cynnydd praesept o 7% yn y dreth gyngor eleni. A ydych yn meddwl bod y fath gynnydd yn dderbyniol yn yr hinsawdd bresennol? Os na chredwch ei fod yn dderbyniol, pam nad ydych wedi ymyrryd i wneud yn siŵr y byddai ffigur mwy derbyniol, fel y cynnydd o 3.9% yn Nyfed-Powys gan y comisiynydd heddlu a throedd Ceidwadol, yn cael ei gyflwyno ar gyfer trethdalwyr?
14:53	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	I am grateful for the Member's question and I had thought that that question may have been on the tip of his tongue. I have been made aware, by the Welsh Local Government Association, that there will be no council tax increases above 5%, which has been consistent across Wales for many years. Interestingly, the Member raises the issue of south Wales, but it may be helpful to him if I were to indicate that north Wales has the second-highest precept in the UK, outside the London boroughs; the next is Dyfed-Powys, which I think is seventh or eighth on the list. South Wales is in the middle of the table in terms of its overall precept. The Member uses percentages very broadly, but the fact of the matter is that it is still the lowest precept in Wales as of today.	Rwy'n ddiolchgar am gwestiwn yr Aelod ac roeddwn wedi meddwl y gallai'r cwestiwn hwnnw fod wedi bod ar flaen ei dafod. Cefais wybod, gan Gymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, na fydd cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor uwchlaw 5%, sydd wedi bod yn gyson ledled Cymru ers sawl blwyddyn. Yn ddi-ddorol, mae'r Aelod yn codi mater y de, ond efallai y byddai'n ddefnyddiol iddo pe bawn yn nodi mai Gogledd Cymru sydd â'r praesept mwyaf ond un yn y DU, y tu allan i fwrdeistrefi Llundain; yr un nesaf yw Dyfed-Powys, sef y seithfed neu'r wythfed ar y rhestr. Mae De Cymru ynghanol y tabl o ran ei braesept cyffredinol. Mae'r Aelod yn defnyddio canrannau yn eang iawn, ond y gwir yw mai hwn yw'r praesept isaf o hyd yng Nghymru heddiw.
14:54	Mick Antoniw Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	Minister, obviously there have been representations and concerns expressed about the precept, particularly vis-à-vis the council precept at the same time. Have you given any consideration to whether there is scope for better collaboration between the new police and crime commissioners and local authorities in ensuring that, perhaps, elements of the older relationship that worked reasonably well are restored to the future system?	Weinidog, yn amlwg mynegwyd sylwadau a phryderon ynghylch y praesept, yn enwedig o ran praesept y cyngor ar yr un pryd. A ydych wedi rhoi unrhyw ystyriaeth i ba un a oes lle i sicrhau cydweithredu gwell rhwng y comisiynydd heddlu a throeddau newydd ac awdurdodau lleol er mwyn sicrhau y caiff, efallai, elfennau o'r gydberthynas hŷn a oedd yn gweithio'n weddol dda, eu hadfer i'r system yn y dyfodol?

14:55 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Of course; the Member is right. I pay tribute to the police and their commitment to collaborate with the broader public sector. The work of the police demonstrates how non-devolved bodies can work very closely with devolved organisations across the public sector. As I have made clear, setting precepts is a matter for local authorities or the police and crime commissioners. Members of the benches opposite, with their colleagues in Westminster, were the ones who introduced the role of police and crime commissioners, which I initially opposed, and this is a consequence of their establishing the role of police and crime commissioners. They now do not like the decisions that they have made.

Wrth gwrs; mae'r Aelod yn iawn. Talaf deyrnged i'r heddlu a'u hymrwymiad i gydweithio â'r sector cyhoeddus ehangach. Mae gwaith yr heddlu yn dangos sut y gall cyrff annatganoledig weithio'n agos iawn gyda sefydliadau datganoledig ar draws y sector cyhoeddus. Fel yr eglurais, mater i awdurdodau neu'r comisiynwyr heddlu a throseddu yw gosod praeseptau. Aelodau'r meinciau gyferbyn, gyda'u cyd-Aelodau yn San Steffan, oedd y rhai a gyflwynodd rôl y comisiynwyr heddlu a throseddu, a wrthwynebwyd gennyf i ddechrau, a chanlyniad eu gwaith o bennu rôl y comisiynwyr heddlu a throseddu yw hyn. Nid ydynt mwyach yn hoffi'r penderfyniadau a wnaed ganddynt.

14:56 **Llyr Huws Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Wrth gwrs, un o'r rhesymau pam bod y praesept wedi codi gymaint yw'r toriadau sy'n dod o gyfeiriad San Steffan. Felly, a gytunwch â mi ei bod yn resyn o beth bod y Llywodraeth glymblaid yn San Steffan heddiw wedi cyhoeddi na fydd hi'n cefnogi datganoli plismona? Mae hynny'n wahanol iawn, wrth gwrs, i farn y mwyafrif yn y fan hon.

Of course, one of the reasons why the precept has increased so much is the cuts that are coming from Westminster. Therefore, would you agree with me that it is regrettable that the coalition Government in Westminster has today announced that it will not support the devolution of policing? That is very different, of course, to the opinion of most people here.

14:56 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am not sure whether the Conservatives on the opposition benches know what they want. Their masters in London are telling them one thing, and the leader of their group is saying another. It is particularly odd. However, it is a discussion for the future. Our Silk recommendations are very clear.

Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw'r Ceidwadwyr ar feinciau'r wrthblaid yn gwybod yr hyn sydd ei eisiau arnynt. Mae eu meistri yn Llundain yn dweud un peth wrthynt, ac arweinydd eu grŵp yn dweud rhywbeth arall. Mae'n rhyfedd iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n drafodaeth ar gyfer y dyfodol. Mae ein hargymhellion Silk yn glir iawn.

Mesur Llywodraeth Lleol (Cymru) 2011

Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

14:56 **Janet Finch-Saunders** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

12. Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud o effaith Mesur Llywodraeth Leol (Cymru) 2011. OAQ(4)0241(LGC)

12. What assessment has the Minister made of the impact of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. OAQ(4)0241(LGC)

14:56 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

In reply to the Member for Aberconwy's question, it is too early to make any assessment. The recommendations were only brought into force after the election of the new councils in May. A proper evaluation cannot be carried out until the next local elections.

Mewn ymateb i gwestiwn yr Aelod dros Aberconwy, mae'n rhy gynnar i wneud unrhyw asesiad. Dim ond ar ôl etholiad y cyngorau newydd ym mis Mai y daeth yr argymhellion i rym. Ni ellir cynnal gwerthusiad priodol tan yr etholiadau lleol nesaf.

14:57 **Janet Finch-Saunders** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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Minister, we are talking now about a piece of secondary legislation that has come through. One aspect of that has been picked up already today by one of your own Members, the Member for Clwyd South. I have asked numerous times, as have other Members, whether the Minister will provide a breakdown of financial savings achieved by the collaboration agenda. Minister, you have responded by saying,

Weinidog, yr ydym yn sôn yn awr am ddarn o is-ddeddfwriaeth sydd wedi dod drwodd. Mae un agwedd ar hynny wedi'i nodi eisoes heddiw gan un o'ch Aelodau eich hun, sef yr Aelod dros Dde Clwyd. Gofynnais sawl gwaith, fel y gwnaeth Aelodau eraill, a fydd y Gweinidog yn darparu dadansoddiad o'r arbedion ariannol a gyflawnwyd gan yr agenda gydweithredu. Weinidog, yr ydych wedi ymateb drwy ddweud,

'As set out in my answer ... information is not collected by the Welsh Government on this basis.'

Fel y nodir yn fy ateb ... ni chesglir gwybodaeth gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar y sail hon.

Minister, if you cannot evaluate or monitor progress or otherwise on the collaboration agenda, how on earth will you know whether it is successful? What are you going to do about it if it is not?

Weinidog, os na allwch werthuso na monitro cynnydd neu fel arall ar yr agenda gydweithredu, sut ar y ddaear y byddwch yn gwybod a yw'n llwyddiannus? Beth ydych yn mynd i'w wneud am hyn os nad yw'n llwyddiannus?

14:57 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Local authorities do not enter into collaboration on the whim of an idea. They use a business plan to measure the possible effectiveness of such a collaboration agreement. We have a measurement framework in the public service leadership group, because, again, it is about working differently together across the public sector. Determining what the benefits are, either financially or for public service investment, is critical. I am sure that the Member will have a response to what I say next. We are the party for delivery, you are the party for just these little concept ideas that you like to whinge about.

Nid yw awdurdodau lleol yn cydweithredu heb roi ystyriaeth ddwys i hynny. Maent yn defnyddio cynllun busnes i fesur effeithiolrwydd posibl cytundeb cydweithredu o'r fath. Mae gennym fframwaith mesur yng ngrŵp arwain y gwasanaeth cyhoeddus, oherwydd, unwaith eto, mae a wnelo â gweithio'n wahanol gyda'n gilydd ar draws y sector cyhoeddus. Mae penderfynu beth yw'r manteision, yn ariannol neu er mwyn buddsoddi mewn gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, yn hollbwysig. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd yr Aelod yn ymateb i'r hyn a ddywedaf nesaf. Ni yw'r blaid ar gyfer cyflawni, chi yw'r blaid ar gyfer y cysyniadau bach hynny yr ydych yn hoffi cwyno yn eu cylch.

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Cyn-filwyr

Veterans

14:58 **Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

13. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am gymorth Llywodraeth Cymru i gyn-filwyr. OAQ(4)0240(LGC)

13. Will the Minister make a statement on Welsh Government support for veterans. OAQ(4)0240(LGC)

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14:58 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Member raises a very important question. As the First Minister set out last week, the Welsh Government continues to assist veterans through its package of support for the forces in communities in Wales.

Mae'r Aelod yn codi cwestiwn pwysig iawn. Fel y nododd y Prif Weinidog yr wythnos diwethaf, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i gynorthwyo cyn-filwyr drwy ei phecyn o gymorth i'r lluoedd arfog mewn cymunedau yng Nghymru.

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14:58 **Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that reply, Minister. I know that you are committed to the cause of support for veterans. Like me, you will have been very concerned to see the recent publicity surrounding the jailing of Chris O'Neill of a charity called Forces for Good in north Wales. Minister, given that £125,000 worth of taxpayers' money was given in a grant to Forces for Good as an organisation, what changes are you going to implement to ensure that taxpayers' money can never again be given into the hands of a charlatan like Chris O'Neill, who has abused his position to deprive veterans of the support that they need?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Gwn eich bod wedi ymrwymo i'r achos o gefnogi cyn-filwyr. Fel fi, byddwch wedi bod yn bryderus iawn wrth weld y cyhoeddusrwydd diweddar ynghylch carcharu Chris O'Neill o elusen o'r enw Forces for Good yn y gogledd. Weinidog, o gofio bod gwerth £125,000 o arian y trethdalwyr wedi'i roi mewn grant i Forces for Good fel sefydliad, pa newidiadau yr ydych yn mynd i'w gweithredu er mwyn sicrhau na fydd arian trethdalwyr byth eto yn mynd i ddwylo twyllwr fel Chris O'Neill, sydd wedi camdefnyddio ei sefyllfa i amddifadu cyn-filwyr o'r cymorth sydd ei angen arnynt?

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14:59 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I share the Member's concern about the way in which funding was used by an individual. It is regrettable that it was allowed. He duped many people, including his friends and vulnerable veterans. The Member will be aware that the control and monitoring of charities is not devolved to the Welsh Government. However, it is an important piece of work and I have asked my team to ensure that, where we can, we will support organisations or local authorities—Conwy County Borough Council was the receipt body of the funding in this case—so that we can have securities around that to ensure that where money is involved for the protection of vulnerable people and veterans, that is where the money goes to in the first place.

Rwy'n rhannu pryder yr Aelod am y modd y cafodd arian ei ddefnyddio gan unigolyn. Mae'n anffodus iddo gael ei ganiatáu. Twyllodd lawer o bobl, gan gynnwys ei ffrindiau a chyn-filwyr a oedd yn agored i niwed. Bydd yr Aelod yn ymwybodol nad yw'r gwaith o reoli a monitro elusennau wedi'i ddatganoli i Lywodraeth Cymru. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ddarn pwysig o waith ac rwyf wedi gofyn i'm tîm sicrhau, lle y gallwn, y byddwn yn cefnogi sefydliadau neu awdurdodau lleol—Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy oedd y corff a dderbyniodd y cyllid yn yr achos hwn—fel y gallwn gael sicrwydd er mwyn gwneud yn siŵr, os oes arian ar gael i ddiogelu pobl a chyn-filwyr sy'n agored i niwed, mai dyna ble mae'r arian yn mynd yn y lle cyntaf.

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Gwasanaethau Rheilffyrdd

Rail Services

- 15:00 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
14. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am gynlluniau Llywodraeth Cymru i wella gwasanaethau rheilffyrdd ar gyfer gweddill tymor y Cynulliad hwn. OAQ(4)0243(LGC)
- 15:00 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I will continue to deliver the improvements outlined in the national transport plan.
- 15:00 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Thank you, Minister. For 2014-15, following the completion of the Cardiff area signalling renewal, you have four commitments in the prioritised national transport plan regarding additional carriages on services to Caerphilly, additional services to Pontypridd, Caerphilly and the Vale of Glamorgan line, and extensions to the half-hourly service from Maesteg to Cardiff and Brackla. What steps have you taken to secure the additional rolling stock that will make those improvements possible?
- 15:00 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I had discussions last week with the new chief executive of Arriva Trains Wales, Ian Bullock. We are already seeing positive intervention in terms of the increase in the amount of rolling stock on some lines in Wales. I will continue to have that dialogue with him in order to engage in positive action for areas that we all represent across Wales.
- 15:01 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
Minister, with regard to the concessionary travel scheme, constituents of mine—Mr and Mrs Breese—have complained to me about the inequality of the scheme on the Cambrian line, where there seem to be variations in concessionary fares between stations and restrictions on travelling times. I wrote to you in early February about this and I have yet to receive a reply. Will you examine the concerns in the letter with the utmost urgency?
- 15:01 **Carl Sargeant** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
I recognise the letter and I have responded to the Member. I do not understand why he has not received that response. I will follow that up with my office, but I recall writing to the Member a week or so ago.
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Anghenion Trafnidiaeth

Transport Needs

- 15:02 **Paul Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
15. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am anghenion trafndiaeth pobl gorllewin Cymru. OAQ(4)0242(LGC)
15. Will the Minister make a statement on the transport needs of the people of west Wales. OAQ(4)0242(LGC)
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15:02	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>The prioritised national transport plan, published in December 2011, sets out how we will address the transport needs of people in west Wales.</p>	<p>Mae'r cynllun trafndiaeth cenedlaethol â blaenoriaeth, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Rhagfyr 2011, yn nodi sut y byddwn yn mynd i'r afael ag anghenion trafndiaeth pobl yn y gorllewin.</p>
15:02	Paul Davies Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. Given your decision, the community transport concessionary fares initiative will cease in April of this year, which will sadly have a detrimental effect on many of my constituents. You may be aware that Pembrokeshire County Council is looking to maintain a town rider service, but on a reduced basis. Given the effectiveness of the town rider scheme and its importance to my constituents, what support will you as a Government provide to ensure that such a service can continue?</p>	<p>Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am yr ateb hwnnw. O ystyried eich penderfyniad, bydd y fenter tocynnau teithio rhatach ar drafnidiaeth gymunedol yn dod i ben ym mis Ebrill eleni, a fydd, yn anffodus, yn cael effaith andwyol ar lawer o'm hetholwyr. Gwyddoch o bosibl fod Cyngor Sir Penfro yn ystyried cynnal gwasanaeth bws y dref, ond yn llai aml. O ystyried effeithiolrwydd cynllun bws y dref a'i bwysigrwydd i'm hetholwyr, pa gymorth y byddwch chi fel Llywodraeth yn ei ddarparu er mwyn sicrhau y gall gwasanaeth o'r fath barhau?</p>
15:02	Carl Sargeant Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>The Member is very well versed in the discussions that I have had on the community transport scheme. This was a pilot scheme that had been in place for a long time and which needed to be reviewed. The Member makes reference to the Haverfordwest town rider community transport service. This is one of the 15 community transport concessionary fare initiative projects funded by the Welsh Government since 2005. I am confident that the Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisations and the council are having discussions to ensure that a service will continue in the future.</p>	<p>Mae'r Aelod yn gwybod llawer am y trafodaethau yr wyf wedi'u cael ar y cynllun trafndiaeth gymunedol. Cynllun peilot oedd hwn a oedd wedi bod ar waith ers amser hir ac yr oedd angen ei adolygu. Mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio at wasanaeth trafndiaeth gymunedol bws y dref yn Hwlfordd. Mae hwn yn un o 15 o brosiectau'r fenter tocynnau teithio rhatach ar drafnidiaeth gymunedol a ariannwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ers 2005. Rwy'n hyderus bod Cymdeithas Mudiadau Trafnidiaeth Gymunedol Sir Benfro a'r cyngor yn cynnal trafodaethau er mwyn sicrhau y bydd gwasanaeth o'r fath yn parhau yn y dyfodol.</p>
15:03	Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol ar yr Ymchwiliad ynghylch Sefydlu Awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru	The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's Report on the Inquiry into the Establishment of a Separate Welsh Jurisdiction
	Llywydd / The Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I call on the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee to move the motion.</p>	<p>Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol i gyflwyno'r cynnig.</p>
	<p>Cynnig NDM5178 David Melding</p>	<p>Motion NDM5178 David Melding</p>
	<p>Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:</p>	<p>The National Assembly for Wales:</p>
	<p>Yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol ar ei ymchwiliad i awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 12 Rhagfyr 2012.</p>	<p>Notes the report of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee on its inquiry into a separate Welsh Jurisdiction, which was laid in the Table Office on 12 December 2012.</p>
15:03	David Melding Bywgraffiad Biography	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<p>I move the motion.</p>	<p>Cyflwynaf y cynnig.</p>
	<p>I am very pleased to open the debate today on the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's inquiry into a separate Welsh jurisdiction. Before I address the key themes emerging from our report, I would like to set out briefly the historical context.</p>	<p>Rwy'n falch iawn o agor y ddatl heddiw ar ymchwiliad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol i awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru. Cyn imi fynd i'r afael â'r themâu allweddol sy'n deillio o'n hadroddiad, hoffwn gyflwyno'n fras y cyd-destun hanesyddol.</p>

Although the Acts of Union of 1536 and 1543 made Wales subject to English laws, the administration of justice in Wales has only been fully unified since 1831. The 1543 Act created a separate system of courts for most parts of Wales. The new system of Welsh courts, including the Courts of Great Sessions, was entirely distinct from the English courts, and although they applied the same laws as those that applied in England, there were significant differences in how they did so. The Court of Great Sessions in Wales was abolished by the Administration of Justice Act 1830, and it was not until then that a single England-and-Wales jurisdiction, with a single system of courts, was finally created.

Although the administration of justice is not currently a devolved responsibility, it has been the subject of significant developments in Wales since 1999. These developments have contributed to the emergence of a modern Welsh legal identity.

More recently, the referendum of March 2011 established a new devolution settlement for Wales, giving the National Assembly extensive new powers to make laws. One of the implications of this new settlement is that we have two legislatures, each with extensive law-making powers, but within the framework of a single England-and-Wales jurisdiction. Following the referendum and the continuing development of a body of Welsh law, some commentators have argued that it will become increasingly difficult to make the single England-and-Wales legal jurisdiction work. That said, there are those who remain sceptical of the need for a separate Welsh legal jurisdiction and others who remain opposed to it.

It was this continuing debate that prompted us to look into this subject in more detail. At around the same time, the First Minister announced that the Welsh Government would be initiating a public debate on this issue. The aim of our inquiry was to contribute to that public debate by taking evidence from legal and constitutional experts on the subject of a separate Welsh jurisdiction. However, I stress that, in so doing, the purpose of our work was not to come forward with specific recommendations for or against the establishment of such a jurisdiction.

Turning to the main outcomes of our inquiry, it is clear that the guiding principle behind any consideration of a separate jurisdiction should be to bring justice closer to the people of Wales and thus enable better access to justice for Welsh citizens. In our view, it is fundamentally important that any future changes should be undertaken with the Welsh public in mind and should not be seen simply as a matter of convenience to the legal profession. This is undoubtedly an important area of public policy that will grow in interest as the Welsh devolution process continues and the National Assembly passes more laws.

Er bod Deddfau Uno 1536 a 1543 wedi gwneud Cymru'n ddarostyngedig i gyfreithiau Lloegr, dim ond ers 1831 y mae'r broses o weinyddu cyfiawnder yng Nghymru wedi'i huno'n llawn. Creodd Deddf 1543 system llysoedd ar wahân ar gyfer y rhan fwyaf o Gymru. Roedd y system llysoedd newydd yng Nghymru, yn cynnwys Llysoedd y Sesiwn Fawr, yn gwbl wahanol i lysoedd Lloegr, ac er ei bod yn cymhwyso'r un deddfau â'r rheini oedd yn gymwys yn Lloegr, roedd gwahaniaethau sylweddol o ran y modd y gwnaed hynny. Diddymwyd Llys y Sesiwn Fawr yng Nghymru gan Ddeddf Gweinyddu Cyfiawnder 1830, a dim ond bryd hynny y crëwyd un awdurdodaeth ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr, gydag un system llysoedd.

Er nad yw gweinyddu cyfiawnder ar hyn o bryd yn gyfrifoldeb sydd wedi'i ddatganoli, bu'n destun datblygiadau sylweddol yng Nghymru ers 1999. Mae'r datblygiadau hyn wedi cyfrannu at greu hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Gymreig fodern.

Yn fwy diweddar, sefydlodd refferendwm mis Mawrth 2011 setliad datganoli newydd i Gymru, gan roi lluo o bwerau deddfu newydd i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Un o oblygiadau'r setliad newydd hwn yw bod gennym ddwy ddeddfwrfa, gyda phwerau deddfu helaeth, ond o fewn un fframwaith awdurdodaeth ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr. Yn dilyn y refferendwm a datblygiad parhaus corff o gyfreithiau i Gymru, mae rhai sylwebyddion wedi dadlau y daw'n fwyfwy anodd sicrhau y gellir gwneud i awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr weithio. Wedi dweud hynny, mae rhai sy'n dal yn amheus am yr angen am awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân yng Nghymru ac eraill sy'n parhau i'w gwrthwynebu.

Y ddadl barhaus hon a'n hysgogodd i ystyried y mater hwn yn fanylach. Tua'r un adeg, cyhoeddodd Prif Weinidog Cymru y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn cychwyn dadl gyhoeddus ar y mater hwn. Nod ein hymchwiliad oedd cyfrannu at y ddadl gyhoeddus honno drwy gymryd tystiolaeth gan arbenigwyr cyfreithiol a chyfansoddiadol ynghylch awdurdodaeth ar wahân yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, pwysleisiaf, wrth wneud hynny, nad cyflwyno argymhellion penodol o blaid neu yn erbyn sefydlu awdurdodaeth o'r fath oedd diben ein gwaith.

Gan droi at brif ganlyniadau ein hymchwiliad, mae'n amlwg y dylai unrhyw ystyriaeth o awdurdodaeth ar wahân ganolbwyntio ar ddod â chyfiawnder yn agosach at bobl Cymru a thrwy hynny, sicrhau gwell mynediad at gyfiawnder i ddinasyddion Cymru. Yn ein barn ni, mae'n hanfodol bwysig y dylai unrhyw newidiadau yn y dyfodol gael eu gwneud gyda'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru mewn cof ac nid dim ond er cyfleustra'r proffesiwn cyfreithiol. Mae hyn yn sicr yn faes pwysig o bolisi cyhoeddus a fydd yn denu mwy o ddiddordeb wrth i'r broses ddatganoli fynd rhagddi yng Nghymru ac wrth i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol basio mwy o ddeddfau.

We believe that whether or not a single jurisdiction should be established is a political decision, with the precise details of how it should be established a matter for future political debate and negotiation. There is, therefore, a clear role for the Welsh and UK Governments to actively engage the public in the debate on a separate jurisdiction for Wales. However, in the course of our inquiry, it became evident that a separate Welsh jurisdiction is constitutionally viable. As we indicate in our report, small jurisdictions work perfectly well in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, for instance. As a consequence, we suggest that studying how they operate could help in preparing for the establishment of a Welsh jurisdiction at some point in the future.

As part of our work, we sought evidence to identify what would constitute a separate jurisdiction. Although no single set of criteria was agreed by all respondents and witnesses, many agreed that any future jurisdiction should be based on a number of features. The first is a defined territorial extent—for our purposes, Wales. That is not very problematic. The second is a body of law, which would include laws made by the National Assembly as well as inherited laws that would still be in place at the time of a new jurisdiction. The third is a range of distinct legal institutions and a court system.

While we believe that a separate jurisdiction is constitutionally viable, it is also true that the current unified England-and-Wales jurisdiction has served us well and is proving itself adaptable to the needs of devolution. We think that that is an important observation. As a distinctive body of Welsh law continues to emerge and develop over the coming years, the divergence between laws that apply in Wales and those that apply in England will naturally increase, particularly as different legislative solutions on similar subjects are developed and enacted. Equally and just as important, divergence between Welsh and English laws does not rely solely on legislation made by the National Assembly, as the UK Parliament increasingly makes laws that apply to England only and are different from those that apply in Wales.

This increasing divergence will place more practical and administrative challenges on the current unified England-and-Wales jurisdiction model. Nevertheless, we believe that these practical difficulties can be dealt with in the current structure. In our view, strengthening the existing system to support the growth of the emerging Welsh legal identity is a natural consequence of the move to Schedule 7 to the Government of Wales Act 2006.

Credwn mai penderfyniad gwleidyddol yw p'un a ddylid sefydlu awdurdodaeth unigol ai peidio, ac y dylai'r union fanylion o ran sut y dylid ei sefydlu fod yn destun dadl a negodi gwleidyddol yn y dyfodol. Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru a Llywodraeth y DU, felly, rôl amlwg i'w chwarae er mwyn cynnwys y cyhoedd yn y ddatl ynghylch un awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru. Fodd bynnag, yn ystod ein hymchwiliad, daeth yn amlwg bod awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru yn gyfansoddiadol hyfyw. Fel y nodwn yn ein hadroddiad, mae awdurdodaethau bach yn gweithio'n ddigon da yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, Ynysoedd y Sianel ac Ynys Manaw, er enghraifft. O ganlyniad, awgrymwn y gallai astudio sut maent yn gweithredu helpu wrth baratoi ar gyfer sefydlu awdurdodaeth i Gymru rywbryd yn y dyfodol.

Fel rhan o'n gwaith, gwnaethom geisio tystiolaeth er mwyn nodi sut beth fyddai awdurdodaeth ar wahân. Er na chytunwyd ar unrhyw set benodol o feini prawf gan yr holl ymatebwyr a thystion, roedd llawer yn cytuno y dylai unrhyw awdurdodaeth yn y dyfodol fod yn seiliedig ar nifer o nodweddion. Y nodwedd gyntaf yw graddau tiriogaethol diffiniedig—at ein diben ni, Cymru. Nid yw hynny'n broblem fawr. Yr ail yw corff o gyfreithiau, a fyddai'n cynnwys cyfreithiau a wnaed gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ogystal â chyfreithiau a etifeddiwyd a fyddai'n dal i fod ar waith ar adeg awdurdodaeth newydd. Y drydedd yw amrywiaeth o sefydliadau cyfreithiol penodol a system llysoedd.

Er ein bod o'r farn bod awdurdodaeth ar wahân yn gyfansoddiadol hyfyw, mae hefyd yn wir bod awdurdodaeth unedig bresennol Cymru a Lloegr wedi gweithio'n dda ac yn ymaddas i anghenion datganoli. Credwn fod hynny'n sylw pwysig. Wrth i gorff penodol o gyfreithiau i Gymru barhau i ddod i'r amlwg a datblygu dros y blynyddoedd nesaf, bydd y gwahaniaeth rhwng cyfreithiau sy'n gymwys yng Nghymru a'r rheini sy'n gymwys yn Lloegr yn naturiol yn cynyddu, yn enwedig wrth i ddatrysiadau deddfwriaethol gwahanol ar bynciau tebyg gael eu datblygu a'u gweithredu. Yn yr un modd ac yr un mor bwysig, nid yw'r gwahaniaeth rhwng cyfreithiau yng Nghymru a Lloegr yn dibynnu'n gyfan gwbl ar ddeddfwriaeth a wneir gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan fod Senedd y DU yn gynyddol yn creu deddfau sy'n berthnasol i Loegr yn unig ac sy'n wahanol i'r rheini sy'n gymwys yng Nghymru.

Bydd y gwahaniaeth cynyddol hwn yn cyflwyno mwy o heriau ymarferol a gweinyddol i'r model awdurdodaeth unedig presennol ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr. Serch hynny, credwn y gellir ymdrin â'r anawsterau ymarferol hyn o fewn y strwythur presennol. Yn ein barn ni, mae atgyfnerthu'r system bresennol i gefnogi twf hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Gymreig gynyddol yn gam naturiol yn sgil symud i Atodlen 7 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006.

15:10 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Are you taking an intervention?

A ydych yn derbyn ymyriad?

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15:10 **David Melding** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I give way to Julie Morgan.

Ildiaf i Julie Morgan.

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15:10 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much for giving way. Did the committee make any judgment as to whether it is right for judges from an England-and-Wales jurisdiction to decide on purely Welsh matters when that law may divert quite considerably, for example in housing?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am ildio. A wnaeth y pwyllgor unrhyw benderfyniad ynghylch a yw'n iawn i farnwyr sy'n perthyn i awdurdodaeth Cymru a Lloegr benderfynu ar faterion Cymreig yn unig pan y gall y gyfraith honno wyro'n eithaf sylweddol, er enghraifft, ym maes tai?

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15:11 **David Melding** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That was a very important matter in our deliberations, and I will come to that shortly. I think that what I have to say will satisfy the Member.

Roedd hynny'n fater pwysig iawn yn ein trafodaethau, a byddaf yn dod at hynny yn y man. Credaf y bydd yr hyn sydd gennyf i'w ddweud yn bodloni'r Aelod.

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We concluded that more should be done, on a practical level, to develop legal institutions in Wales that make the administration of justice more responsive to the needs of Wales and which recognise and develop its legal identity. As a consequence, we make five recommendations in our report that are intended to secure practical improvements to the current unified England-and-Wales jurisdiction, to ensure that it adapts to, and keeps pace with, the changing constitutional and legislative realities. Such changes would also develop the existing legal infrastructure in Wales and have the advantage of making the move to a separate jurisdiction easier if such a decision were made in the future.

Daethom i'r casgliad y dylid gwneud mwy, yn ymarferol, i ddatblygu sefydliadau cyfreithiol yng Nghymru sy'n sicrhau bod y broses o weinyddu cyfiawnder yn fwy ymatebol i anghenion Cymru ac sy'n cydnabod ac yn datblygu ei hunaniaeth gyfreithiol. O ganlyniad, gwnawn bum argymhelliad yn ein hadroddiad sydd a'r nod o wneud gwelliannau ymarferol i awdurdodaeth unedig bresennol Cymru a Lloegr, er mwyn sicrhau ei bod yn addasu i sefyllfaoedd cyfansoddiadol a deddfwriaethol sy'n newid. Byddai newidiadau o'r fath hefyd yn datblygu'r seilwaith cyfreithiol presennol yng Nghymru ac yn ei gwneud yn haws symud i awdurdodaeth ar wahân pe gwnaed penderfyniad o'r fath yn y dyfodol.

I will briefly explain those recommendations. First, as a body of Welsh law evolves over time, we recommend that additional legal training be put in place to allow specialisms to develop, reflecting the legal traditions and emerging legal identity of Wales. This should include raising legal awareness in England of the growing divergence between the laws applicable in England and Wales. Secondly, we recommend that the civil procedure rules be amended to ensure that public law cases that deal primarily with Welsh issues are generally commenced or transferred to the administrative court in Wales, which partially answers the Member's question. Thirdly, we recommend that a body be entrusted with reviewing and assisting with the consolidation of Welsh law. Such a body could form part of the existing Law Commission for England and Wales or be established as a separate, new body. Fourthly, we recommend that a presumption be established in favour of commencing and hearing in Welsh courts all cases referring to laws made bilingually in the English and Welsh languages. Again, this responds to the point raised by the Member for Cardiff North. Finally, we believe that there is considerable merit in the appointment to the Supreme Court of a senior judge with experience of Welsh devolution and Welsh law.

Egluraf yn fras yr argymhellion hynny. Yn gyntaf, wrth i gorff o gyfreithiau i Gymru ddatblygu dros amser, argymhellwn y dylid rhoi hyfforddiant cyfreithiol ychwanegol ar waith er mwyn caniatáu arbenigeddau i ddatblygu, gan adlewyrchu'r traddodiadau cyfreithiol a'r hunaniaeth gyfreithiol sy'n dod i'r amlwg yng Nghymru. Dylai hyn gynnwys codi ymwybyddiaeth gyfreithiol yn Lloegr o'r gwahaniaeth cynyddol rhwng y cyfreithiau sy'n gymwys yng Nghymru a Lloegr. Yn ail, argymhellwn y dylid diwygio rheolau'r weithdrefn sifil er mwyn sicrhau y caiff achosion cyfraith gyhoeddus sy'n ymdrin yn bennaf â materion Cymreig eu cychwyn neu eu trosglwyddo'n gyffredinol i'r llys gweinyddol yng Nghymru, sy'n rhannol ateb cwestiwn yr Aelod. Yn drydydd, argymhellwn y dylai corff fod yn gyfrifol am adolygu a chynorthwyo'r gwaith o gyfuno deddfau Cymru. Gallai corff o'r fath fod yn rhan o Gomisiwn y Gyfraith presennol Cymru a Lloegr, neu gael ei sefydlu fel corff newydd, ar wahân. Yn bedwerydd, argymhellwn y dylid gwneud rhagdybiaeth o blaid cychwyn a gwrando pob achos sy'n cyfeirio at ddeddfau a wnaed yn ddwyieithog yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg mewn llysoedd yng Nghymru. Unwaith eto, mae hyn yn ymateb i'r pwynt a godwyd gan yr Aelod dros Ogledd Caerdydd. Yn olaf, credwn ei bod yn werth penodi uwch farnwr i'r Goruchaf Lys sydd â phrofiad o ddatganoli yng Nghymru a deddfau Cymru.

Since the publication of our report, the debate has continued. The Welsh Government, in responding to part 2 of the Silk commission, has touched upon some of our recommendations. In particular, we note the views expressed in the Welsh Government's submission about achieving a more clearly identifiable Welsh identity in the higher courts and in making it a requirement for at least one member of the Judicial Appointments Commission to have special knowledge of Wales.

Ers cyhoeddi ein hadroddiad, mae'r ddadl wedi parhau. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru, mewn ymateb i ran 2 o gomisiwn Silk, wedi cyfeirio at rai o'n hargymhellion. Yn benodol, nodwn y farn a fynegwyd yng nghyflwyniad Llywodraeth Cymru am gyflawni hunaniaeth Gymreig fwy amlwg yn yr uwch lysoedd a'i gwneud yn ofynnol i o leiaf un aelod o'r Comisiwn Penodiadau Barnwrol feddu ar wybodaeth arbennig am Gymru.

We also note a recent statement by the Counsel General about ways in which the Law Commission of England and Wales can assist the Welsh Government in the work of clarifying and consolidating suitable areas of devolved statute law in Wales. It is heartening to hear that such steps have been taken, and the committee will continue to take a great interest in the work of the Welsh Government in this area of its legislative programme.

Looking to the future, we accept that the case for a separate Welsh jurisdiction will be strengthened as divergence between laws in England and Wales increases, and if aspects of the criminal justice system are ever devolved to Wales. Indeed, we concluded that the creation of a separate legal jurisdiction would make most sense with the accompanying devolution of aspects of the criminal justice system. This reflects the views of many witnesses that the creation of a separate jurisdiction without the devolution of criminal justice would be inelegant, cumbersome and may give rise to confusion. This point was made repeatedly by many of the witnesses who gave evidence.

I referred at the start of this speech to the public debate initiated by the First Minister. I hope that the Minister will be in a position to provide a progress report on this public debate and on how she sees this important work progressing.

Finally, Presiding Officer, I close by thanking all those who gave evidence to the committee during this inquiry. We were particularly impressed with the volume and quality of the responses received. We are also very thankful to the legal profession in Wales and beyond for being so willing to engage with the Assembly in this important area. I also thank most sincerely all our officials and the secretariat to our committee, who did so much to make this report such a first class, useful document. Indeed, you have already seen in the Government's response that it has had a clear influence there. I sincerely hope that our conclusions and recommendations will mark the first step towards a genuine improvement in the current, unified jurisdiction by allowing it to respond successfully to the emerging Welsh legal identity. In addition, I hope that they are able to better inform whatever next steps in the Welsh devolutionary process are considered and agreed.

Nodwn hefyd ddatganiad diweddar gan y Cwnsler Cyffredinol am ffyrdd y gall Comisiwn y Gyfraith Cymru a Lloegr gynorthwyo Llywodraeth Cymru i egluro ac atgyfnerthu meysydd addas o gyfraith statud ddatganoledig yng Nghymru. Mae'n galonogol clywed bod camau o'r fath wedi'u cymryd, a bydd y pwyllgor yn parhau i gymryd diddordeb mawr yng ngwaith Llywodraeth Cymru yn y maes hwn o'i rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol.

Gan edrych i'r dyfodol, derbyniwn y caiff y ddadl dros awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru ei hatgyfnerthu wrth i'r gwahaniaeth rhwng cyfreithiau yng Nghymru a Lloegr gynyddu, ac os caiff agweddau ar y system cyfiawnder troseddol byth eu datganoli i Gymru. Yn wir, daethom i'r casgliad mai creu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân fyddai'n gwneud y synnwyr mwyaf gan ddatganoli agweddau ar y system cyfiawnder troseddol yn sgil hynny. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu barn llawer o dystion y byddai creu awdurdodaeth ar wahân heb ddatganoli cyfiawnder troseddol yn anosgeiddig, yn feichus ac o bosibl yn arwain at ddryswch. Gwnaed y pwynt hwn dro ar ôl tro gan lawer o'r dystion a roddodd dystiolaeth.

Cyfeiriais ar ddechrau'r araith hon at y ddadl gyhoeddus a gychwynwyd gan y Prif Weinidog. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Gweinidog mewn sefyllfa i adrodd ar gynnydd y ddadl gyhoeddus hon a'r modd y mae'r gwaith hwn yn mynd rhagddo yn ei barn hi.

Yn olaf, Lywydd, hoffwn gloi drwy ddiolch i bawb a roddodd dystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor yn ystod yr ymchwiliad hwn. Cawsom ein plesio'n arbennig gan nifer ac ansawdd yr ymatebion a gafwyd. Rydym hefyd yn ddiolchgar iawn i'r proffesiwn cyfreithiol yng Nghymru a thu hwnt am fod mor barod i ymgysylltu â'r Cynulliad yn y maes pwysig hwn. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch yn ddiffuant i'n holl swyddogion ac ysgrifenyddiaeth ein pwyllgor, a wnaeth gymaint i sicrhau bod yr adroddiad hwn yn ddogfen ddefnyddiol, o'r radd flaenaf. Yn wir, gwelsoch eisoes yn ymateb y Llywodraeth ei fod wedi cael dylanwad clir. Rwy'n mawr obeithio y bydd ein casgliadau a'n hargymhellion yn gam cyntaf tuag at welliant gwirionedd yn yr awdurdodaeth unedig bresennol drwy ganiatáu iddi ymateb yn llwyddiannus i'r hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Gymreig sy'n dod i'r amlwg. Gobeithiaf hefyd y gallant lywio'n well pa gamau nesaf bynnag a gaiff eu hystyried a'u cytuno yn y broses ddatganoli yng Nghymru.

I am glad of the opportunity to participate in this debate, as I think that the inquiry has been extremely helpful and extremely useful. However, before I go on to the inquiry and to the report itself, probably the most important part of David Melding's comments occurred at the beginning of his presentation, when he talked about access to law, because the reality is this: it does not matter what your jurisdiction is or what system you have, if people do not have access to the law, then you effectively have one law that is available only to those who can afford it, as opposed to the majority of the population. Of course, some of the changes to legal aid, which have further removed many rights and entitlements, have in many ways diminished that access to the law, to such an extent that Lord Neuberger, one of the country's most senior judges, has actually talked about the impact being an undermining of the law. That is something that we must all regret. At some stage, part of our consideration in the future, as these processes continue, has to be for us to look at access to the law in Wales.

The importance of this particular debate to me is that it has provided a lot of thoughtful consideration as to the path we are on with regard to the legislative powers that we have. There can be a lot of emotional and sometimes almost romanticised views as to where Wales is going, and that often depends on your politics, but the reality of the situation that we are in is that we have two particular processes that are under way at the moment. The changes in the legal system between Wales and England are not wholly dependent on the laws that we pass and on what we do in Wales. In many ways, they are more dependent on what is happening in England at present.

From all the evidence that we took, a number of points emerged very clearly, time and again. One of them, of course, is training. As we develop as a legislature and encompass more and more of our own specific Welsh legislation, there is a need for far more effective training and for the training in Welsh law to be incorporated properly as part of the legal training curricula. That is something that has started to be addressed, but it needs to be addressed far more consistently.

Another matter that we have considered on a number of occasions is, of course, the codification of the law. There is no point in having law if people cannot access it and find out what it is, and if they cannot see what decisions are being taken by the courts or the interpretation of the courts and so on. That issue is being addressed, but it is something that, it seems to me, needs to be upgraded. I think that I made a comment some while back that I was concerned that there is no specific budget for us for codification. That may be a further role that we might have.

Rwy'n falch o'r cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl hon, oherwydd credaf fod yr ymchwiliad wedi bod yn hynod ddefnyddiol. Fodd bynnag, cyn mynd ati i drafod yr ymchwiliad a'r adroddiad ei hun, mae'n debyg mai ar ddechrau ei gyflwyniad y gwnaeth David Melding ei sylwadau pwysicaf, pan siaradodd am fynediad i'r gyfraith, oherwydd y gwir amdani yw hyn: nid oes gwahaniaeth beth yw eich awdurdodaeth na pha system sydd gennych, os nad oes gan bobl fynediad i'r gyfraith, yna, i bob pwrpas, un gyfraith sydd gennych sydd ar gael i'r rheini a all ei fforddio, yn hytrach na mwyafrif y boblogaeth. Wrth gwrs, mae rhai o'r newidiadau i gymorth cyfreithiol, sydd wedi dileu ymhellach lawer o hawliau a hawliadau, mewn sawl ffordd wedi arwain at lai o fynediad i'r gyfraith, i'r fath raddau fel bod yr Arglwydd Neuberger, un o brif uwch farnwyr y wlad, mewn gwirionedd wedi dweud bod hynny'n tansellio'r gyfraith. Rhaid ein bod ni i gyd yn gresynu at hynny. Rhaid inni ystyried mynediad at y gyfraith yng Nghymru ar ryw adeg yn y dyfodol, wrth i'r prosesau hyn fynd rhagddynt.

Yr hyn sy'n gwneud y ddadl benodol hon yn bwysig imi yw'r ffaith ei bod wedi rhoi llawer o ystyriaeth feddylgar i'r pwerau deddfwriaethol sydd gennym. Gall fod llawer o safbwyntiau emosïynol ac weithiau bron yn rhamantus ynghylch cyfeiriad Cymru, sy'n aml yn dibynnu ar eich gwleidyddiaeth, ond y gwir amdani yw bod gennym ddwy broses benodol sy'n mynd rhagddynt ar hyn o bryd. Nid yw'r newidiadau yn y system gyfreithiol rhwng Cymru a Lloegr yn gwbl ddibynol ar y deddfau a gaiff eu pasio gennym na'r hyn a wnawn yng Nghymru. Mewn sawl ffordd, maent yn fwy dibynnol ar yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr ar hyn o bryd.

O'r holl dystiolaeth a gawsom, daeth nifer o bwyntiau i'r amlwg, dro ar ôl tro. Yn eu plith, wrth gwrs, mae hyfforddiant. Wrth inni ddatblygu fel deddfwriaeth a chwmpasu mwy a mwy o'n deddfwriaeth benodol ein hunain yng Nghymru, mae angen llawer mwy o hyfforddiant effeithiol ac i'r hyfforddiant mewn cyfraith Gymreig gael ei gynnwys yn briodol o fewn y cwricwlwm hyfforddiant cyfreithiol. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y dechreuwyd mynd i'r afael ag ef, ond mae angen gwneud hynny mewn modd llawer mwy cyson.

Mater arall a ystyriwyd gennym ar sawl achlysur, wrth gwrs, yw cyfundrefnu'r gyfraith. Nid oes unrhyw ddiben mewn cael cyfraith os na all pobl gael gafael arni a chanfod beth ydyw, ac os na allant weld pa benderfyniadau sy'n cael eu gwneud gan y llysoedd neu ddehongliad y llysoedd ac ati. Eir i'r afael a'r mater hwnnw, ond mae'n rhywbeth sydd angen ei uwchraddio, yn fy marn i. Crybwyllais ychydig yn ôl, rwy'n credu, fy mod yn pryderu nad oes unrhyw gyllideb benodol ar ein cyfer o ran cyfundrefnu. Gallai fod yn rôl arall yr hoffem ei chael.

The other point concerns the role of judges. I suppose that most people will say that, at the end of the day, they do not care which judge they have, so long as he knows what he is talking about and knows how to apply the law and knows what the law actually is. I think that there is a very strong argument that, through administrative and organisational measures, we should be looking to the civil courts, at the very least, to be considering a system whereby cases that come from Wales and raise issues related to specific Welsh law should be heard in Wales—that is a matter of respect as much as a matter of law—before judges who have specific training and knowledge of what is happening in Wales and of Welsh laws.

The process will continue and the question is where we are going to be in 10 years' time. That is difficult to predict. The approach that has been adopted in the report is to ensure that there is broader understanding of Wales as a legislature in the UK community and to monitor that the law, as it is passed from this place, is properly interpreted and implemented and recognised within the legal system. Perhaps in 10 years' time we will be looking at quite a different Welsh jurisdictional system. At the moment, the system is working effectively and reasonably well. There is the issue of access, but over the course of time there is no doubt whatsoever that our paths will become increasingly divergent. We will need to consider how we can best represent Welsh people and how the law is best administered in the interest of the people of Wales.

15:21

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Chair of the committee on which I sit has set out the content of the report very clearly, so I will not repeat too much of what he said. I will concentrate on the response to the report and the way in which the emerging themes of the Silk commission are taking forward some of the things that we set out in our report. I want to state at the outset that Plaid Cymru firmly believes that we need—and will need—a separate legal jurisdiction in Wales. We have worked on this since the Government of Wales Act 2006 was passed. We identified then that it would inevitably lead to a separate Welsh jurisdiction. Much of the evidence that we heard in committee said that we have a jurisdiction, it is just a matter of acknowledging it and measuring to what extent it extends, which is something that the First Minister himself has talked about in the past.

Mae'r pwynt arall yn ymwneud â rôl barnwyr. Mae'n debyg y bydd y rhan fwyaf o bobl yn dweud nad ydynt yn poeni yn y pen draw pwy yw'r barnwr, cyn belled a'i fod yn gwybod beth mae'n siarad amdano ac yn gwybod sut i gymhwysu'r gyfraith a beth yw'r gyfraith mewn gwirionedd. Credaf fod dadl gref iawn pam y dylem, drwy fesurau gweinyddol a threfniadol, ddisgwyl i'r llysoedd sifil o leiaf ystyried system lle y caiff achosion sy'n dod o Gymru ac sy'n codi materion sy'n ymwneud â chyfraith benodol yng Nghymru eu clywed yng Nghymru—mae hynny'n fater o barch yn ogystal â chyfraith—o flaen barnwyr sydd wedi cael hyfforddiant penodol ac sy'n meddu ar wybodaeth am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru a deddfau Cymru.

Bydd y broses yn parhau a'r cwestiwn pwysig yw beth fydd y sefyllfa ymhen 10 mlynedd. Mae hynny'n anodd ei ragweld. Y dull a fabwysiadwyd yn yr adroddiad yw sicrhau bod dealltwriaeth ehangach o Gymru fel deddfwrfa yng nghymuned y DU ac i sicrhau bod y gyfraith, wrth iddi gael ei phasio yma, yn cael ei dehongli'n briodol a'i gweithredu a'i chydabod o fewn y system gyfreithiol. Efallai ymhen 10 mlynedd bydd gennym system awdurdodaethol wahanol iawn i Gymru. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r system yn gweithio'n effeithiol ac yn eithaf da. Mae angen ystyried mynediad, ond dros amser, nid oes amheuaeth o gwbl y bydd ein llwybrau'n newid yn sylweddol. Bydd angen inni ystyried sut y gallwn gynrychioli pobl Cymru orau a'r ffordd orau o weinyddu'r gyfraith er budd pobl Cymru.

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Mae Cadeirydd y pwyllgor yr wyf yn aelod ohono wedi nodi cynnwys yr adroddiad yn glir iawn, felly nid wyf am ailadrodd gormod o'r hyn a ddywedodd. Byddaf yn canolbwyntio ar yr ymateb i'r adroddiad a'r ffordd y mae themâu comisiwn Silk sy'n dod i'r amlwg yn mynd ar drywydd rhai o'r pethau a nodwyd gennym yn ein hadroddiad. Hoffwn nodi o'r dechrau fod Plaid Cymru'n credu'n gryf fod angen—ac y bydd angen—awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân yng Nghymru. Rydym wedi gweithio ar hyn ers i Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 gael ei phasio. Gwnaethom nodi bryd hynny y byddai'n anochel yn arwain at awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru. Roedd llawer o'r dystiolaeth a glywsom yn y pwyllgor yn nodi bod gennym awdurdodaeth, a'i bod yn fater o'i chydabod a mesur ei chwmpas, ac mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae'r Prif Weinidog ei hun wedi sôn amdano yn y gorffennol.

In responding to this, the Government has been blowing hot and cold, to say the least. Two years ago the First Minister said clearly in evidence to a committee that he was not aware of any other part of the world where two primary law-making institutions existed in the same jurisdiction. He went on to explain that he thought that this was in need of serious discussion and to suggest that, perhaps, a separate Welsh jurisdiction, such as the Northern Ireland model, was needed. It was then passed over to the Counsel General to lead a public inquiry—a consultation, really—into this. I hope and believe that the work of the committee contributed substantially to that. I am disappointed that the Counsel General is not here to hear the debate on the report from the committee. I note that at least one submission to the Silk commission said that the Government should be able to appoint more people from outside the Government to the Cabinet; I think that the absence of the Counsel General today calls into question whether that is a wise thing to do. We would want to ensure that Government Ministers are always present when we debate the field in which they are actively interested.

The evidence from the Welsh Government clearly states that it wants a reserved powers model for Wales, which we, in Plaid Cymru, believe inevitably leads to a separate jurisdiction. We do not see how you can have a reserved powers model and not have a separate jurisdiction. There is inconsistency and lack of logic applied in the Government's submission to the Silk commission. Nevertheless, what the Government has done in response to Silk and in response to the committee's report is to look in detail, as the Chair set out, at how the present arrangements could be improved significantly while we remain in a single jurisdiction.

Rwyf am sôn ychydig mwy am y ffordd y mae hynny'n digwydd a sut y gall hynny ddigwydd o fewn y cyd-destun Cymreig. Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr â'r pwynt a wnaed gan y Cadeirydd a Mick Antoniw mai holl bwrpas hyn yw dod â'r gyfraith yn nes at y bobl a sicrhau eu bod yn gallu cael mynediad at y gyfraith. Mae honno'n egwyddor bwysig: mae'n egwyddor a welsom yn y pwyllgor pan aethom draw i Ogledd Iwerddon a chlywed sut yr oeddent yn ymateb i newid yn y ffordd y mae cyfiawnder yn cael ei weinyddu a'r ffordd yr oeddent yn cefnogi'r bobl roedd angen cymorth cyfreithiol arnynt. Yn amlwg, drwy gyd-gysylltu ag awdurdodau lleol yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, roeddent yn gallu dod â chanolfannau cyfiawnder yn nes at y bobl, ac yn gallu rhoi mwy o gymorth i bobl i gael mynediad at y gyfraith, a hynny ar adeg pan rydym ni yng Nghymru, fel rhan o Gymru a Lloegr, yn gweld toriadau sylweddol yn hynny o beth. Rydym yn gweld ein llysoedd yn cau ac yn mynd yn bellach oddi wrth y bobl; yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, maent yn dod yn nes, drwy gydweithio ar draws awdurdodau lleol. Mae hynny'n dangos bod potensial i awdurdodaeth ddod â lles i bobl.

Wrth ymateb i hyn, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi bod yn orïog, a dweud y lleiaf. Ddwy flynedd yn ôl, dywedodd y Prif Weinidog yn glir mewn tystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor nad oedd yn ymwybodol o unrhyw ran arall o'r byd lle roedd dau sefydliad deddfu sylfaenol yn bodoli yn yr un awdurdodaeth. Aeth ymlaen i egluro bod angen trafod hyn o ddifrif, yn ei farn ef, ac i awgrymu bod angen awdurdodaeth ar wahân yng Nghymru, o bosibl, fel y model yng Ngogledd Iwerddon. Trosglwyddwyd y mater wedyn er mwyn i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol arwain ymchwiliad cyhoeddus—ymgyngoriad, mewn gwirionedd—ar hyn. Gobeithiaf a chredaf fod gwaith y pwyllgor wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol at hynny. Rwy'n siomedig nad yw'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol yma i glywed y ddatl ar yr adroddiad gan y pwyllgor. Nodaf fod o leiaf un cynnig i'r comisiwn Silk wedi awgrymu y dylai'r Llywodraeth allu penodi mwy o bobl o'r tu allan i'r Llywodraeth i'r Cabinet; credaf fod absenoldeb y Cwnsler Cyffredinol heddiw yn codi'r cwestiwn a yw'n ddoeth gwneud hynny. Byddem am sicrhau bod Gweinidogion y Llywodraeth bob amser yn bresennol pan fyddwn yn trafod y maes y maent yn ymwneud ag ef.

Mae'r dystiolaeth gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn datgan yn glir ei bod am gael model pwerau a neilltuwyd i Gymru, sy'n anochel, yn ein barn ni ym Mhlaid Cymru, yn arwain at awdurdodaeth ar wahân. Ni welwn sut y gallwch gael model pwerau a neilltuwyd heb awdurdodaeth ar wahân. Mae anghysondeb a diffyg rhesymeg yng nghyflwyniad y Llywodraeth i gomisiwn Silk. Serch hynny, yr hyn y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi'i wneud mewn ymateb i gomisiwn Silk ac mewn ymateb i adroddiad y pwyllgor yw ystyried yn fanwl, fel y dywedodd y Cadeirydd, sut y gellid gwella'r trefniadau presennol yn sylweddol tra'n parhau mewn un awdurdodaeth unigol.

I want to say a little more about how that happens and how it can happen within the Welsh context. I agree entirely with the point made by the Chair and by Mick Antoniw that the purpose of this is to bring the law closer to the people and ensure that people can access the law. That is an important principle: it is a principle that we saw as a committee when we visited Northern Ireland and heard from them how they responded to changes in how justice is administered and in how they supported people who required legal assistance. Clearly, by linking with local authorities in Northern Ireland, they were able to bring centres of justice closer to the population and provide greater assistance to people in accessing the law, at a time when we in Wales, as part of England and Wales, are seeing significant cuts in that area. We see that our courts are being closed and are moving further away from the people; in Northern Ireland, they are being brought closer, through collaboration across local authorities. That shows that there is potential that jurisdiction can bring real benefits to the people.

Rydym hefyd yn dweud yn ein hadroddiad nad ydym yn gymaint yn gwneud argymhellion—er bod sawl un—ond yn dod i gasgliadau ynglŷn â'r ffordd ymlaen. Un ohonynt, sy'n cael ei adlewyrchu hefyd gan yr hyn sydd gan y Llywodraeth i ddweud wrth gomisiwn Silk, yw sut y gellid gweinyddu cyfiawnder yng Nghymru o leiaf heb ddatganoli neu greu awdurdodaeth gyfan gwbl ar wahân. Rwyf eisiau sôn yn benodol am gyfiawnder ar gyfer pobl ifanc, gan fod gennym yng Nghymru ddynesiad gwahanol iawn tuag at bobl ifanc—o dan y Mesur plant, er enghraifft, a'r dyletswydd ar ein Gweinidogion i weithredu confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig. Byddai'n braf i weld yr hawl i weinyddu cyfiawnder dros bobl ifanc yn cael ei ddatganoli yma. Byddai hwnnw'n gam pellach ymlaen.

Yr eitem olaf rwyf am sôn amdani yw'r heddlu. Mae wedi ei gwneud yn glir gan y Llywodraeth ei bod am weld datganoli'r heddlu i Gymru; rydym yn croesawu hynny, wrth gwrs. Rydym yn gweld hynny fel cam tuag at greu awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru. Ond, o gofio ein bod yn gallu datganoli'r heddlu, byddem hefyd yn gallu diddymu rôl ddi-werth comisiynwyr yr heddlu, gan fynd yn ôl at awdurdodau democrataidd i arolygu'r heddlu yng Nghymru. Dyna enghraifft arall, felly, o sut y gallai awdurdodaeth ar wahân gyfoethogi democratiaeth yng Nghymru.

We also say in our report that we do not necessarily bring forward recommendations—although there are a number—but come to conclusions on the way forward. One way forward, which is reflected in the Government's response to the Silk commission, is on how we could administer justice in Wales without further devolution or an entirely separate jurisdiction. I want to specifically address youth justice, because we have a very different approach to young people in Wales—under the children Measure, for example, and in terms of placing a duty on Ministers to implement the UN convention. It would be good to see the administration of youth justice devolved here. That would be a further step forward.

The final issue that I want to address is policing. It has been made clear by the Government that it wants to see the devolution of policing to Wales; we welcome that, of course. We see it as a step towards a separate jurisdiction for Wales. However, bearing in mind that we could devolve policing, we could also abolish the useless role of police commissioners, and return to democratically elected authorities to oversee the police in Wales. That is another example of how a separate jurisdiction could enrich democracy here in Wales.

15:27

William Graham [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This afternoon I am acting as an unpaid locum once again. I wish our spokesman on this matter an early recovery, and I do not just say that as her whip. I will start by thanking the Chair and clerks of the committee, and also the witnesses, both learned and not, for their contribution to the report, which will inform and shape future discussion on this important issue. It is quite clear that the Welsh legal identity, with its accompanying characteristics, is getting stronger. Regardless of whether a separate jurisdiction is required, bringing justice closer to the people of Wales in order to improve access to justice should be a guiding principle when considering any decision regarding the establishment of a separate Welsh jurisdiction.

Any discussion on the establishment of a separate legal jurisdiction for Wales is of course likely to be sensitive, and I acknowledge the complexity which may arise from the establishment of any such system. Notwithstanding this, I welcome any attempt to increase public access to law, with higher courts already meeting in Wales. I note that the report highlights the emergence of Welsh legal identity as a crucial process in taking this discussion forward. As David has already commented, as the body of Welsh law evolves over time, my party would strongly agree that additional legal training should be put in place to allow specialism to develop, reflecting the legal traditions and emerging legal identity particular to Wales. This should include raising awareness in England of the growing divergence in the laws applicable in England and Wales.

Rwy'n gweithredu fel locwm di-dâl unwaith eto y prynhawn yma. Dymunaf wellhad buan i'n llefarydd ar y mater hwn, ac nid wyf ond yn dweud hynny fel ei chwip. Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i Gadeirydd a chlercod y pwyllgor, a hefyd i'r tystion, boed yn ddysgedig ai peidio, am eu cyfraniad i'r adroddiad, a fydd yn llywio trafodaeth yn y dyfodol ar y mater pwysig hwn. Mae'n gwbl glir bod hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Cymru, ynghyd â'i nodweddion cysylltiedig, yn cryfhau. Ni waeth a yw awdurdodaeth ar wahân yn ofynnol, dylai dod â system cyfiawnder yn agosach at bobl Cymru er mwyn eu galluogi i gael gafael ar gyfiawnder yn fwy hwylus fod yn egwyddor sylfaenol wrth ystyried unrhyw benderfyniad ynghylch sefydlu awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru.

Wrth gwrs, mae unrhyw drafodaeth ynghylch sefydlu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru yn debygol o fod yn sensitif, ac rwy'n cydnabod y cymhlethdod a all ddeillio o sefydlu unrhyw system o'r fath. Er gwaethaf hyn, croesawaf unrhyw ymgais i wella gallu'r cyhoedd i gael gafael ar y gyfraith, gydag uwch-lysoedd eisoes yn cyfarfod yng Nghymru. Nodaf fod yr adroddiad yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith bod datblygu hunaniaeth gyfreithiol i Gymru yn hanfodol wrth fynd ar drywydd y drafodaeth hon. Fel y dywedodd David eisoes, wrth i'r corff o gyfreithiau i Gymru ddatblygu dros amser, byddai fy mhlaidd yn cytuno'n gryf y dylid rhoi hyfforddiant cyfreithiol ychwanegol ar waith er mwyn galluogi arbenigedd i ddatblygu, gan adlewyrchu'r traddodiadau cyfreithiol a'r hunaniaeth gyfreithiol sy'n dod i'r amlwg yng Nghymru. Dylai hyn gynnwys codi ymwybyddiaeth yn Lloegr o'r gwahaniaeth cynyddol yn y deddfau sy'n gymwys yng Nghymru a Lloegr.

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Clearly, courts that meet in Wales are more likely to reflect the social climate and social justice of the locality, allowing knowledge of Welsh law to grow organically from within. You will have heard this morning the UK Government's submission to the Silk commission concerning a single jurisdiction for Wales, noting that England and Wales share a single legal jurisdiction that has continued to evolve over hundreds of years to meet the changing needs of British society. Her Majesty's Government at Westminster supports the continuation of the current unifying system, which it deems to work well, while offering scope for close working between devolved and non-devolved partners in delivering local justice services in Wales.

As it stands, England-and-Wales jurisdiction is effective and has adapted well to devolution. I would argue that there is no immediate problem with capacity in the current system, and feel that any decision concerning devolution in the near future would be political rather than practical. There probably will be divergence in the content of law affecting England and Wales, and I acknowledge that it would have to change to accommodate this. I am confident that further adaptation would be successful. With the news of impending council tax rises in Wales, the failure of ambulance response times, and schools in special measures, my party's view is that devolution of a legal jurisdiction is not a priority, and the implications of divergent law may not be felt for some time.

Perhaps one should reflect that the common law of England and Wales has been the envy of many foreign legal systems for many generations. Maritime law, in particular, has become increasingly in demand internationally.

I conclude by quoting Hannah Arendt:

'No civilization would ever have been possible without a framework of stability, to provide the wherein for the flux of change. Foremost among the stabilizing factors, more enduring than customs, manners and traditions, are the legal systems that regulate our life in the world and our daily affairs with each other.'

Yn amlwg, mae llysoedd sy'n cyfarfod yng Nghymru yn fwy tebygol o adlewyrchu hinsawdd gymdeithasol a chyfiawnder cymdeithasol yr ardal, gan ganiatáu i wybodaeth am ddeddfau Cymru ddatblygu'n organig o'r tu mewn. Byddwch wedi clywed y bore yma gyflwyniad Llywodraeth y DU i gomisiwn Silk yn ymwneud ag awdurdodaeth unigol i Gymru, gan nodi bod Cymru a Lloegr yn rhannu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol unigol sydd wedi parhau i ddatblygu dros gannoedd o flynyddoedd i ddiwallu anghenion newidiol cymdeithas Prydain. Mae Llywodraeth Ei Mawrhydi yn San Steffan yn cefnogi'r cynnig i barhau â'r system unedig bresennol, y cred ei bod yn gweithio'n dda, tra'n cynnig y cyfle i bartneriaid datganoledig a heb eu datganoli gydweithio'n agos wrth ddarparu gwasanaethau cyfiawnder lleol yng Nghymru.

Mae awdurdodaeth Cymru a Lloegr, ar ei ffurf bresennol, yn effeithiol ac wedi addasu'n dda i ddatganoli. Byddwn yn dadlau nad oes unrhyw broblem uniongyrchol o ran gallu'r system bresennol, a theimlaf y byddai unrhyw benderfyniad ynghylch datganoli yn y dyfodol agos yn wleidyddol yn hytrach nag ymarferol. Mae'n debyg y bydd gwahaniaeth rhwng cynnwys y gyfraith sy'n effeithio ar Gymru a Lloegr, ac rwy'n cydnabod y byddai'n rhaid ei newid i ddarparu ar gyfer hyn. Hyderaf y byddai gwaith addasu pellach yn llwyddiannus. Gyda'r newyddion am y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor sydd ar ddod yng Nghymru, methiant gwasanaethau ambiwlans i gyrraedd targedau ymateb, ac ysgolion sydd â mesurau arbennig, barn fy mhlaid yw nad yw datganoli awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol yn flaenoriaeth, ac efallai na welir goblygiadau cyfraith wahanol am beth amser.

Efallai y dylid myfyrio ar y ffaith bod cyfraith gyffredin Cymru a Lloegr wedi bod yn destun eiddgedd llawer o systemau cyfreithiol tramor am genedlaethau lawer. Gwelwyd galw cynyddol am gyfraith forwrol, yn arbennig, yn rhyngwladol.

Hoffwn gloi drwy ddyfynnu Hannah Arendt:

'Ni fyddai unrhyw wareiddiad erioed wedi bod yn bosibl heb fframwaith o sefydlogrwydd, er mwyn darparu ar gyfer newid parhaus. Y prif ffactorau sefydlogi, sy'n fwy parhaol nag arferion, moesau a thraddodiadau, yw'r systemau cyfreithiol sy'n rheoli ein bywyd yn y byd a'n materion dyddiol â'i gilydd.'

15:30

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the committee's Chair for his very expansive opening to this debate today. He has set out very clearly a number of the issues that we investigated. I also thank the staff, some of whom I see in the public gallery, for their fantastic support during the course of this inquiry, which was very complex and challenging, but ultimately extremely enjoyable, and I thank them for that. Finally, while I am on the subject of thanks, I am sure that we would all, as a committee, like to recognise the very positive contribution of Julie James to the inquiry. I am sure that she would have wished to have been here to debate this subject this afternoon, and I am sure that we all wish her a very speedy recovery and return to us here.

Diolch i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor am agor y ddatl hon heddiw mewn modd mor drylwyr. Mae wedi cyflwyno'n glir iawn nifer o'r materion a ymchwiliwyd gennym. Diolch hefyd i'r staff, y gallaf weld rhai ohonynt yn yr oriel gyhoeddus, am eu cymorth gwych yn ystod yr ymchwiliad hwn, a oedd yn gymhleth a heriol iawn, ond yn y pen draw yn hynod bleserus, a diolch iddynt am hynny. Yn olaf, tra fy mod yn diolch, rwy'n siŵr yr hoffem i gyd, fel pwyllgor, gydnabod cyfraniad cadarnhaol iawn Julie James at yr ymchwiliad. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai wedi dymuno bod yma i drafod y pwnc hwn y prynhawn yma, ac rwy'n siŵr ein bod i gyd yn dymuno gwellhad buan iawn iddi ac yn edrych ymlaen at ei gweld yma'n fuan.

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From the balance of the evidence that we saw during this inquiry, it became clear to me that Welsh law is diverting from English law and that some form of separate jurisdiction is inevitable. We are moving in that direction—we are moving towards a tipping point where the strains on the current system will no longer bear scrutiny. Law-making powers here will increasingly mean that the laws made in Wales are applicable only to us, in the same way as the UK Government is making laws that are applicable only to England, and that divergence in law is increasing at a much faster pace than we may have realised. Some changes to the systems that we use are very necessary. Of course, there have already been some changes and we examined what practical solutions that we might be able to reach in terms of things like practice and procedure rules and so on.

One of the most useful things that we did was go to Northern Ireland as a committee and look at how their jurisdiction works in practice, because many of the queries and problems that people raised about running small jurisdictions were on the cost and the complexity of the situation and those, of course, had to be addressed when that jurisdiction was established. The Northern Ireland jurisdiction was operating in some very interesting and innovative ways from which I think that we could learn. Devolving things like the courts down to a localised level was very interesting. They achieved that, not through a huge input of money, but by ensuring that all the courts in a layer were available at a very local level. So, they achieved it through efficiency savings rather than by pumping the system full of money. There were lots of interesting things that we could take from there.

Ultimately, however, we have to recognise that any decision to formally create a Welsh jurisdiction is a political one and not merely a practical one. The question for me, very much, is: what is going to benefit the people of Wales? Will it improve access to justice? Will it improve the clarity of justice and people's understanding of the justice system as it applies to them? It is somehow inherently more democratic to bring law making, but also the administration of law, as close to the people as is possible? On the balance of the evidence that we have received, I have to say that I support the creation of a separate legal jurisdiction for Wales in due course because I believe that the answer to those questions is 'yes'.

O ystyried cydbwysedd y dystiolaeth a welsom yn ystod yr ymchwiliad hwn, daeth yn amlwg imi fod cyfraith Cymru yn dargyfeirio o gyfraith Lloegr, a bod rhyw fath o awdurdodaeth ar wahân yn anochel. Rydym yn symud i'r cyfeiriad hwnnw—rydym yn symud at bwynt tyngedfennol lle na fydd y pwysau ar y system bresennol yn destun craffu mwyach. Bydd pwerau deddfu yma yn golygu'n gynyddol fod y deddfau a wneir yng Nghymru ond yn gymwys i ni, yn yr un modd ag y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn cyflwyno deddfau sydd ond yn berthnasol i Loegr, a bod y gwahaniaeth yn y gyfraith yn cynyddu'n llawer cynt nag y byddem wedi sylweddoli o bosibl. Mae rhai newidiadau i'r systemau a ddefnyddiwn yn angenrheidiol iawn. Wrth gwrs, gwnaed rhai newidiadau eisoes a gwnaethom archwilio pa ddatrysiadau ymarferol y gallem eu cyflawni o ran pethau fel rheolau arfer a gweithdrefn ac ati.

Un o'r pethau mwyaf defnyddiol a wnaethom oedd mynd i Ogledd Iwerddon fel pwyllgor ac ystyried sut mae ei hawdurdodaeth yn gweithio yn ymarferol, oherwydd roedd llawer o'r ymholiadau a'r problemau a godwyd gan bobl am redeg awdurdodaethau bach yn ymwneud â chost a chymhlethdod y sefyllfa a bu'n rhaid, wrth gwrs, fynd i'r afael â'r rheini pan sefydlwyd yr awdurdodaeth honno. Roedd awdurdodaeth Gogledd Iwerddon yn gweithredu mewn rhai ffyrdd diddorol ac arloesol iawn y credaf y gallem ddysgu ohonynt. Roedd datganoli pethau fel y llysoedd i lefel leol yn ddiddorol iawn. Llwyddwyd i wneud hynny, nid drwy fewnbwn ariannol mawr, ond drwy sicrhau bod yr holl lysoedd mewn haen ar gael ar lefel leol iawn. Felly, llwyddwyd i'w wneud drwy arbedion effeithlonrwydd yn hytrach na thrwy roi mwy o arian i mewn i'r system. Roedd llawer o bethau diddorol y gallem ddysgu ohonynt.

Yn y pen draw, fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydnabod y bydd unrhyw benderfyniad i greu awdurdodaeth ffurfiol i Gymru yn un gwleidyddol ac nid ymarferol yn unig. Yr hyn yr wyf am ei ofyn yw: beth fydd o fudd i bobl Cymru? A fydd yn gwella mynediad at gyfiawnder? A fydd yn gwella eglurder cyfiawnder a dealltwriaeth pobl o'r system gyfiawnder fel y mae'n berthnasol iddynt hwy? Mae'n fwy democrataidd rywsut i ddod â deddfu, ond hefyd y broses o weinyddu cyfraith, mor agos â phosibl at y bobl? Ar ôl pwysu a mesur y dystiolaeth sydd gennym, rhaid imi ddweud fy mod yn cefnogi'r cynnig i greu awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru maes o law oherwydd credaf mai'r ateb i'r cwestiynau hynny yw 'bydd'.

When undertaking this inquiry, we looked at a series of issues that needed to be overcome in order to create the kind of robust jurisdiction that we can all have confidence in, and that we can understand will work for the people of Wales. There are issues relating to education, legal expertise and making sure that the judiciary is appropriate. There are costs to be considered, of course, and the practicalities of unpicking joint institutions, as well as other practical issues, such as prisons and policing, and how those things all work together at the moment. We will need a transitional arrangement by which we will move from situation A to situation B without causing difficulties in the administration of justice or impinging in any way on people's right to see justice done. That is why, in my party's submission to the Silk commission, we will ask for a royal commission to look at the process that would be required to establish a jurisdiction. What are the stepping points on the way, between where we are today and where we need to be? What is the process going to be? If we are going to make this decision, how are we going to do it in such a way that it will benefit the people of Wales, and not cause practical difficulties in the interim?

Wrth gynnal yr ymchwiliad hwn, gwnaethom ystyried cyfres o faterion yr oedd angen mynd i'r afael â hwy er mwyn creu'r math o awdurdodaeth gadarn y gall pob un ohonom ymddiried ynnddi, ac y gallwn ddeall y bydd yn gweithio er budd pobl Cymru. Mae materion yn ymwneud ag addysg, arbenigedd cyfreithiol a sicrhau bod y farnwriaeth yn briodol. Mae costau i'w hystyried, wrth gwrs, a natur ymarferol datgysylltu sefydliadau ar y cyd, yn ogystal â materion ymarferol eraill, megis carchardai a phlisma, a sut mae'r pethau hynny i gyd yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd ar hyn o bryd. Bydd angen trefniant trosiannol arnom er mwyn symud o A i B heb achosi anawsterau wrth weinyddu cyfiawnder neu amharu mewn unrhyw ffordd ar hawl pobl i gael cyfiawnder. Dyna pam, yng nghyflwyniad fy mhlaid i gomisiwn Silk, y byddwn yn gofyn am gomisiwn brenhinol i ystyried y broses y byddai ei hangen i sefydlu awdurdodaeth. Beth yw'r camau y bydd angen eu cymryd er mwyn cyrraedd y nod? Beth fydd y broses? Os gwnawn y penderfyniad hwn, sut y gallwn sicrhau budd i bobl Cymru, heb beri anawsterau ymarferol yn y cyfamser?

15:35

Antoinette Sandbach [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The law of England and Wales is regarded as one of the mainstays of the UK constitutional settlement, and has a worldwide reputation. That is why the UK is chosen as the jurisdiction to resolve many law issues, with many international contracts that are signed outside England and Wales specifying the jurisdiction of England and Wales as their choice in the event of a dispute.

I have read the committee's report, and have also taken the time to read all the written evidence that was submitted to the committee. It seemed to me that there was much academic debate, but little actual research evidence. While the academic debates continued within and outlined in the report are informative, I felt that the appropriate place to start was with the tribunals, whose functions are already devolved to Wales. The Welsh Committee of the Administrative Justice and Tribunals Council included the following comments in its submission:

'In January 2010 the Welsh Committee of the AJTC published the report of its Review of Tribunals Operating in Wales.... The Review was initiated in order to test whether observations that the tribunals system in Wales was complex and fragmented were reflected in reality. The Review found that...The most pressing issue was the lack of separation of powers between devolved tribunals and the body being appealed against. It is fundamental that when citizens seek redress against an arm of the state that the redress process should be—and should be seen to be—institutionally independent...from the departments or agencies whose decisions they were considering.'

Unfortunately, the review discovered that most Welsh tribunals were not sufficiently independent from the departments or agencies whose decision they were considering. It seems to me that this finding from the Welsh committee highlights one of the main problems associated with a separate legal jurisdiction for Wales.

Ystyrir cyfraith Cymru a Lloegr yn un o brif gynheiliaid setliad cyfansoddiadol y DU, ac mae ganddi enw da ledled y byd. Dyna pam y dewisir awdurdodaeth y DU i ddatrys llawer o faterion cyfreithiol, gyda llawer o gontractau rhyngwladol a lofnodir y tu allan i Gymru a Lloegr yn nodi awdurdodaeth Cymru a Lloegr fel eu dewis awdurdodaeth mewn achos o anghydfod.

Rwyf wedi darllen adroddiad y pwyllgor, ac hefyd wedi cymryd yr amser i ddarllen yr holl dystiolaeth ysgrifenedig a gyflwynwyd i'r pwyllgor. Roedd yn ymddangos imi fod llawer o ddadlau academaidd, ond fawr ddim tystiolaeth ymchwil wirioneddol. Er bod y dadleuon academaidd yr aed ar eu trywydd ac a amlinellwyd yn yr adroddiad yn llawn gwybodaeth, teimlais mai'r peth cyntaf yr oedd angen ymdrin ag ef oedd y tribiwnlysoedd, y mae eu swyddogaethau eisoes wedi'u datganoli i Gymru. Nododd Pwyllgor Cymreig y Cyngor Cyfiawnder Gweinyddol a Thribiwnlysoedd y sylwadau canlynol yn ei gyflwyniad:

Ym mis Ionawr 2010, cyhoeddodd Pwyllgor Cymreig y Cyngor Cyfiawnder Gweinyddol a Thribiwnlysoedd adroddiad ar ei Adolygiad o Dribiwnlysoedd sy'n Gweithredu yng Nghymru. Cynhaliwyd yr Adolygiad er mwyn canfod a oedd y farn bod y system tribiwnlysoedd yng Nghymru yn gymhleth ac yn ddarniog yn wir yn ymarferol. Canfu'r Adolygiad mai diffyg pwerau ar wahân rhwng tribiwnlysoedd datganoledig a'r corff sy'n destun apêl oedd y mater mwyaf dybryd. Mae'n hanfodol pan fydd dinasgyddion yn ceisio iawn yn erbyn un o gryff y wladwriaeth, y dylai'r broses unioni fod—a chael ei ystyried—yn sefydliadol annibynnol ar yr adrannau neu'r asiantaethau y caiff eu penderfyniadau eu hystyried.'

Yn anffodus, canfu'r adolygiad nad oedd y rhan fwyaf o'r tribiwnlysoedd yng Nghymru yn ddigon annibynnol ar yr adrannau neu'r asiantaethau yr oeddent yn ystyried eu penderfyniad. Ymddengys imi fod y canfyddiad hwn gan y pwyllgor Cymreig yn tynnu sylw un o'r prif broblemau sy'n gysylltiedig ag awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru.

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Judge David Williams, in his evidence, said that any moves towards growing a separate Welsh tribunal judiciary will reinforce existing concerns about the position of the tribunal's judiciary in those Welsh tribunals that are already devolved. There must be strong concern if any separation of judicial competence serves to weaken the independence, or the expertise—or both—of tribunal judges that operate in Wales. I recommend his further comments in paragraph 27 of his evidence, which well states these concerns. Gwynedd Parry's evidence supported the lack of skills argument. His evidence quotes from research by Iwan Davies and Lynn Mainwaring at Swansea University, which notes that there is a lack of legal skills within the legal profession in Wales, pointing out that not enough work is generated by the private sector, with the lack of skills and the range of legal expertise being particularly acute along the M4 corridor.

One of the few submissions that was based on research, rather than on academic theory, was that of Bangor University. Its evidence highlighted some important facts. Paragraph 14 of its evidence showed that approximately 40% of Welsh claimants and solicitors choose to issue their claims in London, while half of all the claims involving Welsh public authorities, or the Welsh Government are issued in London. The factor seemingly most influential in the choice of issue location is the instruction by Welsh defendants of London-based specialist barristers. Not only that, but 40% of unrepresented claimants choose to issue in London. Clearly, there must be a reason for this that is not related to specialist barristers, with concern for the quality and consistency of justice dispensed by judges outside London being cited as a possible factor.

The research that was quoted by Bangor University stated that, for residents in north Wales, the judicial centres in Manchester and Liverpool provide access to justice that is geographically convenient. As the research from Bangor University notes:

'Were Cardiff to have exclusive competence over Welsh claims this might reduce access to justice for claimants and legal advisers based in North Wales.'

This concern is real, and should not be ignored. The Legal Services Board showed that just 1% of self-employed barristers are based in Wales. With that stark fact, a separate jurisdiction would remove choice, expertise and access to justice for litigants based in Wales. I recommend that Assembly Members read the submission from the Right Honourable the Lord Judge in its entirety, and in particular the matters raised in paragraph 35 of that evidence.

Dwydodd y Barnwr David Williams, yn ei dystiolaeth, y bydd unrhyw gamau tuag at greu barnwriaeth tribiwnlysoedd ar wahân i Gymru yn atgyfnerthu'r pryderon presennol ynghylch sefyllfa'r farnwriaeth yn y tribiwnlysoedd hynny yng Nghymru sydd eisoes wedi'u datganoli. Rhaid bod pryder mawr os bydd unrhyw ymgais i wahanu cymhwysedd barnwrol yn gwanhau annibyniaeth, neu arbenigedd barnwyr tribiwnlysoedd—neu'r ddau—sy'n gweithredu yng Nghymru. Argymhellaf ei sylwadau pellach ym mharagraff 27 o'i dystiolaeth, sy'n datgan y pryderon hyn yn dda. Cefnogodd tystiolaeth Gwynedd Parry y diffyg dadl ynghylch sgiliau. Mae ei dystiolaeth yn dyfynnu o waith ymchwil gan Iwan Davies a Lynn Mainwaring ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe, sy'n nodi bod diffyg sgiliau cyfreithiol o fewn y proffesiwn cyfreithiol yng Nghymru, gan nodi nad oes digon o waith yn cael ei gynhyrchu gan y sector preifat, gyda'r prinder sgiliau a'r amrywiaeth o arbenigedd cyfreithiol yn arbennig o ddifrifol ar hyd coridor yr M4.

Un o'r cyflwyniadau prin a wnaethpwyd ar sail ymchwil, yn hytrach na theori academiaidd, oedd y cyflwyniad gan Brifysgol Bangor. Nododd ei thystiolaeth rai ffeithiau pwysig. Dangosodd paragraff 14 o'i thystiolaeth fod tua 40% o hawlwyd a chyfreithwyr yng Nghymru yn dewis cyflwyno eu hawliadau yn Llundain, tra bod hanner yr holl hawliadau sy'n ymwneud ag awdurdodau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru, neu Lywodraeth Cymru yn cael eu cyflwyno yn Llundain. Ymddengys mai'r ffactor mwyaf dylanwadol o ran dewis ble i gyflwyno hawliad yw'r ffaith bod diffynyddion yng Nghymru yn cyfarwyddo bargyfreithwyr arbenigol yn Llundain. Yn ogystal â hynny, mae 40% o hawlwyd heb gynrychiolaeth yn dewis cyflwyno hawliadau yn Llundain. Yn amlwg, rhaid bod rheswm dros hyn nad yw'n gysylltiedig â bargyfreithwyr arbenigol, gyda phryder ynghylch ansawdd a chysondeb cyfiawnder a weinyddir gan farnwyr y tu allan i Lundain yn cael ei nodi fel ffactor posibl.

Nododd yr ymchwil a ddyfynnwyd gan Brifysgol Bangor, o ran trigolion yn y gogledd, fod y canolfannau barnwrol ym Manceinion a Lerpwl yn darparu mynediad at gyfiawnder sy'n ddaeryddol gyfleus. Fel y noda'r ymchwil gan Brifysgol Bangor:

Pe bai gan Gaerdydd gymhwysedd llwyr dros hawliadau yng Nghymru, gallai hyn leihau mynediad at gyfiawnder i hawlwyd a chynghorwyr cyfreithiol yn y gogledd.'

Mae'r pryder hwn yn un gwirioneddol, ac ni ddylid ei anwybyddu. Dangosodd y Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol mai dim ond 1% o fargyfreithwyr hunangyflogedig a leolir yng Nghymru. O ystyried y ffaith foel honno, byddai awdurdodaeth ar wahân yn cael gwared ar ddewis, arbenigedd a mynediad at gyfiawnder i achwynwyr yng Nghymru. Argymhellaf y dylai Aelodau'r Cynulliad ddarllen cyflwyniad y Gwir Anrhydeddus Arglwydd Farnwr yn ei gyfanrwydd, ac yn arbennig y materion a godwyd ym mharagraff 35 o'r dystiolaeth honno.

15:40

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Can you wind up please?

Allwch chi ddirwyn i ben, os gwelwch yn dda?

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15:40

Antoinette Sandbach [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I do not seek to argue that some changes may well need to be made. I do not have the time to expand in my argument as to why the police and the criminal justice system should not be devolved, but I am firmly opposed to suggestions that they should be. I recommend that the Assembly reads the full evidence of the Lord Chief Justice.

Nid wyf yn ceisio dadlau y gall fod angen gwneud rhai newidiadau. Nid oes gennyf yr amser i ymhelaethu yn fy nadl dros beidio â datganoli'r heddlu a'r system cyfiawnder troseddol, ond rwy'n gadarn yn erbyn awgrymiadau y dylid gwneud hynny. Argymhellaf y dylai'r Cynulliad ddarllen tystiolaeth lawn yr Arglwydd Brif Ustus.

15:40

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ / The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House

I thank the Chair and members of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee for their report on the matter of a separate legal jurisdiction for Wales and for their recommendations in consideration of the issue of a separate Welsh jurisdiction. The report has clearly informed the wider debate on this important issue and added to the body of evidence available. As Members are aware, on 27 March 2012, the Counsel General launched the Welsh Government's consultation on a separate legal jurisdiction. We received a large number of responses from academics, specialists in the field, organisations, members of the public, as well as Members who are here today.

Diolchaf i'r Cadeirydd ac aelodau'r Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol am eu hadroddiad ar y mater yn ymwneud ag awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru ac am eu hargymhellion wrth ystyried mater awdurdodaeth ar wahân i Gymru. Mae'r adroddiad wedi llywio'r ddaid ehangach ar y mater pwysig hwn yn glir ac wedi ychwanegu at y corff o dystiolaeth sydd ar gael. Fel y mae'r Aelodau'n ymwybodol, ar 27 Mawrth 2012, lansiodd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ymgyngoriad Llywodraeth Cymru ar awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân. Cawsom nifer fawr o ymatebion gan academyddion, arbenigwyr yn y maes, sefydliadau, aelodau o'r cyhoedd, yn ogystal ag Aelodau sydd yma heddiw.

The evidence that we gathered was used to shape our evidence to part 2 of the Silk commission, and we felt that it was important that the issue of a separate legal jurisdiction should be considered alongside all of the other considerations related to the development of the devolution settlement. I welcome the committee's report on behalf of the Government, based on the wealth of evidence that you as a committee also gathered. It is clear that there is much common ground between the committee's conclusions and our own conclusions on a separate jurisdiction, as set out in our evidence to Silk.

Defnyddiwyd y dystiolaeth a gasglwyd gennym i lunio ein tystiolaeth ar gyfer ail ran comisiwn Silk, ac roeddem yn teimlo ei bod yn bwysig y dylai'r mater yn ymwneud ag awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân gael ei ystyried ochr yn ochr â'r holl ystyriaethau eraill sy'n gysylltiedig â datblygu'r setliad datganoli. Croesawaf adroddiad y pwyllgor ar ran y Llywodraeth, sy'n seiliedig ar y cyfoeth o dystiolaeth a gasglwyd hefyd gennych chi fel pwyllgor. Mae'n amlwg nad oes llawer o dir cyffredin rhwng casgliadau'r pwyllgor a'n casgliadau ni ein hunain ar awdurdodaeth ar wahân, fel y nodir yn ein tystiolaeth i Silk.

We agree with the committee that Wales's legal identity is getting stronger and that steps should be taken to develop that identity within the joint jurisdiction with England. For example, both we and the committee have called for there to be a member of the Supreme Court with specific knowledge and experience of Welsh law. We are disappointed that, despite raising the issue many times, there is still no Welsh judge in the Supreme Court. We will continue to press the UK Government on this point.

Rydym yn cytuno â'r pwyllgor fod hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Cymru yn mynd o nerth i nerth ac y dylid cymryd camau i ddatblygu'r hunaniaeth honno o fewn y cyd-awdurdodaeth â Lloegr. Er enghraifft, rydym ni a'r pwyllgor wedi galw am gael aelod o'r Goruchaf Lys sydd â gwybodaeth benodol am gyfraith Cymru a phrofiad ohoni. Rydym yn siomedig, er inni godi'r mater hwn droeon, nad oes barnwr o Gymru yn y Goruchaf Lys o hyd. Byddwn yn parhau i bwysu ar Lywodraeth y DU ar y pwynt hwn.

We do not think that the time is yet right for a move to a separate Welsh jurisdiction, but I can assure the Assembly and the committee that we are not standing still. Our evidence to the Silk commission includes specific proposals to enhance the Welsh identity within the joint jurisdiction of England and Wales. This will build on the foundations on which a separate Welsh legal jurisdiction could be formed, should a decision be taken to do so in the future. We are pursuing these proposals now with the Ministry for Justice.

Ni chredwn ei bod yn briodol newid i awdurdodaeth Gymreig ar wahân eto, ond gallaf sicrhau'r Cynulliad a'r pwyllgor nad ydym yn sefyll yn yr unfan. Mae ein tystiolaeth i gomisiwn Silk yn cynnwys cynigion penodol i wella hunaniaeth Cymru o fewn cyd-awdurdodaeth Cymru a Lloegr. Bydd hyn yn adeiladu ar y sylfeini y gellid ffurfio awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru arnynt, pe bai penderfyniad i wneud hynny yn y dyfodol. Rydym yn mynd ar drywydd y cynigion hyn nawr gyda'r Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder.

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I understand the point that the Minister is making, which is also in the Welsh Government's submission to the Silk commission. However, who should decide that next step? Is it a decision for the Westminster Government, or should it not be a decision taken, at least jointly, by this place and Westminster?

Deallaf y pwynt y mae'r Gweinidog yn ei wneud, sydd hefyd wedi'i gynnwys yng nghyflwyniad Llywodraeth Cymru i gomisiwn Silk. Fodd bynnag, pwy ddylai benderfynu ar y cam nesaf? A yw'n benderfyniad i Lywodraeth San Steffan, neu oni ddylai fod yn benderfyniad a gymerir, ar y cyd o leiaf, yma ac yn San Steffan?

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We are very much in agreement, certainly in terms of the committee's recommendations, that we could move to this point, but we need to build the foundations, as I said, on which a separate Welsh legal jurisdiction could be formed. We will debate how and who should make that decision in the future, but we need to prepare and lay the foundations. There have been some very valuable contributions in the debate and in the report as to how we should take that forward.

Rydym cytuno'n gryf, yn sicr o ran argymhellion y pwyllgor, y gallem symud i'r cyfeiriad hwn, ond mae angen i ni adeiladu'r sylfeini, fel y dywedais, y gellid ffurfio awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân i Gymru arnynt. Byddwn yn dadlau sut a phwy ddylai wneud y penderfyniad hwnnw yn y dyfodol, ond mae angen i ni baratoi a gosod y sylfeini. Cafwyd rhai cyfraniadau gwerthfawr iawn yn y ddadl ac yn yr adroddiad ynghylch sut y dylem fynd ar drywydd hynny.

I was glad that the Chair of the committee, David Melding, referred to the positive response from the Counsel General as regards the importance of additional legal training to allow specialisms to develop, also reflecting on the legal traditions and emerging legal identity of Wales, as expressed in your recommendations. The Counsel General responded fully to that.

Roeddwn yn falch bod Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, David Melding, wedi cyfeirio at ymateb cadarnhaol y Cwnsler Cyffredinol o ran pwysigrwydd hyfforddiant cyfreithiol ychwanegol er mwyn caniatáu i arbenigeddau ddatblygu, gan fyfrio hefyd ar y traddodiadau cyfreithiol a'r hunaniaeth gyfreithiol sy'n dod i'r amlwg yng Nghymru, fel y nodwyd yn eich argymhellion. Ymatebodd y Cwnsler Cyffredinol yn llawn i hynny.

In response to Julie Morgan's point about the fact that there is—and always has been, but is increasingly now—significant divergence in the law between England and Wales, that may cause some practical problems. They are not insurmountable, but that should not in itself dictate whether a separate jurisdiction should be established or not. However, it is part of the process of understanding the impact of those changes and developments. Also, as I said, given the similarities in the views that have come forward from the committee and those of the Welsh Government, we have an opportunity to develop our understanding, ensuring that we engage fully, as we are doing as a Welsh Government, with the Ministry of Justice in order to take this forward. The wide body of evidence that the committee has gathered in the inquiry, and that gathered by the Welsh Government in our consultation, is useful and we can use that. It goes back to Simon Thomas's point that this is about a starting point for building consensus on the issue of a separate legal jurisdiction and how the legal identity of Wales can be strengthened in the future.

Mewn ymateb i sylw Julie Morgan am y ffaith bod gwahaniaeth sylweddol—ac y bu erioed, ond fwyfwy nawr—rhwng y gyfraith yng Nghymru a Lloegr, a all achosi rhai problemau ymarferol. Nid ydynt yn anorchfygol, ond ni ddylai hynny ynddo'i hun bennu a ddylid sefydlu awdurdodaeth ar wahân ai peidio. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhan o'r broses o ddeall effaith y newidiadau a'r datblygiadau hynny. Hefyd, fel y dywedais, o ystyried y sylwadau tebyg a gyflwynwyd gan y pwyllgor a sylwadau Llywodraeth Cymru, mae gennym gyfle i feithrin ein dealltwriaeth, gan sicrhau ein bod yn ymgysylltu'n llawn, fel y gwnawn fel Llywodraeth Cymru, â'r Weinyddiaeth Gyfiawnder er mwyn mynd ar drywydd hyn. Mae'r corff eang o dystiolaeth a gasglwyd gan y pwyllgor yn yr ymchwiliad, a'r hyn a gafwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn ein hymgyngoriad, yn ddefnyddiol a gallwn fanteisio arno. Mae'n mynd yn ôl at sylw Simon Thomas am fan cychwyn ar gyfer adeiladu consensws ar y mater yn ymwneud ag awdurdodaeth gyfreithiol ar wahân a sut y gellir atgyfnerthu hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Cymru yn y dyfodol.

I would like to finish by looking at the importance of conclusion 1 of the committee inquiry, which is about bringing justice closer to the people of Wales to improve access to justice. The Chair of the committee, along with William Graham, Mick Antoniw, Eluned Parrott and Simon Thomas, have all expressed the importance of that view and guiding principle. Clearly, the Welsh Government's evidence to the Silk commission is consistent. It reflects four considerations: a commitment to a devolved future for Wales within the United Kingdom; that the devolved institutions should have the powers most likely to enable them to improve the quality of life of people in Wales; the importance of having a simpler and clearer settlement that enables decisions affecting Wales to be taken in Wales; and, finally, to bring public services closer to communities and to make them more directly accountable to those communities, which reflects the purpose of devolution. I think that is what people want to hear from us, in terms of representation in this Assembly and the Welsh Government.

Hoffwn orffen drwy ystyried pwysigrwydd casgliad 1 ymchwiliad y pwyllgor sy'n ymwneud â dod â chyfiawnder yn agosach at bobl Cymru er mwyn gwella mynediad at gyfiawnder. Mae Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, ynghyd â William Graham, Mick Antoniw, Eluned Parrott a Simon Thomas, i gyd wedi mynegi pwysigrwydd y farn honno a'r brif egwyddor. Yn amlwg, mae tystiolaeth Llywodraeth Cymru i gomisiwn Silk yn gyson. Mae'n adlewyrchu pedair ystyriaeth: ymrwymiad i ddyfodol datganoledig i Gymru o fewn y Deyrnas Unedig; y dylai'r sefydliadau datganoledig gael y pwerau sydd fwyaf tebygol o'u galluogi i wella ansawdd bywyd pobl yng Nghymru; pwysigrwydd cael setliad symlach a chliriach sy'n galluogi penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio ar Gymru i gael eu gwneud yng Nghymru; ac, yn olaf, y dylid dod â gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn agosach at gymunedau a'u gwneud yn fwy uniongyrchol atebol i'r cymunedau hynny, sy'n adlewyrchu diben datganoli. Credaf mai dyna beth y mae pobl am ei glywed gennym, o ran cynrychiolaeth yn y Cynulliad hwn a Llywodraeth Cymru.

15:47 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on David Melding, the Chair of the committee, to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar David Melding, Cadeirydd y pwyllgor, i ymateb i'r ddadl.

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15:47 **David Melding** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank all Members who have taken part in what was a very lively discussion. I will refer to just one point by each Member and perhaps to a couple of the Minister's; I have not left myself very long to wind up.

Diolchaf i'r holl Aelodau sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn yr hyn a oedd yn drafodaeth fywiog iawn. Cyfeiriaf at un pwynt yn unig gan bob Aelod ac efallai at un neu ddau gan y Gweinidog; nid wyf wedi caniatâu llawer o amser i mi fy hun i ddirwyn i ben.

Mick Antoniw covered an important issue that I did not mention, and that is costs. We did not find much evidence of how much a new system would cost. We think that it would be significant to look at that. The Government, if it ever wanted to move forward on some of these issues, would have to try to identify costs. We made an attempt, but it was not very convincing.

Cyfeiriodd Mick Antoniw at fater pwysig na soniais amdano, sef costau. Ni welsom lawer o dystiolaeth o ran yr hyn y byddai system newydd yn ei gostio. Credwn y byddai'n bwysig ystyried hynny. Byddai'n rhaid i'r Llywodraeth, pe bai byth am fynd ar drywydd rhai o'r materion hyn, geisio nodi costau. Gwnaethom geisio gwneud hynny, oni chawsom lawer o lwyddiant.

Simon Thomas said that, if we moved to a reserved-powers model, the case for a separate jurisdiction would be much stronger and, indeed, compelling, and I certainly agree with that. That is my conclusion from the evidence. William Graham—some locum, I have to say—said, I thought very wisely, that Welsh legal identity will get stronger. That will definitely happen. There are two options to what the conclusion will be to that, but we must prepare for either, and the Minister touched on that also. Eluned Parrott said that the divergence between law in England and Wales is accelerating. Again, that is the case, as both legislatures now are making laws just for Wales or just for England. We have to be aware of that. Antoinette said that the current pattern of the legal profession means that you really should not have any change. We put that to lots of witnesses, and the current pattern reflects the institution's situation. There is no lack of Welsh legal expertise, only that most of it is in Manchester and London at the moment. We put this question to witnesses repeatedly. They all thought that our institutions, if they were in a specific jurisdiction, would cope, as they cope in Northern Ireland.

Dywedodd Simon Thomas, pe byddem yn symud tuag at fodel pwerau a neilltuwyd, y byddai'r achos dros awdurdodaeth ar wahân yn llawer cryfach a grymus, ac rwy'n sicr yn cytuno â hynny. Dyna fy nghasgliad o'r dystiolaeth. Dywedodd William Graham—locwm, y mae'n rhaid imi nodi—y bydd hunaniaeth gyfreithiol Cymru yn mynd o nerth i nerth, a chredaf fod hynny'n sylw doeth. Bydd hynny'n digwydd yn bendant. Mae dau opsiwn o ran yr hyn fydd yn deillio o hynny, ond rhaid inni baratoi ar gyfer y ddau, a chyfeiriodd y Gweinidog at hynny hefyd. Dywedodd Eluned Parrott fod y gwahaniaeth rhwng y gyfraith yng Nghymru a Lloegr yn mynd yn fwy. Unwaith eto, mae hynny'n wir, gan fod y ddwy ddeddfwrfa bellach yn deddfu ar gyfer Cymru neu ar gyfer Lloegr yn unig. Rhaid inni fod yn ymwybodol o hynny. Dywedodd Antoinette fod patrwm presennol y proffesiwn cyfreithiol yn golygu na ddylai fod unrhyw newid mewn gwirionedd. Holwyd nifer o dystion gennym ynglŷn â hynny, ac mae'r patrwm presennol yn adlewyrchu sefyllfa'r sefydliad. Nid oes diffyg arbenigedd cyfreithiol yng Nghymru, er bod y rhan fwyaf ohono ym Manceinion a Llundain ar hyn o bryd. Gofynnwyd y cwestiwn hwn i dystion dro ar ôl tro. Roeddent i gyd o'r farn y byddai ein sefydliadau, pe byddent mewn awdurdodaeth benodol, yn ymdopi, yn yr un modd ag y maent yn ymdopi yng Ngogledd Iwerddon.

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Finally, the Minister is quite right: there should be a Welsh judge in the Supreme Court. She says that the time is not yet right for a separate jurisdiction, but that debate is now under way and we must inform that debate and take part in it. There are two possible outcomes. One is a unified model, well-adjusted. We found that that would be credible, but it would need a lot of adaptation and work on both sides. It is possible, but we must not forget the change that would still be required. The other is a separate jurisdiction. That requires an even more extensive public debate than we have had to date.

I gloi, mae'r Gweinidog yn llygad ei le: dylai fod barnwr o Gymru yn y Goruchaf Lys. Dywed nad yw'n briodol cael awdurdodaeth ar wahân eto, ond mae'r ddadl honno bellach yn mynd rhagddi a rhaid inni lywio'r ddadl honno a chyfrannu ati. Mae dau ganlyniad posibl. Model unedig, wedi'i addasu'n dda, yw un ohonynt. Gwelsom y byddai hynny'n gredadwy, ond y byddai angen gwneud llawer o addasu a gwaith ar y ddwy ochr. Mae'n bosibl, ond rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio'r newid y byddai angen ei wneud o hyd. Awdurdodaeth ar wahân yw'r llall. Mae hynny'n gofyn am ddadl gyhoeddus hyd yn oed yn fwy helaeth nag a gafwyd hyd yma.

15:50

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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The proposal is to note the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's report. Does any Member object? There are no objections. Therefore, the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order No. 12.36.

Yr hyn a gynigir yw y dylid nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiadau. Felly, derbynnir y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 12.36.

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion agreed.

Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.50 p.m.

The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.50 p.m.

Dadl y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig: Datblygu Economaidd

Dehtholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, a gwelliannau 2 a 4 yn enw Aled Roberts.

Welsh Conservatives Debate: Economic Development

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, and amendments 2 and 4 in the name of Aled Roberts.

Cynnig NDM5180 William Graham

Motion NDM5180 William Graham

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn cydnabod bod yr ysgogiadau economaidd ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru er mwyn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i economi Cymru.
2. Yn gresynu mai Gwerth Ychwanegol Crynswth Cymru yw'r isaf o blith gwledydd y DU.
3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu ei strategaeth ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yng ngoleuni'r pryderon a godwyd yn adroddiad Ysgol Fusnes Prifysgol Caerdydd 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' ynghylch y dull gweithredu ar sail sectorau.
4. Yn credu bod yn rhaid i'r Gweinidog sefydlu targedau clir a mesuradwy ar gyfer dangosyddion economaidd allweddol i hybu cynnydd economaidd a chaniatáu monitro'r cyflenwi.

1. Recognises that the Welsh Government has the economic levers at its disposal to make a significant difference to the Welsh economy.
2. Regrets that the Gross Value Added (GVA) in Wales is the lowest of the UK nations.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to review its strategy for economic development in light of the concerns raised by the Cardiff University Business School report 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' regarding the 'sectoral approach'.
4. Believes that the Minister must establish clear, measurable targets for key economic indicators to encourage economic progress and allow delivery to be monitored.

15:50

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I move the motion.

Cynigiau y cynnig.

I am pleased to be able to introduce this Welsh Conservative debate today on economic policy in Wales. It is clearly a key debate. Let us face the fact that, if we cannot get the economy of Wales right, then what hope do we have of getting anything else right?

Our motion regrets that, at 75% of the UK average, the gross value added per capita indicator in Wales remains the lowest of the UK nations and regions and is way off the original target set for it back in the mists of time, in the early days of devolution, when the 14-year reign of the Labour Party over Wales began—how time flies when you are having fun.

I know that the Welsh Government does not traditionally like talking about gross value added, probably for obvious reasons, and points out its limitations—and, to be fair, we accept that there are limitations. We know that statistics—we are all familiar with the phrase about damned lies and statistics—have their drawbacks, but GVA is universally recognised across the world as a key indicator of economic performance. It is not so much the fact that it is low that concerns me, although that is a concern, but the fact that it is falling further behind both relative to the UK and relative to the aspirations that the Labour Party at the outset of devolution in Wales in 1999, and the Government since, set as a target.

We are aware of this problem, but how do we reverse the decline in economic indicators? Put simply, we need economic strategies that do what they say on the tin: strengthen the economy and address the fundamental weaknesses of the Welsh economy. Put simply, we need ideas.

Rwy'n falch o gael cyflwyno'r ddadl hon gan y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig heddiw ar bolisi economaidd yng Nghymru. Mae'n amlwg yn ddadl allweddol. Gadewch inni wynebu'r ffaith, os na allwn sicrhau bod economi Cymru yn iawn, yna pa obaith sydd gennym o gael unrhyw beth arall yn iawn?

Mae ein cynnig yn gresynu mai Cymru sydd â'r gwerth ychwanegol crynswth isaf y pen o hyd o blith gwledydd a rhanbarthau'r DU, sef 75% o gyfartaledd y DU, ac mae ymhell o gyrraedd y targed gwreiddiol a bennwyd ar ei chyfer yn ôl yn niwloedd amser, yn nyddiau cynnar datganoli, pan ddechreuodd teyrnasiad 14 blynedd y Blaid Lafur dros Gymru—onid yw amser yn mynd heibio'n gyflym pan fyddwch yn cael hwyl.

Gwn nad yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn draddodiadol yn hoffi sôn am werth ychwanegol crynswth, am resymau amlwg fwy na thebyg, ac mae'n nodi ei gyfyngiadau—ac, a bod yn deg, derbyniwn fod cyfyngiadau. Gwyddom fod i ystadegau anfanteision—rydym i gyd yn gyfarwydd â'r ymadrodd am gelwyddau ac ystadegau bondigrwyll—ond mae GYC yn cael ei gydnabod yn gyffredinol ar draws y byd fel dangosydd allweddol o berfformiad economaidd. Nid y ffaith ei fod yn isel sy'n peri pryder imi, er bod hynny'n peri pryder, ond y ffaith ei fod ar ei hôl hi o gymharu â'r DU a hefyd o gymharu â'r dyheadau a oedd gan y Blaid Lafur ar ddechrau datganoli yng Nghymru yn 1999, a'r Llywodraeth ers hynny, fel targed.

Rydym yn ymwybodol o'r broblem hon, ond sut rydym yn gwrthdroi'r dirywiad mewn dangosyddion economaidd? Yn syml, mae angen strategaethau economaidd sy'n cyflawni'r hyn y maent yn haeru y byddant yn ei gyflawni: cryfhau'r economi a mynd i'r afael â gwendidau sylfaenol economi Cymru. Yn syml, mae angen syniadau.

15:52 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for giving way. I am not going to challenge that the figure is low, because we know that it is low. However, do you recognise that the figure is on the up? It has increased from its position last year and it is on its way up. The 2011 figure is higher than the 2010 figure. What is more, it is the third-highest growth in the UK.

Diolch i'r Aelod am ildio. Ni fyddaf yn herio'r ffaith bod y ffigur yn isel, oherwydd gwyddom hynny. Fodd bynnag, a ydych yn cydnabod bod y ffigur ar gynnydd? Mae wedi cynyddu o'i sefyllfa y llynedd ac mae ar gynnydd. Mae ffigur 2011 yw uwch na ffigur 2010. Yn bwysicach na hynny, y ffigur twf hwn yw'r trydydd uchaf yn y DU.

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15:52 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Well, that is good. There are plusses and minuses here. I am pointing out that, to date, there have been real problems with GVA, which, I accept, is not the only measure of economic success. If that is happening, then that is good. However, we have to see that continue. When you start from the base of being the worst in the UK, you would expect it to get better, because, let us face it, it cannot get any worse, can it?

Braf clywed hynny. Mae newyddion da a newyddion drwg yn hyn o beth. Rwy'n tynnu sylw at y ffaith, hyd yma, fod problemau gwirioneddol gyda GYC, a derbyniaf nad hwn yw'r unig fesur o lwyddiant economaidd. Os yw hynny'n digwydd, yna mae hynny'n beth da. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i hynny barhau. Pan fyddwch yn dechrau o sefyllfa lle rydych ar y gwaelod yn y DU, byddech yn disgwyl iddo wella, oherwydd, y gwir amdani yw, ni all fynd yn waeth?

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It is not just the Welsh Conservatives who are saying this; Professor David Pickernell from Glamorgan Business School has stated that

Nid dim ond y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig sy'n dweud hyn; mae'r Athro David Pickernell o Ysgol Fusnes Morgannwg wedi datgan

'GVA does seem to give a more realistic view of the economic position of Wales from a policymaking perspective.'

Ymddengys bod GYC yn rhoi darlun mwy realistig o sefyllfa economaidd Cymru o safbwynt llunio polisiau.

The Welsh Affairs Committee has claimed that GVA is

Mae'r Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig wedi honni mai GYC yw

'the principal yardstick and starting point in assessing the level of economic activity and welfare'.

Therefore, we have to accept that GVA is an important indicator.

We need ideas. We need ideas that will move the Welsh economy onwards. My party, the Welsh Conservatives, recently put forward its ideas on reforming Finance Wales and turning that into Invest Wales. As the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science has recently acknowledged, she is being flooded with ideas from all quarters at the moment. So, I think it is a fashionable debate to be having in terms of the economy.

Our motion calls on the Welsh Government to review its strategy for economic development in the light of the concerns raised by the Cardiff Business School report, 'Small Business in Priority Sectors', regarding the sectoral approach to the economy. I take this opportunity to welcome this report and the work that has gone into it by Cardiff University and the Federation of Small Businesses. It makes fascinating and, at times, worrying reading, and highlights key challenges facing the Welsh economy. As the report states, the Welsh economy has grown slowly over recent years and continuing global pressures have meant that the competitiveness of Welsh firms has been below that of firms in other regions of Europe. The report points out that, in most sectors, micro-firms make up the largest number of businesses, so surely sector policies should be tuned in to this fact.

y prif linydd mesur a man cychwyn wrth asesu lefel gweithgarwch economaidd a lles.

Felly, rhaid inni dderbyn bod GYC yn ddangosydd pwysig.

Mae angen syniadau arnom. Mae angen syniadau arnom a fydd yn symud economi Cymru yn ei blaen. Yn ddiweddar cyflwynodd fy mhlaid, y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, ei syniadau ar ddiwygio Cyllid Cymru a'i droi yn Buddsoddi Cymru. Fel y mae'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth wedi cydnabod yn ddiweddar, mae syniadau yn cael eu taflu ati o bob man ar hyn o bryd. Felly, credaf fod hon yn ddadl ffasiynol i'w chael o ran yr economi.

Mae ein cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu ei strategaeth ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yng ngoleuni'r pryderon a godwyd gan adroddiad Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd, 'Small Business in Priority Sectors', ynghylch yr ymagwedd sectoraidd tuag at yr economi. Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle hwn i groesawu'r adroddiad hwn a'r gwaith a wnaed gan Brifysgol Caerdydd a'r Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach. Mae'n adroddiad hynod ddiddorol i'w ddarllen ac, ar adegau, yn un sy'n achosi pryder ac mae'n tynnu sylw at heriau allweddol sy'n wynebu economi Cymru. Fel y dywed yr adroddiad, mae economi Cymru wedi tyfu'n araf dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf ac mae pwysau byd-eang parhaus wedi golygu bod cystadleurwydd cwmnïau Cymru wedi bod yn is na chwmnïau mewn rhanbarthau eraill o Ewrop. Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi, yn y rhan fwyaf o sectorau, mai micro-gwmnïau sy'n cyfrif am y nifer fwyaf o fusnesau, felly oni ddylai polisïau sectorau adlewyrchu'r ffaith hon.

15:54

Leanne Wood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Can you explain how you expect GVA to increase, when there are big cuts to the amount of money that people have to spend in the Welsh economy as a result of the cuts being pursued by your party in the Westminster Government?

A allwch egluro sut y disgwyliwch i GYC gynyddu, pan fo toriadau mawr i faint o arian sydd gan bobl i'w wario yn economi Cymru o ganlyniad i'r toriadau a wneir gan eich plaid yn Llywodraeth San Steffan?

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15:55

Nick Ramsay [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Westminster Government has put more money in people's pockets by reducing tax rates for some of the poorest people in Britain. Let us face it, if it was not for this Government, we would also have a council tax freeze in Wales, which would also return money to people's pockets. Those are two ways. I am sure that you have other ideas as well, Leanne, but those are the two suggestions that I have.

Mae Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi rhoi mwy o arian ym mhocedi pobl drwy leihau cyfraddau treth i rai o'r bobl dlotaf ym Mhrydain. Gadewch inni wynebu'r gwir, oni bai am y Llywodraeth hon, byddai'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru wedi cael ei rhewi hefyd, a fyddai wedi rhoi arian yn ôl ym mhocedi pobl. Dyna ddwy ffordd. Rwy'n siŵr bod gennych syniadau eraill hefyd, Leanne, ond dyna'r ddau awgrym sydd gennyf.

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What I found worrying was that the most common source of funding for small and medium-sized enterprises are overdrafts and credit cards. I know that Eluned Parrott has raised this issue; I think it was in the Enterprise and Business Committee. Overdrafts can be bad enough but can provide more reasonable rates of interest than credit cards—clearly, that is unsustainable for Welsh businesses. How has the Welsh Government responded to these problems? We know that the previous Labour-Plaid coalition Government adopted what we all now know as the sector approach, whereby business support policies were divided into the individual sectors that we are familiar with. The Welsh Government economic renewal programme was launched in 2010 with six sectors and the Minister for business has since added three additional sectors—financial services, tourism and construction.

A sector approach has merits and may well be the way ahead. However, the key question that I would ask is: how does it relate to business on the ground? How are those businesses interacting with it? What I found particularly worrying in this report was that the majority of SMEs are unaware of where their firm fits into the sector approach or whether their firm fits into a priority sector at all. There were also concerns about a one-size-fits-all approach that does not necessarily suit the needs of firms of different sizes. You only have to look at the chart on respondent awareness to see some of the concerns. Over 85% of business across all sectors did not know about JEREMIE, for instance. In the case of the creative industries, nobody who was asked knew about it. The microbusiness loan fund fared badly too. If this is not setting alarm bells ringing on the fifth floor, it should be.

Turning to the amendments that have been tabled, Plaid Cymru's amendment 1 is rather pedantic, to say the least, in proposing to delete the word 'the'—talk about fiddling while Rome burns. The point, surely, is that the Welsh Government does have economic levers at its disposal already. This debate is not about an ideological argument about whether Wales is independent or not, or whether Wales has greater autonomy or not, although those are discussions that are going on. This is focusing on helping Welsh businesses as best we can at a difficult time. I do not think that those businesses are currently talking about what powers the Assembly has, should have, does not have, or might have in the future. They are talking about the future of their businesses, of their livelihoods and of their families. Those are the things that we should be talking about as well.

Yr hyn a oedd yn fy mhoeni oedd y ffaith mai'r ffynhonnell fwyaf cyffredin o gyllid ar gyfer busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint yw gorddrafftiau a chardiau credyd. Gwn fod Eluned Parrott wedi codi'r mater hwn; credaf iddi wneud hynny yn y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes. Gall gorddrafftiau fod yn ddigon gwael, ond gallant gynnig cyfraddau mwy rhesymol o log na chardiau credyd—yn amlwg, mae hynny'n anghynaliadwy i fusnesau yng Nghymru. Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ymateb i'r problemau hyn? Gwyddom fod y Llywodraeth glymblaid flaenorol rhwng Llafur a Phlaid Cymru wedi mabwysiadu'r hyn a elwir erbyn hyn yn ymagwedd sector lle cafodd polisïau cymorth i fusnesau eu rhannu'n sectorau unigol yr ydym yn gyfarwydd â hwy. Lanswyd rhaglen adnewyddu economaidd Llywodraeth Cymru yn 2010 gyda chwe sector ac mae'r Gweinidog busnes wedi ychwanegu tri sector arall ers hynny—gwasanaethau ariannol, twristiaeth ac adeiladu.

Mae i'r ymagwedd sector ei rhinweddau ac mae'n ddigon posibl mae hon yw'r ffordd ymlaen. Fodd bynnag, y cwestiwn allweddol y byddwn yn ei ofyn yw: sut mae'n berthnasol i fusnesau ar lawr gwlad? Sut mae'r busnesau hynny yn rhyngweithio â hi? Yr hyn a oedd yn achosi pryder arbennig imi yn yr adroddiad hwn oedd nad oedd y rhan fwyaf o fusnesau bach a chanolig yn ymwybodol o briod le eu cwmni yn yr ymagwedd sector nac ychwaith a yw eu cwmni yn rhan o sector â blaenoriaeth o gwbl. Roedd pryderon hefyd ynghylch yr ateb i bawb nad yw o reidrydd yn addas i anghenion cwmnïau o wahanol feintiau. Dim ond edrych ar y siart ar ymwybyddiaeth ymatebwyr y mae angen ei wneud i weld rhai o'r pryderon. Nid oedd dros 85% o fusnesau ym mhob sector yn ymwybodol o JEREMIE, er enghraifft. Yn achos y diwydiannau creadigol, nid oedd neb a holwyd yn ei gylch yn gwybod am y peth. Roedd ymwybyddiaeth o'r gronfa fenthyciadau i ficrofusnesau yn wael hefyd. Os nad yw hyn yn seinio rhybudd ar y pumed llawr, dylai fod yn gwneud hynny.

Gan droi at y gwelliannau a gyflwynwyd, mae gwelliant 1 Plaid Cymru braidd yn bedantig, a dweud y lleiaf, yn y ffaith ei fod yn cynnig dileu'r gair 'y'—sôn am ganu'r crwth tra bo Rhufain yn llosgi. Y pwynt, yn sicr, yw onid oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru ysgogiadau economaidd eisoes? Nid yw'r ddatl hon yn ymwneud â datl ideolegol ynghylch a yw Cymru yn annibynnol ai peidio, nac ychwaith a oes gan Gymru fwy o annibyniaeth ai peidio, er bod y rheini yn drafodaethau sy'n mynd rhagddynt. Mae hyn yn canolbwyntio ar helpu busnesau yng Nghymru cystal ag y gallwn ar adeg anodd. Ni chredaf fod y busnesau hynny yn trafod pa bwerau sydd gan y Cynulliad, pa bwerau y dylai eu cael, pa rai nad oes ganddo, neu a allai fod ganddo yn y dyfodol. Maent yn sôn am ddyfodol eu busnesau, eu bywoliaethau a'u teuluoedd. Dyna'r pethau y dylem fod yn eu trafod hefyd.

It is also about holding the Welsh Government to account for the powers that it exercises. To suggest that it would all be rosy in the garden if, somehow, we had additional powers here is misleading to say the least. After those comments you will not be surprised to hear that we will reject that amendment. We will, however, support Plaid Cymru's amendment 3, which states the obvious with regard to rejecting the inevitability of the poor gross added value figures. I am not entirely sure who was suggesting that the GVA figures are inevitably low in the first place, but, supposing that they did, I would support Plaid on that point.

We will also support the Liberal Democrat amendments, which rightly welcome the progress being made to increase competitiveness across the UK and call on the Welsh Government to review the support for our entrepreneurs. Those are worthwhile amendments and we will be supporting them.

We have many debates in this Chamber, and it is all too easy for some Assembly Members to simply blame everything on the UK coalition Government as if everything suddenly went wrong part way through 2010, and, before that, everything in the garden was rosy. [Interruption.] I thought that you would like that, Jeff. Let us not forget that there are major investments going on at the moment in Wales thanks to the UK coalition Government. There is the £56.9 million for broadband roll-out—[Interruption.] You might think that it is rubbish, but it is true. There is also the planned electrification of the Great Western railway line and a link to Heathrow, which has also been planned as a part of that project. All of these things will help the Welsh economy. However, I do not deny that it is not enough. For those policies to be successful, we have to have the equivalent of strategic match funding, if you would like to call it that, in Wales, and that is where the Welsh Government comes in.

I have had a number of meetings recently with the Minister for business about the way that things are moving forward. There are positive things happening. However, we believe that a lot more could and should be happening. For the good of Welsh businesses and people living in Wales, let us all pull together—

16:00 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

16:00 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I do not have time, sorry. Let us all pull together, let us give Welsh businesses the support that they deserve and let us turn those economic indicators around. However, you only do that by turning around the structural problems that have existed for a long time in the Welsh economy, and it is about time that they were put right.

Gwelliant 1—Jocelyn Davies

Ym mhwynt 1 dileu 'yr' cyn 'ysgogiadau economaidd' a chynnwys ar ddiwedd y pwynt: 'er gwaethaf y ffaith bod nifer yn parhau i fod o dan reolaeth Llywodraeth y DU'.

Mae hefyd yn ymwneud â dwyn Llywodraeth Cymru i gyfrif am y pwerau y mae yn eu harfer. Mae'r awgrym y byddai popeth yn iawn, rywsut, pe bai gennym bwerau ychwanegol yma yn gamarweiniol a dweud y lleiaf. Ar ôl y sylwadau hynny, ni fyddwch yn synnu i glywed y byddwn yn gwrthod y gwelliant hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliant 3 Plaid Cymru, sy'n nodi pwynt amlwg o ran gwrthod derbyn bod y ffigurau gwerth ychwanegol crynswth gwael yn anochel. Nid wyf yn hollol siŵr pwy a oedd yn awgrymu bod y ffigurau GYC yn anochel yn isel yn y lle cyntaf, ond, gan dybio iddynt ddweud hynny, byddwn yn cefnogi Plaid ar y pwynt hwnnw.

Byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, sy'n croesawu'r cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud i wella cystadleurwydd ledled DU, a hynny'n ddigon priodol, ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu'r cymorth a roddir i'n hentrepreneuriaid. Mae'r rheini'n welliannau buddiol a byddwn yn eu cefnogi.

Rydym yn cael llawer o ddadleuon yn y Siambr hon, ac mae'n rhy hawdd i rai Aelodau Cynulliad feio Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU am bopeth fel pe bai popeth wedi mynd o chwith yn sydyn ran o'r ffordd drwy 2010, a chyn hynny, roedd popeth yn iawn. [Torri ar draws.] Roeddwn yn meddwl y byddech yn hoffi hynny, Jeff. Peidied neb ag anghofio bod buddsoddiadau mawr yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd yng Nghymru diolch i Lywodraeth glymblaid y DU. Mae £56.9 miliwn ar gael i gyflwyno band eang—[Torri ar draws.] Efallai eich bod yn credu bod hynny'n nonsens, ond mae'n wir. Ceir hefyd y bwriad i drydaneiddio rheilffordd y Great Western a chreu cyswllt â Heathrow, sydd hefyd yn yr arfaeth fel rhan o'r prosiect hwnnw. Bydd yr holl bethau hyn yn helpu economi Cymru. Fodd bynnag, ni wadaf nad yw hynny'n ddigon. Er mwyn i'r polisïau hynny fod yn llwyddiannus, rhaid wrth yr hyn sy'n cyfateb i arian cyfatebol strategol, os caf ei alw felly, yng Nghymru, a dyna rôl Llywodraeth Cymru.

Rwyf wedi cael nifer o gyfarfodydd yn ddiweddar gyda'r Gweinidog busnes am y ffordd y mae pethau'n datblygu. Mae pethau cadarnhaol yn digwydd. Fodd bynnag, credwn y gallai ac y dylai llawer fod yn digwydd. Er budd busnesau yng Nghymru a phobl sy'n byw yng Nghymru, gadewch inni gydweithio—

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

Amendment 1—Jocelyn Davies

In point 1 delete 'the' before 'economic levers' and insert at end of point: 'despite many remaining in the control of the UK Government'.

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Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 2: 'ond yn gwrthod derbyn bod y sefyllfa hon yn anochel'.

Insert at end of point 2: 'but rejects the inevitability of this position'.

16:00 **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Cynigiad welliannau 1 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Rwyf yn mynd i ganolbwyntio ar y gwelliannau. Gan dderbyn bod y cynnig hwn yn gwneud pwyntiau digon gwir a digon ffeithiol gywir, ychydig iawn a glywsom gan y Torïaid ynghylch beth yn union y byddent yn ei wneud i newid y sefyllfa annerbyniol o ran yr economi yng Nghymru. Y rheswm y gwnaethom dynnu allan y gair 'yr', sydd yn air bach iawn—y fannod—oedd oherwydd nad oeddem yn credu bod y pwerau i gyd yng Nghymru i newid y sefyllfa. Dyma'r pwynt mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei wneud lawer gwaith wrth sôn am hyder busnes. Ar y llaw arall, mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod yn credu ac felly yn gweithredu ar y sail bod digon o bwerau yng Nghymru i wneud gwahaniaeth. Os nad ydym yn credu hynny, nid oes llawer o bwynt cael adran o gwbl. Byddem ni ym Mhlaid Cymru yn dadlau bod gennym y pwerau i wneud gwahaniaeth ac i beidio â derbyn y sefyllfa hon fel un anochel. Felly, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gweithredu er mwyn cynyddu gwerth ychwanegol crynswth, sydd yn fodd a gaiff ei dderbyn ar draws y byd i fesur iechyd economaidd.

With reference to amendment 3, it is a fact that the average GVA levels in Wales are among the lowest in the UK and the lowest of all regions in the UK. However, the Government must grasp that this is not inevitable. It may be stating the bleeding obvious, but when I sometimes listen—

I move amendments 1 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

I will focus on the amendments. Accepting that the motion makes points that are true enough and is factually correct, we did not hear much from the Tories about exactly what they would do to change the unacceptable situation regarding the Welsh economy. The reason why we took out the word 'the', which is a small word—the definite article—was that we do not think that all the powers to change the situation rest in Wales. That is the point that the Minister has made many times in talking about business confidence. On the other hand, it is important that we believe and, therefore, act on the basis, that we have enough powers in Wales to make a difference. If we do not believe that, there is not much point having a department at all. We in Plaid Cymru would argue that we do have the powers to make a difference and to not accept the situation as inevitable. Therefore, it is important that we act in order to increase GVA, which is a method that is accepted across the world of measuring the health of an economy.

O ran gwelliant 3, mae'n ffaith bod lefelau GYC cyfartalog yng Nghymru gyda'r isaf yn y DU ac mai ffigurau Cymru yw'r isaf o blith yr holl ranbarthau yn y DU. Fodd bynnag, rhaid i'r Llywodraeth ddeall nad yw hyn yn anochel. Efallai fy mod yn dweud rhywbeth amlwg ar y diawl, ond pan fyddaf yn gwrandao weithiau—

16:02 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Order. Please use more decorous language.

Trefn. Defnyddiwch iaith fwy barchus os gwelwch yn dda.

16:02 **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Right. I will say 'the obvious'. We all remember the target set previously by Rhodri Morgan of getting the average Welsh GVA up to 90%. Instead of being a target, that apparently became an aspiration, but we did not achieve it in any case. However, we have to believe and act as if we can bridge the gap. Some reference has been made to the fact that the Welsh GVA figures improved in 2010 and 2011—the first time that we have improved relative to the UK's performance since 1995. Whether that was due to Ieuan Wyn Jones's economic renewal programme or not, there is evidence that the policy of the economic summits, the ProAct and the ReAct programmes and the resistance to the accelerated timetable for public sector job reduction followed in England has successfully shielded Wales from the worst effects so far of the new austerity. Therefore, there are grounds for optimism.

lawn. Dywedaf 'rhywbeth amlwg'. Rydym i gyd yn cofio'r targed a bennwyd yn flaenorol gan Rhodri Morgan sef sicrhau bod gwerth ychwanegol crynswth cyfartalog Cymru yn cyrraedd 90%. Yn hytrach na bod yn darged, mae'n debyg iddo ddod yn ddyhead, ond ni lwyddwyd i'w gyflawni sut bynnag. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gredu a gweithredu fel pe baem yn gallu cau'r bwch. Cyfeiriwyd at y ffaith i ffigurau GYC Cymru wella yn 2010 a 2011— y tro cyntaf inni wella o'n cymharu â pherfformiad y DU ers 1995. Pa un a oedd hynny o ganlyniad i raglen Ieuan Wyn Jones i adnewyddu'r economi ai peidio, mae tystiolaeth bod polisi'r uwchgynadleddau economaidd, rhaglenni ProAct a ReAct a'r penderfyniad i wrthsefyll yr ymgais a welwyd yn Lloegr i ddileu swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus ar garlam wedi llwyddo i gysgodi Cymru rhag effeithiau gwaethaf y drefn lem newydd hyd yn hyn. Felly, mae sail dros fod yn obeithiol.

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However, the gap is huge, and if you take the UK Commission for Employment and Skills's assumptions for Welsh and UK growth between 2010-20, and assuming—and it is a big assumption—that UK growth will revert to its long-run rate of 2% in the following decade and Wales continues to lag behind by 0.5%, you will see that, on current projections by 2016, GVA per capita will be 71.7% of the UK figure, and by 2036 will be barely above 65%. That is simply unacceptable, and it is surely unacceptable for the present Government and any other future Government. So, if these trends continue from 2010-11, we are obviously doing something right in Wales, but we have to wait for another couple of years' figures before we can be confident that that is happening. The challenge is huge, and we have already set out some of the things that we have to do to combat the austerity programme that is undermining confidence in the UK economy in general. By now, there is general acceptance by economists throughout the world that unless you invest heavily in infrastructure, you will not get the economy moving in the present European and western world context. That is the starting point for any Government programme. I hope that, soon, we will be hearing from the Government that it has been able to raise money in order to start investing seriously in infrastructure in Wales.

Gwelliant 2—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys ar ddechrau pwynt 2:

'Yn croesawu'r cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud i gynyddu cystadleurwydd ar draws y DU ar ôl i'r DU godi yn ddiweddar o'r degfed safle i'r wythfed safle ym Mynegai Cystadleurwydd Byd-Eang Fforwm Economaidd y Byd 2012-2013, ond'

Gwelliant 4—Aled Roberts

Cynnwys pwynt 3 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu'r gefnogaeth a gynigir ar gyfer masnacheiddio eiddo deallusol academaidd o bob Prifysgol yng Nghymru, i sicrhau bod ein hentrepreneuriaid yn cael y cyfle gorau i ddatblygu busnesau ffyniannus a chynhenid yng Nghymru ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Fodd bynnag, mae'r bwlch yn enfawr, ac os derbyniwch ragdybiaethau Comisiwn y DU dros Gyflogaeth a Sgiliau ar gyfer twf yng Nghymru a'r DU rhwng 2010-20, a thybïo—ac mae hon yn dybiaeth fawr—y bydd twf y DU yn dychwelyd i'r gyfradd hirsefydledig o 2% yn y degawd nesaf ac y bydd Cymru yn parhau i fod tua 0.5% ar ei hôl hi, fe welwch, ar sail amcanestyniadau presennol erbyn 2016, y bydd GYC y pen yn 71.7% o ffigur y DU, ac erbyn 2036 prin y bydd yn cyrraedd dros 65%. Mae hynny yn gwbl annerbyniol, ac mae'n sicr yn annerbyniol i'r Llywodraeth bresennol ac unrhyw Lywodraeth arall yn y dyfodol. Felly, os bydd y tueddiadau hyn yn parhau o 2010-11, rydym yn amlwg yn gwneud rhywbeth yn iawn yng Nghymru, ond bydd yn rhaid inni aros am ffigurau ychydig o flynyddoedd eraill cyn y gallwn fod yn hyderus bod hynny'n digwydd. Mae'r her yn enfawr, ac rydym eisoes wedi nodi rhai o'r pethau y mae'n rhaid inni eu gwneud i frwydro yn erbyn y rhaglen galedi sy'n tanseilio hyder yn economi'r DU yn gyffredinol. Erbyn hyn, mae economegwyr ledled y byd yn derbyn yn gyffredinol na fyddwch yn llwyddo i gael yr economi i wella yng nghydestun presennol Ewrop a'r byd gorllewinol oni bai eich bod yn buddsoddi'n helaeth mewn seilwaith. Dyna'r man cychwyn ar gyfer unrhyw raglen gan y Llywodraeth. Gobeithiaf, cyn hir, y byddwn yn dlywed gan y Llywodraeth ei bod wedi llwyddo i godi arian er mwyn dechrau buddsoddi o ddifrif mewn seilwaith yng Nghymru.

Amendment 2—Aled Roberts

Insert at the start of point 2:

'Welcomes the progress being made to increase competitiveness across the UK following the recent rise from 10th to 8th place in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2012–2013, but'

Amendment 4—Aled Roberts

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Calls on the Welsh Government to review the support offered for the commercialisation of academic intellectual property from all Universities in Wales, to ensure our entrepreneurs have the best opportunity to develop prosperous, home-grown Welsh businesses for the future.

16:05

Eluned Parrott [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move amendments 2 and 4 in the name of Aled Roberts.

I thank the Welsh Conservatives for giving us another opportunity to discuss the economy here this afternoon. With regard to the thrust of the motion today, I agree that, while the macro-economic levers are largely at Westminster and are, as Alun Ffred said, significant and important in terms of the wider subject of business confidence in a global sense, the Welsh Government does have a significant number of powers and responsibilities in this area. I am sure that the Minister will be the first to say that she is very busy and engaged in this subject, so she must have a significant number of powers and levers at her disposal.

Cynigiad welliannau 2 a 4 yn enw Aled Roberts.

Diolch i'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig am roi cyfle arall inni drafod yr economi yma y prynhawn yma. O ran byrddyn y cynnig heddiw, er bod yr ysgogiadau macro-economaidd yn nwylo San Steffan i raddau helaeth ac, fel y dywedodd Alun Ffred, er eu bod yn arwyddocaol ac yn bwysig o ran pwnc ehangach hyder busnes mewn ystyr fyd-eang, cytunaf fod gan Lywodraeth Cymru cryn nifer o bwerau a chyfrifoldebau yn y maes hwn. Rwy'n siŵr mai'r Gweinidog fydd y cyntaf i ddweud ei bod yn brysur iawn ac yn ymroi i'r pwnc hwn, felly rhaid bod cryn nifer o bwerau a sbardunau ar gael iddi.

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I also note in the motion the mention of the report by Cardiff Business School and the Federation of Small Businesses, 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors'. Some specific queries regarding the implementation of the economic renewal programme and the sector strategy are raised in that report and it is worth reflecting on those. One of the things that jumped out at me was the fact that a number of businesses that are in a sector, or that could be described as being in a sector, did not apparently know that. Is that in itself is an indicator that some of the communication processes around that programme need to be looked at.

Many new policy interventions have been introduced by the current Government that were not part of the original economic renewal programme. I am sure that the Minister will remember me asking her whether she was implementing the economic renewal programme or the commitments in the Welsh Labour manifesto in 2011 as her economic strategy. Her answer was: the Welsh Labour manifesto. With that in mind, and given the number of new interventions, I wonder whether it is an opportune time for there to be a formal review of the economic renewal programme, to have a look at how the circumstances have changed since it was developed and to see where we are, and to set some benchmarks for progress for the future in the economic climate in which we now find ourselves, which is very different to the one in which the programme was written.

We have heard GVA described as being a blunt instrument and something that is very general. If it were an outlier, I think that I would be open to the suggestion that it was not a reasonable measure over a period of time. However, the truth is that it is not. Every indicator that I look at paints the same picture, which is that, sadly, Wales's economy remains weak—it has been weak for many years. It is not the fault of one individual or one Government, but it is sadly true in the context that we find ourselves in now. Is it a simplistic measure? Possibly. If you look at some more complicated measures, for example, the World Economic Forum's global competitiveness index, which looks at something like 12 different indices, including infrastructure, health, education, higher education, innovation and market size, you will see that the UK has improved in the last year, moving from tenth place to eighth, overtaking countries such as Japan. However, in the last regional analysis of the indices in 2010, Wales fell from last but one to last of the UK regions. That is a real worry. We need to ask ourselves whether there are things that we can do to improve that. Of course, league tables and indexes are not the be-all and end-all; they are not the things that we should be judging the success of our economic policy against. However, if all of them say the same thing, then that is possibly an indication that they are painting an accurate picture.

Nodaf hefyd yn y cynnig y cyfeiriad at adroddiad gan Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd a'r Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach, 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors'. Mae'r adroddiad hwnnw yn codi rhai ymholiadau penodol ynglŷn â gweithredu rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi a'r strategaeth sector ac mae'n werth meddwl am y rheini. Un o'r pethau a'm trawodd oedd y ffaith nad oedd nifer o fusnesau sydd mewn sector, neu y gellid dweud eu bod mewn sector, yn ôl pob golwg yn gwybod hynny. A yw hynny ynddo'i hun yn arwydd bod angen ystyried rhai o'r prosesau cyfathrebu ynghylch y rhaglen honno.

Mae llawer o ymyriadau polisi newydd wedi cael eu cyflwyno gan y Llywodraeth bresennol nad oeddent yn rhan o'r rhaglen wreiddiol i adnewyddu'r economi. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Gweinidog yn cofio imi ofyn iddi a oedd yn gweithredu rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi yntau'r ymrwymadau ym maniffesto Llafur Cymru yn 2011 fel ei strategaeth economaidd. Ei hateb oedd: maniffesto Llafur Cymru. Gyda hynny mewn golwg, ac o ystyried nifer yr ymyriadau newydd, tybed a yw'n amser da i gynnal adolygiad ffurfiol o raglen adnewyddu'r economi, er mwyn ystyried sut y mae'r amgylchiadau wedi newid ers iddi gael ei datblygu ac i weld lle yr ydym arni, a gosod rhai meincnodau ar gyfer cynnydd ar gyfer y dyfodol yn yr hinsawdd economaidd sydd ohoni, sy'n wahanol iawn i'r un a oedd yn bodoli pan luniwyd y rhaglen.

Rydym wedi clywed GYC yn cael ei ddisgrifio fel offeryn di-fin ac yn rhywbeth sy'n gyffredinol iawn. Pe bai'n ystadegyn anarferol, credaf y byddwn yn agored i'r awgrym nad oedd yn fesur rhesymol dros gyfnod o amser. Fodd bynnag, y gwir yw nad ydyw. Mae pob dangosydd yr edrychaf arno yn rhoi'r un darlun, sef, yn anffodus, bod economi Cymru yn parhau'n wan—bu'n wan ers blynnyddoedd lawer. Nid oes bai ar unigolyn nac un Llywodraeth, ond mae'n anffodus o wir yn y cyd-destun yr ydym ynddo yn awr. A yw'n fesur rhy syml? Efallai. Os edrychwch ar rai mesurau mwy cymhleth, er enghraifft, mynegai cystadleurwydd byd-eang Fforwm Economaidd y Byd, sy'n ystyried tua 12 o fynegeion gwahanol, gan gynnwys seilwaith, iechyd, addysg, addysg uwch, arloesi a maint y farchnad, fe welwch fod y DU wedi gwella yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, gan symud o'r degfed i'r wythfed safle, gan fynd yn uwch na gwledydd megis Japan. Fodd bynnag, yn y dadansoddiad rhanbarthol diwethaf o'r mynegeion yn 2010, aeth Cymru o'r safle olaf ond un i'r safle olaf ymhlith rhanbarthau'r DU. Mae hynny'n bryder go iawn. Mae angen inni ofyn i ni ein hunain a oes pethau y gallwn eu gwneud i wella hynny. Wrth gwrs, nid yw tablau cynghrair na mynegeion yn cyfrif am bopeth. Nid dyna'r pethau y dylem fod yn barnu llwyddiant ein polisi economaidd yn eu herbyn. Fodd bynnag, os bydd pob un ohonynt yn dweud yr un peth, yna mae hynny'n bosibl yn arwydd eu bod yn rhoi'r darlun cywir.

I agree with Alun Ffred, however, that it is a bit depressing to point at all the faults without suggesting ideas and introducing something new to the table. I note from the Welsh Government's website that the Minister is currently looking at innovation policy. I am glad to see that that is the case. In her response to the debate, I wonder whether she might be able to give us an idea of what is being looked at and what progress has been made to date. There are real pockets of excellence in our higher education, in our further education and in our schools. There are also opportunities in non-traditional education.

There is something very special about Wales. We have a higher capacity to train people per head of population than any other part of the UK. We need to play to the strengths that we have. This is a strength in an important area, and we have an opportunity to use it to the benefit of Wales.

16:10

Byron Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I begin my contribution with a quote from the Federation of Small Businesses, which was reported in the 'Daily Post' on 27 February. It said,

'the Welsh Government is still failing to deliver support to small businesses.'

I start on this note because, given that the industry wants you to review your strategy, the only way from here, I hope, is up. The opening line of our motion before you today, ably moved by Nick Ramsay, recognises that the Welsh Government has the economic levers at its disposal to make a significant difference to the Welsh economy. In a nutshell, this is why we are not making any serious headway. This Government seems far more interested in ensuring that it can blame the UK Government than improving the prospects for Welsh businesses and our communities. The blame game is a central theme as to why gross value added in Wales is the lowest of the UK nations. The default response from the Welsh Government, when commenting on the economic situation of Wales, is to blame Westminster. The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science continually states that,

'Whilst the UK Government holds all the major macroeconomic tools, the Welsh Government is doing all we can to help people back into jobs or training.'

Cytunaf ag Alun Ffred, fodd bynnag, ei bod yn ddiflas braidd nodi'r holl ddiffygion heb awgrymu syniadau na chynnig rhywbeth newydd. Nodaf o wefan Llywodraeth Cymru fod y Gweinidog yn ystyried polisi arloesi ar hyn o bryd. Rwy'n falch o weld hynny. Yn ei hymateb i'r ddatl, tybed a allai roi syniad inni ynglŷn â'r hyn sy'n cael ei ystyried a pha gynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud hyd yn hyn. Mae pocedi go iawn o ragoriaeth yn ein sector addysg uwch, yn ein sector addysg bellach ac yn ein hysgolion. Cyfyd cyfleoedd hefyd am addysg annhraddodiadol.

Mae rhywbeth arbennig iawn am Gymru. Rydym yn meddu ar fwy o allu i hyfforddi pobl y pen o'r boblogaeth nag unrhyw ran arall o'r DU. Mae angen inni fanteisio ar y cryfderau sydd gennym. Mae hwn yn gryfder mewn maes pwysig, ac mae gennym gyfle i'w ddefnyddio er budd Cymru.

Dechreuaf fy nghyfraniad gyda dyfyniad gan y Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach, a nodwyd yn y 'Daily Post' ar 27 Chwefror. Dywedodd,

mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn methu o hyd â rhoi cymorth i fusnesau bach.

Dechreuaf ar y nodyn hwn oherwydd, o ystyried bod y diwydiant am ichi adolygu'ch strategaeth, yr unig ffordd ymlaen, gobeithio, yw gwneud cynnydd. Mae llinell agoriadol ein cynnig sydd ger eich bron heddiw, a gyflwynwyd yn fedrus gan Nick Ramsay, yn cydnabod bod yr ysgogiadau economaidd ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru i wneud gwahaniaeth mawr i economi Cymru. Yn gryno, dyma pam nad ydym yn gwneud unrhyw gynnydd mawr. Ymddengys bod gan y Llywodraeth hon lawer mwy o ddiddordeb mewn sicrhau ei bod yn gallu rhoi'r bai ar Lywodraeth y DU na gwella rhagolygon ar gyfer busnesau Cymru a'n cymunedau. Mae beio eraill yn thema ganolog o ran pam mae gan Gymru y gwerth ychwanegol crynswth isaf o blith gwledydd y DU. Yr ymateb bob amser gan Lywodraeth Cymru, wrth wneud sylwadau ar sefyllfa economaidd Cymru, yw beio San Steffan. Noda'r Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth drwy'r amser,

Er bod gan Lywodraeth y DU yr holl ysgogiadau macro-economaidd mawr, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gwneud popeth o fewn ei gallu i helpu pobl yn ôl i mewn i swyddi neu hyfforddiant.

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While the UK Government's economic policies do have a significant impact on the Welsh economy, the Welsh Government appears to be ignoring the fact that, since March 2011, the Assembly has had competence over economic development, culture and tourism, food, agriculture and fisheries, highways and transport, education and training, and sport and recreation. These are all valuable economic tools that must be effectively utilised by the Welsh Government to stimulate the Welsh economy. The Institute of Directors Wales highlighted this problem in May 2010, stating that the institute's members in Wales have serious concerns that the non-economic departments in the Welsh Government do not understand the impact that their activities can and do have on the competitiveness of the Welsh economy.

Therefore, at this juncture I wish to commend the recent Cardiff Business School and Federation of Small Businesses report. In short, they found that the vast majority of small and medium-sized enterprises are unaware that their firms fit into a priority sector and that there is significant evidence to suggest that the needs of small firms are considerably different to those of larger firms, regardless of sector. The report argues that a sector approach needs to be balanced with an understanding of how intra-sectoral needs vary by firm size. Therefore, it is concerning that, in the words of Cardiff Business School,

'The needs of small businesses run the risk of being overlooked by the Welsh Government's Economic Renewal Plan'.

I also wish to highlight one more statistic from the report, which is that only 2.5% of those surveyed are using Welsh Government funding. This could be explained by a lack of awareness, which was also detailed in the report.

I was slightly surprised earlier to hear Alun Ffred Jones saying that he had not heard much from this side of the Chamber with regard to how we can change things from the Conservative point of view. Perhaps he missed the fact that Nick Ramsay did actually say that the UK Government is doing its bit with a £56.9 million investment into broadband, alongside an investment in the railways, which is being hailed as the biggest investment in trains in Wales for more than a century. So, rather than gambling with taxpayers' money by taking ownership of Cardiff Airport, as opposed to investing in its infrastructure in previous years, this Government in Cardiff bay, which has sufficient levers, would be better off demonstrating in a more positive fashion how it can improve the lot of Welsh business and provide proof of success, instead of constantly carping on about Westminster, which, frankly, is just a smokescreen for its inefficiency and lack of intent in Wales. I therefore commend this very worthwhile motion to you.

Er bod polisiau economaidd Llywodraeth y DU yn cael effaith sylweddol ar economi Cymru, ymddengys bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn anwybyddu'r ffaith, ers mis Mawrth 2011, bod gan y Cynulliad gymhwysedd ym maes datblygu economaidd, diwylliant a thwristiaeth, bwyd, amaethyddiaeth a physgodfeydd, priffyrdd a thrafnidiaeth, addysg a hyfforddiant, a chwaraeon a hamdden. Mae'r rhain i gyd yn ddulliau economaidd gwerthfawr y mae'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru eu defnyddio'n effeithiol i ysgogi economi Cymru. Tynnodd Sefydliad Cyfarwyddwyr Cymru sylw at y broblem hon ym Mai 2010, gan nodi bod gan aelodau'r sefydliad yng Nghymru bryderon mawr nad yw'r adrannau yn Llywodraeth Cymru nad ydynt ymwneud â'r economi yn deall yr effaith y gall eu gweithgareddau ei chael ac y maent yn ei chael ar gystadleurwydd economi Cymru.

Felly, hoffwn yn awr ganmol adroddiad diweddar Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd a'r Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach. Yn gryno, cafwyd nad yw'r mwyafrif helaeth o fusnesau bach a chanolig yn ymwybodol bod eu cwmnïau yn rhan o sector â blaenoriaeth a bod tystiolaeth sylweddol yn awgrymu bod anghenion cwmnïau bach yn sylweddol wahanol i anghenion cwmnïau mwy o faint, waeth beth fo'r sector. Mae'r adroddiad yn dadlau bod angen i ymagwedd sector gael ei chydbwysu â dealltwriaeth o'r ffordd y mae anghenion rhyng-sectoraidd yn amrywio yn ôl maint y cwmni. Felly, mae'n destun pryder bod, yng ngeiriau Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd,

perygl y caiff anghenion busnesau bach eu hanwybyddu gan Gynllun Llywodraeth Cymru ar Adnewyddu'r Economi.

Hoffwn hefyd dynnu sylw at un ystadegyn arall o'r adroddiad, sef mai dim ond 2.5% o'r rhai a holwyd sy'n defnyddio cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru. Diffyg ymwybyddiaeth, a allai fod yn gyfrifol am hyn, y manylwyd arno yn yr adroddiad hefyd.

Roeddwn yn synnu braidd yn gynharach pan glywais Alun Ffred Jones yn dweud nad oedd wedi clywed llawer gan yr ochr hon i'r Siambr ynglŷn â sut y gallwn newid pethau o safbwynt y Ceidwadwyr. Efallai iddo gollu'r ffaith i Nick Ramsay ddweud bod Llywodraeth y DU yn gwneud ei rhan drwy fuddsoddi £56.9 miliwn mewn band eang, ochr yn ochr â buddsoddiad yn y rheilffyrdd, sy'n cael ei ddisgrifio fel y buddsoddiad mwyaf mewn trenau yng Nghymru ers dros ganrif. Felly, yn hytrach na gamblo gydag arian trethdalwyr drwy ddod yn berchen ar Faes Awyr Caerdydd, yn lle buddsoddi yn ei seilwaith mewn blynyddoedd blaenorol, byddai'n well pe bai'r Llywodraeth hon ym mae Caerdydd, y mae digon o ysgogiadau ar gael iddi, yn dangos mewn ffordd fwy cadarnhaol sut y gall wella sefyllfa busnesau yng Nghymru a rhoi prawf o lwyddiant, yn hytrach nag achwyn o hyd am San Steffan, rhywbeth nad yw ond yn ymgais i gelu ei haneffeithlonrwydd a'i diffyg bwriad yng Nghymru, a dweud y gwir. Felly, cymeradwyaf y cynnig buddiol iawn hwn ichi.

- 16:14 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- Seeking the advice of the Conservative party on economic policy is a bit like asking Dr Crippen whether he would be willing to write you a prescription. On the day after the Chancellor was defeated by 26 votes to one in his attempt to protect bankers' bonuses in Brussels we are expected to take seriously the Conservatives' proposition that it is the economic policy in Wales that needs to be revised. Now, I can safely leave it to the Minister to explain the Welsh Government's vigorous use of all the levers in its hands, but it would be fatuous—in fact, there has already been such fatuity this afternoon—to dismiss the catastrophic context in which those efforts have to be made. With less than five minutes, I am going to outline five different factors that show just how difficult that context now is.
- To begin with, we are being asked to grow the Welsh economy in a UK economy that is contracting. This Government at Westminster looks set to be the first in the modern era to leave the real economy smaller than it was when it took office.
- Mae gofyn am gyngor y blaid Geidwadol ar bolisi economaidd yn debyg iawn i ofyn i Dr Crippen a fyddai'n barod i ysgrifennu presgripsiwn ichi. Ar y diwrnod ar ôl i'r Canghellor gael ei drechu gan 26 pleidlais i un yn ei ymgais i amddiffyn bonysau bancwyr ym Mrwsel, disgwylir inni gymryd cynnig y Ceidwadwyr o ddifrif sef mai'r polisi economaidd yng Nghymru sydd angen ei ddiwygio. Yn awr, gallaf yn sicr ei gadael hi i'r Gweinidog egluro defnydd grymus Llywodraeth Cymru o'r holl ysgogiadau sydd ar gael iddi, ond byddai'n wirion— yn wir, rydym eisoes wedi gweld gwiriondeb o'r fath y prynhawn yma—diystyru'r cyd-destun trychinebus y mae'r ymdrechion hynny yn cael eu gwneud ynddo. Gyda llai na phum munud, bwriadaf amlinellu pum ffactor gwahanol sy'n dangos pa mor anodd yw'r cyd-destun hwnnw yn awr.
- I ddechrau, gofynnir inni dyfu economi Cymru o fewn economi yn y DU sy'n crebachu. Mae'n debyg mai'r Llywodraeth hon yn San Steffan fydd y gyntaf yn yr oes fodern i adael yr economi wirioneddol yn llai nag yr oedd pan ddaeth i rym.
- 16:15 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Unfortunately, when the UK economy was expanding, the Welsh GVA was contracting prior to 2008. Can you deal with that, please?
- Yn anffodus, pan oedd economi'r DU yn ehangu, roedd GYC Cymru yn crebachu cyn 2008. A allwch ymdrin â hynny, os gwelwch yn dda?
- 16:15 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
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- I will deal with it in this way: if that is your proposition, the real incumbency is on you to explain how the Welsh economy is to do better when the economy is contracting overall. For 10 quarters in a row since your party came to office in May 2010, the manufacturing sector has contracted by 0.4%, construction is down by 9%, and the OBR—your Government's own creation—forecasts that real average earnings will continue to fall throughout this year and into next year. It will take until 2017 for average purchasing power to return to where it was in the year 2000. It is the slowest and longest recovery for more than 100 years. 'Never mind', the Chancellor says; he says that that does not matter because Britain's credit is still good on the international money market, so we can still borrow money cheaply. However, there are already signs that the money markets are alert to the dangers that inflation—the second major contextual factor—will erode the real money that they will be repaid, which they are currently lending to the United Kingdom. The Bank of England suggests that inflation will reach 3.2% later this year. The loss of the AAA credit rating—'Judge us by that benchmark', said Mr Osborne, 'Hold us to account'—is just a sign of more to come.
- Byddaf yn ymdrin â hynny yn y modd hwn: os mai dyna'ch haerriad, chi ddylai esbonio sut y dylai economi Cymru wneud yn well pan fo'r economi yn crebachu yn gyffredinol. Am 10 chwarter yn olynol ers i'ch plaid ddod i rym ym mis Mai 2010, mae'r sector gweithgynhyrchu wedi crebachu 0.4%, mae'r sector adeiladu wedi gostwng 9%, ac mae'r Swyddfa Cyfrifoldeb Cyllidebol—a grëwyd gan eich Llywodraeth eich hun—yn rhagweld y bydd enillion cyfartalog gwirioneddol yn parhau i ostwng drwy gydol y flwyddyn hon ac yn ystod y flwyddyn nesaf. Nid tan 2017 y bydd pŵer prynu ar gyfartaledd yn dychwelyd i'r sefyllfa y bu ynddi yn 2000. Dyma'r adferiad arafaf a hiraf ers dros 100 mlynedd. 'Peidiwch â phoeni', medd y Canghellor; dywed nad yw hynny'n bwysig am fod gan Brydain statws da o hyd yn y farchnad arian rhyngwladol, fel y gallwn barhau i fenthycu arian yn rhad. Fodd bynnag, mae arwyddion eisoes bod y marchnadoedd arian yn effro i beryglon chwyddiant—yr ail brif ffactor cyd-destunol—a fydd yn erydu'r arian go iawn a ad-delir iddynt, y maent yn ei fenthycu i'r Deyrnas Unedig ar hyn o bryd. Mae Banc Lloegr yn awgrymu y bydd chwyddiant yn cyrraedd 3.2% yn ddiweddarach eleni. Mae colli statws credyd AAA—'Barnwch ni yn ôl y meincnod hwnnw', meddai Mr Osborne, 'Dygwch ni i gyfrif'—ond yn arwydd o fwy i ddod.
- 16:17 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- You could add that a substantial devaluation of the pound has taken place over the past month.
- Gallech ychwanegu bod y bunt wedi'i dibrisio'n sylweddol dros y mis diwethaf.
- 16:17 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Thank you very much.
- Diolch yn fawr iawn.

The UK currency, according to Bloomberg, was the world's worst-performing currency in 2012. Our currency has lost 7% of its value against the US dollar and the euro this year. Last Friday, the manufacturing purchasing managers index showed employment levels in the sector falling at the fastest pace in more than three years, and the foreign exchanges had their worst day, in 2012, since black Wednesday, when the Tories were last in charge of the economy.

All these things are linked. I have been describing them as though they were separate strands when, in fact, they are self-reinforcing. The massive devaluation of the pound, for example, drives higher import prices, which, in turn, adds to inflation and deflation. Take petrol prices as an obvious example. The collapse of the pound has driven up prices at the pump over recent weeks.

Arian cyfred y DU, yn ôl Bloomberg, oedd yr arian cyfred a berfformiodd waethaf yn y byd yn 2012. Mae ein harian cyfred wedi colli 7% o'i werth yn erbyn doler yr Unol Daleithiau a'r ewro y flwyddyn hon. Ddydd Gwener diwethaf, dangosodd mynegai rheolwyr prynu gweithgynhyrchu fod lefelau cyflogaeth yn y sector yn gostwng ar y gyfradd gyflymaf ers dros dair blynedd, a chafodd y cyfnewidfeydd tramor eu diwrnod gwaethaf, yn 2012, ers dydd Mercher du, pan oedd y Toriaid yn gyfrifol am yr economi ddiwethaf.

Mae'r holl bethau hyn yn gysylltiedig â'i gilydd. Rwyf wedi bod yn eu disgrifio fel petaent yn elfennau ar wahân ond, mewn gwirionedd, maent yn ategu ei gilydd. Mae dibrsiad enfawr y bunt, er enghraifft, yn arwain at brisiau mewnforio uwch, sydd, yn eu tro, yn ychwanegu at chwyddiant a datchwyddiant. Mae prisiau petrol yn enghraifft amlwg. Mae cwmp y bunt wedi peri i brisiau wrth y pwmp godi'n sydyn dros yr wythnosau diwethaf.

16:18 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Member for Cardiff West for taking an intervention. I think it is really rich for a Labour Member to lecture the Conservatives on petrol prices when it was your Government that introduced the fuel duty escalator, which drove fuel prices through the roof.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Aelod dros Orllewin Caerdydd am dderbyn ymyriad. Credaf ei fod yn eironig iawn bod Aelod Llafur yn rhoi pregeth i'r Ceidwadwyr ar brisiau petrol o ystyried mai eich Llywodraeth chi a gyflwynodd y doll gynyddol ar danwydd a barodd i brisiau tanwydd godi cymaint.

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16:18 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

They are entirely different matters. A fuel duty escalator is a decision made by Government—it is in the Government's own hands. What we see here are petrol prices being driven up entirely beyond the scope of Government, because of the devaluation in the currency. The collapse of the pound is driving up prices and feeding into inflation through haulage costs, which means that consumers have to pay more, and that, in its turn, produces deflationary pressures in the main economy.

Materion cwbl wahanol yw'r rhain. Penderfyniad a wneir gan y Llywodraeth yw toll gynyddol ar danwydd—mae yn nwylo'r Llywodraeth ei hun. Yr hyn a welwn yma yw prisiau petrol yn codi'n gyfan gwbl y tu hwnt i allu'r Llywodraeth, oherwydd y dibrsiad mewn arian cyfred. Cwmp y bunt sy'n peri i brisiau godi ac sy'n bwydo i mewn chwyddiant drwy gostau cludiant, sy'n golygu bod yn rhaid i ddefnyddwyr dalu mwy, ac mae hynny, yn ei dro, yn creu pwysau datchwyddiant yn y brif economi.

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The position of the Conservative Party in this afternoon's debate is that of the burglar that knocks down your front door, trashes the lounge and then complains that you have failed to keep up the decor. [Interruption.] Of course, there is a need for a new economic strategy, but the place for that is at the other end of the M4.

Yn y ddadl y prynhawn yma mae'r Blaid Geidwadol fel y lleidr sy'n dymchwel eich drws ffrynt, yn chwalu'r lolfâc ac yna'n cwyno bod yr addurno wedi mynd yn ddi-raen. [Torri ar draws.] Wrth gwrs, mae angen strategaeth economaidd newydd, ond ar ben arall yr M4.

16:19 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Before I call the next speaker, I remind Members on the Conservative benches that you ought to be glad that other Members wish to contribute to your debates. You do need to listen to what is being said if we are to have a proper debate.

Cyn imi alw ar y siaradwr nesaf, hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelodau ar y meinciau Ceidwadol y dylech fod yn falch bod Aelodau eraill yn dymuno cyfrannu at eich dadleuon. Mae angen ichi wrando ar yr hyn sy'n cael ei ddweud os ydym am gael dadl iawn.

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I am grateful to Mark Drakeford for providing a typical example of how Labour ignores the catastrophic debt legacy that it left for the UK Government. Perhaps it should look closer to home when dealing with issues that are being faced in Wales. I have on my lectern the reports to the delivery unit, which have cost the Welsh taxpayer just under £0.5 million and are barely worth the paper on which they are written. They are a complete waste of time and money. What is clear from the briefings to the First Minister is that these so-called delivery unit reports do not have a single measurable economic indicator within them. The reason for that is clear: there is a head-in-the-sand approach to economic policy in Wales. Given the way in which the Welsh economy has consistently lagged behind the rest of the UK in over a decade of devolution, this head-in-the-sand approach is becoming rapidly clear.

I am going to use my contribution to deal with the rural economy and the need for better accountability over economic policy. The Welsh countryside is the backbone of the tourism industry. In rural Wales, it will often be the only other source of employment after farming. Tourism, as a whole, contributes £2.7 billion to the Welsh GVA and it supports more than 86,000 jobs—which is a higher proportion than in England or Scotland. This is a sector for which the Welsh Government has competence, but its full potential is not being realised. For example, Yorkshire spends more on tourism marketing than the Welsh Government spends on marketing the whole of Wales, and more than £1 million has been cut from the overseas marketing budget. Welsh agriculture is also a hugely important part of the economy. Combined with the food and drink sector it contributes £3 billion to Welsh GVA and employs 58,000 people, which is almost a fifth of the Welsh workforce. However, the latest figures show a 29% drop in agriculture GVA and that farm incomes have dropped by 48%—in a devolved area. This is an area of the economy in which the Welsh Government has competence and the economic indicators highlight considerable shortcomings.

The First Minister has stated his aim to make 'delivery' the key word of his programme for government, but the briefings provided by his delivery unit lack clear, measurable targets. There is a fundamental lack of responsibility and accountability over the performance of the Welsh economy. Given that the Welsh Government has powers and levers at its disposal over significant areas of the Welsh economy, it is not reasonable for the Welsh Government to perpetually blame economic underperformance on the UK Government. That is why the Welsh Conservative motion emphasises the need to establish clear, measurable targets across Government departments, using economic indicators like GVA and employment statistics. Undoubtedly, that would take political courage on the part of Welsh Ministers, which you may feel we do not see much of in this place. However, to do otherwise and carry on without any true means of measuring economic performance would be irresponsible when the need for Wales to reach its true economic potential is greater than ever.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i Mark Drakeford am roi enghraifft nodweddiadol o'r ffordd y mae Llafur yn anwybyddu'r lefel drychinebus o ddyled a etifeddwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU. Efallai y dylai edrych yn nes adref wrth ymdrin â phroblemau a wynebier yng Nghymru. Mae gennyf ar fy narllenfa yr adroddiadau i'r uned gyflawni, sydd wedi costio ychydig llai na £0.5 miliwn i drethdalwyr Cymru a phrin eu bod yn werth eu darllen. Maent yn wastraff llwyr o amser ac arian. Yr hyn sy'n glir o'r sesiynau briffio i'r Prif Weinidog yw nad yw'r adroddiadau hyn gan yr uned gyflawni fel y'i gelwir yn cynnwys yr un dangosydd economaidd mesuradwy. Mae'r rheswm dros hynny yn glir: mae'n ymdrin â pholisi economaidd yng Nghymru drwy gladdu ei phen yn y tywod. O ystyried y ffordd y mae economi Cymru bod ar ei hôl hi o'i chymharu â gweddill y DU ers dros ddegawd o ddatganoli, mae'r ffordd y mae'n claddu ei phen yn y tywod yn dod yn fwyfwy clir.

Bwriadaf ddefnyddio fy nghyfraniad i ymdrin â'r economi wledig a'r angen am well atebolrwydd dros bolisi economaidd. Cefn gwlad Cymru yw asgwrn cefn y diwydiant twristiaeth. Yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, twristiaeth yn aml fydd yr unig ffynhonnell arall o gyflogaeth ar wahân i ffermio. Mae twristiaeth, yn gyffredinol, yn cyfrannu £2.7 biliwn i GYC Cymru ac mae'n cefnogi dros 86,000 o swyddi—sy'n gyfran uwch nag yn Lloegr neu'r Alban. Mae hwn yn sector y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gyfrifol amdano, ond nid yw ei botensial llawn yn cael ei wireddu. Er enghraifft, mae Swydd Efrog yn gwario mwy o arian ar farchnata twristiaeth nag y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wario i farchnata Cymru gyfan, a thorrwyd dros £1 filiwn o'r gyllideb farchnata dramor. Mae amaethyddiaeth Cymru hefyd yn rhan eithriadol o bwysig o'r economi. Ynghyd â sector bwyd a diod mae'n cyfrannu £3 biliwn i GYC Cymru ac yn cyflogi 58,000 o bobl, sef bron pumed ran o weithlu Cymru. Fodd bynnag, dengys y ffigurau diweddaraf ostyngiad o 29% yn GYC amaethyddiaeth, a bod incwm ffermydd wedi gostwng 48%—a hynny mewn maes datganoledig. Mae hwn yn un o feysydd yr economi y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn gyfrifol amdano ac mae'r dangosyddion economaidd yn amlygu diffygion sylweddol.

Mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi datgan ei nod i sicrhau mai 'cyflawni' yw gair allweddol ei raglen lywodraethu, ond nid yw'r papurau briffio a ddarperir gan ei uned gyflawni yn cynnwys targedau clir na mesuradwy. Mae diffyg cyfrifoldeb ac atebolrwydd sylfaenol dros berfformiad economi Cymru. O gofio bod gan Lywodraeth Cymru bwerau ac ysgogiadau dros feysydd sylweddol o economi Cymru, nid yw'n rhesymol i Lywodraeth Cymru feio Llywodraeth y DU o hyd am dangyflawni economaidd. Dyna pam mae cynnig y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig yn pwysleisio'r angen i bennu targedau clir a mesuradwy ar draws adrannau'r Llywodraeth, gan ddefnyddio dangosyddion economaidd fel GYC ac ystadegau cyflogaeth. Yn ddi-os, byddai hynny yn gofyn am ddewrder gwleidyddol ar ran Gweinidogion Cymru, yr ydych chi efallai yn teimlo nad ydym yn gweld llawer ohono yn y lle hwn. Fodd bynnag, byddai gwneud fel arall a pharhau heb unrhyw d dull gwirioneddol o fesur perfformiad economaidd yn anghyfrifol o ystyried bod angen i Gymru gyrraedd ei gwir botensial economaidd yn fwy nag erioed.

16:24	Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography Once again, it has fallen to us, the Welsh Conservatives, to initiate a debate on failing the Welsh economy. Our motion this afternoon expresses regret that the Welsh Government has failed to use the tools at its disposal to grow the Welsh economy. It calls on the Minister to establish clear, measurable targets for key economic indicators to encourage economic growth and to allow the monitoring of progress towards the delivery of these targets.	Unwaith eto, ni, y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig, sydd wedi gorfod cyflwyno dadl ar fethu â chefnogi economi Cymru. Mae ein cynnig y prynhawn yma yn gresynu bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi methu â defnyddio'r hyn sydd ar gael iddi er mwyn tyfu economi Cymru. Mae'n galw ar y Gweinidog i bennu targedau clir a mesuradwy ar gyfer dangosyddion economaidd allweddol i annog twf economaidd ac i'w gwneud yn bosibl i gynnydd tuag at gyflawni'r targedau hyn gael ei fonitro.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	<i>Alun Ffred Jones a gododd—</i>	<i>Alun Ffred Jones rose—</i>	
16:24	Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography Can you wait a few minutes, please? The fact is that, since devolution, 14 years of Labour Government has resulted in the key economic indicators showing that Wales is falling behind the rest of the United Kingdom.	A wneuch chi aros am ychydig funudau, os gwelwch yn dda? Y ffaith amdani yw, ers datganoli, bod 14 blynedd o Lywodraeth Lafur wedi arwain at sefyllfa lle mae'r dangosyddion economaidd allweddol yn dangos bod Cymru ar ei hól hi o'i chymharu â gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:25	Alun Ffred Jones Bywgraffiad Biography Thank you for giving way, Mohammad Asghar. While I accept the overall figures, do you accept that there has been improvement in the relative performance of GVA in Wales in relation to the rest of the UK in 2010 and 2011?	Diolch ichi am ildio, Mohammad Asghar. Er fy mod yn derbyn y ffigurau cyffredinol, a ydych yn derbyn bod gwelliant wedi bod ym mherfformiad cymharol GYC yng Nghymru o'i gymharu â gweddill y DU yn 2010 a 2011?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:25	Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography I can take your word to a certain extent, but it is still not true. [Laughter.] I am coming to it.	Gwnaf eich credu i ryw raddau, ond nid yw'n wir ohyd. [Chwerthin.] Rwy'n dod at hynny.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:25	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography Order. Let us hear the Member.	Trefn. Gadewch inni glywed yr Aelod.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:25	Mohammad Asghar Bywgraffiad Biography I just want to tell the First Minister here, who has been travelling to the biggest countries in the world to sell Wales as a place for investment, that I have just come back from one of the smallest countries in the middle east. This country is of a similar size to Wales and has a population of around 7 million, but its economy is worth over \$200 billion. How has it achieved that? This nation has the will, and the people have the courage and the vision. Here, I am afraid to say, there is a lack of those facets. An American President called Calvin Coolidge said in 1925 that	Y cyfan yr hoffwn ei wneud yw dweud wrth y Prif Weinidog yma, sydd wedi bod yn teithio i wledydd mwyaf y byd i hyrwyddo Cymru fel lle ar gyfer buddsoddi, fy mod wedi newydd ddychwelyd o un o'r gwledydd lleiaf yn y dwyrain canol. Mae'r wlad hon o faint tebyg i Gymru ac mae ganddi boblogaeth o tua 7 miliwn, ond mae ei heconomi yn werth dros \$200 biliwn. Sut mae wedi cyflawni hynny? Mae gan y genedl hon yr ewyllys, ac mae gan y bobl y dewrder a'r weledigaeth. Yma, mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud, mae'r agweddau hynny yn ddiffygiol. Dywedodd Arlywydd Americanaidd o'r enw Calvin Coolidge yn 1925	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
	'the business of America is business'.	busnes America yw busnes.	
	We should adopt that sort of principle in Wales. For the last 14 years, Wales has been in the hands of Labour, which has not done anything, and I am afraid to say that Plaid Cymru, for four years, followed the same track and fell into the same trap.	Dylem fabwysiadu egwyddor o'r fath yng Nghymru. Am y 14 blynedd diwethaf, mae Cymru wedi bod yn nwylo Llafur, nad yw wedi gwneud dim, ac mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud i Blaid Cymru, am bedair blynedd, ddilyn yr un llwybr a syrthio i'r un fagl.	

I would like to see the Welsh Government adopting an attitude of following policies designed to create an enterprise economy in Wales. Our private sector is too small and needs growth. One major problem is lack of access to funding. Our banks are not very helpful. You go to the bank for a business development loan and it charges you over 10%. In Wales, you have some funding available. [Interruption.] I am coming on to that. Last month, Cardiff Business School revealed in a report that only 2.5% of those surveyed were using Welsh Government funding. It found that,

'SMEs lacked awareness of financial funds available to them'.

I have raised previously in this Chamber the business community's lack of awareness of Finance Wales, which manages several Welsh Government business support funds. Its low profile has resulted in the Welsh SME investment fund investing in only six businesses since its launch in March last year. Just six businesses and an investment of just £1.7 million, whereas the amount of money at its disposal was £40 million. The microbusiness loan fund has invested in only seven businesses since its launch last March. The Federation of Small Businesses Wales was quoted in the 'Daily Post' on 27 February as saying that:

'the Welsh Government is still failing to deliver support to small businesses'.

In fairness, the Welsh Government has taken some measures that I welcome. The establishment of seven enterprise zones, following the lead of the Westminster Government, which has created 24 in England, is a valuable initiative. However, it has taken the Welsh Government well over a year to provide clarity regarding the incentives on offer in those zones, whereas in England they have created 1,700 jobs so far and attracted £155 million of private sector investment. The Welsh Government has also failed to put forward clear, measurable targets to monitor economic progress in Wales. Such targets would demonstrate that the Welsh Government—

Hoffwn weld Llywodraeth Cymru yn mabwysiadu agwedd o ddilyn polisiâu sydd â'r nod o greu economi fenter yng Nghymru. Mae ein sector preifat yn rhy fach ac mae angen iddo dyfu. Un broblem fawr yw'r anhawster i gael gafael ar gyllid. Nid yw ein banciau yn rhoi llawer o gymorth. Rydych yn mynd i'r banc i gael benthyciad datblygu busnes ac mae'n codi tâl o dros 10% arnoch. Yng Nghymru, mae rhywfaint o arian ar gael. [Torri ar draws.] Dof at hynny. Fis diwethaf, datgelodd Ysgol Fusnes Caerdydd mewn adroddiad mai dim ond 2.5% o'r rhai a holwyd a oedd yn defnyddio cyllid Llywodraeth Cymru. Canfu,

nad oedd busnesau bach a chanolig yn ymwybodol o'r cronfeydd ariannol sydd ar gael iddynt .

Rwyf wedi codi o'r blaen yn y Siambr hon y ffaith nad yw'r gymuned fusnes yn ymwybodol o Cyllid Cymru, sy'n rheoli nifer o gronfeydd cymorth busnes Llywodraeth Cymru. Oherydd ei phroffil isel dim ond mewn chwe busnes y mae cronfa fuddsoddi BbaChau Cymru wedi buddsoddi ers ei lansio ym mis Mawrth y llynedd. Dim ond chwe busnes a buddsoddiad o £1.7 miliwn yn unig, er bod £40 miliwn ar gael. Mae'r gronfa fenthyciadau i ficrofusnesau wedi buddsoddi mewn saith o fusnesau yn unig ers ei lansio fis Mawrth diwethaf. Mae Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach Cymru a ddyfynnwyd yn y 'Daily Post' ar 27 Chwefror yn dweud bod:

Llywodraeth Cymru yn methu o hyd â rhoi cymorth i fusnesau bach.

Er tegwch, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymryd rhai camau a groesawaf. Mae'r penderfyniad i sefydlu saith ardal fenter, yn dilyn arweiniad Llywodraeth San Steffan sydd wedi creu 24 yn Lloegr, yn fenter werthfawr. Fodd bynnag, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymryd ymhell dros flwyddyn cyn rhoi eglurder o ran y cymhellion sydd ar gael yn yr ardaloedd hynny, ond yn Lloegr maent wedi creu 1,700 o swyddi hyd yma ac wedi denu £155 miliwn o fuddsoddiad gan y sector preifat. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd wedi methu â chyflwyno targedau clir a mesuradwy i fonitro cynnydd economaidd yng Nghymru. Byddai targedau o'r fath yn dangos bod gan y Llywodraeth—

16:29 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Conclude now, please.

Gorffennwch yn awr, os gwelwch yn dda.

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16:29 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

—has confidence in the at its disposal to grow the economy. Finally—

hyder yn yr ysgogiadau sydd ar gael iddi er mwyn tyfu'r economi. Ac i gloi—

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16:29 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

No. Your 'finally' is up. [Interruption.] Order. I call on the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science, Edwina Hart.

Na. Mae'ch amser 'i gloi' ar ben. [Torri ar draws.] Trefn. Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth, Edwina Hart.

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Y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth / The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science

Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. I am obviously very pleased to contribute to this debate today. We have had some interesting contributions, some constructive contributions and others were a series of rants. [Laughter.]

Diolch i chi, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Yn amlwg, rwy'n falch iawn o gael cyfrannu at y ddaidl hon heddiw. Rydym wedi cael rhai cyfraniadau diddorol, rhai cyfraniadau adeiladol a chyfraniadau eraill a oedd yn gyfres o refru a rhuo. [Chwerthin.]

I will deal with the constructive elements of the debate today, and I will turn to some of the discussions on GVA. Total GVA in Wales was £47.3 billion in 2011, which was up 2.2% on 2010. That is a fact. GVA per head in Wales rose by 1.9% in 2011, which is the third largest percentage increase of the devolved countries and regions. GVA per head, relative to the UK, is now similar to levels seen in 2006, prior to the recession. The sharp decline in the relative GVA per head in the mid-1990s was arrested in 1999, and Wales has seen growth relative to the UK since 2009. GVA per head in Wales, relative to the UK excluding London and the south-east of England, was 86.9%, up 0.4% over the year, and is the highest since 1997. So, there is an element of progress in this area, and I acknowledge what Alun Ffred Jones said: we will have to see what happens in future years. Also, when you look at GVA, is it the only measure that you look at? The economic outcomes that matter most directly to residents of an area are their prospects of employment and the wages that they earn from their employment, which, in turn, reflect their productivity. Any balanced assessment of economic performance should, therefore, examine trends in household income, wages and employment alongside GVA to give a full picture of the economy.

Ymdriniaf ag elfennau adeiladol y ddaidl heddiw, a throf at rai o'r trafodaethau ar GYC. Cyfanswm GYC yng Nghymru oedd £47.3 biliwn yn 2011, cynnydd o 2.2% o gymharu â 2010. Mae hynny'n ffaith. Cododd GYC y pen yng Nghymru 1.9% yn 2011, sef y cynnydd canrannol mwyaf ond dau o blith y gwledydd datganoledig a'r rhanbarthau. Mae GYC y pen, o'i gymharu â'r DU, bellach yn debyg i'r lefelau a welwyd yn 2006, cyn y dirwasgiad. Ataliwyd y dirywiad sydyn yn y GYC cymharol y pen yng nghanol y 1990au yn 1999, ac mae Cymru wedi gweld twf o'i chymharu â'r DU ers 2009. Roedd GYC y pen yng Nghymru, o'i gymharu â'r DU heb gynnwys Llundain a de-ddwyrain Lloegr, yn 86.9%, ac wedi cynyddu 0.4% dros y flwyddyn, a dyma'r lefel uchaf ers 1997. Felly, mae elfen o gynnydd yn y maes hwn, ac rwy'n cydnabod yr hyn a ddywedodd Alun Ffred Jones: bydd yn rhaid inni weld beth sy'n digwydd yn y dyfodol. Hefyd, os edrychwch ar GYC, ai hwn yw'r unig fesur yr ydych yn ei ystyried? Y canlyniadau economaidd pwysicaf i drigolion ardal yw eu rhagolygon cyflogaeth a'r cyflogau y maent yn eu hennill drwy eu cyflogaeth, sydd, yn eu tro, yn adlewyrchu eu cynhyrchiant. Dylai unrhyw asesiad cytbwys o berfformiad economaidd, felly, ystyried tueddiadau o ran incwm y cartref, cyflogau a chyflogaeth ochr yn ochr â GYC er mwyn rhoi darlun llawn o'r economi.

A lot has been said about the report and the views of the Federation of Small Businesses, which I have dealt with previously. I am concerned if there is insufficient publicity for our funds. That is a fair point. On the other hand, it is a membership organisation, and membership organisations are there to inform their members of what is available when they engage with Government; FSB engages with Government, and should perhaps start to publicise some of our funds in its publications, as well as me looking at what I am able to do.

Mae llawer wedi'i ddweud am yr adroddiad a barn y Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach, yr wyf wedi ymddrin â hwy o'r blaen. Mae'n peri pryder imi os nad oes digon o gyhoeddusrwydd i'n cronfeydd. Mae hwnnw'n bwynt teg. Ar y llaw arall, sefydliad aelodaeth ydyw, a swyddogaeth sefydliadau aelodaeth yw hysbysu eu haelodau o'r hyn sydd ar gael pan fyddant yn ymgysylltu â'r Llywodraeth; mae'r Sefydliad Busnesau Bach yn ymgysylltu â'r Llywodraeth, ac efallai y dylai ddechrau rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i rai o'n cronfeydd yn ei gyhoeddiadau, yn ogystal â minnau yn edrych ar yr hyn yr wyf yn gallu ei wneud.

I absolutely agree with what Alun Ffred was saying about investment in infrastructure. When we look at the economy as a whole, the key issues for us are not just the funds that I put in place, but the long term in terms of infrastructure. By infrastructure, I also mean education and skills, because that is what we will see in five, 10, 15 or 20 years' time: what we can afford to put into infrastructure in a recession period to drive it on, and what we can put into education and skills.

Cytunaf yn llwyr â'r hyn yr oedd Alun Ffred yn ei ddweud am fuddsoddi mewn seilwaith. Pan edrychwch ar yr economi yn ei chyfanrwydd, y materion allweddol inni yw nid yn unig y cronfeydd yr wyf yn eu rhoi ar waith, ond yr hirdymor o ran seilwaith. O ran seilwaith, rwyf hefyd yn golygu addysg a sgiliau, gan mai dyna'r hyn a welwn ymhen pum, 10, 15 neu 20 mlynedd: yr hyn y gallwn fforddio ei wario ar y seilwaith yn ystod dirwasgiad er mwyn ei wella, a'r hyn y gallwn ei wario ar addysg a sgiliau.

I say to Eluned Parrott that we will be supporting the Liberal Democrat amendments in this area, because some of the points were particularly well made. On your point regarding the economic renewal programme, I have looked at it, but it still remains there for me as the core of how I am taking policy forward. I am obviously reviewing it, because I added the extra sectors. I will continue to review the sectors, as I indicated to the committee, and I will report back in due course about how I see future work in those areas in terms of the development of the policy. I say to Alun Ffred Jones that we will also be supporting the Plaid Cymru amendments.

In terms of the Welsh Liberal Democrat amendments, the issue about the economic forum's global competitive index is very interesting. Improvement in the index is very welcome for the UK. However, it should be noted that the construction of the index reflects, to a large measure, very subjective judgments about the factors that are driving economic growth. The issue is how outcomes affect people. However, I still feel that when we talk about some of the issues—and I say to Byron Davies that this is not whingeing about the UK Government—we have to recognise that many economists and others think that the UK Government is cutting too far and fast and that it should change its course. It is not just me saying that; a lot of economists out there say that as well.

Byron Davies mentioned support for small businesses, and said that he feels that we do not do that. We have a vast range of schemes to assist small businesses. The one-stop service has been particularly welcomed by everybody, as well as how we deal with business start-ups and how we give support across a range of areas. However, on your remarks about broadband, I always acknowledge the contribution of cash from the UK Government, and I am willing to do so on this occasion, but it should be remembered that a substantial amount of cash that went through the Minister for Finance's budget to support broadband was from Welsh Government resources.

I am not sure that I could add much to Mark Drakeford's contribution, but the one thing I felt that you did omit was that the Funding for Lending scheme is under the control of the UK Government. On Monday, the Bank of England published updated data on the use of the Funding for Lending scheme, which were not very good. For the quarter ending on 31 December 2012, 11 participants made total FSL drawdowns of £9.5 billion, taking the total amount drawn down under the scheme to £13.8 billion. I know that the UK Government looks at this scheme and I very much hope that, in the context of funding in a much smaller way, Professor Dylan Jones-Evans's report—which I will submit to the UK Government—when it is completed will also help it to look at the roles of the bank, which is a crucial area. The concerns that are raised with me by businesses are about bank lending and about the fact that small businesses are using their credit cards and their limited overdraft facilities because they cannot get anywhere with the bank in terms of a coherent lending policy in order to support them to develop. Therefore, there are issues that will hopefully come out of Professor Dylan Jones-Evans's report.

Dywedaf wrth Eluned Parrott y byddwn yn cefnogi gwelliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn y maes hwn, am fod rhai o'r pwyntiau wedi'u gwneud yn arbennig o dda. O ran eich pwynt ynghylch rhaglen adnewyddu'r economi rwyf wedi edrych ar hyn, ond erys yn rhywbeth creiddiol imi o sut rwy'n datblygu polisi. Yn amlwg, rwy'n ei hadolygu, oherwydd imi ychwanegu'r sectorau eraill. Byddaf yn parhau i adolygu'r sectorau, fel y dywedais wrth y pwyllgor, a byddaf yn adrodd yn ôl maes o law ynghylch sut y gwelaf waith yn y dyfodol yn y meysydd hynny o ran datblygu'r polisi. Dywedaf wrth Alun Ffred Jones y byddwn hefyd yn cefnogi gwelliannau Plaid Cymru.

O ran gwelliannau Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, mae'r mater o ran mynegai cystadleuol byd-eang y fforwm economaidd yn ddi-ddorol iawn. Mae safle gwell y DU yn y mynegai i'w groesawu. Fodd bynnag, dylid nodi bod y broses o lunio'r mynegai yn adlewyrchu, i raddau helaeth, farn oddrychol iawn am y ffactorau sy'n sbarduno twf economaidd. Y mater dan sylw yw sut y mae canlyniadau yn effeithio ar bobl. Fodd bynnag, teimlaf o hyd pan soniwn am rai o'r materion—a dywedaf wrth Byron Davies nad cwyno am Lywodraeth y DU ydwyf—fod yn rhaid inni gydnabod bod llawer o economegwyr a phobl eraill yn meddwl bod Llywodraeth y DU yn torri yn rhy bell ac yn rhy gyflym ac y dylai newid ei chwrs. Nid dim ond fi sy'n dweud hynny; mae llawer o economegwyr yn dweud hynny hefyd.

Soniodd Byron Davies am roi cymorth i fusnesau bach, a dywedodd ei fod yn teimlo nad ydym yn gwneud hynny. Mae gennym ystod helaeth o gynlluniau i helpu busnesau bach. Mae'r gwasanaeth un-stop wedi cael croeso arbennig gan bawb, yn ogystal â'r ffordd yr ydym yn delio â busnesau newydd a'r ffordd yr ydym yn rhoi cymorth mewn amrywiaeth o feysydd. Fodd bynnag, o ran eich sylwadau am fand eang, rwyf bob amser yn cydnabod y cyfraniad ariannol gan Lywodraeth y DU, ac rwy'n barod i wneud hynny ar yr achlysur hwn, ond dylid cofio i swm sylweddol o arian a aeth drwy gyllideb y Gweinidog Cyllid i gefnogi band eang ddod o adnoddau Llywodraeth Cymru.

Ni chredaf y gallwn ychwanegu llawer at gyfraniad Mark Drakeford, ond un peth yr wyf yn teimlo ichi ei hepgor oedd bod cynllun Cyllid ar gyfer Benthycia o dan reolaeth Llywodraeth y DU. Ddydd Llun, cyhoeddodd Banc Lloegr y data diweddaraf ar y defnydd o'r cynllun Cyllid ar gyfer Benthycia, nad oeddent yn dda iawn. Ar gyfer y chwarter a ddaeth i ben ar 31 Rhagfyr 2012, hawliodd 11 o gyfranogwyr gyfanswm o £9.5 biliwn o dan y cynllun, gan wneud cyfanswm o £13.8 biliwn a hawliwyd o dan y cynllun. Gwn fod Llywodraeth y DU yn edrych ar y cynllun hwn ac rwy'n mawr obeithio, yng nghyd-destun arian ar raddfa lawer llai, y bydd adroddiad yr Athro Dylan Jones-Evans—y byddaf yn ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth y DU—pan gaiff ei gwblhau hefyd yn helpu i edrych ar rôl y banc, sy'n faes allweddol. Y pryderon a godwyd gyda mi gan fusnesau yw benthyciadau gan fanciau a'r ffaith bod busnesau bach yn defnyddio eu cardiau credyd a'u cyfleusterau gorddrafft cyfyngedig oherwydd na allant gael unrhyw synnwyr gan y banc o ran polisi benthycia ystyrlon er mwyn eu helpu i'w datblygu. Felly, mae materion a fydd, gobethio, yn deillio o adroddiad yr Athro Dylan Jones-Evans.

Antoinette Sandbach quite rightly alluded to the issues within the rural economy. All of the measures that we have as a Government impact upon the rural economy in that they are all entitled to enter our schemes. The important point that you alluded to is tourism. It is important that we recognise that tourism is a real growth industry for us and how we market Wales is very important. We are looking at the marketing strategy for Wales and at whether we should be doing more—for example, taking an area, looking at how to advertise it and where to go with it and considering where there is a market for it. The biggest market for us is England, so in what newspapers should we market Wales? On what television stations should we market Wales? How do we do it? We can do a lot more in terms of tourism.

The tourism investment support scheme that was started by my predecessor, Alun Ffred Jones, has proved successful, but we need to know whether we need to do more in terms of grants to help the systems for tourism. We also need to consider what more we can do to help the system when, for example, people want to bring about a change of usage to bring a business into tourism, particularly in rural Wales.

There was bound to be something about the delivery unit. The First Minister dealt wonderfully in scrutiny with questions on the delivery unit and he explained its role and purpose. Never mind anything else, it is doing the job that the First Minister anticipated it would do for us as a Government.

Regarding the private sector, it is very important for us to support the private sector in whatever way we can. Mohammad Asghar alluded to the growth of the private sector, and it is particularly important that we get a balance between public and private sector jobs, and that we do as much as we can to ensure that there is sustainable growth in private sector jobs. That means that we have to have every tool in the tool box to do this. We have to consider, for example, if someone is interested in building something and we have the land available for it, whether we can help them in terms of training and to look at what more we can do to ensure that we get businesses in that link well into anchor companies for the supply chain end, because those are generally small businesses. Therefore, there is work to do in that area, but I think that we are successfully starting to deliver that type of work.

In conclusion, I would like to say that we will not be supporting the motion, but we have had a discussion across the Chamber and I am sure that some of the points will be of help and assistance to me with my portfolio as the Minister.

Cyfeiriodd Antoinette Sandbach yn gwbl briodol at y problemau o fewn yr economi wledig. Mae pob un o'r mesurau sydd gennym fel Llywodraeth yn cael effaith ar yr economi wledig yn yr ystyr bod gan bawb yr hawl i gymryd rhan yn ein cynlluniau. Y pwynt pwysig a grybwyllwyd gennych yw twristiaeth. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod bod twristiaeth yn ddiwydiant sy'n tyfu'n wirioneddol inni ac mae'r ffordd yr ydym yn marchnata Cymru yn bwysig iawn. Rydym yn edrych ar y strategaeth farchnata i Gymru ac a ddylem fod yn gwneud mwy—er enghraifft, dewis ardal, ac ystyried sut i'w hysbysebu a ble i'w hyrwyddo ac ystyried ble mae marchnad ar ei chyfer. Y farchnad fwyaf inni yw Lloegr, felly ym mha bapurau newydd y dylem farchnata Cymru? Ar ba orsafoedd teledu y dylem farchnata Cymru? Sut rydym yn mynd ati? Gallwn wneud llawer mwy o ran twristiaeth.

Bu'r cynllun cymorth buddsoddi mewn twristiaeth a ddechreuwyd gan fy rhagflaenydd, Alun Ffred Jones, yn llwyddiannus, ond mae angen inni wybod a oes angen inni wneud mwy o ran grantiau er mwyn helpu'r systemau ar gyfer twristiaeth. Mae angen inni hefyd ystyried beth yn rhagor y gallwn ei wneud i helpu'r system, er enghraifft, os oes rhywun am newid defnydd i wneud busnes yn rhan o dwristiaeth, yn enwedig yng nghefn gwlad Cymru.

Roedd yn anochel y byddai sôn am yr uned gyflawni. Ymdriniodd y Prif Weinidog â hyn yn wych fel rhan o'r broses graffu gyda chwestiynau ar yr uned gyflawni ac eglurodd ei rôl a'i diben. Anghofiwch am unrhyw beth arall, mae'n gwneud y gwaith y rhagwelodd y Prif Weinidog y byddai'n ei wneud inni fel Llywodraeth.

O ran y sector preifat, mae'n bwysig iawn inni gefnogi'r sector preifat ym mha ffordd bynnag y gallwn. Cyfeiriodd Mohammad Asghar at dwf y sector preifat, ac mae'n arbennig o bwysig ein bod yn cael cydbwysedd rhwng swyddi yn y sector cyhoeddus a'r sector preifat, a'n bod yn gwneud cymaint ag y gallwn i sicrhau bod twf cynaliadwy mewn swyddi yn y sector preifat. Mae hynny'n golygu bod yn rhaid inni ddefnyddio pob peth sydd ar gael i wneud hyn. Rhaid inni ystyried, er enghraifft, os oes gan rywun ddiddordeb mewn adeiladu rhywbeth a bod y tir ar gael gennym ar ei gyfer, a allwn ei helpu o ran hyfforddiant ac edrych i weld beth arall y gallwn ei wneud i sicrhau ein bod yn cael busnesau yn y gadwyn honno i feithrin cydberthynas â chwmnïau angori o ran pen terfynol y gadwyn gyflenwi, oherwydd busnesau bach yw'r rheini ar y cyfan. Felly, mae gwaith i'w wneud yn y maes hwnnw, ond credaf ein bod yn llwyddo i ddechrau cyflawni'r math hwnnw o waith.

I gloi, hoffwn ddweud na fyddwn yn cefnogi'r cynnig, ond rydym wedi cael trafodaeth yn y Siambr, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd rhai o'r pwyntiau o gymorth imi o ran fy mhortffolio fel Gweinidog.

16:38

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on Mark Isherwood to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Mark Isherwood i ymateb i'r ddatl.

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Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much to all contributors. Allow me to set the scene: small and medium-sized enterprises in Wales are less optimistic about business prospects than those across the rest of the UK. Wales produces the lowest value of goods and services per head—or GVA—among the 12 UK nations and regions. In fact, the latest GVA figures show a decline in Wales compared to growth across the UK. The UK is once again the top destination for inward investment in the EU, but Wales has slipped from being the top to the bottom destination for that inward investment, and turnover and gross profit in Wales are below the UK national average.

Nick Ramsay quite rightly said that we need to reverse decline and that we need new strategies and ideas that work. Mick Antoniw challenged him over the GVA figures; I think that those came from the presentation to the cross-party group on construction that we both heard yesterday. We also heard that the relative GVA is set to fall. In fact, GVA in Wales is forecast to slip further behind the rest of the UK economy as it grows more slowly than the wider UK economy.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r holl gyfranwyr. Gadewch imi roi'r cyd-destun: mae busnesau bach a chanolig eu maint yng Nghymru yn llai gobeithiol am ragolygon busnes na'r rhai yng ngweddill y DU. Cymru sy'n cynhyrchu'r gwerth isaf o ran nwyddau a gwasanaethau y pen—neu GYC—ymhlith 12 gwlad a rhanbarth y DU. Yn wir, mae'r ffigurau diweddaraf ar gyfer GYC yn dangos gostyngiad yng Nghymru o gymharu â thwf ledled y DU. Y DU unwaith eto yw'r prif le yn yr UE ar gyfer mewnfuddsoddi, ond mae Cymru wedi llithro o fod ar y brig i fod ar y gwaelod o ran mewnfuddsoddi o'r fath, ac mae trosiant ac elw gros yng Nghymru yn is na'r cyfartaledd cenedlaethol yn y DU.

Dywedodd Nick Ramsay yn gwbl briodol fod angen inni wrthdroi'r dirywiad a bod angen inni gael strategaethau a syniadau newydd sy'n gweithio. Fe'i heriwyd gan Mick Antoniw o ran ffigurau GYC; credaf y daw'r rheini o'r cyflwyniad i'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar adeiladu a glywsom ddoe. Clywsom hefyd fod GYC cymharol ar fin gostwng. Mewn gwirionedd, rhagwelir y bydd GYC yng Nghymru ar ei hôl hi hyd yn oed yn fwy o'i gymharu â gweddill economi'r DU gan ei fod yn tyfu'n arafach nag economi ehangach y DU.

David Rees [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am not Mick Antoniw, but we were both there yesterday. I accept the fact that the recommendation of the gentleman from Experian who gave the presentation to the cross-party group on construction highlighted that. He also highlighted that one of the reasons for that was that growth in the public sector will be a lot slower than growth in other areas and that, in Wales, there is a heavy dominance by the public sector.

Nid Mick Antoniw ydwyf, ond roedd y ddau ohonom yno ddoe. Derbynaf y ffaith i argymheliad y gŵr bonheddig o Experian a roddodd y cyflwyniad i'r grŵp trawsbleidiol ar adeiladu dynnu sylw at hynny. Dywedodd hefyd mai un o'r rhesymau dros hynny oedd y bydd y twf yn y sector cyhoeddus yn llawer arafach na thwf mewn meysydd eraill ac, yng Nghymru, mai'r sector cyhoeddus sy'n tra-arglwyddiaethu.

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes, it was the overall imbalance that he identified, which has been allowed to fester since devolution began.

Nick Ramsay referred to Plaid Cymru fiddling while Rome burns. Does it not always do so? As he said, the debate is not about an ideological argument but about helping businesses and livelihoods in a difficult time. It is about holding the Welsh Government accountable for the powers that it exercises. As he said, everything in the garden was not rosy when the UK Government was elected. Alun Ffred Jones referred to Plaid Cymru's contribution to the last Welsh Government by shielding Wales from the worst impact of the UK austerity programme. We inherited a bigger debt than Greece; unemployment in Greece now stands at over 26% while the UK rate is 7.8%. It fell in the UK over the last quarter but, unfortunately, rose to 8.6% in Wales.

Eluned Parrott referred, rightly, to the global competitiveness index. The UK has improved, but in the last regional analysis, Wales had fallen to the bottom of the UK regions. Byron Davies, quoting the Federation of Small Businesses, said that the

'Welsh Government is still failing to deliver support for small businesses'.

Ie, yr anghydbwysedd cyffredinol a nodwyd ganddo, a adawyd i waethygu ers dechrau datganoli.

Cyfeiriodd Nick Ramsay at Blaid Cymru yn canu'r crwth tra bo Rhufain yn llosgi. Onid yw'n gwneud hynny bob amser? Fel y dywedodd, nid oes a wnelo'r ddadl â dadl ideolegol ond â helpu busnesau a bywoliaethau mewn cyfnod anodd. Mae a wnelo â dwyn Llywodraeth Cymru i gyfrif am y pŵerau y mae'n eu harfer. Fel y dywedodd, nid oedd popeth yn iawn pan gafodd Llywodraeth y DU ei hethol. Cyfeiriodd Alun Ffred Jones at gyfraniad Plaid Cymru i Lywodraeth ddiwethaf Cymru drwy gysgodi Cymru rhag effeithiau gwaethaf rhaglen galedi'r DU. Etifeddwyd mwy o ddyled na Gwlad Groeg gennym, mae diweithdra yng Ngwlad Groeg bellach dros 26% ond 7.8% yw cyfradd y DU. Gostyngodd yn y DU dros y chwarter diwethaf, ond, yn anffodus, cynyddodd i 8.6% yng Nghymru.

Cyfeiriodd Eluned Parrott, a hynny'n gwbl gywir, at y mynegai cystadleurwydd byd-eang. Mae'r DU wedi gwella, ond yn y dadansoddiad rhanbarthol diwethaf, mae Cymru wedi disgyn i'r gwaelod o blith rhanbarthau'r DU. Dywedodd Byron Davies, gan ddyfynnu'r Ffederasiwn Busnesau Bach,

mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn methu o hyd â rhoi cymorth i fusnesau bach.

The Welsh Government is more interested in blaming the UK Government than in addressing its own responsibilities.

Mark Drakeford said that asking Conservatives about economic policy is akin to seeking medical advice from Dr Crippen or some equivalent. I can say that, when my father lost his job in 1978, it was the last time that Labour destroyed the UK economy and it took us so long and so much pain to put it right. Moody's said that the reason for the downgrade was because of the situation in Europe and that the creditworthiness of the UK was still high. Antoinette Sandbach pointed out that Yorkshire spends more on tourism than Wales. She referred to the collapse in agricultural GVA and farm incomes. She rightly said that we need clear and measureable economic targets, but that that takes political courage. Mohammad Asghar talked about lack of courage and vision in Wales. He rightly said that the business of Wales needs to be business.

The Minister, in her response, once again, described contributions supporting her as 'constructive' and all others as 'rants'. So much for democratic scrutiny and accountability. She rightly highlighted the importance of investment in infrastructure and tourism. However, her fallback position, again, was that the UK Government is cutting too far and too fast. Moody's downgraded us because it did not think that we were cutting the debt fast enough, rather than because we were cutting it too fast. With regard to the Funding for Lending scheme, the reason that it fell on the quarter was because of a reduction in applications, and not because of a problem with bank underwriting. On the other side of the stimulus, mortgage lenders and housebuilders have both welcomed the positive stimulus that has already been generated in this sector.

I will conclude by referring to the Welsh Development Agency, which had to send in reports on jobs retained, jobs created and inward investment opportunities against targets every six months. Those reports were published, and the former First Minister, quite rightly as an MP, used to always jump on them. At that time, Wales was the top performer in the UK, now it is bottom. Wales used to be first in and out of recession, now it is first in and last out. For goodness' sake, start listening and stop blaming.

Mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru fwy o ddiddordeb mewn beio Llywodraeth y DU nag mewn mynd i'r afael â'i chyfrifoldebau ei hun.

Dywedodd Mark Drakeford fod holi'r Ceidwadwyr ynglŷn â pholisi economaidd yn debyg i geisio cyngor meddygol gan Dr Crippen neu rywbeth tebyg. Gallaf ddweud, pan gollodd fy nhad ei swydd yn 1978, mai dyna'r tro diwethaf i Lafur ddiinstrio economi'r DU a chymerodd gymaint o amser a phoen inni unioni hynny. Dywedodd Moody mai'r rheswm dros israddio'r statws credyd oedd oherwydd y sefyllfa yn Ewrop a bod credyd y DU yn dal yn dda. Nododd Antoinette Sandbach fod Swydd Efrog yn gwario mwy ar dwristiaeth na Chymru. Cyfeiriodd at y cwmp mewn GYC amaethyddol ac incwm ffermydd. Dywedodd yn gwbl gywir fod angen targedau economaidd clir a mesuradwy arnom, ond bod hynny'n gofyn am ddewrder gwleidyddol. Soniodd Mohammad Asghar am ddiffyg dewrder a gweledigaeth yng Nghymru. Dywedodd yn hollol gywir mai busnes ddylai busnes Cymru fod.

Dywedodd y Gweinidog, yn ei hymateb, unwaith eto, fod cyfraniadau a oedd yn ei chefnogi yn 'adeiladol' a bod pawb arall yn 'rhefu a rhuo'. Felly wfft i graffu ac atebolwydd democrataidd. Nododd yn gwbl deg bysigrwydd buddsoddi mewn seilwaith a thwristiaeth. Fodd bynnag, ei sefyllfa wrth gefn, unwaith eto, oedd bod Llywodraeth y DU yn torri yn rhy bell ac yn rhy gyflym. Penderfynodd Moody israddio ein statws credyd am nad oedd yn meddwl ein bod yn torri'r ddyled yn ddigon cyflym, nid am ein bod yn ei thorri'n rhy gyflym. O ran y cynllun Cyllid ar gyfer Benthycya, y rheswm iddo ostwng yn ystod y chwarter oedd oherwydd gostyngiad yn nifer y ceisiadau, ac nid oherwydd problem o ran gwarantu gan fanc. Ar ochr arall yr ysgogiad, mae benthycwyr morgeisi ac adeiladwyr wedi croesawu'r ysgogiad cadarnhaol a welwyd eisoes yn y sector hwn.

Rwyf am gloi drwy gyfeirio at Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, yr oedd yn rhaid iddo anfon adroddiadau ar swyddi a gadwyd, swyddi a grëwyd a chyfluoedd mewnfuddsoddi yn erbyn targedau bob chwe mis. Câi'r adroddiadau hynny eu cyhoeddi, ac roedd y cyn-Brif Weinidog, a hynny'n gwbl briodol fel Aelod Seneddol, bob amser yn awyddus i'w trin a'u trafod. Ar y pryd, Cymru oedd y perfformiwr gorau yn y DU, erbyn hyn mae ar y gwaelod. Arferai Cymru fynd i mewn i ddirwasgiad yn gyntaf a dod allan ohono yn gyntaf, erbyn hyn Cymru yw'r wlad gyntaf i mewn a'r olaf allan. Er mwyn popeth, dechreuwch wrando a rhoi'r gorau i feio eraill.

16:43

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? I see that there are objections, therefore, I will defer voting on this item until voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf fod gwrthwynebiadau, felly, byddaf yn gohirio'r pleidleisio ar y eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

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Dadl Plaid Cymru: Menywod, Teuluoedd a'r Economi a Newidiadau i Fudd-daliadau

Deholwyd y gwelliannau canlynol: gwelliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw William Graham.

Cynnig NDM5179 Jocelyn Davies

Mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol hwn:

1. Yn cydnabod effaith gymhleth ond negyddol yn bennaf diffyg twf economaidd a newidiadau i fudd-daliadau lles ar fenywod a theuluoedd yng Nghymru fel y nodwyd yn adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan 'Women, work and the recession in Wales';
2. Yn nodi rhybudd Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree fod Cymru yn wynebu degawd o dlodi;
3. Yn credu bod Llywodraeth y DU wedi dilyn y llwybr economaidd anghywir ers 2010, gan roi menywod a theuluoedd mewn perygl; a
4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithredu argymhellion Cuts Watch Cymru i liniaru ar effeithiau newidiadau mewn budd-daliadau tai i deuluoedd ac i ddatblygu cynllun i gefnogi menywod ifanc i gyflogaeth briodol sy'n talu'n dda er mwyn diwallu eu hanghenion.

Plaid Cymru Debate: Women, Families and the Economy and Welfare Benefit Changes

The following amendments have been selected: amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of William Graham.

Motion NDM5179 Jocelyn Davies

This National Assembly:

1. Recognises the complex but predominantly negative impact of economic stagnation and welfare benefit changes upon women and families in Wales as noted by the Bevan Foundation report 'Women, work and the recession in Wales';
2. Notes the warning of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation that Wales faces a decade of destitution;
3. Believes that that UK Government has followed the wrong economic path since 2010, putting women and families at risk; and
4. Calls upon the Welsh Government to implement the recommendations of Cuts Watch Cymru to mitigate the effects of housing benefit changes to families and develop a plan to support young women into appropriate and well-paid employment to meet their needs.

16:43

Leanne Wood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move the motion.

I am very pleased to open Plaid Cymru's debate on the role of women in the economy. As we heard yesterday, International Women's Day is this week and that provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the role of women in our society. It is also provides an opportunity for sober reflection on the role of women in society. Recent reports from the Bevan Foundation and Cuts Watch Cymru both show the impact of a struggling economy and vicious benefit cuts upon women. I wonder if this would have been allowed to happen if more women had been in the positions to make these decisions. However, is it not interesting that, while we have two debates to mark International Women's Day in this Senedd, there is not one in the House of Commons this week? Women's politics and its reflection in the mainstream media is often homogenised—as if all issues affect all women equally. It does not work that way. Policies can impact differently depending upon class, ethnicity, sexuality, geography and age, as well as other factors.

Cynigiau y cynnig.

Rwy'n falch iawn fy mod yn agor dadl Plaid Cymru ar rôl menywod yn yr economi. Fel y clywsom ddoe, mae Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod yn yr wythnos hon ac mae hynny'n rhoi cyfle inni ddathlu rôl menywod yn ein cymdeithas. Mae hefyd yn rhoi cyfle inni fyfyrion ddirifrol ar rôl menywod mewn cymdeithas. Mae adroddiadau diweddar gan Sefydliad Bevan a Cuts Watch Cymru ill dau yn dangos effaith economi sydd mewn trafferth a thoriadau llym ar fudd-daliadau i fenywod. Tybed a fyddai hyn wedi cael digwydd os byddai mwy o fenywod wedi bod yn y swyddi i wneud y penderfyniadau hyn. Fodd bynnag, onid yw'n ddiddorol, er bod gennym ddwy ddadl i nodi Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod yn y Senedd, nad oes un yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin yr wythnos hon? Caiff gwleidyddiaeth menywod ei hadlewyrchu mewn modd unffurf yn aml yn y cyfryngau—fel pe bai pob mater yn effeithio ar fenywod yn yr un modd. Nid yw hynny'n wir. Gall polisïau gael effaith wahanol yn dibynnu ar ddsbarth, ethnigrwydd, rhywioldeb, daearyddiaeth ac oedran, yn ogystal â ffactorau eraill.

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According to the Bevan Foundation's report, 'Women, work and the recession in Wales', age is another key factor affecting how women are impacted upon by the recession. Older women are working longer as a result of changes in pension age. Younger women are finding it hard to get on the employment ladder, despite often having excellent qualifications. Women in the public sector—women make up more than three-quarters of our NHS workforce and nearly 80% of our social and care workers—face an uncertain future due to job cuts.

There are also unexpected and inconsistent trends. Women are paid less than men, but the differential is reducing, which is, of course, good news. On the other hand, both men and women in Wales are paid far less than the UK average, and certainly much less than the average wages for London and the south-east of England.

More good news is that women have become more likely to start businesses. Business start-ups in the high street and other small niche businesses have meant that women are forming an increasingly important role in our economy. Where women have traditionally made up the majority in the caring and teaching professions, the same is increasingly so for business start-ups. I could hardly talk about women in the workplace without mentioning that, for the tenth year in a row, women make up the majority of trade union members in Wales.

So, there is a lot of good news for women, but there are also still plenty of barriers. Affordable childcare remains the No. 1 extra cost impacting upon all parents, but it is a fact that, even after a massive shift in attitudes in recent times, it remains the case that women do the majority of caring, in terms of childcare and caring for older or ill relatives.

The report published today by the Daycare Trust shows that childcare costs have risen at twice the rate of inflation in the past decade. While childcare costs are lower in Wales than in England or Scotland, there was still a 21% increase in after-school clubs in Wales in just a year. These costs can keep women out of the workplace and, as a country, we cannot allow that to happen. The fantastic potential of Welsh women must be utilised and encouraged to develop.

We can learn a lot from the Scandinavian countries, which have fairer and better societies for women. Meeting the need for quality and affordable childcare plays a significant part in realising that potential. One practical way of moving closer to a comprehensive affordable childcare system has been suggested by Chwarae Teg, which says that single carer registration could be introduced immediately in Wales at little cost. That move could transform affordable and quality childcare. I would be interested to hear the Minister's response on that point.

Yn ôl adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan, 'Women, work and the recession in Wales', mae oedran yn ffactor allweddol arall sy'n effeithio ar sut mae'r dirwasgiad yn effeithio ar fenywod. Mae menywod hŷn yn gweithio'n hirach o ganlyniad i newidiadau mewn oedran pensiwn. Mae menywod iau yn ei chael hi'n anodd cael eu swydd gyntaf, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod ganddynt gymwysterau ardderchog yn aml. Mae menywod yn y sector cyhoeddus—menywod sy'n cyfrif am fwy na thri chwarter gweithlu'r GIG a bron i 80% o'n gweithwyr cymdeithasol a gofal—yn wynebu dyfodol ansicr oherwydd toriadau swyddi.

Ceir hefyd dueddiadau annisgwyl ac anghyson. Mae menywod yn cael eu talu llai na dynion, ond mae'r gwahaniaeth yn lleihau, sydd, wrth gwrs, yn newyddion da. Ar y llaw arall, mae dynion a menywod yng Nghymru yn cael eu talu llawer llai na chyfartaledd y DU, ac yn sicr yn llawer llai na'r cyflog cyfartalog ar gyfer Llundain a de-ddwyrain Lloegr.

Mae mwy o newyddion da hefyd sef bod menywod wedi dod yn fwy tebygol o ddechrau busnesau. Mae busnesau newydd yn y stryd fawr a busnesau arbenigol bach eraill wedi golygu bod gan fenywod rôl gynyddol bwysig yn ein heconomi. Lle mai menywod yn draddodiadol sydd wedi cyfrif am y mwyafrif yn y proffesiynau gofalu ac addysgu, mae'r un peth yn gynyddol wir am fusnesau newydd. Ni allwn siarad am fenywod yn y gweithle heb sôn mai menywod, am y degfed flwyddyn yn olynol, sy'n cyfrif am fwyafrif yr aelodau undebau llafur yng Nghymru.

Felly, mae llawer o newyddion da i fenywod, ond mae sawl rhwystr yn bodoli o hyd. Gofal plant fforddiadwy yw'r brif gost ychwanegol sy'n effeithio ar bob rhiant, ond erys y ffaith, hyd yn oed ar ôl newid enfawr mewn agweddau yn ddiweddar, mai menywod sy'n gwneud y rhan fwyaf o'r gofalu, o ran gofalu am blant a pherthnasau hŷn neu sâl.

Mae'r adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd heddiw gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth Gofal Dydd yn dangos bod costau gofal plant wedi codi ddwywaith cyfradd chwyddiant yn ystod y degawd diwethaf. Tra bod costau gofal plant yn is yng Nghymru nag yn Lloegr neu'r Alban, roedd cynnydd o 21% o hyd mewn clybiau ar ôl ysgol yng Nghymru mewn cyn lleied â blwyddyn. Gall y costau hyn gadw menywod allan o'r gweithle ac, fel gwlad, ni allwn ganiatáu i hynny ddigwydd. Rhaid defnyddio potensial gwych menywod Cymru a'u hannog i ddatblygu.

Gallwn ddysgu llawer gan wledydd Sgandinafia, sydd â chymdeithasau tecach a gwell i fenywod. Mae diwallu'r angen am ofal plant fforddiadwy o ansawdd yn rhan arwyddocaol o'r broses o wireddu'r potensial hwnnw. Mae Chwarae Teg wedi awgrymu un ffordd ymarferol o symud yn nes at system gofal plant fforddiadwy gynhwysfawr, drwy ddweud y gellid cyflwyno system cofrestru gofalwyr sengl ar unwaith yng Nghymru heb iddo gostio fawr ddim. Gallai hynny drawsnewid gofal plant fforddiadwy o ansawdd. Byddai gennyf ddiddordeb i glywed ymateb y Gweinidog ar y pwynt hwnnw.

Moving on to welfare reform, women are set to be the losers from benefit cuts and service cuts. Women will lose out most from the multiple hits arising from the bedroom tax and the reductions in childcare working tax credits, which all come at the same time as cuts to in-work benefits. The Department for Work and Pensions' equality assessment of universal credit said that it reduces incentives for the second earners in a household to go out to work. Plaid Cymru MPs will continue to oppose these unfair cuts in Westminster, and I hope that they will be joined by MPs from other parties.

What can we do here to mitigate those effects? Cuts Watch Cymru has made a series of recommendations that would help the Welsh Government and local government to mitigate the worst effects of welfare reform. One recommendation is to make full use of discretionary housing payments to help with the effect of the bedroom tax. Further recommendations include the securing of funding for specialist advice services, as well as supporting the 'Your Benefits are Changing' campaign. The Welsh Government should seek exemption from direct payments for Welsh tenants who are on housing benefit. As I said earlier, the attitude towards and the decisions relating to the economy and to benefits shows how the Westminster Government lacks women around the Cabinet table.

The final point that I would like to make is to reiterate a point that I touched upon earlier. If we want our politics to better reflect the needs of all our population and not just half our people, then our politics must reflect society. Gender-balanced politics is not a gimmick. It is vital if we are to ensure that the perspective and potential of half our population are not missed. To that end, I very much look forward to the day when we can see what my colleague Jocelyn Davies asked for yesterday, and that is Wales's first woman First Minister.

Gwelliant 1—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 1 a rhoi yn ei le:

Yn cydnabod y camau y mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi'u cymryd i fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldeb yn y system budd-daliadau gan sicrhau na all neb ennill mwy ar fudd-daliadau nag y mae teulu cyffredin yn ei ennill drwy fynd allan i weithio.

Gwelliant 2—William Graham

Cynnwys ar ddiwedd pwynt 2: 'ac yn nodi ymhellach y rhwystrau at waith a nodwyd yn flaenorol gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree a bod yn rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru ddefnyddio'r ysgogiadau economaidd sydd ganddi i ysgogi economi Cymru a chefnogi teuluoedd Cymru'

Gwelliant 3—William Graham

Cynnwys pwynt 3 newydd ac ailrifo yn unol â hynny:

Gan symud ymlaen at ddiwygio lles, menywod fydd ar eu colled yn sgil toriadau i fudd-daliadau a gwasanaethau. Menywod fydd yn colli allan fwyaf oherwydd yr holl ergydion sy'n codi o'r dreth ystafell wely a'r gostyngiadau mewn credydau treth gwaith gofal plant, sydd i gyd yn cael eu cyflwyno ar yr un pryd â thoriadau i fudd-daliadau mewn gwaith. Nododd asesiad cydraddoldeb yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau o'r credyd cynhwysol ei fod yn lleihau'r cymhellion i'r ail enillwyr mewn cartref fynd allan i weithio. Bydd ASau Plaid Cymru yn parhau i wrthwynebu'r toriadau annheg hyn yn San Steffan, a gobeithiaf y bydd ASau o bleidiau eraill yn ymuno â hwy.

Beth allwn ni ei wneud yma i liniaru'r effeithiau hynny? Mae Cuts Watch Cymru wedi gwneud cyfres o argymhellion a fyddai'n helpu Llywodraeth Cymru a llywodraeth leol i liniaru effeithiau gwaethaf diwygio lles. Un o'r argymhellion yw gwneud defnydd llawn o daliadau tai dewisol er mwyn helpu gydag effaith y dreth ystafell wely. Mae argymhellion pellach yn cynnwys sicrhau cyllid ar gyfer gwasanaethau cynghori arbenigol, yn ogystal â chefnogi'r ymgyrch 'Mae Eich Budd-daliadau'n Newid'. Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru geisio sicrhau y gall tenantiaid Cymru sydd ar fudd-dal tai gael eu heithrio rhag taliadau uniongyrchol. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, mae'r agwedd tuag at economi a budd-daliadau, ynghyd â'r penderfyniadau sy'n ymwneud â hynny, yn dangos y prinder o fenywod sydd o gwmpas bwrdd y Cabinet yn Llywodraeth San Steffan.

Y pwynt olaf yr hoffwn ei wneud yw ategu pwynt y gwneuthum ei grybwyll yn gynharach. Os ydym am i'n gwleidyddiaeth adlewyrchu anghenion ein poblogaeth gyfan yn well ac nid dim ond hanner ein pobl, yna rhaid i'n gwleidyddiaeth adlewyrchu cymdeithas. Nid gimig yw gwleidyddiaeth sy'n gytbwys rhwng y rhywiaw. Mae'n hanfodol os ydym am sicrhau na chaiff safbwynt a photensial hanner ein poblogaeth eu colli. I'r perwyl hwnnw, edrychaf ymlaen yn fawr iawn at y dydd pan allwn weld yr hyn y gofynnodd fy nghyd-Aelod, Jocelyn Davies amdano ddoe, sef Prif Weinidog benywaidd cyntaf Cymru.

Amendment 1—William Graham

Delete point 1 and replace with:

Recognises the steps the UK Government has taken to address inequality in the benefits system ensuring that no one can earn more on benefits than the average family does by going out to work.

Amendment 2—William Graham

Insert at the end of point 2: 'and further notes the barriers to work previously identified by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and that the Welsh Government must utilise the economic levers at its disposal to stimulate the Welsh economy and support Welsh families'

Amendment 3—William Graham

Insert as new point 3 and renumber accordingly:

Yn croesawu'r gwaith y mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi'i wneud i sicrhau bod mwy o fenywod nag erioed o'r blaen mewn gwaith ar draws y DU gyda chwarter miliwn yn fwy o fenywod mewn gwaith nag a oedd adeg yr etholiad diwethaf.

Gwelliant 4—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 3 a rhoi yn ei le:

Yn nodi bod Llywodraeth y DU yn cymryd y camau angenrheidiol i leihau'r diffyg strwythural ac yn helpu teuluoedd gyda chostau byw drwy gymryd camau fel torri'r dreth incwm i 25 miliwn o bobl.

Gwelliant 5—William Graham

Dileu pwynt 4 a rhoi yn ei le:

Yn credu bod Llywodraeth Cymru a rhai awdurdodau lleol wedi aros tan yn bryderus o hwyr i baratoi tenantiaid ar gyfer newidiadau i'r budd-dal tai ac yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithredu ar frys i fynd i'r afael â hyn.

Welcomes the work the UK Government has done to ensure that across the UK there are more women in work than ever before with a quarter of a million more women employed than at the last election.

Amendment 4—William Graham

Delete point 3 and replace with:

Notes that the UK Government is taking the necessary action to reduce the structural deficit and is helping families with the cost of living by taking steps, such as cutting income tax for 25 million people.

Amendment 5—William Graham

Delete point 4 and replace with:

Believes that the Welsh Government and some local authorities have left it worryingly late to prepare tenants for housing benefit changes and calls on the Welsh Government to take urgent action to address this.

16:50

Mark Isherwood [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move amendments 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the name of William Graham.

Every day, we encounter unlimited potential in those that we have for too long left behind. On amendment 1, it is not fair that households on out-of-work benefits should receive a greater income than the average working household, so the welfare Act included a benefit cap linked to average weekly earnings.

On amendment 2, research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation in the years preceding the change of UK Government found that barriers to work in the tax and benefit system reduced after 1980, but increased from 2000. That is why universal credit will reduce the highest marginal deduction rate for low-earning workers from around 96% to 65% for those earning below the personal tax threshold, and to around 76% for basic rate taxpayers, lifting the majority of children out of poverty if at least one parent works 35 hours a week at the minimum wage, or 24 hours if they are a lone parent. The previous UK Labour Government failed to deliver for the long-term unemployed. Workless households increased by 200,000 and one in three working-age people in Wales were not in work—double the UK average.

Cynigiad welliannau 1, 2, 3, 4 a 5 yn enw William Graham.

Bob dydd, deawn ar draws potensial diderfyn yn y rhai rydym wedi eu gadael ar ôl ers gormod o amser. O ran gwelliant 1, nid yw'n deg y dylai aelwydydd ar fudd-daliadau allan o waith gael mwy o incwm na'r aelwyd gyffredin sy'n gweithio, felly mae'r Ddeddf lles yn cynnwys cap ar fudd-daliadau sy'n gysylltiedig ag enillion wythnosol cyfartalog.

O ran gwelliant 2, canfu ymchwil gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree yn y blynyddoedd cyn newid Llywodraeth y DU fod rhwystrau i weithio yn y system dreth a budd-daliadau wedi lleihau ar ôl 1980, ond wedi cynyddu ers 2000. Dyna pam y bydd credyd cynhwysol yn lleihau'r gyfradd uchaf o ddi-dyniad ymylol ar gyfer gweithwyr sydd ar gyflog isel o tua 96% i 65% ar gyfer y rheini sy'n ennill o dan y trothwy treth personol, ac i tua 76% ar gyfer trethdalwyr cyfradd sylfaenol, gan godi'r rhan fwyaf o blant allan o dlodi os bydd o leiaf un rhiant yn gweithio 35 awr yr wythnos ar yr isafswm cyflog, neu 24 awr os ydynt yn rhiant unigol. Mae Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol y DU wedi methu â darparu ar gyfer y di-waith tymor hir. Cynyddodd nifer y cartrefi di-waith 200,000 ac roedd un o bob tri unigolyn o oedran gweithio yng Nghymru allan o waith—dwbl cyfartaledd y DU.

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On amendment 3, UK female unemployment rose by 221,000 under Labour. Since the UK general election, the number of women in work has increased by 335,000, including 20,000 in Wales, to the highest number on record. The UK Government has invested extra in childcare support, which is to be rolled out under universal credit, set up a childcare commission to look at its affordability and availability, created a women's business council to advise Government on how to maximise women's contribution to future economic growth, and introduced flexible parental leave.

On amendment 4, the UK coalition Government inherited the biggest peacetime budget deficit in a century—larger even than that of Greece. Greece now has 26.2% unemployment, compared to 7.8% in the UK, although it has risen to 8.6% in Labour-governed Wales. The UK Government is cutting income tax for 25 million people, including 1.1 million in Wales, and lifting 2.2 million of the lowest paid out of income tax altogether—59% of whom are women. Universal credit will start to tackle the couple penalty problem that, according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies, Labour made 50% worse. Data released in January show that it will help the poorest third of people the most.

On amendment 5, a 2004 Welsh consumer council report warned that unless housebuilding and the renovation of existing homes was stepped up, Wales could face a housing crisis in coming years. The Welsh Government did not listen. An estimated 91,000 households are on social housing waiting lists now, but fewer than 1,000 new homes were built in Wales last year.

It is two years since the National Landlords Association told me that it had already built in housing benefit changes and that change needed to be managed in local authorities, requiring true partnership with the public sector. However, 18 months later, it told me that if the Welsh Government did not work with it to do something quickly, there would be more homelessness. It is now two years since a DWP guide on administering discretionary housing payments was issued to local authorities. The Welsh Government and some local authorities have, therefore, left it shockingly late to prepare tenants.

To better balance housing supply with demand, housing benefit is being reduced for households that under-occupy bedrooms, but this will not apply to claimants over the pension credit age or households requiring an extra bedroom for an overnight carer. The UK Government has announced extra funding for ring-fenced discretionary housing payments to target those needing them the most, including foster carers, and is considering further exemptions for disabled people and carers. Labour introduced direct payments of housing benefit to tenants —

O ran gwelliant 3, cynyddodd diweithdra ymysg menywod yn y DU 221,000 o dan Lafur. Ers etholiad cyffredinol y DU, mae nifer y menywod mewn gwaith wedi cynyddu 335,000, gan gynnwys 20,000 yng Nghymru, y nifer uchaf erioed. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi buddsoddi arian ychwanegol mewn cymorth gofal plant, a gaiff ei gyflwyno o dan gredyd cynhwysol, wedi sefydlu comisiwn gofal plant i edrych ar ei fforddiadwyedd ac argaeledd, wedi creu cyngor busnes i fenywod i roi cyngor i'r Llywodraeth ar sut i gynyddu cyfraniad menywod at dwf economaidd yn y dyfodol i'r eithaf, a chyflwyno cyfnod absenoldeb hyblyg i rieni.

O ran gwelliant 4, etifeddodd Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU y diffyg mwyaf yn y gyllideb mewn cyfnod o heddwch ers canrif—diffyg mwy na Gwlad Groeg hyd yn oed. Mae 26.2% o bobl Gwlad Groeg yn ddi-waith bellach, o gymharu â 7.8% yn y DU, er ei fod wedi codi i 8.6% yng Nghymru o dan lywodraeth Llafur. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn torri treth incwm ar gyfer 25 miliwn o bobl, gan gynnwys 1.1 miliwn yng Nghymru, ac yn eithrio 2.2 miliwn o'r rhai ar y cyflog isaf rhag gorfod talu treth incwm o gwbl—gyda 59% ohonynt yn fenywod. Bydd credyd cynhwysol yn dechrau mynd i'r afael â'r broblem cosbau i gyplau sydd wedi gwaethygu 50% o dan Lafur, yn ôl y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Cyllid. Dengys data a ryddhawyd ym mis Ionawr mai helpu'r traean tlotaf y bydd hyn fwyaf.

O ran gwelliant 5, rhybuddiodd adroddiad cyngor defnyddwyr Cymru yn 2004, oni bai bod cynnydd yn nifer y tai sy'n cael eu hadeiladu a'r nifer o dai presennol sy'n cael eu hadnewyddu, y gallai Cymru wynebu argyfwng tai yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Ni wrandawodd Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae amcangyfrif o 91,000 o aelwydydd ar restrau aros am dai cymdeithasol erbyn hyn, ond adeiladwyd llai na 1,000 o gartrefi newydd yng Nghymru y llynedd.

Mae'n ddwy flynedd ers i Gymdeithas Genedlaethol y Landlordiaid ddweud wrthyf ei bod eisoes wedi ymgorffori newidiadau mewn budd-dal tai a bod angen rheoli'r newid mewn awdurdodau lleol, sy'n gofyn am wir bartneriaeth gyda'r sector cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, 18 mis yn ddiweddarach, dywedodd wrthyf, os na fyddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn gweithio gyda hi i wneud rhywbeth yn gyflym, y byddai mwy o ddigartrefedd. Mae dwy flynedd nawr ers i'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau roi canllaw ar weinyddu taliadau tai dewisol i awdurdodau lleol. Felly, mae Llywodraeth Cymru a rhai awdurdodau lleol wedi ei gadael yn frawychus o hwyr i baratoi tenantiaid.

Er mwyn sicrhau cydbwysedd gwell rhwng y cyflenwad tai a'r galw, mae budd-dal tai yn cael ei ostwng ar gyfer aelwydydd sy'n tan-feddiannu ystafelloedd gwely, ond ni fydd hyn yn berthnasol i hawlwr dros yr oedran credyd pensiwn neu aelwydydd sydd angen ystafell wely ychwanegol ar gyfer gofalwr dros nos. Mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi cyhoeddi cyllid ychwanegol ar gyfer neilltuo taliadau tai dewisol i dargedu'r rheini sydd ei angen fwyaf, gan gynnwys gofalwyr maeth, ac mae'n ystyried eithriadau pellach i bobl anabl a gofalwyr. Cyflwynodd Llafur system talu budd-dal tai yn uniongyrchol i denantiaid—

16:54

Lynne Neagle [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Will you take an intervention?

A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

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16:54	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography Universal credit will equalise this for all—	Bydd credyd cynhwysol yn cydraddoli hyn ar gyfer pob—	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:54	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography Are you giving way, Mark?	A ydych yn ildio, Mark?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:54	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography Who to? Is there time?	I bwy? A oes amser?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:54	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography It is up to you to give way or not.	Eich dewis chi yw ildio neu beidio.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:54	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography Very quickly.	Yn gyflym iawn.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:54	Lynne Neagle Bywgraffiad Biography You have outlined what you believe to be the generosity of the UK Government. Are you aware that the discretionary housing payments will not even scratch the surface of the need that your wicked proposals will create in Wales?	Rydych wedi amlinellu yr hyn a gredwch chi sy'n haelioni Llywodraeth y DU. A ydych yn ymwybodol na fydd y taliadau tai dewisol hyd yn oed yn crafu wyneb yr angen y bydd eich cynigion creulon yn eu creu yng Nghymru?	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:55	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography That is because you created a housing crisis and left it to the last minute. [Assembly Members: 'Oh'.] Universal credit will equalise this for all housing benefit claimants— [Interruption.]	Mae hynny oherwydd ichi greu argyfwng tai a gadael pethau tan y funud olaf. [Aelodau'r Cynulliad: 'O'.] Bydd credyd cynhwysol yn cydraddoli hyn ar gyfer pob hawliwr budd-dal tai—[Torri ar draws.]	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:55	Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer Bywgraffiad Biography Order. I cannot even hear the speaker. We must calm down.	Trefn. Ni allaf hyd yn oed glywed y siaradwr. Rhaid inni ymdawelu.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video
16:55	Mark Isherwood Bywgraffiad Biography Universal credit will equalise this for all housing benefit claimants, while providing alternative arrangements for claimants needing additional support, including payments directly to landlords and splitting payments between partners. Labour also introduced the work capability assessment for people on incapacity benefit, but it was not fit for purpose. The UK Government has therefore implemented all its independent reviewer's recommendations, and the number of severely disabled people given long-term support is now increasing. Abraham Lincoln was proud of his Welsh heritage. As he said, 'You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.' He also said, 'The great point is to bring them the real facts.'	Bydd credyd cynhwysol yn cydraddoli hyn ar gyfer pob hawliwr budd-dal tai, tra'n cynnig trefniadau amgen ar gyfer hawliwyr sydd angen cymorth ychwanegol, gan gynnwys taliadau yn uniongyrchol i landlordiaid a rhannu taliadau rhwng partneriaid. Hefyd, cyflwynodd Llafur yr asesiad gallu i weithio i bobl ar fudd-dal analluogrwydd, ond nid oedd yn addas i'r diben. Felly, mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi gweithredu holl argymhellion ei hadolygydd annibynnol, ac mae nifer y bobl ag anabledd difrifol sy'n cael cymorth hirdymor yn cynyddu bellach. Roedd Abraham Lincoln yn falch o'i dreftadaeth Gymreig. Fel y dywedodd, Ni allwch helpu dynion yn barhaol trwy wneud ar eu cyfer yr hyn y gallent ac y dylent ei wneud drostynt eu hunain. Dywedodd hefyd: Yr hyn sy'n bwysig yw eu bod yn cael y ffeithiau cywir.	Senedd.tv Fideo Video

I want to use my contribution today to examine the impact of welfare reform on women during the recession, as Leanne Wood has discussed earlier. The best way that you can get an idea of how it will affect women is, unfortunately, for me to tell you here today.

Changes that have already occurred include an introduction of the work capability assessment that has removed disability benefits from hundreds of thousands of people suffering chronic ill health. This happened, of course, under the previous Labour Government. The changes have also included the introduction of the Work Programme that has forced unemployed people to undertake mandatory unpaid work, often without relevance to their career prospects, health or family circumstances. The success rate of this programme was found to be far lower than doing nothing, meaning that it was actively harming people's prospects, according to the Public Accounts Committee. Another aspect is increasing the conditionality of jobseekers' agreements and increasing sanctions given to people who do not comply with that conditionality.

Changes to housing benefit will include new private tenants being unable to claim benefit for rent above that of the cheapest 30% of accommodation in their area, replacing the previous cap of 50%. Even worse, many people claiming housing benefit for rents below 30% will not have their rent fully paid. Most get a percentage and have to make up the difference. The benefit paid to private tenants is to be restricted, depending on the size of the property, and harsher means-testing will be introduced. So, if your partner works a part-time minimum wage job, he or she will be expected to cover rent and you will get nothing. New and existing private sector tenants under 35 cannot receive more than the going rate for shared accommodation, and that is irrespective of accommodation size.

Changes still to come will include the bedroom tax, as has been mentioned earlier, which will reduce the housing benefit paid to people in social housing who are considered to be under-occupying—a scandalous proposition in my personal opinion. There is to be a limit on claimants' total benefit entitlement of £500 a week for a family and £350 a week for a single person, and this is the benefit cap that the Conservatives are fond of shouting about.

Then there is the replacement of the disability living allowance with the personal independence payment. Ostensibly introduced to support independent living, the PIP has been specifically designed to reduce the cost of DLA by 20% regardless of impact. The PIP will introduce new regular assessments that disabled people will have to undergo, with the qualifying period extended to six months. The Atos experience suggests that they will deliberately utilise assessments that make it impossible for many people to qualify. As a result, some people will lose their mobility allowance and it is likely that that will make many disabled people give up work due to lack of transport, for example.

Rwyf am ddefnyddio fy nghyfraniad heddiw i archwilio effaith diwygio lles ar fenywod yn ystod y dirwasgiad, fel y trafododd Leanne Wood yn gynharach. Y ffordd orau y gallwch gael syniad o sut y bydd yn effeithio ar fenywod, yn anffodus, yw imi ddweud wrthyhych yma heddiw.

Ymysg y newidiadau sydd eisoes wedi digwydd mae cyflwyno'r asesiad gallu i weithio sydd wedi cymryd budd-daliadau anabledd oddi wrth gannoedd o filoedd o bobl sydd â salwch cronig. Digwyddodd hyn, wrth gwrs, o dan y Llywodraeth Lafur flaenorol. Mae'r newidiadau hefyd wedi cynnwys cyflwyno'r Rhaglen Waith sydd wedi gorfodi pobl ddi-waith i ymgymryd â gwaith gorfodol di-dâl, yn aml heb iddo fod yn berthnasol i'w rhagolygon gyrfa, eu hechyd nac amgylchiadau teuluol. Canfuwyd bod cyfradd llwyddiant y rhaglen hon yn llawer is na gwneud dim byd, sy'n golygu ei bod yn niweidio rhagolygon pobl, yn ôl y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus. Agwedd arall yw cynyddu amodoldeb cytundebau ceiswyr gwaith a chynyddu'r cosbau a roddir i bobl nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â'r amodoldeb hwnnw.

Bydd newidiadau i fudd-dal tai yn golygu na fydd tenantiaid preifat newydd yn gallu hawlio budd-daliadau am rent sy'n uwch na'r 30% o lety rhataf yn eu hardal, gan ddisodli'r cap blaenorol o 50%. Hyd yn oed yn waeth, ni thelir rhent llawn llawer o bobl sy'n hawlio budd-dal tai ar gyfer rhenti o dan 30%. Mae'r rhan fwyaf yn cael canran ac yn gorfod talu'r gwahaniaeth eu hunain. Caiff y budd-dal a delir i denantiaid preifat ei gyfyngu, yn dibynnu ar faint yr eiddo, a chyflwynir prawf modd llymach. Felly, os oes gan eich partner swydd rhan amser ar yr isafswm cyflog, bydd disgwyl iddo neu iddi dalu rhent ac ni fyddwch chi'n cael dim. Ni all tenantiaid newydd a phresennol yn y sector preifat sydd o dan 35 oed gael mwy na'r gyfradd arferol ar gyfer llety a rennir, waeth beth fo maint eu llety.

Mae'r newidiadau sydd ar y gweill yn cynnwys y dreth ystafell wely, fel y soniwyd yn gynharach, a fydd yn lleihau'r budd-dal tai a delir i bobl mewn tai cymdeithasol yr ystyrir eu bod yn tan-feddiannu—cynnig cywilyddus yn fy marn bersonol i. Bydd terfyn o £500 yr wythnos ar gyfanswm y budd-daliadau y gall teulu ei hawlio a £350 yr wythnos i berson sengl, sef y cap ar fudd-daliadau y mae'r Ceidwadwyr mor hoff o weiddi amdano.

Yna mae'r taliad annibyniaeth bersonol sy'n disodli'r lwfans byw i'r anabl. Mae'r taliad annibyniaeth bersonol, yr honnir ei fod yn cael ei gyflwyno i gefnogi byw'n annibynnol, wedi ei gynllunio'n benodol i leihau cost Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl 20% waeth beth fo'r effaith. Bydd y taliad annibyniaeth bersonol yn cyflwyno asesiadau rheolaidd newydd i bobl anabl, gyda'r cyfnod cymhwyso yn cael ei ymestyn i chwe mis. Mae profiad Atos yn awgrymu y byddant yn fwiadol yn defnyddio asesiadau sy'n ei gwneud yn amhosibl i lawer o bobl fod yn gymwys. O ganlyniad, bydd rhai pobl yn colli eu lwfans symudedd ac mae'n debygol y bydd hynny'n gwneud i lawer o bobl anabl roi'r gorau i weithio oherwydd diffyg trafnidiaeth, er enghraifft.

Finally, as has been mentioned earlier, we have the introduction of universal credit, which merges many benefits into a single payment. The claimant declares any earnings and universal credit is reduced accordingly, but in a manner that effectively means that they get to keep 35p from every additional pound that they earn. Therefore, if they earn £100, they lose £65 of universal credit. However, here are the major concerns: a taper rate of 65% is lower for some people than that provided under the current system; it is paid monthly and in arrears, which means that people on low incomes will struggle to budget and may have to go into debt; and it is paid to households, not individuals. The changes to second-earner incomes are significant as a result.

As you can see from what I have just listed, this is a mountain and enough to make the head of anybody here today spin. If it makes our heads spin as legislators, how can people on the ground possibly look at all of these changes individually and judge how they will affect them? How can they understand how all of this will impact on them? I think that it is shameful that the Government would inflict this on people.

Today, we had people with learning disabilities in the Assembly, at an event chaired by Mick Antoniw, talking about abuse and how they feel. We have to make people understand what is going to happen to them, and, at the moment, it is complex for us, so how do we propose to communicate the information to the wider population? I therefore urge all of us here today to really take on board how this situation will affect not only women, but everyone in society, because it is a sad indictment in the twenty-first century that we have to discuss these things and that we have to take benefits and support away from people who desperately need them. These are not scroungers. These are not people who are creaming off the system; they need this support, and we should respect them and give them the support they need.

Yn olaf, fel y soniwyd yn gynharach, mae'r credyd cynhwysol a gyflwynwyd gennym, sy'n uno llawer o fudd-daliadau yn un taliad. Mae'r hawlydd yn datgan unrhyw enillion a chaiff credyd cynhwysol ei ostwng yn unol â hynny, ond mewn modd sy'n golygu, i bob pwrpas, y gall gadw 35c o bob punt ychwanegol y mae'n ei ennill. Felly, os yw'n ennill £100, bydd yn colli £65 o gredyd cynhwysol. Fodd bynnag, dyma'r prif bryderon: mae cyfradd tapr o 65% yn is i rai pobl na'r hyn a geir o dan y system bresennol; caiff ei thalu'n fisol, ac mewn ôl-ddyledion, sy'n golygu y bydd pobl ar incwm isel yn ei chael hi'n anodd cyllidebu ac efallai y bydd yn rhaid iddynt fynd i ddyled; ac fe'i telir i aelwydydd, nid i unigolion. O ganlyniad, bydd y newidiadau i incymau ail enillwyr yn sylweddol.

Fel y gwelwch o'r hyn rwyf newydd restru, mae hwn yn fynydd ac yn ddigon i greu pendro i unrhyw un yma heddiw. Os yw'n creu pendro i ni fel deddfwyr, sut y gall pobl ar lawr gwlad edrych ar bob un o'r newidiadau hyn yn unigol a barnu sut y byddant yn effeithio arnynt? Sut y gallant ddeall sut y bydd hyn oll yn effeithio arnynt? Credaf ei bod yn gywilyddus bod y Llywodraeth yn gwneud i bobl ddioddef fel hyn.

Heddiw, roedd pobl ag anableddau dysgu yn y Cynulliad, mewn digwyddiad wedi'i gadeirio gan Mick Antoniw, yn sôn am gamdriniaeth a sut maent yn teimlo. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod pobl yn deall yr hyn a fydd yn digwydd iddynt, ac, ar hyn o bryd, mae'n gymhleth inni, felly sut rydym yn bwriadu cyfleu'r wybodaeth i'r boblogaeth ehangach? Felly, anogaf bob un ohonom yma heddiw i ystyried o ddifrif sut y bydd y sefyllfa hon yn effeithio ar bawb mewn cymdeithas, nid dim ond menywod, oherwydd mae'n adlewyrchiad trist yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain bod yn rhaid inni drafod y pethau hyn a bod yn rhaid inni fynd â budd-daliadau a chymorth oddi wrth bobl sydd eu gwir angen. Nid chwiwladron yw'r rhain. Nid ydynt yn byw yn fras ar y system; mae angen y cymorth hwn arnynt, a dylem eu parchu a rhoi iddynt y cymorth sydd ei angen arnynt.

17:01

Julie Morgan [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very pleased that we are having this second debate to mark International Women's Day. I was sorry to hear Leanne Wood say that there was no debate in the House of Commons. That is a great shame. Certainly, during the time of the Labour Government, we had, I think, a six-hour debate to celebrate International Women's Day, during which we were able to celebrate some of the achievements of that Government that helped women enormously, such as the minimum wage, the introduction of flexible working, maternity rights, paternity rights and a whole flex of measures that helped women and which were mainly opposed by the main opposition party. So, it is great that we have this opportunity to have two debates.

Rwy'n falch iawn ein bod yn cael yr ail ddadl hon i nodi Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod. Roedd yn ddrwg gennyf glywed Leanne Wood yn dweud nad oedd unrhyw ddadl yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin. Mae hynny'n drueni mawr. Yn sicr, dros gyfnod y Llywodraeth Lafur, cawsom ddadl chwe awr, rwy'n credu, i ddathlu Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod, pan gawsom gyfle i ddathlu rhai o lwyddiannau'r Llywodraeth honno a fu o gymorth aruthrol i fenywod, fel y lleiafswm cyflog, cyflwyno gweithio hyblyg, hawliau mamolaeth, hawliau tadolaeth a chyfres o fesurau a helpodd fenywod ac a gafodd eu gwrthwynebu yn bennaf gan y brif wrthblaid. Felly, mae'n wych ein bod yn cael y cyfle hwn i gael dwy ddadl.

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One of the most disturbing facts about these changes is that, at the same time as the UK Government is turning the welfare benefits system upside down—we have heard a lot of evidence of that already in speeches made today—causing huge consternation and worry to women and to disabled and other vulnerable people, it is also removing advice on welfare benefits from the scope of legal aid. It is absolutely disgraceful that those two things are being done at the same time. The repercussion of this is that it is likely to mainly be women trying to keep their families together who will face the struggle of coping without such advice. Surely, it is one of the most scandalous and cynical acts of this coalition Government to, at the same time as changing the law on entitlement, withdraw the right of people to obtain advice on their changed situation. It is an absolute disgrace.

It is interesting to note the timing of the withdrawal of this legal aid. It is ironic, as it coincides with the fortieth anniversary of the introduction of welfare benefit advice as part of the legal advice and assistance scheme introduced by Edward Heath's Conservative Government in April 1973. The coalition Government is truly turning the clock back.

Bethan Jenkins described the maze of difficulties that people have in trying to work their way through the welfare system. Although it is true that the House of Lords did force one amendment on the coalition Government, I would like to know how ordinary citizens, deprived of legal aid, up to and before they get to the first tier tribunal, will be able to identify a point of law and lay a foundation for further appeal. These are not easy matters to negotiate; I think that it is going to be horrendously difficult.

When this legal aid Bill went through, Kenneth Clarke, the then Lord Chancellor, said that he justified taking whole tranches of law out of the scope of legal aid on the grounds that the problems that people presented with needed no legal expertise to resolve. I think that is a sweeping statement to make. Some of you may have heard Edward Garnier QC, a former Solicitor-General, say on Radio 4 earlier this week:

'I think we need to be careful not always to run to the lawyer when we think we've got a problem.'

This was his justification for taking away legal aid, which is, again, stunning. Thankfully, however, this was not the view of the late Lord Bingham, who was, as I think we all know, a hugely respected senior Law Lord. Lord Bingham described the housing benefit regulations as 'far from straightforward' and sympathised with laypeople who had to wrestle with them. So, there was a compassionate view from Lord Bingham, which is different from the present view being presented by opposition spokespeople.

Un o'r ffeithiau mwyaf annifyr am y newidiadau hyn yw, ar yr un pryd ag y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn troi'r system budd-daliadau lles wyneb i waered—clywsom lawer o dystiolaeth o hynny eisoes mewn areithiau a wnaed heddiu—gan achosi dryswch a phryder mawr i fenywod ac i bobl anabl a phobl eraill sy'n agored i niwed, mae hefyd yn cael gwared ar gyngor ar fudd-daliadau lles o gwmpas cymorth cyfreithiol. Mae'n gwbl warthus fod y ddau beth yn cael ei wneud ar yr un pryd. Sgil-ffeithiau hyn yw ei bod yn debygol mai menywod yn bennaf sy'n ceisio cadw eu teuluoedd gyda'i gilydd a fydd yn wynebu'r frwydr o ymdopi heb gyngor o'r fath. Yn sicr, dyma un o weithredoedd mwyaf dychrynlyd a sinigaidd y Llywodraeth glymblaid hon ei bod, ar yr un pryd â newid y gyfraith ar hawliau, yn dileu hawl pobl i gael cyngor ar eu sefyllfa newydd. Mae'n hollol warthus.

Mae'n ddiddorol nodi pryd y caiff y cymorth cyfreithiol hwn ei dynnu'n ôl. Mae'n eironig, gan ei bod yn ddeugain mlynedd ers cyflwyno cyngor ar fudd-daliadau lles fel rhan o'r cynllun cyngor a chymorth cyfreithiol a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Geidwadol Edward Heath ym mis Ebrill 1973. Mae'r Llywodraeth glymblaid wir yn troi'r cloc yn ôl.

Disgrifiodd Bethan Jenkins y ddrysa o anawsterau sy'n wynebu pobl sy'n ceisio gweithio eu ffordd trwy'r system les. Er ei bod yn wir bod Tŷ'r Arglwyddi wedi gorfodi un gwelliant ar y Llywodraeth glymblaid, hoffwn wybod sut y bydd dinasyddion cyffredin, sydd wedi'i hamddifadu o gymorth cyfreithiol, hyd at a chyn iddynt gyrraedd y tribiwnlys haen gyntaf, yn gallu nodi pwynt cyfreithiol a gosod sylfaen ar gyfer apelio ymhellach. Nid yw'r rhain yn faterion hawdd i'w trafod; credaf y bydd yn ofnadwy o anodd.

Pan gafodd y Bil cymorth cyfreithiol hwn ei gyflwyno, dywedodd Kenneth Clarke, yr Arglwydd Ganghellor ar y pryd, ei fod yn cyfiawnhau cymryd cyfrannau cyfan o gyfraith allan o gwmpas cymorth cyfreithiol ar y sail nad oedd angen unrhyw arbenigedd cyfreithiol i ddatrys y problemau yr oedd pobl yn eu hwynebu. Credaf ei fod yn ddatganiad cyffredinol iawn. Efallai y bydd rhai ohonoch wedi clywed Edward Garnier CF, cyn Gyfreithiwr Cyffredinol, yn dweud ar Radio 4 yn gynharach yr wythnos hon:

Credaf fod angen inni fod yn ofalus nad ydym yn rhedeg at y cyfreithiwr bob tro pan fyddwn yn credu bod gennym broblem.

Dyma oedd ei gyfiawnhad dros ddileu cymorth cyfreithiol, sydd, unwaith eto, yn syfrdanol. Diolch byth, fodd bynnag, nid dyna oedd barn y diweddar Arglwydd Bingham, a oedd, fel y credaf y gwyddom oll, yn uchel iawn ei barch fel uwch Arglwydd y Gyfraith. Nododd yr Arglwydd Bingham fod y rheoliadau budd-dal tai ymhell o fod yn syml a'i fod yn cydymdeimlo â lleygwyr a oedd yn gorfod ymaflyd â hwy. Felly, roedd gan yr Arglwydd Bingham farn dosturiol, sy'n wahanol i'r farn bresennol a gyflwynir gan lefarwyr y gwrthbleidiau.

The view of the current senior judge in the Supreme Court, Lord Neuberger, has already been mentioned in the Chamber this afternoon and he takes much the same view as Lord Bingham. Yesterday, he said—and I am sure that many of you will have heard this in the media—that the cuts to legal aid will undermine the rule of law. Undoubtedly, he had in mind that the fact that people need equal access to the law, regardless of how poor or disadvantaged they are in society. We have reached a sorry state when the senior judge in the highest court in the land feels compelled to speak out in this way against Government policies.

The insidious thing is that this bar on giving help with welfare benefits will also undermine the giving of effective advice in other areas. As I said it is likely to mainly be women trying to keep their families together who will face the struggle of coping without such help. No self-respecting housing lawyer will be able to give advice on housing possession without considering housing benefits and discretionary housing payments. Welfare benefits advice is vital and it is now not going to be available through legal aid.

17:06

Lindsay Whittle [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is clear that the economic recession has had, and will continue to have, a worse effect on women in Wales than on men. For example, since this time last year, male unemployment has gone down by 9.2% but female unemployment has gone up by 8%. That situation is having a major impact on our goal, as an Assembly, of gender equality. The most severe cuts have come in the public sector and we have already heard from Leanne Wood that women make up nearly two thirds of the public sector workforce. Over the next few years, we can expect twice as many women as men to lose their jobs. We have heard that 75% of local government workers and 77% of NHS staff are women, but did you know that 80% of adult social care workers are women? I grew up in the Valleys in a generation where my mother was one of many hundreds of women who would talk of taking a part-time cleaning job in the leafy suburbs of Heath, Birchgrove and Cyncoed in Cardiff. These part-time jobs were then referred to as 'pin money'. My goodness me, how times have changed. These part-time and full-time jobs are no longer pin money: they are essential money for many families. What is more, the number of women in part-time jobs who would prefer to be employed on a full-time basis has nearly doubled since the start of the recession.

Mae barn yr uwch farnwr presennol yn y Goruchaf Lys, yr Arglwydd Neuberger, eisoes wedi ei grybwyll yn y Siambr y prynhawn yma ac mae o'r un farn â'r Arglwydd Bingham i raddau helaeth. Ddoe, dywedodd—ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd llawer ohonoch wedi clywed hyn yn y cyfryngau—y bydd y toriadau i gymorth cyfreithiol yn tansellio trefn y gyfraith. Yn ddi-os, roedd yn cadw mewn cof y ffaith bod angen i bobl gael mynediad cyfartal at y gyfraith, ni waeth pa mor dlawd neu ddifreintiedig y maent mewn cymdeithas. Rydym wedi cyrraedd cyflwr truenus pan fydd yr uwch farnwr yn y llys uchaf yn y wlad yn teimlo bod angen iddo siarad fel hyn yn erbyn polisïau'r Llywodraeth.

Y peth llechwraidd yw y bydd y rhwystr hwn ar roi cymorth gyda budd-daliadau lles hefyd yn tansellio'r broses o roi cyngor effeithiol mewn meysydd eraill. Fel y dywedais, mae'n debygol mai menywod sy'n ceisio cadw eu teuluoedd gyda'i gilydd a fydd yn wynebu'r frwydr o ymdopi heb gymorth o'r fath yn bennaf. Ni fydd unrhyw gyfreithiwr tai gwerth ei halen yn gallu rhoi cyngor ar feddiant tai heb ystyried budd-daliadau tai a thaliadau tai dewisol. Mae cyngor ar fudd-daliadau lles yn hanfodol ac ni fydd ar gael drwy gymorth cyfreithiol mwyach.

Mae'n amlwg bod y dirwasgiad economaidd wedi cael, ac y bydd yn parhau i gael, effaith waeth ar fenywod yng Nghymru nag ar ddynion. Er enghraifft, ers yr adeg hon y llynedd, mae diweithdra ymysg dynion wedi gostwng 9.2%, ond mae diweithdra ymysg menywod wedi cynyddu 8%. Mae'r sefyllfa honno'n cael effaith fawr ar ein nod, fel Cynulliad, o sicrhau cydraddoldeb rhwng y rhywiau. Mae'r toriadau mwyaf difrifol wedi dod yn y sector cyhoeddus, ac rydym eisoes wedi clywed gan Leanne Wood bod menywod yn cyfrif am bron i ddwy ran o dair o'r gweithlu yn y sector cyhoeddus. Dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd nesaf, gallwn ddisgwyl y bydd dwywaith cymaint o fenywod â dynion yn colli eu swyddi. Clywsom fod 75% o weithwyr llywodraeth leol a 77% o staff y GIG yn fenywod, ond wyddech chi fod 80% o weithwyr gofal cymdeithasol i oedolion yn fenywod? Cefais fy magu yn y Cymoedd mewn cenhedlaeth lle roedd fy mam yn un o gannoedd o fenywod a fyddai'n siarad am gael swydd glanhau rhan amser ym maestrefi deiliog y Mynydd Bychan, Birchgrove a Chyncoed yng Nghaerdydd. Cyfeiriwyd at y swyddi rhan amser hyn fel arian ychwanegol ar y pryd. Mawredd, mae'r rhod wedi troi cymaint. Nid arian ychwanegol a gewch o'r swyddi rhan amser a llawn amser hyn erbyn hyn: ond arian sy'n hanfodol i lawer o deuluoedd. At hynny, mae nifer y menywod mewn swyddi rhan amser y byddai'n well ganddynt gael eu cyflogi yn llawn amser wedi dyblu bron ers dechrau'r dirwasgiad.

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In one survey, 50% of women who have children and who are not in a job thought that they would be worse off if they returned to work and had to pay for childcare. The Welsh Government needs to do more to help working families and women, in particular, to cope with the cost of childcare. We still have a long way to go. That is not just my party's position: it is also an urgent call from the women's organisation, Chwarae Teg. Childcare subsidies, for example, are hugely valuable for single mothers, particularly those who are trying to find work. The childcare component of tax credits has already been reduced and that is a direct disincentive to work, so it is having a negative effect on the economy in Wales. It would not be right if I did not ask: where would Wales be without its stalwart army of grandparents—and grandmothers, perhaps, in particular—who look after children, some at great sacrifice of a planned leisurely retirement?

In the previous debate, I drew attention to the fact that young women seeking apprenticeships tend to be stereotyped into the more traditional work that I mentioned yesterday: social care and hairdressing. They are relatively low-paid professions compared to more male-dominated work in technology, science and engineering. We had a little bit of good news from Jeff Cuthbert yesterday, which was positive, but the Welsh Government needs to continue to push and improve the initiatives in this matter. That is a priority, in my view, for the increased numbers of apprenticeships that the Welsh Government has promised to create after considerable pressure, I must add, from my party. I know that the Minister for equalities, Jane Hutt, is doing some sterling work, and I hope that we will all stand shoulder to shoulder with her in this struggle. I like to praise as well, you see.

As my party's spokesperson on equalities issues, I am extremely concerned that women in Wales are suffering disproportionately as a result of the economic recession. I hope that the clear message that will go out from the Senedd today is that the Welsh Government will be taking urgent and practical measures to counteract this state of inequality.

17:10

Peter Black [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Bevan Foundation report referred to in this motion actually states itself that:

'it is simplistic to claim that the recession has had a greater or lesser impact on women than men.'

'The picture that emerges of recent changes in women's position in the labour market in Wales is complex and cannot be characterised in terms of women doing better or worse than men.'

Mewn un arolwg, mae 50% o fenywod sydd â phlant ac nad ydynt mewn swydd o'r farn y byddent yn waeth eu byd os byddant yn dychwelyd i'r gwaith ac yn gorfod talu am ofal plant. Mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru wneud mwy i helpu teuluoedd sy'n gweithio a menywod sy'n gweithio, yn arbennig, i ymdopi gyda chost gofal plant. Mae gennym ffordd bell i fynd o hyd. Nid safbwynt fy mhlaid i yn unig yw hyn: mae hefyd yn alwad brys gan y sefydliad i fenywod, Chwarae Teg. Mae cymorthdaliadau gofal plant, er enghraifft, yn hynod o werthfawr i famau sengl, yn enwedig y rhai sy'n ceisio dod o hyd i waith. Mae elfen credydau treth gofal plant eisoes wedi ei lleihau ac mae hynny'n gymhellant uniongyrchol i beidio â gweithio, felly mae'n cael effaith negyddol ar yr economi yng Nghymru. Ni fyddai'n iawn pe na fyddwn yn gofyn: ble byddai Cymru heb ei byddin bybyr o neiniau a theidiau—a neiniau yn arbennig, efallai—sy'n gofalu am blant, gyda rhai ohonynt yn aberthu ymddeoliad hamddenol a gynlluniwyd ar adegau?

Yn y ddadl flaenorol, tynnais sylw at y ffaith bod menywod ifanc sy'n ceisio prentisiaethau yn tueddu i gael eu stereoteipio i'r gwaith mwy traddodiadol y soniais amdano ddoe: gofal cymdeithasol a thrin gwallt. Maent yn broffesiynau â chyflogau cymharol isel o gymharu â gwaith i ddynion yn draddodiadol mewn technoleg, gwyddoniaeth a pheirianeg. Cawsom ychydig o newyddion da gan Jeff Cuthbert ddoe, a oedd yn gadarnhaol, ond mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru barhau i wthio a gwella mentrau mewn perthynas â hyn. Mae hynny'n flaenoriaeth, yn fy marn i, i'r nifer cynyddol o brentisiaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi addo eu creu ar ôl pwysau sylweddol, rhaid imi ychwanegu, gan fy mhlaid. Gwn fod y Gweinidog cydraddoldeb, Jane Hutt, yn gwneud gwaith da, a gobeithiaf y bydd pob un ohonom yn ei chefnogi yn y frwydr hon. Rwy'n hoffi canmol hefyd, fe welwch.

Fel llefarydd fy mhlaid ar faterion cydraddoldeb, rwy'n bryderus iawn bod menywod yng Nghymru yn dioddef yn anghymesur o ganlyniad i'r dirwasgiad economaidd. Gobeithio mai'r neges glir a gaiff ei chyfleu o'r Senedd heddiw yw y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd camau brys ac ymarferol i unioni'r anghydraddoldeb hwn.

Mae adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan y cyfeirir ato yn y cynnig hwn yn datgan ei hun ei bod:

yn rhy syml honni bod y dirwasgiad wedi cael effaith fwy neu lai ar fenywod na dynion.

Mae'r darlun sy'n deillio o newidiadau diweddar o ran sefyllfa menywod yn y farchnad lafur yng Nghymru yn gymhleth ac ni ellir ei nodweddu o ran bod menywod yn gwneud yn well neu'n waeth na dynion.

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I therefore think that we are gilding the lily a bit in terms of how this motion has been framed, but, clearly, the picture that has been painted by a number of Members here is one of concern, and one which has to be taken account of. Listening to Lindsay Whittle just now, clearly things have been better in the past and people have had greater expectations of their retirement and standard of living but, unfortunately, because of the economic situation, we are in harsher times. Those harsher times have not developed overnight. They have been developing in my lifetime over several years, and clearly the changes to the welfare state and the level of support provided for people who need it has changed over decades in terms of how Government has treated this issue, irrespective of the colour of the Government.

One thing that has struck me in listening to speakers today is that everyone is bemoaning the cuts that have had to be made, but I have not heard any alternative to those cuts. Welfare spending amounts to one third of all Government spending. If we are to reduce the deficit, which I think all parties accept, irrespective of the pace of change they would like to see applied to that, then we have no choice but to make some cuts to welfare payments to deliver that deficit reduction. [Interruption.] Trident, of course, is one-off capital spending not revenue spending, and it is not even current spending, so it is all very well saying that you could cut Trident—I agree that we should not go ahead with it—but that is a one-off saving. We need to cut the current spending of this Government to reduce the deficit, and, of course, welfare spending is one third of that, and so cuts cannot be avoided.

The Bevan Foundation report covers the last four years, 2008 to 2012, underlining my point that this has not happened overnight. The economic situation that we are in and the changes that have come about have not been the result of this Government's policy, but the policies of a number of Governments. That is why we are where we are.

I agree that women need support throughout this period of recovery, and I am happy to support the Conservative amendment welcoming the fact that there are more women in work now thanks to the UK Government. It is worth remembering that the recession and welfare benefit changes would affect all people in Wales, regardless of who was in Government.

In terms of welfare reform, we also have to remember that this is not just about the current Government. Liam Byrne, the shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, said only last year that Labour will make cuts to the welfare budget if it wins the 2015 election. He would also like to introduce regional benefits, which would have a huge impact on Welsh people. I am pleased to say that the Liberal Democrats in Westminster helped to remove any coalition ideas of regional pay, but nobody in the coalition Government has ever thought of having regional benefits. That is something that Liam Byrne is putting forward himself. We need to take note of the paths that we could go down, and the impact that would have on women and men in Wales if that came about.

Felly, credaf ein bod yn gor-ddweud braidd mewn perthynas â'r modd y cafodd y cynnig hwn ei fframio, ond, yn amlwg, mae'r darlun a gyflwynwyd gan nifer o Aelodau yma yn un sy'n peri pryder, ac yn un y mae'n rhaid ei ystyried. O wrando ar Lindsay Whittle yn awr, yn amlwg mae pethau wedi bod yn well yn y gorffennol a phobl wedi cael disgwyliadau uwch ar gyfer eu hymddeoliad a safon byw, ond, yn anffodus, oherwydd y sefyllfa economaidd, rydym mewn cyfnod anos. Nid yw'r cyfnod anos wedi datblygu dros nos. Mae wedi bod yn datblygu yn ystod fy oes i dros nifer o flynyddoedd, ac mae'n amlwg bod y newidiadau i'r wladwriaeth les a lefel y cymorth a roddir i bobl sydd ei angen wedi newid dros y degawdau o ran sut y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi trin y mater hwn, waeth beth fo lliw'r Llywodraeth.

Un peth sydd wedi fy nharo wrth wrando ar siaradwyr heddiw yw bod pawb yn cwyno am y toriadau y bu'n rhaid eu gwneud, ond nid wyf wedi clywed unrhyw ddeuwis amgen i'r toriadau hynny. Mae gwariant lles yn cyfrif am draean o holl wariant y Llywodraeth. Os ydym am leihau'r diffyg, y credaf fod pob plaid yn ei dderbyn, waeth pa mor gyflym yr hoffent weld hynny'n digwydd, yna nid oes gennym unrhyw ddeuwis ond gwneud toriadau i daliadau lles i sicrhau bod y diffyg yn lleihau. [Torri ar draws.] Gwariant cyfalaf unigol, nid gwariant refeniw, yw Trident, wrth gwrs, ac nid yw hyd yn oed yn wariant cyfredol, felly mae'n ddigon hawdd dweud y gallech dorri Trident—rwy'n cytuno na ddylem fwrw ymlaen â hyn—ond arbediad unigol yw hynny. Mae angen inni dorri gwariant cyfredol y Llywodraeth hon i leihau'r diffyg, ac, wrth gwrs, mae gwariant budd-daliadau yn draean o hynny, ac felly ni ellir ei osgoi toriadau.

Mae adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan yn cwmpasu'r pedair blynedd diwethaf, 2008 i 2012, gan danlinellu fy mhwynt nad yw hyn wedi digwydd dros nos. Nid yw'r sefyllfa economaidd rydym ynddi a'r newidiadau sydd wedi digwydd wedi bod o ganlyniad i bolisi'r Llywodraeth hon, ond o ganlyniad i bolisiau nifer o Lywodraethau. Dyna pam rydym yn wynebu'r sefyllfa rydym ynddi.

Rwy'n cytuno bod angen i fenywod gael cymorth drwy'r cyfnod hwn o adferiad, ac rwy'n hapus i gefnogi gwelliant y Ceidwadwyr yn croesawu'r ffaith bod mwy o fenywod mewn gwaith bellach, diolch i Lywodraeth y DU. Mae'n werth cofio y byddai'r dirwasgiad a newidiadau mewn budd-daliadau lles yn effeithio ar bawb yng Nghymru, ni waeth pwy fyddai mewn grym.

O ran diwygio lles, rhaid inni hefyd gofio nad ymwneud â'r Llywodraeth bresennol yn unig y mae hyn. Dim ond y llynedd, dywedodd Liam Byrne, Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yr wrthblaid dros Waith a Phensiynau, y bydd Llafur yn gwneud toriadau i'r gyllideb les os bydd yn ennill etholiad 2015. Byddai hefyd yn hoffi cyflwyno budd-daliadau rhanbarthol, a fyddai'n cael effaith enfawr ar bobl Cymru. Rwy'n falch o ddweud bod y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn San Steffan wedi helpu i gael gwared ar unrhyw syniadau o dâl rhanbarthol sydd gan y glymblaid, ond nid oes neb yn y Llywodraeth glymblaid erioed wedi ystyried cael budd-daliadau rhanbarthol. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae Liam Byrne yn ei gyflwyno ei hun. Mae angen inni gymryd sylw o'r llwybrau y gallem eu dilyn, a'r effaith a gâi hynny ar fenywod a dynion yng Nghymru pe cai ei wireddu.

The report is right to state that women need support, which we are ensuring is happening through income tax changes, benefits improvements and pensions changes. Income tax improvements have been noted in amendment 4, which we support: 106,000 people in Wales have been lifted out of tax altogether since 2010, and 1.1 million people in Wales will have a tax cut from April 2013. Six out of ten, or 59%, of the low earners taken out of income tax are women. Combined with universal credit, it is estimated that the steps the coalition Government is taking will reduce poverty by around 900,000 individuals, including over 350,000 children. The universal credit will help women to get back to work, because it will deal with those issues of transition from benefit to work, which have been highlighted in terms of childcare and other benefit issues. Women, on average, have poorer state pension outcomes than men, but the coalition Government's reform of the state pension will make it easier and fairer, helping all people, including women, to benefit from the single tier pension. More than 750,000 women in their 50s will receive an extra £468 annually when they retire under the state pension reforms. That indicates that this is not as black and white as it has been painted, and things are changing for the better for women.

Mae'r adroddiad yn iawn i nodi bod angen cymorth ar fenywod, ac rydym yn sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd drwy newidiadau i dreth incwm, gwelliannau i fudd-daliadau a newidiadau i bensiynau. Nodwyd gwelliannau i dreth incwm yng ngwelliant 4, yr ydym yn ei gefnogi: mae 106,000 o bobl yng Nghymru wedi eu heithrio rhag talu treth yn gyfan gwbl ers 2010, a bydd treth 1.1 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru yn cael ei dorri o fis Ebrill 2013. Mae chwech allan o 10, neu 59%, o'r bobl sydd ar gyflog isel sydd wedi'u heithrio rhag talu treth incwm yn fenywod. Ynghyd â chredyd cynhwysol, amcangyfrifir y bydd y camau y mae'r Llywodraeth glymblaid yn eu cymryd yn lleihau tlodi i oddeutu 900,000 o unigolion, gan gynnwys dros 350,000 o blant. Bydd y credyd cynhwysol yn helpu menywod i ddychweyd i'r gwaith, oherwydd bydd yn ymdrin â'r broses o drosglwyddo o fudd-dal i waith, sydd wedi cael ei amlygu o ran gofal plant a materion budd-daliadau eraill. Ar gyfartaledd, mae menywod yn cael canlyniadau pensiwn y wladwriaeth gwaeth na dynion, ond bydd proses y Llywodraeth glymblaid o ddiwygio pensiwn y wladwriaeth yn ei gwneud yn haws ac yn decach, gan helpu pawb, gan gynnwys menywod, i elwa ar y pensiwn un haen. Bydd mwy na 750,000 o fenywod yn eu 50au yn cael £468 ychwanegol bob blwyddyn pan fyddant yn ymdeol o dan y diwygiadau i bensiwn y wladwriaeth. Mae hynny'n dangos nad yw hyn yn mor ddu a gwyn â'r disgwyl, a bod pethau'n newid er gwell i fenywod.

17:15

Simon Thomas [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very pleased to contribute to this debate, given that it is not only the week of International Women's Day, but that it is Mothering Sunday at the end of the week. I come from a family of strong women. My grandmother was an entrepreneur who opened a shop to serve the village of Cwmaman. My mother brought me and my sister up virtually by herself and imbued us with the politics that we have today. My sister is a working woman in Wales, and it is her birthday today. Pen-blwydd hapus iawn, Siân.

We have seen today the need to tackle this central question of fairness within society. It is deeply disappointing, Peter Black, to hear a member of the Liberal Democrats, who are the so-called inheritors of the Beveridge tradition, attack and undermine social solidarity, which has been a joint project of those left of centre generally in the United Kingdom over the past 60 years. It is deeply sad. Peter, go to look at the article that John Lanchester wrote in the 'London Review of Books' about two or three issues ago, which clearly shows that it is the lack of public spending at the moment that is throttling the private sector and preventing it from expanding in the United Kingdom as a whole. Every £1 taken out of circulation is holding us back. That is why we are still in recession, Peter. That is why we still have austerity and why we are not growing; Government spending has been unnecessarily throttled. That includes the spending on supporting the poorest in society as well.

Rwy'n falch iawn o gyfrannu at y ddadl hon, o gofio, yn ogystal â bod yn wythnos Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod, mae hefyd yn Sul y Mamau ddiwedd yr wythnos. Rwy'n dod o deulu o fenywod cryf. Roedd fy nain yn entrepreneur a agorodd siop i wasanaethu pentref Cwmaman. Cefais i â'm chwaer ein magu gan fy mam bron yn gyfan gwbl ar ei phen ei hun gan ein trwytho â'r wleidyddiaeth sydd gennym heddiw. Mae fy chwaer yn fenyw sy'n gweithio yng Nghymru, ac mae'n cael ei phen-blwydd heddiw. Pen-blwydd hapus iawn, Siân.

Rydym wedi gweld heddiw bod angen mynd i'r afael â'r cwestiwn canolog o degwch o fewn cymdeithas. Mae'n siom fawr, Peter Black, i glywed aelod o'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, etifeddwyr honedig traddodiad Beveridge, yn ymosod ac yn tanseilio undod cymdeithasol, sef prosiect ar y cyd y rhai i'r chwith o'r canol yn gyffredinol yn y Deyrnas Unedig dros y 60 mlynedd diwethaf. Mae'n drist iawn. Peter, edrychwch ar yr erthygl a ysgrifennodd John Lanchester yn y 'London Review of Books' tua dau neu dri rhifyn yn ôl, sy'n dangos yn glir mai diffyg gwariant cyhoeddus ar hyn o bryd sy'n cyfyngu ar y sector preifat ac yn ei atal rhag ehangu yn y Deyrnas Unedig yn gyffredinol. Mae pob £1 na chaiff ei gwario yn ein dal yn ôl. Dyna pam ein bod yn dal mewn dirwasgiad, Peter. Dyna pam ein bod yn dal mewn cyfnod o galedi a pham nad ydym yn tyfu; mae gwariant y Llywodraeth wedi cael ei gyfyngu'n ddiangen. Mae hynny'n cynnwys y gwariant ar gynorthwyo'r tlotaf mewn cymdeithas yn ogystal.

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The argument that we have to put forward today is that social solidarity is under attack by the Government in Westminster. We need to stand up for social solidarity and make common cause with people. We certainly need to make common cause with women, who have been singled out, in a sense, because since my mother's generation, and my grandmother's generation to a certain extent, which fought for equality and feminism, the assumption has been made that those battles have been won. Things such as the change on child benefit, from an individual payment going to women, to some kind of a household assessment, seems to assume that something marvellous and magical has happened in society that means that that can now be all equally done. That is not the case. That is a direct attack on women's pay, support and independence in the economy, holding back women from contributing completely to our economy. Therefore, those are retrograde steps, and we cannot say that they are anything else. Due to those steps, we see that women are being held back, and there is an increasing wage gap growing in Wales between male and female earnings. There is also an increasing amount of women who are looking for self-employment in order to contribute to the economy. You might say that that is positive in one sense, because it is entrepreneurship, and it shows that they are venturing on to the high street, as has already been said, but, in fact, women are getting less money from self-employment than they used to get. Their self-employment earnings are dropping heavily in Wales, at the same time as the earnings of employed people are rising. While they may be forced to take that path, because there are no other options for them, they are not able to make their way successfully in that world. Within that world of general business, we have very few women directors of big companies in Wales; only 12.5% of the FTSE 100 companies are women, and only 7% to 8% of the wider FTSE directors are women.

We know that there is an issue around the perception of women as economic contributors, and we know that there is an issue around how women and girls are educators. My colleague has already touched on apprenticeships, and we are pleased in Plaid Cymru to have had an agreement on apprenticeships with the Labour Government, and we hope that we can see apprenticeships become less gender specific and much more open. We want to see a wider range of female mentors coming in to our schools and colleges to show that girls, as the YWCA put it, and as Chwarae Teg has also found out, do not have to choose those lower-paid, so-called 'female occupations' such as care and hairdressing. We need to have an entrepreneurial culture and an apprenticeship culture in Wales that recognises that women can play a full part and do not need to make those stereotypical choices.

Y ddadl y mae'n rhaid inni ei chyflwyno heddiw yw bod undod cymdeithasol dan fgyrthiad gan y Llywodraeth yn San Steffan. Mae angen inni sefyll dros undod cymdeithasol a gwneud hyn er lles pawb. Yn sicr mae angen inni sicrhau lles menywod, sydd wedi cael eu neilltuo, mewn ffordd, oherwydd ers cenhedlaeth fy mam, a chenhedlaeth fy nain i ryw raddau, a fu'n ymladd dros gydraddoldeb a ffeministiaeth, tybiwyd bod y brwydrau hynny wedi cael eu hennill. Ymddengys fod pethau megis y newid i fudd-dal plant, o fod yn daliad unigol i fenywod, i ryw fath o asesiad o aelwydydd, yn awgrymu bod rhywbeth gwych a hudolus wedi digwydd mewn cymdeithas sy'n golygu y gellir gwneud popeth yn gyfartal bellach. Nid yw hynny'n wir. Mae'n ymosodiad uniongyrchol ar dâl, cymorth ac annibyniaeth menywod yn yr economi, sy'n rhwystro menywod rhag cyfrannu'n llwyr at ein heconomi. Felly, camau yn ôl yw'r rhain, ac ni allwn ddweud eu bod yn unrhyw beth arall. Oherwydd y camau hynny, gwelwn fod menywod yn cael eu rhwystro, ac mae bwlch cyflog cynyddol yn tyfu yng Nghymru rhwng enillion dynion a menywod. Mae hefyd nifer cynyddol o fenywod sy'n chwilio am hunangyflogaeth er mwyn cyfrannu at yr economi. Gallech ddweud bod hynny'n gadarnhaol mewn un dastyr, oherwydd ei fod yn entrepreneuriaeth, ac mae'n dangos eu bod yn mentro ar y stryd fawr, fel y dywedwyd eisoes, ond, mewn gwirionedd, mae menywod yn cael llai o arian drwy hunangyflogaeth na'r hyn yr arferent ei gael. Mae eu henillion o hunangyflogaeth yn gostwng yn sylweddol yng Nghymru, ar yr un pryd ag y mae enillion pobl a gyflogir yn codi. Er efallai eu bod yn cael eu gorfodi i ddilyn y llwybr hwnnw, am nad oes unrhyw opsiynau eraill ar gael iddynt, ni allant wneud bywoliaeth yn llwyddiannus yn y byd hwnnw. O fewn y byd busnes cyffredinol, prin iawn yw'r menywod sy'n gyfarwyddwyr cwmnïau mawr yng Nghymru; dim ond 12.5% o gyfarwyddwyr can cwmni'r FTSE sy'n fenywod, a dim ond 7% i 8% o gyfarwyddwyr y cwmnïau FTSE ehangach sy'n fenywod.

Gwyddom fod problem ynghylch y canfyddiad o fenywod fel cyfranwyr economaidd, a gwyddom fod problem ynghylch y canfyddiad o fenywod a merched fel addysgwyr. Mae fy nghyd-Aelod eisoes wedi crybwyll prentisiaethau, ac rydym yn falch ym Mhlaid Cymru ein bod wedi cael cytundeb ar brentisiaethau gyda'r Llywodraeth Lafur, a gobeithiwn y gallwn weld prentisiaethau yn dod yn llai penodol o ran rhyw ac yn llawer mwy agored. Rydym am weld ystod ehangach o fentoriaid benywaidd yn dod i mewn i'n hysgolion a cholegau i ddangos nad oes raid i fenywod, fel y dywedodd y YWCA, ac fel y canfu Chwarae Teg hefyd, ddewis y galwedigaethau cyflog isel benywaidd honedig hynny, megis gofal a thrin gwallt. Mae angen inni gael diwylliant entrepreneuriaidd a diwylliant prentisiaeth yng Nghymru sy'n cydnabod y gall menywod chwarae rhan lawn ac nad oes angen iddynt wneud y dewisiadau ystrydebol hynny.

I very much look forward to seeing further research from Chwarae Teg, which I think will be launched in the Assembly next month, about the contribution of women in the workplace. However, I would like to close with one final reference, namely the way in which women are being targeted at the moment for exploitation by pay-day lenders. A report today published by the Office of Fair Trading shows clearly the underhand marketing techniques employed by many of these companies, the way in which they are pitching their services to people who are at home during the day and that they are not being truthful with regard to the way in which they advertise. It has also shown that they look in particular to have debtors rolling over their revenue for further debt. That is something that needs to be addressed as we address the place of women in the economy.

Edrychaf ymlaen yn fawr at weld gwaith ymchwil pellach gan Chwarae Teg, a gaiff ei lansio yn y Cynulliad y mis nesaf rwy'n meddwl, am gyfraniad menywod yn y gweithle. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn gloi gydag un cyfeiriad olaf, sef y ffordd y caiff menywod eu targedu ar hyn o bryd i'w hecsbloetio gan fenthycwyr diwrnod cyflog. Mae adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd heddiw gan y Swyddfa Masnachu Teg yn dangos yn glir y dulliau marchnata twyllodrus a ddefnyddir gan lawer o'r cwmnïau hyn, y ffordd y maent yn gwerthu eu gwasanaethau i bobl sydd gartref yn ystod y dydd ac nad ydynt yn onest o ran y ffordd y maent yn hysbysebu. Mae hefyd wedi dangos eu bod yn disgwyl yn benodol i ddyledwyr drosglwyddo eu referniw gan greu dyledion pellach. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth sydd angen ei ystyried wrth inni fynd i'r afael â lle menywod yn yr economi.

17:21

Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Y Gweinidog Cyllid ac Arweinydd y Tŷ / The Minister for Finance and Leader of the House

I welcome this opportunity to respond to this debate as the Minister for equalities. This week, we have been celebrating women and their achievements, seeking to empower young women to challenge stereotypes and reach their full potential. However, as this debate shows, we could see many of these achievements facing a setback as a result of the UK Government's decisions on welfare reform, which will have a detrimental impact, particularly on women and their families.

Our priority in these tough times is to create jobs and grow the Welsh economy, increasing employment opportunities for both young people and adults. In that spirit, we support amendment 2, moved by Mark Isherwood, reject all of the other amendments, but support the motion proposed by Plaid Cymru.

To help to drive this important agenda forward, the Welsh Government has established the Jobs Growth Wales programme. This is a £75 million scheme that will create 12,000 jobs over three years for young people aged 16 to 24. This has been developed as a direct response to the disproportionate unemployment levels experienced by young people across Wales. However, to date, over 3,000 young people have been employed in jobs created through Jobs Growth Wales and, of those, over 40% are women. This is welcome. The Bevan Foundation report that was published last week highlighted the severe impact of the recession on young women. The unemployment rate for young women in June 2012 was 20.4% and young women's inactivity rates are, worryingly, 8.5% higher than those of young men. We are committed to addressing that.

Croesawaf y cyfle hwn i ymateb i'r ddatl hon fel y Gweinidog cydraddoldeb. Yr wythnos hon, rydym wedi bod yn dathlu menywod a'u cyflawniadau, gan geisio grymuso menywod ifanc i herio stereoteipiau a chyrraedd eu potensial llawn. Fodd bynnag, fel y dengys y ddatl hon, gallem weld llawer o'r cyflawniadau hyn yn wynebu rhwystr o ganlyniad i benderfyniadau Llywodraeth y DU ar ddiwygio lles, a gaiff effaith niweidiol, yn enwedig ar fenywod a'u teuluoedd.

Ein blaenoriaeth yn ystod y cyfnod anodd hwn yw creu swyddi a thyfu economi Cymru, gan gynyddu cyfleoedd cyflogaeth i bobl ifanc ac oedolion. Yn yr ysbryd hwnnw, cefnogwn welliant 2, a gynigir gan Mark Isherwood, gwrthodwn yr holl welliannau eraill, ond cefnogwn y cynnig a gyflwynwyd gan Blaid Cymru.

Er mwyn helpu i ddatblygu'r agenda bwysig hon, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi sefydlu'r rhaglen Twf Swyddi Cymru. Cynllun £75 miliwn yw hwn a fydd yn creu 12,000 o swyddi dros dair blynedd ar gyfer pobl ifanc rhwng 16 a 24 oed. Mae hyn wedi cael ei ddatblygu fel ymateb uniongyrchol i'r lefelau anghymesur o ddiweithdra a brofir gan bobl ifanc ledled Cymru. Fodd bynnag, hyd yma, mae dros 3,000 o bobl ifanc wedi cael eu cyflogi mewn swyddi a grëwyd drwy Twf Swyddi Cymru ac, o'r rhain, mae dros 40% yn fenywod. Mae hyn i'w groesawu. Amlygodd adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf effaith ddifrifol y dirwasgiad ar fenywod ifanc. Roedd y gyfradd ddiweithdra ar gyfer menywod ifanc ym mis Mehefin 2012 yn 20.4% ac mae'n peri pryder bod cyfraddau anweithgarwch ymhlith menywod ifanc 8.5% yn uwch na rhai dynion ifanc. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael hynny.

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Peter Black was right to focus on the balanced account and authoritative evidence presented by the Bevan Foundation on the impact of the recession on welfare reform. However, the Bevan Foundation report highlights the challenges that young women—and, in particular, those young women moving off benefits to find work—are facing, especially those with children. The reality of the overall impact of the UK Government's welfare reforms is to make families worse off. This has been convincingly demonstrated by the Institute for Fiscal Studies. There will be a loss of benefit and tax credit entitlements, and Lindsay Whittle referred to this in terms of tax credits impacting on the affordability of childcare. That loss of benefit and tax credit entitlement in Wales amounts to over £590 million. On average, households will lose around 1.5% of their income in 2014-15. This excludes the impact of the welfare cuts announced in December's autumn statement, which will mean that losses will be even higher than this.

This, of course, has a negative and detrimental impact on the economy, as Simon Thomas has so convincingly said in response to Peter Black. The UK Government is cutting too far and too fast and the economy is flatlining. Costs are rising, wages are reducing in real terms, debt is continuing to grow and deficit reduction has stalled. Reductions in public sector employment are already having damaging effects on work prospects for women, as Leanne Wood has identified. This threatens to widen the gender pay gap even further. This gap is narrower in the public sector as a result of our interventions, such as the Close the Pay Gap campaign, which saw the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the Wales TUC working in partnership with the Welsh Government.

We in the Welsh Government fully understand that poverty is not limited only to those who are not in work, as the evidence of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation states. For the first time, more people in poverty live in working households than in workless households. In our strategic equality action plan and tackling poverty action plan, we have identified access to quality and affordable childcare as a key priority for tackling poverty, and we will continue to examine ways of increasing the availability of affordable, quality childcare.

The Daycare Trust's report makes for worrying reading, but we have a Government in Wales that is committed to addressing this. We will consider all proposals and work across Government, looking at suggestions from organisations that we support, such as Chwarae Teg. I look forward to presenting its latest findings in a few weeks' time, as Simon Thomas mentioned. This organisation was set up to expand the role of women in the workforce and to tackle the barriers relating to that.

Roedd Peter Black yn gywir i ganolbwyntio ar y cyfrif cytbwys a'r dystiolaeth awdurdodol a gyflwynwyd gan Sefydliad Bevan ar effaith y dirwasgiad ar ddiwygio lles. Fodd bynnag, mae adroddiad Sefydliad Bevan yn amlygu'r heriau y mae menywod ifanc—ac, yn arbennig, y menywod ifanc hynny sy'n symud oddi ar fudd-daliadau i ddod o hyd i waith—yn eu hwynebu, yn enwedig y rhai â phlant. Realiti effaith gyffredinol diwygiadau lles Llywodraeth y DU yw bod teuluoedd yn waeth eu byd. Mae hyn wedi cael ei arddangos yn argyhoeddiadol gan y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Cyllid. Caiff hawliadau budd-daliadau a chredydau treth eu colli, a chyfeiriodd Lindsay Whittle at hyn o ran credydau treth yn effeithio ar fforddiadwyedd gofal plant. Mae'r hawliadau budd-daliadau a chredydau treth a gollir yng Nghymru yn gyfystyr â thros £590 miliwn. Ar gyfartaledd, bydd cartrefi yn colli tua 1.5% o'u hincwm yn 2014-15. Nid yw hyn yn cynnwys effaith y toriadau lles a gyhoeddwyd yn natganiad yr hydref ym mis Rhagfyr, a fydd yn golygu y bydd colledion hyd yn oed yn fwy na hyn.

Mae hyn, wrth gwrs, yn cael effaith negyddol a niweidiol ar yr economi, fel y dywedodd Simon Thomas mor argyhoeddiadol mewn ymateb i Peter Black. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn gwneud gormod o doriadau ac yn gwneud hynny'n rhy gyflym, ac mae'r economi ar ei gliniau. Mae costau yn codi, mae cyflogau yn lleihau mewn termau real, mae dyled yn parhau i dyfu ac mae'r broses o leihau'r diffyg wedi arafu. Mae gostyngiadau mewn cyflogaeth yn y sector cyhoeddus eisoes yn cael effeithiau niweidiol ar ragolygon gwaith i fenywod, fel y dywedodd Leanne Wood. Mae hyn yn bygwth ehangu'r bwlch cyflog rhwng y ddau ryw hyd yn oed ymhellach. Mae'r bwlch hwn yn llai yn y sector cyhoeddus o ganlyniad i'n hymyriadau, fel ymgyrch Cau'r Bwlch Cyflog, a welodd y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol a TUC Cymru yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth â Llywodraeth Cymru.

Rydym ni yn Llywodraeth Cymru yn deall yn llwyr nad yw tlodi wedi'i gyfyngu i'r rheini nad ydynt mewn gwaith yn unig, fel y noda tystiolaeth Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree. Am y tro cyntaf, mae mwy o bobl mewn tlodi yn byw mewn aelwydydd sy'n gweithio nag mewn aelwydydd di-waith. Yn ein cynllun gweithredu cydraddoldeb strategol a'n cynllun gweithredu mynd i'r afael â thlodi, rydym wedi nodi mynediad i ofal plant fforddiadwy, o ansawdd, fel blaenoriaeth allweddol ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â thlodi, a byddwn yn parhau i archwilio ffyrdd o gynyddu argaeledd gofal plant fforddiadwy, o ansawdd.

Mae darllen adroddiad yr Ymddiriedolaeth Gofal Dydd yn peri pryder, ond mae gennym Lywodraeth yng Nghymru sydd wedi ymrwymo i fynd i'r afael â hyn. Byddwn yn ystyried yr holl gynigion ac yn gweithio ar draws y Llywodraeth, gan edrych ar awgrymiadau gan sefydliadau rydym yn eu cefnogi, fel Chwarae Teg. Edrychaf ymlaen at gyflwyno ei ganfyddiadau diweddaraf ymhen ychydig wythnosau, fel y crybwyllodd Simon Thomas. Sefydlwyd y sefydliad hwn i ehangu rôl menywod yn y gweithlu a mynd i'r afael â'r rhwystrau sy'n gysylltiedig â hynny.

Mark Isherwood is not prepared to recognise that his Government in Westminster is misguided in its policies; that is why he is so defensive when challenged. The bedroom tax is causing fear and alarm among the most vulnerable people, such as those who may be forced out of their homes and those who will likely suffer from increasing debt and exclusion. The Welsh Government and local authorities have been working to prepare tenants for changes to housing benefits since before April 2011. Our ministerial task and finish group, led and chaired by Leighton Andrews, the Minister for Education and Skills, has been assessing and monitoring the implications of welfare reform, and £1.5 million was made available under the homelessness grant programme during 2011-12 to fund mitigation officers across all Welsh local authorities to promote awareness of the changes, and to provide advice and guidance to tenants and landlords.

Nid yw Mark Isherwood yn barod i gydnabod bod polisïau ei Lywodraeth yn San Steffan yn gyfeiliornus; dyna pam ei fod mor amddiffynnol pan gaiff ei herio. Mae'r dreth ystafell wely yn achosi ofn a dychryn ymhlith y bobl fwyaf agored i niwed, megis y rhai a allai gael eu gorfodi i adael eu cartrefi a'r rhai a fydd yn debygol o gael eu heithrio ac o wynebu dyled gynyddol. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru ac awdurdodau lleol wedi bod yn gweithio i baratoi tenantiaid ar gyfer newidiadau i fudd-daliadau tai ers cyn mis Ebrill 2011. Mae ein grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen gweinidogol, dan arweinyddiaeth a chadeiryddiaeth Leighton Andrews, y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, wedi bod yn asesu ac yn monitro goblygiadau diwygio lles, a neilltuwyd £1.5 miliwn o dan y rhaglen grantiau digartrefedd yn ystod 2011-12 i ariannu swyddogion lliniaru ar draws holl awdurdodau lleol Cymru i hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth o'r newidiadau, ac i roi cyngor ac arweiniad i denantiaid a landlordiaid.

17:26 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to the Minister for taking the intervention. With regard to council tax benefits, given the shambles that were the regulations tabled by the Welsh Government, how have you been working with Welsh local government to inform council tax payers that they will not have to pay council tax, given that many people received letters from local authorities in the autumn informing them that they would end up having to pay it?

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am dderbyn yr ymyriad. O ran budd-daliadau treth gyngor, o ystyried y traed moch o reoliadau a gyflwynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, sut ydych chi wedi bod yn gweithio gyda llywodraeth leol Cymru i roi gwybod i dalwyr y dreth gyngor na fydd yn rhaid iddynt dalu treth gyngor, o gofio bod llawer o bobl wedi cael llythyrau gan awdurdodau lleol yn yr hydref yn eu hysbysu y byddent yn gorfod ei thalu yn y pen draw?

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17:27 Within our reduced budgets—which have been reduced too far and too deeply by the UK Government—we have done what we feel is morally right and politically just to mitigate those cuts. That transfer of responsibility to the Welsh Government for council tax support came with a 10% cut from the UK Government, which was shameful. Our decision to provide additional funding to local authorities in 2013-14 to make up that 10% cut has been widely welcomed by organisations, people and local authorities at the sharp end of meeting the needs of the most vulnerable people in Wales. It means that around two thirds of eligible claimants will continue to not pay any council tax. This is a Government that is prepared to step in in the context of reducing budgets to bridge that gap.

O fewn ein cyllidebau llai—sydd edi cael eu lleihau'n ormodol gan Lywodraeth y DU—rydym wedi gwneud yr hyn sy'n foisol gywir ac yn wleidyddol gyfiawn yn ein barn ni i liniaru'r toriadau hynny. Trosglwyddwyd y cyfrifoldeb hwnnw am gymorth treth gyngor i Lywodraeth Cymru ar yr un pryd ag y gwnaeth Llywodraeth y DU doriad o 10%, a oedd yn gywilyddus. Mae ein penderfyniad i ddarparu cyllid ychwanegol i awdurdodau lleol yn 2013-14 i wneud iawn am y toriad o 10% wedi'i groesawu'n gyffredinol gan sefydliadau, pobl ac awdurdodau lleol sy'n arwain y gwaith o ddiwallu anghenion y bobl sydd fwyaf agored i niwed yng Nghymru. Mae'n golygu y bydd tua dwy ran o dair o hawlwrwyr cymwys yn parhau i beidio â thalu unrhyw dreth gyngor. Mae hon yn Llywodraeth sy'n barod i gamu i'r adwy yng nghyd-destun lleihau cyllidebau i bontio'r bwlch hwnnw.

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Jane Hutt [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We welcome the Cuts Watch Cymru report, which we are looking at very closely. In fact, the Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage will meet with representatives of Cuts Watch Cymru and Community Housing Cymru next week to discuss the report in more detail.

Rydym yn croesawu adroddiad Cuts Watch Cymru, yr ydym yn edrych arno'n agos iawn. Yn wir, bydd y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth yn cwrdd â chynrychiolwyr Cuts Watch Cymru a Chartrefi Cymunedol Cymru yr wythnos nesaf i drafod yr adroddiad yn fanylach.

There are major concerns about the introduction of universal credit and the way that it will be paid to one named individual within a household. The adverse impact that that could have on women is particularly worrying. That is an issue on which we are trying to influence the Department for Work and Pensions in terms of its Welsh support and exceptions working group. We are saying that this is impractical and could turn the clock back in terms of its impact on women in households, particularly the exclusion and fear of domestic abuse that this could lead to. With regard to the digital-by-default approach, we must ensure that we address this in terms of those who are excluded by the digital divide.

Mae pryderon mawr ynghylch cyflwyno credyd cynhwysol a'r ffordd y caiff ei dalu i un unigolyn a enwir ar aelwyd. Mae'r effaith andwyol y gallai hynny ei chael ar fenywod yn benodol yn peri pryder. Mae hwnnw'n fater yr ydym yn ceisio dylanwadu ar yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau yn ei glych o ran ei gweithgor cymorth ac eithriadau yng Nghymru. Rydym yn dweud bod hyn yn anymarferol ac y gallai droi'r dloc yn ôl o ran ei effaith ar fenywod ar aelwydydd, yn enwedig yr allgáu ac ofn cam-drin domestig a allai ddeillio o hyn. O ran y dull o drosglwyddo i brosesau digidol, rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn mynd i'r afael â hyn o ran y rhai sy'n cael eu hallgáu gan y rhaniad digidol.

- 17:29 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
Please conclude now, Minister. A fydddech cystal â therfynu yn awr, Weinidog.
- 17:29 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
I will finish by saying that we are continuing to look at the evidence presented to us to do all that we can to mitigate the effect of austerity measures imposed on us by the UK Government, and the impact that they are having on women and families. As Julie Morgan says, in terms of the impact following the loss of legal aid—
Rwyf am gloi drwy ddweud ein bod yn parhau i edrych ar y dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd inni a gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i liniaru effaith y mesurau llymder a osodwyd arnom gan Lywodraeth y DU, a'r effaith y maent yn ei chael ar fenywod a theuluoedd. Fel y dywed Julie Morgan, o ran yr effaith yn dilyn colli cymorth cyfreithiol—
- 17:29 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
You must finish, Minister. Rhaid ichi orffen, Weinidog.
- 17:29 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
During the week of International Women's Day, we are committed to not only supporting the people suffering as a result of the UK Government's cuts, but we are also supporting this motion and calling on our colleagues in the UK coalition Government parties to work with us to oppose these changes.
Yn ystod wythnos Diwrnod Rhyngwladol y Menywod, rydym wedi ymrwymo, nid yn unig i gefnogi pobl sy'n dioddef o ganlyniad i doriadau Llywodraeth y DU, ond rydym hefyd yn cefnogi'r cynnig hwn ac yn galw ar ein cyd-aelodau ym mhleidiau Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU i weithio gyda ni i wrthwynebu'r newidiadau hyn.
- 17:30 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
I call on Alun Ffred Jones to reply to the debate. Galwaf ar Alun Ffred Jones i ymateb i'r ddatl.
- 17:30 **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
Diolch i bawb sydd wedi cyfrannu at y ddatl ddi-ddorol hon y prynhawn yma. Mae'n un sy'n werth ei chael, yn enwedig o gofio'r hyn rydym yn ei nodi'r wythnos hon. Fodd bynnag, os ydym o ddifrif am barhau i wella economi Cymru, rhaid inni wneud y gorau o'n hadnodd mwyaf, sef ein pobl. Yn anffodus, mae doniau a phrofiad hanner poblogaeth Cymru, sef merched, yn cael eu tanddefnyddio yn ein cymdeithas, yn aml oherwydd strwythurau cymdeithasol sy'n bod ac nad ydynt wedi newid cymaint ag y mae rhai ohonom wedi meddwl.
I thank everyone who has contributed to this interesting debate this afternoon. It is a debate that is worth having, particularly when we bear in mind what we are marking this week. However, if we are serious about improving the Welsh economy we must make the most of our greatest resource, namely our people. Unfortunately, the talents and experiences of half the Welsh population—women—are underutilised in our society, often because of social structures that have not changed as much as some of us would have thought.

Rwyf am droi at rai o'r cyfraniadau, gan ddechrau gyda Leanne Wood, a agorodd y ddatl. Mae'n werth nodi'r pwynt cyffredinol a wnaeth Leanne—mae wedi'i wneud ar fwy nag un achlysur—sef y byddai cael gwell cyfartaledd rhwng y rhywiâu mewn bywyd cyhoeddus yn sicrhau y byddai materion sy'n effeithio ar y ddau ryw yn cael eu trafod yn llawn ac, efallai, yn fwy ystyrlon. Rhaid inni geisio troi hynny yn wirionedd drwy sôn am gynrychiolaeth nid yn unig yn y lle hwn, ond mewn cyrff cyhoeddus a chwmnïau preifat. Mae'n ddi-ddorol gweld beth sydd wedi digwydd yn Chwaraeon Cymru ar ôl penodi'r Athro Laura McAllister i'r brif swydd, sef cadeirydd. Mae wedi troi'r cyngor hwnnw—yn fwriadol, mae'n debyg—yn llawer mwy cynrychioliadol o gymdeithas yng Nghymru. Ni all hynny ond fod yn llesol.
I will turn to some of the contributions, starting with Leanne Wood, who opened the debate. It is worth noting the general point that Leanne made—she has made this point on more than one occasion—that having greater gender equality in public life would ensure that issues impacting upon both genders could be discussed fully and, perhaps, more comprehensively. We must try to make that a reality not just through talking about representation in this place, but also out there in public bodies and in the private sector. It is interesting to see what has happened at Sport Wales following the appointment of Professor Laura McAllister to the top job, of chair. She has deliberately turned that body into one that is far more representative of society in Wales. That can only be beneficial.

Cyfeiriodd Leanne Wood at yr ansicrwydd o ran swyddi yn y sectorau iechyd a gofal, lle mae menywod yn y mwyafrif. Roedd yn fy atgoffa o fy ymweliad diweddar â chwmmi yn y trydydd sector sy'n darparu gofal—cwmni gweddol fawr yn y gogledd-orllewin. Dywedodd y ferch sy'n rheoli'r cwmni hwnnw mai dim ond £7 yr awr y gall fforddio talu mewn cyflog. Mae hynny'n cymharu gyda'r cyflog y byddech yn ei gael pe baech yn dechrau bore yfory yn Costa Coffee. Y gwahaniaeth yw, yn Costa Coffee, ar ôl tri mis, byddech yn cael codiad cyflog o £1 yr awr. Ni fyddech yn cael hynny yn y sector gofal yng Nghymru, mae arnaf ofn, achos dyna yw'r amodau sy'n bodoli. Atgoffodd Leanne ni hefyd bod Cuts Watch Cymru wedi rhoi nifer o gynigion ymlaen er mwyn ceisio gwrthweithio effeithiau'r toriadau sy'n digwydd o'n cwmpas.

Roedd Mark Isherwood yn amddiffyn polisiau'r Llywodraeth ganolog ac yn dadlau bod llawer iawn ohonynt yn gyfiawn ac yn llesol i bobl dlawd. Yr unig beth y gallaf ei ddweud yw bod yr holl dystiolaeth rwyf wedi'i gweld yn awgrymu mai'r garfan dlotaf yn ein cymdeithas sydd wedi dioddef waethaf yn ystod y dirwasgiad ac yn ystod polisi presennol Llywodraeth San Steffan. Y pwynt sydd wedi cael ei wneud fwy nag unwaith—gwnaeth y Gweinidog y pwynt hwn wrth gloi—yw nad ydym wedi sylweddoli sut y bydd y dreth ystafell wely hon yn creu dioddef gwirioneddol i unigolion a theuluoedd ar hyd a lled ein cymunedau ni. Yn barod, rwyf wedi cyfarfod â phobl nad ydynt yn gwybod sut y byddant yn gallu talu'r arian ychwanegol a fydd yn ddyledus.

Gwnaeth Bethan Jenkins hefyd nodi'r rhes o ddiwygiadau i'r drefn fudd-daliadau, gan sôn am gymhlethdod y drefn honno a'r anhawster y caiff pobl fel ni wrth geisio eu deall, heb sôn am geisio cyfleu hynny i bobl ar lawr gwlad. Un o'r pethau a wnaeth fy nharo oedd y cyfeiriad at y 'Work Programme' a'r ffaith bod y pwyllgor cyfrifon cyhoeddus wedi dweud y byddai gwell llwyddiant wedi bod pe byddai'r Llywodraeth wedi gwneud dim byd, yn hytrach na chyflwyno'r fath raglen ddiwerth. Fodd bynnag, manylyn oedd hynny yng nghanol y rhestr faith o newidiadau cymhleth sy'n effeithio ar lawer o bobl.

Gwnaeth Julie Morgan ganolbwyntio, ar ôl rhestru nifer o gamau cadarnhaol a wnaed gan y Llywodraeth Lafur—byddwn yn disgwyl iddi wneud dim byd llai—ar effaith y cwtogi anferth ar gymorth cyfreithiol a fydd, mwy na thebyg, yn cael mwy o effaith ar fenywod sy'n ceisio cynnal eu teuluoedd a'u dal at ei gilydd. Mae hon yn golled ac yn ergyd wirioneddol i garfan fawr o bobl yn ein cymdeithas.

Clywsom gan Mrs Lindsay Whittle—gwelaf ei fod wedi mynd nawr—a gyfeiriodd ddoe at y ffaith nad yw pobl yn sylweddoli mai dyn ydyw. Soniodd heddiw am sut mae diweithdra ymysg merched wedi cynyddu yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a sut mae mwy ohonynt, fel y soniodd Leanne Wood, mewn perygl o golli eu swyddi oherwydd y math o swyddi y maen nhw'n dueddol o'u cyflawni.

Leanne Wood referred to the uncertainty in terms of jobs in the health and care sectors, where women are in a majority. That reminded me of my recent visit to a company in the third sector that provides care—it is a relatively large company in north-west Wales. The woman who manages that company told me that it can only afford to pay a wage of £7 per hour. That compares with the wage that you would receive in Costa Coffee if you started working there tomorrow morning. The difference is that, after three months in Costa Coffee, you would have a pay rise of £1 per hour. You would not get that in the care sector in Wales, I am afraid, because those are the conditions that exist. Leanne also reminded us of the fact that Cuts Watch Wales has put forward a number of proposals to try to counteract the impacts of the cuts being imposed around us.

Mark Isherwood defended central Government policy and argued that many of those policies were just and beneficial to poor people. All that I can say is that all the evidence that I have seen suggests that it is the poorest people in society who have suffered most during this recession and as a result of the current policies of the Westminster Government. The point that has been made more than once—the Minister made this point in conclusion—is that we have not really understood how the bedroom tax will create real suffering for individuals and families in all our communities. I have already met people who do not know how they will pay the additional sums that will be owed.

Bethan Jenkins also listed a number of changes to the benefits system and the complexity of that system, and the difficulty that people like us have in understanding it, never mind explaining it to people at a grass-roots level. One of the impacts that struck me was the reference to the Work Programme and the fact that the public accounts committee has said that it would be far more successful if the Government had done nothing rather than introducing such a useless programme. However, that was one detail in a lengthy list of complex changes that will impact upon so many people.

Julie Morgan concentrated, having listed a number of positive steps taken by the Labour Government—I would expect nothing less—on the impact of the huge cuts in legal aid, which will more than likely have a greater impact upon women who are trying to support their families and keep them together. This is a shame and will be a real blow to a large number of people in our society.

We then heard from Mrs Lindsay Whittle—I see that he has now left—who yesterday referred to the fact that people did not realise that he is a man. Lindsay Whittle commented today on the way in which unemployment among women has increased during these past few years, and how more women, as Leanne Wood said, are in danger of losing their jobs due to the types of professions they tend to enter.

Aeth Peter Black i amddiffyn y toriadau ac awgrymodd nad yw merched wedi dioddef yn waeth na dynion yn ystod y dirwasgiad. Rhydd i bawb ei farn, wrth gwrs, ond, unwaith eto, buaswn i'n awgrymu, o edrych ar y ffigurau diweithdra, fod merched wedi cael eu heffeithio'n waeth a bod potensial i'r newidiadau yn y drefn fudd-daliadau effeithio'n waeth ar ferched sydd â gofal teuluoedd. Cyfeiriodd hefyd at y ffaith bod Liam Byrne fel petai'n mynd i gynnis newidiadau sy'n debyg i'r newidiadau sydd wedi'u cyflwyno gan y Llywodraeth bresennol, ond nid fy mhroblem i yw honno.

Tynnodd Simon Thomas ein sylw at lawer o agweddau ar y mater cymhleth hwn. Tynnodd sylw at y newidiadau yn y drefn fudd-dal plant a'r perygl gwirioneddol y gallai'r arian hwnnw, sydd mor bwysig a hanfodol i lawer o famau, gael ei golli oherwydd natur rhai, neu amryw, o deuluoedd. Mae hwnnw'n fater y dylem ni i gyd fod yn ymwybodol ohono. Cyfeiriodd hefyd at agwedd mwy cadarnhaol, sef yr arian ychwanegol ar gyfer prentisiaethau a'r gobaith y byddwn yn gallu cael mwy o ferched i ddilyn prentisiaethau nad ydynt yn eu dilyn yn arferol, sef ym meysydd technoleg a gwyddoniaeth, er mwyn ceisio newid natur ein gweithlu fel y cawn ni well cynrychiolaeth o'r ddau ryw mewn meysydd sydd yn draddodiadol wedi bod yn feysydd i ddynion.

Felly, yng nghanol y newyddion eithaf digalon hyn ar lawer ystyr, mae ynysoedd o obaith, ac mae'n rhaid i ni ganolbwyntio ar y rheini a sicrhau bod camau ymarferol yn cael eu cymryd er mwyn ceisio gwrthweithio'r effeithiau negyddol a ddaw yn sgîl y newidiadau presennol, ond hefyd oherwydd y tueddiadau sydd wedi dod i'r amlwg yn ystod y degawdau diwethaf.

Peter Black also defended the cuts being imposed and suggested that perhaps women have not suffered more than men during this recession. He is entitled to that opinion, of course, but, once again, I would suggest, having looked at the unemployment figures, that women have been more badly hit and that there is certainly a potential for the changes to the benefit system to have a greater impact on women who have family caring responsibilities. There was a reference to the fact that Liam Byrne was likely to introduce changes fairly similar to the changes being imposed by the current Government, but that is not my problem.

Simon Thomas drew our attention to many aspects of this complex issue. He highlighted the changes that have been made to the child benefit system and the real risk that that money, which is so important and crucial to so many mothers, will perhaps be lost due to the nature of some, or even many families. That is an issue that we should all be aware of. He also referred to a more positive aspect, namely the additional funding for apprenticeships and the hope that we will be able to encourage more women to enter apprenticeships that are not traditionally associated with women, namely in the fields of technology and science, in order to change the nature of our workforce so that we have a far better representation of both genders in areas that have traditionally been male dominated.

Therefore, amid this negativity in many respects, there are some glimmers of hope, and we must focus on those and ensure that practical steps are taken to try to counteract the negative impacts of some of the changes currently being imposed, but also because of the tendencies that have emerged over the past decades.

17:38 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Gorffennwch, os gwelwch yn dda.

Conclude, please.

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17:38 **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yr unig beth y gallaf ei ddweud wrth gloi yw y byddai Plaid Cymru mewn Llywodraeth yn gwneud y materion hyn yn rhan ganolog o'i rhaglen waith, fel y dylem ei wneud.

All that I can say, in conclusion, is that Plaid Cymru in Government would certainly place these issues at the very heart of its work programme, as we should.

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17:38 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The proposal is to agree the motion without amendment. Does any Member object? There are objections, therefore I defer voting on this item until voting time. Do three Members wish for the bell to be rung? I see that no-one does, so we will proceed immediately to the votes.

Y cynnig yw cytuno ar y cynnig heb ei ddiwygio. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiadau, felly gohiriaf y pleidleisio ar yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio. A oes tri Aelod yn dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu? Gwelaf nad oes neb yn dymuno hynny, felly awn yn syth at y pleidleisiau.

Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

Voting deferred until voting time.

Cyfnod Pleidleisio

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar NDM5180](#)

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig: O blaid 11, Yn erbyn 37, Ymatal 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 1 i NDM5180.](#)

Voting Time

[Result of the vote on NDM5180](#)

Voting Time

[Result of the vote on amendment 1 to NDM5180.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 32, Yn erbyn 16, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on NDM5180

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 2 i NDM5180.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 2 to NDM5180.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 40, Yn erbyn 8, Ymatal 0.

Motion not agreed: For 11, Against 37, Abstain 0.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 3 i NDM5180.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 3 to NDM5180.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 48, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Result of the vote on amendment 1 to NDM5180.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar welliant 4 i NDM5180.](#)

[Result of the vote on amendment 4 to NDM5180.](#)

Derbyniwyd y gwelliant: O blaid 48, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 0.

Amendment agreed: For 32, Against 16, Abstain 0.

Cynnig NDM5180 fel y'i diwygiwyd:

Motion NDM5180 as amended:

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn cydnabod bod ysgogiadau economaidd ar gael i Lywodraeth Cymru er mwyn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i economi Cymru er gwaethaf y ffaith bod nifer yn parhau i fod o dan reolaeth Llywodraeth y DU.

1. Recognises that the Welsh Government has economic levers at its disposal to make a significant difference to the Welsh economy despite many remaining in the control of the UK Government.

2. Yn croesawu'r cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud i gynyddu cystadleurwydd ar draws y DU ar ôl i'r DU godi yn ddiweddar o'r degfed safle i'r wythfed safle ym Mynegai Cystadleurwydd Byd-Eang Fforwm Economaidd y Byd 2012-2013, ond yn gresynu mai Gwerth Ychwanegol Crynswth Cymru yw'r isaf o blith gwledydd y DU ac yn gwrthod derbyn bod y sefyllfa hon yn anochel.

2. Welcomes the progress being made to increase competitiveness across the UK following the recent rise from 10th to 8th place in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2012–2013, but Regrets that the Gross Value Added (GVA) in Wales is the lowest of the UK nations and rejects the inevitability of this position.

3. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu'r gefnogaeth a gynigir ar gyfer masnacheiddio eiddo deallusol academiaidd o bob Prifysgol yng Nghymru, i sicrhau bod ein hentrepreneuriaid yn cael y cyfle gorau i ddatblygu busnesau ffyniannus a chynhenid yng Nghymru ar gyfer y dyfodol.

3. Calls on the Welsh Government to review the support offered for the commercialisation of academic intellectual property from all Universities in Wales, to ensure our entrepreneurs have the best opportunity to develop prosperous, home-grown Welsh businesses for the future.

4. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu ei strategaeth ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yng ngoleuni'r pryderon a godwyd yn adroddiad Ysgol Fusnes Prifysgol Caerdydd 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' ynghylch y dull gweithredu ar sail sectorau.

4. Calls on the Welsh Government to review its strategy for economic development in light of the concerns raised by the Cardiff University Business School report 'Small Businesses in Priority Sectors' regarding the 'sectoral approach'.

5. Yn credu bod yn rhaid i'r Gweinidog sefydlu targedau clir a mesuradwy ar gyfer dangosyddion economaidd allweddol i hybu cynnydd economaidd a chaniatáu monitro'r cyflenwi.

5. Believes that the Minister must establish clear, measurable targets for key economic indicators to encourage economic progress and allow delivery to be monitored.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar NDM5180 fel y'i diwygiwyd:](#)

[Result of the vote on NDM5180 as amended:](#)

Gwrthodwyd y cynnig fel y'i diwygiwyd: O blaid 13, Yn erbyn 24, Ymatal 11.

Motion as amended not agreed: For 13, Against 24, Abstain 11.

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnis NDM5179](#)

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5179](#)

Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 32, Yn erbyn 16, Ymatal 0.

Motion agreed: For 32, Against 16, Abstain 0.

17:41

Dadl Fer: Cefnogi'r Economi Wledig.

Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Would those Members leaving do so quickly and quietly?

Short Debate: Supporting the Rural Economy

Y [Senedd.tv](#)
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A wnaiff yr Aelodau hynny sy'n gadael wneud hynny'n gyflym ac yn dawel?

17:42

William Powell [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to bring forward this important short debate on the rural economy and specifically rural banking. I am happy to confirm at this stage that I will be allowing Darren Miller, Vaughan Gething and Andrew R.T. Davies each a minute of my time to contribute to the debate.

Almost every week brings fresh news of the closure of bank branches in our rural areas. Figures from the Campaign for Community Banking Services, published in September last year, show that in the last 10 years, just under 2,000 bank branches across the UK have closed their doors for the last time. There are now 900 communities that have only one bank branch, and 1,200 communities with no bank branch at all. The traditional 'big four' banks closed 178 branches in 2011. Estimates suggest a similar rate of closure for 2012 and for the current year.

So, why does it matter? We are told that, these days, everyone is used to internet banking operating 24/7 and that that is so much more convenient. Of course, many of us would accept that there is an element of truth in that, but it does matter, and for a number of reasons. Successful and sustainable economic growth in rural areas requires a local banking system. The closure of bank branches can significantly reduce footfall in our high streets, leading to reduced retail turnover, which, in turn, has an impact on the very sustainability and survivability of our small rural towns.

Some rural areas simply cannot get access to high-speed broadband. This means that some people can no longer access banking services, except by telephone, and, of course, certain sections of society sometimes cannot or do not wish to engage with internet banking. Rural businesses in particular still need access to bank counter services; otherwise, they have to travel often large distances to deposit their cash takings.

A banking service should provide not only offer counter services, but also access to credit based on local lending decisions and to locally based banking advice, often known as the Captain Mainwaring school of banking. The big four are voting with their feet, driven by pressures on profitability and increased capital requirements. The big four are leaving rural areas at a pace—as soon as they can, they do so. What should be done? I believe that we are now at the point where we have to undertake a fundamental re-think of the future of the rural economy in this important area—and, yes, we need to think about this on a cross-party basis.

Rwy'n hynod ddiolchgar am y cyfle i gyflwyno'r ddadl fer bwysig hon ar yr economi wledig ac yn benodol, ar fancio gwledig. Gallaf gadarnhau ar hyn o bryd y byddaf yn caniatáu munud yr un o'm hamser i Darren Miller, Vaughan Gething ac Andrew R.T. Davies gyfrannu at y ddadl.

Bron bob wythnos, clywir bod canghennau banc yn cau yn ein hardaloedd gwledig. Dengys ffigurau o'r Ymgyrch dros Wasanaethau Bancio Cymunedol, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Medi y llynedd, fod ychydig yn llai na 2,000 o ganghennau banc wedi cau eu drysau am y tro olaf ledled y DU yn ystod y 10 mlynedd diwethaf. Bellach, mae 900 o gymunedau sydd â dim ond un gangen banc, a 1,200 o gymunedau heb gangen banc o gwbl. Caeodd y pedwar banc mawr traddodiadol 178 o ganghennau yn 2011. Mae amcangyfrifon yn awgrymu cyfradd gau debyg ar gyfer 2012 ac ar gyfer eleni.

Felly, pam mae hyn yn bwysig? Dywedir wrthym, yn yr oes sydd ohoni, bod pawb wedi arfer â bancio ar y rhyngwrwyd sy'n gweithredu bob awr o'r dydd a'r nos ac felly bod hynny'n llawer mwy cyfleus. Wrth gwrs, byddai llawer ohonom yn derbyn bod rhywfaint o wirionedd yn hynny, ond mae eu cadw ar agor yn bwysig, ac am sawl rheswm. Er mwyn sicrhau twf economaidd llwyddiannus a chynaliadwy mewn ardaloedd gwledig, mae angen system bancio leol. Gall cau canghennau banc leihau nifer y bobl ar y stryd fawr yn sylweddol, gan arwain at drosiant manwerthu is, sydd, yn ei dro, yn cael effaith ar gynaliadwyedd ein trefi gwledig bach a'u gallu i oroesi.

Yn syml, nid oes mynediad band eang cyflym ar gael mewn rhai ardaloedd gwledig. Mae hynny'n golygu mai'r unig ffordd y gall rhai pobl ddefnyddio gwasanaethau bancio bellach yw dros y ffôn, ac, wrth gwrs, ni all rhai carfannau o gymdeithas weithiau ymgymryd â bancio ar y rhyngwrwyd, neu nid ydynt yn dymuno gwneud hynny. Mae angen i fusnesau gwledig, yn arbennig, allu defnyddio gwasanaethau cownter banciau; fel arall, rhaid iddynt yn aml deithio pellterau mawr i dalu'r taliadau arian parod a dderbynnir ganddynt i mewn.

Dylai gwasanaeth bancio nid yn unig ddarparu gwasanaethau cownter, ond hefyd fynediad at gredyd yn seiliedig ar benderfyniadau benthyca lleol ac at gyngor bancio lleol, y cyfeirir ato'n aml fel ysgol fancio Capten Mainwaring. Mae'r pedwar mawr yn pleidleisio â'u traed, wedi'u sbarduno gan bwysau ar broffidoldeb a gofynion cyfalaf uwch. Mae'r pedwar mawr yn gadael ardaloedd gwledig ar ruthr—cyn gynted ag y gallant, gwnânt hynny. Beth y dylid ei wneud? Credaf ein bod bellach wedi cyrraedd y pwynt lle mae'n rhaid inni ystyried o ddirif ddyfodol yr economi wledig yn y maes pwysig hwn—ac oes, mae angen inni ei ystyried yn drawsbleidiol.

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The withdrawal of rural banking services is just one of many challenges facing rural life, including increased energy costs, increased transport costs and the lack of access to modern telecommunications services. We cannot simply rely on food production and food processing, together with tourism, as the future for the rural economy—although, clearly, these play a vital role. We need a wide-ranging revival in the rural economy and I am convinced that that will start with a new community-based banking system in our rural heartlands.

What can we do? There are three main options that I wish to consider this afternoon: the post office network, expanding credit unions and community banking. I would like to look at each in turn, starting with the post office network.

Like many of us, I have been involved in a number of campaigns over recent years to support our rural post office network. One of the questions in these campaigns has been how we can improve the viability of rural post office branches. It has been clear for some time that we need to improve the business that flows through them. One way to do this is to connect post offices into the wider banking system. At one time, we had this, with the old Girobank, which was sold off—in my view, foolishly—by the then Conservative Government in 1990. I am pleased that most of the major banks now have direct arrangements with the Post Office for counter services. However, that does not create the type of community banking that I would suggest we may need. I also have concerns about the current post office modernisation programme, which aims to move the payment of sub-postmasters from a salaried basis to a commission-only basis. I question whether this approach will bear dividends in many of our rural heartlands.

I will now move to the expansion of credit unions. We have a network of credit unions across most areas of Wales and many of them have been successful and provided a vital lifeline for some of our communities, particularly those with a high level of economic deprivation. However, they have not reached their full potential. Along with a number of colleagues who are present today, I have just returned from the forty sixth plenary session of the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly in County Donegal. Interestingly, credit unions in the Irish Republic have over 2.9 million members, with savings approaching €11.9 billion. There are over 9,200 active volunteers involved in the movement, and over 3,500 people are involved in that sector. Here in Wales and elsewhere in the UK, we have very little lending to small businesses by credit unions. That is particularly in contrast to the United States of America, where small businesses are increasingly using the credit union model, including specialist business credit unions, as a source of loan finance.

Mae'r ffaith bod gwasanaethau bancio gwledig yn cael eu diddymu yn un o nifer o heriau sy'n wynebu bywyd gwledig, gan gynnwys costau ynni uwch, costau trafnidiaeth uwch a diffyg mynediad i wasanaethau telathrebu modern. Ni allwn ddibynnu'n syml ar gynhyrchu bwyd a phrosesu bwyd, ynghyd â thwristiaeth, fel dyfodol yr economi wledig—er bod ganddynt ran hanfodol i'w chwarae yn amlwg. Mae angen adfywio'r economi wledig yn sylweddol ac rwy'n argyhoeddedig mai'r cam cyntaf fydd system bancio cymunedol newydd yn ein bröydd gwledig.

Beth y gallwn ei wneud? Mae tri phrif opsiwn yr hoffwn eu hystyried y prynhawn yma: rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post, ehangu undebau credyd a bancio cymunedol. Hoffwn ystyried pob un yn ei dro, gan ddechrau â rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post.

Fel sawl un ohonom, cymerais ran mewn nifer o ymgyrchoedd dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf i gefnogi ein rhwydwaith swyddfeydd post gwledig. Un o'r cwestiynau yn yr ymgyrchoedd hyn fu sut y gallwn wella hyfywedd canghennau swyddfeydd post gwledig. Bu'n amlwg ers tro bod angen inni wella'r busnes sy'n llifo drwyddynt. Un ffordd o wneud hyn yw cysylltu swyddfeydd post â'r system bancio ehangach. Ar un adeg, roedd hynny'n digwydd, gyda'r hen Girobank, a werthwyd gan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ar y pryd yn 1990, a oedd yn benderfyniad gwirion yn fy marn i. Rwy'n falch bod gan y rhan fwyaf o'r prif fanciau yn awr drefniadau uniongyrchol â Swyddfa'r Post ar gyfer gwasanaethau cownter. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hynny'n creu'r math o fancio cymunedol y byddwn yn awgrymu y gallai fod ei angen arnom. Mae gennyf bryderon hefyd am raglen foderneiddio bresennol swyddfa'r post, sy'n anelu at newid y trefniadau ar gyfer talu is-bostfeistri o fod yn gyflogedig i gael comisiwn yn unig. Rwy'n amau a fydd y newid hwn o fudd i lawer o'n broydd gwledig.

Symudaf yn awr at ehangu undebau credyd. Mae gennym rwydwaith o undebau credyd ar draws y rhan fwyaf o Gymru a bu llawer ohonynt yn llwyddiannus gan ddarparu anadl einioes hanfodol i rai o'n cymunedau, yn enwedig y rheini â lefel uchel o amddifadedd cymdeithasol. Fodd bynnag, nid ydynt wedi cyrraedd eu llawn potensial. Ynghyd â nifer o gyd-Aelodau sy'n bresennol heddiw, rwyf newydd ddychwelyd o 46ain sesiwn lawn y Cynulliad Seneddol Prydeinig-Wyddelig yn County Donegal. Yn ddiddorol, mae gan undebau credyd yng Ngwerniaeth Iwerddon dros 2.9 miliwn o aelodau, gyda chynilion o bron i €11.9 biliwn. Mae dros 9,200 o wirfoddolwyr gweithgar yn rhan o'r mudiad, ac mae dros 3,500 o bobl yn ymwneud â'r sector hwnnw. Yma yng Nghymru ac mewn rhannau eraill o'r DU, prin iawn yw lefel y benthyciadau a wneir gan undebau credyd i fusnesau bach. Mae hynny'n wahanol iawn i Unol Daleithiau America, lle mae busnesau bach yn gwneud defnydd cynyddol o fodel yr undebau credyd, gan gynnwys undebau credyd busnes arbenigol, fel ffynhonnell benthyciadau.

Finally, I will move to community banks, which is another potential answer that could be established so that we have a network of community banks across Wales. These have been hugely successful in the Federal Republic of Germany, where they are known as Sparkassen. They work as commercial banks in a decentralised structure. Each savings bank is independent and locally managed, and concentrates its business activities on customers in the region, or federal state, in which it is situated. In general, savings banks are not profit orientated. The total assets of the Sparkassen amount to about €1 trillion. The 431 savings banks operate a network of over 15,600 branches and offices and employ over 250,000 people. They provide the whole spectrum of banking services. They vary in size from the Hamburger Sparkasse, as the biggest savings bank in Germany with total assets of €37 billion and 5,500 employees, to the smallest one, Stadtparkasse Bad Sachsa, with just €129 million assets and 45 employees.

Some of you may have seen the 'Bank of Dave' Channel 4 tv series, which has been fantastic fly-on-the-wall viewing. For those of you who have not, and are not familiar with it, it shows the efforts of a small-business owner, Dave Fishwick, in Burnley, Lancashire, to set up a small community bank. It was set up in 2011, motivated by a strong view that the current banking system simply was not working for ordinary people and local business. Interest of 5% is paid on deposits and all profits, after overheads, are given directly to local charities. It is currently lending £25,000 per week to local people and local businesses.

What that series showed was how out of touch the financial services establishment is with its approach to local communities. At the end of the day, Mr Fishwick overcame the considerable obstacles put in his way. A serious suggestion might be to invite him to some of our deliberations in this Assembly.

The truth is that the UK banking system has been driven by profit motivation to provide large loans to financial institutions for quick returns, rather than putting that same money into smaller firms, which would create more sustainable economic growth. This is particularly important in our rural heartlands. Professor Richard Werner, one of the UK's leading experts on reform of the sector, has stated that there is a clear policy lesson: a banking system with many small banks would deliver higher and more stable economic growth. I would contend that we need to consider how we might create a more diversified banking sector, which would be particularly to the advantage of our rural areas. Wales is actually in an ideal position to benefit from this type of framework in finance. What we need is action and commitment from the Welsh Government to create and support community banking, co-operative banks and, indeed, credit unions, as well as to create a Welsh development bank along the lines of a replacement for Finance Wales. Banking reform is an urgent priority for all of us, but most of all for our rural heartlands.

I gloi, symudaf at fanciau cymunedol, sy'n ateb posibl arall y gellid ei roi ar waith er mwyn sefydlu rhwydwaith o fanciau cymunedol ledled Cymru. Buont yn hynod lwyddiannus yng Ngweriniaeth Ffederal yr Almaen, lle y'u gelwir yn Sparkassen. Maent yn gweithio fel banciau masnachol mewn strwythur datganoledig. Mae pob banc cynilo yn annibynnol ac yn cael ei reoli'n lleol, ac yn canolbwyntio ei weithgareddau busnes ar gwsmeriaid yn y rhanbarth, neu wladwriaeth ffederal, lle y'i lleolir. Yn gyffredinol, nid yw banciau cynilo yn anelu at wneud elw. Mae gan Sparkassen gyfanswm asedau o tua €1 triliwn. Mae'r 431 o fanciau cynilo yn gweithredu rhwydwaith o fwy na 15,600 o ganghennau a swyddfeydd ac yn cyflogi dros 250,000 o bobl. Maent yn darparu'r sbectrwm gwasanaethau bancio cyfan. Maent yn amrywio mewn maint o'r Hamburger, Sparkasse, fel y banc cynilo mwyaf yn yr Almaen â chyfanswm asedau o €37 biliwn a 5,500 o gyflogeion, i'r un lleiaf, Stadtparkasse Bad Sachsa, gyda dim ond €129 miliwn o asedau a 45 o gyflogeion.

Efallai y bydd rhai ohonoch wedi gweld y gyfres deledu 'Bank of Dave' ar Channel 4, a ddarparodd ddeunydd gwyllo pry-ar-y-wal ardderchog. I'r rheini ohonoch nad ydych wedi'i gweld, ac nad ydych yn gyfarwydd â hi, mae'n dangos ymdrechion perchennog busnes bach, Dave Fishwick, yn Burnley, Swydd Gaerhirfryn, i sefydlu banc cymunedol bach. Fe'i sefydlwyd yn 2011, yn seiliedig ar farn gref nad oedd y system bancio bresennol yn gweithio i bobl gyffredin a busnesau lleol. Telir llog o 5% ar adneuron a chaiff unrhyw elw, ar ôl talu gorbenion, ei roi'n uniongyrchol i elusennau lleol. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'n benthycu £25,000 yr wythnos i bobl leol a busnesau lleol.

Dangosodd y gyfres honno i ba raddau y mae'r sefydliad gwasanaethau ariannol wedi colli cysylltiad â chymunedau lleol. Yn y pen draw, llwyddodd Mr Fishwick i oresgyn y rhwystrau sylweddol y daeth ar eu traws. Efallai y byddai'n syniad ei wahodd i rai o'n trafodaethau yn y Cynulliad hwn.

Y gwir amdani yw bod system bancio'r DU wedi cael ei chymell gan elw i roi benthyciadau mawr i sefydliadau ariannol er mwyn gwneud elw cyflym, yn hytrach na buddsoddi'r un arian hwnnw mewn cwmnïau llai, a fyddai'n creu twf economaidd mwy cynaliadwy. Mae hyn yn bwysig iawn yn ein broydd gwledig. Mae'r Athro Richard Werner, un o arbenigwyr arweiniol y DU ar ddiwygio'r sector, wedi datgan bod gwrs polisi glir: byddai system bancio â llawer o fanciau bach yn esgor ar dwf economaidd uwch a mwy sefydlog. Byddwn yn dadlau bod angen inni ystyried sut y gallem greu sector bancio mwy amrywiol, a fyddai o fantais arbennig i'n hardaloedd gwledig. Mae Cymru, mewn gwirionedd, mewn sefyllfa ddelfrydol i elwa ar y math hwn o fframwaith ariannol. Mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru weithredu ac ymrwymo i greu a chefnogi bancio cymunedol, banciau cydweithredol ac, yn wir, undebau credyd, yn ogystal â chreu banc datblygu Cymru a hynny yn lle Cyllid Cymru, i bob pwrpas. Mae diwygio'r system bancio yn flaenoriaeth bwysig i bob un ohonom, ond yn anad dim, i'n broydd gwledig.

Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Bill Powell for bringing this debate forward. It is incredibly important that we have adequate banking services in all communities around Wales, including our rural communities. It is worth pointing out that the UK coalition Government has given a firm commitment that there will be no significant reorganisation of the post office network, and that guarantees the availability of some premises to provide banking services from that post office network in the future. Bill will be aware that, on this side of the Chamber, we have produced our own proposals for banking in Wales, certainly in terms of support for local businesses.

I, too, wanted to reflect on the work of the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly when it comes to credit unions. You will be aware that this report, which was published very recently and discussed at the British-Irish Assembly, made it very clear that there are huge opportunities in terms of the development of credit unions that Wales and other parts of the United Kingdom can really take advantage of if we only learn from what is going on in the Republic of Ireland. They have a 72% penetration rate there, and it is 2.5% here, in terms of the availability of credit unions, membership, et cetera. I really think that we need to learn from some of the things in this report, and I hope that you will take those lessons on board when you receive a copy from Members who have been over to Donegal this week.

Diolch i Bill Powell am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon. Mae'n eithriadol o bwysig sicrhau bod gennym wasanaethau bancio digonol ymhob cymuned ledled Cymru, gan gynnwys ein cymunedau gwledig. Mae'n werth nodi bod Llywodraeth glymblaid y DU wedi rhoi ymrwymiad cadarn na chaiff rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post ei ad-drefnu'n sylweddol, ac mae hynny'n gwarantu y bydd rhai adeiladau ar gael i'r rhwydwaith hwnnw ddarparu gwasanaethau bancio yn y dyfodol. Bydd Bill yn ymwybodol, ar yr ochr hon o'r Siambr, ein bod wedi llunio ein cynigion ein hunain ar gyfer bancio yng Nghymru, yn sicr o ran cymorth i fusnesau lleol.

Roeddwn innau, hefyd, yn awyddus i gyfeirio at waith y Cynulliad Seneddol Prydeinig-Gwyddelig o ran undebau credyd. Byddwch yn ymwybodol bod yr adroddiad hwn, a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar iawn ac a drafodwyd yn y Cynulliad Prydeinig-Wyddelig, wedi nodi'n glir iawn bod cyfleoedd aruthrol o ran datblygu undebau credyd y gall Cymru a rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig fanteisio arnynt o ddifrif ond inni ddysgu o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon. Mae ganddynt gyfradd dreiddio o 72% yno o ran argaeledd undebau credyd, aelodaeth, ac ati, o gymharu â 2.5% yma. Credaf o ddifrif fod angen inni ddysgu o rai o'r pethau yn yr adroddiad hwn, a gobeithio y byddwch yn ystyried y gwersi hynny pan gewch gopi gan yr Aelodau a fu draw yn Donegal yr wythnos hon.

Vaughan Gething [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I welcome the debate that Bill Powell has brought today. I grew up in a rural community and I know that people in those communities are well used to travelling for a number of their services. That is just the day-to-day reality. I also largely support what he says about post offices. For me, the key is to get credit unions and post offices tied up so that there is real access in the post office network, which is a trusted brand. I do not believe that credit unions will scale up, as you see in Ireland, unless they have a much greater network through which to offer their services. They also need to talk much more freely with housing associations, which are providing a range of services to their own tenants.

It is also important to consider the market split. Many people want a geographic location to go and do their business in, but many others my age and younger are comfortable with remote forms of access to financial services. Any expansion of a rural banking product or rural financial services has to take into account that that is the reality and, actually, that that is where the greatest competition comes from—from the people we do not want to see here, the pay-day lenders.

Croesawaf y ddadl a gyflwynwyd gan Bill Powell heddiw. Cefais fy magu mewn cymuned wledig, a gwn fod pobl yn y cymunedau hynny wedi hen arfer â theithio i gael nifer o'u gwasanaethau. Dyna eu realiti beunyddiol. I raddau helaeth, cefnogaf hefyd yr hyn a ddywed am swyddfeydd post. Yn fy marn i, mae'n allweddol cysylltu undebau credyd a swyddfeydd post er mwyn i'r rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post, sy'n frand yr ymddiriedir ynddo, ddarparu mynediad gwirioneddol i wasanaethau. Ni chredaf y gwnaiff nifer yr undebau credyd gynyddu i'r graddau a geir yn Iwerddon, oni fydd rhwydwaith llawer mwy ar gael iddynt gynnig eu gwasanaethau drwyddo. Mae angen iddynt hefyd drafod yn helaethach â chymdeithasau tai, sy'n darparu amrywiaeth o wasanaethau i'w tenantiaid eu hunain.

Mae hefyd yn bwysig ystyried rhan y farchnad. Mae llawer o bobl am gael lleoliad daearyddol i fynd iddo a chynnal eu busnes, ond mae llawer o bobl eraill fy oedran i ac yn iau yn fodlon â ffurfiau mynediad o bell i wasanaethau ariannol. Rhaid i unrhyw ymdrech i ehangu cynnyrch bancio gwledig neu wasanaethau ariannol gwledig ystyried mai dyna'r realiti ac, mewn gwirionedd, mai dyna'r gystadleuaeth fwyaf—y bobl nad ydym am eu gweld yma, sef y benthydwyr diwrnod cyflog.

17:55

Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I have always said that Bill Powell is a good Tory, and listening to him today has reinforced that view, considering that he almost quoted, chapter and verse, our banking policy. However, the one thing that is important to consider is the scale of the rural economy in supporting operations such as banking services. Maybe the Minister would be able to touch on the ability to add value to the produce that is produced in the rural economy, because, sadly, in Wales, we have lost nearly all major milk processing capacity. The Proper Welsh Milk company went into administration last week—it was recently purchased out of administration by Dairy Crest, the one sizeable operation that we have. You then talk of red meat, for example. While the 2 Sisters Food Group Ltd has recently purchased the St Merryn operation, if you took that out of the equation, there is very little capacity to add value in the red meat sector. If you do not have business and industry in those rural economies, the other services, such as banking and support industries, really diminish. Surely, we should be seeking to add value to the rural economy, so that, instead of handing over that value to other people to gain the wealth from it, either in England or Scotland, we are doing that here in Wales. Therefore, I welcome Bill Powell's debate this afternoon and his interesting proposals. There is always a welcome on this side of the Chamber when he decides to come to see us.

Rwyf wedi dweud erioed bod Bill Powell yn Dori da, ac mae gwranddo arno heddiw wedi atgyfnerthu'r farn honno, o ystyried iddo, fwy neu lai, ddyfynnu ein polisi bancio air am air. Fodd bynnag, yr un peth sy'n bwysig i'w ystyried yw maint yr economi wledig o ran cefnogi gweithrediadau fel gwasanaethau bancio. Efallai y gallai'r Gweinidog drafod y gallu i ychwanegu gwerth at y cynnyrch a gynhyrchir yn yr economi wledig, oherwydd, yn anffodus, yng Nghymru, rydym wedi colli fwy neu lai'r holl brif gwmnïau prosesu llaeth. Aeth cwmni Proper Welsh Milk i ddwylo'r gweinyddwyr yr wythnos diwethaf—fe'i prynwyd yn ddiweddar oddi wrth y gweinyddwyr gan Dairy Crest, yr hunig gwmni mawr sydd gennym. A beth am gig coch, er enghraifft. Er bod cwmni 2 Sisters Food Group Ltd wedi prynu gweithrediad St Merryn yn ddiweddar, o anwybyddu hynny, prin iawn yw'r gallu i ychwanegu gwerth yn y sector cig coch. Os nad oes busnes a diwydiant gennych yn yr economïau gwledig hynny, mae'r gwasanaethau eraill, fel bancio a'r diwydiannau cymorth, yn lleihau'n sylweddol. Oni ddylem fod yn ceisio ychwanegu gwerth at yr economi wledig, er mwyn sicrhau yn hytrach na throsglwyddo'r gwerth hwnnw i bobl eraill gael budd ohono, naill ai yn Lloegr neu'r Alban, ein bod yn gwneud hynny yma yng Nghymru. Felly, croesawaf ddadl Bill Powell y prynhawn yma a'i gnygion diddorol. Bydd croeso iddo bob amser ar yr ochr hon o'r Siambr pan fydd yn penderfynu dod i'n gweld.

17:56

Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I call on the Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth i ymateb i'r ddadl.

17:56

Edwina Hart [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Y Gweinidog Busnes, Menter, Technoleg a Gwyddoniaeth / The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science

Thank you very much indeed, Deputy Presiding Officer. I am sure that William Powell would consider himself to be a good Liberal Democrat—I am not anticipating him transferring to any other benches. I am grateful to him for bringing this important issue to the Chamber today, which I think merits discussion over and above a short debate.

Diolch yn fawr iawn ichi, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Rwy'n siŵr y byddai William Powell yn ystyried ei hun yn Ddemocrat Rhyddfrydol da—nid wyf yn rhagweld y bydd yn trosglwyddo i unrhyw feinciau eraill. Rwy'n ddiolchgar iddo am ddod â'r mater pwysig hwn i'r Siambr heddiw, sydd, yn fy marn i, yn haeddu mwy o drafodaeth na dadl fer.

The gradual decline of retail banks and other retailers in centres is very well documented. The rot of banking decline actually started in urban Wales, where you saw chaos in communities with job losses. The banks started to go away, because they did not see anywhere to do businesses.

Mae dirywiad graddol y banciau manwerthu a manwerthwyr eraill mewn canolfannau wedi cael cryn sylw. Dechreuodd y sefyllfa druenus mewn gwirionedd yng Nghymru drefol, lle y cafwyd anhrefn mewn cymunedau wrth i swyddi gael eu colli. Dechreuodd y banciau symud ymaith am nad oeddent yn gweld bod unrhyw le i gynnal busnesau.

New technologies, as Bill Powell outlined, are undoubtedly playing their part in this, with more and more people and businesses using the internet and telephone to purchase goods and services. I recognise that this can cause problems for some people, in terms of access to financial services, especially in rural areas. When you look at the issues for businesses and householders around broadband, we must not assume that everybody is technically literate, in terms of what they are able to do. We are at that stage now where there will be people who will not wish to access services in that way. We have generations that will wish to access services in an anonymous way, but we still have a lot of people in rural communities who like that face-to-face service. From my years in banking, I can think of a number of elderly individuals who would always go to their branch on a Friday. It was not because they required the money; they wanted the discussion. It was life for them, and it was about socialising and having something to do. I realise that corporate social responsibility for banks does not extend that far, but we have to look at what is required.

Banking and business needs are broadly the same across Wales. They want access to finance on reasonable terms. In Government, we are using our powers, where appropriate, to intervene to mitigate the impact of bank closures and to help people in businesses to access financial services. I was pleased with the points that you raised on this about the rural economy. The rural economy is not just about food processing and tourism; it is about the other things that we can bring to the rural economy. That is why broadband and other things are also important, such as what type of businesses can locate in rural Wales, and what type of infrastructure is required over and above roads and rail, in terms of the internet, broadband and mobile technology. It is important that we look at rural communities as communities that will be there for years to come, in terms of the diversity.

Mae technolegau newydd, fel yr amlinellodd Bill Powell, yn sicr yn chwarae eu rhan yn hyn o beth, gyda mwy a mwy o bobl a busnesau yn defnyddio'r rhyngwrwyd a'r ffôn i brynu nwyddau a gwasanaethau. Rwy'n cydnabod y gall hyn beri problemau i rai pobl, o ran mynediad i wasanaethau ariannol, yn enwedig mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Pan fyddwn yn ystyried y problemau sy'n gysylltiedig â band eang i fusnesau a deiliaid tai, rhaid inni beidio â chymryd yn ganiataol bod pawb yn dechnegol alluog, o ran yr hyn y gallant ei wneud. Rydym mewn sefyllfa yn awr lle nad yw pawb yn awyddus i ddefnyddio gwasanaethau yn y fath fodd. Mae gennym genedlaethau a fydd am ddefnyddio gwasanaethau mewn ffordd amhersonol, ond mae gennym lawer o bobl o hyd mewn cymunedau gwledig sy'n hoffi'r gwasanaeth wyneb-yn-wyneb hwnnw. O'm blynyddoedd ym myd bancio, gallaf feddwl am nifer o unigolion oeddrannus a fyddai bob amser yn mynd i'w cangen leol ar ddydd Gwener. Nid oedd hynny am eu bod angen yr arian, ond am eu bod am gael sgwrs. Dyna oedd eu bywyd, ac roedd a wnelo â chymdeithasu a chael rhywbeth i'w wneud. Sylweddolaf nad yw hynny'n rhan o gyfrifoldeb cymdeithasol corfforaethol banciau, ond rhaid inni ystyried beth sydd ei angen.

Mae anghenion bancio a busnes yn gymharol debyg ledled Cymru. Maent am allu cael gafael ar gyllid ar delerau rhesymol. Yn y Llywodraeth, rydym yn defnyddio ein pwerau, lle y bo'n briodol, i ymyrryd er mwyn lliniaru effaith cau banciau ac i helpu pobl fusnes i gael gafael ar wasanaethau ariannol. Roedd yn falch gennyf glywed y pwyntiau a godwyd gennych yn hyn o beth mewn perthynas â'r economi wledig. Nid dim ond â phrosesu bwyd a thwristiaeth y mae a wnelo'r economi wledig; mae a wnelo â'r pethau eraill y gallwn eu cyflwyno i'r economi wledig. Dyna pam mae band eang a phethau eraill yn bwysig hefyd, megis pa fath o fusnesau a all sefydlu yng Nghymru wledig, a pha fath o seilwaith sydd ei angen yn ychwanegol at ffyrdd a rheilffyrdd, o ran y rhyngwrwyd, band eang a thechnoleg symudol. Mae'n bwysig inni ystyried cymunedau gwledig fel cymunedau a fydd yno am flynyddoedd i ddod, o ran yr amrywiaeth.

You also mentioned three specific items, which I will pick up on, of which credit unions were one. We continue to support and expand the service that credit unions provide to those financially excluded from the mainstream providers. I also think that you have to look at credit unions as not just for the financially excluded. In all my dealings with credit unions, whether it be in Ireland or America—America has a great reputation in terms of credit unions and how they are organised—it has been to encourage people who are in employment and who earn well to save and borrow with a credit union and to see credit union as part and parcel of what they undertake. That has been particularly true in Ireland, where you have seen the development of the credit union movement. We have obviously had significant investment from the Welsh Government and the European regional development fund, because of bank coverage issues, to help build the capacity of credit unions. Phase 2 of the access to financial services through credit unions project is designed to get at the unmet demand. Through this project, credit unions in Wales are working in collaboration to improve the range of services they are able to offer and to improve accessibility to those services. The point is that we have to move away from the building of capacity to the fact that they can now help with the demand, particularly in terms of businesses. Are they the people that are going to be able to offer the loans and be dealt with within communities? That is very important.

In terms of the post office network, I was very pleased that I was the Minister that introduced the post office development fund years ago, when some of the first problems arose with post offices, to help them to expand their business base so that they could assist and not just be a post office. The post office could be in any place within the community. It is right for us to keep under close review what is happening in terms of post offices, what they can provide, and what support we can give.

I was very much taken by the issues that you talked about, in terms of what we could do with community banking. Community banking is something with which I am familiar, not just in Germany, but elsewhere across the globe, where there are community banks that are the hub within communities and where most people do their business, and which can become quite substantial in terms of the assets that they manage. Professor Dylan Jones-Evans, as you know, is looking at the whole issue around bank lending. I have not asked him yet, but I thought what I could do is ask him to specifically look at the issues around community banking and whether there are any suitable models that might arise from the discussions that he has had and report back to Plenary in due course.

Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at dair eitem benodol, a drafodaf ymhellach, ac yr oedd undebau credyd yn un ohonynt. Rydym yn parhau i gefnogi ac ehangu'r gwasanaeth y mae undebau credyd yn ei ddarparu i'r rhai sydd wedi'u hallgáu'n ariannol gan y darparwyr prif ffrwd. Credaf hefyd fod yn rhaid ichi ystyried undebau credyd yn ehangach na hynny. Wrth ymdrin ag undebau credyd, boed hynny yn Iwerddon neu yn America—mae gan America enw da iawn o ran undebau credyd a sut y cânt eu trefnu—y nod fu annog pobl gyflogedig ac sy'n ennill cyflog da i gynilo a benthg gydag undeb credyd ac i ystyried bod undeb credyd yn rhan annatod o'r hyn a wna't. Bu hynny'n arbennig o wir yn Iwerddon, lle gwelsoch ddatblygiad y mudiad undebau credyd. Yn amlwg, rydym wedi cael cryn fuddsoddiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru a chronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewrop, oherwydd y problemau sy'n gysylltiedig â chyrhaeddiad banciau, er mwyn helpu i feithrin gallu undebau credyd. Nod Cam 2 y prosiect mynediad i wasanaethau ariannol drwy undebau credyd yw bodloni'r galw nas bodlonwyd. Drwy'r prosiect hwn, mae undebau credyd yng Nghymru yn cydweithredu er mwyn gwella'r amrywiaeth o wasanaethau y gallant eu cynnig a gwella hygyrchedd y gwasanaethau hynny. Rhaid inni symud o feithrin gallu i'r ffaith y gallant helpu yn awr gyda'r galw, yn enwedig o ran busnesau. Ai dyma'r bobl a fydd yn gallu cynnig y benthyciadau a darparu gwasanaeth o fewn cymunedau? Mae hynny'n bwysig iawn.

O ran rhwydwaith swyddfa'r post, roeddwn yn falch iawn mai fi oedd y Gweinidog a gyflwynodd y gronfa datblygu swyddfeydd post flwyddyn yn ôl, pan gododd rhai o'r problemau cyntaf gyda swyddfeydd post, i'w helpu i ehangu eu sail busnes er mwyn iddynt allu helpu, ac nid gweithredu fel swyddfa bost yn unig. Gallai swyddfa'r post fod mewn unrhyw le yn y gymuned. Mae'n briodol inni gynnal adolygiadau rheolaidd o'r sefyllfa o ran swyddfeydd post, yr hyn y gallant ei ddarparu, a pha gymorth y gallwn ei roi.

Gwnaeth y materion a drafodwyd gennyh, o ran yr hyn y gallem ei wneud mewn perthynas â bancio cymunedol gryn argraff arnaf. Mae bancio cymunedol yn rhywbeth rwy'n gyfarwydd ag ef, nid dim ond yn yr Almaen, ond mewn gwledydd eraill ledled y byd, lle mae banciau cymunedol yn ganolbwynt i gymunedau a lle y mae'r rhan fwyaf o bobl yn cynnal eu busnes, a all ddod yn fusnes cymharol sylweddol o ran yr asedau a reolir ganddynt. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r Athro Dylan Jones-Evans yn ystyried yr holl faterion sy'n gysylltiedig â benthyciadau gan fanciau. Nid wyf wedi gofyn iddo eto, ond roeddwn yn meddwl y gallwn ofyn iddo ystyried yn benodol y materion sy'n gysylltiedig â bancio cymunedol a pha un a oes unrhyw fodelau addas a allai ddeillio o'r trafodaethau a gafodd ac adrodd yn ôl mewn Cyfarfod Llawn maes o law.

This has been a very useful debate because it is about time that we focus on the roles of the banks. If I can reminisce a little, I remember as a child in Gowerton how many banks there were around the square. We had the mart in Gowerton, which is now a housing site; we had the magistrates' court that disappeared; and we had the banks. When I started my career in the bank, or, I might say, when I was employed by the bank and started my career in the trade union movement—I think that I would phrase it that way—I remember having a list of where all our union representatives were, and their branches have long disappeared, particularly in rural Wales. Yet, when we were there, there were staff there and individuals from those communities employed there. You just think about what we have lost. I know that the world has to move on and everything cannot go back to the days of Miss Marple and what villages were like, but, at the end of the day, we have to ensure that we have a society that has good access to good advice from banks and that banks play a proper role, but we must develop new strands to allow them to function differently.

Bu'r ddadl hon yn ddefnyddiol iawn gan ei bod yn bryd inni ganolbwyntio ar rolau'r banciau. Os caf hel atgofion, rwy'n cofio fel plentyn yn Nhre-gŵyr faint o fanciau oedd o gwmpas y sgwâr. Roedd gennym farchnad anifeiliaid yn Nhre-gŵyr, sydd bellach yn ystâd o dai; roedd gennym lys ynadon a ddiflannodd, ac roedd gennym fanciau. Pan ddechreuais fy ngyrfa yn y banc, neu, yn hytrach, pan gefais fy nghyflogi gan y banc a dechrau fy ngyrfa yn y mudiad undebau llafur—credaf mai dyna sut y dylwn ei ddisgrifio—cofiar gael rhestr o leoliad pob un o gynrychiolwyr ein hundeb, ac mae eu canghennau wedi hen ddiflannu, yn enwedig yng Nghymru wledig. Eto, pan oeddem ni yno, roedd staff yno ac roedd unigolion o'r cymunedau hynny wedi'u cyflogi yno. Ystyriwch yr hyn rydym wedi'i gollu. Gwn fod yn rhaid i'r byd symud yn ei flaen ac na allwn ddychwelyd i gyfnod Miss Marple a'r pentrefi bryd hynny, ond, ar ôl dweud hynny, rhaid inni sicrhau y gall ein cymdeithas gael gafael ar gyngor da gan fanciau a bod banciau yn chwarae rhan briodol, ond rhaid inni yn awr ddatblygu meysydd newydd er mwyn eu galluogi i weithredu mewn ffordd wahanol.

18:02

Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That brings today's proceedings to a close.

Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 6.03 p.m.

The meeting ended at 6.03 p.m.

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