

# Cofnod y Trafodion

## The Record of Proceedings

### 16/10/2013

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*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 13:30 gyda'r Dirprwy Lywydd (David Melding) yn y Gadair.*

*The Assembly met at 13:30 with the Deputy Presiding Officer (David Melding) in the Chair.*

13:30 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

[Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo Video](#)

Order, Order. The National Assembly for Wales is now in session.

Trefn, Trefn. Dyma ddechrau trafodion Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

## Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

### Ysmygu mewn Ceir

## Questions to the Minister for Health and Social Services

### Smoking in Cars

13:30 **Lindsay Whittle** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

[Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo Video](#)

*1. Pa wybodaeth y gall y Gweinidog ei darparu am effeithiolrwydd ymgyrch Llywodraeth Cymru i ddileu ysmygu mewn ceir y mae plant yn deithwyr ynddynt? OAQ(4)0335(HSS)*

*1. What information can the Minister provide about the effectiveness of the Welsh Government's campaign to eliminate smoking in cars in which children are passengers? OAQ(4)0335(HSS)*

- 13:31 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Minister for Health and Social Services*  
 The two-year campaign to which the Member refers began in February 2012 and will end in March 2014. A three-strand evaluation programme is in place. The first report will be available in November of this year. The full findings will be available in the summer of 2014.  
 Dechreuodd yr ymgyrch dwy flynedd y mae'r Aelod yn cyfeirio ati ym mis Chwefror 2012 a daw i ben ym mis Mawrth 2014. Mae rhaglen werthuso ac iddi dair elfen ar waith. Bydd yr adroddiad cyntaf ar gael ym mis Tachwedd eleni. Bydd y canfyddiadau llawn ar gael yn haf 2014.
- 13:31 **Lindsay Whittle** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Minister, thank you for your answer. This campaign has been going on for some time now and all the evidence from surveys clearly indicate that the majority of the people of Wales are in favour of a ban on smoking in cars. If I had hairs in the back of my head, I would pull them out; why are we waiting so long?  
 Weinidog, diolch ichi am eich ateb. Mae'r ymgyrch hon wedi bod yn mynd rhagddi ers peth amser erbyn hyn ac mae'r holl dystiolaeth o arolygon yn dangos yn glir bod y rhan fwyaf o bobl Cymru o blaid gwaharddiad ar ysmegu mewn ceir. Pe bai gennyf wallt, byddwn yn ei dynnu; pam rydym yn aros cyhyd?
- 13:31 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 The Member is probably right that public opinion has already moved strongly on this issue. However, just this morning, in front of the Children and Young People Committee, I was being asked questions about the extent to which the Government relies on evidence and evaluation for the programmes that we implement, and we have said from the beginning that this is a two-year campaign and we are not even at the end of it, let alone having evaluated it. While I understand the impatience to get on and do something that many of us in the Chamber think would be valuable, we have to allow the campaign to run its course and we have to be prepared to rely on actual evidence rather than our own instinctive beliefs about what that evidence may show.  
 Mae'n eithaf posibl bod yr Aelod yn iawn bod barn y cyhoedd eisoes wedi newid cryn dipyn ar y mater hwn. Fodd bynnag, y bore yma, gerbron y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc, roeddwn yn cael fy holi ynghylch y graddau y gwerthusiadau ar gyfer y rhaglenni a weithredwn, ac rydym wedi dweud o'r dechrau mai ymgyrch dwy flynedd ydyw, ac nid yw wedi dod i ben eto, heb sôn am ei gwerthuso. Er fy mod yn deall yr awydd i fwrw ymlaen â hyn a gwneud rhywbeth y mae llawer ohonom yn y Siambr yn credu y byddai'n werthfawr, rhaid inni adael i'r ymgyrch ddod i ben a rhaid inni fod yn barod i ddibynnu ar dystiolaeth wirioneddol yn hytrach na'n credoau greddfod ein hunain am yr hyn y gall y dystiolaeth ei ddangos.
- 13:32 **Gwyn R. Price** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Will the Minister join me in expressing regret at the recent failure of the European Parliament to pass proposed regulations on e-cigarettes?  
 A wnaiff y Gweinidog ymuno â mi i fynegi gofid am fethiant diweddar Senedd Ewrop i basio rheoliadau arfaethedig ynglŷn ag e-sigaréts?
- 13:32 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 I certainly will join the Member in doing that. Other Members will be aware that, at present, e-cigarettes are not regulated in any way. They are not regulated for quality or safety, and you can buy one at any age. There is no age restriction on buying an electronic cigarette. There was an attempt in front of the European Parliament last week to introduce regulation of that sort and, in many ways, it has demonstrated the fault line that lies at the heart of Welsh politics: two Welsh Members of the European Parliament, from Plaid Cymru and Labour, voted in favour of regulation; two MEPs from the Conservative Party and the UK Independence Party voted against regulation in this area. I, myself, am with the Department of Health on this. Together, Ministers for health across the UK have agreed that the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency will introduce regulation of e-cigarettes as a medicine from 2016.  
 Byddaf yn sicr yn ymuno â'r Aelod i wneud hynny. Bydd Aelodau eraill yn ymwybodol nad yw e-sigaréts yn cael eu rheoleiddio mewn unrhyw ffordd ar hyn o bryd. Nid ydynt yn cael eu rheoleiddio o ran ansawdd na diogelwch, a gallwch brynu un ar unrhyw oedran. Nid oes cyfyngiad oedran ar brynu sigarét electronig. Bu ymgais gerbron Senedd Ewrop yr wythnos diwethaf i gyflwyno rheoliadau o'r fath ac, mewn sawl ffordd, mae wedi dangos y rhaniadau sydd wrth wraidd gwleidyddiaeth Cymru: pleidleisiod dau Aelod o Senedd Ewrop o Gymru, o Blaid Cymru a Llafur, o blaid rheoleiddio; pleidleisiodd dau ASE o'r Blaid Geidwadol a Phlaid Annibyniaeth y Deyrnas Unedig yn erbyn rheoleiddio yn y maes hwn. Rwyf innau'n cyd-fynd â'r Adran Iechyd yn hyn o beth. Gyda'i gilydd, mae'r Gweinidogion Iechyd ym mhob rhan o'r DU wedi cytuno y bydd yr Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd yn cyflwyno rheoliadau ynglŷn ag e-sigaréts fel meddyginiaeth o 2016.

- 13:33 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- The Minister will well know that smoking remains one of the leading preventable causes of death and ill-health in Wales. We all know that smoking can lead to all sorts of health problems, with around 20% of NHS admissions being related exclusively to smoking. This costs your budget at least £1 million per day. Would it not be wise now to take evidence and to look to take forward legislation at the earliest possible opportunity?
- Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwybod yn iawn bod ysmegu yn dal i fod yn un o brif achosion marwolaethau a salwch yng Nghymru y gellir eu hosgoi. Gwyddom oll y gall ysmegu arwain at bob math o broblemau iechyd, gyda thua 20% o dderbyniadau'r GIG yn ymwneud ag ysmegu yn unig. Mae hyn yn costio o leiaf £1 filiwn y dydd o'ch cyllideb. Oni fyddai'n ddoeth cymryd tystiolaeth yn awr ac ystyried bwrw ymlaen â deddfwriaeth ar y cyfle cyntaf posibl?
- 13:34 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I agree with the Member that there is more that we can do in legislation. This has been partly covered by the points that Lindsay Whittle has already raised, but in the forthcoming public health White Paper, I hope that we will be able to include some practical and legislative measures that will allow us to make further inroads into smoking in Wales. William Graham is absolutely right to say that we have adult smoking rates in Wales of 23%, and that leads to 5,650 premature deaths in Wales every year.
- Cytunaf â'r Aelod bod mwy y gallwn ei wneud drwy ddeddfu. Ymdriniwyd â hyn i raddau yn y pwyntiau y mae Lindsay Whittle eisoes wedi eu codi, ond yn y Papur Gwyn arfaethedig ar iechyd y cyhoedd, gobeithiaf y byddwn yn gallu cynnwys rhai mesurau ymarferol a deddfwriaethol a fydd yn ein galluogi i wneud camau breision tuag at ddileu ysmegu yng Nghymru. Mae William Graham yn llygad ei le i ddweud bod cyfraddau ysmegu o 23% ymhlith oedolion yng Nghymru, a bod hynny'n arwain at 5,650 o farwolaethau cynamserol yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn.
- 13:34 **Rebecca Evans** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, I warmly welcome the Stoptober campaign. Will you share with us what you hope the campaign will achieve and the way in which you will measure its success? Will you also join me in congratulating everyone who has taken up the challenge?
- Weinidog, croesawaf yn fawr ymgyrch Stoptober. A wnewch chi rannu gyda ni beth ydych yn gobeithio y bydd yr ymgyrch yn ei gyflawni a sut y byddwch yn mesur ei lwyddiant? A wnewch chi hefyd ymuno â mi i longyfarch pawb sydd wedi derbyn yr her?
- 13:35 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Absolutely. I thank Rebecca Evans for that question. I was very pleased that we were able, for the first time in Wales, to join in the Stoptober campaign, which has previously run across our border, and successfully. The research evidence shows that, if you manage to give up smoking for 28 days consecutively, you are five times more likely than if you fail to do that to give up smoking in the long term. Therefore, Stoptober is our attempt to persuade people in Wales who smoke to do just that. I am very grateful to my colleague Mrs Hart for the help that she has given, and to the over 80 businesses across Wales that have signed up to support the Stoptober campaign, by encouraging their staff to give up smoking during the month. We will monitor and evaluate the campaign, together with our colleagues in England, who have a ready-made evaluation strategy in place.
- Gwnaf yn wir. Diolch i Rebecca Evans am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Roeddwn yn falch iawn ein bod yn gallu, am y tro cyntaf yng Nghymru, ymuno yn ymgyrch Stoptober, sydd wedi bod yn cael ei chynnal dros y ffin yn y gorffennol, a hynny'n llwyddiannus. Dengys tystiolaeth ymchwil, os ydych yn llwyddo i roi'r gorau i ysmegu am 28 diwrnod yn olynol, eich bod bum gwaith yn fwy tebygol o roi'r gorau i ysmegu yn yr hirdymor nag ydych pe na baech yn gwneud hynny. Felly, Stoptober yw ein hymgais i ddarbwyllio pobl yng Nghymru sy'n ysmegu i wneud hynny. Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i'm cyd-Weinidog Mrs Hart am y cymorth y mae wedi'i roi, ac i'r 80 o fusnesau a mwy ledled Cymru sydd wedi cytuno i gefnogi ymgyrch Stoptober, drwy annog eu staff i roi'r gorau i ysmegu yn ystod y mis. Byddwn yn monitro ac yn gwerthuso'r ymgyrch, ynghyd â'n cyd-Weinidogion yn Lloegr, sydd â strategaeth werthuso barod ar waith.
- Dementia** **Dementia**
- 13:35 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 2. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am wasanaethau i bobl â dementia yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0334(HSS)*
- 2. Will the Minister make a statement on services for people with dementia in Wales? OAQ(4)0334(HSS)*

- 13:36 **Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Ddirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Deputy Minister for Social Services*  
 We are firmly committed to increasing support, advice and information for those who receive a dementia diagnosis— an objective that is confirmed by our ‘National Dementia Vision for Wales’ and by ‘Together for Mental Health’, our mental health and wellbeing strategy.
- Rydym yn ymrwymedig iawn i gynnig mwy o gymorth, cyngor a gwybodaeth i'r rhai sy'n cael diagnosis o ddementia— amcan sy'n cael ei gadarnhau gan ‘Gweledigaeth Genedlaethol Cymru ar Ddementia’ a thrwy ‘Law yn Llaw at Iechyd Meddwl’, ein strategaeth iechyd meddwl a lles.
- 13:36 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Thank you, Minister. That ‘National Dementia Vision for Wales’ is now in its third year. Can you tell us how you are measuring progress on that vision, and what do you think remains to be done for that vision to be fully realised?
- Diolch, Weinidog. Mae ‘Gweledigaeth Genedlaethol Cymru ar Ddementia’ bellach yn ei thrydedd flwyddyn. A allwch ddweud wrthym sut yr ydych yn mesur cynnydd y weledigaeth honno, a beth, yn eich barn chi, sydd eto i'w wneud er mwyn i'r weledigaeth honno gael ei gwireddu'n llawn?
- 13:36 **Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 I think that what is of critical importance is how we further encourage meaningful collaboration between social services, the NHS, and the third sector, so that we can maximise the resources that are at our disposal, to the benefit of the people of Wales. As you know, the ‘National Dementia Vision for Wales’ was launched in February 2011. It sets out a vision for developing high-quality services for people with dementia, and outlines the commitments that we are making to improve services, as well as the promotion of dementia-supportive communities. I also wish to mention our bilingual Wales dementia helpline, which is available on a 24/7 basis, 365 days a year, and provides emotional support to those who are diagnosed with dementia, their carers, families, and friends.
- Yr hyn sy'n holl bwysig, yn fy marn i, yw'r ffordd yr ydym yn annog cydweithredu ystyrlon pellach rhwng gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, y GIG, a'r trydydd sector, fel y gallwn wneud y gorau o'r adnoddau sydd ar gael inni, er budd pobl Cymru. Fel y gwyddoch, laniswyd ‘Gweledigaeth Genedlaethol Cymru ar Ddementia’ ym mis Chwefror 2011. Mae'n nodi gweledigaeth ar gyfer datblygu gwasanaethau o safon uchel i bobl sydd â dementia, ac yn amlinellu'r ymrwymadau yr ydym yn eu gwneud i wella gwasanaethau, yn ogystal â hyrwyddo cymunedau sy'n gefnogol i ddementia. Hoffwn hefyd sôn am ein llinell gymorth ddwyieithog ar gyfer dementia yng Nghymru, sydd ar gael ddydd a nos drwy gydol y flwyddyn, ac sy'n rhoi cymorth emosïynol i'r rhai sy'n cael diagnosis o ddementia, eu gofalwyr, teuluoedd a ffrindiau.
- 13:37 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 I call on Mohammad Asghar. Galwaf ar Mohammad Asghar.
- 13:37 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Minister— Weinidog—
- 13:37 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Mohammad, I beg your pardon, it is a spokesman's question, and Eluned has another go. Mohammad, mae'n ddrwg gennyf, cwestiwn gan lefarydd ydyw, ac mae Eluned yn cael gofyn cwestiwn arall.
- 13:37 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Thank you very much, Deputy Presiding Officer. Deputy Minister, you mention dementia-friendly communities. Another programme from the third sector, which could be very complementary, is the Dementia Friends training programme, which helps people to understand the needs of people with dementia. I am sure that you will agree that that would be very helpful. Dementia Friends is funded in England by the UK Government, and many of the resources are already available. What can you do to consider the roll-out of that programme here in Wales?
- Diolch yn fawr iawn, Ddirprwy Lywydd. Ddirprwy Weinidog, rydych yn sôn am gymunedau sy'n ystyriol o ddementia. Rhaglen arall o'r trydydd sector, a allai ategu hynny'n dda, yw rhaglen hyfforddi Dementia Friends, sy'n helpu pobl i ddeall anghenion pobl â dementia. Byddwch yn cytuno mae'n siŵr gennyf y byddai hynny'n ddefnyddiol iawn. Ariennir Dementia Friends yn Lloegr gan Lywodraeth y DU, ac mae llawer o'r adnoddau eisoes ar gael. Beth y gallwch ei wneud i ystyried y broses o gyflwyno'r rhaglen honno yma yng Nghymru?

- 13:37 **Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- We will, of course, look over the border, and learn from any good practice. We have set up our own training programme with the Dementia Services Development Centre, which was awarded £250,000 for the period of December 2010 to September 2012. That is developing and delivering training to staff in care homes, to those working in the hospital community and the mental health service setting, as well as to primary care staff, including GPs. It is hoped to extend that to receptionists as well.
- Wrth gwrs, byddwn yn edrych dros y ffin a dysgu o unrhyw arfer da. Rydym wedi sefydlu ein rhaglen hyfforddi ein hunain gyda'r Ganolfan Datblygu Gwasanaethau Dementia, y dyfarnwyd £250,000 iddi ar gyfer y cyfnod rhwng mis Rhagfyr 2010 a mis Medi 2012. Mae honno'n datblygu ac yn darparu hyfforddiant i staff mewn cartrefi gofal, i'r rhai sy'n gweithio mewn ysbytai a lleoliadau gwasanaeth iechyd meddwl, yn ogystal â staff gofal sylfaenol, gan gynnwys meddygon teulu. Y gobraith yw y caiff ei hymestyn i staff derbynfeydd hefyd.
- 13:38 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Deputy Minister, figures compiled by the Alzheimer's Society suggest that Wales has the lowest diagnosis rate for dementia in the United Kingdom. As a result, tens of thousands of people remain undiagnosed, and are missing out on the support, benefits and medical treatments that are available. What is the Welsh Government doing to improve dementia diagnosis rates in Wales?
- Ddirprwy Weinidog, awgryma'r ffigurau a gasglwyd gan Gymdeithas Alzheimer mai Cymru sydd â'r gyfradd isaf o ran canfod dementia yn y Deyrnas Unedig. O ganlyniad, nid yw degau o filoedd o bobl yn cael diagnosis, ac nid ydynt yn cael y cymorth, y budd-daliadau na'r triniaethau meddygol sydd ar gael. Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i wella cyfraddau canfod dementia yng Nghymru?
- 13:39 **Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- The Minister is absolutely committed to this, as he has made plain on more than one occasion. Diagnosis is important, and I know that improvements are being made. I think that we can be proud of the fact that Wales is at the front line of international research into understanding the causes of dementia. I think that good research evidence must underline our priorities, and I know that the Minister is keen to see the results of that programme.
- Mae'r Gweinidog yn gwbl ymrwymedig i hyn, fel y mae wedi nodi'n glir ar fwy nag un achlysur. Mae diagnosis yn bwysig, a gwn fod gwelliannau yn cael eu gwneud. Credaf y gallwn fod yn falch o'r ffaith bod Cymru ar flaen y gad o ran gwaith ymchwil rhyngwladol i ddeall yr hyn sy'n achosi dementia. Credaf fod yn rhaid i'n blaenoriaethau gael eu seilio ar dystiolaeth ymchwil dda, a gwn fod y Gweinidog yn awyddus i weld canlyniadau'r rhaglen honno.
- 13:39 **Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Ddirprwy Weinidog, yn Aberystwyth yn ddiweddar, mae tair menyw yn eu 90au wedi cael eu hailasesu yn ddisymwth bod angen gofal nyrsio dementia arnynt. Nid oes cartref gofal nyrsio dementia o fewn 50 milltir i Aberystwyth, felly mae'r tair yma yn wynebu gadael eu cartref, eu teulu, a'u cymuned. A ydych yn credu bod hyn yn ffordd o drin pobl fregus yn eu 90au gydag urddas a pharch?
- Deputy Minister, in Aberystwyth recently, three women in their 90s have been reassessed suddenly as needing dementia nursing care. There is no dementia nursing care home within 50 miles of Aberystwyth, so these three are facing leaving their home, their families and their community. Do you believe that this is a way of treating vulnerable people in their 90s with integrity and respect?
- 13:40 **Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Nac ydw. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i gadw pobl mor agos ag y gallent fod at eu cartrefi, ac mae hynny'n hollbwysig. Rydych yn gwybod ein bod yn ymgynghori nawr ar y Bil 'regulation and inspection', ac yn edrych os y gallwn ailasesu cartrefi fel nad yw'r 'break' hwn yn digwydd rhwng gofal cyffredinol a gofal nyrsio, ac mae'n rhaid i ni fynd lawr y hewl yna.
- No. We are committed to keeping people as close as possible to their homes, and that is crucial. You will know that we are currently consulting on the regulation and inspection Bill, and looking at whether we can reassess homes so that you do not have that break between more generalised care and nursing care, and I do think that we need to go down that road.
- 13:40 **Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Mae rôl gofalywyr yn hanfodol i geisio cadw unigolion gyda dementia yn eu cartrefi personol. Er mor hanfodol yw gofalywyr, dyma'r sector yn yr economi iechyd, byddwn i'n dweud, sydd â'r cyflogau isaf a'r telerau gwaith salaf. A ydych yn cytuno â mi ei bod yn bryd i chi fel Llywodraeth weithio gyda chyflogwyr yn y sector yma i sicrhau gwell telerau a gwell amodau gwaith ar gyfer y gofalywyr yn ein cymuned ni sy'n gwneud gwaith mor werthfawr?
- The role of carers is vital in endeavouring to keep individuals suffering from dementia in their own personal homes. Although carers are essential, I would say that this is the sector of the health economy that has the worst wages and terms and conditions. Do you agree with me that it is time for you as a Government to work with employers in this sector to secure better terms and conditions for carers in our community who do such valuable work?

13:41	<p><b>Gwenda Thomas</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>Ydw. Rwy'n siŵr eich bod wedi gweld yn yr ymgynghoriad ar y Bil 'regulation and inspection' ein bod yn sôn am hynny ac yn gofyn i bawb i fwydo mewn i'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw, oherwydd rydym yn rhoi sylw pendant i gyflogaeth a thelerau gwaith i ofalwyr mewn cartrefi a chyda gofal cartref.</p>	<p>Yes. I am sure that you will have seen in the consultation on the regulation and inspection Bill that we do mention that and ask people to feed in to that consultation because we do concentrate on the employment and terms and conditions of carers in care homes and in terms of home care.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
<b>Ceratoconws</b>		<b>Keratoconus</b>	
13:41	<p><b>Mick Antoniw</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p><i>3. Pa gamau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i gynorthwyo pobl yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef o Ceratoconws? OAQ(4)0332(HSS)</i></p>	<p><i>3. What action is the Welsh Government taking to support people in Wales suffering with Keratoconus? OAQ(4)0332(HSS)</i></p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
13:41	<p><b>Mark Drakeford</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>For those people with less severe keratoconus, treatment can be provided successfully by spectacles and contact lenses. More severe cases can require a corneal transplant. The provision of new and emerging treatments will be reviewed as part of our eye care delivery plan, published in September.</p>	<p>I'r bobl hynny sydd â cheratoconws llai difrifol, gellir trin y cyflwr yn llwyddiannus â sbectol a lensys cyffwrdd. Mewn achosion mwy difrifol efallai y bydd angen trawsblaniad cornbilen. Caiff y broses o ddarparu triniaethau newydd neu rai sy'n datblygu ei hadolygu fel rhan o'n cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer gofal llygaid, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Medi.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
13:42	<p><b>Mick Antoniw</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>Minister, I thank you for that answer. As part of my investigations into this on behalf of a constituent, I was very pleased to find out that the Welsh Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre is way ahead of almost anything that exists in the rest of the world and that optometrists talk about the service within Wales as being at the forefront of such provision within the United Kingdom, and indeed, Europe. However, there is an area, in terms of collagen treatments and lens-fitting services, where there are inconsistencies across local health boards. Is this a matter that you might look into to ensure that there is consistency in the quality of provision across the health boards in Wales?</p>	<p>Weinidog, diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw. Fel rhan o'm hymchwiliadau i hyn ar ran etholwr, roeddwn yn falch iawn o gael gwybod bod Canolfan Addysg Ôl-raddedig Optometreg Cymru ymhell ar flaen y gad o ran bron unrhyw beth arall sy'n bodoli yng ngweddill y byd, a bod optometryddion yn sôn am y gwasanaeth yng Nghymru fel un sy'n arwain darpariaeth o'r fath yn y Deyrnas Unedig, ac yn wir, Ewrop. Fodd bynnag, mewn un maes, sef triniaethau collagen a gwasanaethau gosod lensys, ceir anghysondebau ar draws byrddau iechyd lleol. A yw hwn yn fater y gallech ymchwilio iddo er mwyn sicrhau bod cysondeb yn ansawdd y ddarpariaeth ym mhob un o'r byrddau iechyd yng Nghymru?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
13:42	<p><b>Mark Drakeford</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>I thank the Member for that question and for the support that he expressed for eye care services in Wales, in which the Assembly has taken a close interest since the very beginning, and in which, in Wales, we do have a very proud record of providing services. He is quite right that at Cardiff University there is world-leading research into corneal cross-linking and new forms of treatment for people with the most severe forms of keratoconus and other corneal diseases. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published guidance in September of this year; it is guidance rather than mandatory guidance. We will take that into account as part of the eye health care delivery plan. The plan is indeed designed to make sure that where there are some variations remaining in access to treatment across Wales, they will be ironed out.</p>	<p>Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw ac am ei gefnogaeth i wasanaethau gofal llygaid yng Nghymru, y mae'r Cynulliad wedi cymryd diddordeb mawr ynddynt o'r cychwyn cyntaf, a lle, yng Nghymru, mae gennym record dda iawn o ddarparu gwasanaethau. Mae'n hollol iawn bod gwaith ymchwil o'r radd flaenaf yn cael ei wneud ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd i drawsgysylltu cornbilenni a mathau newydd o driniaeth ar gyfer pobl sydd â'r mathau mwyaf difrifol o geratoconws a chlefydau eraill sy'n effeithio ar y gornbilen. Cyhoeddodd y Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Ragoriaeth mewn Iechyd a Gofal ganllawiau ym mis Medi eleni; canllaw ydyw yn hytrach na chyfarwyddyd gorfodol. Byddwn yn ystyried hynny fel rhan o'r cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer gofal iechyd llygaid. Yn wir, nod y cynllun yw sicrhau, lle ceir rhai amrywiadau o hyd o ran mynediad at driniaeth ledled Cymru, y byddant yn cael eu dileu.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>

13:43

**Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, you will be aware that keratoconus is not the only degenerative eye disease; there are many others in Wales, including wet age-related macular degeneration. We were very pleased in the Assembly to see one of your predecessors make a decision about the availability of the drug Lucentis for the treatment of that disease. Can you tell us whether a similar decision might be forthcoming to ensure that aflibercept or Eylea, as it is also known, will become available in Wales on a fast-track basis? NICE has already approved the availability of this drug through the NHS, but it is not yet available to patients in Wales, although it is available in Scotland. Can you make a statement about that today?

Weinidog, byddwch yn ymwybodol nad ceratoconws yw unig glefyd dirywiol y llygaid; mae llawer o fathau eraill yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys dirywiad macwlaidd gwlyb sy'n gysylltiedig ag oedran. Roeddem yn falch iawn yn y Cynulliad o weld un o'ch rhagflaenwyr yn gwneud penderfyniad ynglŷn ag argaeledd y cyffur Lucentis i drin y clefyd hwnnw. A allwch ddweud wrthym a fydd penderfyniad tebyg i sicrhau bod aflibercept neu Eylea, fel y'i gelwir hefyd, ar gael yng Nghymru ar sail llwybr carlam? Mae NICE eisoes wedi cymeradwyo'r cyffur hwn i'w ddefnyddio yn y GIG, ond nid yw ar gael i gleifion yng Nghymru eto, er ei fod ar gael yn yr Alban. A allwch wneud datganiad am hynny heddiw?

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13:44

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very happy to provide the Member with a proper and detailed statement on that specific issue. I am aware of the drug to which he refers. As I said, a specific requirement of the eye health care delivery plan is to look at new and emerging treatments. One of the good news things about eye care is that there are new drugs and new forms of treatment becoming available for patients who previously may have had little that was possible to be done for their condition. As to whether the drug that the Member has mentioned specifically comes into that, I will make enquiries. It certainly will be taken into account as part of the plan.

Rwy'n falch iawn o roi datganiad priodol a manwl i'r Aelod am y mater penodol hwnnw. Rwy'n ymwybodol o'r cyffur y mae'n cyfeirio ato. Fel y dywedais, un o ofynion penodol y cynllun cyflawni ar gyfer gofal iechyd llygaid yw ystyried triniaethau newydd a rhai sy'n datblygu. Un o'r pethau da o ran gofal llygaid yw bod cyffuriau newydd a ffurfiau newydd ar driniaeth bellach ar gael i gleifion na fu modd gwneud rhyw lawer ynghylch eu cyflwr o'r blaen. O ran a yw'r cyffur y mae'r Aelod wedi'i grybwyll yn dod o dan hynny, gwnaf ymholiadau. Bydd yn sicr yn cael ei ystyried fel rhan o'r cynllun.

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## Deintyddiaeth y GIG

## NHS Dentistry

13:45

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

*4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am ddarpariaeth deintyddiaeth y GIG yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0331(HSS)*

*4. Will the Minister provide an update on NHS dentistry provision in Wales? OAQ(4)0331(HSS)*

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13:45

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Nick, for that question. Access to NHS dental care has improved significantly in recent years, although difficulties remain in some geographical areas. The programme for government underlines our manifesto commitment to continue to improve access to dental treatment where there are localised problems and to tackle oral health inequalities in our most vulnerable communities.

Diolch ichi, Nick, am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae mynediad at ofal deintyddol y GIG wedi gwella'n sylweddol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, er bod anawsterau o hyd mewn rhai ardaloedd. Mae'r rhaglen lywodraethu yn pwysleisio ymrwymiad ein maniffesto i barhau i wella mynediad at driniaeth ddeintyddol lle ceir problemau lleol a mynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau iechyd y geg yn ein cymunedau mwyaf agored i niwed.

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13:45

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

Thank you, Minister, for that answer. I have asked that question today in the light of recent figures, which, I am sure, given your eye for detail, you are aware of, and which show that, in the period between March 2011 and March 2013, half of the people accessing dentistry in Wales did not access it from the NHS. That is 4% lower, I believe, than is the case for England. Do you share my concerns about this and what are you doing to address these inequalities, which you have alluded to in your previous answer?

Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Gofynnais y cwestiwn hwnnw heddiw yn sgil y ffigurau diweddar, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol ohonynt, o ystyried eich gafael ar fanylion, sy'n dangos bod hanner y bobl yng Nghymru a gafodd driniaeth ddeintyddol yn y cyfnod rhwng mis Mawrth 2011 a mis Mawrth 2013, wedi cael triniaeth y tu allan i'r GIG. Mae hynny 4% yn is, na'r ffigur ar gyfer Lloegr, fe greaf. A ydych yn rhannu fy mhryderon ynglŷn â hyn a beth yr ydych yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â'r anghydraddoldebau hyn, yr ydych wedi cyfeirio atynt yn eich ateb blaenorol?

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- 13:46 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I certainly think that it is important that we make NHS dentistry available to any patient who wants it. Not all patients choose NHS dentistry. So, for some people, this is a matter of conscious choice. Compared to 2008, 85,000 more patients access NHS dentistry in Wales today than did so five years ago. In the last three quarters for which figures are available, more than 11,500 new NHS patients for dentistry found themselves able to access treatment. I agree with the point that the Member is making. We are determined to go on providing more access to NHS dentistry for those people who choose to access it.
- Rwy'n sicr o'r farn ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn sicrhau bod deintyddiaeth y GIG ar gael i unrhyw glaf sy'n dymuno ei defnyddio. Nid yw pob claf yn dewis deintyddiaeth y GIG. Felly, i rai pobl, mater o ddewis ymwybodol ydyw. O gymharu â 2008, mae 85,000 yn fwy o gleifion yn cael gwasanaeth deintyddol gan y GIG yng Nghymru heddiw na'r nifer bum mlynedd yn ôl. Yn y tri chwarter diwethaf y mae ffigurau ar gael ar eu cyfer, roedd mwy na 11,500 o gleifion newydd y GIG yn gallu cael mynediad at driniaeth. Cytunaf â'r pwynt y mae'r Aelod yn ei wneud. Rydym yn benderfynol o barhau i ddarparu mwy o fynediad at ddeintyddiaeth y GIG i'r bobl hynny sy'n dewis ei ddefnyddio.
- 13:47 **Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Weinidog, mae gennyf etholwraig a oedd, wrth geisio siarad â deintydd am ei mab, wedi cael bil ffôn o £110 o ganlyniad i gysylltu â Galw Iechyd Cymru. A ydych yn cytuno bod hwn yn swm annerbyniol i'w dalu, wrth feddwl ei bod wedi mynd drwy'r prosesau cywir? A fydddech, fel Gweinidog, yn edrych ar y sefyllfa hon er mwyn ceisio sicrhau nad yw pobl yn cael biliau mawr wrth geisio cael help ar gyfer eu teulu?
- Minister, I have a constituent who, in trying to speak to a dentist about her son, had run up a bill of £110 on NHS Direct. Do you agree that this is an unacceptable sum to pay, bearing in mind that she was going through the right procedures? Will you, as a Minister, look into this situation in order to endeavour to ensure that people do not receive hefty bills when trying to access assistance for their families?
- 13:47 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Wrth gwrs, rwyf yn fodlon edrych ar yr achos. Os byddai'r Aelod yn ysgrifennu ataf gyda'r manylion, byddaf yn hollol hapus i edrych ar y sefyllfa. O glywed am yr achos am y tro cyntaf y prynhawn hwn, nid yw'n swnio'n dderbyniol i fi.
- Of course, I am willing to look into that case. If the Member would write to me with the details, I would be most happy investigate it. From hearing about the case for the first time this afternoon, it does not sound acceptable to me.
- 13:47 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Minister, you will be disturbed to hear that a number of my constituents in Powys have been in touch recently about their inability to access NHS dental services within a reasonable radius of their home. I wonder what assessment you have made of the impact of the availability and price structure of sugary drinks in relation to the demand that there currently is for NHS dentistry.
- Weinidog, bydd yn destun gofid ichi glywed bod nifer o'm hetholwyr ym Mhowys wedi bod mewn cysylltiad yn ddiweddar ynglŷn â'u hanallu i gael gafael ar wasanaethau deintyddol y GIG o fewn radiws rhesymol i'w cartref. Tybed pa asesiad yr ydych wedi ei wneud o effaith argaeledd a strwythur prisio diodydd llawn siwgr o ystyried y galw ar hyn o bryd am ddeintyddiaeth y GIG.
- 13:48 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I understand that in the more rural parts of Wales access to an NHS dentist is not simply a matter of the number of dentists who are able to offer NHS places, but that there are geographical considerations that come into play as well. I am not aware of a specific research project that looks at the matter that the Member raises, but, if there is information of that sort, then I will be very happy to supply it to him.
- Caf ar ddeall fod mynediad at ddeintyddion y GIG yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf gwledig yng Nghymru nid yn unig yn ymwneud â nifer y deintyddion sy'n gallu cynnig lleoedd y GIG, ond cyfyd ystyriaethau daearyddol hefyd. Nid wyf yn ymwybodol o brosiect ymchwil penodol sy'n edrych ar y mater y mae'r Aelod yn ei godi, ond, os oes gwybodaeth o'r fath, yna byddaf yn fwy na pharod i'w rhoi iddo.
- Cynllun Gwên Llywodraeth Cymru**
- Designed to Smile Scheme**
- 13:48 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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5. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am Gynllun Gwên Llywodraeth Cymru? OAQ(4)0328(HSS)
5. Will the Minister provide an update on the Welsh Government's Designed to Smile scheme? OAQ(4)0328(HSS)



- 13:48 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I thank Mike Hedges for that question. There is a programme for government commitment to build on our Designed to Smile child oral health programme to help tackle oral health inequalities in our most disadvantaged communities. Funding to support Designed to Smile is ring-fenced until at least the end of the 2014-15 financial year.
- Diolch i Mike Hedges am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'r rhaglen lywodraethu yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i adeiladu ar ein Cynllun Gwên sef rhaglen iechyd y geg i blant er mwyn helpu i fynd i'r afael ag anghydraddoldebau iechyd y geg yn ein cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig. Mae cyllid i gefnogi Cynllun Gwên wedi'i neilltuo tan o leiaf ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol 2014-15.
- 13:49 **Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I thank the Minister for his response. Speaking as somebody who is very supportive of the scheme, I think this is a real example of preventative spending. It is a pity that this question did not come before the last one, because I think that it is part of the answer to the last one in driving down demand. What can be done to increase participation in Designed to Smile?
- Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ateb. A minnau'n siarad fel rhywun sy'n gefnogol iawn o'r cynllun, credaf fod hon yn enghraifft wirioneddol o wariant ataliol. Mae'n drueni nad oedd y cwestiwn hwn wedi dod cyn yr un diwethaf, gan fy mod yn meddwl ei fod yn rhan o'r ateb i'r un olaf o ran lleihau'r galw. Beth y gellir ei wneud i gynyddu cyfranogiad yng Nghynllun Gwên?
- 13:49 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- We are already confident that Designed to Smile is reaching a very significant number of children in the areas that we wanted to target with it. It is currently involving 1,211 nurseries and schools and 78,350 young people participate in it. There are new figures that will be published by the end of this year on the number of locations where the scheme is provided and the number of children involved in it. We are confident that those numbers will show a significant increase. The success of the scheme breeds success. As more schools find out about what it is doing for children in their area, so we find that more wish to join in with it.
- Rydym eisoes yn hyderus bod Cynllun Gwên yn cyrraedd nifer sylweddol iawn o blant yn yr ardaloedd yr oeddem yn awyddus i'w targedu. Ar hyn o bryd mae'n cynnwys 1,211 o feithrinfeydd ac ysgolion ac mae 78,350 o bobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan ynddo. Caiff ffigurau newydd eu cyhoeddi erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn ynglŷn â nifer y lleoliadau lle y darperir y cynllun a nifer y plant sy'n cymryd rhan ynddo. Rydym yn hyderus y bydd y niferoedd hynny yn dangos cynnydd sylweddol. Mae llwyddiant y cynllun yn esgor ar lwyddiant. Wrth i fwy o ysgolion gael gwybod am yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud i blant yn eu hardal, gwelwn fod mwy yn dymuno dod yn rhan o'r cynllun felly.
- 13:50 **Suzy Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Thank you, Minister, for your preliminary advice to the Children and Young People committee on this earlier today. Was there anything in the information that you have gathered already regarding Designed to Smile that might help you to encourage older children perhaps, who have not been part of the Designed to Smile programme, to benefit from it, as well as those older children that have been part of the direct scheme, but are now too old to get that direct contact with teachers?
- Diolch ichi, Weinidog, am eich cyngor rhagarweiniol i'r pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc ar hyn yn gynharach heddiw. A oedd unrhyw beth yn y wybodaeth yr ydych wedi'i chasglu eisoes ynglŷn â Chynllun Gwên a allai eich helpu i annog plant hŷn efallai, nad ydynt wedi bod yn rhan o Gynllun Gwên, i gael budd ohono, yn ogystal â'r plant hŷn hynny sydd wedi bod yn rhan o'r cynllun uniongyrchol, ond sydd bellach yn rhy hen i gael y cyswllt uniongyrchol ag athrawon?
- 13:50 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- I thank the Member for that, because she makes an important point. At the heart of the Designed to Smile approach is the belief in setting down habits early in life. That is why Designed to Smile involves children brushing their teeth every single day in school according to a set formula, in a particular way, at a particular time of day—the idea is to lay down that habit early on in the belief that once you have got the habit it will live with you from then on. There is some preliminary evidence that that is the case. It is also the case that, if one child in a household knows that brushing your teeth regularly and every day is an important thing to do, then that message spreads to other children who may not have had the benefit of the Designed to Smile programme when they were that young.
- Diolch i'r Aelod am hynny, oherwydd mae'n gwneud pwynt pwysig. Wrth wraidd y ffordd y mae Cynllun Gwên yn gweithredu mae'r gred mewn sefydlu arferion yn gynnar mewn bywyd. Dyna pam mae Cynllun Gwên yn golygu bod plant yn brwsio eu dannedd bob dydd yn yr ysgol yn ôl fformiwla benodol, mewn ffordd arbennig, ar adeg benodol o'r dydd—y syniad yw sefydlu'r arfer hwnnw yn gynnar yn y gred, unwaith eich bod wedi magu'r arfer, y bydd yn rhan o'ch bywyd o hynny ymlaen. Mae rhywfaint o dystiolaeth ragarweiniol yn dangos bod hynny'n digwydd. Mae'n wir hefyd, os oes un plentyn mewn cartref yn ymwybodol bod brwsio eich dannedd yn rheolaidd a phob dydd yn beth pwysig i'w wneud, fod y neges wedyn yn cael ei lledaenu i blant eraill nad ydynt o bosibl wedi bod yn rhan o Gynllun Gwên pan oeddent yn ifanc.

13:51

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

Weinidog, un o gryfderau'r Cynllun Gwên, wrth gwrs, yw ei bod yn gweithio mewn ysgolion mewn ardaloedd penodedig. Rwyf yn derbyn hynny, ond mae hynny yn un o wendidau'r cynllun hefyd, wrth edrych ar amddifadedd ar ystod fwy eang ar draws y wlad. Un o argymhellion y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc, wrth edrych ar y cynllun hwn, oedd edrych yn benodol at newid y contract deintyddol tu fewn i'r cyd-destun Cymreig fel bod gwersi Cynllun Gwên yn cael eu hamlygu yn fwy amlwg yn hyn yr oedd deintyddion yn ei wneud â gwaith ataliol gyda phlant. Pa gamau a ydych chi wedi eu cymryd ers hynny i weld os yw hynny'n bosibl?

Minister, one of the strengths of Designed to Smile, of course, is that it works in schools in specific areas. I accept that, but it is also one of the scheme's weaknesses, looking at deprivation more widely across Wales. One of the recommendations of the Children and Young People Committee, in looking at Designed to Smile, was to look specifically at changing the dentistry contract within the Welsh context so that the lessons of Designed to Smile can be highlighted more clearly in the preventative work that dentists do with children. What steps have you taken since then to see whether that is possible?

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13:52

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch yn fawr am y cwestiwn, oherwydd mae'n cyfeirio at rywbeth pwysig sydd wedi digwydd yn y maes dros y misoedd diwethaf.

Thank you very much for the question, because it alludes to something that is very important that has happened in the field over the past few months.

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I may have referred to this previously in the Chamber, but I would remind Members that the General Dental Council, at a relatively recent meeting, agreed to some liberalisation in registration in the dental field, so that dental therapists, as they are known—people who are able to do standard checks, simple fillings and other forms of dental procedure—are going to be able to practice in their own right, provided that they are properly professionally qualified and accredited.

Efallai fy mod wedi cyfeirio at hyn o'r blaen yn y Siambr, ond hoffwn atgoffa'r Aelodau i'r Cyngor Deintyddol Cyffredinol, mewn cyfarfod cymharol ddiweddar, gytuno ar rywfaint o ryddfrydoli o ran cofrestru ym maes deintyddiaeth, er mwyn i therapyddion deintyddol, fel y'u gelwir—pobl sy'n gallu gwneud archwiliadau arferol, llenwadau syml a mathau eraill o driniaeth ddeintyddol—gael ymarfer yn eu rhinwedd eu hunain, ar yr amod eu bod wedi cymhwyso ac wedi'u hachredu'n briodol yn broffesiynol.

I am pleased to let Members know that, yesterday, I agreed to two pilot schemes in this area—one in north Wales and one in the Hywel Dda Local Health Board area—where, through the community dental service, we will employ a dental therapist in both teams so that they can free up the time of dentists to do the things that only dentists can do, while allowing dental therapists to provide a wider range of treatments to a wider range of individuals looking for NHS treatment. There is applicability for that in thinking of ways in which we might be able to extend the Designed to Smile scheme too.

Rwy'n falch o roi gwybod i'r Aelodau imi gytuno i ddau gynllun peilot ddoe yn y maes hwn—un yn y gogledd ac un yn ardal Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda—lle y byddwn yn cyflogi therapydd deintyddol yn y ddau dîm, drwy'r gwasanaeth deintyddol cymunedol, er mwyn iddynt ryddhau amser deintyddion i wneud y pethau y gall ond deintyddion eu gwneud, tra'n galluogi therapyddion deintyddol i ddarparu ystod ehangach o driniaethau i ystod ehangach o unigolion sy'n chwilio am driniaeth gan y GIG. Mae hynny'n berthnasol wrth feddwl am sut y gallwn ymestyn Cynllun Gwên hefyd.

13:53

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

Question 6, OAQ(4)0327(HSS), has been withdrawn.

Cwestiwn 6, OAQ (4) 0327 (HSS), yn ôl.

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**Adroddiad Francis**

**Francis Report**

13:53

**Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

7. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y cynnydd a wnaed o ran gweithredu argymhellion Adroddiad Francis? OAQ(4)0343(HSS)

7. Will the Minister make a statement on progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Francis Report? OAQ(4)0343(HSS)

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- 13:53 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Thanks, Jocelyn Davies, for that question. The Francis report provided no direct recommendations to the Welsh NHS. However, I published the Welsh Government's response to all the recommendations relevant to Wales in July this year. By 30 September, all Welsh health boards and trusts published their annual quality statements, identifying Francis-relevant action at a local level.
- Diolch am y cwestiwn hwnnw, Jocelyn Davies. Ni wnaeth adroddiad Francis unrhyw argymhellion uniongyrchol i'r GIG yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, cyhoeddais ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru i'r holl argymhellion sy'n berthnasol i Gymru ym mis Gorffennaf eleni. Erbyn 30 Medi, cyhoeddodd pob bwrdd iechyd ac ymddiriedolaeth yng Nghymru eu datganiadau blynyddol o ansawdd, gan nodi camau gweithredu sy'n berthnasol i adroddiad Francis yn lleol.
- 13:54 **Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- In your response to Francis, you also undertook to work with the UK Government on taking forward the non-devolved issues, such as professional regulation. Can you tell us on how many occasions you have held discussions with the UK Government on these matters, and when can we expect to see legislation on the duty of candour, which would, of course, require medical professionals to tell the truth?
- Yn eich ymateb i Francis, gwnaethoch ymrwymo hefyd i weithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU er mwyn bwrw ymlaen â'r materion nad ydynt wedi'u datganoli, megis rheoleiddio proffesiynol. A allwch ddweud wrthym sawl gwaith yr ydych wedi cael trafodaethau gyda Llywodraeth y DU ar y materion hyn, a phryd y gallwn ddisgwyl gweld deddfwriaeth ar y ddyletswydd gonestrwydd, a fyddai, wrth gwrs, yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i weithwyr proffesiynol meddygol ddweud y gwir?
- 13:54 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- On the latter point, we already have a duty of candour in the Welsh NHS. It is already a firm expectation of people who work in it that they do tell the truth, and that they are frank with patients—both where there is difficult information that needs to be conveyed and, sometimes, where there are mistakes that have to be discussed and put right with patients. That is a clear expectation that I have as the Minister that those conversations, difficult as they may be, are carried out consistently on a candid basis. In relation to the first part of the Member's question, I have had meetings with the regulators who are responsible for registration, and I have had correspondence with UK Ministers on steps that they have in mind in the English, rather than the UK, context. We are still in discussions with them about the best way to extend registration of the relevant workforces in this area, and we may not end up in an identical place.
- O ran y pwynt olaf, mae gennym ddyletswydd gonestrwydd eisoes yn y GIG yng Nghymru. Mae disgwylid pendant eisoes bod pobl sy'n gweithio ynddo yn dweud y gwir, a'u bod yn onest gyda chleifion—lle mae gwybodaeth anodd y mae angen ei chyfleu ac, weithiau, lle mae camgymeriadau y mae'n rhaid eu trafod gyda chleifion a'u hunioni. Mae hynny'n ddisgwylid dir sydd gennyf fel y Gweinidog y bydd y sgysiau hynny, er mor anodd ydynt, yn digwydd yn gyson ar sail onest. O ran y rhan gyntaf o gwestiwn yr Aelod, rwyf wedi cael cyfarfodydd â'r rheoleiddwyr sy'n gyfrifol am gofrestru, ac rwyf wedi gohebu â Gweinidogion y DU ynglŷn â'r camau y maent yn ystyried eu cymryd yng nghyd-destun Lloegr, yn hytrach nag yng nghyd-destun y DU. Rydym yn dal i drafod gyda hwy ynglŷn â'r ffordd orau o ymestyn cofrestriad y gweithluoedd perthnasol yn y maes hwn, ac efallai na fyddwn yn cymryd yr union gamau â hwy yn y pen draw.
- 13:55 **Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- The findings of the Francis report were echoed further by the independent Keogh review, which took place in more than a dozen hospitals in England, but the culture and conditions found by that Keogh review into those hospitals are not unique to the NHS in England. We know that here in Wales 11 out of 17 of our district general hospitals have higher than expected mortality rates. We know that poor infection-control procedures have killed people, or have been partly responsible for killing people, in north Wales. We know that patients have waited too long for their cardiac surgery and have died as a result. We know that thousands of operations have been cancelled—or, as your First Minister put it, postponed—to save money. Will you consider your stance on the need for an independent Keogh review into hospitals in the Welsh NHS?
- Ategwyd canfyddiadau adroddiad Francis ymhellach gan adolygiad annibynnol Keogh, a gynhaliwyd mewn mwy na dwysin o ysbytai yn Lloegr, ond nid yw'r diwylliant na'r amodau a welwyd yn ystod yr adolygiad hwnnw gan Keogh o'r ysbytai hynny yn unigryw i'r GIG yn Lloegr. Gwyddom fod gan 11 o 17 o'n hysbytai cyffredinol dosbarth yma yng Nghymru gyfraddau marwolaethau uwch na'r disgwyl. Gwyddom fod gweithdrefnau rheoli heintiau gwael wedi lladd pobl, neu wedi bod yn rhannol gyfrifol am ladd pobl, yn y gogledd. Gwyddom fod cleifion wedi aros yn rhy hir am eu llawdriniaeth ar y galon ac wedi marw o ganlyniad. Gwyddom fod miloedd o lawdriniaethau wedi cael eu canslo—neu, fel y dywedodd eich Prif Weinidog, eu gohirio—er mwyn arbed arian. A wnewch chi ystyried eich safbwynt ar yr angen am adolygiad annibynnol o ysbytai yn y GIG yng Nghymru fel un Keogh?

13:56

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I have thought very carefully about the general point the Member raises, and I am absolutely clear in my mind that a Keogh-style inquiry is neither necessary nor profitable in the Welsh context. That is not to say for a moment that I disagree with his original proposition: of course some of the things that have gone wrong elsewhere could go wrong in Wales. We have always said that we are not immune from the same sort of pressures that led to difficulties that Francis uncovered. However, my view is that in a small nation, where we already have substantial safeguards in place, and where those safeguards have been shown to operate successfully, in the sense that they draw attention to things that might be going wrong before they become a crisis, I think that we have the right mechanisms in place and that an inquiry of the sort that he advocates would be a massive distraction for clinicians and managers right across Wales from the job that we really want them to do, which is to be concentrating on providing safe, high-quality services for patients.

Rwyf wedi meddwl am y pwynt cyffredinol y mae'r Aelod yn ei godi yn ofalus iawn, ac rwy'n gwbl gllir fy meddwl nad oes angen ymchwiliad fel un Keogh ac na fyddai'n fuddiol yng nghyd-destun Cymru. Nid yw hynny'n dweud am funud fy mod yn anghytuno â'i gynnydd gwreiddiol: wrth gwrs, gallai rhai o'r pethau sydd wedi mynd o chwith mewn manau eraill fynd o chwith yng Nghymru. Rydym wedi dweud erioed nad ydym yn ddiogel rhag yr un math o bwysau a arweiniodd at yr anawsterau a ddatgelwyd gan Francis. Fodd bynnag, yn fy marn i, mewn gwlad fach, lle rydym eisoes wedi rhoi mesurau diogelu sylweddol ar waith, a lle y dangoswyd bod y mesurau diogelu hynny yn gweithredu'n llwyddiannus, yn yr ystyr eu bod yn tynnu sylw at bethau a allai fod yn mynd o chwith cyn iddynt droi'n argyfwng, credaf fod gennym y systemau cywir ar waith ac y byddai ymchwiliad o'r fath y mae'n dadlau o'i blaid yn tynnu sylw clinigwyr a rheolwyr ledled Cymru oddi ar y gwaith yr ydym yn wir am iddynt ei wneud, sef canolbwyntio ar ddarparu gwasanaethau diogel, o safon uchel i gleifion.

13:57

**Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I am very disappointed to hear your response, Minister. The First Minister seemed to think that it was acceptable to dismiss our calls for a Keogh-style inquiry on the basis of cost. You now say that everything is okay in the Welsh NHS, that we have safeguards in place and that we do not need one. Yet, we know that, just weeks ago, we had a report that confirmed that over 30 people have died in north Wales as a result of poor infection-control procedures. I do not think that it is appropriate to put a price on people's lives, and neither does the north Wales community health council, which has supported our calls for an independent review. Will you reconsider your position in light of its calls, if not ours, so that you can carefully consider whether an independent Keogh-style inquiry into those Welsh hospitals with the highest mortality rates could add some value to safeguarding patients who interface with the Welsh NHS on a daily basis?

Rwy'n siomedig iawn i glywed eich ymateb, Weinidog. Roedd y Prif Weinidog fel petai'n credu ei bod yn dderbyniol gwrthod ein galwadau am ymchwiliad fel un Keogh ar sail cost. Dyma chi'n dweud bellach bod popeth yn iawn yn y GIG yng Nghymru, bod gennym fesurau diogelu ar waith ac nad oes angen un. Eto i gyd, gwyddom, ddim ond ychydig wythnosau yn ôl, inni gael adroddiad a gadarnhaodd fod dros 30 o bobl wedi marw yn y gogledd o ganlyniad i weithdrefnau rheoli heintiau gwael. Ni chredaf ei bod yn briodol rhoi pris ar fywydau pobl, na chyngor iechyd cymuned gogledd Cymru, sydd wedi cefnogi ein galwadau am adolygiad annibynnol. A wnech chi ailystyried eich safbwynt yng ngoleuni ei alwad, os nad ein galwadau ni, er mwyn ichi ystyried yn ofalus a allai ymchwiliad annibynnol fel un Keogh i'r ysbysai hynny yng Nghymru sydd â'r cyfraddau marwolaethau uchaf ychwanegu rhywfaint o werth at ddiogelu cleifion sy'n dod i gysylltiad â GIG Cymru o ddydd i ddydd?

13:58

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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It has never been my position, as the Member well knows, that everything is exactly as we should like it to be in the Welsh NHS, but the conclusion that I have come to, which is that we do not require a Keogh-style review, is because I think that we have the mechanisms in place already to do what Keogh did in England.

Nid wyf erioed wedi dweud, fel y gwyr yr Aelod yn dda, fod popeth yn union fel y byddem yn ei ddyddio yn y GIG yng Nghymru, ond rwyf wedi dod i'r casgliad hwn, sef nad oes angen inni gynnal adolygiad fel un Keogh, oherwydd fy mod yn credu fod gennym y systemau ar waith eisoes i wneud yr hyn a wnaeth Keogh yn Lloegr.

Let me take the Member's specific example of north Wales. There, as soon as alerts were received about problems of a C. difficile outbreak, we were able to mobilise Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and the Wales Audit Office and to secure Public Health Wales's support for that health board. The board itself got Professor Brian Duerden to go in and give it advice. What is the result? Over the period since C. difficile figures have been collected in the Welsh NHS, figures in Betsi Cadwaladr are now 40% lower than where they started during the reference period. As far as MRSA is concerned, there was not a single case of MRSA in the Betsi Cadwaladr local health board area in the month of September. We saw the problem, we acted on the problem, and those actions are succeeding.

Gadwch imi edrych ar yr enghraifft benodol a godwyd gan yr Aelod yn y gogledd. Yno, cyn gynted ag y cawsom rybuddion am broblemau oherwydd achosion o C. difficile, roeddem yn gallu gofyn i Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru a Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru fwrw ati ac yn gallu sicrhau cymorth Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru i'r bwrdd iechyd hwnnw. Gofynnodd y bwrdd ei hun i'r Athro Brian Duerden ymchwilio a rhoi cynngor. Beth yw'r canlyniad? Yn ystod y cyfnod ers i'r ffigurau ynglŷn â C. difficile gael eu casglu yn y GIG yng Nghymru, mae'r ffigurau yn Betsi Cadwaladr bellach 40% yn is nag yr oeddent ar gychwyn y cyfnod cyfeirio. O ran MRSA, nid oedd yr un achos o MRSA yn ardal bwrdd iechyd lleol Betsi Cadwaladr ym mis Medi. Gwelsom y broblem, gweithredwyd ar y broblem, ac mae'r camau gweithredu hynny yn llwyddo.

14:00	<b>Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> I warn the Conservative front bench, not for the first time; I do not want any sledging when Ministers are replying. We need to hear the answers and you should not put people off.	Rhybuddiaf fainc flaen y Ceidwadwyr, nid am y tro cyntaf, nid wyf am glywed unrhyw ddwrddio pan fydd Gweinidogion yn ymateb. Mae angen inni glywed yr atebion, ac ni ddylech darfu ar bobl.	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
<b>Rhaglen De Cymru</b>		<b>South Wales Programme</b>	
14:00	<b>Leighton Andrews</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> <i>8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am Raglen De Cymru? OAQ(4)0330(HSS)</i>	<i>8. Will the Minister make a statement on the South Wales Programme? OAQ(4)0330(HSS)</i>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:00	<b>Mark Drakeford</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> I thank Leighton Andrews for the question. The south Wales programme's recent consultation received over 60,000 responses. These are currently being analysed and health boards will meet before the end of the year to take final decisions on the future pattern of services.	Diolch i Leighton Andrews am y cwestiwn. Cafwyd dros 60,000 o ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad diweddar ynglŷn â rhaglen de Cymru. Mae'r rhain yn cael eu dadansoddi ar hyn o bryd a bydd byrddau iechyd yn cyfarfod cyn diwedd y flwyddyn i wneud penderfyniadau terfynol ar batrwm y gwasanaethau yn y dyfodol.	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:00	<b>Leighton Andrews</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> In the official bulletin reporting on the 61,000 responses now received, the health boards make the point that they have received additional information as a result of the consultation that suggests that many patients would not necessarily travel to the nearest hospital if they were not carried there by ambulance. This will have implications for the distribution of hospital services within that region. Can you confirm that the information supplied by those responding to the consultation will be fully considered as proposals are drawn up for the future, and that nothing at this stage is ruled in or ruled out?	Yn y bwletin swyddogol sy'n sôn am y 61,000 o ymatebion sydd wedi dod i law erbyn hyn, gwnaeth y byrddau iechyd y pwynt eu bod wedi derbyn gwybodaeth ychwanegol o ganlyniad i'r ymgynghoriad sy'n awgrymu na fyddai llawer o gleifion yn teithio i'r ysbyty agosaf o reidrwydd pe na baent yn cael eu cludo yno mewn ambiwlans. Bydd i hyn oblygiadau o ran dosbarthu gwasanaethau ysbyty yn y rhanbarth hwnnw. A allwch gadarnhau y bydd y wybodaeth a roddir gan y rhai a ymatebodd i'r ymgynghoriad yn cael ei hystyried yn llawn wrth i gynigion gael eu llunio ar gyfer y dyfodol, ac nad oes dim byd wedi cael ei benderfynu'n derfynol eto?	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:01	<b>Mark Drakeford</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> The specifics that the Member raises are for the south Wales programme board to consider. As he knows, when the volume of responses to the programme became clear, the programme board issued a statement in August that pointed out that it had originally intended to come to a decision around this time in the calendar. However, as it said, because of the volume of responses, in order to fully and properly understand and interpret the comments submitted by the public, politicians, NHS staff and local interest and professional groups, the board decided that it would need more time to analyse those responses, and that it would now meet before the end of the year. I expect that the board will do as it has said, and take the time necessary to provide a careful consideration to all the responses that it has received.	Cyfrifoldeb bwrdd rhaglen de Cymru fydd ystyried y pwyntiau manwl y mae'r Aelod yn eu codi. Fel y gŵyr, pan ddaeth yn amlwg faint o ymatebion i'r rhaglen a oedd yn dod i law, cyhoeddodd bwrdd y rhaglen ddatganiad ym mis Awst yn nodi'r ffaith ei fod wedi bwriadu gwneud penderfyniad yn wreiddiol tua'r adeg hon o'r flwyddyn. Fodd bynnag, fel y dywedodd, am ei fod wedi cael cynifer o ymatebion, er mwyn deall a dehongli'r sylwadau a gyflwynwyd gan y cyhoedd, gwleidyddion, staff y GIG a grwpiau â diddordeb a grwpiau proffesiynol lleol yn llawn ac mewn ffordd briodol, penderfynodd y bwrdd y byddai angen mwy o amser i dadansoddi'r ymatebion hynny, ac y byddai'n cyfarfod cyn diwedd y flwyddyn bellach. Disgwyliaf i'r bwrdd weithredu fel y nododd, a chymryd yr amser sydd ei angen i ystyried yn ofalus yr holl ymatebion sydd wedi dod i law.	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>

14:02 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition*

Minister, whatever the options chosen in the programme, a lot of the information is predicated on the increase of new clinicians coming into Wales to work in our hospitals and health service. Given that past reforms and past Welsh Government initiatives to recruit such clinicians have not been a resounding success, how confident are you that you will be able to work with local health boards to attract new clinicians into Wales to man the services, whatever the options chosen after the consultation?

Weinidog, beth opsiynau bynnag a ddewisir yn y rhaglen, mae llawer o'r wybodaeth yn seiliedig ar gynyddu nifer y clinigwyr newydd sy'n dod i Gymru i weithio yn ein hysbytai a'n gwasanaeth iechyd. O ystyried nad yw diwygiadau yn y gorffennol na mentrau Llywodraeth Cymru i recriwtio clinigwyr o'r fath yn y gorffennol wedi bod yn llwyddiant ysgubol, pa mor hyderus ydych y byddwch yn gallu gweithio gyda byrddau iechyd lleol i ddenu clinigwyr newydd i Gymru er mwyn staffio'r gwasanaethau, pa opsiynau bynnag a ddewisir ar ôl yr ymgynghoriad?

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14:03 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I want to make the general point that recruitment to vacancies in the Welsh NHS is buoyant and successful. The last figures that health boards reported are down again from their all-time low of 2.3% earlier this year. So, we do not have a general problem of recruitment, or the recruitment of very high-calibre clinicians into the Welsh NHS. What we have, as Members know, is a small number of specialities where with other parts of the United Kingdom and more widely, there is a shortage of suitable people to come into posts that we wish to fill. We are doing a great deal to do that. I was very pleased over the summer, for example, to sign off a sum of £33,000 to Hywel Dda Local Health Board to take part in a recruitment exercise for clinicians from overseas. There are other initiatives of that sort. We will do everything that we can, working with health boards, to make sure that we secure the staff needed for the NHS in Wales.

Rwyf am wneud y pwynt cyffredinol bod recriwtio i swyddi gwag yn y GIG yng Nghymru yn fywiog ac yn llwyddiannus. Mae'r ffigurau diweddaraf gan y byrddau iechyd yn nodi gostyngiad eto o'u lefel isaf erioed, sef 2.3% yn gynharach eleni. Felly, nid oes gennym broblem gyffredinol o ran recriwtio, na recriwtio clinigwyr o safon uchel iawn yn y GIG yng Nghymru. Yr hyn sydd gennym, fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, yw nifer fach o arbenigeddau lle mae prinder pobl addas i lenwi'r swyddi yr ydym am eu llenwi, yn debyg i rannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig ac yn fwy cyffredinol. Rydym yn gwneud cryn dipyn i wneud hynny. Roeddwn yn falch iawn yn ystod yr haf, er enghraifft, i gymeradwyo swm o £33,000 i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda gymryd rhan mewn ymarfer recriwtio ar gyfer clinigwyr o dramor. Ceir mentrau eraill o'r fath. Byddwn yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu, drwy weithio gyda byrddau iechyd, i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn sicrhau'r staff sydd eu hangen ar y GIG yng Nghymru.

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14:04 **Leanne Wood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru*  
Minister, it emerged during the consultation event that local health boards have only enough doctors to operate over three or possibly four sites, and not the five sites that has been consulted on recently. The LHBs refused to confirm or deny this when they were before the Health and Social Care Committee last week. Do you accept that you will need to recruit a substantial number of additional doctors in order to operate across five sites safely? You say that there is no problem in recruiting doctors, yet the First Minister yesterday seemed to indicate that it was impossible to recruit additional doctors. Minister, can you please shed some light on that contradictory position?

Weinidog, daeth yn amlwg yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad mai dim ond ar gyfer tri safle neu bedwar o bosibl y mae gan y byrddau iechyd lleol nifer ddigonol o feddygon ac nid y pum safle yr ymgynghorwyd yn eu cylch yn ddiweddar. Gwrthododd y BILLau gadarnhau neu wadu hyn pan oeddent gerbron y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol yr wythnos diwethaf. A ydych yn derbyn y bydd angen ichi recriwtio nifer sylweddol o feddygon ychwanegol er mwyn gweithredu'n ddiogel mewn pum safle? Rydych yn dweud nad oes problem o ran recriwtio meddygon, ac eto ddoe awgrymodd y Prif Weinidog i bob golwg ei bod yn amhosibl recriwtio meddygon ychwanegol. Weinidog, a allwch daflu rhywfaint o oleuni ar y gwrthddywediad hwnnw?

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14:04 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It is not for me or anyone else to anticipate the outcome of the south Wales programme. I have nothing to say on the number of options, or on the one that might finally be identified by those whose responsibility it is to analyse the responses that have been received and to come to a conclusion.

Nid mater i mi nac unrhyw un arall yw achub y blaen ar ganlyniad rhaglen de Cymru. Nid oes gennyf ddim i'w ddweud am nifer yr opsiynau, nac ar y un a allai gael ei nodi yn y pen draw gan y rhai sy'n gyfrifol am ddadansoddi'r ymatebion sydd wedi dod i law ac am ddod i gasgliad.

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Whatever the outcome of the board, there will be an ongoing need to recruit suitably qualified, highly motivated clinicians of the sort that we are lucky enough to enjoy in the Welsh NHS. There is no contradiction between what I have said and what the First Minister said. The general position is that we recruit very successfully to very important jobs within the Welsh NHS, with a vacancy level across Wales of below 2%. There are some geographical hotspots and some particular specialities where that picture is not as easy. It is those things that we will have to concentrate on.

Beth bynnag fo canlyniad y bwrdd, bydd angen o hyd i recriwtio clinigwyr llawn cymhelliant, â chymwysterau addas, o'r fath yr ydym yn ddigon ffodus i'w cael yn y GIG yng Nghymru. Nid oes unrhyw anghysondeb rhwng yr hyn yr wyf wedi'i ddweud a'r hyn a ddywedodd y Prif Weinidog. Y sefyllfa gyffredinol yw ein bod yn recriwtio'n llwyddiannus iawn i swyddi pwysig iawn o fewn y GIG yng Nghymru, gyda llai na 2% o swyddi gwag ledled Cymru. Mae rhai ardaloedd daearyddol a rhai arbenigeddau penodol lle nad yw'r darlun cystal. Ar y pethau hynny y bydd yn rhaid inni ganolbwyntio.

14:05 **Peter Black** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, one of the concerns that arose from the consultation is that for this new model to work, no matter what that configuration is, there needs to be a much better improvement in the performance of the ambulance service. Could you give an assurance that that work is ongoing and that the ambulance service will be up to scratch, whatever model is put in place?

Weinidog, un o'r pryderon a godwyd yn yr ymgynghoriad yw, er mwyn i'r model newydd hwn lwyddo, waeth beth fo'r trefniadau a ddewisir, bod angen gweld llawer mwy o welliant ym mherfformiad y gwasanaeth ambiwlans. A allech roi sicrwydd bod y gwaith hwnnw'n mynd rhagddo ac y bydd y gwasanaeth ambiwlans yn ddigon da pa fodel bynnag a roddir ar waith?

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14:06 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Member makes a very important point. The ambulance service, we know, is integral to the south Wales plan. I was very pleased to be told that the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust had participated in the vast bulk of public meetings that were held across south Wales as part of the plan. Its contribution to making the plan work, whatever the eventual outcome may be, is pivotal. I have worked over the summer with Mick Giannasi, the newly appointed chair of the ambulance trust, and with others, to make sure that we are doing everything that we can to see that its performance will be more than sufficient to support the outcome of the plan and the health service more generally.

Mae'r Aelod yn gwneud pwynt pwysig iawn. Mae'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans, fel y gwyddom, yn rhan annatod o gynllun de Cymru. Roeddwn yn falch iawn o gael gwybod bod Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gwasanaethau Ambiwllans Cymru wedi cymryd rhan yn y mwyafrif helaeth o gyfarfodydd cyhoeddus a gynhaliwyd ledled de Cymru fel rhan o'r cynllun. Mae ei gyfraniad i sicrhau bod y cynllun yn llwyddo, beth bynnag fo'r canlyniad yn y pen draw, yn hanfodol. Rwyf wedi gweithio yn ystod yr haf gyda Mick Giannasi, cadeirydd newydd yr ymddiriedolaeth ambiwlans, a chydag eraill, i sicrhau ein bod yn gwneud popeth o fewn ein gallu i sicrhau y bydd ei berfformiad yn fwy na digon i gefnogi'r hyn sy'n deillio o'r cynllun a'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn fwy cyffredinol.

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## Amseroedd Aros am Brawf Clyw

## Hearing Test Waiting Times

14:07 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am amseroedd aros am brawf clyw yng ngogledd Cymru? OAQ(4)0337(HSS)

9. Will the Minister make a statement on hearing test waiting times in north Wales? OAQ(4)0337(HSS)

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14:07 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch am y cwestiwn. Ar ddiwedd mis Awst 2013, nid oedd unrhyw gleifion yn aros mwy na 14 wythnos i gael gosod cymorth clyw i oedolion am y tro cyntaf yng ngogledd Cymru, ac roedd 87% yn aros llai nag wyth wythnos. Mae cynlluniau Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr yn dangos na fydd unrhyw oedolyn yn yr ardal sydd angen ailasesiad yn aros mwy na 14 wythnos erbyn mis Ebrill 2014.

Thank you for the question. At the end of August 2013, no patients in north Wales waited more than 14 weeks for a first fitting of an adult hearing aid, and 87% waited less than eight weeks. Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board plans show that by April 2014 no adult patient requiring reassessment will wait more than 14 weeks in the area.

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14:07 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A gaf i dynnu sylw'r Gweinidog, felly, at achos un o fy etholwyr, sy'n gorfod aros rhwng 11 a 12 mis am asesiad clyw, sy'n gwbl annerbyniol? Un o'r prif broblemau, meddai'r bwrdd iechyd, yw diffyg capasiti. Nid oes neb yn credu gair mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn ei ddweud pan ddywed nad oes problem o ran diffyg meddygon.

May I draw the Minister's attention, therefore, to the case of a constituent of mine who has to wait between 11 and 12 months for a hearing assessment, which is totally unacceptable? One of the main problems, according to the health board, is the lack of capacity. No-one believes a word that this Government says when it says that there is no problem in terms of a shortage of clinicians.

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Yn y cyd-destun hwnnw, a wnaiff y Gweinidog gytuno bod angen hyfforddi rhagor o feddygon yng ngogledd Cymru, fel ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle gall fwy o bobl gael eu perswadio i weithio yng ngogledd Cymru er mwyn tacio amseroedd aros hir ar draws y gwasanaeth iechyd?

In that context, will the Minister agree that we need to train more doctors in north Wales, so that we are in a position where more people can be persuaded to work in north Wales in order to tackle long waiting times across the health service?

14:08

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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There are a number of different and rather jostling contentions in what the Member had to say. The figures that I have are very clear: people who are waiting for a first fitting of a hearing aid in north Wales wait no longer than 14 weeks—that is the maximum—and the vast majority are seen within eight weeks.

Roedd yr hyn yr oedd gan yr Aelod i'w ddweud yn cynnwys nifer o haeriadau gwahanol sy'n gwrthdweud ei gilydd i ryw raddau. Mae'r ffigurau sydd gennyf yn glir iawn: nid yw pobl sy'n aros am osod cymorth clyw am y tro cyntaf yn y gogledd yn aros mwy na 14 wythnos—dyna'r amser aros hwyaf—ac mae'r mwyafrif helaeth yn cael eu gweld o fewn wyth wythnos.

There is a different issue to do with people who are waiting for a reassessment, and the health board has plans in place to make sure that waiting times that are currently being experienced are radically reduced by the end of this financial year.

Cyfyd mater gwahanol o ran pobl sy'n aros am ailasesiad, ac mae gan y bwrdd iechyd gynlluniau ar waith i sicrhau bod yr amseroedd aros a welir ar hyn o bryd yn cael eu lleihau'n sylweddol erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn ariannol hon.

Of course, it is important that we attract doctors to work across north Wales. I understand that the further west you go, some of the issues that are faced in recruitment get more difficult. I am looking forward to a meeting that I have arranged with Alun Ffred Jones, you and Llyr to look at this issue in more detail.

Wrth gwrs, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn denu meddygon i weithio yn y gogledd. Caf ar ddeall mai wrth ichi fynd ymhellach i'r gorllewin y cyfyd rhai o'r problemau mwyaf anodd o ran recriwtio. Edrychaf ymlaen at gyfarfod yr wyf wedi'i drefnu gydag Alun Ffred Jones, Llyr a chithau i ystyried y mater hwn yn fanylach.

14:09

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

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Minister, the Royal National Institute for Deaf People Cymru received some funding from the last Assembly through the new ideas fund to undertake some research into the barriers that people who are deaf or hard of hearing face when accessing services through the NHS. That research found that almost 50% of those who use British Sign Language found it very difficult indeed to access health services in their local area. Since that report, Minister, can you outline what the Welsh Government has done to make it easier for those people who are hard of hearing or BSL users to access services across the NHS?

Weinidog, cafodd Sefydliad Cenedlaethol Brenhinol Pobl Fyddar Cymru rywfaint o arian gan y Cynulliad diwethaf drwy gronfa syniadau newydd i wneud ychydig o ymchwil i'r rhwystrau y mae pobl sy'n fyddar neu'n drwm eu clyw yn eu hwynebu wrth ddefnyddio gwasanaethau drwy'r GIG. Canfu'r gwaith ymchwil hwnnw fod bron 50% o'r rhai sy'n defnyddio Iaith Arwyddion Prydain yn ei chael hi'n anodd iawn i gael gafael ar wasanaethau iechyd yn eu hardal leol. Ers yr adroddiad hwnnw, Weinidog, a allwch amlinellu'r hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei wneud i'w gwneud yn haws i bobl sy'n drwm eu clyw neu ddefnyddwyr Iaith Arwyddion Prydain gael gafael ar wasanaethau yn y GIG?

14:10

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I thank Ann Jones for that question and for the work that she does as chair of the cross-party group in this area. I was able to attend an event in the Assembly before the summer break that Ann's office had arranged and I was able to hear, at first hand, from people with hearing loss about the difficulties that they experience, sometimes, in basic communications with the NHS. As a result, wherever I have been over the summer, particularly in primary care, I have been asking doctors and their receptionists about the steps that they take to make sure that people needing to make an appointment or arriving at the surgery are properly attended to. A great deal of it is just a matter of raising awareness. It is not about a lack of goodwill, it is just a matter of people understanding that the problem is there and then taking some simple steps to address it.

Diolch i Ann Jones am y cwestiwn hwnnw ac am y gwaith a wna fel cadeirydd y grŵp trawsbleidiol yn y maes hwn. Roeddwn yn gallu mynd i ddigwyddiad yn y Cynulliad cyn toriad yr haf yr oedd swyddfa Ann wedi'i drefnu, ac roeddwn yn gallu clywed, yn uniongyrchol, gan bobl sydd wedi colli eu clyw am yr anawsterau y maent yn eu profi, weithiau, wrth gyfathrebu â'r GIG am bethau sylfaenol. O ganlyniad, lle bynnag yr wyf wedi bod yn ystod yr haf, yn enwedig ym maes gofal sylfaenol, rwyf wedi bod yn gofyn i feddygon a staff eu derbynfydd am y camau y maent yn eu cymryd i wneud yn siŵr bod pobl y mae angen iddynt wneud apwyntiad neu bobl sy'n cyrraedd y feddygfa yn cael sylw priodol. Mater o godi ymwybyddiaeth yw llawer iawn o hyn. Nid yw'n ymwneud â diffyg ewyllys da, mae'n ymwneud â phobl yn deall bod y broblem yn codi ac yna'n cymryd rhai camau syml i ymdrin â hi.



We have been working, again over the summer, with Action on Hearing Loss and with the Royal National Institute of Blind People Cymru to produce all-Wales standards for accessible communication for people with sensory loss. Therefore, it is not simply for people who are hard of hearing or deaf, but people with other forms of sensory loss as well. I am hoping to be able to launch those all-Wales standards in December.

Rydym wedi bod yn gweithio, unwaith eto dros yr haf, gydag Action on Hearing Loss a Sefydliad Cenedlaethol Brenhinol Pobl Ddall Cymru i lunio safonau Cymru gyfan ar gyfathrebu'n hawdd i bobl sydd wedi colli un neu fwy o'u synhwyrau. Felly, nid problem i bobl sy'n drwm eu clyw neu'n fyddar ydyw, mae hefyd yn broblem i bobl sydd wedi colli synhwyrau eraill. Gobeithio y byddwn yn gallu lansio'r safonau hynny i Gymru gyfan ym mis Rhagfyr.

## Y Brechlyn Ffliw

## Flu Vaccine

14:11

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

*10. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu manylion am yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud i sicrhau y bydd yr holl bobl yn y categorïau mewn perygl yn cael y brechlyn fflw? OAQ(4)0340(HSS)*

*10. Will the Minister provide details of what he is doing to ensure that all people in at-risk categories will receive the flu vaccine? OAQ(4)0340(HSS)*

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14:11

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I have met with the heads of the professional bodies involved with delivery of the flu campaign to ensure that arrangements are in place to make this year's campaign as successful as it can possibly be. Progress will continue to be monitored throughout the season.

Rwyf wedi cyfarfod â phenaethiaid y cyrff proffesiynol sy'n ymwneud â chynnal yr ymgyrch fflw er mwyn sicrhau bod trefniadau ar waith i wneud yr ymgyrch eleni mor llwyddiannus â phosibl. Bydd cynnydd yn parhau i gael ei fonitro drwy gydol y tymor.

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14:12

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

I welcome the recent announcement by Public Health Wales that all children in year 7 will be offered a free flu vaccine. This is, I think, another means by which we will limit the potential spread of seasonal flu. Public Health Wales also announced that two and three-year-olds across the country will be offered a flu vaccine at their GP surgery; I do not know whether my three-year-old grandson will think that that is a good idea or not, but there we go. We will wait and see. Minister, what impact do you expect this to have on the number of people who will now go to their GP and have those flu vaccinations as families? Could I ask you, as usual, to provide an update once your Government has made a formal assessment of the impact of this policy for future years?

Croesawaf y cyhoeddiad diweddar gan Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru y bydd pob plentyn ym mlwyddyn 7 yn cael cynnig brechlyn fflw am ddim. Yn fy marn i, mae hon yn ffordd arall o gyfyngu ar ymlediad posibl fflw tymhorol. Hefyd, cyhoeddodd Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru y bydd plant dwy a thair oed ledled y wlad yn cael cynnig brechlyn fflw yn eu meddygfa; ni wn a fydd fy ŵyr tair blwydd oed yn meddwl bod hynny'n syniad da ai peidio, ond dyna ni. Cawn weld. Weinidog, pa effaith yr ydych yn disgwyl i hyn ei chael ar nifer y bobl a fydd yn mynd at eu meddyg teulu a chael y brechlyn fflw hwnnw fel teuluoedd? A gaf ofyn ichi, fel arfer, roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf unwaith y bydd eich Llywodraeth wedi gwneud asesiad ffurfiol o effaith y polisi hwn ar gyfer y dyfodol?

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14:12

**Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Ann Jones for that important question. Anyone can get the flu, but rates of infection are highest among children, and that is why I am very glad that we have been able in Wales to join a UK-wide introduction of the new form of vaccination for children aged two and three and those in year 7. Your grandson might be reassured to know that it is a nasal spray rather than an injection that is involved. That is important because we know from experience elsewhere that the nasal spray is more effective in protecting children against the flu, it is safer for children than the injected form and it protects against a wider range of potential strains of influenza than the conventional injected form. The Member makes a very good point about parents taking their children to the GP surgery to be vaccinated in this way; let us hope that they take that opportunity to be vaccinated themselves, because there is a simple way of protecting yourself against influenza. It is safe, effective and easy to get, and the more people who take advantage of it, the easier a winter that the NHS will have as a result.

Diolch i Ann Jones am y cwestiwn pwysig hwnnw. Gall unrhyw un gael y fflw, ond ymhlith plant y mae cyfraddau'r haint ar eu huchaf, a dyna pam rwy'n falch iawn ein bod ni yng Nghymru wedi gallu ymuno ag ymarfer ledled y DU i gyflwyno math newydd o frechu ar gyfer plant dwy a thair oed a'r rhai ym mlwyddyn 7. Efallai y bydd eich ŵyr yn cael cysur o wybod mai chwistrell drwynol yn hytrach na phigiad sydd dan sylw. Mae hynny'n bwysig oherwydd ein bod yn gwybod o brofiad mewn mannau eraill fod y chwistrell drwynol yn fwy effeithiol o ran amddiffyn plant rhag y fflw, ei fod yn fwy diogel i blant na'r math o frechlyn a chwistrellir a'i fod yn amddiffyn rhag ystod ehangach o fathau posibl o fflw na'r math confensiynol a chwistrellir. Mae'r Aelod yn gwneud pwynt da iawn am rieni yn mynd â'u plant i'r feddygfa i gael eu brechu yn y ffordd hon; gobeithio eu bod yn achub ar y cyfle i gael eu brechu eu hunain, oherwydd mae'n ffordd syml o amddiffyn eich hun rhag y fflw. Mae'n ddiogel, yn effeithiol ac yn hawdd i'w cael, a po fwyaf o bobl sy'n cymryd mantais ohono, yr hawsaf y bydd tymor y gaeaf i'r GIG o ganlyniad.

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14:14 **Janet Finch-Saunders** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Despite the target for uptake of 75% in the most at-risk group, people over the age of 65, Public Health Wales shows that, last year, there was only 67% actual take-up. That is despite rolling out this service across pharmacies. Pharmacists have told me that there is a lack of awareness and a lack of a push forward on this from the Government and the local health board. Minister, this is another Welsh health target failed, what are you doing to address this?

Er gwaethaf y targed i gael 75% yn y grŵp sy'n wynebu'r risg fwyaf i gael eu brechu, sef pobl dros 65 oed, dengys Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru mai dim ond 67% a gafodd eu brechu y llynedd mewn gwirionedd a hynny er i'r gwasanaeth hwn gael ei gyflwyno mewn fferyllfeydd. Mae fferyllwyr wedi dweud wrthyf fod diffyg ymwybyddiaeth a diffyg hyrwyddo yn hyn o beth gan y Llywodraeth a'r bwrdd iechyd lleol. Weinidog, mae hwn yn darged iechyd arall i Gymru nad yw'n cael ei gyrraedd, beth rydych yn ei wneud i ymdrin â hyn?

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14:14 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Answer that.

Atebwch hynny.

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14:14 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes, indeed. [Laughter.] I simply do not agree with the basic proposition of the Member's question. It is absolutely not the case that the flu campaign is not pushed very heavily by the Government, by health boards and by pharmacies. Wherever possible in Wales, a whole range of actions are being taken to try to persuade people. It is a persuasion campaign. None of this is compulsory. So, it is a persuasion campaign. The more people that we can persuade, through local radio adverts, by social media, by information leaflets, by what goes on in GP surgeries and by this year's 250 community pharmacies, who will be involved in delivering flu vaccination, by bus adverts, and by what Members themselves can do, the better. I meant to congratulate Ann Jones on the fact that her own website is carrying a message this week urging people to get the flu vaccination. If other Members were as prepared to take positive action to persuade people to do this, rather than complaining about what others failed to do, we might get a better result.

Ie, yn wir. [Chwerthin.] Anghytunaf â chwestiwn yr Aelod yn ei hanfod. Nid yw'n wir o gwbl dweud nad yw'r ymgyrch fflui yn cael ei hyrwyddo'n helaeth gan y Llywodraeth, gan fyrddau iechyd a chan fferyllfeydd. Lle bynnag y bo modd yng Nghymru, mae ystod eang o gamau yn cael eu cymryd i geisio darbwyllo pobl. Ymgyrch i ddarbwyllo ydyw. Nid yw'n orfodol. Felly, ymgyrch i ddarbwyllo ydyw. Gorau po fwyaf o bobl y gallwn eu darbwyllo, drwy hysbysebion radio lleol, drwy gyfryngau cymdeithasol, drwy daflenni gwybodaeth, gan yr hyn sy'n digwydd mewn meddygfeydd a chan y 250 o fferyllfeydd cymunedol a fydd yn cymryd rhan yn y broses o frechu rhag y fflui eleni, gan hysbysebion ar fysiau, a chan yr hyn y gall Aelodau eu hunain ei wneud. Roeddwn yn bwriadu llongyfarch Ann Jones ar y ffaith bod ei gwefan ei hun yn cynnwys neges heddiw yn annog pobl i gael eu brechu rhag y fflui. Pe bai Aelodau eraill yn barod i gymryd camau cadarnhaol i ddarbwyllo pobl i wneud hyn, yn hytrach na chwyno am yr hyn y mae eraill wedi methu â'i wneud, efallai y gwelwn ganlyniad gwell.

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## Cod Ymarfer ar gyfer Deddf Trawsblannu Dynol (Cymru)

## Code of Practice for the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act

14:16 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*11. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ddatblygu a gweithredu Cod Ymarfer ar gyfer Deddf Trawsblannu Dynol (Cymru)? OAQ(4)0342(HSS)*

*11. Will the Minister make a statement on developing and implementing a Code of Practice for the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act? OAQ(4)0342(HSS)*

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14:16 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The preparation of a code of practice is the statutory responsibility of the Human Tissue Authority, and a draft is currently out to consultation. I hope that as many Members as possible will meet the Human Tissue Authority when it hosts a consultation event at the Pierhead building on 24 October.

Cyfrifoldeb statudol yr Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol yw paratoi cod ymarfer, a chynhelir ymgynghoriad ar fersiwn drafft ar hyn o bryd. Gobeithio y bydd cynifer o Aelodau â phosibl yn cyfarfod â'r Awdurdod Meinweoedd Dynol pan fydd yn cynnal digwyddiad ymgynghori yn adeilad y Pierhead ar 24 Hydref.

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14:16 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
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Thank you for your answer, Minister. The code of practice is an important part of implementing the legislation, but framework guidance is only as effective as its interpretation and implementation by the given health professional. Therefore, what work are you doing with health professional bodies in Wales to develop an appropriate training model for key NHS staff, and what quality assurance mechanisms are you developing as a tool to monitor the implementation of the code?

Diolch am eich ateb, Weinidog. Mae'r cod ymarfer yn rhan bwysig o weithredu'r ddeddfwriaeth, ond mae effeithiolrwydd canllaw fframwaith yn dibynnu'n llwyr ar y ffordd y caiff ei ddehongli a'i weithredu gan y gweithiwr iechyd proffesiynol dan sylw. Felly, pa waith yr ydych yn ei wneud gyda chyrff proffesiynol iechyd yng Nghymru i ddatblygu model hyfforddiant priodol ar gyfer staff allweddol yn y GIG, a pha systemau sicrhau ansawdd yr ydych yn eu datblygu fel adnodd i fonitro'r ffordd y rhoddir y cod ar waith?

14:17 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

It is an important question that the Member raises. He is absolutely right: the code is one thing, but the use of it is another. We need to remember that the staff who are involved in the sorts of conversations with families and others that the code will set out are a very specialised group of staff already. In Wales, we are very lucky to have a cadre of specialist nurses, for example, who are very heavily and highly trained already, and are dedicated to the work that they do. We will be working with them and with others who have a part to play in the human transplantation field to make sure that they are aware of the new code and are able to make best practical use of it.

Mae'r Aelod yn codi cwestiwn pwysig. Mae'n llygad ei le: un peth yw llunio cod, ond peth arall yw'r defnydd a wneir ohono. Mae angen inni gofio bod y staff sy'n cael y mathau o sgysiau gyda theuluoedd a phobl eraill y bydd y cod yn eu nodi eisoes yn grŵp arbenigol iawn o staff. Yng Nghymru, rydym yn ffodus iawn bod gennym gnewyllyn o nyrsys arbenigol, er enghraifft, sy'n tra hyfforddedig eisoes, ac yn ymroddedig i'r gwaith y maent yn ei wneud. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda hwy a chydag eraill sydd â rhan i'w chwarae ym maes trawsblannu dynol i sicrhau eu bod yn ymwybodol o'r cod newydd ac yn gallu gwneud y defnydd ymarferol gorau ohono.

14:17 **Llyr Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

As discussed during the passage of the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act, specialist nurse posts are vital for obtaining consent for donation, whether there is a presumed consent system in place or not. What progress have you made over the past year in ensuring that these nurses are available throughout Wales, and will you ensure regular publication of the workforce data on this so that any potential problems could be identified early on?

Fel y trafodwyd yn ystod hynt y Ddeddf Trawsblannu Dynol (Cymru), mae swyddi nyrsys arbenigol yn hollbwysig i gael caniatâd i roi organau, pa un a oes system caniatâd tybiedig ar waith ai peidio. Pa gynnydd yr ydych wedi'i wneud dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf i sicrhau bod y nyrsys hyn ar gael ledled Cymru, ac a wnewch sicrhau y caiff data'r gweithlu ar hyn eu cyhoeddi'n rheolaidd fel y gallai unrhyw broblemau posibl gael eu nodi ar gam cynnar?

14:18 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am happy to publish the workforce data on it. We have a relatively generous number of specialist nurses in this field, compared with other parts of the United Kingdom. There are some interesting ideas from Scotland, for example, which faces some additional geographical challenges beyond even the ones that we have in Wales, as to how you can use the expertise of specialist nurses even when they themselves are not necessarily physically present on the spot. So, we are keen to learn those lessons to make sure that we have the workforce in place. I am very happy to continue to provide the details of the workforce that we have available.

Rwy'n fwy na pharod i gyhoeddi data'r gweithlu ar hynny. Mae gennym nifer cymharol hael o nyrsys arbenigol yn y maes hwn, o'n cymharu â rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig. Mae rhai syniadau diddorol gan yr Alban, er enghraifft, sy'n wynebu rhai heriau daearyddol ychwanegol hyd yn oed y tu hwnt i'r rhai sydd gennym yng Nghymru, ynglŷn â sut y gallwch ddefnyddio arbenigedd nyrsys arbenigol hyd yn oed pan nad ydynt hwy eu hunain o reidrwydd yn bresennol yn gorfforol yn y fan a'r lle. Felly, rydym yn awyddus i ddysgu'r gwersi hynny er mwyn sicrhau bod y gweithlu ar waith gennym. Rwy'n fodlon iawn parhau i ddarparu manylion y gweithlu sydd ar gael inni.

## Cwestiynau i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol

### Llyfur Statud i Gymru

14:18 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

1. A wnaiff y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ddatganiad am greu llyfr statud i Gymru? OAQ(4)0052(CG)

## Questions to the Counsel General

### Welsh Statue Book

1. Will the Counsel General make a statement on the creation of a Welsh statute book? OAQ(4)0052(CG)

14:19

## Theodore Huckle

*Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol / The Counsel General*

Good afternoon, everyone. I have said on a number of occasions that a Welsh statute book is something that will develop over time. It develops each time this Assembly passes primary legislation and each time the Welsh Ministers make subordinate legislation. However, it will take many years before there is a coherent body of Welsh laws that could be described as a Welsh statute book.

Prynawn da, bawb. Rwyf wedi dweud ar sawl achlysur bod llyfr statud i Gymru yn rhywbeth a fydd yn datblygu dros amser. Mae'n datblygu bob amser y mae'r Cynulliad hwn yn pasio deddfwriaeth sylfaenol a phob tro y mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn gwneud is-ddeddfwriaeth. Fodd bynnag, bydd yn cymryd blynyddoedd lawer cyn bod corff rhesymegol o gyfreithiau Cymru y gellid eu disgrifio'n llyfr statud i Gymru.

Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)

14:19

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

Diolch, Gwnsler, am yr ateb hwnnw. Rwy'n meddwl fod gennych chi uchelgais sydd ychydig yn fwy na hynny, neu rwy'n gobeithio fod gennych chi. Mae gwelliant wedi bod i safle [legislation.gov.uk](#). A ydych chi nawr yn hyderus y bydd y gwelliant hwnnw'n parhau a'ch bod chi wedi cwblhau'r gwaith o wneud yn siŵr bod yr archifau cenedlaethol yn gwneud y gwaith y maent fod i'w wneud ar [legislation.gov.uk](#)?

Thank you, Counsel General, for that response. I think that you have slightly more ambition than that, or I would hope so, at least. There has been an improvement on [legislation.gov.uk](#). Are you now confident that that improvement will continue and that you have completed the work of ensuring that the national archives do the work that they are supposed to do regarding [legislation.gov.uk](#)?

Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)

Yn ail, a allwch chi ein diweddarau ar y modd yr ydych yn casglu sylwebaeth ynghylch y gyfraith sy'n cael ei chreu yn y lle hwn ar hyn o bryd?

Secondly, can you provide an update on how you gather commentary on the law made in this place at present?

14:20

## Theodore Huckle

First, there have been, as ever, I am afraid to say, ongoing delays beyond what I expressed as a hope the last time I was asked a question about this. However, in relation to [legislation.gov.uk](#), I am able and pleased to announce that that website is now available as [deddfwriaeth.gov.uk](#), in Welsh. We are still hoping that we can organise some sort of formal launch for that, as I mentioned the last time that you raised the point. The main point about it is that the site can be navigated now in both languages, which we are very pleased to have achieved, working very closely with [legislation.gov.uk](#). We are reasonably confident that, as far as the legislation that is emanating from this body is concerned, it is pretty up to date. The same cannot be said of [legislation.gov.uk](#) in relation to all UK legislation. I understand that it is currently working on an expectation—or, perhaps, a hope—that it will be fully up to date by the end of the current Parliament, which is about 18 months or so hence. That is the position regarding that aspect.

Yn gyntaf, bu oedi, fel bob amser, mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud, y tu hwnt i'r hyn yr oeddwn yn ei obeithio y tro diwethaf y gofynnwyd cwestiwn ynglŷn â hyn imi. Fodd bynnag, o ran [legislation.gov.uk](#), gallaf gyhoeddi gyda phleser bod y wefan honno ar gael fel [deddfwriaeth.gov.uk](#) erbyn hyn, yn Gymraeg. Rydym yn dal i obeithio y gallwn drefnu rhyw fath o lansiad ffurfiol ar gyfer hynny, fel y soniais y tro diwethaf ichi godi'r pwynt. Y prif bwynt i'w nodi yw y gellir defnyddio'r wefan yn y ddwy iaith erbyn hyn, ac rydym yn falch iawn ein bod wedi cyflawni hynny, gan weithio'n agos iawn gyda [legislation.gov.uk](#). Rydym yn weddol hyderus, o ran y ddeddfwriaeth sy'n deillio o'r corff hwn, ei bod yn gyfredol fwy neu lai. Ni ellir dweud yr un peth am [legislation.gov.uk](#) mewn perthynas â holl ddeddfwriaeth y DU. Caf ar ddeall ei fod yn disgwyl—neu, efallai, yn gobeithio—y bydd yn hollol gyfredol erbyn diwedd y Senedd bresennol, sef ymhen tua 18 mis. Dyna'r sefyllfa o ran yr agwedd honno.

Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)

Whether my ambitions are greater than that or not is something that I will keep to myself, if I may. However, this is an opportunity for me to say how pleased we are that the incoming Lord Chief Justice is Mr John Thomas—Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd. That has a good ring to it, I think, for a Lord Chief Justice. He was saying only on Friday at the Legal Wales conference that proper access to justice requires good and properly drafted law, in a codified system that is easy to amend, and that it is not sensible to follow the Westminster Parliament's route, but better to make a new beginning. Well, 'hear hear', say I. When we eventually manage to bring forward, in a very busy legislative programme, proposals for a fast-tracking of codification of laws in relation to the developing Welsh statute 'book', I hope that we will gain wholesale support in this Chamber.

Mae'r cwestiwn a yw fy uchelgais yn fwy na hynny ai peidio yn rhywbeth y byddaf yn ei gadw dan gél, os caf. Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn gyfle imi ddweud pa mor falch yr ydym mai Mr John Thomas—yr Arglwydd Thomas o Gwmgiedd—fydd yr Arglwydd Brif Ustus newydd. Onid yw hwnnw'n deitl braf, fe gredaf, i Arglwydd Brif Ustus. Dim ond ddydd Gwener roedd yn dweud yng nghynhadledd Cymru'r Gyfraith bod mynediad priodol at gyfiawnder yn gofyn am gyfreithiau da wedi'u drafftio'n briodol, mewn system wedi'i chodeiddio sy'n hawdd ei diwygio, ac nad yw'n synhwyrol dilyn llwybr Senedd San Steffan, ond mai gwell fyddai dechrau o'r newydd. Wel, 'clywch clywch', ddywedwn i. Pan lwyddwn yn y pen draw i gyflwyno, mewn rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol brysur iawn, gynigion i godeiddio deddfau mewn perthynas â 'llyfr' statud i Gymru sy'n datblygu, gobeithio y cawn gefnogaeth lawn yn y Siambur hon.

14:22 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

Counsel General, I look forward to seeing what that might look like. Currently, for UK Acts, [legislation.gov.uk](#) refers to the Hansard record and, for Scottish Parliament Acts, it refers to the record of proceedings in the Scottish Parliament. However, that kind of referencing is absent for Acts of this Assembly. Given the legal status of parliamentary debates in construing the law and its intentions, will you arrange for that appropriate referencing to our Record of Proceedings to be added to [legislation.gov.uk](#)?

Gwnsler Cyffredinol, edrychaf ymlaen at weld sut beth fydd hwnnw. Ar hyn o bryd, ar gyfer Deddfau'r DU, mae [legislation.gov.uk](#) yn cyfeirio at gofnod Hansard ac, ar gyfer Deddfau Senedd yr Alban, mae'n cyfeirio at gofnod trafodion Senedd yr Alban. Fodd bynnag, nid oes cyfeiriadau o'r fath ar gael ar gyfer Deddfau'r Cynulliad hwn. O ystyried statws cyfreithiol dadleuon seneddol wrth ddehongli'r gyfraith a'i bwriadau, a wnewch chi drefnu i gyfeiriadau priodol at Gofnod y Trafodion gael eu hychwanegu at [legislation.gov.uk](#)?

14:23 **Theodore Huckle** [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am very grateful to you for raising the point. It is not something that I was aware of or something that has been brought to my attention before. I will certainly look into it because, on the face of what you say, there is a disparity that should not be there.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn ichi am godi'r pwynt. Nid yw'n rhywbeth yr oeddwn yn ymwybodol ohono, nac yn rywbeth sydd wedi cael ei ddwyn i'm sylw o'r blaen. Byddaf yn sicr yn ymchwilio i'r mater oherwydd, yn ôl yr hyn yr ydych yn ei ddweud, mae gwahaniaeth na ddylai fodoli.

## Cymhwysedd

14:23 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

*2. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol wedi eu cael gyda swyddogion y gyfraith mewn manau eraill ynglyn ag ymarferoldeb cyfeirio biliau'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i'r Goruchaf Lys ar gyfer penderfyniad ar eu cymhwysedd? OAQ(4)0051(CG)*

*2. What discussions has the Counsel General had with law officers elsewhere regarding the practicality of referring National Assembly Bills to the Supreme Court for a decision on their competence? OAQ(4)0051(CG)*

14:23 **Theodore Huckle** [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

As I have mentioned previously, it is not my intention to make statements about discussions that I have had with UK law officers or to disclose the content of such discussions. That is, as I have said before, an established convention designed to preserve the integrity of those discussions and the relationship between law officers.

Fel y crybwyllais o'r blaen, ni fwriadaf wneud datganiadau am y trafodaethau yr wyf wedi'u cael gyda swyddogion cyfraith y DU na datgelu cynnwys trafodaethau o'r fath. Fel y dywedais o'r blaen, mae hynny'n gonfensiwn sefydledig gyda'r nod o gadw uniondeb y trafodaethau hynny a'r berthynas rhwng swyddogion y gyfraith.

14:23 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I thank the Counsel General for his reply, which was not unexpected. Nevertheless, he will know that this proposal has been made by the First Minister in evidence to the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee and, more recently, by the legal commentator Marie Navarro. I wonder what role you have under other parts of your responsibilities, such as the ability to bring legal proceedings to have a devolution issue decided under the Government of Wales Act 2006, and whether that gives you a role in this procedure. Looking from the other side of the telescope, does that give you a role in stopping the land grab by the Home Office on Schedule 7 to the Government of Wales Act?

Diolch yn fawr i'r Cwnsler Cyffredinol am ei ateb, nad oedd yn annisgwyl. Serch hynny, bydd yn gwybod bod y cynnig hwn wedi cael ei wneud gan y Prif Weinidog mewn tystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol ac, yn fwy diweddar, gan y sylwebydd cyfreithiol Marie Navarro. Tybed pa rôl sydd gennych o dan rannau eraill o'ch cyfrifoldebau, megis y gallu i ddwyn achos cyfreithiol er mwyn i fater datganoledig gael ei benderfynu o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, ac a yw hynny'n rhoi rôl ichi yn y weithdrefn hon. O edrych ar bethau o'r ochr arall, a yw hynny'n rhoi rôl ichi atal y Swyddfa Gartref rhag hawlio pwerau yn Atodlen 7 i Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru?

## Theodore Huckle

There are so many issues raised there that it is difficult to encompass them in a four-minute answer. However, I was intrigued by the word 'practicality' in the original question. There are a number of issues. First, so that this is clear, I have the same right to refer Bills of this Assembly, after they have been passed, to the Supreme Court for decisions as to their competence. I said early on that my expectation was that if I was ever in the situation of doing so, a resignation would fairly shortly follow.

Actually, we are in the process of developing the devolution settlement here, it seems to me, and my thinking on that aspect has become rather more subtle of late. The reason for that is this: there may be circumstances in which it will be appropriate to have a Bill referred to the Supreme Court, if you like, for clearance, even though we are reasonably happy that it is competent, because what we would not want to happen is in fact what you averred, which is the prospect of devolution issues being raised, because they can be raised in any proceedings. The difficulty that might arise is that this Assembly passes an Act that changes the position, which may have funding implications, and, several years down the line, some great corporate body decides to challenge the provisions on the basis that its interests are engaged. Were it to succeed, that could take a lot of unravelling. So, if we are aware of those sorts of issues, it may be appropriate for us—for me—to refer Bills to the Supreme Court, so that we can be clear from an early stage.

I know that there are concerns that have been expressed, including yesterday in Parliament, about the cost of the Supreme Court procedures, and I take them on board, but then again, it can be a lot more expensive to go all the way through a normal litigation process, through the various court stages, and end up in the Supreme Court to have the same issue resolved when it could have been resolved by a relatively quick and straightforward reference in the early stages.

## Mick Antoniw [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Counsel General, some weeks ago, I wrote to the Attorney-General, and I asked if he would set out for me the criteria for the decision to refer legislation from this place to the Supreme Court. I have not yet had a response; I am still waiting for it and am optimistic about it. I was wondering whether you had any knowledge or idea of what those criteria are. What factors are taken into account by the Attorney-General when he chooses to refer legislation to the Supreme Court?

Rydych wedi codi cynifer o faterion nes ei bod yn anodd ymdrin â hwy mewn ateb pedair munud. Fodd bynnag, roedd gennyf ddiddordeb mawr yn y gair 'ymarferoldeb' yn y cwestiwn gwreiddiol. Cyfyd nifer o faterion. Yn gyntaf, er mwyn bod yn glir, mae gennyf yr un hawl i gyfeirio Biliau'r Cynulliad hwn, ar ôl iddynt gael eu pasio, i'r Llys Goruchaf ar gyfer penderfyniadau ynghylch eu cymhwysedd. Dywedais yn fuan iawn mai'r disgwyl oedd pe bawn erioed yn y sefyllfa honno, byddai ymddiswyddiad yn dilyn yn weddol fuan.

A dweud y gwir, rydym wrthi'n ddatblygu'r setliad datganoli yma, ymddengys imi, ac mae fy syniadau ynglŷn â'r agwedd honno wedi mynd ychydig yn fwy cynnil yn ddiweddar. Y rheswm dros hynny yw hwn: efallai y bydd amgylchiadau lle bydd yn briodol cyfeirio Bil at y Llys Goruchaf, os mynnwch, i'w gymeradwyo, er ein bod yn weddol fodlon ei fod yn gymwys, oherwydd yr hyn na fyddem yn dymuno ei weld yw'r hyn yr ydych wedi'i nodi, sef y posibilrwydd o faterion datganoli yn cael eu codi, oherwydd gallant gael eu codi mewn unrhyw achos. Yr anhawster a allai godi yw bod y Cynulliad hwn yn pasio Deddf sy'n newid y sefyllfa, a allai fod iddi oblygiadau o ran cyllid, a, sawl blwyddyn yn ddiweddarach, mae rhyw gorff corfforaethol mawr yn penderfynu herio'r darpariaethau ar y sail eu bod yn effeitho ar ei fuddiannau. Pe bai'n llwyddo, gallai hynny greu sefyllfa eithaf cymhleth i'w datrys. Felly, os ydym yn ymwybodol o faterion o'r fath, efallai y bydd yn briodol i ni—i mi—gyfeirio Biliau at y Llys Goruchaf, fel y gallwn fod yn glir ar gam cynnar.

Gwn fod pryderon wedi cael eu mynegi, gan gynnwys ddoe yn y Senedd, ynglŷn â chost gweithdrefnau'r Llys Goruchaf, a derbyniat hynny, ond eto, gall fod yn llawer mwy costus mynd yr holl ffordd drwy broses ymgyfreitha arferol, drwy wahanol gamau'r llys, a chyrraedd y Goruchaf Lys yn y pen draw er mwyn datrys yr un mater er y gellid bod wedi'i ddatrys drwy gyfeirio'r mater newn proses gymharol gyflym a syml yn ystod y camau cynnar.

Gwnsler Cyffredinol, rai wythnosau yn ôl, ysgrifennais at y Twrnai Cyffredinol, gan ofyn a fyddai'n nodi'r meini prawf ar gyfer y penderfyniad i gyfeirio deddfwriaeth o'r lle hwn i'r Llys Goruchaf. Nid wyf wedi cael ymateb hyd yn hyn; rwy'n dal i aros ac rwy'n obeithiol am y peth. Tybed a oes gennych unrhyw wybodaeth neu syniad ynglŷn a'r meini prawf hynny. Pa ffactorau sy'n cael eu hystyried gan y Twrnai Cyffredinol pan fydd yn dewis cyfeirio deddfwriaeth i'r Llys Goruchaf?

## Theodore Huckle

The essential criterion is whether a particular provision is competent or not. As we all know, however, even reasonable people can have very differing views on any issue, let alone a legal one, and so it is not always as straightforward as posing and answering the question. Differences of opinion will arise. It is clear that there have already been differences of opinion between the Welsh Government and the Assembly Commission on the one hand and the UK Government, principally, on the other, and some of them have been resolved behind the scenes, and some of them have been resolved by hearings in the Supreme Court.

As to the criteria, looked at from my point of view, the first question is whether I consider the provision to be competent, or, at least, whether I consider it to be strongly arguable that it is competent. If there are serious doubts about its competence, then I would have to consider very carefully whether it should be referred, so that the matter could be clarified by the ultimate tribunal in those issues.

There is a discretion involved, and I take the view that one should stand back from that immediate legal question of whether it is competent or not and consider how competence should be viewed overall, so that, for example, there would be no doubt in our minds that the ability of this Assembly to pass legislation to introduce a new system for the creation bye-laws in Wales was something that the devolution settlement was intended to pass in terms of powers to Wales. We took a similar view on the Agricultural Wages Board.

Y maen prawf hanfodol yw a yw darpariaeth benodol yn gymwys ai peidio. Fel y gwyddom, fodd bynnag, gall hyd yn oed pobl resymol arddel safbwyntiau gwahanol iawn ar unrhyw fater, heb sôn am un cyfreithiol, ac felly nid yw bob amser mor syml â gofyn ac ateb y cwestiwn. Bydd gwahaniaeth barn. Mae'n amlwg bod gwahaniaeth barn wedi bod eisoes rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru a Chomisiwn y Cynulliad ar y naill law a Llywodraeth y DU, yn bennaf, ar y llaw arall, ac mae rhai enghreifftiau wedi cael eu datrys y tu ôl i'r llenni, ac mae rhai ohonynt wedi cael eu datrys drwy wrandawiadau yn y Llys Goruchaf.

O ran y meini prawf, o edrych arnynt o'm safbwynt i, y cwestiwn cyntaf yw a wyf yn ystyried bod y ddarpariaeth yn gymwys, neu, o leiaf, a wyf yn ystyried y gellir dadlau yn gryf ei bod yn gymwys. Os oes amheuan mawr am ei chymhwysedd, yna byddai'n rhaid imi ystyried yn ofalus iawn a ddylid ei chyfeirio, fel y gellid cael eglurhad ynghylch y mater gan y tribiwnlys terfynol o ran y materion hynny.

Ceir disgresiwn, ac rwyf o'r farn y dylai rhywun gamu'n ôl oddi wrth y cwestiwn cyfreithiol uniongyrchol hwnnw ynghylch a yw'n gymwys ai peidio ac ystyried sut y dylid ystyried cymhwysedd yn gyffredinol, er enghraifft, fel na fyddai gennym unrhyw amheuaeth bod gallu'r Cynulliad hwn i basio deddfwriaeth i gyflwyno system newydd o greu is-ddeddfau yng Nghymru yn rhywbeth y bwriadwyd i'r setliad datganoli ei basio o ran pwerau i Gymru. Roedd gennym farn debyg ynglŷn â'r Bwrdd Cyflogau Amaethyddol.

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

Thank you, Counsel General.

Diolch, Gwnsler Cyffredinol.

## Cwestiynau i'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi

### Trechu Tlodi mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig

## Questions to the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

### Tackling Poverty in Rural Areas

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

*1. Pa gynnydd y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ei wneud tuag at ei amcanion o ran trechu tlodi mewn ardaloedd gwledig? OAQ(4)0075(CTP)*

*1. What progress has the Welsh Government made towards its aims with regard to tackling poverty in rural areas? OAQ(4)0075(CTP)*

### Jeff Cuthbert [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi / The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty*

I thank the Member very much for the question. We recognised that challenges facing people living in rural communities differ from challenges in the more populated areas of Wales. Our action plan shows how we will continue to target communities that most need our help, through the rural development plan and programmes such as Flying Start.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn. Cydnabuwn fod yr heriau sy'n wynebu pobl sy'n byw mewn cymunedau gwledig yn wahanol i'r heriau yn ardaloedd mwy poblog Cymru. Dengys ein cynllun gweithredu sut y byddwn yn parhau i dargedu'r cymunedau y mae angen ein help arnynt fwyaf, drwy'r cynllun datblygu gwledig a rhaglenni megis Dechrau'n Deg.

14:29

**Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, ers i'ch Llywodraeth chi gael gwared ar Gymunedau yn Gyntaf fel rhaglen mewn ardaloedd gwledig megis Ceredigion, nid oes gennych ddim cynlluniau daearyddol penodol i daclo tlodi gwledig. Pa beth ychwanegol yr ydych yn ei wneud felly i leddfu tlodi tanwydd a thlodi economaidd i unigolion mewn cymunedau gwledig—tlodi yr effeithir arno gan ffactorau sy'n gwbl wahanol i'r ffactorau sy'n effeithio ar dlodi mewn ardaloedd mwy trefol?

Minister, since your Government got rid of Communities First in rural areas such as Ceredigion, you have not brought forward any specific territorial plans to tackle rural poverty. Therefore, what additional measures are you taking to tackle the fuel poverty and economic poverty faced by individuals living in rural communities—poverty affected by completely different factors to poverty in more urban areas?

14:30

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for the supplementary question. You are quite right; the new Communities First cluster arrangements target the 10% most deprived areas of Wales. They happen to be in the more populated areas, so there is not a Communities First partnership or cluster within a rural area. However, we continue to support energy efficiency schemes like Arbed and Nest, which have a particular relevance within rural communities and, of course, the Flying Start and Families First programmes are as available in rural areas as in any other part of Wales.

Diolch am y cwestiwn atodol. Rydych yn llygad eich lle; mae trefniadau clwstwr newydd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn targedu'r 10% o ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru. Maent yn digwydd bod yn yr ardaloedd mwy poblog, felly nid oes partneriaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf na chlwstwr yn bodoli mewn ardal wledig. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn parhau i gefnogi cynlluniau effeithlonrwydd ynni fel Arbed a Nyth, sy'n arbennig o berthnasol mewn cymunedau gwledig ac, wrth gwrs, mae rhaglenni Dechrau'n Deg a Theuluoedd yn Gyntaf yr un mor hygyrch mewn ardaloedd gwledig ag y maent mewn unrhyw ran arall o Gymru.

14:30

**Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The population of learners eligible for free school meals is used as a measure of the socioeconomic conditions of a school's population, and there is a correlation, of course, between the proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals and educational performance. Powys County Council has adopted a school meals policy in its primary schools that stipulates that standard portions should be given to a child regardless of age and that second helpings are no longer appropriate. Its defence is that the policy is based on Welsh Government guidance. I ask you, Minister, to examine this issue with your colleagues the Minister for Health and Social Services and the Minister for Education and Skills to ascertain whether this is Welsh Government guidance or whether the council is misinterpreting it in its implementation.

Defnyddir poblogaeth y dysgwyr sy'n gymwys i gael prydau ysgol am ddim fel mesur o amodau economaidd-gymdeithasol poblogaeth ysgol, ac mae cysylltiad, wrth gwrs, rhwng cyfran y disgyblion sy'n gymwys i gael prydau ysgol am ddim a pherfformiad addysgol. Mae Cyngor Sir Powys wedi mabwysiadu polisi prydau ysgol yn ei ysgolion cynradd sy'n nodi y dylid rhoi dognau safonol i blentyn beth bynnag fo'i oedran ac nad yw cynnig ail blatiaid yn briodol mwyach. Amddiffynna'r polisi drwy ddweud ei fod yn seiliedig ar ganllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru. Gofynnaf ichi, Weinidog, edrych ar y mater hwn gyda'ch cyd-Aelodau, y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a'r Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, i ganfod ai dyma ganllawiau Llywodraeth Cymru neu a yw'r cyngor yn eu camddechongli wrth eu gweithredu.

14:31

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is a case of déjà vu, as you asked me the same question in committee this morning, and my response will be the same. It is very much a matter for my colleagues the Minister for Education and Skills and the Minister for Health and Social Services. I will certainly raise the matter with them. It sounds like a rather strange case, but I would be very grateful if you could send details to the two Ministers that I have mentioned.

Mae hwn yn achos o déjà vu, oherwydd gwnaethoch ofyn yr un cwestiwn imi yn y pwyllgor y bore yma, a bydd fy ymateb yr un fath. Mater i'm cyd-Aelodau, y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau a'r Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, ydyw'n bendant, a byddaf yn sicr yn ei godi gyda hwy. Ymddengys ei fod yn achos braidd yn rhyfedd, ond byddwn yn ddiolchgar iawn pe gallech anfon manylion at y ddau Weinidog yr wyf newydd eu crybwyll.

14:32

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

Minister, among the main tools in the Welsh Government's armoury in terms of tackling poverty—rural or otherwise—are the credit unions. Will you give us an update on the £1.25 million fund announced by your predecessor and tell us when an announcement can be expected on that particular issue, in terms of bolstering those credit unions?

Weinidog, mae'r undebau credyd ymhlith prif ddulliau Llywodraeth Cymru o fynd i'r afael â thlodi—gwledig neu fel arall. A wnewch chi roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf inni am y gronfa £1.25 miliwn a gyhoeddwyd gan eich rhagflaenydd a dweud wrthym pryd y gellir disgwyl cyhoeddiad ar y mater penodol hwnnw, o ran atgyfnerthu'r undebau credyd hynny?



14:32 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member very much for that. Credit unions are indeed important in terms of helping with the tackling poverty agenda. My officials are in regular contact now with the two associations that we have told very clearly have to prepare a joint business plan in order to help to promote the credit unions. We will then be in a position to release the funding of over £1 million to help with that. We remain closely in touch. My patience is not unlimited, but we really hope that we will have a conclusion to this matter soon.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r Aelod am hynny. Mae undebau credyd yn wir yn bwysig o ran helpu gyda'r agenda trechu tlodi. Mae fy swyddogion bellach mewn cysylltiad â'r ddwy gymdeithas yr ydym wedi dweud yn glir iawn wrthynt fod yn rhaid iddynt baratoi cynllun busnes ar y cyd er mwyn helpu i hyrwyddo'r undebau credyd. Byddwn wedyn mewn sefyllfa i ryddhau cyllid o dros £1 filiwn i helpu yn hynny o beth. Parhawn i fod mewn cysylltiad agos â hwy. Nid yw fy amynedd yn ddiderfyn, ond rydym yn gobeithio'n fawr y gallwn fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn fuan.

14:33 **Peter Black** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. As I understand it, that money will take us to April next year. What resources will be available in the next financial year for credit unions and how will that money be distributed? Further to that, as you know, we have a lot of credit unions in Wales, not all of which are sustainable in the medium to long term. What plans do you have to try to improve the sustainability of credit unions so that they can do the job that you want them to do?

Diolch ichi am yr ateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Yn ôl a ddeallaf, bydd yr arian yn mynd â ni i fis Ebrill y flwyddyn nesaf. Pa adnoddau fydd ar gael yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf ar gyfer undebau credyd a sut y caiff yr arian hwnnw ei ddosbarthu? Yn ychwanegol at hynny, fel y gwyddoch, mae gennym lawer o undebau credyd yng Nghymru, nad yw pob un ohonynt yn gynaliadwy yn y tymor canolig i'r tymor hir. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i geisio gwella cynaliadwyedd undebau credyd er mwyn iddynt allu cyflawni'r swydd rydych am iddynt ei gwneud?

14:33 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that. The money, as you said, is available until the end of this financial year. I hope that they will be able to use it fully, in terms of promoting credit unions. We want to work towards a position where credit unions are sustainable themselves. That means that they need to have sufficient savings, and the indications are that those saving levels are growing so that they can offer a wide range of financial support to people. However, we really hope that we can urge the two associations to give a united Welsh face to the credit union movement in Wales, so that the good practice that is displayed by many can be rolled out across all of the credit unions.

Diolch ichi am hynny. Bydd yr arian, fel y dywedaso, ar gael tan ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol hon. Gobeithiaf y byddant yn gallu ei ddefnyddio'n llawn, o ran hyrwyddo undebau credyd. Rydym am weithio tuag at sefyllfa lle mae undebau credyd yn gynaliadwy eu hunain. Golyga hynny fod angen iddynt feddu ar gynilion digonol, ac awgryma'r arwyddion fod y lefelau cynilion hynny yn cynyddu fel y gallant gynnig ystod eang o gymorth ariannol i bobl. Fodd bynnag, rydym wir yn gobeithio y gallwn annog y ddwy gymdeithas i ddod ynghyd er budd mudiad yr undebau credyd yng Nghymru, fel y gellir cyflwyno'r arferion da sy'n cael eu harddangos gan lawer ar draws yr holl undebau credyd.

## Nifer y Menywod sy'n Byw mewn Tlodi

## Number of Women Living in Poverty

14:34 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*2. Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei wneud o nifer y menywod sy'n byw mewn tlodi yng Nghymru?*  
OAQ(4)0078(CTP)

*2. What assessment has the Minister made of the number of women living in poverty in Wales?* OAQ(4)0078(CTP)

14:34 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. We are well aware of the links between gender and low pay. There has not been a formal Welsh Government assessment of the number of women living in poverty, but we welcome the research findings and recommendations from organisations such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Women's Equality Network Wales and the Bevan Foundation, all of which we have active links with.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Rydym yn ymwybodol iawn o'r cysylltiadau rhwng rhywedd a chyflog isel. Ni fu asesiad ffurfiol gan Lywodraeth Cymru o nifer y menywod sy'n byw mewn tlodi, ond croesawn ganfyddiadau'r ymchwil a'r argymhellion gan sefydliadau megis Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree, Rhwydwaith Cydraddoldeb Menywod Cymru a Sefydliad Bevan, y mae gennym gysylltiadau gweithredol â phob un ohonynt.

14:34 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for that response. I believe that it is universally accepted that women have been hit hardest by the cuts that have come from the Westminster Government, and that the drop in public sector employment has particularly hit women. What action could the Minister take to help women who are struggling with this double-whammy of less support and fewer jobs?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Derbynnir yn gyffredinol, rwy'n credu, mai menywod sy'n dioddef fwyaf yn sgil toriadau Llywodraeth San Steffan, a bod y gostyngiad mewn cyfleoedd cyflogaeth yn y sector cyhoeddus wedi effeithio ar fenywod yn arbennig. Pa gamau y gallai'r Gweinidog eu cymryd i helpu menywod sy'n cael trafferth yn sgil yr ergyd ddwbl o lai o gymorth a lai o swyddi?

14:35 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Member makes a very good point. The labour market statistics that were published today show that the number of women employed has decreased by 7,000 across the UK over the last year. This Government is firmly committed to gender equality, and to enabling women to overcome the many barriers that they face in accessing work, as well as to encouraging and supporting them to progress in the workplace. This is reflected in our strategic equality plan.

Mae'r Aelod yn gwneud pwynt da iawn. Dengys ystadegau'r farchnad lafur a gyhoeddwyd heddiw fod nifer y menywod a gyflogir wedi gostwng 7,000 ledled y DU dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Mae'r Llywodraeth hon yn gwbl ymrwymedig i sicrhau cydraddoldeb rhwng y rhywiau, ac i alluogi menywod i oresgyn y rhwystrau a wynebir wrth gael gafael ar waith, yn ogystal â'u hannog a'u cefnogi i ddatblygu yn y gweithle. Caiff hyn ei adlewyrchu yn ein cynllun cydraddoldeb strategol.

14:35 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, I am sure that you will welcome the fact that 24,000 people have found employment in Wales since the general election in 2010. You referred to the Joseph Rowntree report. In 2010, at least one in five households were classified as low-income households in seven of the nine rural local authorities in Wales. By using the Welsh index of multiple deprivation, Wales is split into areas of 1,500 people. In rural regions, these are areas that are large in size, allowing poverty-stricken communities to be hidden by more successful neighbours. What actions will you take to ensure that rural poverty is properly documented, and that strategies are put in place to deal with it?

Weinidog, rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn croesawu'r ffaith bod 24,000 o bobl wedi dod o hyd i waith yng Nghymru ers yr etholiad cyffredinol yn 2010. Cyfeiriasoch at adroddiad Joseph Rowntree. Yn 2010, roedd o leiaf un o bob pump aelwyd wedi'u dosbarthu'n aelwydydd incwm isel mewn saith o'r naw awdurdod lleol gwledig yng Nghymru. Drwy ddefnyddio mynegai amddifadedd lluosog Cymru, rhennir Cymru yn ardaloedd o 1,500 o bobl. Mewn rhanbarthau gwledig, mae'r rhain yn ardaloedd mawr, sy'n galluogi cymunedau tlawd i gael eu cuddio gan gymdogion mwy llwyddiannus. Pa gamau y byddwch yn eu cymryd i sicrhau bod tloti gwledig yn cael ei ddogfennu'n gywir, a bod strategaethau'n cael eu rhoi ar waith i ddelio ag ef?

14:36 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That is a matter that will be addressed under the rural development plan. However, in rural areas, one of the greatest things that contributed to low pay is the abolition of the Agricultural Wages Board, which I believe that you supported. We are very keen to support the living wage, and we will continue to support schemes such as Jobs Growth Wales, to ensure that there are proper opportunities for people in all parts of Wales.

Mae hwnnw'n fater yr eir i'r afael ag ef o dan y cynllun datblygu gwledig. Fodd bynnag, mewn ardaloedd gwledig, un o'r prif bethau a gyfrannodd at gyflog isel oedd diddymu'r Bwrdd Cyflogau Amaethyddol, y credaf ichi ei gefnogi. Rydym yn awyddus iawn i gefnogi cyflog byw, a byddwn yn parhau i gefnogi cynlluniau fel Twf Swyddi Cymru, er mwyn sicrhau bod cyfleoedd priodol ar gael i bobl ym mhob rhan o Gymru.

14:37 **Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

One of the biggest issues facing women in poverty in my constituency at the moment is the bedroom tax. Anglesey has one of the highest rates in the UK of people who are already falling behind with their rent because of the bedroom tax. Minister, your Labour colleagues in the Scottish Parliament are proposing a Bill to bring in a no-evictions policy, which is not about writing off debt, but about controlling it, and ensuring that we do not throw people out on the street. This is something that we support as a party—why will your Government not throw its weight behind it?

Un o'r problemau mwyaf sy'n wynebu menywod mewn tloti yn fy etholaeth ar hyn o bryd yw'r dreth ystafell wely. Ar Ynys Môn mae un o'r cyfraddau uchaf yn y DU o ran pobl sydd eisoes ar ei hôl hi gyda'u rhent oherwydd y dreth ystafell wely. Weinidog, mae eich cyd-Aelodau Llafur yn Senedd yr Alban yn cynnig Mesur i gyflwyno polisi dim troi allan, nad yw'n ymwneud â dileu dyled, ond yn hytrach ei rheoli, a sicrhau nad ydym yn taflu pobl allan ar y stryd. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth rydym yn ei gefnogi fel plaid—pam na wnaiff eich Llywodraeth yn ei gefnogi?

14:37 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

In terms of the bedroom tax and no evictions, this really is a matter for the Minister for Local Government and Government Business to address. However, I am aware of the proposals. There are complications in a no-evictions policy, because you will then have to start deciding exactly what sort of offence the tenant has committed, and you may well create divisions between tenants, some of whom will pay, and some of whom have not paid, for whatever reason. Therefore, there are very practical issues involved. However, this is a matter for my colleague the Minister for Local Government and Government Business.

O ran y dreth ystafell wely a dim troi allan, mater i'r Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth yw hynny mewn gwirionedd. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ymwybodol o'r cynigion. Mae polisi dim troi allan yn peri cymhelthodau, oherwydd bydd yn rhaid ichi wedyn ddechrau penderfynu yn union pa fath o drosedd y mae'r tenant wedi ei gyflawni, ac efallai y byddwch yn dosbarthu tenantiaid i gategoriâu, rhai ohonynt y byddant yn talu, a rhai ohonynt nad ydynt wedi talu, am ba reswm bynnag. Felly, mae materion ymarferol iawn dan sylw. Fodd bynnag, mater i'm cyd-Aelod y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth yw hwn.

## Grŵp Cyngori Allanol ar Drechu Tlodi

## Tackling Poverty External Advisory Group

14:38 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*3. Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn helpu i liniaru tlodi drwy'r Grŵp Cyngori Allanol ar Drechu Tlodi?*  
OAQ(4)0077(CTP)

*3. How is the Welsh Government helping to alleviate poverty through the Tackling Poverty External Advisory Group?* OAQ(4)0077(CTP)

14:38 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*Y Dirprwy Weinidog Trechu Tlodi / The Deputy Minister for Tackling Poverty*

Thank you for the question. The tackling poverty external advisory group's initial remit was to advise on the development of the tackling poverty action plan. It also played a part in the refreshed plan, which was launched in July this year. It provides expert advice on wider tackling-poverty issues. Following the launch of the refreshed action plan, I have now asked the group to focus on key implementation areas.

Diolch am y cwestiwn, Cylch gwaith cychwynnol y grŵp cyngori allanol ar drechu tlodi oedd cyngori ar ddatblygiad y cynllun gweithredu ar drechu tlodi. Chwaraeodd ran hefyd yn y gwaith o lunio'r cynllun ar ei newydd wedd, a lanswyd ym mis Gorffennaf eleni. Mae'n rhoi cyngor arbenigol ar faterion ehangach sy'n ymwneud â threchu tlodi. Yn dilyn lansio'r cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig, rwyf bellach wedi gofyn i'r grŵp ganolbwyntio ar feysydd gweithredu allweddol.

14:39 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Although the fuel poverty monitor called for the reinstatement of the fuel poverty advisory group Wales, the Welsh Government takes the view that fuel poverty is a component of the broader issues of poverty, to be addressed by the tackling poverty external advisory group. Could you, therefore, provide an update on the appointment of a successor fuel poverty representative to this group, to a place that I think has been vacant since National Energy Action Cymru representative had to stand down after her funding was withdrawn?

Er bod y monitor tlodi tanwydd wedi galw am adfer grŵp cyngori Cymru ar dlodi tanwydd, mae Llywodraeth Cymru o'r farn bod tlodi tanwydd yn rhan o'r materion ehangach o ran tlodi, y dylai'r grŵp cyngori allanol ar drechu tlodi fynd i'r afael â hwy. A allech, felly, roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ar y broses o benodi olynydd i gynrychiolydd tlodi tanwydd y grŵp hwn, swydd sydd wedi bod yn wag ers i gynrychiolydd National Energy Action Cymru orfod rhoi'r gorau i'w rôl ar ôl i'w chyllid gael ei dynnu'n ôl?

14:39 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

My understanding is that, in June this year, the representative who was covering the fuel poverty area stood down. This is an area to which I have given active consideration, with officials, and with the group itself. I recognise that it would be helpful for the external advisory group's work to have someone with particular expertise on fuel poverty, and I am hopeful that, over the next few months—and certainly before the next formal meeting of this group—we will have someone in place. That is what I would like to do. However, it is fair to say that there are several people who are resident on those particular expert groups also have an understanding and expertise in fuel poverty. For example, John Puzey from Shelter, has a very clear understanding of fuel poverty issues, and also the representative covering older persons' issues has a very clear interest in the route and spread of fuel poverty and what we are doing to combat it.

Deallaf, ym mis Mehefin eleni, fod y cynrychiolydd a oedd yn ymdrin â thlodi tanwydd wedi rhoi'r gorau i'r rôl. Mae hwn yn faes yr wyf wedi rhoi ystyriaeth weithredol iddo, gyda swyddogion, a chyda'r grŵp ei hun. Cydnabyddaf y byddai'n ddefnyddiol i rywun ag arbenigedd penodol ym maes tlodi tanwydd fod yn rhan o waith y grŵp cynghori allanol, a gobeithiaf, dros y misoedd nesaf—ac yn sicr cyn cyfarfod ffurfiol nesaf y grŵp hwn—y byddwn wedi penodi rhywun arall yn ei le. Dyna'r hyn yr hoffwn ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, mae'n deg dweud bod gan nifer o bobl ar y grwpiau arbenigol penodol hynny hefyd ddealltwriaeth ac arbenigedd ym maes tlodi tanwydd. Er enghraifft, mae gan John Puzey o Shelter, ddealltwriaeth glir iawn o faterion yn ymwneud â thlodi tanwydd, ac mae gan y cynrychiolydd sy'n ymdrin â materion pobl hŷn hefyd ddiddordeb amlwg iawn yn llwybr a lledaeniad tlodi tanwydd a'r hyn rydym yn ei wneud i'w drechu.

14:40 **Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I wanted to follow on from what my colleague Rhun ap Iorwerth was talking about earlier with regard to looking at UK policies and how they impact on us, such as the bedroom tax and universal credit. I wonder what advice you have had from this group on these policies and how we can go about mitigating them in the here and now, so that people in Wales do not suffer any more as a result of these awful policies.

Roeddwn yn awyddus i ddilyn ymlaen o'r hyn y soniodd fy nghyd-Aelod Rhun ap Iorwerth amdano yn gynharach o ran edrych ar bolisiau'r DU a'r modd y maent yn effeithio arnom, megis y dreth ystafell wely a chredyd cynhwysol. Tybed pa gyngor a gawsoch gan y grŵp hwn ar y polisiau hyn a sut y gallwn fynd ati i'w lliniaru nawr, fel na fydd pobl yng Nghymru yn dioddef mwy o garlyniad i'r polisiau ofnadwy hyn.

14:40 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I would make two points, which are both an honest reflection on where we are. The first is that we cannot undo every single thing that the UK Government has done. The scale of reduction in our budget, and our ability to take measures on behalf of people in Wales, is limited. There is a finite amount in our budget and we cannot undo every single thing the UK Government does. The external advisory group has also been clear about the limit and the reach of our powers. We do not have all the levers. A number of things that impact poverty here in Wales flow directly from decisions that the UK Government makes, not just on welfare reform, but on taxation as well. Its role is to be an honest and critical friend in terms of what we are doing with our powers, as well as reminding us of what we can and cannot do within the current settlement.

Hoffwn wneud dau bwynt, sydd ill dau yn adlewyrchiad gonest o'r sefyllfa bresennol. Y cyntaf yw na allwn ddadwneud popeth y mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi ei wneud. Mae maint y gostyngiad yn ein cyllideb, a'n gallu i gymryd camau ar ran pobl Cymru, yn gyfyngedig. Mae swm penodol yn ein cyllideb ac ni allwn ddadwneud popeth y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn ei wneud. Mae'r grŵp cynghori allanol hefyd wedi bod yn glir o ran terfyn a chwmpas ein pwerau. Nid oes gennym yr holl ddulliau. Mae nifer o bethau sy'n effeithio ar dlodi yma yng Nghymru yn deillio'n uniongyrchol o benderfyniadau a wneir gan Lywodraeth y DU, nid yn unig ar ddiwygio lles, ond ar drethi hefyd. Ei rôl yw bod yn ffrind gonest a beirniadol o ran yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud gyda'n pwerau, yn ogystal â'n hatgoffa o'r hyn y gallwn ac na allwn ei wneud o fewn y setliad presennol.

## Sector Gwirfoddol

## Voluntary Sector

14:41 **Llyr Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*4. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am ariannu'r sector gwirfoddol? OAQ(4)0081(CTP)*

*4. Will the Minister make a statement on the funding of the voluntary sector? OAQ(4)0081(CTP)*

14:41 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Llyr for that question. The Welsh Government remains committed to the third sector, providing £323 million in direct funding in 2012-13 to over 960 organisations. We have recently consulted with the sector, recognising the need for both continuity and change and are committed to strengthening this crucial relationship. The consultation outcome will be announced shortly.

Diolch i Llyr am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Erys Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymrwymedig i'r trydydd sector, gan ddarparu £323 miliwn o arian uniongyrchol yn 2012-13 i dros 960 o sefydliadau. Rydym wedi ymgynghori'n ddiweddar â'r sector, gan gydnabod yr angen am barhad a newid ac rydym yn ymrwymedig i atgyfnerthu'r gydberthynas hanfodol hon. Caiff canlyniad yr ymgynghoriad ei gyhoeddi yn fuan.

14:42

**Llyr Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch am eich ateb. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn ymwybodol o gonsŷrn nifer o gynghorau gweithredu gwirfoddol ar draws y gogledd y byddant yn wynebu colledion o dan rhai o'r cynigion sydd wedi bod yn rhan o'r ymgynghoriad ar y 'criteria' ariannu arfaethedig newydd. Yn eich ateb cyntaf y prynhawn yma, roeddech yn cydnabod bod gan ardaloedd gwledig anghenion ychwanegol o ran yr angen am gefnogaeth ariannol. A wnewch sicrhau felly y bydd unrhyw 'criteria' newydd y byddwch yn eu mabwysiadu ar gyfer ariannu'r sector gwirfoddol yn adlewyrchu anghenion penodol cynghorau gweithredu gwirfoddol sy'n cynrychioli cymunedau gwledig o'r fath?

Thank you for your reply. I am sure that you will be aware of the concern in a number of voluntary action councils across north Wales that they will face losses under some of the proposals that have been part of the consultation on the proposed new funding criteria. In your first answer this afternoon, you acknowledged that there were additional needs in rural areas when it comes to the need for financial support. Will you, therefore, ensure that any new criteria that you adopt for funding the voluntary sector will reflect the specific needs of voluntary action councils representing rural areas of that kind?

14:42

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very grateful for this supplementary question, because it gives me an opportunity to set the record straight. I am aware that certain inaccurate statements have been made about what has been claimed as agreed in terms of funding for the third sector infrastructure. The funding formula is being revisited for the first time in many years, but there is no decision taken yet on any revision to that funding. We have been working closely with representatives of the infrastructure bodies, the Wales Council for Voluntary Action, county voluntary councils and volunteer centres across Wales, to revisit a formula for allocating funding, which predates the National Assembly for Wales, and to ascertain if it is still appropriate for funding to be allocated in this manner.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn am y cwestiwn atodol hwn, oherwydd mae'n rhoi cyfle imi egluro'r sefyllfa. Gwn fod datganiadau anghywir penodol wedi'u gwneud am yr arian sydd wedi'i hawlio fel y cytunwyd ar gyfer seilwaith y trydydd sector. Mae'r fformiwla ariannu yn cael ei ailystyried am y tro cyntaf ers llawer o flynyddoedd, ond nid oes unrhyw benderfyniad wedi'i wneud eto o ran unrhyw ddiwygiad i'r arian hwnnw. Rydym wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda chynrychiolwyr y cyrff seilwaith, Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru, cynghorau gwirfoddol sirol a chanolfannau gwirfoddoli ledled Cymru, er mwyn ailystyried y fformiwla ar gyfer dyrannu arian, sy'n dyddio o gyfnod cyn Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, ac i ganfod a yw'n dal yn briodol i ddyrannu cyllid yn y modd hwn.

I can assure you that we will continue, to the best of our ability, to fund the third sector across Wales fairly and effectively.

Gallaf eich sicrhau y byddwn yn parhau, hyd eithaf ein gallu, i ariannu'r trydydd sector ledled Cymru yn deg ac yn effeithiol.

14:43

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

The Minister will be aware that the third sector has developed significant expertise in providing a broad range of additional non-statutory support that directly reduces the burden on public sector services. I know that you talked earlier about reviewing the formula. However, can you tell us what proportion of the 2014-15 draft budget allocated to the voluntary sector will be spent on preventative spending?

Bydd y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol bod y trydydd sector wedi datblygu arbenigedd sylweddol o ran darparu ystod eang o gymorth anstatudol ychwanegol sy'n lleihau'r baich ar wasanaethau'r sector cyhoeddus yn uniongyrchol. Gwn eich bod wedi sôn yn gynharach am adolygu'r fformiwla. Fodd bynnag, a allwch ddweud wrthym pa gyfran o gyllideb ddrafft 2014-15 a ddyrannwyd i'r sector gwirfoddol a gaiff ei gwario ar gamau ataliol?

14:44

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I think that that will become clear when I announce the outcomes of refreshing the relationships. I do not think that it would be appropriate for me to comment further at this point.

Credaf y daw hyn yn glir pan fyddaf yn cyhoeddi canlyniadau'r gwaith o adnewyddu'r cydberthnasau. Ni chredaf y byddai'n briodol imi wneud sylwadau pellach ar hyn o bryd.

14:44

**Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I accept that the consultation needs to be concluded and an announcement made, but are all the options predicated on a regional basis? That would lead to a reduction of 20% in funding for north Wales areas, and also, given ring fencing, some of the central areas, such as criminal records and volunteering, are looking at a reduction of 8.9%. So, will there be ring-fencing of centralised budgets compared with those regional budgets?

Derbyniat fod angen dod â'r ymgynghoriad i ben a gwneud cyhoeddiad, ond a yw'r holl opsiynau yn rhai rhanbarthol? Byddai hynny'n arwain at ostyngiad o 20% yn yr arian ar gyfer ardaloedd yn y gogledd, a hefyd, o ystyried y trefniadau ar gyfer neilltuo arian, mae rhai o'r meysydd canolog, megis cofnodion troseddol a gwirfoddoli, yn wynebu gostyngiad o 8.9%. Felly, a gaiff cyllidebau canolog eu neilltuo o gymharu â'r cyllidebau rhanbarthol hynny?

14:45 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am tempted to say that I will refer you to my previous two answers, because very soon I will be announcing the outcomes of the relationship. What I can say is that, clearly, at a time of reduced funding, which is a direct result of the actions of the UK Government, we have to ensure that funding is used to the very best effect. This will undoubtedly mean some third sector organisations working together, possibly even amalgamating if they are working in the same field. Apart from that, I would ask Members to wait until I am able to announce the outcome of the consultation.

## **Fframwaith Gweithredu ar gyfer Byw'n Annibynnol**

14:45 **Jenny Rathbone** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*5. Pa linellau sylfaen a ddefnyddir i fonitro cynnydd y Fframwaith Gweithredu ar gyfer Byw'n Annibynnol? OAQ(4)0079(CTP)*

14:45 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The indicators listed in the framework draw on available baseline data from which we will measure progress. These were agreed with the national steering group and we will work with disability organisations to identify and develop other relevant measures and indicators by which we can measure progress.

14:46 **Jenny Rathbone** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Do the indicators include whether local authorities are tracking where accessible homes are? Are all local authorities keeping a register of accessible homes? I want to draw your attention to the Children's Commissioner for Wales's annual report, which highlights concerns about the accessibility of schools for disabled children. Local authorities are obliged to plan the accessibility of schools, yet many disabled children are too often not able to attend the local school along with their peers. I wondered if either of these is in the framework as a way of monitoring the progress that you are making.

14:46 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

In terms of the first point on accessible homes, all local authorities in Wales have some form of matching system to link disabled people to accessible or adapted housing. The Welsh Government has been encouraging social housing providers to develop accessible housing registers for a number of years through the provision of guidance and funding. In terms of the issue that you raise about schools, I am sure that my colleague the Minister for Education and Skills would be keen to know of any schools that have particular problems. I can tell you that, in line with our undertaking in the framework document, we have reminded local authorities of their responsibilities in relation to school buildings. We will continue to work with them to get the best deal.

Caf fy nhentio i ddweud y byddaf yn eich cyfeirio at fy nau ateb blaenorol, oherwydd yn fuan iawn, byddaf yn cyhoeddi canlyniadau'r gydberthynas. Yr hyn y gallaf ei ddweud yw bod yn rhaid inni, yn amlwg, ar adeg o lai o arian, sy'n deillio'n uniongyrchol o'r camau a gymerwyd gan Lywodraeth y DU, sicrhau bod arian yn cael ei ddefnyddio yn y ffordd orau bosibl. Bydd hyn yn sicr yn golygu y bydd rhai sefydliadau trydydd sector yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd, o bosibl hyd yn oed yn cyfuno os ydynt yn gweithio yn yr un maes. Ar wahân i hynny, byddwn yn gofyn i'r Aelodau aros tan y gallaf gyhoeddi canlyniad yr ymgynghoriad.

## **Framework for Action on Independent Living**

*5. What baselines will be used to monitor progress of the Framework for Action on Independent Living? OAQ(4)0079(CTP)*

Mae'r dangosyddion a restrir yn y fframwaith yn deillio o ddata sylfaenol sydd ar gael y byddwn yn eu defnyddio i fesur cynnydd. Cytunwyd ar y rhain gyda'r grŵp llywio cenedlaethol a byddwn yn gweithio gyda sefydliadau anabled i nodi a datblygu mesurau a dangosyddion perthnasol eraill y gallwn eu defnyddio i fesur cynnydd.

A yw'r dangosyddion yn cynnwys p'un a yw awdurdodau lleol yn olrhain lleoliad cartrefi hygyrch? A yw pob awdurdod lleol yn cadw cofrestr o dai hygyrch? Hoffwn dynnu eich sylw at adroddiad blynyddol Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, sy'n nodi pryderon am hygyrchedd ysgolion i blant anabl. Mae'n ofynnol i awdurdodau lleol gynllunio hygyrchedd ysgolion, ac eto, yn rhy aml, nid yw llawer o blant anabl yn gallu mynychu'r ysgol leol gyda'u cyfoedion. Tybed a yw'r fframwaith yn cynnwys y naill neu'r llall o'r rhain fel ffordd o fonitro'r cynnydd rydych yn ei wneud.

O ran y pwynt cyntaf ar gartrefi hygyrch, mae gan bob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru ryw fath o system baru i gysylltu pobl anabl â thai hygyrch neu wedi'u haddasu. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn annog darparwyr tai cymdeithasol i ddatblygu cofrestrau tai hygyrch am nifer o flynyddoedd drwy roi arweiniad a chyllid. O ran y mater a godwch am ysgolion, rwy'n siŵr y byddai fy nghyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, yn awyddus i wybod am unrhyw ysgolion sydd â phroblemau penodol. Gallaf ddweud wrthyhych, yn unol â'n hymrwymiad yn y ddogfen fframwaith, ein bod wedi atgoffa awdurdodau lleol am eu cyfrifoldebau mewn perthynas ag adeiladau ysgolion. Byddwn yn parhau i weithio gyda hwy i sicrhau'r fargen orau.

14:47 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
The Welsh Conservatives support this initiative with great ease because it should give access to good quality and accessible information on independent advocacy, public transport and technology that supports independent living. Hopefully, it will lead to better employment rates for disabled people. However, Minister, with regard to new money to make this scheme effective, can you reply by telling us what money has been allocated to this?

Mae'n hawdd iawn i'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig gefnogi'r fenter hon oherwydd dylai sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu cael gafael ar wybodaeth hygrych ac o ansawdd da am eiriolaeth annibynnol, trafnidiaeth gyhoeddus a thechnoleg sy'n cefnogi byw'n annibynnol. Gobeithio y bydd yn arwain at gyfraddau cyflogaeth gwell i bobl anabl. Fodd bynnag, Weinidog, o ran arian newydd i weithredu'r cynllun hwn yn effeithiol, a allwch ymateb drwy ddweud wrthym faint o arian sydd wedi'i ddyrannu i hyn?

14:48 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
I will need to write to you about the actual moneys that have been allocated to this particular scheme, but I can tell you that the disability equality forum, which I chair, remains an active partner with us. However, I will write to you with precise information on the funding.

Bydd angen imi ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r union arian a ddyrannwyd i'r cynllun penodol hwn, ond gallaf ddweud wrthyf fod y fforwm cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl, yr wyf yn gadeirydd arno, yn parhau i fod yn bartner gweithredol inni. Fodd bynnag, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atoch gyda gwybodaeth fanwl am yr arian.

14:48 **Lindsay Whittle** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Minister, the framework makes great play of an individual's right to advocacy. I have said it on a number of occasions in this Chamber and will continue to do so. Is it not time for the Welsh Government to establish the post of disability commissioner as the key advocate for all disabled people in Wales, or do you think that disabled people have less of a right to a commissioner than older people, children or the Welsh language?

Weinidog, mae'r fframwaith yn gwneud môr a mynydd o hawl unigolyn i eiriolaeth. Rwyf wedi dweud hynny ar sawl achlysur yn y Siambr hon a byddaf yn parhau i wneud hynny. Onid yw'n bryd i Lywodraeth Cymru sefydlu swydd comisiynydd anabledd fel eiriolwr allweddol ar gyfer yr holl bobl anabl yng Nghymru, neu a gredwch fod gan bobl anabl lai o hawl i gael comisiynydd na phobl hŷn, plant neu'r iaith Gymraeg?

14:48 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
It is not a question of whether I think that disabled people have fewer rights than any other group. As I have said, we have a disability equality forum that is active and which I chair. That recommendation has not come forward from it.

Nid oes a wnelo hynny â ph'un a gredaf fod gan bobl anabl lai o hawliau nag unrhyw grŵp arall. Fel y dywedais, mae gennym fforwm cydraddoldeb i bobl anabl sy'n weithredol ac yr wyf yn gadeirydd arno. Nid yw'r argymhelliad hwnnw wedi deillio o hynny.

## Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol

## Future Generations Bill

14:49 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*6. Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymgysylltu â chymdeithas ddinesig Cymru o ran ei datblygu ar gyfer y Bil Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru)? OAQ(4)0084(CTP)*

*6. How is the Welsh Government engaging with Welsh civic society in its development of the Future Generations (Wales) Bill? OAQ(4)0084(CTP)*

14:49 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
We have engaged widely through a consultation in 2012 and the White Paper in 2013, as well as through our Bill reference group, where key public services are represented. I have asked the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures to begin a national conversation on our long-term challenges early next year.

Rydym wedi ymgysylltu'n eang drwy ymgynghori yn 2012 a thrwy'r Papur Gwyn yn 2013, yn ogystal â thrwy grŵp cyfeirio'r Bil, lle caiff gwasanaethau cyhoeddus allweddol eu cynrychioli. Rwyf wedi gofyn i'r Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy ddechrau sgwrs genedlaethol ar ein heriau hirdymor yn gynnar y flwyddyn nesaf.

14:49 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Minister, for your answer. I think that one of the fundamental problems of the former sustainable development Bill, apart from the entanglement that officials got themselves into with the language and rhetoric, was that there was little public resonance as to what the Government's objectives were. How are you making this legislation come alive with the Welsh public, so that people are aware of it, take an interest in it and engage with you in shaping the outcomes of the Bill? You have mentioned that you are having a conversation with them, but how are you going to engage them in the conversation?

Diolch, Weinidog, am eich ateb. Credaf mai un o brif broblemau'r hen Fil ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy, ar wahân i'r trafferthion yr oedd swyddogion yn eu cael o ran yr iaith a rhethreg, oedd nad oedd yn glir i'r cyhoedd beth oedd amcanion y Llywodraeth. Sut rydych yn bwriadu dod â'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn fyw i'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru, fel bod pobl yn ymwybodol ohoni, yn cymryd diddordeb ynddi ac yn ymgysylltu â chi wrth lywio canlyniadau'r Bil? Soniasoch eich bod yn cael sgwrs gyda hwy, ond sut rydych yn bwriadu ennyn eu diddordeb yn y sgwrs?

14:50 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We regularly issue e-bulletins to approximately 5,000 organisations and individuals on our proposals for the Bill and that list continues to grow. We also use social media through the hashtags #SDBillWales and #FGBillWales to generate debate and discussion. The national conversations, however, will be of a different nature. There will be a series of conferences across Wales in which young people, in particular, from schools and colleges will be encouraged to attend to meet key players in the field of sustainable development to talk to them about the sort of Wales that they want to inherit. It will be very similar to the real conversations that helped to inform the review of qualifications and our skills programme.

Rydym yn cyhoeddi e-fwletinâu rheolaidd i oddeutu 5,000 o sefydliadau ac unigolion ar ein cynigion ar gyfer y Bil ac mae'r rhestr honno yn parhau i dyfu. Rydym hefyd yn defnyddio cyfryngau cymdeithasol drwy'r hashtags #SDBillWales a # FGBillWales i greu dadl a thrafodaeth. Bydd natur y sgysiau cenedlaethol, fodd bynnag, yn wahanol. Cynhelir cyfres o gynadleddau ledled Cymru a chaiff pobl ifanc, yn benodol, o ysgolion a cholegau eu hannog i fod yn bresennol i gwrdd ag unigolion a sefydliadau allweddol ym maes datblygu cynaliadwy er mwyn siarad â hwy am y math o Gymru y maent am ei hetifeddu. Bydd yn debyg iawn i'r sgysiau go iawn a fu'n gymorth i lywio'r adolygiad o gymwysterau a'n rhaglen sgiliau.

14:51 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, yng nghyd-destun yr ymgynghoriad, pwy yn union wnaeth ymateb iddo? A fydddech yn derbyn os ydym yn mynd i greu cymunedau cynaliadwy fod yn rhaid i'r cymunedau hynny fod yn hyfyw ac yn rhai y gall pobl weithio a byw ynddynt? A wnaeth y sector breifat a'r bobl sy'n gyrru'r economi ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad? Os na wnaethant, sut ydych am sicrhau y byddant yn rhan o'r sgwrs hon yr ydych yn mynd i ymgymryd â hi gyda'r genedl?

Minister, in the context of the consultation, who exactly responded to the consultation? Would you accept that if we are going to create sustainable communities, those communities must be viable and people must be able to work and live in them? Did the private sector and those who are driving economy respond to the consultation? If they did not, how are you going to ensure that they are part of this conversation that you are going to have with the nation?

14:51 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

That is a very fair point that has been raised. I can tell you that 3,927 responses were received—which is very precise—and the White Paper generated a further 473 responses. My understanding is that that was across a wide range of organisations in Wales. We are going to ensure that employers and trade unions will be represented on the commissioner's advisory group. I expect them to be present as well when I meet the group on Monday. I am quite happy to write to you with details of the respondents.

Mae hynny'n bwynt teg iawn. Gallaf ddweud wrthyfch fod 3,927 o ymatebion wedi dod i law—sy'n fanwl gywir iawn—a denodd y Papur Gwyn 473 o ymatebion pellach. Deallaf fod hynny wedi bod ar draws ystod eang o sefydliadau yng Nghymru. Bwriadwn sicrhau y caiff cyflogwyr ac undebau llafur eu cynrychioli ar grŵp cynghori'r comisiynydd. Disgwyliaf iddynt fod yn bresennol hefyd pan fyddaf yn cwrdd â'r grŵp ddydd Llun. Rwy'n fwy na pharod i ysgrifennu atoch gyda manylion yr ymatebwyr.

14:52 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A wnewch chi dderbyn mai elfen arall o gymunedau cynaliadwy yng Nghymru yw ein bod yn gallu cynnal eu natur ddwyieithog, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd hynny lle, yn draddodiadol, mae'r iaith Gymraeg wedi cael ei defnyddio gan bobl o ddydd i ddydd? Sut y byddwch yn sicrhau, o fewn y sgwrs hon, fod trafodaeth ynglŷn â sut y gallwn sicrhau bod yr iaith Gymraeg yn ganolog i'n cymunedau ac yn rhan naturiol o fywydau pobl a bod gwasanaethau'n cael eu cynnig drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg fel y maen nhw'n cael eu cynnig drwy gyfrwng y Saesneg?

Will you accept that another element of sustainable communities in Wales is that we should be able to sustain their bilingual nature, particularly in those areas where, traditionally, the Welsh language has been used by people on a daily basis? How will you ensure, within this conversation, that there is a discussion on how we can ensure that the Welsh language is core to our communities and is a natural part of people's lives, and that services are offered through the medium of Welsh as they are offered through the medium of English?



14:53 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much indeed for that further question. I agree with you: it is part of the briefing of the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures that all issues relating to the promotion of the Welsh language are included within sustainable development, and I certainly expect that that matter will be raised during our social media communications and in the national conversation.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am y cwestiwn pellach hwnnw. Cytunaf â chi: mae'n rhan o friff y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy y caiff pob mater sy'n ymwneud â hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg ei gynnwys o fewn datblygu cynaliadwy, ac yn sicr disgwyliaf i'r mater gael ei godi wrth inni gyfathrebu drwy ein cyfryngau cymdeithasol ac yn y sgwrs genedlaethol.

14:53 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, following your appearance before the Environment and Sustainability Committee this morning, could you address the concerns that have been voiced by the Shaping Our Future alliance, which is a representative body of many civic society organisations, about the independence of the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures? Also, could you outline what relationship you see that person having with the Auditor General for Wales?

Weinidog, yn dilyn eich ymddangosiad gerbron y Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd y bore yma, a allech fynd i'r afael â'r pryderon a leisiwyd gan gynghrair Lluio Ein Dyfodol, sef corff sy'n cynrychioli nifer o sefydliadau cymdeithas ddinesig, ynghylch annibyniaeth y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy? Hefyd, a allech amlinellu'r gydberthynas y credwch y bydd gan y person hwnnw ag Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru?

14:54 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

You raise two very different points there. The plan is that the commissioner will be appointed by the Welsh Government, as are the Welsh Language Commissioner, the Commissioner for Older People in Wales and the Children's Commissioner for Wales. I know of no serious suggestion that any of those three commissioners are in any way beholden to Government. Their independence is clear and I expect that to be exactly the same with the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures. The job of the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures will be to report to the Welsh Government on progress towards meeting our sustainable development indicators. They will provide advice and guidance to other sectors of the public service. It will be the job of the Auditor General for Wales to assess and audit whether those requirements are being met.

Rydych yn codi dau bwynt gwahanol iawn. Y bwriad yw y caiff y comisiynydd ei benodi gan Lywodraeth Cymru, yn yr un modd â Chomisiynydd y Gymraeg, Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru a Chomisiynydd Plant Cymru. Ni wn am unrhyw awgrym difrifol bod unrhyw un o'r tri comisiynydd hynny yn atebol i'r Llywodraeth mewn unrhyw ffordd. Mae eu hannibyniaeth yn glir a disgwyliaf i'r un peth fod yn wir o ran y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy. Rôl y Comisiynydd Dyfodol Cynaliadwy fydd adrodd i Lywodraeth Cymru ar gynnydd tuag at gyflawni ein dangosyddion datblygu cynaliadwy. Bydd yn rhoi cyngor ac arweiniad i sectorau eraill o'r gwasanaeth cyhoeddus. Rôl Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru fydd asesu ac archwilio a yw'r gofynion hynny yn cael eu bodloni.

## Cysylltiad rhwng Anabledd a Thlodi

## Connection between Disability and Poverty

14:55 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*7. Pa asesiad y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i wneud o'r cysylltiad rhwng anabledd a thlodi yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0082(CTP)*

*7. What assessment has the Minister made of the connection between disability and poverty in Wales? OAQ(4)0082(CTP)*

14:55 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Government's programme of research has highlighted some key findings, particularly concerning the impact of the welfare reforms on disabled people. The impacts of these reforms are likely to be felt more in Wales than elsewhere in the UK.

Mae rhaglen ymchwil Llywodraeth Cymru wedi nodi rhai canfyddiadau allweddol, yn enwedig ynghylch effaith y diwygiadau lles ar bobl anabl. Mae'n debygol y gwelir effeithiau'r diwygiadau hyn yn fwy yng Nghymru nag mewn mannau eraill yn y DU.

14:55 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for that response. Forty-six per cent of disabled people live in poverty, and disabled people who do work earn less per hour than non-disabled people. What can the Welsh Government do to try to improve the living standards of disabled people in Wales?

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw. Mae 46 y cant o bobl anabl yn byw mewn tlodi, ac mae pobl anabl sy'n gweithio yn ennill llai fesul awr na phobl nad ydynt yn anabl. Beth y gall Llywodraeth Cymru ei wneud i geisio gwella safonau byw pobl anabl yng Nghymru?

14:55 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Objective 5 within the strategic equality plan details actions to tackle barriers and improve support for disabled people. The actions in the SEP are being taken forward as part of the framework for action on independent living, which I alluded to earlier. Employment is one of the work strands that is under consideration.

Mae amcan 5 yn y cynllun cydraddoldeb strategol yn nodi camau gweithredu i fynd i'r afael â rhwystrau a gwella cymorth i bobl anabl. Mae'r camau gweithredu yn y cynllun hwn yn cael eu datblygu fel rhan o'r fframwaith gweithredu ar gyfer byw'n annibynnol, y cyfeiriais ato yn gynharach. Mae cyflogaeth yn un o'r meysydd gwaith sy'n cael ei ystyried.

14:56 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, one way to reduce poverty among disabled people is to help them to find suitable and sustainable paid employment. The UK Government is helping young disabled people in employment through its supported internship scheme and its traineeship scheme, providing specialised study programmes and workplace experience. What is the Welsh Government doing to help the young disabled in Wales to find jobs?

Weinidog, un ffordd o leihau tlodi ymysg pobl anabl yw eu helpu i ddod o hyd i swyddi cyflogedig addas a chynaliadwy. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn helpu pobl ifanc anabl mewn cyflogaeth drwy ei chynllun interniaeth â chymorth a'i chynllun hyfforddeiaeth, gan ddarparu rhaglenni astudio arbenigol a phrofiad yn y gweithle. Beth mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i helpu pobl ifanc anabl yng Nghymru i ddod o hyd i swyddi?

14:56 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Well, that is a bit rich—your UK Government is closing Remploy, which had been providing very good employment and training opportunities for disabled people. You cannot deny your culpability in that regard.

Wel, mae hynny braidd yn eironig—mae Llywodraeth y DU yn cau Remploy, a fu'n darparu swyddi a chyfleoedd hyfforddi da i bobl anabl. Ni allwch wadu eich euogrwydd yn hynny o beth.

In terms of employability schemes, we have some of the most successful programmes that have ever been seen within the UK, and perhaps Europe, through Jobs Growth Wales. That will be expanded by a further 750 places as part of the tackling poverty action plan, and will be focused on Communities First areas, together with the tackling workless households programme, which is a pledge by this Government to create 5,000 employment and training opportunities between now and 2017. We cannot take any lectures from the Members opposite in terms of providing employment and training opportunities for young people and others affected by disabilities.

O ran cynlluniau cyflogadwyedd, mae gennym rai o'r rhaglenni mwyaf llwyddiannus a welwyd erioed yn y DU, ac efallai Ewrop, drwy brosiect Twf Swyddi Cymru. At hynny, caiff 750 o leoedd pellach eu cynnig fel rhan o'r cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer trechu tlodi, gan ganolbwyntio ar ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ynghyd â'r rhaglen i fynd i'r afael â chartrefi heb waith, sef addewid gan y Llywodraeth hon i greu 5,000 o swyddi a chyfleoedd hyfforddi rhwng nawr a 2017. Nid oes angen pregeth arnom gan yr Aelodau gyferbyn o ran darparu swyddi a chyfleoedd hyfforddi i bobl ifanc ac eraill yr effeithir arnynt gan anableddau.

14:57 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Minister, I return to the bedroom tax, or the bedroom penalty, or whatever you want to call it. One thing is certain: around 60% of those affected by this tax are disabled people, or people with disabilities. It also means that homes that have been adapted to help people with disabilities to live better will be affected and may no longer be available to them. You are a cross-cutting Minister; you have told us that this morning in committee. Can you take this message across Government, therefore? If you cannot agree that we should not have a no-eviction policy in Wales, surely we can agree that no person with disabilities should lose their home in Wales because of a sole failure to pay this iniquitous and cruel tax.

Weinidog, dychwelaf at y dreth ystafell wely, neu'r gosb ystafell wely, neu beth bynnag rydych am ei galw. Mae un peth yn sicr: mae tua 60% o'r rhai y mae'r dreth hon yn effeithio arnynt yn bobl anabl, neu'n bobl ag anableddau. Mae hefyd yn golygu yr effeithir ar gartrefi sydd wedi cael eu haddasu i helpu pobl ag anableddau i fyw'n well ac efallai na fyddant ar gael iddynt mwyach. Rydych yn Weinidog trawsbynciol; rydych wedi dweud hynny wrthym y bore yma yn y pwyllgor. A allwch ledaenu'r neges hon ar draws y Llywodraeth, felly? Os na allwch gytuno na ddylai fod gennym bolisi dim troi allan yng Nghymru, oni allwn gytuno na ddylai unrhyw berson ag anableddau golli ei gartref yng Nghymru oherwydd methiant i dalu'r dreth anghyfiawn a chreulon hon.

14:58 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Of course I agree with those sentiments. I know all too well that some disabled people may have to leave an adapted property if it is deemed to have too many bedrooms for their needs, and that is a scandal—there is no doubt about that. We cannot undo the bedroom tax. We can seek to reduce its impact and we are trying. We are in regular consultation with officials of the Department for Work and Pensions to try to find ways in which we can minimise the worst impacts of this particular iniquitous tax.

## Clystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf

14:59 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*8. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddarparu adroddiad cynnydd ar weithredu'r clystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf newydd ledled Cymru? OAQ(4)0087(CTP)*

14:59 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. All 52 clusters are up and running, six months after the launch of the new programme. Communities First teams in the clusters are working to deliver the agreed outcomes in their delivery plans. The clusters submit regular reports on the progress made.

14:59 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that answer, Minister. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Communities First clusters within my constituency and across Wales that are delivering on their three strategic objectives set by the Welsh Government. One of those objectives is that they are to be learning communities. In light of the Government's focus on breaking the link between poverty and low attainment by our young people and children, will you look at how Communities First clusters, which are based in some of our most disadvantaged communities, can play a role in tackling numeracy and literacy skills, and building self-confidence in the wider community so that children can gain the benefit of that support outside the school environment?

15:00 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much. The issue of attainment and improving attainment was clearly the subject of the speech given by my colleague the Minister for Education and Skills last night. That is something that we endorse absolutely, and it is very much a cross-cutting theme. I fully support the use of the pupil deprivation grant in those most disadvantaged areas, and, of course, there is our additional £1.8 million in Communities First match funding for the pupil deprivation grant, which means that Communities First partners will be able to work with schools within their catchment areas to devise the additional programmes needed for learners in their area. That would certainly include issues of literacy and numeracy.

Wrth gwrs fy mod yn cytuno â hynny. Gwn yn rhy dda efallai y bydd yn rhaid i rai pobl anabl adael eiddo a addaswyd os ystyrir bod ganddynt ormod o ystafelloedd gwely ar gyfer eu hanghenion, ac mae hynny'n sgandal—nid oes amheuaeth am hynny. Ni allwn ddadwneud y dreth ystafell wely. Gallwn geisio lleihau ei heffaith ac rydym yn gwneud hynny. Rydym yn ymgynghori'n rheolaidd â swyddogion yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau er mwyn ceisio dod o hyd i ffyrdd y gallwn leihau effeithiau gwaethaf y dreth anghyfiawn benodol hon.

## Communities First Clusters

*8. Will the Minister provide a progress report on the operation of the new Communities First Clusters across Wales? OAQ(4)0087(CTP)*

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae pob un o'r 52 o glystyrau ar waith, chwe mis ar ôl lansio'r rhaglen newydd. Mae timau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn y clystyrau yn gweithio i gyflawni'r canlyniadau y cytunwyd arnynt yn eu cynlluniau cyflawni. Mae'r clystyrau yn cyflwyno adroddiadau rheolaidd ar y cynnydd a wnaed.

Diolch am yr ateb hwnnw, Weindog. Rwy'n siŵr y byddwch yn ymuno â mi i longyfarch dystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn fy etholaeth a ledled Cymru sy'n cyflawni'r tri amcan strategol a bennwyd ar eu cyfer gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Un o'r amcanion hynny yw bod yn gymunedau dysgu. Yng ngoleuni ffocws y Llywodraeth ar dorri'r cysylltiad rhwng tlodi a chyrhaeddiad isel ymhlith ein pobl ifanc a'n plant, a wnewch chi ystyried sut y gall dystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, yn rhai o'n cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig, chwarae rôl wrth fynd i'r afael â sgiliau rhifedd a llythrennedd, a meithrin hunanhyder yn y gymuned ehangach er mwyn i blant allu manteisio ar y cymorth hwnnw y tu allan i amgylchedd yr ysgol?

Diolch yn fawr iawn. Cyrhaeddiad a gwella cyrhaeddiad oedd testun amlwg araith fy nghyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau, neithiwr. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth yr ydym yn ei gymeradwyo'n llwyr, ac mae'n sicr yn thema drawsbynciol. Cefnogaf yn llwyr y defnydd a wneir o'r grant amddifadedd disgyblion yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig, ac, wrth gwrs, mae gennym £1.8 miliwn ychwanegol o arian cyfatebol Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ar gyfer y grant amddifadedd disgyblion, sy'n golygu y bydd partneriaid Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn gallu gweithio gydag ysgolion o fewn eu dalgylchoedd i lunio'r rhaglenni ychwanegol sydd eu hangen ar gyfer dysgwyr yn eu hardal. Byddai hynny'n sicr yn cynnwys materion yn ymwneud â llythrennedd a rhifedd.

15:00 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Minister, if we look at the distribution of Communities First clusters across Wales, there are just eight clusters in north Wales, compared to 46 in south Wales. The recent Joseph Rowntree Foundation report identified that over half of working-age people in poverty in Wales come from working families. The report said that in-work poverty in Wales is largely a rural issue. Of course, there is no Communities First cluster that deals with rural poverty.

Weinidog, os ystyriwn ddisbarthiad dystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ledled Cymru, dim ond wyth clwstwr sydd yn y gogledd, o gymharu â 46 yn y de. Nododd adroddiad Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree yn ddiweddar fod dros hanner y bobl o oedran gweithio sydd mewn tlodi yng Nghymru yn perthyn i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio. Nododd yr adroddiad mai problem wledig yw tlodi mewn gwaith yng Nghymru yn bennaf. Wrth gwrs, nid oes unrhyw glwstwr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf sy'n delio â thlodi gwledig.

Minister, will you commit to looking at a virtual Communities First proposal to cover rural areas, particularly as you have indicated that your Jobs Growth Wales project will be targeted—

Weinidog, a wnewch chi ymrwymo i ystyried cynnig rhithwir Cymunedau yn Gyntaf i gwmpasu ardaloedd gwledig, yn enwedig gan eich bod wedi nodi y bydd eich prosiect Twf Swyddi Cymru yn targedu—

15:01 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is another speech. Come on.

Mae hon yn araith arall. Dewch yn eich blaen.

15:01 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

It will be targeted at Communities First areas and will therefore miss out rural areas altogether.

Bydd yn targedu ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ac felly'n eithrio ardaloedd gwledig yn llwyr.

15:01 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that. Let me make it clear, if I was not clear earlier: the additional 750 Jobs Growth Wales places are over and above the main Jobs Growth Wales provision. It is those additional places that will be targeted at Communities First cluster areas. All parts of Wales remain accessible to Jobs Growth Wales opportunities.

Diolch am hynny. Gadewch imi ei gwneud yn glir, os nad oeddwn yn glir yn gynharach: mae'r 750 o leoedd Twf Swyddi Cymru ychwanegol yn rhagori ar brif ddarpariaeth Twf Swyddi Cymru. Bydd y lleoedd ychwanegol hynny yn targedu ardaloedd clwstwr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf. Mae pob rhan o Gymru yn parhau i allu manteisio ar gyfleoedd Twf Swyddi Cymru.

Again, this is déjà vu; you raised a similar point in committee. My reply will be the same: if you would like to send me details of how you think that a virtual Communities First area might operate, I will be very interested to look at that.

Unwaith eto, mae hyn yn achos o déjà vu; gwnaethoch godi pwynt tebyg yn y pwyllgor. Bydd fy ateb yr un fath: os hoffech anfon manylion ataf am sut y credwch y gallai ardal Cymunedau yn Gyntaf rithwir weithio, byddaf yn fwy na pharod i ystyried hynny.

15:02 **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Fe gyfeirioch chi, Weinidog, at nifer o raglenni sydd yn weithredol o fewn dystyrau Cymunedau'n Gyntaf. Mae'n ffaith bod dros hanner y plant sydd yn byw mewn tlodi yng Nghymru yn byw y tu allan i'r ardaloedd hynny. Pa raglenni penodol sydd gennych chi ar gyfer helpu'r teuluoedd a'r plant hynny?

Minister, you referred to a number of programmes that are operational within Communities First clusters. It is a fact that over half of children living in poverty in Wales live outwith those areas. What specific programmes do you have to assist those families and those children?

15:02 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you for that question. As I replied earlier, other schemes, such as Flying Start and Families First, remain for those areas as they do for all other parts of Wales. That is a contribution, and the employability schemes of Jobs Growth Wales, which I referred to in response to the last question, make an impact in those areas.

Diolch am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Fel y dywedais mewn ateb cynharach, mae cynlluniau eraill, fel Dechrau'n Deg a Theuluoedd yn Gyntaf, yn parhau ar gyfer yr ardaloedd hynny fel y maent ar gyfer pob rhan arall o Gymru. Mae hynny'n gyfraniad, ac mae cynlluniau cyflogadwyedd Twf Swyddi Cymru, y cyfeiriais atynt wrth ymateb i'r cwestiwn diwethaf, yn cael effaith yn yr ardaloedd hynny.

## Tlodi Mewn Gwaith

## In-work Poverty

- 15:03 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 9. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i helpu i leihau 'todi mewn gwaith' OAQ(4)0076(CTP)  
 9. What is the Welsh Government doing to help reduce 'in-work poverty'? OAQ(4)0076(CTP)
- 15:03 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 The Welsh Government recognises the increasing significance of 'in-work' poverty and The Welsh Government has clear and consistent aspirations for better paid and better quality work across Wales.  
 Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod arwyddocâd cynyddol todi 'mewn gwaith' ac mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru ddyheadau clir a chyson ar gyfer gwaith sy'n talu'n well ac o ansawdd gwell ledled Cymru.
- 15:03 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 Thank you. My colleague, Antoinette Sandbach, has already referred to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation report for this year, 'Monitoring poverty and social exclusion in Wales 2013', and that there are now more working-age adults and children in low-income working families than non-working ones. Given that the Joseph Rowntree Foundation previously—in the last decade—identified barriers to work in the tax and benefits system, what engagement does the Welsh Government have with the UK Government and the Department for Work and Pensions over the roll-out of universal credit, given that this will leave more money in the pockets of the lowest earning workers, and that DWP officials have been working closely with the Welsh Government on the roll-out of universal credit since March 2012?  
 Diolch. Mae fy nghyd-Aelod, Antoinette Sandbach, eisoes wedi cyfeirio at adroddiad Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree ar gyfer y flwyddyn hon, sef 'Monitro todi ac eithrio cymdeithasol yng Nghymru 2013', a'r ffaith bod mwy o oedolion a phlant o oedran gweithio bellach mewn teuluoedd sy'n gweithio ar incwm isel nac mewn teuluoedd heb waith. O ystyried y ffaith bod Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree—yn ystod y degawd diwethaf—wedi nodi rhwystrau i waith yn y system treth a budd-daliadau, sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydweithio â Llywodraeth y DU a'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau er mwyn cyflwyno credyd cynhwysol, o gofio y bydd hyn yn gadael mwy o arian ym mhocedi'r gweithwyr ar y cyflogau isaf, a bod swyddogion DWP wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos gyda Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyflwyno credyd cynhwysol ers mis Mawrth 2012?
- 15:04 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 I would not accept your contention that universal credit will leave the most vulnerable and the worst-off communities better off as a result of its implementation. It is worth noting the recent research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation on the reality that there are more working poor families in Wales than workless poor, and that is the case across the rest of the United Kingdom. It has been a particular feature of the rise in poverty. This leads us to the recognition that, when we talk about more people being in employment, there is a recognition that that employment is, for more and more people, less secure and not as well paid. That is why there has been this rise in in-work poverty.  
 Ni fyddwn yn derbyn eich honiad y bydd credyd cynhwysol yn golygu bod y cymunedau tlotaf a mwyaf agored i niwed yn well eu byd o ganlyniad i'w weithredu. Mae'n werth nodi'r ymchwili ddiweddar gan Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree ar y ffaith bod mwy o deuluoedd tlawd sy'n gweithio yng Nghymru na theuluoedd tlawd heb waith, ac mae hynny'n wir ledled y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae wedi bod yn rhan benodol o'r cynnydd mewn todi. Mae hyn yn ein harwain at gydnabod, wrth sôn am y ffaith bod mwy o bobl mewn swyddi, bod y swyddi hynny, i fwy a mwy o bobl, yn llai diogel ac nad ydynt yn talu cystal. Dyna pam y gwelwyd cynnydd mewn todi mewn gwaith.
- From our perspective, we are very proud that we introduced a minimum wage across the United Kingdom to help make work pay. When you look at the interface between officials here and in the DWP on the roll-out of universal credit, there is a constructive arrangement between officials. The real problem is the chaos that exists around the roll-out programme itself. We cannot be certain what the overall impact will be. We have not seen all of the pilot area figures returned yet, and, so, from our point of view, how we make work pay and the impact of universal credit is not something that we can have a clear, firm and fixed picture of at this point in time, and that is to the detriment of all of the communities that we serve.  
 O'n safbwynt ni, rydym yn falch iawn ein bod wedi cyflwyno isafswm cyflog ledled y Deyrnas Unedig er mwyn helpu i sicrhau bod gwaith yn talu. Pan ystyriwch y rhyngwyneb rhwng swyddogion yma ac yn DWP o ran y broses o gyflwyno credyd cynhwysol, gwelir bod trefniant adeiladol ar waith rhwng swyddogion. Y broblem wirioneddol yw'r anhrefn sy'n bodoli ynghylch y rhaglen gyflwyno ei hun. Ni allwn fod yn sicr beth fydd yr effaith gyffredinol. Nid ydym wedi gweld ffigurau'r holl ardaloedd peilot eto, ac, felly, o'n safbwynt ni, ni allwn gael darlun clir, cadarn a sefydlog ar hyn o bryd o'r ffordd y gallwn sicrhau bod gwaith yn talu ac effaith credyd cynhwysol, ac mae hynny'n cael effaith andwyol ar yr holl gymunedau a wasanaethir gennym.

15:05

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

I hope that you will add to that, given that the universal credit programme Welsh Government engagement lead told my office last week that the programme involving Shotton will be rolling out from this month, and, therefore, I think that this place deserves to know from the Welsh Government what engagement it is having with that, whatever your version of the Rowntree reports and the reason for growth in tax and barriers in the past was.

Finally, could you also indicate the Welsh Government's involvement with the work programme? We know that the Welsh Government is directly involved with the roll-out of the work programme in Wales, and Joseph Rowntree reports in the past decade have also indicated the importance of welfare-to-work programmes, which have not featured prominently in the child-poverty strategy in Wales during the last Assembly.

Gobeithiaf y byddwch yn ychwanegu at hynny, o gofio bod arweinydd ymgysylltu rhaglen credyd cynhwysol Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dweud wrth fy swyddfa yr wythnos diwethaf y caiff y rhaglen sy'n cynnwys Shotton ei chyflwyno y mis hwn, ac, felly, credaf fod y lle hwn yn haeddu cael gwybod gan Lywodraeth Cymru pa ran y mae'n ei chwarae yn hynny o beth, ni waeth beth fo'ch fersiwn chi o adroddiadau Rowntree a'r rheswm dros dwf mewn treth a rhwystrau yn y gorffennol.

Yn olaf, a allech hefyd nodi rhan Llywodraeth Cymru yn y rhaglen waith? Gwyddom fod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â'r broses o gyflwyno'r rhaglen waith yng Nghymru, ac mae adroddiadau gan Joseph Rowntree dros y degawd diwethaf hefyd wedi nodi pwysigrwydd rhaglenni o fudd-dal i waith, nad ydynt wedi bod yn rhan amlwg o'r strategaeth tlodi plant yng Nghymru yn ystod y Cynulliad diwethaf.

15:06

**Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There will, of course, be an update on the continued work of the Shotton universal credit pilot scheme when it takes place. However, when we look at the impact of the work programme, I am pleased to say that my colleague the Deputy Minister for Skills will be having meetings in Westminster over the next few months to discuss the impact of the work programme. However, it is a useful contrast to look at the outcomes of the work programme and those of Jobs Growth Wales here in Wales. Our programme, Jobs Growth Wales, has 76% positive outcomes in work or longer apprenticeships. The work programme figures are less than 10%. It has been an absolute disaster, and it has ill-served people in Wales and across the rest of the country. Nevertheless, we will continue to engage with the UK Government, and I hope that it will pick up some lessons from a programme that works well and which we can all be proud of. That programme is Jobs Growth Wales.

Rhoddir y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf, wrth gwrs, am waith parhaus cynllun peilot credyd cynhwysol Shotton pan fydd yn digwydd. Fodd bynnag, pan ystyriwn effaith y rhaglen waith, rwy'n falch o ddweud y bydd fy nghyd-Aelod, y Dirprwy Weinidog Sgiliau, yn cynnal cyfarfodydd yn San Steffan dros y misoedd nesaf i drafod effaith y rhaglen waith. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ddefnyddiol edrych ar ganlyniadau'r rhaglen waith a chanlyniadau Twf Swyddi Cymru yma yng Nghymru. Mae ein rhaglen ni, Twf Swyddi Cymru, yn nodi 76% o ganlyniadau cadarnhaol mewn gwaith neu brentisiaethau hwy. Mae ffigurau'r rhaglen waith yn llai na 10%. Mae wedi bod yn drychineb llwyr, ac mae wedi gwneud tro gwael â phobl yng Nghymru a ledled y Deyrnas Unedig. Serch hynny, byddwn yn parhau i ymgysylltu â Llywodraeth y DU, a gobeithiaf y bydd yn dysgu rhai gwersi gan raglen sy'n gweithio'n dda ac y gallwn i gyd fod yn falch ohoni, sef Twf Swyddi Cymru.

15:07

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

You will be aware of recent announcements of significant cuts to bus routes across rural Wales, including in the Vale of Glamorgan, in my region, and that this is likely to force commuters to use more expensive private transport to access work in many areas. What assessment have you made of the impact of the loss of public transport routes on the number of people experiencing in-work poverty in rural Wales?

Byddwch yn ymwybodol o gyhoeddiadau diweddar am doriadau sylweddol i lwybrau bysiau yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, gan gynnwys ym Mro Morgannwg, sef fy rhanbarth i, a bod hyn yn debygol o orfodi cymudwyr i ddefnyddio cludiant preifat drutach i gyrraedd y gwaith mewn llawer o ardaloedd. Pa asesiad rydych wedi'i gynnal o effaith colli llwybrau trafndiaeth gyhoeddus ar nifer y bobl sy'n profi tlodi mewn gwaith yng nghefn gwlad Cymru?

15:07

**Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

There is no direct assessment at this point in time of changes to bus routes and how they will directly affect people in work. However, I recognise that transport itself is a significant factor in providing people with access to work and training opportunities. We need to await the outcome of work being undertaken by my colleague the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, and, in particular, what comes out of the review of programmes such as the metro and also the concessionary-fares programme. I await that with interest, and I look forward to discussing it with colleagues in Government and seeing the impact that will have on providing ready access to work and training opportunities for families and communities in need.

Nid oes asesiad uniongyrchol ar hyn o bryd o newidiadau i lwybrau bysiau a'r modd y byddant yn effeithio'n uniongyrchol ar bobl mewn gwaith. Fodd bynnag, cydnabyddaf fod trafndiaeth ei hun yn ffactor sylweddol wrth helpu pobl i gael gafael ar waith a chyfleoedd hyfforddi. Mae angen inni aros am ganlyniad y gwaith sy'n cael ei wneud gan fy nghyd-Aelod, Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth, ac, yn benodol, yr hyn fydd yn deillio o'r adolygiad o raglenni fel y metro a hefyd y rhaglen tocynnau teithio rhatach. Disgwyliaf hynny â diddordeb, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ei drafod gyda chyd-Aelodau yn y Llywodraeth ac at weld effaith hynny o ran helpu teuluoedd a chymunedau mewn angen i gael gafael ar waith a chyfleoedd hyfforddi.

**Cymunedau yn Gyntaf**

**Communities First**

15:08

**Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*10. Pa gynlluniau sydd gan y Gweinidog i gynnal adolygiad o'r cynllun Cymunedau yn Gyntaf?*  
OAQ(4)0071(CTP)

*10. What plans does the Minister have to undertake a review of the Communities First scheme?*  
OAQ(4)0071(CTP)

15:08

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. There are 52 Communities First clusters working with individuals and communities in the most deprived areas across Wales. Each cluster has a delivery plan and is providing regular progress reports. An initial evaluation of how well the new arrangements are working will be undertaken next year.

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae 52 o glystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf yn gweithio gydag unigolion a chymunedau yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig ledled Cymru. Mae gan bob clwstwr gynllun cyflenwi ac mae'n darparu adroddiadau rheolaidd ar gynnydd. Caiff gwerthusiad cychwynnol o ba mor dda y mae'r trefniadau newydd yn gweithio ei gynnal y flwyddyn nesaf.

15:08

**Mike Hedges** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Minister for that response and congratulate him on the success of clusters in Swansea East. Those super-output areas do not always equate to natural communities, sometimes ending part of the way along a road. Will the Minister accept local authorities making minor amendments to Communities First boundaries to reflect natural communities when it is sensible to do so?

Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am yr ymateb hwnnw a'i longyfarch ar lwyddiant y clystyrau yn Nwyrain Abertawe. Nid yw'r ardaloedd cynnyrch ehangach hynny bob amser yn cyfateb i gymunedau naturiol, gan ddod i ben ar hyd y ffordd weithiau. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ganiatáu i awdurdodau lleol wneud mân newidiadau i ffiniau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf er mwyn adlewyrchu cymunedau naturiol pan fydd yn synhwyrol gwneud hynny?

15:09

**Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I think that is something the evaluation can look at. I understand the issues that you have raised. They have been raised with me at a local level in my constituency by councillors there. I understand how confusing it can appear and how irritating, almost, it can be to people who feel affected by being one side or the other of a boundary. With a programme that is clearly targeted at communities, it is very difficult to see how there cannot be some form of boundaries. However, they need to take account of actual need; I accept that point, and, as I say, it is a matter that can be considered within the evaluation.

Credaf fod hynny'n rhywbeth y gall y gwerthusiad ei ystyried. Deallaf y materion a godwyd gennyh. Fe'u codwyd â mi'n lleol gan gynghorwyr yn fy etholaeth. Deallaf pa mor ddryslyd y gall ymddangos a pha mor gythruddol, bron, y gall fod i bobl sy'n teimlo bod y ffaith eu bod yn byw un ochr neu'r llall i ffin yn effeithio arnynt. Gyda rhaglen sydd wedi'i hanelu'n amlwg at gymunedau, mae'n anodd iawn gweld sut na all fod rhyw fath o ffiniau. Fodd bynnag, mae angen iddynt ystyried angen gwirioneddol; derbyniaf y pwynt hwnnw, ac, fel y dywedais, mae'n fater y gellir ei ystyried o fewn y gwerthusiad.

15:09

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

Question 11, OAQ(4)0072(CTP), has been transferred for written answer.

Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 11, OAQ(4)0072(CTP), i'w ateb yn ysgrifenedig.

## Mynd i'r Afael â Thlodi

## Tackling Poverty

15:09 **Suzy Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*12. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu blaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)0074(CTP)*

*12. Will the Minister outline the Welsh Government's priorities for tackling poverty in Wales? OAQ(4)0074(CTP)*

15:10 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Our refreshed tackling poverty action plan sets out our priorities for reducing poverty. It includes improving the educational attainment of children from low income families, help for people to get into work and reducing the number of young people not in education or learning in Wales.

Mae ein cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig ar gyfer trechu tlodi yn nodi ein blaenoriaethau ar gyfer lleihau tlodi. Mae'n cynnwys gwella cyrhaeddiad addysgol plant o deuluoedd incwm isel, helpu pobl i gael gwaith a lleihau nifer y bobl ifanc nad ydynt mewn addysg neu ddysgu yng Nghymru.

15:10 **Suzy Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Thank you very much for that answer. I am sure you will know that the theme of the Swansea bay city of culture bid is how creative thinking, encouraged by involvement in culture, can help to tackle poverty. You will be aware of the consistent Welsh Government statements embracing the value of the arts, culture and heritage in tackling poverty. Are you able to say today how your department might encourage the Government to supply effective support for that bid?

Diolch yn fawr iawn am yr ateb hwnnw. Rwy'n siŵr y gwyddoch mai thema cais bae Abertawe i fod yn ddinas diwylliant yw'r modd y gall meddylfryd greadigol, ynghyd â chymryd rhan mewn diwylliant, helpu i drechu tlodi. Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r datganiadau cyson gan Lywodraeth Cymru am werth y celfyddydau, diwylliant a threftadaeth o ran trechu tlodi. A allwch ddweud wrthym heddiw sut y gallai eich adran annog y Llywodraeth i ddarparu cymorth effeithiol ar gyfer y cais hwnnw?

15:10 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
The Minister for culture and the Minister for local government will take a particular interest in the bid from Swansea. I would be happy to discuss those matters with colleagues in Government.

Bydd y Gweinidog diwylliant a'r Gweinidog llywodraeth leol yn cymryd diddordeb arbennig yn y cais gan Abertawe. Byddwn yn barod i drafod y materion hynny gyda chyd-Aelodau yn y Llywodraeth.

## Mynd i'r Afael â Thlodi mewn Gwaith

## Tackling In-Work Poverty

15:11 **Rebecca Evans** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*13. Sut y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn mynd i'r afael â thlodi mewn gwaith? OAQ0083(CTP)*

*13. How is the Welsh Government tackling in-work poverty? OAQ0083(CTP)*

15:11 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
We recognise the increased prevalence of in-work poverty, and I refer you to the answer that I gave to a similar question from Mark Isherwood, at question 9.

Cydnabyddwn nifer gynyddol yr achosion o dlodi mewn gwaith, a chyfeiriaf at yr ateb a roddais i gwestiwn tebyg gan Mark Isherwood, yng nghwestiwn 9.

15:11 **Rebecca Evans** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Thank you, Deputy Minister. In your answer, you referred to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation report, which found that in-work poverty is most prevalent in rural areas, with west Wales being particularly badly affected at a rate of 17%. How is the Welsh Government using its powers to reduce in-work poverty in west Wales particularly?

Diolch, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Yn eich ateb, cyfeiriasoch at adroddiad Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree, a ganfu mai mewn ardaloedd gwledig y mae tlodi mewn gwaith fwyaf cyffredin, gan effeithio'n arbennig o wael ar y gorllewin, sydd â chyfradd o 17%. Sut mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn defnyddio ei phwerau i leihau tlodi yn y gorllewin yn benodol?



15:11 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This joins up with a number of other points made earlier about the impact of poverty in rural communities in particular. There is recognition that you can have much smaller pockets of poverty in rural communities. That also highlights the importance of the next phase of the rural development plan, and the strand that will come from that on tackling rural poverty. I have already had a very constructive discussion about this matter with my colleague the Minister for Natural Resources and Food. There will be a continuation of an attempt to tackle poverty in rural communities, including in west Wales, as we roll out the next phase of the rural development plan. Of course, a range of our programmes are also aimed at tackling poverty and reducing its impact across Wales; it is not just about specific programmes, such as Communities First, which affect one geographical area. A good example of tackling poverty is the focus that we have on closing the attainment gap. The better educated and more skilled our workforce is, the more likely we are to have better paid and better skilled jobs in the future.

### Tlodi Plant

15:12 **Christine Chapman** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*14. Beth y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant yng Nghwm Cynon? OAQ0080(CTP)*

15:12 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The Welsh Government undertakes a range of measures to tackle poverty in the Cynon Valley. These include two Communities First clusters, Families First, and eight different Flying Start provisions. Additionally, the pupil deprivation grant, which is due to double under the current budget proposals, supports schools in tackling the education attainment gap.

15:13 **Christine Chapman** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Deputy Minister. I recently met with Barnardo's Cymru to discuss the effects on children of parental imprisonment. Evidence suggests that these children are a highly vulnerable group and are likely to be living in poverty. Some of those children are in the Cynon Valley. However, there is no obligation on services to record these children as a particular category, which prevents a clear understanding of how many children in Wales are affected. Deputy Minister, how can we address this?

Mae hyn yn cysylltu â nifer o bwyntiau eraill a wnaed yn gynharach am effaith tlodi mewn cymunedau gwledig yn benodol. Cydnabyddir y gall fod pocedi llawer llai o dlodi mewn cymunedau gwledig. Mae hynny hefyd yn nodi pwysigrwydd cam nesaf y cynllun datblygu gwledig, a'r elfen a fydd yn deillio o hynny mewn perthynas â threchu tlodi gwledig. Rwyf eisoes wedi cael trafodaeth adeiladol iawn am y mater hwn gyda'm cyd-Aelod, y Gweinidog Adnoddau Naturiol a Bwyd. Byddwn yn parhau i geisio trechu tlodi mewn cymunedau gwledig, gan gynnwys y gorllewin, wrth i ni gyflwyno cam nesaf y cynllun datblygu gwledig. Wrth gwrs, mae amrywiaeth o'n rhaglenni hefyd wedi'u hanelu at drechu tlodi a lleihau ei effaith ledled Cymru; nid oes a wnelo â rhaglenni penodol yn unig, megis Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, sy'n effeithio ar un ardal ddaearyddol. Enghraifft dda o'r ymdrech i drechu tlodi yw'r ffocws sydd gennym ar gau'r bwch cyrhaeddiad. Drwy wella addysg a sgiliau ein gweithlu, mae'n fwy tebygol y cawn swyddi mwy medrus ac sy'n talu'n well yn y dyfodol.

### Child Poverty

*14. What is the Welsh Government doing to tackle child poverty in the Cynon Valley? OAQ0080(CTP)*

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymgymryd ag amrywiaeth o fesurau i drechu tlodi yng Nghwm Cynon. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys dau glwstwr Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ac wyth darpariaeth Dechrau'n Deg wahanol. At hynny, mae'r grant amddifadedd disgyblion, y disgwylir iddo ddyblu o dan gynigion y gyllideb bresennol, yn cefnogi ysgolion wrth fynd i'r afael â'r bwch cyrhaeddiad addysgol.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Cyfarfûm yn ddiweddar â Barnardos Cymru i drafod effeithiau carcharu rhieni ar blant. Awgryma tystiolaeth fod y plant hyn yn agored iawn i niwed ac yn debygol o fod yn byw mewn tlodi. Mae rhai o'r plant hyn yn byw yng Nghwm Cynon. Fodd bynnag, nid oes rhwymedigaeth ar wasanaethau i gofnodi'r plant hyn o dan gategori penodol, sy'n atal dealltwriaeth glir o faint o blant yng Nghymru yr effeithir arnynt. Ddirprwy Weinidog, sut y gallwn fynd i'r afael hyn?

15:13 **Vaughan Gething** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

This is an issue that I know is being raised in the report of the Children's Commissioner for Wales. He has made a specific suggestion about the Welsh Government putting in place measures to ensure that our flagship prevention and tackling poverty programmes, Flying Start and Families First, proactively engage with families affected by parental imprisonment. However, there is a need to work across different boundaries, because a range of services that would engage with those families would come from both non-devolved and devolved agencies, as well as from the third sector. This is something that we will take an interest in, and I have asked officials to take this forward in advance of the response to the children's commissioner report at the end of November.

### **Grant Cymorth i Gyflogwyr i Gyn-Weithwyr Remploy**

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

*15. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y Grant Cymorth i Gyflogwyr i gyn-weithwyr Remploy? OAQ(4)0073(CTP)*

15:14 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the Member for that question. The employer support grant has been extended twice since its launch in July 2012. It supports businesses offering employment to disabled former Remploy staff. So far, applications from 72 businesses have been approved and, as of yesterday, the scheme has supported 150 job starts. Recruitment continues for a further 235 posts.

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

This is very good news for those workers who secured employment under the employer support grant. Can the Minister confirm that the management bid for the Porth Remploy factory was, of course, accepted and a new business—E-cycle Ltd—has now arisen from the ashes of Remploy there? Could he also confirm the news that I have had today from the First Minister that that company will go forward with a three-year contract from the Welsh Government for computer recycling?

15:15 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

First, may I pay tribute to the work of the former Minister for Education and Skills for the considerable work that he did in setting up the employer support grant? It was an extremely proactive response to the awful news of the UK Government's decision to close the Remploy firm and its impact on some of the most disabled workers across Wales. His work has been highly praised at meetings of the Remploy advisory group that I continue to chair.

I can confirm the points that you have made, particularly about E-cycle Ltd in Porth.

Mae hwn yn fater y gwn ei fod yn cael ei godi yn adroddiad Comisiynydd Plant Cymru. Mae wedi gwneud awgrym penodol y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru roi mesurau ar waith i sicrhau bod ein prif raglenni ar gyfer atal a threchu tlodi, sef Dechrau'n Deg a Theuluoedd yn Gyntaf, yn ymgysylltu'n rhagweithiol â theuluoedd yr effeithir arnynt gan achosion o garcharu rhieni. Fodd bynnag, mae angen i ni weithio ar draws ffiniau gwahanol, oherwydd byddai amrywiaeth o wasanaethau a fyddai'n ymgysylltu â'r teuluoedd hynny yn cael eu darparu gan asiantaethau heb eu datganoli a rhai datganoledig. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth y byddwn yn ymddiddori ynddo, ac rwyf wedi gofyn i swyddogion fwrw ymlaen â hyn cyn cyhoeddi'r ymateb i adroddiad y comisiynydd plant ddiwedd mis Tachwedd.

### **Employer Support Grant for former Remploy Workers**

*15. Will the Minister make a statement on the Employer Support Grant for former Remploy workers? OAQ(4)0073(CTP)*

Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn hwnnw. Mae'r grant cymorth i gyflogwyr wedi cael ei ymestyn ddwywaith ers ei lansio ym mis Gorffennaf 2012. Mae'n cefnogi busnesau sy'n cynnig cyflogaeth i gyn-aelodau staff anabl Remploy. Hyd yma, cymeradwywyd ceisiadau gan 72 o fusnesau ac, fel yr oedd pethau ddoe, mae'r cynllun wedi cefnogi 150 o swyddi newydd. Mae prosesau recriwtio yn parhau ar gyfer 235 o swyddi ychwanegol.

Mae hyn yn newyddion da iawn i'r gweithwyr hynny sydd wedi cael swyddi o dan y grant cymorth i gyflogwyr. A all y Gweinidog gadarnhau bod y cais gan y rheolwr ar gyfer ffatri Remploy yn y Porth, wrth gwrs, wedi'i dderbyn a bod busnes newydd—E-cycle Ltd—bellach wedi codi o argyfwng Remploy yno? A allai hefyd gadarnhau'r newyddion a gefais heddiw gan y Prif Weinidog y bydd y cwmni yn bwrw ymlaen gyda chytundeb tair blynedd gan Lywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer ailgylchu cyfrifiaduron?

Yn gyntaf, hoffwn dalu teyrnged i'r cyn Weinidog Addysg a Sgiliau am y gwaith sylweddol a wnaeth o ran sefydlu'r grant cymorth i gyflogwyr. Roedd yn ymateb hynod ragweithiol i'r newyddion ofnadwy am benderfyniad Llywodraeth y DU i gau cwmni Remploy a'i effaith ar rai o'r gweithwyr mwyaf anabl ledled Cymru. Mae ei waith wedi cael ei ganmol yn fawr yng nghyfarfodydd grŵp cynghori Remploy yr wyf yn parhau i'w cadeirio.

Gallaf gadarnhau y pwyntiau a wnaed gennych, yn enwedig am E-cycle Ltd yn y Porth.

- 15:16 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 Thank you, Minister. May I remind Members that when they ask questions, they must remain in the Chamber for all of the answers to that particular question? It is extremely discourteous to ask your question and then to leave the Chamber before all of the supplementary questions to that particular question are answered.  
 Diolch, Weinidog. Hoffwn atgoffa Aelodau pan fyddant yn gofyn cwestiynau, fod yn rhaid iddynt aros yn y Siambr ar gyfer yr holl atebion i'r cwestiwn penodol hwnnw? Mae'n hynod o anghwrtais i ofyn eich cwestiwn ac yna adael y Siambr cyn i'r holl gwestiynau atodol i'r cwestiwn penodol hwnnw gael eu hateb.
- 15:16 **Cwestiwn Brys: First Milk ym Maelor** **Urgent Question: First Milk in Maelor** Y [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
**Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
 I have accepted an urgent question under Standing Order 12.66. I call on Aled Roberts to ask the urgent question.  
 Derbyniaf gwestiwn brys o dan Reol Sefydlog 12.66. Galwaf ar Aled Roberts i ofyn y cwestiwn brys.
- 15:16 **Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad am y swyddi posibl a gaiff eu colli yn First Milk ym Maelor? EAQ(4)0315(EST)*  
*Will the Minister make a statement on the potential job losses at First Milk in Maelor? EAQ(4)0315(EST)*
- 15:16 **Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport*  
 It is not helpful to have discussions on this matter in the Chamber at this stage, as the company is due to enter into a consultation period shortly.  
 Nid yw'n ddefnyddiol i gael trafodaethau ar y mater hwn yn y Siambr ar hyn o bryd, gan fod y cwmni ar fin dechrau cyfnod ymgynghori.
- 15:16 **Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 I accept that response, Minister. However, I am sure that you share the disappointment following the news a few months ago that there would be a £17 million investment. This follows the loss of a contract in Gaerwen in Ynys Môn earlier. Will your department, together with the Deputy Minister, take action to ensure that perhaps companies are not exposed to lone suppliers, as appears to be the case in a number of these plant closures recently in Wales?  
 Derbyniaf yr ymateb hwnnw, Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n siŵr y byddwch chithau'n siomedig yn dilyn y newyddion ychydig fisoedd yn ôl y byddai £17 miliwn yn cael ei fuddsoddi. Mae hyn yn dilyn colli contract yn y Gaerwen ar Ynys Môn yn gynharach. A fydd eich adran, ynghyd â'r Dirprwy Weinidog, yn cymryd camau i sicrhau nad yw cwmnïau o bosibl yn agored i gyflenwyr unigol, fel sy'n wir mae'n debyg mewn nifer o'r achosion diweddar hyn o ffatrioedd yn cau yng Nghymru?
- 15:17 **Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 Yes. My officials are engaged with this company and they are addressing all of the issues raised by the announcement. It is exceptionally disappointing news; not only for the Welsh economy, but particularly for the company's employees and their families. I will advise Members if we have more news that I can share with them as part of the discussions that we are undertaking.  
 Bydd. Mae fy swyddogion yn ymgysylltu â'r cwmni hwn ac maent yn mynd i'r afael â'r holl faterion a godwyd gan y cyhoeddiad. Mae'n newyddion eithriadol o siomedig; nid yn unig i economi Cymru, ond yn arbennig i weithwyr y cwmni a'u teuluoedd. Byddaf yn cynghori Aelodau os bydd gennym ragor o newyddion y gallaf ei rannu â hwy fel rhan o'r trafodaethau yr ydym yn eu cael.
- 15:17 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) [Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
 I am grateful, Minister, that you will share further news as and when that comes forward, because the plant is the only major dairy company that is 100% owned by British farmers. It works along the co-operative model in that respect. Of course, you will be aware of the UK Government's initiative to try to promote more co-operative dairy processing facilities. I hope that, during this consultation period, you will take the opportunity to work with the UK Government and see how you can work in tandem to try to secure the future of these jobs here in Wales.  
 Rwy'n ddiolchgar, Weinidog, y byddwch yn rhannu newyddion pellach pan fydd ar gael, gan mai'r ffatri hon yw'r unig gwmni llaeth mawr sy'n eiddo'n gyfan gwbl i ffermwyr Prydain. Mae'n dilyn y model cydweithredol yn hynny o beth. Wrth gwrs, byddwch yn ymwybodol o fenter Llywodraeth y DU i geisio hyrwyddo cyfleusterau prosesu llaeth mwy cydweithredol. Gobeithiaf, yn ystod y cyfnod ymgynghori hwn, y byddwch yn manteisio ar y cyfle i weithio gyda Llywodraeth y DU i weld sut y gallwch weithio ar y cyd i geisio sicrhau dyfodol y swyddi hyn yma yng Nghymru.

15:18	<p><b>Edwina Hart</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>I am sure that the Member will understand that the discussions with the owners are ongoing are commercially sensitive at this stage. I will share any information with the Chamber when I am able to do so, but I can assure you that we were successful in dealing with other recent issues in the agricultural processing area. We will continue in this regard with this particular company.</p>	<p>Rwy'n siŵr y bydd yr Aelod yn deall bod y trafodaethau gyda'r perchenogion yn mynd rhagddynt ac yn fasnachol sensitif ar hyn o bryd. Rhannaf unrhyw wybodaeth gyda'r Siambwr pan allaf wneud hynny, ond gallaf eich sicrhau ein bod wedi delio'n llwyddiannus â materion diweddar eraill ym maes prosesu amaethyddol. Byddwn yn parhau i'r perwyl hyn gyda'r cwmni penodol hwn.</p>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
15:18	<p><b>Llyr Gruffydd</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>Minister, would you agree that this once again underlines the need for us all to do as much as we can to move away from low value—and in this case, non-branded—cheese to more lucrative added value products here in Wales? Does it not remind us once again of the stranglehold that some of the big supermarkets have on our food supply chains here in Wales and that we should all consider very carefully, where we can, taking our shopping baskets elsewhere?</p>	<p>Weinidog, a fydddech yn cytuno bod hyn unwaith eto yn nodi'r angen i bob un ohonom wneud cymaint â phosibl i symud i ffwrdd oddi wrth gaws gwerth isel—ac yn yr achos hwn, heb ei frandio—tuag at gynhyrchion gwerth ychwanegol mwy proffidiol yma yng Nghymru? Onid yw'n ein hatgoffa unwaith eto o'r gafael haearnaidd sydd gan rai o'r archfarchnadoedd mawr ar ein cadwyni cyflenwi bwyd yma yng Nghymru ac y dylai pob un ohonom ystyried yn ofalus iawn, lle y bo'n bosibl, siopa mewn mannau eraill?</p>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
15:19	<p><b>Edwina Hart</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>The points that you made are well understood by me and the Minister with responsibility for food and the development of that particular agenda. It is important now that we look at the immediate issues. This is a potential loss of jobs to individuals and a potential impact on the families and the community. My officials and I will be concentrating on those issues in the first instance to see how we can help and assist.</p>	<p>Rwyf innau a'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am fwyd a datblygu'r agenda benodol honno yn deall y pwyntiau a wnaed gennyh. Mae'n bwysig bellach ein bod yn ystyried y materion uniongyrchol. Gallai unigolion golli eu swyddi, a allai effeithio ar eu teuluoedd a'r gymuned. Bydd fy swyddogion a minnau'n canolbwyntio ar y materion hynny yn y lle cyntaf i weld sut y gallwn helpu a chynorthwyo.</p>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
15:19	<p><b>Cynnig o dan Reol Sefydlog 10.5 i Benodi Aelodau a Chadeirydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a Chynnig i Gytuno ar Daliadau Aelodau a Chadeirydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru</b></p> <p><b>Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>I propose that the next two items are grouped for debate unless any Member objects. There are no objections. I call the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee to move the motions.</p> <p>Cynnig NDM5332 Darren Millar</p> <p>Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Pharagraffau 4(1) a 5(1) o Atodlen 1 i Ddeddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus (Cymru) 2013, ac o dan Reol Sefydlog 10.5:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yn penodi Isobel Garner, Peter Price, David Corner, Christine Hayes a Steven Burnett yn aelodau anweithredol i Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru; a</li> <li>2. Yn penodi Isobel Garneryn Gadeirydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru.</li> </ol> <p>Cynnig NDM5333 Darren Millar</p>	<p><b>Motion under Standing Order 10.5 Y to Appoint Members and Chair of the Wales Audit Office and Motion to Agree the Remuneration of the Members and Chair of the Wales Audit Office</b></p> <p>Cynigiad fod y ddwy eitem nesaf yn cael eu grwpio ar gyfer y drafodaeth oni bai fod Aelod yn gwrthwynebu. Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus i gynnig y cynigion.</p> <p>Motion NDM5332 Darren Millar</p> <p>To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Paragraphs 4(1) and 5(1) to Schedule 1 of the Public Audit Wales Act 2013, and under Standing Order 10.5:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appoints Isobel Garner, Peter Price, David Corner, Christine Hayes and Steven Burnett as non-executive Members of the Wales Audit Office; and</li> <li>2. Appoints Isobel Garner as Chair of the Wales Audit Office.</li> </ol> <p>Motion NDM5333 Darren Millar</p>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Pharagraffau 7(1) a 7(4) o Atodlen 1 i Ddeddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus (Cymru) 2013:

1. Yn penderfynu ar gydnabyddiaeth ariannol o £25,000 y flwyddyn i Gadeirydd Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru; a

2. Yn penderfynu ar gydnabyddiaeth ariannol o £12,500 y flwyddyn i aelodau anweithredol eraill Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru.

15:19

**Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move the motions.

I am pleased to put forward, on behalf of the Public Accounts Committee and on the basis of a fair and open competition, as required by the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013, the five recommended non-executive Members of the Wales Audit Office: Isobel Garner, Peter Price, David Corner, Christine Hayes and Steven Burnett.

*Daeth y Llywydd (Rosemary Butler) i'r Gadair am 15:20.*

**Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

As Members will be aware, the Public Audit Act has notably conferred several new responsibilities on the National Assembly for Wales, including the appointment of the five non-executive members to the Wales Audit Office, one of whom is to be appointed as chair. The Assembly is also responsible for making decisions about remuneration arrangements in relation to the chair and the other non-executive members.

The recruitment and selection process was informed by the advice and guidance of the National Assembly for Wales human resources department. The process involved a thorough advertising process, setting out the members' roles and responsibilities, and it was followed by a sifting and interview process conducted by a selection panel appointed by the Public Accounts Committee. In determining the selection panel, the committee sought to include one political representative of opposition parties to the Welsh Government, one political representative of the party of Government and one representative with experience of the operation of audit boards, but who was independent of the Wales Audit Office. The panel therefore consisted of me, Jenny Rathbone AM and Gary Martin, who is the chair of the Northern Ireland Audit Office advisory board. On behalf of the committee, I would like to extend my thanks to Jenny and Gary for their participation in the process. Following the interviews, the panel agreed its recommended candidates, who were endorsed and supported by the Public Accounts Committee on 8 October. As a panel, we concluded that the recommended appointees collectively cover a range of relevant experience and we fully endorse their appointment.

Briefly, with regard to remuneration, the Public Audit Wales Act states that

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Paragraphs 7(1) and 7(4) to Schedule 1 of the Public Audit Wales Act 2013:

1. Determines a remuneration of £25,000 per annum for the Chair of the Wales Audit Office; and

2. Determines a remuneration of £12,500 per annum for the other non-executive members of the Wales Audit Office.

Cynigiau y cynnig.

Rwy'n falch o gynnis, ar ran y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus ac ar sail cystadleuaeth deg ac agored, fel sy'n ofynnol gan Ddeddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus (Cymru) 2013, pum Aelod anweithredol argymelledig Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru: Isobel Garner, Peter Price, David Corner, Christine Hayes a Steven Burnett.

*The Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) took the Chair at 15:20.*

Fel y gwyr yr Aelodau, mae'r Ddeddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus, yn arbennig, wedi rhoi nifer o gyfrifoldebau newydd i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan gynnwys penodi pum aelod anweithredol i Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, y caiff un ohonynt ei benodi yn gadeirydd. Mae'r Cynulliad hefyd yn gyfrifol am wneud penderfyniadau am drefniadau cydnabyddiaeth ariannol mewn perthynas â'r cadeirydd ac aelodau anweithredol eraill hefyd.

Cafodd y broses recriwtio a dethol ei llywio gan gyngor ac arweiniad adran adnoddau dynol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru. Roedd y broses yn cynnwys proses hysbyseb drwyadl, gan nodi rolau a chyfrifoldebau'r aelodau, ac fe'i dilynwyd gan broses sifftio a chyfweld a gynhaliwyd gan banel dethol a benodwyd gan y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus. Wrth benderfynu ar y panel dethol, ceisiodd y pwyllgor gynnwys un cynrychiolydd gwleidyddol o wrthbleidiau Llywodraeth Cymru, un cynrychiolydd gwleidyddol o blaid y Llywodraeth ac un cynrychiolydd â phrofiad o weithrediad byrddau archwilio, ond a oedd yn annibynnol ar Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru. Felly, roedd y panel yn cynnwys fi, Jenny Rathbone AC a Gary Martin, sef cadeirydd bwrdd cynghori Swyddfa Archwilio Gogledd Iwerddon. Ar ran y pwyllgor, hoffwn estyn fy niolch i Jenny a Gary am gymryd rhan yn y broses. Yn dilyn y cyfweiliadau, cytunodd y panel ar ei ymgeiswyr argymelledig, a gafodd eu cymeradwyo a'u cefnogi gan y Pwyllgor Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus ar 8 Hydref. Fel panel, daethom i'r casgliad bod y penodeion argymelledig gyda'i gilydd yn cwmpasu ystod o brofiad perthnasol, ac rydym yn cymeradwyo yn llawn eu penodiad.

Yn fyr, o ran cydnabyddiaeth, noda Deddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus Cymru

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'The National Assembly may make remuneration arrangements in relation to the person who chairs the WAO'

and

'The National Assembly may make remuneration arrangements in relation to any other non-executive member.'

As such, the second motion before the Assembly this afternoon proposes that remuneration would be provisionally set at £25,000 per annum for the WAO chair, based on four days of work per month, and £12,500 for the other non-executive members of the WAO, based on two to three days' work per month. These proposals were agreed in consultation with the First Minister, to whom we want to express our thanks for his input to the process. We agreed that the proposed levels of remuneration were reasonable and in line with current rates of remuneration for Welsh Government-sponsored bodies. I call on Members to support the motions tabled in my name.

'Caiff y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wneud trefniadau ar gyfer talu cydnabyddiaeth mewn perthynas â'r person sy'n gadeirydd SAC'

A

'Caiff y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wneud trefniadau ar gyfer talu cydnabyddiaeth mewn perthynas ag unrhyw aelod anweithredol arall.'

Fel y cyfryw, mae'r ail gynnis gerbron y Cynulliad y prynhawn yma yn cynnis y byddai cydnabyddiaeth yn cael ei gosod dros dro ar £25,000 y flwyddyn ar gyfer cadeirydd SAC, yn seiliedig ar bedwar diwrnod o waith y mis, a £12,500 ar gyfer aelodau anweithredol eraill SAC, yn seiliedig ar ddau neu dri diwrnod o waith y mis. Cytunwyd ar y cynigion hyn drwy ymgynghori â'r Prif Weinidog, yr hoffem fynegi ein diolch iddo am ei gyfraniad at y broses. Cytunwn fod y lefelau arfaethedig o gydnabyddiaeth yn rhesymol ac yn unol â'r cyfraddau presennol o gydnabyddiaeth ar gyfer cyrff a noddir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Galwaf ar yr Aelodau i gefnogi'r cynigion a gyflwynwyd yn fy enw i.

15:22

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

It was a privilege to be a member of the appointment panel and to see that over 80 people were keen to make a contribution to ensuring that the very best use of public money is being applied and that it is being appropriately audited. There was a very high calibre of applications, and it was very difficult to whittle down the shortlist to 16 candidates. I am confident that the five people whose names are put forward by my colleague Darren Millar will make a significant contribution to ensuring the success of the Public Audit Act, which separates the independent role of the auditor general as the guardian of the public purse from the oversight and governance of the Wales Audit Office, because it is very important to make sure that the Wales Audit Office too is subject to the evaluation of the quality and cost-effectiveness of its work, carried out in the name of the Auditor General for Wales, just as it inflicts this rigour on all other public organisations in Wales.

Roedd yn ffrainc cael bod yn aelod o'r panel penodi a gweld bod dros 80 o bobl yn awyddus i wneud cyfraniad at sicrhau bod y defnydd gorau oll o arian cyhoeddus yn cael ei wneud a'i fod yn cael ei archwilio'n briodol. Roedd safon uchel iawn o geisiadau, ac roedd yn anodd iawn tynnu rhestr fer o 16 o ymgeiswyr. Rwy'n hyderus y bydd enwau'r pum person a gyflwynir gan fy nghyd-Aelod Darren Millar yn gwneud cyfraniad sylweddol i sicrhau llwyddiant y Ddeddf Archwilio Cyhoeddus, sy'n gwahanu rôl annibynnol yr archwilydd cyffredinol fel gwarcheidwad y pwrs cyhoeddus oddi wrth rôl goruchwylio a llywodraethu Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru, oherwydd mae'n bwysig iawn gwneud yn siŵr bod Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru yn cael ei gwerthuso o ran ansawdd a chost-effeithiolrwydd ei gwaith, a bod hyn yn cael ei gyflawni yn enw Archwilydd Cyffredinol Cymru yn yr un modd ag y mae'n gorfodi'r trylwyredd hwn ar bob sefydliad cyhoeddus arall yng Nghymru.

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15:24

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

Do you wish to reply to the debate, Chair?

A ydych yn dymuno ymateb i'r ddadl, Weinidog?

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15:24

### Darren Millar [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

No.

Nac ydw.

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15:24

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

The proposal is to agree the motion under item 4. Does any Member object? There are no objections, therefore the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Y cynnis yw derbyn y cynnis o dan eitem 4. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly, caiff y cynnis ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

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*Derbyniwyd y cynnis yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

15:24

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

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The second proposal is to agree the motion under item 5. Does any Member object? There are no objections, therefore the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Yr ail gynneg yw cytuno ar y cynneg o dan eitem 5. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly, caiff y cynneg ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

*Derbyniwyd y cynneg yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

**Cynneg i Ddiwygio Rheol Sefydlog 18 mewn cysylltiad â Chyfrifon Cyhoeddus ac Arolygiaeth Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru**

Cynneg NDM5329 Rosemary Butler

**Motion to Amend Standing Order 18 in relation to Public Accounts and Oversight of the Wales Audit Office**

Motion NDM5329 Rosemary Butler

Cynneg bod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 33.2:

To propose that the National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 33.2:

1. Yn ystyried Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes 'Diwygiadau arfaethedig i Reol Sefydlog 18—Cyfrifon Cyhoeddus a Goruchwyllo Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru' a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 9 Hydref 2013; a

1. Considers the Report of the Business Committee 'Proposed amendments to Standing Order 18—Public Accounts and Oversight of the Wales Audit Office' laid in the Table Office on 9 October 2013; and

2. Yn cymeradwyo'r cynneg i adolygu Rheolau Sefydlog 18 ac 20:

2. Approves the proposal to revise Standing Orders 18 and 20:

(a) fel y nodir yn Atodiad B i adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes, i ddod i rym ar unwaith; a

(a) as set out in Annex B of the Business Committee's report, with immediate effect; and

(b) fel y nodir yn Atodiad D i adroddiad y Pwyllgor Busnes, i ddod i rym ar 1 Ebrill 2014.

(b) as set out in Annex D of the Business Committee's report, with effect on 1 April 2014.

15:24

**Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Cynigiaf y cynneg.

I move the motion.

15:24

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

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Diolch. The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There are no objections, the motion is therefore agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Diolch. Y cynneg yw derbyn y cynneg. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad, felly, caiff y cynneg ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

*Derbyniwyd y cynneg yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

**Cynneg o dan Reol Sefydlog 16.3 i Addasu Cylch Gwaith y Pwyllgor Cyllid**

Cynneg NDM5334 Rosemary Butler

**Motion under Standing Order 16.3 to Alter the Remit of the Finance Committee**

Motion NDM5334 Rosemary Butler

Cynneg bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 16.3, yn cytuno i newid cylch gorchwyl y Pwyllgor Cyllid fel ei fod, yn ogystal â'i swyddogaethau presennol, yn cyflawni swyddogaethau'r pwyllgor cyfrifol a nodir yn Rheolau Sefydlog 18.10 ac 18.11.

The National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 16.3, alters the remit of the Finance Committee, so that in addition to its current functions, it is to carry out the functions of the responsible committee set out in Standing Orders 18.10 and 18.11.

15:25

**Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Cynigiaf y cynneg.

I move the motion.

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

Diolch. The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There is no objection, therefore the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Diolch. Y cynnig yw derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes gwrthwynebiad, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

*Derbyniwyd cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

**Dadl gan Aelodau Unigol o dan Reol Sefydlog 11.21(iv): Llusernau Awyr**

Cynnig NNDM5325 Antoinette Sandbach

**Debate by Individual Members under Standing Order 11.21(iv): Sky Lanterns**

Motion NNDM5325 Antoinette Sandbach

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales:

1. Yn cydnabod risg uchel llusernau awyr i ddiogelwch y cyhoedd, i adeiladau a strwythurau, ac i les anifeiliaid fferm a bywyd gwylt;

1. Recognises the high risk sky lanterns pose to public safety, buildings and structures, and the welfare of farm animals and wildlife;

2. Yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i rinweddau cyfyngu ar ryddhau llusernau awyr yng Nghymru.

2. Calls on the Welsh Government to investigate the merits of restricting the release of sky lanterns in Wales.

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

I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

I really welcome the opportunity to bring this debate forward. It is an issue that I have been trying to bring to debate for two years now, and I believe that the recent disaster, where a sky lantern set light to a recycling plant causing a blaze that engulfed 100,000 tonnes of recycling material and resulted in £6 million-worth of damage, has helped to highlight the dangers surrounding sky lantern release. This big event, as it were, is only a small part of the overall story and the risk that lanterns pose.

Croesawaf yn fawr y cyfle i gyflwyno'r ddadl hon. Mae'n fater yr wyf wedi bod yn ceisio ei gyflwyno fel dadl ers dwy flynedd bellach, a chredaf fod y drychineb ddiweddar, lle y cafodd safle ailgylchu ei roi ar dân gan lusern awyr a ddifethodd 100,000 tunnell o ddeunydd ailgylchu ac a achosodd werth £6 miliwn o ddifrod, wedi helpu i amlygu peryglon rhyddhau llusernau awyr. Mae'r digwyddiad mawr hwn, fel petai, ond yn rhan fach o'r stori gyffredinol a'r risg a berir gan lusernau.

Releasing sky lanterns is a relatively recent trend in the UK, but they have now become widely used at celebrations. While they may look pretty, the reality is that it is the release of a flying fire risk. The bamboo frame, which forms part of the lantern, forms sharp shards, which can break. Alternatively, if they are not made of bamboo, they are made of wire, which means that when a lantern comes to rest in a field it gets chopped up with the grass or the hay and goes into the silage, which is subsequently eaten by livestock. Michael Eavis, who runs the Glastonbury festival, has banned all of these lanterns from the site. When you are losing a £2,000 cow and you are watching it slowly die because it has eaten silage or hay that has these shards in it, he said that it is wicked.

Mae rhyddhau llusernau awyr yn duedd gymharol ddiweddar yn y DU, ond caiff ei defnyddio bellach yn helaeth mewn dathliadau. Er eu bod efallai yn edrych yn hyfryd, y gwir yw eu bod yn risg o dân sy'n hedfan. Mae'r ffrâm bambŵ, sy'n rhan o'r llusern, yn ffurfio darnau miniog, a all dorri. Fel arall, os nad ydynt wedi'u gwneud o fambŵ, maent wedi'u gwneud o wifren, sy'n golygu, bod pan ddaw llusern i orffwys mewn cae, mae'n cael ei dorri i fyny gyda'r glaswellt neu'r gwair ac yn mynd i mewn i'r silwair, sy'n cael ei fwyta wedyn gan dda byw. Mae Michael Eavis, sy'n rhedeg gŵyl Glastonbury, wedi gwahardd yr holl lusernau hyn o'r safle. Pan fyddwch yn colli buwch gwerth £2,000 ac yn ei gwyllo'n marw'n araf oherwydd ei bod wedi bwyta silwair neu wair sydd â'r darnau miniog hyn ynddo, mae'n greulon yn ei farn ef.



These are not the only risks. Animals can become trapped within a landed broken lantern. Flying lanterns can collide with and injure birds in flight. The RSPCA had 30,000 signatures to a petition calling for a ban on this when it released a photograph of a barn owl killed by one of these lanterns. People can get burns from oil spilling onto hands and faces as the lantern becomes airborne, and they are able to reach the height of 1,200 ft. At that height, they pose a significant risk of entering aircraft engines, which would have catastrophic consequences. The Civil Aviation Authority recognises the risk that these lanterns pose and have provided evidence to support a private Member's Bill, which I am hoping will, at some point, be pulled out of the ballot.

Not only that but lanterns may land and cause fires on open ground, forestry and heathland. I have had a number of e-mails from people who have written to me about lanterns landing on their houses and their cars and in their gardens. In north Wales alone, the fire service has responded to 16 incidents caused by sky lanterns, incurring a cost of over £3,000. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has raised concerns that lanterns can be mistaken for distress flares. In 2010, 561 incidents were generated nationally, causing a huge waste of money, time and resources.

Sky lanterns are typically used at large events and celebrations and, as such, are involved more in mass releases rather than releases of single lanterns, which multiplies the risks that this flying fire hazard poses. I do not seek to stop the celebrations or be a killjoy to harmless fun, but sky lanterns are not harmless, and this has already been widely recognised. I congratulate my local council of Conway for leading the way last year, banning the use of sky lanterns. I urge the Welsh Government to follow suit. There is already legislation against sky lanterns in place in Austria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Malta, New Zealand, Spain, Germany and many of the states in the US. All those countries, Minister, have recognised the very real risks that are posed by sky lanterns, and, for that reason, they have acted against them. There are even bans in parts of China, which is ironic, perhaps, given that some sky lanterns are called 'Chinese lanterns'.

I welcome your recent action, Minister, in writing to local councils last week. Of course, the 'Farmers Guardian' has been running a campaign to encourage local councils to ban sky lanterns on their property; that campaign has been running for some years, in fact. However, I wish to highlight the fact that simply encouraging local councils to place their own restrictions and guidance over sky lantern use will not be enough. It could cause inconsistencies across Wales in how the restrictions are enforced. It will cause public confusion about what the rules are in each county area, and those travelling across counties to attend celebrations in other counties may not be aware, or may be unclear, of what the rules are. Given the fact that these sky lanterns fly, and that you cannot dictate where they fly to, it is also inextricably a cross-county and a cross-border issue. Lanterns that are released in one county can have effects on another county council area.

Nid dyma'r unig risgiau. Gall anifeiliaid gael eu dal mewn llusern toredig sydd wedi glanio ar y ddaear. Gall llusernau sy'n hedfan daro yn erbyn adar sy'n hedfan a'u hanafu. Roedd gan yr RSPCA 30,000 o lofnodion ar ddeiseb yn galw am waharddiad ar hyn pan ryddhaodd ffotograff o dylluan wen a gafodd ei lladd gan un o'r llusernau hyn. Gall pobl gael llosgiadau o olew yn arllwys ar ddwylo a wynebawr wrth i'r llusern godi i'r awyr, a gallant gyrraedd uchder o 1,200 o droedfeddi. Ar yr uchder hwnnw, maent yn peri risg sylweddol o fynd i mewn i beiriannau awyrennau, a fyddai'n arwain at ganlyniadau trychinebus. Mae'r Awdurdod Hedfan Sifil yn cydnabod y risg a berir gan y llusernau hyn ac wedi darparu tystiolaeth i gefnogi Bil Aelod preifat, a dynnir gobeithio, ar ryw bwynt, allan o'r bleidlais.

Nid yn unig hynny, ond gall llusernau lanio ac achosi tanau ar dir agored, coedwigaeth a rhostir. Rwyf wedi cael nifer o e-byst gan bobl sydd wedi ysgrifennu ataf ynghylch llusernau yn glanio ar eu tai ac yn eu ceir ac yn eu gerddi. Yn y gogledd yn unig, mae'r gwasanaeth tân wedi ymateb i 16 o ddigwyddiadau a achoswyd gan llusernau awyr, a gostiodd dros £3,000. Mae Sefydliad Cenedlaethol Brenhinol y Badau Achub wedi codi pryderon y gall llusernau gael eu camgymryd am fflerau gofid. Yn 2010, cynhaliwyd 561 o ddigwyddiadau yn genedlaethol, gan achosi gwastraff enfawr o arian, amser ac adnoddau.

Defnyddir llusernau awyr fel arfer mewn digwyddiadau a dathliadau mawr ac, fel y cyfryw, maent yn fwy cysylltiedig ag achosion o ryddhau ar raddfa fawr nag achosion o ryddhau llusernau unigol, sy'n lluosî'r risgiau a berir gan y perygl hwn o dân sy'n hedfan. Nid wyf yn ceisio atal y dathliadau na difetha'r hwy, ond nid yw llusernau awyr yn ddiniwed, ac mae hyn eisoes wedi cael ei gydnabod yn eang. Llongyfarchaf fy nghyngor lleol, Conwy, am arwain y ffordd y llynedd, gan wahardd y defnydd o llusernau awyr. Anogaf Lywodraeth Cymru i wneud yr un peth. Mae deddfwriaeth yn erbyn llusernau awyr ar waith eisoes yn Awstria, Awstralia, Brasil, Canada, y Ffindir, Malta, Seland Newydd, Sbaen, yr Almaen a llawer o daleithiau yn yr Unol Daleithiau. Mae'r holl wledydd hynny, Weinidog, wedi cydnabod y peryglon gwirioneddol a berir gan llusernau awyr, ac, am y rheswm hwnnw, maent wedi gweithredu yn eu herbyn. Mae hyd yn oed waharddiadau mewn rhannau o Tsieina, sy'n eironig, efallai, o gofio y gelwir rhai llusernau awyr yn 'llusernau Tsieineaidd'.

Croesawaf eich cam gweithredu diweddaraf, Weinidog, wrth ysgrifennu at gynghorau lleol yr wythnos diwethaf. Wrth gwrs, mae'r 'Farmers Guardian' wedi bod yn cynnal ymgyrch i annog cynghorau lleol i wahardd llusernau awyr ar eu heiddo; mae'r ymgyrch honno wedi bod yn mynd rhagddi ers rhai blynyddoedd, a dweud y gwir. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn dynnu sylw at y ffaith na fydd annog cynghorau lleol i osod eu cyfyngiadau a'u canllawiau eu hunain o ran y defnydd o llusernau awyr yn ddigon. Gallai achosi anghysondebau ledled Cymru o ran sut y gorfodir y cyfyngiadau. Bydd yn achosi dryswch ymhlith y cyhoedd ynghylch y rheolau sydd ym mhob sir, ac efallai na fydd y rheini sy'n teithio ar draws siroedd i fynd i ddathliadau mewn siroedd eraill yn ymwybodol, neu efallai na fyddant yn sicr, o'r rheolau. O ystyried y ffaith bod y llusernau awyr hyn yn hedfan, ac na allwch bennu i ba gyfeiriad y maent yn hedfan, mae'n anorod yn fater traws-sirol a thrawsffiniol. Gall llusernau sy'n cael eu rhyddhau mewn un sir gael effeithiau ar ardal mewn cyngor sir arall.

In relation to the recent cuts to local government funding, it is unlikely now that local councils would, in any event, have the time or the resources to implement and enforce the ban. I would therefore, Minister, call on the Welsh Government to act, and to lead the way for the United Kingdom on this issue. The public support for such action has been strong. There has been an Assembly petition that has had over 500 signatures, and a UK Government petition currently stands at over 2,000 signatures. The campaign is supported by the 'Farmers Guardian', the National Farmers Union, the Farmers Union of Wales, the Women's Food and Farming Union, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Soil Association, the National Sheep Association, and Keep Wales Tidy. It is also supported by the Marine Conservation Society, whose Don't Let Go campaign also includes the mass release of balloons, and it suggests alternative ways of marketing events, such as lighting candles, blowing bubbles, or perhaps even having duck races.

I believe that you only need to read some of the recent news stories to highlight the range and the scale of the impacts that sky lanterns can have. A three-year-old boy in Wrexham received bad burns across his face as hot wax poured from a sky lantern at a bonfire party. Two boys, aged 12 and nine, were sleeping in a tent in Flintshire as a sky lantern flame landed on that tent, which was luckily seen and pulled off in time.

Minister, I could go on and list several other examples. I know that you looked at this matter in July, and that you concluded that there was not sufficient evidence. I have files full of evidence. The publicity that surrounds this matter each time it is raised brings forward more cases where people highlight incidents. Do we really want to wait until there has been a very serious incident, or a death, caused by these sky lanterns before we act, or is this a case where prevention should take precedence? Thank you very much.

O ran y toriadau diweddar i gyllid llywodraeth leol, mae'n annhebygol bellach y byddai gan gynghorau lleol, beth bynnag, yr amser na'r adnoddau i weithredu a gorfodi'r gwaharddiad. Byddwn, felly, Weinidog, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i weithredu, ac arwain y ffordd ar ran y Deyrnas Unedig ar y mater hwn. Mae cefnogaeth y cyhoedd i weithredu o'r fath wedi bod yn gryf. Cafodd deiseb yn y Cynulliad dros 500 o lofnodion, ac mae gan ddeiseb Llywodraeth y DU ar hyn o bryd dros 2,000 o lofnodion. Cefnogir yr ymgyrch gan y 'Farmers Guardian', Undeb Cenedlaethol yr Amaethwyr, Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru, Undeb Bwyd a Ffermio'r Menywod, y Gymdeithas Frenhinol er Atal Creulondeb i Anifeiliaid, Cymdeithas y Pridd, Y Gymdeithas Ddefaid Genedlaethol, a Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus. Fe'i cefnogir hefyd gan y Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol, y mae ei hymgyrch Don't Let Go hefyd yn cynnwys rhyddhau balwnau ar raddfa fawr, ac mae'n awgrymu ffyrdd amgen o farchnata digwyddiadau, megis goleuo canhwylau, chwythu swigod, neu efallai hyd yn oed gael rasy hwyaid.

Credaf mai dim ond rhai o'r straeon newyddion diweddar y mae angen ichi eu darllen er mwyn pwysleisio ystod a graddfa'r effeithiau y gall llusernau awyr eu cael. Cafodd bachgen tair blwydd oed yn Wrecsam losgiadau gwael ar draws ei wyneb wrth i gwyr poeth arllwys o lusern awyr mewn parti tân gwyllt. Roedd dau fachgen, 12 a naw oed, yn cysgu mewn pabell yn Sir y Fflint pan laniodd fflam llusern awyr ar y babel honno, a welwyd diolch byth ac a dynnwyd oddi yno mewn pryd.

Weinidog, gallwn fynd ymlaen a rhestru nifer o enghreifftiau eraill. Gwn eich bod wedi edrych ar y mater hwn ym mis Gorffennaf, a'ch bod wedi dod i'r casgliad nad oedd digon o dystiolaeth. Mae gennyf ffieiliau yn llawn o dystiolaeth. Mae'r cyhoeddusrwydd sydd ynghlwm wrth y mater hwn bob tro y caiff ei godi yn cyflwyno rhagor o achosion lle mae pobl yn tynnu sylw at ddigwyddiadau. A ydym wir am aros hyd nes y bydd digwyddiad difrifol iawn, neu farwolaeth, a achosir gan y llusernau awyr hyn cyn inni weithredu, neu a yw hyn yn achos lle y dylai atal gael blaenoriaeth? Diolch yn fawr iawn.

15:33

## **Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I first raised the issue of sky lanterns, and the damage done, back in October 2010, with the then Minister for Rural Affairs, Elin Jones, after receiving reports about fears that they posed a risk to the welfare of animals. I think that Angela Burns also spoke at the same time. At that time, the then Minister said that she had not received any direct complaints herself, although potential risks were recognised, in the sense that the inappropriate use of lanterns could cause fire damage to crops and livestock.

Codais fater llusernau awyr, a'r difrod a wneir, am y tro cyntaf, nôl ym mis Hydref 2010, gyda'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig ar y pryd, Elin Jones, ar ôl derbyn adroddiadau am bryderon eu bod yn peri risg i les anifeiliaid. Credaf fod Angela Burns hefyd wedi siarad ar y un pryd. Ar yr adeg honno, dywedodd y Gweinidog ar y pryd nad oedd wedi derbyn unrhyw gwynion uniongyrchol ei hun, er bod y risgiau posibl yn cael eu cydnabod, yn yr ystyr y gallai defnydd amhriodol o lusernau achosi difrod tân i gnydau a da byw.

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I think that, at the time, Members were of the opinion that we did not want to be spoilsports, or stop the fun that some people get from sending these lanterns off, although I did press at the time for further investigation from the Welsh Government. I now welcome the decision made by the Minister for Natural Resources and Food, who has just announced that he has written to all local authorities in Wales, to encourage them to introduce a voluntary ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons. I also welcome the fact that he has urged charities in Wales who use these lanterns to review their policies at fundraising events. We do need to raise awareness about the potential risks of these lanterns, so I will be supporting this debate. If we do not have the evidence, then we need further investigation in this. Whatever conclusion we come to, it has to be consistent across Wales.

Ar y pryd, credaf fod yr Aelodau o'r farn nad oeddem am fod yn gyfrifol am ddifetha hwyl nac atal rhai pobl rhag rhyddhau'r llusernau hyn, er imi bwysu ar y pryd am ymchwiliad pellach gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Croesawaf yn awr y penderfyniad a wnaed gan y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd, sydd newydd gyhoeddi ei fod wedi ysgrifennu at bob awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru, er mwyn eu hannog i gyflwyno gwaharddiad gwirfoddol ar ryddhau llusernau awyr a balwnau heliwm. Croesawaf hefyd y ffaith ei fod wedi annog elusennau yng Nghymru sy'n defnyddio'r llusernau hyn i adolygu eu polisiâu mewn digwyddiadau codi arian. Mae angen i ni godi ymwybyddiaeth am beryglon posibl y llusernau hyn, felly byddaf yn cefnogi'r ddatl hon. Os nad yw'r dystiolaeth gennym, yna mae angen ymchwilio ymhellach i hyn. Pa gasgliad bynnag y deawn iddo, rhaid iddo fod yn gyson ledled Cymru.

15:35

## Llyr Gruffydd [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A gaf i hefyd groesawu'r cyfle i drafod y pwnc hwn? Rwy'n meddwl ei fod yn destun sy'n sicr yn haeddu ein sylw ni fan hyn, ac mae'n destun hefyd sy'n haeddu gweithredu arno fe. Rwy'n falch iawn i gefnogi'r cynnig, oherwydd rydym yn gwybod bod tua 200,000 o lusernau awyr yn cael eu rhyddhau yn y Deyrnas Unedig bob blwyddyn. Ar y gorau, gallech ystyried y rheini fel 200,000 o achosion o ollwng sbwriel, ond, ar y gwaethaf, wrth gwrs, mae pob un o'r 200,000 yn fygythiad o achosi tân. Rydym yn gwybod am y difrod posib i eiddo sy'n dod o hynny; rydym yn gwybod am y risg posib i fywyd ac, yn sicr, y risg o achosi anafiadau, heb sôn, wrth gwrs, am y risg i les anifeiliaid ffarm a lles bywyd gwyllt. Yn y bum mlynedd ddiwethaf, mae'n debyg bod y gwasanaeth tân yn Nghymru wedi cael ei alw allan ar 43 o achlysuron i ymateb i achosion yn ymwneud â llusernau awyr; 19 oedd y ffigur ges i am y gogledd, ond 16 yw'r ffigur y cyfeiriwyd ato yn flaenorol, a 23 yn y de.

Rydym yn gwybod am hyn achos rydym yn clywed yn gyson ffermwyr yn dweud bod dwsinau o anifeiliaid ar draws Prydain yn cael eu niweidio oherwydd y llusernau hyn, ac rydym eisoes wedi clywed cyfeiriad at y tân sylweddol iawn mewn ffatri ailgylchu yng nghanolbarth Lloegr, a achoswyd gan lusern. Roedd angen 200 o ddiffoddwyr tân i ymrafael â'r tân hwnnw, ar gost o £6 miliwn. Cyfeiriwyd at yr achos yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, ym Mhen-y-cae, lle llosgwyd wyneb plentyn tair oed yn ddifrifol yn 2010 pan ddisgynnodd olew poeth o un o'r llusernau hyn o'r awyr, a hynny ar noson tân gwyllt. Rydym yn nesáu at yr adeg hwnnw eto eleni, ac felly mae'r ddatl hon yn un amserol iawn.

Mae straeon hefyd am ffarm yn Northampton a gollodd bedair buwch mewn un mis oherwydd y metel a oedd wedi mynd i mewn i fwyd yr anifeiliaid. Mae cost o filoedd yn yr achosion hynny, a dioddefaint, wrth gwrs, i'r anifeiliaid. Rwyf eisiau dyfynnu un ffarmwr, sef Huw Rowlands, sy'n byw ddim ymhell o Gaer ac a ddwedodd—ac fe ddyfynnaf yn Saesneg:

May I also welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue? This is a topic that certainly deserves our attention here and one that requires action. I am very pleased to support the motion today, because we know that some 200,000 sky lanterns are released in the United Kingdom every year. At best, you could view those as 200,000 cases of littering, but, at worst, of course, every one of those 200,000 is a threat of fire. We know about the damage that can be caused to property as a result of using these lanterns; we know about the risk to life and, certainly, the risk of causing serious injury, never mind the risk to the welfare of farm animals and wildlife. It appears that, in the last five years, the fire service in Wales has been called out on 43 occasions to respond to incidents related to sky lanterns; 19 was the figure that I received for north Wales, but 16 was the figure referred to earlier, and there were 23 incidents in south Wales.

We are very aware of this issue because we hear regularly farmers telling us that dozens of animals across Britain are harmed because of these lanterns, and we have already heard reference to the serious fire at a recycling plant in the midlands, which was caused by a sky lantern. It required 200 firefighters to tackle that blaze, at a cost of £6 million. Reference has been made to the case in north-east Wales, in Pen-y-cae, where a three-year-old child suffered serious burns to the face in 2010 when hot oil from one of the lanterns fell on him. That incident happened on bonfire night and, as we are approaching that time of year again, this is a very timely debate.

There are stories about a farm in Northampton that lost four cows in a month because of the metal that had found its way into the cattle feed. The cost of such incidents to the farmer runs into the thousands, and the suffering experienced by the animals is immense. I want to quote one farmer, namely Huw Rowlands, who lives not too far from Chester and who said:

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'I found a pedigree Red Poll cow on her side in the field. She was struggling for breath and her neck had swollen up considerably, and she actually died almost exactly 48 hours after we found her. I found the remains of a Chinese lantern within a few yards of where the cow had been lying...and it had been well-chewed. Consulting the vet, his opinion was that she had actually eaten part of the lantern and the fine wire inside it had punctured her oesophagus. So she'd, in effect, spent a long, painful 48 hours suffocating on her own food.'

Dyna'r realiti a dyna'r difrod sy'n cael ei achosi. Mae gwybodaeth hefyd am ffarmwr arall yn deffro un bore yn dod o hyd i 57 o lusernau awyr o gwmpas ei ffarm, gyda goblygiadau yn hynny o beth o'r metel yn mynd i mewn i'r porthiant ar gyfer yr anifeiliaid. Mae'r catalog o achosion tebyg yn un helaeth. Rydym wedi clywed sut mae hyn hefyd yn gallu effeithio ar waith gofalwyr y glannau, ac mae hynny wrth gwrs yn destun pryder i ni i gyd. Mae pobl yn sôn am berygl y llusernau hyn yn glanio ar wair neu ar laswellt sych. Wrth gwrs, mae perygl y gallent lanio yn agos at orsafoedd petrol hefyd, ac mae hynny yn rhywbeth a ddylai ein brawychu. Maent yn codi i hyd at filltir o uchder mae'n debyg ac, felly, yn peri bygythiad tân arwyddocaol iawn.

Rydym wedi clywed rhestr o gyrff a mudiadau sy'n gwrthwynebu'r defnydd o lusernau, ac rwy'n falch bod cyfeiriad wedi bod at Gyngor Sir Conwy, sydd wedi bod yn 'proactive' yn y maes hwn ac wedi cyflwyno ei waharddiad ei hunan. Byddwn yn ategu'r alwad gan y Gweinidog ac eraill i gynghorau eraill yng Nghymru, ac, yn wir, pob math o gyrff cyhoeddus, preifat a thrydydd sector, i efelychu'r fath waharddiad. Mae hyn wedi digwydd mewn gwledydd eraill ar draws y byd. Yn ddi-ddorol hefyd—ac efallai y gall y Gweinidog ymateb i hyn yn ei ymateb i'r ddadl—fe wnaeth Gweinidog yr amgylchedd ar y pryd, John Griffiths, mewn ymateb i waith y Pwyllgor Deisebau ar y pwnc hwn, ddweud y gellid ystyried y mater hwn, efallai, yng nghydestun y Bil amgylchedd. Byddai diddordeb gennyf glywed os ydy hynny yn dal i fod yn rhywbeth sy'n cael ei ystyried mewn gwirionedd. Mae'n amser i ni fynd i'r afael â'r bygythiad difrifol sy'n dod yn sgîl y llusernau awyr hyn cyn bod mwy o ddifrod, cyn bod mwy o anafiadau ac, yn wir, cyn bod unrhyw beth gwaeth yn digwydd.

'Deuthum o hyd i fowch Red Poll pedigri ar ei hochr yn y cae. Roedd yn ei chael hi'n anodd anadlu ac roedd ei gwddf wedi chwyddo sylweddol, a bu farw'n union 48 awr ar ôl inni ddod o hyd iddi. Deuthum o hyd i weddillion llusern Tseiniaidd o fewn ychydig lathenni i ble roedd y fowch wedi bod yn gorwedd... ac roedd wedi cael ei chnoi yn dda. Wrth ymgynghori â'r milfeddyg, ei farn ef oedd ei bod hi mewn gwirionedd wedi bwyta rhan o'r llusern a bod y wifren denau y tu mewn iddi wedi tyllu ei hoesoffagws. Felly byddai, i bob pwrpas, wedi treulio 48 awr hir a phoenus yn mygu ar ei bwyd ei hun.'

That is the reality and that is the harm done. We also have information about another farmer who woke one morning to find 57 sky lanterns on his land, which brings huge implications as the metal can enter the animal feed. We are aware of an extensive catalogue of similar cases. We have also heard how this can impact on the work of the coastguard, which is a cause for concern to us all. People talk about the dangers of these lanterns falling on grasslands and dry grass. Of course, it is also possible that they could come down near petrol stations, and that is something that should cause us serious concern. The lanterns can travel a mile in terms of altitude and, therefore, the risk of fire is extremely considerable.

We have heard about the organisations and bodies that oppose the use of these lanterns, and I was pleased to hear reference made to Conwy County Council, which has been proactive in this field by introducing its own ban. I would endorse the call made by the Minister and others for councils in Wales and, indeed, all sorts of bodies, be they public, private or in the third sector, to emulate this restriction. It has happened in other nations across the world. Interestingly—and perhaps the Minister could deal with this point in his response to the debate—the then Minister for environment, John Griffiths, in response to the work of the Petitions Committee on this issue, said that consideration could be given to this issue in the context of the environment Bill. I would be interested to hear whether that is something to which serious consideration is still being given. It is time for us to tackle the serious threat posed by sky lanterns before more damage and more injuries occur and, indeed, before anything worse happens.

15:40

## William Powell [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I would like to thank Antoinette Sandbach for submitting this debate today, as well as Llyr Gruffydd and Simon Thomas for giving it their support. Sky lanterns, as we have heard, are becoming an increasing problem, a threat to animal welfare and a health and fire risk in recent years. While they may seem to be harmless fun for some, they have, in fact, become a major risk to livestock, wildlife, crops and farm buildings. Sadly, on this occasion, the Welsh Government's position appears somewhat Janus-like, facing both directions at once. On the one hand it opposes a ban and, on the other, it supports local bans by individual local authorities. I would urge the Minister to adopt the same logic that he is currently adopting with regard to fly-grazing in bringing about a consistency of approach across Wales so as to avoid any avoidance of clarity.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Antoinette Sandbach am gyflwyno'r ddadl hon heddiw, yn ogystal â Llyr Gruffydd a Simon Thomas am ei chefnogi. Mae llusernau awyr, fel y clywsom, wedi dod yn broblem gynyddol, yn fgythiad i les anifeiliaid ac yn risg i iechyd ac yn risg tân yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Er eu bod yn ymddangos yn hwyll diniwed i rai, maent wedi dod yn risg fawr, mewn gwirionedd, i dda byw, bywyd gwyllt, cnydau ac adeiladau fferm. Yn anffodus, ar yr achlysur hwn, ymddengys fod safbwynt Llywodraeth Cymru yn debyg i lanws, yn wynebu i'r ddau gyfeiriad ar yr un pryd. Ar y naill law, mae'n gwrthwynebu gwaharddiad ac, ar y llaw arall, mae'n cefnogi gwaharddiadau lleol gan awdurdodau lleol unigol. Byddwn yn annog y Gweinidog i fabwysiadu'r un rhesymeg y mae'n ei fabwysiadu ar hyn o bryd o ran pori anghyfreithlon drwy sicrhau dull gweithredu cyson ledled Cymru er mwyn osgoi unrhyw ddiffyg eglurder.

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Were we to take this step, we would not be alone, as we have heard. We have heard of many international examples. The irony of the fact is that many parts of China have already banned these lanterns, as have each of the Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany and much of South America. Nations like Austria have gone even further, making it illegal to produce, sell, import or even distribute this merchandise. We may not need to go that far in Wales. However, I think that if we are going to tackle this issue, it is significant that we should be addressing issues around sale and distribution and not just release, although such action may need to happen in another place.

Other Members have already referred to problems that lanterns have caused to livestock. We know that animals are being killed from eating degraded lanterns that are accidentally picked up in harvest machinery and then put into winter fodder. For instance, a Cheshire farmer lost one of his pedigree cows worth several thousand pounds after it died from eating the wire frame from a lantern back in 2010. However, these lanterns also constitute a major risk to marine life when they come down in the sea. In the past, we have seen all the effects of our litter on sea creatures in many different ways. Those who work on Marine Conservation Society Beachwatch projects are now regularly reporting incidents of lantern frames and whole lanterns being washed up on beaches. Given the already rising figures for Welsh beach litter, it is naturally of concern that there is now this additional factor to deal with.

However, we must not forget the negative impacts that these lanterns have on people, as well. Sticking with the sea, there has been a marked increase over recent years in the number of people reporting them as distress flares by mistake. To quote the RNLI's head of fleet operations, Mr Hugh Fogarty:

'2010 saw a significant increase in the number of lifeboat callouts to false alarms caused by Chinese lanterns and the RNLI asks anyone planning to release them anywhere near the sea to contact the Coastguard and let them know beforehand.'

Further to this, Steve Dexter, information manager in the evidence, analysis and research branch of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency has explained that calls to Her Majesty's Coastguard regarding the possible sighting or use of Chinese lanterns has risen over the past four years and has risen significantly.

There is also a significant risk to aviation. For instance, the Irish Aviation Authority produced an aviation safety document back in 2011 asking members of the public to request permission in writing prior to the use of lanterns.

Pe baem yn cymryd y cam hwn, ni fyddem ar ein pen ein hunain, fel y clywsom. Rydym wedi clywed sawl enghraifft ryngwladol. Eironi'r ffaith yw bod llawer o rannau o Tsieina eisoes wedi gwahardd y llusernau hyn, fel y gwnaeth pob un o Länder Gweriniaeth Ffederal yr Almaen a llawer o Dde America. Mae gwledydd fel Awstria wedi mynd hyd yn oed ymhellach, gan ei gwneud yn anghyfreithlon i gynhyrchu, gwerthu, mewnfario na hyd yn oed ddosbarthu'r nwyddau hyn. Efallai na fydd angen inni fynd mor bell â hynny yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag, er mwyn inni fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn, mae'n arwyddocaol y dylem fod yn mynd i'r afael â materion sy'n ymwneud â gwerthu a dosbarthu ac nid dim ond rhyddhau, er y gall fod angen i gamau gweithredu o'r fath ddigwydd yn rhywle arall.

Mae Aelodau eraill eisoes wedi cyfeirio at broblemau y mae llusernau wedi eu hachosi i dda byw. Gwyddom fod anifeiliaid yn cael eu lladd drwy fwyta llusernau diraddiedig sy'n cael eu codi yn ddamweiniol mewn peiriannau cynaeafu ac yna'n cael eu rhoi ym mhorthiant y gaeaf. Er enghraifft, colodd ffermwr yn Swydd Gaer un o'i warthog pedigri, a oedd yn werth miloedd o bunnoedd, ar ôl iddo farw wrth fwyta ffrâm wifren llusern nôl yn 2010. Fodd bynnag, mae'r llusernau hyn hefyd yn peri risg fawr i fywyd morol pan fyddant yn glanio yn y môr. Yn y gorffennol, rydym wedi gweld yr holl effeithiau y gall ein sbwriel eu cael ar greaduriaid y môr mewn llawer o ffyrdd gwahanol. Mae'r rheini sy'n gweithio ar brosiectau Gwarchod Traethau y Gymdeithas Cadwraeth Forol yn sôn yn rheolaidd am ddiwyddiadau lle mae fframiau a llusernau cyfan yn cael eu golchi i fyny ar draethau. O gofio'r ffigurau cynyddol eisoes ar gyfer sbwriel ar draethau Cymru, mae'n naturiol bod y factor ychwanegol hwn y mae'n rhaid ymdrin ag ef yn peri pryder.

Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio yr effeithiau negyddol a gaiff y llusernau hyn ar bobl, hefyd. Gan gadw at y môr, bu cynnydd amlwg dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf yn nifer y bobl sydd wedi hysbysu awdurdodau ar gam eu bod wedi gweld fflerau gofid. I ddyfynnu pennaeth gweithrediadau fflyd RNLI, Mr Hugh Fogarty:

Yn 2020 gwelyd cynnydd sylweddol yn nifer y galwadau bad achub oherwydd ffug alwadau a achoswyd gan lusernau Tsieinaidd ac mae'r RNLI yn gofyn i unrhyw un sy'n bwriadu eu rhyddhau unrhyw le ger y môr i gysylltu â Gwylwyr y Glannau a rhoi gwybod iddynt ymlaen llaw.

Yn ychwanegol at hyn, mae Steve Dexter, rheolwr gwybodaeth yng nghanen tystiolaeth, dadansoddi ac ymchwil o Asiantaeth y Môr a Gwylwyr y Glannau wedi egluro bod galwadau i Wylwyr y Glannau Ei Mawrhydi gan bobl sydd wedi gweld llusernau Tsieinaidd o bosibl neu eu defnydd wedi codi dros y pedair blynedd diwethaf ac wedi codi'n sylweddol.

Mae risg sylweddol i hedfan hefyd. Er enghraifft, cynhyrchodd Awdurdod Hedfan Iwerddon ddogfen diogelwch hedfan nôl yn 2011 yn gofyn i aelodau'r cyhoedd ofyn am ganiatâd ysgrifenedig cyn defnyddio llusernau.

To conclude, it is clear that these novelty items are capable of causing significant damage to life and property. They are an increasing drain on our hard-pressed emergency services and, as such, we need to consider firm action at a national level. I would call upon the Welsh Government to heed the calls from leading Labour supporter and dairy farmer, Michael Eavis—as Antoinette Sandbach has already alluded to—the founder of the Glastonbury festival, who has said that we must act on this matter and we should start to do so today.

15:44

## Andrew R.T. Davies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I congratulate Antoinette Sandbach on winning the nomination to bring forward a debate of her choice, with her supporting members, on this particular subject. It is a subject that I have taken a close interest in since I have been in the Assembly because of the devastating impact that, as a farmer, I have seen it have on animal welfare. If you look at the basic tenets of what we are talking about here, you will see that we are talking, in many instances, about the release of fire into the sky in an uncontrolled environment. I cannot think of anything else where that would be allowed to happen without some form of impact assessment or health and safety warning. Before the public watching this think, 'God, there is another politician looking to bring in more regulation,' the consequences, which Antoinette and other speakers have touched upon, are quite catastrophic, not only to property but, in particular, to animal health. I have seen my own animals suffer with wire in their intestines. Indeed, if that wire cannot be retrieved—through a major operation and not a simple procedure, I have to say—the animal will die, and it is a very painful death indeed.

Biodegradable versions of these lanterns are available, as I understand it. However, at the moment, if you accept the premise that people are allowed to release large volumes of lanterns into the night sky, there is no control as to what type of lantern is allowed. As a basic measure, surely there should be some control to allow them only to be made from biodegradable material, if you accept the tenet that people should be allowed to do this. My own view is that people should not be allowed to have a mass lift-off of fire into the sky, which could damage property or, worse still, cause untold suffering to animals. I have heard the debate today and the way that this has been put; in particular, I have heard some significant examples of countries and regions that have introduced significant pieces of legislation to prohibit this practice. Surely, that should be a benchmark for what we should be looking to do. I appreciate that the Minister last week took it upon himself to write to local authorities to encourage them to have a voluntary ban. As someone who believes passionately in small government, I would very much like people to do things of their own volition. However, there are times when it is proper that the Government with the controlling influence in that particular area steps in. I urge the Minister to look upon the comments that have been made in the debate today and, in particular, the examples that have been offered for more regulatory control in this field, and to think about bringing some form of control forward here in Wales.

I gloi, mae'n amlwg bod yr eitemau newyddbeth hyn yn gallu achosi difrod sylweddol i fywyd ac eiddo. Maent yn dreth cynyddol ar ein gwasanaethau brys sydd dan bwysau ac, fel y cyfryw, mae angen inni ystyried gweithredu'n gadarn ar lefel genedlaethol. Byddwn yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i wrando ar y galwadau gan un o brif gefnogwyr Llafur a ffermwr llaeth, Michael Eavis—fel y mae Antoinette Sandbach eisoes wedi cyfeirio ato—sylfaenydd gŵyl Glastonbury, a ddywedodd fod yn rhaid inni weithredu ar y mater hwn ac y dylem ddechrau gwneud hynny heddiw.

Longyfarchaf Antoinette Sandbach am ennill yr enwbiad i gyflwyno dadl o'i dewis, gyda'i haelodau cefnogol, ar y pwnc penodol hwn. Mae'n bwnc yr wyf wedi ymddiddori ynddo ers imi fod yn y Cynulliad oherwydd yr effaith ddinistriol yr wyf i, fel ffermwr, wedi ei gweld yn ei chael ar les anifeiliaid. Os edrychwch ar ddaliadau sylfaenol yr hyn rydym yn sôn amdano yma, fe welwch ein bod yn siarad, mewn sawl achos, am ryddhau tân i'r awyr mewn amgylchedd heb ei reoli. Ni allaf feddwl am unrhyw beth arall lle y byddai hynny'n cael ei ganiatáu heb ryw fath o asesiad o effaith neu rybudd iechyd a diogelwch. Cyn i'r cyhoedd sy'n gwyltio hwn feddwl, 'Diawch, dyna wleidydd arall yn ceisio cyflwyno mwy o reoleiddio,' mae'r canlyniadau, y mae Antoinette a siaradwyr eraill wedi cyfeirio atynt, yn eithaf trychinebus, nid yn unig i eiddo ond, yn arbennig, i iechyd anifeiliaid. Rwyf wedi gweld fy anifeiliaid fy hun yn dioddef gyda gwifren yn eu coluddion. Yn wir, os na ellir cael gafael ar y wifren honno—drwy lawdriniaeth fawr ac nid syml, rhaid i mi ddweud—bydd yr anifail yn marw, ac mae'n farwolaeth boenus iawn yn wir.

Mae fersiynau bioddiraddadwy o'r llusernau hyn ar gael, yn ôl a ddeallaf. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, os derbyniwch y cynsail fod gan bobl yr hawl i ryddhau nifer fawr o lusernau i awyr y nos, nid oes rheolaeth dros pa fath o lusern a ganiateir. Fel mesur sylfaenol, oni ddylai fod rhywfaint o reolaeth er mwyn sicrhau mai dim ond o ddeunydd bioddiraddadwy yn unig y cânt eu gwneud, os ydych yn derbyn yr egwyddor y dylid caniatáu i bobl wneud hyn. Fy marn i yw na ddylai pobl allu gollwng tân ar raddfa fawr i mewn i'r awyr, a allai ddifrodi eiddo neu, yn waeth fyth, achosi dioddefaint ofnadwy i anifeiliaid. Rwyf wedi clywed rhai enghreifftiau arwyddocaol o wledydd a rhanbarthau sydd wedi cyflwyno darnau sylweddol o ddeddfwriaeth i atal yr arfer hwn. Oni ddylai hynny fod yn feincnod ar gyfer yr hyn y dylem ninnau fod yn ceisio ei wneud. Gwerthfawrogaf i'r Gweinidog yr wythnos diwethaf gymryd y cyfrifoldeb am ysgrifennu at awdurdodau lleol i'w hannog i gael gwaharddiad gwirfoddol. Fel rhywun sy'n credu'n angerddol mewn llywodraeth fach, hoffwn yn fawr i bobl wneud pethau o'u gwirfodd. Fodd bynnag, ceir adegau pan fo'n briodol i'r Llywodraeth sydd â dylanwad rheoli yn y maes penodol hwnnw gamu i mewn. Anogaf y Gweinidog i edrych ar y sylwadau a wnaed yn y dadl heddiw ac, yn arbennig, yr enghreifftiau a gynigiwyd ar gyfer rheolaeth fwy reoleiddiol yn y maes hwn, ac ystyried cyflwyno rhyw fath o reolaeth yma yng Nghymru.

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Going back to my opening remarks, the thought of people lighting these lanterns and letting them off into the night sky with no idea whether they will travel a couple of hundred yards or several miles—or, as Antoinette touched upon, to a height of 1,200 feet—really poses the question: should it be allowed to continue? Obviously, from the evidence that has been offered here today, it is something that should not be continued. I note that our national broadcaster, the BBC, has, as one of its camera shots, a picture of many hundreds of lanterns going off into the night sky. They look very attractive on the TV and, I am sure, pose the question in people's minds, if they have a wedding—[Interruption.]

Gan fynd yn ôl at fy sylwadau agoriadol, mae meddwl am bobl yn cynnau'r llusernau hyn a'u rhyddhau i awyr y nos heb unrhyw syniad a fyddant yn teithio ychydig gannoedd o lathenni neu sawl milltir—neu, fel y soniodd Antoinette, i uchder o 1,200 o droedfeddi—yn gofyn y cwestiwn: a ddylid caniatáu iddo barhau? Yn amlwg, o'r dystiolaeth a gynigiwyd yma heddiw, mae'n rhywbeth na ddylai barhau. Nodaf fod gan ein darlledwr cenedlaethol, y BBC, fel un o'i luniau camera, ddarlun o gannoedd o llusernau yn codi i awyr y nos. Maent yn edrych yn ddeniadol iawn ar y teledu ac, rwy'n siŵr, yn gofyn y cwestiwn ym meddyliau pobl, os oes priodas ganddynt—[Torri ar draws.]

15:48 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am very grateful to the leader of the opposition for taking the intervention.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn i arweinydd yr wrthblaid am dderbyn yr ymyriad.

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You mentioned the height that these lanterns can reach—up to 12,000 feet. There is also the danger posed to aircraft, which I do not think that anyone has mentioned yet in this debate. Along with the issues relating to animals and the environment, the danger to aircraft also needs to be dealt with.

Soniasoch am yr uchder y gall y llusernau hyn ei gyrraedd—hyd at 12,000 o droedfeddi. Ceir hefyd y perygl a berir i awyrennau, ac nid wyf yn credu bod neb wedi crybwyll hyn eto yn y ddadl hon. Ynghyd â'r materion sy'n ymwneud ag anifeiliaid a'r amgylchedd, mae angen ymdrin â'r perygl i awyrennau hefyd.

15:48 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thanks for the intervention, Nick. I agree with you. It is 1,200 feet not 12,000, but I take the point. [Laughter.] The debate has touched on aviation, which Nick mentioned and Antoinette also brought into her remarks, marine life, the farm population, and the immense damage to physical property. In her opening remarks, Antoinette used the case of a recycling plant, but I could use many examples of straw and haystacks going up in smoke as well, and the significant impact that that would have. You are talking about a huge impact on that particular business.

Diolch am yr ymyriad, Nick. Cytunaf â chi. 1,200 o droedfeddi ydyw ac nid 12,000, ond derbyniaf y pwynt. [Chwerthin.] Mae'r ddadl wedi cyfeirio at hedfan, a grybwyllwyd gan Nick ac y cyfeiriwyd ato gan Antoinette hefyd yn ei sylwadau, bywyd morol, y boblogaeth fferm, a'r perygl aruthrol i eiddo ffisegol. Yn ei sylwadau agoriadol, defnyddiodd Antoinette yr achos o safle ailgylchu, ond gallwn ddefnyddio enghreifftiau niferus o wellt a theisi gwair yn llosgi'n ulw, a'r effaith fawr y byddai hynny'n ei chael. Rydych yn sôn am effaith enfawr ar y busnes arbennig hwnnw.

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Also, when you talk about harvesting grass and forage, many of the machines today would have metal detectors build into them, so they would pick up the wire. The devastating impact comes at the point of grazing in the field, where the cow, sheep or any animal would take it in an uncontrolled manner, and you could imagine the death that that animal would endure, having it wrapped around its intestines or other internal organs.

Hefyd, pan rydych yn sôn am gynaeafu glaswellt a phorthiant, byddai gan lawer o'r peiriannau heddiw synwryddion metel yn rhan ohonynt, felly byddent yn canfod unrhyw wifren. Daw'r effaith ddinistriol ar adeg pori yn y cae, pan fyddai'r fuwch, y ddafad neu unrhyw anifail yn ei lynu mewn dull direolaeth, a gallech ddychmygu'r farwolaeth y byddai'n rhaid i'r anifail ei dioddef, gyda'r wifren wedi ei lapio o amgylch ei goluddion neu organau mewnol.

So, I recommend that the Minister looks at the comments that have been made here today and take them on board. I hope that he will take the comments in the spirit that they were given, and I look forward to his comments in response to the debate.

Felly, argymhellaf fod y Gweinidog yn edrych ar y sylwadau a wnaed yma heddiw ac yn gweithredu arnynt. Gobeithio y bydd yn cymryd y sylwadau yn yr un ysbryd ag y'u rhoddwyd, ac edrychaf ymlaen at ei sylwadau mewn ymateb i'r ddadl.

First of all, I would like to thank Antoinette for bringing this debate here today. In the run-up to Christmas, I expect that we shall see more of those car stickers that say 'A dog is for life not just for Christmas', and in the same way, for good or ill, warnings about fireworks are no longer confined to November 5, or Guy Fawkes night, as others call it. We have seen in recent years a rapid growth in the popularity of sky lanterns. If we look at a map of Wales, it is mostly rural. When I drive through my regional constituency, from north to south, I do indeed see a lot more sheep than people. However, one way in which Antoinette's motion appeals to me is that it is comprehensive. I get the impression at times that people think that it is only farmers who complain about sky lanterns. Antoinette's motion is under no such illusion. Her motion vividly and accurately talks of the high risk that sky lanterns pose to public safety, to buildings, to structures, and to the welfare of farm animals and wildlife alike. In other words, it is not just the cow in the field that is at risk; so, too, is the owl that casts its roving eye over the grass for signs of movement.

Of course, no-one sets out to harm or cause injury to others. It is an unfortunate example of unintended consequences. We talk a lot these days of 'raising awareness'. I really believe that one of the positive aspects of this motion is that it makes us realise how interdependent we all are. By interdependent, I am thinking not just of the men and women who live in the country, or of the men and women who live in the towns and cities, but of humans and animals. By animals, I am thinking of domesticated as well as wild animals.

The second part of the motion calls on the Welsh Government to investigate the merits of restricting the release of sky lanterns in Wales. Prohibition may well be the answer. However, Antoinette's motion is wise, in that it does not call for such prohibition, but for an investigation of the merits of such a restriction. Some things are so unthinkable as not to need legal restriction against them. It may be that, eventually, the dangers of sky lanterns in their present form will be so evident that prohibition need not be considered. In the meantime, I hope that the Welsh Government will think creatively about this problem. I have heard many complaints about the destructive effects of the wire that is often used in the construction of sky lanterns. Many of those complaints have been alluded to today.

I am very pleased that the Minister for Natural Resources and Food, Alun Davies, has written to all local authorities in Wales to encourage them to introduce a voluntary ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons. Sky lanterns may look impressive in flight, but they can be deadly on landing. They cause fire damage to crops and property, and lanterns and balloons pose a serious threat to animal welfare. So, a voluntary ban, decided locally, may be a sensible approach.

Yn gyntaf oll, hoffwn ddiolch i Antoinette am gyflwyno'r ddatl hon yma heddiw. Yn y cyfnod sy'n arwain at y Nadolig, rwy'n disgwyl y gwelwn fwy o'r sticeri car hynny sy'n dweud 'Mae ci am oes, nid yn unig am y Nadolig', ac yn yr un modd, er gwell neu er gwaeth, nid yw rhybuddion am dân gwyllt bellach wedi'u cyfyngu i 5 Tachwedd, neu noson Guto Ffowc, fel y'i gelwir gan eraill. Rydym wedi gweld dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf dwf cyflym ym mhoblogrwydd llusernau awyr. Os edrychwn ar fap o Gymru, mae'n wledig yn bennaf. Pan yrraf drwy fy etholaeth ranbarthol, o'r gogledd i'r de, mae'n wir fy mod yn gweld mwy o ddefaid na phobl. Fodd bynnag, un ffordd y mae cynnig Antoinette yn apelio ataf yw ei fod yn gynhwysfawr. Caf yr argraff ar adegau fod pobl yn meddwl mai dim ond ffermwyr sy'n cwyno am lusernau awyr. Nid yw cynnig Antoinette o dan unrhyw gamargraff o'r fath. Mae ei chynnig yn sôn mewn ffordd fywiog a chywir am y risg uchel a berir gan lusernau awyr i ddiogelwch y cyhoedd, i adeiladau, i strwythurau, ac i les anifeiliaid fferm a bywyd gwyllt fel ei gilydd. Mewn geiriau eraill, nid y fuwch yn y cae sydd mewn perygl yn unig; mae'r dylluan sy'n llygadu'r glaswellt am arwyddion o symud hefyd mewn perygl.

Wrth gwrs, nid oes neb yn mynd ati i niweidio neu beri niwed i eraill. Mae'n enghraifft anffodus o ganlyniadau anfwriadol. Soniwn lawer y dyddiau hyn am 'godi ymwybyddiaeth'. Rwyf wir yn credu mai un o'r agweddau cadarnhaol ar y cynnig hwn yw ei fod yn gwneud inni sylweddoli pa mor gyd-ddibynnol yw pob un ohonom. Drwy gyfeirio at gyd-ddibynnol, rwy'n meddwl nid yn unig am ddynion a menywod sy'n byw yn y wlad, neu am ddynion a menywod sy'n byw yn y trefi a'r dinasoedd, ond am fodau dynol ac anifeiliaid. Drwy gyfeirio at anifeiliaid, rwy'n meddwl am anifeiliaid dof yn ogystal â rhai gwyllt.

Mae ail ran y cynnig yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i rinweddau cyfyngu ar ryddhau llusernau awyr yng Nghymru. Efallai mai gwaharddiad yw'r ateb. Fodd bynnag, mae cynnig Antoinette yn ddoeth, yn yr ystyr nad yw'n galw am waharddiad o'r fath, ond am ymchwiliad i rinweddau cyfyngiad o'r fath. Mae rhai pethau mor annychmygol fel nad oes angen cyfyngiad cyfreithiol yn eu herbyn. Efallai y bydd peryglon llusernau awyr, yn y pen draw, ar eu ffurf bresennol, mor amlwg fel na fydd angen ystyried gwaharddiad. Yn y cyfamser, gobeithio y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn meddwl yn greadigol am y broblem hon. Rwyf wedi clywed nifer o gwynion am effeithiau dinistriol y wifren a ddefnyddir yn aml wrth adeiladu llusernau awyr. Cyfeiriwyd at lawer o'r cwynion hynny heddiw.

Rwy'n falch iawn bod y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd, Alun Davies, wedi ysgrifennu at yr holl awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru i'w hannog i gyflwyno gwaharddiad gwirfoddol ar ryddhau llusernau awyr a balwnau heliwm. Efallai fod llusernau awyr yn edrych yn drawiadol yn yr awyr, ond gallant fod yn farwol wrth lanio. Maent yn achosi difrod tân i gnydau ac eiddo, ac mae llusernau a balwnau yn fygythiad difrifol i les anifeiliaid. Felly, gall gwaharddiad gwirfoddol, y penderfynir arno'n lleol, fod yn ddull synhwyrol.



I want to thank Antoinette for giving us an opportunity to discuss this important issue, and to congratulate the Minister on the action that he has taken so far.

Rwyf am ddiolch i Antoinette am roi cyfle inni drafod y mater pwysig hwn, ac i longyfarch y Gweinidog ar y camau y mae wedi eu cymryd hyd yn hyn.

15:54 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Minister for Natural Resources and Food to speak on behalf of the Government.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd i siarad ar ran y Llywodraeth.

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15:54 **Alun Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

*Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol a Bwyd / The Minister for Natural Resources and Food*

Like other Members, I welcome the opportunity to debate these matters this afternoon. Members will be aware that the Welsh Government has already taken steps to investigate the risks, and that it recognises the merits of restricting the release of sky lanterns through voluntary measures. Members will also be aware that, earlier this year, the Welsh Government and DEFRA jointly commissioned ADAS to undertake research to establish a body of dependable evidence on the impact of sky lanterns and helium balloon releases on livestock, plants and the wider environment. The final report, as Members are aware, was published by the Welsh Government in May, and the evidence presented in that report suggests that any impact on the environment in the form of litter and the risk of widespread injury or death to livestock is, in fact, low.

Fel Aelodau eraill, croesawaf y cyfle i drafod y materion hyn y prynhawn yma. Bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol bod Llywodraeth Cymru eisoes wedi cymryd camau i ymchwilio i'r risgiau, a'i bod yn cydnabod rhinweddau cyfyngu ar ryddhau llusernau awyr drwy fesurau gwirfoddol. Bydd Aelodau hefyd yn ymwybodol, yn gynharach eleni, i Lywodraeth Cymru a DEFRA ar y cyd gomisiynu ADAS i gynnal ymchwil i sefydlu corff o dystiolaeth ddibynadwy ar effaith rhyddhau llusernau awyr a balwnau heliwm ar dda byw, planhigion a'r amgylchedd ehangach. Cyhoeddwyd yr adroddiad terfynol, fel y gŵyr yr Aelodau, gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Mai, ac mae'r dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd yn yr adroddiad hwnnw yn awgrymu fod unrhyw effaith ar yr amgylchedd ar ffurf sbwriel a'r risg o anafiadau eang neu farwolaeth i dda byw, mewn gwirionedd, yn fach.

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The report, however, found that the fire risk associated with the use of sky lanterns, mainly to crops, buildings and moorland, is quite significant. The report also highlighted the risks to aviation and the potential for sky lanterns to cause false alarms to the coastguard. My current view on this matter is based on those report findings and, based on these findings, it would be very difficult to justify an outright ban on sky lanterns by legislating at this time. Further evidence would be needed of their impact, especially in terms of animal health and welfare. Such evidence would be needed to determine the precise nature of any future ban. Notwithstanding this, I remain committed to ensuring that the risks of sky-lantern releases are minimised by using the current levers that we have available to us, and I am working closely with our partners in Wales and the United Kingdom Government.

Canfu'r adroddiad, fodd bynnag, fod y risg o ran tân sy'n gysylltiedig â'r defnydd o lusernau awyr, yn bennaf i gnydau, adeiladau a rhostir, yn eithaf sylweddol. Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn tynnu sylw at y risgiau i'r diwydiant hedfan a'r potensial i lusernau awyr arwain at alwadau ffug i Wylwyr y Glannau. Mae fy marn gyfredol ar y mater hwn yn seiliedig ar y canfyddiadau hynny o'r adroddiad, ac yn seiliedig ar y canfyddiadau hyn, byddai'n anodd iawn cyfiawnhau gwaharddiad llwyr ar lusernau awyr drwy ddeddfu ar yr adeg hon. Byddai angen tystiolaeth bellach o'u heffaith, yn enwedig o ran iechyd a lles anifeiliaid. Byddai angen i dystiolaeth o'r fath bennu union natur unrhyw waharddiad yn y dyfodol. Er gwaethaf hyn, rwy'n ymrwymedig o hyd i sicrhau bod y risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig â rhyddhau llusernau awyr yn cael eu lleihau i'r eithaf drwy ddefnyddio'r dulliau ysgogi presennol sydd ar gael i ni, ac rwy'n gweithio'n agos gyda'n partneriaid yng Nghymru a Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig.

My written statement on 20 July updated Members on the actions that the Welsh Government intended to take, based on the research report findings. This debate allows me to update Members further on progress. The research highlighted that, where local authorities have placed voluntary bans on the release of sky lanterns from council owned or controlled land, they have successfully raised public awareness of the risks associated with releases. Two Welsh local authorities already have such voluntary bans in place. Last week, I wrote to the remaining Welsh local authorities asking them to consider introducing a voluntary ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons from their land. I have also written to charitable organisations to ensure that they consider the wider impacts of releasing sky lanterns at their events. My officials will continue to liaise with our partners to understand the impacts of these actions.

Gwnaeth fy natganiad ysgrifenedig ar 20 Gorffennaf roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Aelodau am y camau y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn bwriadu eu cymryd, yn seiliedig ar ganfyddiadau'r adroddiad ymchwil. Mae'r ddatl hon yn caniatáu i mi roi gwybodaeth bellach i Aelodau am y cynnydd. Amlygodd yr ymchwil, lle mae awdurdodau lleol wedi gosod gwaharddiadau gwirfoddol ar ryddhau llusernau awyr o dir sy'n eiddo i gynghorau neu dir a reolir, eu bod wedi llwyddo i godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o'r risgiau sy'n gysylltiedig ag achosion o ryddhau o'r fath yn llwyddiannus. Mae gan ddau awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru waharddiadau gwirfoddol o'r fath ar waith yn barod. Yr wythnos diwethaf, ysgrifennais at weddill yr awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru yn gofyn iddynt ystyried cyflwyno gwaharddiad gwirfoddol ar ryddhau llusernau awyr a balwnau heliwm ar eu tir. Rwyf hefyd wedi ysgrifennu at fudiadau elusennol er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn ystyried effeithiau ehangach rhyddhau llusernau awyr yn eu digwyddiadau. Bydd fy swyddogion yn parhau i gysylltu â'n partneriaid i ddeall effeithiau'r camau gweithredu hyn.

As for the risk to the welfare of livestock and wildlife, my chief veterinary officer, Dr Christianne Glossop, has reissued advice to raise awareness of their possible impact on livestock health and welfare and the associated risks to livestock buildings from the release of sky lanterns. That advice was issued on 23 August and subsequently published in farming and veterinary publications. My officials are also currently further developing the Welsh Government's communication channels, including our website and social media, to help to raise public awareness and share guidance on the safe use of sky lanterns.

As I outlined earlier, research has found that the fire risks associated with sky lanterns is significant. The fire in the west midlands has reminded us of the dangers that they pose. I am pleased that fire and rescue authorities in Wales and across the United Kingdom have already taken steps to discourage the release of sky lanterns. From a UK perspective, the Chief Fire Officers Association aims to discourage members of the public and event organisers from using sky lanterns. It will work with the police to discourage the approval of licences for events planning their release and will work with trading standards to control the use and design of sky lanterns. Fire and rescue authorities in Wales are also taking important steps as part of their overall community safety information and advice. The findings of the report were discussed at the last meeting of the Chief Fire Officers Association's community risk reduction committee, which was held last week. I am aware that the fire and rescue authorities in Wales recognise and welcome the recognition in the report that there were significant fire risks associated with the use of sky lanterns. They are also very supportive of any measures that reduce risk and incidents of fire and are keen to engage with partners and the Welsh Government to address this issue.

I will continue to work with my colleague the Minister for Local Government and Government Business to ensure that the fire risks posed by sky lanterns continue to be raised. The Welsh Government notes that the research highlights risks to aviation as one of the most significant issues posed by sky lanterns. Aviation safety is non-devolved and the action to address these risks is a matter for the Department for Transport and the Civil Aviation Authority. The research also highlights the issue of red sky lanterns causing false alarms for the coastguard. Although matters relating to the coastguard are also non-devolved, my officials have contacted the civil contingencies managing the Welsh coastguard to ensure that they are aware of the report.

O ran y risg i les da byw a bywyd gwyllt, mae fy mhrif swyddog milfeddygol, Dr Christianne Glossop, wedi ailgyhoeddi cyngor i godi ymwybyddiaeth o'u heffaith bosibl ar iechyd a lles da byw a'r risgiau cysylltiedig i adeiladau da byw o ganlyniad i ryddhau llusernau awyr. Cyhoeddwyd y cyngor hwnnw ar 23 Awst ac fe'i cyhoeddwyd wedyn mewn cyhoeddiadau ffermio a milfeddygol. Mae fy swyddogion hefyd wrthi'n datblygu sianelau cyfathrebu Llywodraeth Cymru, gan gynnwys ein gwefan a'r cyfryngau cymdeithasol, er mwyn helpu i godi ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd a rhannu canllawiau ar y defnydd diogel o lusernau awyr.

Fel y soniais yn gynharach, mae ymchwil wedi canfod bod y risgiau tân sy'n gysylltiedig â llusernau awyr yn sylweddol. Mae'r tân yng ngorllewin canolbarth Lloegr wedi ein hatgoffa o'r peryglon a berir ganddynt. Rwy'n falch bod yr awdurdodau tân ac achub yng Nghymru a ledled y Deyrnas Unedig eisoes wedi cymryd camau i atal pobl rhag rhyddhau llusernau awyr. O safbwynt y DU, mae Cymdeithas y Prif Swyddogion Tân yn anelu at annog aelodau o'r cyhoedd a threfnwyr digwyddiadau i beidio â defnyddio llusernau awyr. Bydd yn gweithio gyda'r heddlu i atal cymeradwyo trwyddedau ar gyfer digwyddiadau sy'n bwriadu eu rhyddhau a bydd yn gweithio gyda safonau masnach i reoli'r defnydd o lusernau awyr a'u dyluniad. Mae awdurdodau tân ac achub yng Nghymru hefyd yn cymryd camau pwysig fel rhan o'u gwybodaeth a'u cyngor cyffredinol ar ddiogelwch cymunedol. Trafodwyd canfyddiadau'r adroddiad yng nghyfarfod diwethaf pwyllgor lleihau risg gymunedol Cymdeithas y Prif Swyddogion Tân, a gynhaliwyd yr wythnos diwethaf. Rwy'n ymwybodol bod yr awdurdodau tân ac achub yng Nghymru yn cydnabod ac yn croesawu'r gydnabyddiaeth yn yr adroddiad fod risgiau tân sylweddol yn gysylltiedig â'r defnydd o lusernau awyr. Maent hefyd yn gefnogol iawn i unrhyw fesurau sy'n lleihau risg a digwyddiadau o dân ac yn awyddus i ymgysylltu â phartneriaid a Llywodraeth Cymru i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn.

Byddaf yn parhau i weithio gyda'm cyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Busnes y Llywodraeth i sicrhau bod y risgiau tân a berir gan lusernau awyr yn parhau i gael eu codi. Noda Llywodraeth Cymru fod yr ymchwil yn tynnu sylw at risgiau i hedfan fel un o'r materion mwyaf arwyddocaol a berir gan lusernau awyr. Nid yw diogelwch hedfan wedi ei ddatganoli a mater i'r Adran Trafnidiaeth a'r Awdurdod Hedfan Sifil yw gweithredu i fynd i'r afael â'r risgiau hynny. Mae'r ymchwil hefyd yn tynnu sylw at y mater o lusernau awyr coch yn arwain at alwadau ffug i wylwyr y glannau. Er nad yw materion sy'n ymwneud â gwylwyr y glannau wedi eu datganoli ychwaith, mae fy swyddogion wedi cysylltu â'r sefydliadau argyfyngau sifil sy'n rheoli gwylwyr y glannau yng Nghymru er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn ymwybodol o'r adroddiad.

It is clear that the provision of appropriate consumer information also has an important role to play in enabling members of the public to make informed choices about whether to release sky lanterns. Therefore, I support the work that the United Kingdom Government is taking forward to ensure that manufacturers place clear warnings on packaging. We will be working closely with the United Kingdom Government in working with retailers, manufacturers and others to improve public awareness of how to use these products responsibly. I hope that Members are reassured that the Government is working closely with partners to take forward extensive measures to tackle the risks posed by sky lanterns by restricting their release. We will be supporting the motion this afternoon.

Mae'n amlwg bod darparu gwybodaeth briodol i ddefnyddwyr hefyd yn bwysig er mwyn galluogi aelodau o'r cyhoedd i wneud dewisiadau gwybodus ynghylch p'un a ddylid rhyddhau llusernau awyr. Felly, cefnogaf y gwaith y mae Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig yn ei wneud i sicrhau bod gweithgynhyrchwyr yn rhoi rhybuddion clir ar ddeunydd pacio. Byddwn yn gweithio'n agos gyda Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig drwy weithio gyda manwerthwyr, gweithgynhyrchwyr ac eraill i wella ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd o sut y dylid defnyddio'r cynhyrchion hyn mewn ffordd gyfrifol. Gobeithiaf fod y ffaith bod y Llywodraeth yn gweithio'n agos gyda phartneriaid i ddatblygu mesurau helaeth i fynd i'r afael â'r risgiau a berir gan lusernau awyr drwy gyfyngu ar allu pobl i'w rhyddhau yn rhoi sicrwydd i Aelodau. Byddwn yn cefnogi'r cynnig y prynhawn yma.

16:00 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on Antoinette Sandbach to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Antoinette Sandbach i ymateb i'r ddatl.

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16:00 **Antoinette Sandbach** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to hear that the Government will be supporting the motion this afternoon, and that it will keep the evidence under review. As Sandy Mewies said, the fact that this has grown from a few sky lanterns being released to the 200,000 that Llyr Huws Gruffydd talked about in his contribution indicates the massively increasing size of the problem.

Rwy'n falch o glywed y bydd y Llywodraeth yn cefnogi'r cynnig y prynhawn yma, ac y bydd yn parhau i adolygu'r dystiolaeth. Fel y dywedodd Sandy Mewies, mae'r ffaith bod hyn wedi tyfu o sefyllfa lle y rhyddhawyd ychydig o lusernau awyr i'r 200,000 y soniodd Llyr Huws Gruffydd amdanynt yn ei gyfraniad yn dangos maint cynyddol aruthrol y problem.

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Nick Ramsay's intervention on aircraft safety was timely, although it may not be a devolved issue. There are also issues around waste, fire risk and animal welfare, which are devolved, Minister. There was an incident recorded by Manchester Airport where pilots had to abort a landing because 60 sky lanterns had gone across the runway at Manchester Airport. I wonder whether the passengers on that plane were aware of the danger that they were in as a result of this sky lantern release.

Roedd ymyriad Nick Ramsay ar ddiogelwch awyrennau yn amserol, er efallai nad yw'n fater datganoledig. Ceir materion hefyd sy'n ymwneud â gwastraff, risg o dân a lles anifeiliaid, sydd yn ddatganoledig, Weinidog. Cofnodwyd digwyddiad gan Faes Awyr Manceinion lle bu'n rhaid i beilotiaid atal rhag glanio am fod 60 o lusernau awyr wedi glanio ar y llwybr glanio ym Maes Awyr Manceinion. Tybed a oedd unrhyw deithwyr ar yr awyren honno yn ymwybodol o'r perygl yr oeddent ynddo o ganlyniad i'r achos hwn o ryddhau llusernau awyr?

One of the issues that Llyr Huws Gruffydd asked about in his contribution was that John Griffiths, the previous Minister for the environment, had indicated that he would give consideration to looking at this in the environment Bill, and he asked you to comment on that, Minister. I do not know whether you would like to intervene and comment on it now, but if you would not, I would ask you to keep that under review.

Un o'r materion yr holodd Llyr Huws Gruffydd amdano yn ei gyfraniad oedd bod John Griffiths, y cyn Weinidog dros yr amgylchedd, wedi dweud y byddai'n ystyried edrych ar hyn ym Mil yr amgylchedd, a gofynnodd i chi roi sylwadau ar hynny, Weinidog. Nid wyf yn gwybod a hoffech ymyrryd a gwneud sylwadau arno nawr, ond os nad ydych am wneud, byddwn yn gofyn i chi barhau i gadw golwg arno.

16:01 **Alun Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I will be making a written statement next week outlining the process for the development of the environment Bill and publishing a White Paper on these matters, so Members will have further opportunity to comment on that.

Byddaf yn gwneud datganiad ysgrifenedig yr wythnos nesaf yn amlinellu'r broses ar gyfer datblygu Bil yr amgylchedd a chyhoeddi Papur Gwyn ar y materion hyn, felly bydd gan Aelodau gyfle arall i roi sylwadau ar hynny.

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16:02

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

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I am grateful for that indication, Minister, and I hope that you will keep the issue of lanterns under review, particularly given the fact that the independent report commissioned by both DEFRA and the Welsh Government jointly has indicated that there is a real and significant fire risk. As all Members pointed out in their contributions, that fire risk is indiscriminate, as it were. It can affect arable farm land, it can affect buildings, it can affect city-centre dwellings; there was a fire where a sky lantern had wrapped around a chimney, and that blaze took half an hour for firefighters to put out. Given the support that there has been across the Chamber, and the fact that so many countries have acted to ban them, as highlighted previously in my contribution, and those of others, including William Powell and the other speakers in this debate, and given the significant fire risk, I would urge you to think of this as a carrier-bag issue—one in which Wales might lead the way and show the United Kingdom how to approach what is otherwise, in my submission, a very dangerous activity, and effectively amounts to the ability to just set light to things and hope that they will not set light to anything else. It is reckless and it endangers lives and property. I feel that this is something that, as was pointed out by Andrew R.T. Davies, would not be allowed in any other area of life. Why do we allow it in respect of these lanterns? Thank you everyone for your contributions.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar am yr arwydd hwnnw, Weinidog, ac rwy'n gobeithio y byddwch yn parhau i gadw golwg ar lusernau awyr, yn enwedig o gofio'r ffaith bod yr adroddiad annibynnol a gomisiynwyd ar y cyd gan DEFRA a Llywodraeth Cymru wedi awgrymu bod risg wirioneddol a sylweddol o dân. Fel y nododd yr holl Aelodau yn eu cyfraniadau, mae'r risg honno o dân yn ddiwahân, fel petai. Gall effeithio ar dir fferm â'r, gall effeithio ar adeiladau, gall effeithio ar anheddau canol y ddinas; bu achos o dân lle roedd llusern awyr wedi lapio o gwmpas simnai, a chymerodd hanner awr i ddiffoddwyr tân ddiffodd y tân hwnnw. O ystyried y gefnogaeth sydd wedi bod ar draws y Siambwr, a'r ffaith bod cymaint o wledydd wedi gweithredu i'w gwahardd, fel y soniwyd yn gynharach yn fy nghyfraniad, a chyfraniadau eraill, gan gynnwys William Powell a'r siaradwyr eraill yn y ddadl hon, ac o gofio'r risg sylweddol o dân, byddwn yn eich annog i ystyried hyn fel mater bagiau untro—un lle y gallai Cymru arwain y ffordd a dangos i'r Deyrnas Unedig sut i ddelio â'r hyn sydd, yn fy nghyflwyniad, yn weithgarwch peryglus iawn, ac sydd, yn y bôn, yn gyfystyr â'r gallu i gynnu rhywbeth a gobeithio na fydd yn cynnu unrhyw beth arall. Mae'n ddi-hid ac yn peryglu bywydau ac eiddo. Teimlaf fod hyn yn rhywbeth na fyddai'n cael ei ganiatáu mewn unrhyw faes arall o fywyd, fel y nodwyd gan Andrew R. T. Davies. Pam rydym yn ei ganiatáu mewn perthynas â'r llusernau hyn? Diolch i chi am eich cyfraniadau.

16:04

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

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The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There is no objection, therefore the motion is agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Y cynnig yw derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes gwrthwynebiad, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

16:04

**Dadl ar Adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ar yr Ymchwiliad i Weithredu'r Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol ar gyfer Diabetes yng Nghymru a'i Gyfeiriad yn y Dyfodol**

**Debate on the Health and Social Care Committee's Report on the Inquiry into the Implementation of the National Service Framework for Diabetes in Wales and its Future Direction**

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I call on the Chair of the committee, David Rees, to move the motion.

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

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y pwyllgor, David Rees, i gyflwyno'r cynnig.

Cynnig NDM5328 David Rees

Motion NDM5328 David Rees

Mae Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru:

The National Assembly for Wales:

Yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ar weithredu'r Fframwaith Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol ar gyfer diabetes yng Nghymru a'i gyfeiriad yn y dyfodol, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 24 Mehefin 2013.

Notes the report of the Health and Social Care Committee into the implementation of the National Service Framework for diabetes in Wales and its future direction, which was laid in the Table Office on 24 June 2013.

16:04

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

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I move the motion.

Cyflwynaf y cynnig.

I am pleased to open this debate on the report by the Health and Social Care Committee on the important issue of the implementation of the national service framework for diabetes and the future direction of diabetes services in Wales. I would like to begin by thanking those who gave their time to give evidence to the committee, and my predecessor Chairs for their leadership during this inquiry. I also wish to pay tribute to the clerking team for their hard work and professional approach during the inquiry and in the production of the report.

Following the submission of the report, I must thank the Minister for his response to the committee's recommendations, and take this opportunity to welcome the recent publication of the Welsh Government's diabetes delivery plan. This plan will be the driver for taking forward many of the recommendations made by the committee.

Diabetes can legitimately be described as an epidemic across Wales and the rest of the UK. It affects 5% of the population and 15% to 20% of hospital in-patients. The number of people with type 2 diabetes continues to rise each year, with an ever larger proportion of diagnoses taking place at a younger age. This is not a fringe issue; it is a major challenge for all of us, not just those living with diabetes or the healthcare staff who care for them. We note very carefully the rise in obesity and the consequences of that.

Diabetes is a chronic condition—it is neither trivial nor transient. People with diabetes are more likely to develop heart disease, kidney disease, blindness or to require amputation at some point in the future. As well as the personal cost to an individual's health, diabetes costs the national health service in Wales £500 million every year. It is likely that this figure will increase as the number of people with the condition continues to grow, possibly doubling by 2025.

In 2003, the Welsh Government established a national service framework, or NSF, on diabetes that set out 12 key standards for diabetes services across Wales. Health boards were given a deadline of 10 years to make sure that these standards were put in place and met. The purpose of this inquiry was to assess whether progress had been made in implementing the standards and to identify what still needed to be improved. The responses that we received were clear—more needs to be done if we are going to slow down this ever increasing problem.

The committee made 13 recommendations. We welcome the fact that 11 of our recommendations have been accepted by the Government and two have been accepted in principle. If your maths is good, you will realise that no recommendations were rejected.

Rwy'n falch o gael agor y ddadl hon ar yr adroddiad gan y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol ar y mater pwysig o weithredu'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ar gyfer diabetes a chyfeiriad gwasanaethau diabetes yng Nghymru yn y dyfodol. Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i bawb a roddodd o'u hamser i roi tystiolaeth i'r pwyllgor, ac i'r Cadeiryddion a'm rhagflaenodd am eu harweinyddiaeth yn ystod yr ymchwiliad hwn. Hoffwn hefyd dalu teyrnged i'r tîm clerco am eu gwaith caled a'u hymagwedd broffesiynol yn ystod yr ymchwiliad ac wrth lunio'r adroddiad.

Yn dilyn cyflwyno'r adroddiad, rhaid imi ddiolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ymateb i argymhellion y pwyllgor, ac achub ar y cyfle hwn i groesawu cynllun cyflenwi diabetes Llywodraeth Cymru a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar. Y cynllun hwn fydd y sbardun ar gyfer datblygu llawer o'r argymhellion a wnaed gan y pwyllgor.

Mae'n deg disgrifio diabetes fel epidemig ledled Cymru a gweddill y DU. Mae'n effeithio ar 5% o'r boblogaeth a 15% i 20% o gleifion mewnol mewn ysbytai. Mae nifer y bobl â diabetes math 2 yn parhau i godi bob blwyddyn, gyda chyfran hyd yn oed yn fwy o bobl iau yn cael diagnosis o ddiabetes. Nid mater ymylol yw hwn; mae'n her fawr i bob un ohonom, nid yn unig i'r rhai sy'n byw gyda diabetes neu'r staff gofal iechyd sy'n gofalu amdanynt. Nodwn yn ofalus iawn y cynnydd mewn gordewdra a chanlyniadau hynny.

Mae diabetes yn gyflwr cronig—nid yw'n ddiwbys nac yn fyrhoedlog. Mae pobl sydd â diabetes yn fwy tebygol o ddatblygu clefyd y galon, clefyd yr arenau, dallineb neu orfod colli coes neu fraich ar ryw adeg yn y dyfodol. Yn ogystal â'r gost bersonol i iechyd unigolyn, mae diabetes yn costio £500 miliwn i'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru bob blwyddyn. Mae'n debygol y bydd y ffigur hwn yn cynyddu wrth i nifer y bobl â'r gyflwr barhau i gynyddu, gan ddyblu o bosibl erbyn 2025.

Yn 2003, sefydlodd Llywodraeth Cymru fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol, neu NSF, ar ddiabetes sy'n nodi 12 safon allweddol ar gyfer gwasanaethau diabetes ledled Cymru. Rhoddwyd terfyn amser o 10 mlynedd i fyrdau iechyd er mwyn sicrhau bod y safonau hyn yn cael eu rhoi ar waith a'u cyflawni. Diben yr ymchwiliad hwn oedd asesu a oedd cynnydd wedi cael ei wneud o ran gweithredu'r safonau a nodi beth oedd angen ei wella o hyd. Roedd yr ymatebion a gawsom yn glir—mae angen gwneud mwy er mwyn arafu'r broblem hon sy'n cynyddu'n gyson.

Gwnaeth y pwyllgor 13 o argymhellion. Rydym yn croesawu'r ffaith bod 11 o'n hargymhellion wedi cael eu derbyn gan y Llywodraeth ac mae dau wedi cael eu derbyn mewn egwyddor. Os yw eich mathemateg yn dda, byddwch yn sylweddoli na chafodd unrhyw argymhellion eu gwrthod.

Our first two recommendations related to the arrangements for monitoring and overseeing health boards' progress in implementing the NSF. We said that arrangements need to be strengthened at a national level, and that best practice should be shared between theboards. In fact, the lack of dissemination of best practice was often cited in the evidence and this does need addressing. We recommended that that Welsh Government take action should health boards fail to deliver the services that they are obliged to deliver. I am pleased that the Minister for health has accepted the recommendation, and that the diabetes delivery plan commits health boards to improving monitoring arrangements.

The need for a national diabetes clinical lead role was a clear theme in our inquiry and we welcome the commitment to develop a role of this kind. I especially welcome the commitment to establish the all-Wales diabetes implementation group to provide stronger leadership and co-ordination. It would be helpful if the Minister could provide further details on that clinical lead role, including the status of the role. In particular, I would welcome more information on whether that role will sit within the Welsh Government or whether it will be a dedicated person, and information on what powers will be given to the clinical lead to tackle underperformance. Furthermore, I would be grateful for further detail of what action the Welsh Government would take should health boards fail to deliver the services outlined in the plan.

We also reflected on the nine key annual health checks that should be offered to diabetics in accordance with the NSF. We believe that all GP practices should be required to participate in the national diabetes audit in order to monitor whether all diabetic patients are offered these. Although this recommendation has not been accepted in full, I am pleased that the Minister has accepted the principle behind it. We also welcome the fact that the delivery plan identifies participation in the national diabetes audit as a priority, and includes a requirement that all diabetic patients are offered the nine annual health checks.

Each health board has its own planning and delivery group to lead and manage their diabetes services. We heard that the membership of these groups varied between areas, and that they often relied on the commitment of one or two people to drive their work. We believe that these groups should be taken seriously by everyone—the participants and the health boards—to ensure that the recommendations they make are taken on board. We also urged the establishment of a formal relationship between these groups and the health boards to which they report. We recommended the adoption of a national approach to their work, including national terms of reference and a requirement to meet with each other to share best practice. We welcome the Minister's acceptance of this recommendation, but seek further information about how this will be encouraged in practice.

Mae ein dau argymhelliad cyntaf yn ymwneud â'r trefniadau ar gyfer monitro a goruchwylio cynnydd byrddau iechyd o ran gweithredu'r NSF. Dywedasom fod angen i drefniadau gael eu hatgyfnerthu ar lefel genedlaethol, ac y dylai arfer gorau gael ei rannu rhwng y byrddau. Mewn gwirionedd, dyfynnwyd yn aml yn y dystiolaeth y ffaith nad yw arfer gorau yn cael ei ledaenu ac mae angen mynd i'r afael â hyn. Argymhellwyd y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru gymryd camau os na fydd byrddau iechyd yn darparu'r gwasanaethau y mae'n ofynnol iddynt eu darparu. Rwy'n falch bod y Gweinidog iechyd wedi derbyn yr argymhelliad, a bod y cynllun cyflenwi diabetes yn ymrwymo byrddau iechyd i wella trefniadau monitro.

Roedd yr angen am rôl arweinydd clinigol cenedlaethol yn maes diabetes yn thema amlwg yn ein hymchwiliad, a chroesawf yr ymrwymiad i ddatblygu rôl o'r fath. Croesawaf yn enwedig yr ymrwymiad i sefydlu grŵp gweithredu diabetes Cymru gyfan i ddarparu arweinyddiaeth a chydgyssylltiad cryfach. Byddai'n ddefnyddiol pe gallai'r Gweinidog ddarparu rhagor o fanylion am y rôl honno o arweinydd clinigol, gan gynnwys statws y rôl. Yn enwedig, byddwn yn croesawu rhagor o wybodaeth am ba un a fyddai'r rôl honno yn rhan o Lywodraeth Cymru neu a fyddai'n unigolyn penodedig, a gwybodaeth am ba bwerau a fyddai'n cael eu rhoi i'r arweinydd clinigol i fynd i'r afael â thanberfformiad. At hynny, byddwn yn ddiolchgar am ragor o fanylion am ba gamau y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd pe bai byrddau iechyd yn methu â darparu'r gwasanaethau a amlinellwyd yn y cynllun.

Gwnaethom hefyd fyfyrto ar y naw archwiliad iechyd blynyddol allweddol y dylid eu cynnig i bobl ddiabetig yn unol â'r NSF. Credwn y dylai fod yn ofynnol i bob practis meddyg teulu gymryd rhan yn yr archwiliad diabetes cenedlaethol er mwyn monitro a yw pob claf diabetig yn cael cynnig hyn. Er nad yw'r argymhelliad hwn wedi cael ei dderbyn yn llawn, rwy'n falch bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn yr egwyddor sy'n sail iddo. Rydym hefyd yn croesawu'r ffaith bod y cynllun cyflenwi yn nodi cyfranogiad yn yr archwiliad diabetes cenedlaethol fel blaenoriaeth, ac yn cynnwys gofyniad i gynnig naw archwiliad iechyd blynyddol i bob claf diabetig.

Mae gan bob bwrdd iechyd ei grŵp cynllunio a chyflawni ei hun i arwain a rheoli ei wasanaethau diabetes. Clywsom fod aelodaeth y grwpiau hyn yn amrywio rhwng ardaloedd, a'u bod yn aml yn dibynnu ar ymrwymiad un neu ddau unigolyn i lywio eu gwaith. Credwn y dylai'r grwpiau hyn gael eu cymryd o ddirif gan bawb—y cyfranogwyr a'r byrddau iechyd— i sicrhau y caiff yr argymhellion a wnânt eu hystyried. Rydym hefyd yn annog y grwpiau hyn i sefydlu cydberthynas ffurfiol â'r byrddau iechyd y maent yn adrodd iddynt. Argymhellwn y dylent fabwysiadu dull cenedlaethol o weithio, gan gynnwys cylch gorchwyl cenedlaethol a gofyniad i gwrdd â'i gilydd i rannu arfer gorau. Croesawf y ffaith bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn yr argymhelliad hwn, ond gofynnwn am ragor o wybodaeth am sut y caiff hyn ei annog yn ymarferol.

It appears that we do not discuss health services without looking at IT provision at some point. The introduction of an integrated database for diabetes patient management systems was the subject on this occasion. We welcome the Minister's acceptance of our recommendation, but note that the clear timetable for its introduction that we called for will not be agreed until December. We would be grateful for an update from the Minister when this timetable is available.

As with most conditions, prevention is better than cure. It is important that we keep our attention on all preventative services, including those for diabetes, and the early detection of diabetes will be a crucial contributor to curtailing the rise in cases. Type 2 diabetes can be prevented in most cases through lifestyle changes. We have heard the Oscar-winning actor Tom Hanks recently identify the fact that lifestyle changes are important in tackling type 2 diabetes. As such, it is important that people know the risk factors associated with diabetes. Public awareness campaigns are important tools to convey that message, and we recommended that their use to raise awareness of the early signs of diabetes be implemented. We also recommended that the role of pharmacies in the early detection of diabetes should be expanded, and we welcome your acceptance of these recommendations and look forward to the implementation group's consideration of how early diabetes detection can be improved across Wales.

People with diabetes need to understand how their condition can have an impact on their lives and how they can make changes that lessen its effects. Being able to access education is crucial, especially at, or immediately after, the time of diagnosis. That is when people are most likely to make the changes they have to put into place to their lifestyles. We heard from different health boards in Wales that they do not offer the same levels of education. We urge the Welsh Government to address inconsistencies in the provision of structured education as a matter of importance. I am pleased that that has been accepted. However, I am concerned that waiting up to nine months after diagnosis to receive that education may be too long. As we have already pointed out, when it comes to making those changes, it is a case of the sooner, the better. Therefore, I ask the Minister to consider reducing that target waiting time. I am also pleased that the implementation group will be asked to consider other ways of delivering effective education to people with diabetes, and, again, we will await the outcome of this work.

Ymddengys nad ydym yn trafod gwasanaethau iechyd heb edrych ar ddarpariaeth TG ar ryw adeg. Cyflwyno cronfa ddata integredig ar gyfer systemau rheoli cleifion diabetes oedd y pwnc y tro hwn. Croesawn y ffaith bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn ein hargymhelliad, ond nodwn na chytunir ar yr amserlen glir ar gyfer ei gyflwyno y gwnaethom ofyn amdani tan fis Rhagfyr. Byddem yn ddiolchgar am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf gan y Gweinidog pan fydd yr amserlen hon ar gael.

Fel gyda'r rhan fwyaf o gyflyrau, mae atal yn well na gwella. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn hoelio ein sylw ar yr holl wasanaethau ataliol, gan gynnwys y rhai ar gyfer diabetes, a bydd canfod diabetes yn gynnar yn gyfraniad hanfodol at leihau'r cynnydd mewn achosion. Gall diabetes Math 2 gael ei atal yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion drwy newid ffordd o fyw. Yn ddiweddar, cyfeiriodd yr actor Tom Hanks, sydd wedi ennill gwobrau Oscar, at y ffaith bod newidiadau mewn ffordd o fyw yn bwysig wrth fynd i'r afael â diabetes math 2. Fel y cyfryw, mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn gwybod y ffactorau risg sy'n gysylltiedig â diabetes. Mae ymgyrchoedd ymwybyddiaeth y cyhoedd yn ddulliau pwysig o gyfleu'r neges honno, ac argymhellwn y dylid eu defnyddio er mwyn codi ymwybyddiaeth o arwyddion cynnar diabetes. Rydym hefyd yn argymhell y dylai rôl fferyllfeydd wrth ganfod diabetes yn gynnar gael ei hehangu, a chroesawn y ffaith eich bod yn derbyn yr argymhellion hyn ac edrychwn ymlaen at ystyriaeth y grŵp gweithredu o sut y gellir gwella'r gwaith o ganfod diabetes yn gynnar ledled Cymru.

Mae angen i bobl sydd â diabetes ddeall sut y gall eu cyflwr gael effaith ar eu bywydau a sut y gallant wneud newidiadau sy'n lleihau ei effeithiau. Mae gallu cael mynediad i addysg yn hanfodol, yn enwedig ar adeg y diagnosis neu'n union wedi hynny. Dyna'r adeg pan fydd pobl yn fwyaf tebygol o wneud y newidiadau y mae'n rhaid iddynt eu rhoi ar waith i'w ffordd o fyw. Clywsom gan fyrddau iechyd gwahanol yng Nghymru nad ydynt yn cynnig yr un lefel o addysg. Rydym yn annog Llywodraeth Cymru i fynd i'r afael ag anghysondebau wrth ddarparu addysg strwythuredig fel mater o bwys. Rwy'n falch bod hynny wedi cael ei dderbyn. Fodd bynnag, pryderaf y gall aros hyd at naw mis ar ôl diagnosis i gael yr addysg honno fod yn rhy hir. Fel yr ydym eisoes wedi'i nodi, pan ddaw'r adeg i wneud y newidiadau hynny, yna gorau po gyntaf. Felly, gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog ystyried lleihau'r amser aros targed hwnnw. Rwyf hefyd yn falch o glywed y gofynnir i'r grŵp gweithredu ystyried ffyrdd eraill o ddarparu addysg effeithiol i bobl sydd â diabetes, ac, unwaith eto, byddwn yn aros am ganlyniad y gwaith hwn.

The report highlights diabetes specialist nurses, who provide an important role in improving the care of diabetes patients. However, concern was expressed that their number had fallen in recent years, and that those who remained had seen the balance of their work change, tilting more towards general duties and away from specialist duties. Therefore, we call for an audit of the number of diabetes specialist nurses in post across Wales and urge consideration of the merits of issuing guidance on the number of nurses per head of population. It is also important to recognise that staff, such as specialist nurses, also have entitlements to holidays and are sometimes sick themselves, therefore it is important that the numbers are there to cover such circumstances. I am pleased with and welcome the Minister's commitment to conduct an audit of diabetes specialist nurses. The committee will await the outcome of that national specialist advisory group's consideration of guidance to health boards on the number of nurses, particularly with regard to the required number per head of population.

The report concluded with the work of the exemplar diabetic retinopathy screening service. Due to the growing number of people with diabetes, we believe that the capacity of the service to provide annual checks should be monitored as demand for the service increases. I am pleased that this recommendation has also been accepted and that the diabetes delivery plan includes a commitment to reviewing and refreshing the service to ensure the best outcomes for patients. I welcome the Minister's commitment to tasking the implementation group with considering how the service can deliver screening in the future across a whole range of opportunities.

It is testimony to the hard work of witnesses and committee members that the Minister has taken on board so many of our recommendations on this important issue. A failure to continue taking action will mean ever larger numbers of people with diabetes with ever larger numbers of complications. As with previous committee inquiries, we will return to this subject before the end of this Assembly to assess progress made against our recommendations. We look forward to working with the Minister to achieve that progress.

16:14

### **Darren Millar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am pleased to be able to take part in this debate. I commend the clerks of the committee and my fellow committee members for coming up with what I think is a very robust report. I was extremely pleased to see the Welsh Government's response, although there are some issues that I want to raise in the debate today. As the Chair has already said, diabetics account for between 15% and 20% of the hospital in-patient population. We know that services for diabetes account for 10% of all NHS expenditure in the UK, or around £0.5 billion in Wales, which is a huge amount.

Mae'r adroddiad yn tynnu sylw at nyrsys arbenigol diabetes, sy'n darparu rôl bwysig wrth wella gofal cleifion diabetes. Fodd bynnag, mynegwyd pryder bod eu nifer wedi gostwng yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf, a bod y rhai a oedd yn weddill wedi gweld cydbwysedd eu gwaith yn newid, gan wyro mwy tuag at ddyletswyddau cyffredinol ac i ffwrdd oddi wrth ddyletswyddau arbenigol. Felly, galwn am archwiliad o nifer y nyrsys arbenigol diabetes sydd â swydd ledled Cymru ac anogwn ystyriaeth o rinweddau cyhoeddi canllawiau ar nifer y nyrsys fesul pen o'r boblogaeth. Mae hefyd yn bwysig cydnabod bod gan staff, megis nyrsys arbenigol, hawl i wyliau hefyd a'u bod yn sâl eu hunain weithiau, felly mae'n bwysig bod digon ohonynt ar gael ar adegau o'r fath. Rwy'n falch o ymrwymiad y Gweinidog i gynnal archwiliad o nyrsys arbenigol diabetes ac rwy'n ei groesawu. Bydd y pwyllgor yn aros am ganlyniad ystyriaeth y grŵp cynghori arbenigol cenedlaethol hwnnw o ganllawiau i fyrddau iechyd ar nifer y nyrsys, yn enwedig o ran y nifer ofynnol fesul pen o'r boblogaeth.

Daeth yr adroddiad i ben gyda gwaith y gwasanaeth sgrinio retinopathi diabetig enghreifftiol. Oherwydd nifer gynyddol y bobl sydd â diabetes, credwn y dylai gallu'r gwasanaeth i ddarparu archwiliadau blynyddol gael ei fonitro wrth i'r galw am y gwasanaeth gynyddu. Rwy'n falch bod yr argymhelliad hwn wedi cael ei dderbyn hefyd a bod y cynllun cyflenwi diabetes yn cynnwys ymrwymiad i adolygu ac adnewyddu'r gwasanaeth er mwyn sicrhau'r canlyniadau gorau i gleifion. Croesawaf ymrwymiad y Gweinidog i alw ar y grŵp gweithredu i ystyried sut y gall y gwasanaeth ddarparu gwasanaeth sgrinio yn y dyfodol ar draws ystod eang o gyfleoedd.

Mae'r ffaith bod y Gweinidog wedi derbyn cymaint o'n hargymhellion ar y mater pwysig hwn yn dyst i waith caled y tystion ac aelodau'r pwyllgor. Bydd methiant i barhau i gymryd camau yn golygu niferoedd hyd yn oed yn fwy o bobl â diabetes â hyd yn oed yn fwy o gymhlethdodau. Fel gydag ymchwiliadau blaenorol y pwyllgor, byddwn yn dychwelyd at y pwnc hwn cyn diwedd y Cynulliad hwn i asesu'r cynnydd a wnaed yn erbyn ein hargymhellion. Edrychwn ymlaen at weithio gyda'r Gweinidog i gyflawni'r cynnydd hwnnw.

Rwy'n falch o allu cymryd rhan yn y ddatl hon. Cymeradwyaf glercod y pwyllgor a'm cyd-Aelodau ar y pwyllgor am lunio'r hyn sy'n adroddiad cadarn iawn yn fy marn i. Roeddwn yn hynod o falch o weld ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru, er bod rhai materion yr wyf am eu codi yn y ddatl heddiw. Fel y soniodd y Cadeirydd eisoes, mae pobl ddiabetig yn cyfrif am rhwng 15% ac 20% o boblogaeth y cleifion mewnol mewn ysbytai. Gwyddom fod gwasanaethau ar gyfer diabetes yn cyfrif am 10% o holl wariant y GIG yn y DU, neu tua £0.5 biliwn yng Nghymru, sy'n swm enfawr.

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So, we have to get this right going forward. I was really very disappointed to see that the national service framework standards, which were very good standards developed by the Welsh Government a number of years ago, have not been implemented fully. We hear time and again in the health committee that national service frameworks are not being implemented. It is so disappointing to note that, when we produce glossy documents and glossy reports, they are not necessarily having their intended impact on the ground. We heard the suggestion from the Minister and the chief executive of the NHS in Wales, et cetera, that these were matters for health boards to implement. I am afraid that that argument is beginning to wear a little thin, and we need some very strong leadership from the Welsh Government to ensure that we get this right in the future. I was pleased to note in your response to the report, Minister, that there will be a national diabetes clinical lead, and I look forward to hearing in your response to the debate about the timescales for that appointment to be made, if you could tell us that.

The Chair has also pointed out that the diabetes delivery plan has now been developed and launched by the Welsh Government. It is a good plan and one that has been welcomed by those with an interest in diabetes care, but I urge you, Minister, to make sure that the delivery of that plan makes a difference on the ground. It is another glossy document and we do not want it to simply gather dust and not make a difference for patients.

I want to touch on a few things specifically in this report. I was really taken aback by just how simple some of these solutions for improving diabetes care in Wales are. As a committee, we looked at the work of the ThinkGlucose campaign in making sure that small toolboxes were available in each hospital ward where the campaign was being operated, so that there could be a rapid response if a diabetic was beginning to have problems. We were told that the cost of that campaign was just £18,000 per hospital site, but it has a huge impact when needed. I can see, Minister, that you responded positively to the recommendation that we made about the need to roll that out and make it available in every health board. However, you seem to suggest that you might want to reinvent the wheel and do something slightly differently to the solution offered by ThinkGlucose. Given the very low cost of this—£18,000 per hospital site—I wonder whether you might reconsider that, Minister, because it is a small investment and it would deliver significant improvements in diabetes care, and certainly address some of the risks involved when diabetics go into hospital as in-patients.

Felly, rhaid inni gael hyn yn iawn yn y dyfodol. Roeddwn yn siomedig iawn i weld nad oedd safonau'r fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol, sef safonau da iawn a ddatblygwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru nifer o flynyddoedd yn ôl, wedi cael eu gweithredu'n llawn. Clywn dro ar ôl tro yn y pwyllgor iechyd nad yw fframweithiau gwasanaeth cenedlaethol yn cael eu gweithredu. Mae mor siomedig nodi, pan fyddwn yn cynhyrchu dogfennau sgleiniog ac adroddiadau sgleiniog, nad ydynt o reidrydd yn cael yr effaith a fwriadwyd ar lawr gwlad. Clywsom yr awgrym gan y Gweinidog a phrif weithredwr y GIG yng Nghymru, et cetera, bod y rhain yn faterion y dylai byrddau iechyd eu gweithredu. Mae arnaf ofn bod y ddatl honno yn llai argyhoeddiadol erbyn hyn, ac mae angen rhywfaint o arweinyddiaeth gadarn iawn arnom gan Lywodraeth Cymru er mwyn sicrhau ein bod yn gwneud hyn yn iawn yn y dyfodol. Roeddwn yn falch o nodi yn eich ymateb i'r adroddiad, Weiniog, y bydd arweinydd clinigol cenedlaethol ym maes diabetes, ac edrychaf ymlaen at glywed yn eich ymateb i'r ddatl am yr amserlenni ar gyfer y penodiad hwnnw, os gallech ddweud hynny wrthym.

Mae'r Cadeirydd hefyd wedi nodi bod y cynllun cyflenwi diabetes bellach wedi cael ei ddatblygu a'i lansio gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae'n gynllun da ac yn un a groesawyd gan y rhai sydd â diddordeb mewn gofal diabetes, ond fe'ch anogaf, Weiniog, i sicrhau bod y broses o gyflawni'r cynllun hwnnw yn gwneud gwahaniaeth ar lawr gwlad. Dogfen sgleiniog arall ydyw ac nid ydym am iddi hel llwch a pheidio â gwneud gwahaniaeth i gleifion.

Rwyf am grybwyll ychydig o bethau penodol yn yr adroddiad hwn. Fe'm synnwyd yn wirioneddol gan ba mor syml yw rhai o'r atebion hyn ar gyfer gwella gofal diabetes yng Nghymru. Fel pwyllgor, gwnaethom edrych ar waith yr ymgyrch ThinkGlucose er mwyn sicrhau bod pecynnau cymorth bach ar gael ar bob ward ysbyty lle roedd yr ymgyrch ar waith, fel y gellid sicrhau ymateb brys pe bai claf diabetig yn dechrau cael problemau. Dywedwyd wrthym mai dim ond £18,000 fesul safle ysbyty oedd cost yr ymgyrch honno, ond mae'n cael effaith enfawr pan fo angen. Gallaf weld, Weiniog, ichi ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r argymhelliad a wnaethom am yr angen i gyflwyno'r ymgyrch honno a sicrhau ei bod ar gael ym mhob bwrdd iechyd. Fodd bynnag, mae fel petaech yn awgrymu y byddech am ailddyfeisio'r olwyn efallai a gwneud rhywbeth ychydig yn wahanol i'r ateb a gynigiwyd gan ThinkGlucose. O gofio cost isel iawn hyn—£18,000 fesul safle ysbyty—tybed a fyddech efallai yn ailystyried hynny, Weiniog, oherwydd mae'n fuddsoddiad bach a byddai'n arwain at welliannau sylweddol mewn gofal diabetes, ac yn sicrhau mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r risgiau sydd ynghlwm wrth achosion pan fydd pobl ddiabetig yn gorfod mynd i'r ysbyty fel cleifion mewnl.

The role of specialist nurses, as the Chair quite rightly said, was also considered by the committee. We know the cross-party group on nursing is considering that at the moment, and the importance of specialist nurses to being able to deliver high-quality care. One of our concerns as a committee was that specialist nurses are very often being abstracted from their role and required to undertake general nursing duties as a result of staff shortages on some wards, because of the failure of health boards sometimes to backfill posts. In the work that is going to be done on that front, which you have agreed to take forward—which I am pleased to see, Minister—I wonder what timescales you might attach to that review so that we can see decent outcomes for people.

Finally, in the brief time that I have left, the diabetic retinopathy screening service is, indeed, something that we can celebrate as a Welsh innovation that has made a real difference on the ground. However, we heard concerns from some witnesses about the capacity of that service to continue to mop up the annual checks required for diabetics. I wonder, Minister, whether you will be prepared to look at the resources available to that service to make sure that it continues to be able to provide a quality service to not just those who are having their first check, but those having subsequent checks thereafter.

16:19

## **Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Diolch i amrywiol Gadeiryddion y pwyllgor a fu'n ein llywio drwy waith yr arolwg hwn, a hefyd i'r tystion a staff cynorthwyol y pwyllgor. Roedd yr arolwg byr hwn ar glefyd siwgr yn un diddorol i mi fel aelod o'r pwyllgor, er yn anghyffyrddus ar aml i adeg pan ydych yn digwydd bod yn unigolyn sy'n dioddef o glefyd siwgr, fel yr wyf i. Ces i fy atgoffa'n gyson am y ffactorau risg sy'n gysylltiedig â chlefyd siwgr a'r lefelau risg uwch o glefydau penodol sy'n deillio o fyw gyda chlefyd siwgr. Clywsom rai o'r rheiny'n cael eu crybwyll y prynhawn yma.

Rwyf eisiau canolbwyntio ar ambell i agwedd o argymhellion y pwyllgor ac ymateb y Gweinidog. Yn gyntaf, un o'm prif bryderon wrth wrando ar y dystiolaeth oedd a oedd y gwasanaethau a'u cydlyniant yn bodoli'n gyson ar hyd a lled Cymru, neu a oedd diffyg o ran bodolaeth cyson y gwasanaethau hynny ym mhob cwr o Gymru. Mae amheuaeth bendant fod y gwaith hwn yn digwydd mewn bwrdd iechyd, ond yn digwydd mewn 'vacuum' o fewn y byrddau iechyd penodol.

Clywsom dystiolaeth ddiddorol iawn o arbenigwyr yng Nglangwili o waith lleol da gan y grwpiau cynllunio a chyflenwi, ond nad oedd dystiolaeth bod y gwaith hwn yn treiddio'n ehangach i waith y bwrdd iechyd, nac ychwaith ei fod yn effeithio mewn unrhyw ffordd ar wasanaeth a datblygu gwasanaethau'n genedlaethol. Dyna pam oedd y pwyllgor mor awyddus i weld, yn argymhelliad 5, y perthynas rhwng grwpiau cynllunio a chyflenwi a byrddau iechyd yn cael ei ffurfioli fel nad yw'r gwaith ar wasanaethau clefyd siwgr yn digwydd mewn 'vacuum' o fewn y gwasanaeth iechyd. Mae clefyd siwgr yn glefyd sy'n bodoli fel clefyd ar ei ben ei hun, ond hefyd yn glefyd sy'n cyd-fyw gyda phob math o glefydau eraill, megis canser, clefydau'r galon a strôc.

Cafodd rôl nyrsys arbenigol, fel y dywedodd y Cadeirydd yn gwbl briodol, hefyd ei hystyried gan y pwyllgor. Gwyddom fod y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar nyrsio yn ystyried hynny ar hyn o bryd, a pha mor bwysig ydyw bod nyrsys arbenigol yn gallu darparu gofal o ansawdd uchel. Un o'n pryderon fel pwyllgor oedd bod nyrsys arbenigol yn aml iawn yn cael eu tynnu oddi wrth eu rôl a bod angen iddynt ymgymryd â dyletswyddau nyrsio cyffredinol o ganlyniad i brinder staff ar rai wardiau, oherwydd methiant byrddau iechyd weithiau i ôl-lenwi swyddi. Yn y gwaith y bwriedir ei wneud yn hynny o beth, yr ydych wedi cytuno i fwrw ymlaen ag ef—yr wyf yn falch o'i weld, Weindog—tybed pa amserlenni y gallech eu hatodi i'r adolygiad hwnnw fel y gallwn weld canlyniadau da i bobl.

Yn olaf, yn yr amser byr sydd gennyf yn weddill, mae'r gwasanaeth sgrinio retinopathi diabetig, yn wir, yn rhywbeth y gallwn ei ddathlu fel gwasanaeth arloesol yng Nghymru sydd wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol ar lawr gwlad. Fodd bynnag, clywsom bryderon gan rai tystion ynghylch gallu'r gwasanaeth hwnnw i barhau i gynnal yr archwiliadau blynyddol sy'n ofynnol ar gyfer pobl ddiabetig. Tybed, Weindog, a fydddech yn fodlon ystyried yr adnoddau sydd ar gael ar gyfer y gwasanaeth hwnnw er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn parhau i allu darparu gwasanaeth o safon nid yn unig i'r rhai sy'n cael eu harchwiliad cyntaf, ond i'r rhai sy'n cael archwiliadau dilynol ar ôl hynny.

I thank the various Chairs of the committee who steered us through the work of this inquiry, and also the witnesses and the committee support staff. This short inquiry on diabetes was a very interesting one for me as a member of the committee, although uncomfortable at times when you happen to be someone who suffers from diabetes, as I do. I was frequently reminded of the risk factors associated with diabetes and the higher levels of risk of specific diseases that follow on from living with diabetes. We have heard about some of those this afternoon.

I want to focus on a few aspects of the committee recommendations and the Minister's response. First, one of my main concerns in listening to the evidence was whether the services and their co-ordination existed consistently throughout Wales, or whether there was a lack of consistency in those services in all parts of Wales. There was a definite suspicion that this work happens in a health board, but happens in a vacuum within the specific health boards.

We heard very interesting evidence from specialists in Glangwili about good local work by the planning and delivery groups, but there was no evidence that this work spreads further into the work of the health board, nor that it affects a service and the development of services nationally in any way. That is why the committee was so eager to see, in recommendation 5, the relationship between planning and delivery groups and health boards formalised so that the work on diabetes services does not happen in a vacuum within the health service. Diabetes is a disease that exists as a disease on its own, but it is also a disease that co-exists with other diseases, such as cancer, heart disease and stroke.

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Mae hyn yn fy arwain at argymhellid 11, i wella monitro lefelau siwgr cleifion mewn ysbytai sydd â chlefyd siwgr. Daeth y pwnc hwn yn fyw i ni fel aelodau'r pwyllgor wrth i ni glywed hanes a thystiolaeth y diweddar David Joseph a'r adroddiad ombwdsmon a ddilynodd ei farwolaeth ef. Bu i David Joseph farw yn dilyn triniaeth yn ysbyty Bronglais, lle gafodd e drawiad o 'hypoglycaemia' a arweiniodd at gymhlethdodau iechyd, ac fe ddyfarnodd yr ombwdsmon fod y methiant i fonitro lefelau glwcos Mr Joseph wedi arwain at ei bwl o 'hypoglycaemia'. Fe wnaeth yr ombwdsmon argymhellion i fwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda er mwyn osgoi achosion tebyg yn y dyfodol. Un o argymhellion yr ombwdsmon oedd bod y bwrdd iechyd yn adolygu sgiliau'r holl staff nyrsio ar wardiau meddygol mewn perthynas â monitro lefelau siwgr yn y gwaed a gofal diabetig.

Mae Mrs Joseph yn un o fy etholwyr i ac, yn dilyn marwolaeth ei gŵr hi—roedd Mrs Joseph wedi bod yn nyrs gydol ei hoes—yr oedd yn siom a sioc sylweddol iawn iddi fod angen adroddiad ombwdsmon i roi argymhellion i fwrdd iechyd er mwyn sicrhau bod staff nyrsio ar ward yn medru monitro lefelau siwgr yn y gwaed.

Rydym i gyd yn gwybod bod niferoedd y cleifion yn ein hysbytai sydd â chlefyd siwgr yn cynyddu, ac eu bod ar draws amrywiol wardiau mewn ysbytai. Felly, mae angen ymateb strwythuredig i fonitro lefelau siwgr yn y gwaed ar draws holl staff nyrsio a meddygol mewn ysbytai, nid dim ond y rhai arbenigol. Dyna pam oedd gan y pwyllgor cymaint o ddiddordeb yn y cynllun 'ThinkGlucose' a'i weithredu ar draws holl wardiau ysbytai. Clywsom Darren Millar yn cyfeirio at y cynllun hwnnw. Rwy'n fodlon derbyn ymateb y Gweinidog fod yna fwiad gan y Llywodraeth i edrych ar yr egwyddor o gyflwyno cynllun o'r math hwn, ond i ddatblygu cynllun penodol Cymreig i'w weithredu mewn ysbytai yng Nghymru. Y cyfan byddwn yn ei ofyn i'r Gweinidog yw i gadarnhau i ni fel pwyllgor a fel Cynulliad pryd mae'n bwriadu cyflwyno'r gwaith hwn ar hyd wardiau yn ysbytai Cymru, ac i wneud cyhoeddiad penodol pan fydd hynny'n digwydd, fel nad yw adroddiad yr ombwdsmon ar Mr Joseph wedi digwydd mewn ofer a bod y gwersi yn cael eu dysgu o'r profiad anffodus hwnnw.

This leads me to recommendation 11, to improve the monitoring of the blood sugar levels of hospital patients with diabetes. This subject came alive to us as committee members when we heard evidence in relation to the late David Joseph and the report of the ombudsman following his death. David Joseph died following treatment at Bronglais hospital, where he suffered a hypoglycaemic attack, which led to health complications, and the ombudsman concluded that the failure to monitor Mr Joseph's blood glucose levels had led to his hypoglycaemic attack. The ombudsman made recommendations to Hywel Dda health board in order to avoid similar cases in future. One of the ombudsman's recommendations was that the health board should review the skills of all of the nursing staff on medical wards in relation to blood sugar monitoring and diabetic care.

Mrs Joseph is one of my constituents and, following the death of her husband—Mrs Joseph had been a nurse throughout her working life—it was a great shock and disappointment to her that an ombudsman's report was needed to make recommendations to a health board in order to ensure that nursing staff on a ward can monitor blood sugar levels.

We all know that the number of patients in our hospitals with diabetes is increasing, and that they are across various wards in hospitals. Therefore, there needs to be a structured response to monitoring blood sugar levels across all nursing and medical staff in hospitals, not just specialists. That is why the committee was so interested in the ThinkGlucose scheme and its implementation across all hospital wards. We heard Darren Millar refer to that scheme. I am willing to accept the Minister's response that the Government intends to look at the principle of introducing such a scheme, but to develop a specific Welsh scheme for implementation in hospitals in Wales. All that I would ask of the Minister is to confirm to us as a committee and an Assembly when he intends to introduce this work on all wards in hospitals in Wales, and to make a specific announcement when that happens, so that the ombudsman's report on Mr Joseph has not been in vain and the lessons are learned from that unfortunate incident.

16:25

## **Kirsty Williams** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

*Arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru / The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats*

I echo the comments of previous Members in thanking the various Chairs of the health committee who oversaw this report, the clerking team for its work, and all of those in the voluntary sector and in the NHS who gave of their time to help the committee with the report. I am very pleased that the Minister has been able to accept the recommendations of the committee's report in the way that he has. It would have been difficult for him not to, given that he chaired most of its preparation and did not demur on any of the recommendations when they were written.

Ategap sylwadau Aelodau blaenorol gan ddiolch i amrywiol Gadeiryddion y pwyllgor iechyd a fu'n goruchwyllo'r adroddiad hwn, y tîm clericio am ei waith, ac i bawb yn y sector gwirfoddol ac yn y GIG a roddodd o'u hamser i helpu'r pwyllgor gyda'r adroddiad. Rwy'n falch iawn bod y Gweinidog wedi gallu derbyn argymhellion adroddiad y pwyllgor yn y ffordd a wnaeth. Byddai wedi bod yn anodd iddo beidio â gwneud hynny, o ystyried iddo gadeirio'r rhan fwyaf o'i waith paratoi ac na wrthwynebodd unrhyw un o'r argymhellion pan gawsant eu hysgrifennu.

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When the national service framework was first published in 2003, there was a consensus among everyone that it was the right framework, that the steps outlined in it were the right ones, and that its implementation would lead to the transformation of diabetes services in Wales and, more importantly, lead to the transformation of the people in Wales who suffer from diabetes in terms of their ability to manage their condition and to keep themselves as well as possible, and that it tried to address the steady rise in the members of the population who were contracting the condition. The fact is that, 10 years later, no-one, even some of the Minister's officials, had a go at trying to say that the targets had been met. In the end, no-one could provide evidence that the framework had been implemented in full. The evidence was quite clear: 10 years down the line, while there had, indeed, been progress in many areas, we have not reached the stated goal that we had outlined for ourselves in 2003.

The sad reality is that, while diabetics make up about 5% of the national population, diabetic patients make up 15% to 20% of in-patients in our district general hospitals and those patients are more likely to have longer stays in hospital than other people. They are disproportionately represented in our DGH beds. At the moment, we are already spending £500 million of the Welsh NHS budget on this condition; that is a remarkable 10% of the entire budget. There are some estimates that suggest that, by 2025, we will be spending £1 billion of the Welsh health service budget on managing the effects of diabetes. For all of us who sit in the Chamber arguing about the size of the NHS budget, no matter how big that budget ever gets, spending that kind of proportion of the budget on a single condition is simply not sustainable.

What was so depressing about this was to hear and see evidence that, in the early days, progress had been quite swift and marked. However, with the departure of the lead co-ordinator for diabetes in 2009 and the failure of the then Minister to fill that post, progress simply stopped. Reporting mechanisms back to the centre about what individual local health boards were doing came to a standstill and the ability to monitor progress seemed to disappear completely from 2009 onwards. That was in stark contrast to what was happening in England and Scotland, which had strong national clinical leads to drive change forward. The most important recommendation within this report is, I believe, recommendation 1: the need to rectify the mistake of 2009 and to have a clinical lead to co-ordinate and drive change and development forward. The Government's new plan equally has a consensus around it, because it is the right plan, and, if we implement it, it will transform what we do for people, but, without somebody at the centre to drive it forward, we will be sitting here in 10 years' time once again lamenting our inability to change things for the better. I am concerned that the Minister says that he will be able to give details at a later date because they are thinking up the role of this particular person. Let us not take too much time about it: we had such a role and it was successful according to all the evidence that we received. England and Scotland continue to have this role, and I hope that we do not delay any more before we can make some progress.

Pan gafodd y fframwaith gwasanaeth cenedlaethol ei gyhoeddi gyntaf yn 2003, roedd consensws ymhlith pawb mai hwn oedd y fframwaith cywir, mai'r camau a amlinellir ynddo oedd y rhai cywir, ac y byddai ei weithredu yn arwain at drawsnewid gwasanaethau diabetes yng Nghymru ac, yn bwysicach fyth, yn arwain at drawsnewid bywydau'r bobl yng Nghymru sy'n dioddef o ddiabetes o ran eu gallu i reoli eu cyflwr ac i gadw eu hunain mor iach â phosibl, a'i fod yn ceisio mynd i'r afael â'r cynnydd cyson yn nifer yr aelodau o'r boblogaeth a oedd yn dal y cyflwr. Y ffaith yw na wnaeth neb, 10 mlynedd yn ddiweddarach, hyd yn oed rai o swyddogion y Gweinidog, roi cynnig ar geisio dweud bod y targedau wedi eu cyrraedd. Yn y pen draw, ni allai unrhyw un ddarparu tystiolaeth fod y fframwaith wedi cael ei weithredu'n llawn. Roedd y dystiolaeth yn eithaf clir: 10 mlynedd yn ddiweddarach, er gwaethaf cynnydd, yn wir, mewn sawl maes, nid ydym wedi cyrraedd y nod datganedig a osodwyd gennym ar ein cyfer yn 2003.

Er bod pobl ddiabetig yn cyfrif am tua 5% o'r boblogaeth genedlaethol, y gwir trist yw bod cleifion diabetig yn cyfrif am 15% i 20% o gleifion mewnl yn ein hysbytai cyffredinol dosbarth ac mae'r cleifion hynny yn fwy tebygol o aros am gyfnod hirach yn yr ysbty na chleifion eraill. Cânt eu cynrychioli'n anghymesur yn ein gwelyau Ysbytai Cyffredinol Dosbarth. Ar hyn o bryd, rydym eisoes yn gwario £500 miliwn o gyllideb y GIG yng Nghymru ar y cyflwr hwn; sef 10% o'r gyllideb gyfan, sy'n ganran ryfeddol. Mae rhai amcangyfrifon yn awgrymu, erbyn 2025, y byddwn yn gwario £1 biliwn o gyllideb y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru ar reoli effeithiau diabetes. I'r rheini ohonom sy'n eistedd yn y Siambr yn dadlau am faint cyllideb y GIG, ni waeth pa mor fawr y bydd y gyllideb honno byth, nid yw gwario cyfran o'r fath o'r gyllideb ar un cyflwr yn gynaliadwy.

Y peth digalon am hyn oedd clywed a gweld tystiolaeth bod cynnydd, yn y dyddiau cynnar, wedi bod yn eithaf cyflym ac amlwg. Fodd bynnag, gydag ymadawiad y cydgysylltydd arweiniol ar gyfer diabetes yn 2009 a methiant y Gweinidog ar y pryd i lenwi'r swydd honno, mae'r cynnydd yn syml wedi dod i ben. Peidiodd y dulliau adrodd yn ôl i'r canol am yr hyn yr oedd byrddau iechyd lleol unigol yn ei wneud a diflannodd y gallu i fonitro cynnydd yn llwyr o 2009 ymlaen yn ôl pob golwg. Roedd hyn mewn gwrthgyferbyniad llwyr â'r hyn a oedd yn digwydd yn Lloegr a'r Alban, lle roedd arweinwyr clinigol cenedlaethol cryf ar gael i sbarduno newid. Yr argymhelliad pwysicaf yn yr adroddiad hwn, fe gredaf, yw argymhelliad 1: yr angen i unioni camgymeriad 2009 a chael arweinydd clinigol i gydgysylltu a sbarduno newid a datblygiad. Yn yr un modd, mae consensws ynghylch cynllun newydd y Llywodraeth, gan mai'r cynllun cywir ydyw, ac, os gwnawn ei weithredu, bydd yn trawsnewid yr hyn a wnawn i bobl, ond, heb rywun yn y canol i'w ddatblygu, byddwn yn eistedd yma ymhen 10 mlynedd unwaith eto yn cwyno am ein hanallu i newid pethau er gwell. Pryderaf fod y Gweinidog yn dweud y bydd yn gallu rhoi manylion yn ddiweddarach am eu bod wrthi'n llunio rôl yr unigolyn penodol hwn. Gadewch inni beidio â threulio gormod o amser yn gwneud hynny: roedd gennym rôl o'r fath ac roedd yn llwyddiannus yn ôl yr holl dystiolaeth a gawsom. Mae gan Loegr a'r Alban y rôl hon o hyd, a gobeithiaf na wnawn oedi rhagor cyn y gallwn wneud rhywfaint o gynnydd.

I appreciate that, in the end, it is the job of individual LHBS to deliver services on the ground, but it is the job and, I would say, the moral responsibility of a Government that creates a document about service change and service delivery to monitor that document and ensure that that happens. Without resources at the centre to do that, as I said, we will not make the progress that we want, and we will continue to see this particular condition wreak havoc in individuals' lives, wreak havoc in the NHS and with the wider Welsh economy.

Gwerthfawrogaf mai gwaith BILLau unigol, yn y pen draw, yw darparu gwasanaethau ar lawr gwlad, ond gwaith ac, yn fy marn i, cyfrifoldeb moesol Llywodraeth sy'n creu dogfen am newid gwasanaeth a darparu gwasanaeth yw monitro'r ddogfen honno a sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Heb adnoddau yn y canol i wneud hynny, fel y dywedais, ni fyddwn yn gwneud y cynnydd a ddymunwn, a byddwn yn parhau i weld y cyflwr penodol hwn yn difetha bywydau unigolion, yn difetha'r GIG ac economi ehangach Cymru.

16:30

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

I congratulate all of the members of the committee who have been involved in this report. I listened with interest to the contributions that some of them have already made today.

Unlike Kirsty Williams, I am not as pessimistic as she seems to be about the capacity of us and the Welsh NHS to change the direction in which we appear to be going. I think that there are positive things that we can do to prevent £1 billion being spent on diabetes care. I also do not think that it is down to one individual to do it. I have faith in the all-Wales diabetes implementation group to ensure that all health boards are doing what they need to do to ensure that people are being treated appropriately, and that the public health campaign really takes off.

In my view, prevention has to be our first priority when it comes to type 2 diabetes, because of its marked correlation with people's lifestyles. I am fascinated to read the results of a 30-year study of over 1,000 men in the Caerphilly area, known as the Caerphilly cohort. The Cochrane Institute of Primary Care and Public Health at Cardiff University has tracked the relationship between five healthy behaviours and the link with being able to avoid type 2 diabetes. These healthy behaviours—you will not be surprised to hear—are not smoking, having a low body mass index, taking regular exercise, having a plant-based diet, and moderate levels of alcohol consumption. Contrasting the men who made no change to their behaviour with those who changed in terms of at least four or five of these activities, there was a 73% reduction in the incidence of diabetes compared with those who made no adjustment to their behaviour. That just indicates what can be done with really robust public health campaigns and a real commitment to tackle this unpleasant disease.

The gross figures in themselves force us all to pay attention to this because, otherwise, it will overtake every other aspect of the health service. I commend the work being done by Diabetes UK, which recently ran a two-week campaign to target people with messages about type 2 diabetes. It drilled down deep into the data and used postcodes to track and identify the people most likely to be at risk. It ran a campaign that made sure that those people's bus routes were targeted with adverts and billboards, and that the radio stations that they listened to played the adverts. We must have more of this sort of campaigning so that the whole population is aware of the risks that they are undertaking if they do not change their lifestyles.

Hoffwn longyfarch holl aelodau'r pwyllgor a fu'n gysylltiedig â'r adroddiad hwn. Gwrandewais gyda diddordeb ar y cyfraniadau y mae rhai ohonynt eisoes wedi eu gwneud heddiw.

Yn wahanol i Kirsty Williams, nid wyf mor besimistaidd â hi yn ôl pob golwg ynghylch ein gallu ni a gallu'r GIG yng Nghymru i newid y cyfeiriad rydym yn mynd iddo yn ôl pob golwg. Credaf fod pethau cadarnhaol y gallwn eu gwneud i atal £1 biliwn rhag cael ei wario ar ofal diabetes. Ni chredaf ychwaith mai cyfrifoldeb un unigolyn yw gwneud hynny. Mae gennyf bob ffydd yng ngrŵp gweithredu diabetes Cymru gyfan i sicrhau bod pob bwrdd iechyd yn gwneud popeth sydd angen iddo ei wneud i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael eu trin yn briodol, a bod yr ymgyrch iechyd cyhoeddus wir yn llwyddo.

Yn fy marn i, wrth sôn am ddiabetes math 2, rhaid sicrhau mai atal yw ein blaenoriaeth gyntaf oherwydd ei gydberthynas amlwg â ffordd o fyw pobl. Mae'n ddiddorol darllen canlyniadau astudiaeth 30 mlynedd o dros 1,000 o ddynion yn ardal Caerffili, a elwir yn garfan Caerffili. Mae Sefyliad Gofal Sylfaenol ac Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cochrane ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd wedi olrhain y gydberthynas rhwng pum ymddygiad iach a'r cyswllt â gallu osgoi diabetes math 2. Yr ymddygiadau iach hyn—ni fyddwch yn synnu i glywed—yw peidio ag ysmegu, cynnal mynegai màs y corff isel, gwneud ymarfer corff yn rheolaidd, dilyn deiet sy'n seiliedig ar blanhigion, ac yfed alcohol yn gymedrol. Drwy gyferbynnu'r dynion na wnaeth unrhyw newid i'w hymddygiad â'r rhai a newidiodd eu bywydau mewn perthynas ag o leiaf bedwar neu bump o'r gweithgareddau hyn, gwelwyd gostyngiad o 73% yn nifer yr achosion o ddiabetes o gymharu â'r rhai na wnaeth unrhyw addasiad i'w hymddygiad. Mae hynny'n dangos beth y gellir ei wneud gydag ymgyrchoedd iechyd cyhoeddus gwirioneddol gadarn ac ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i fynd i'r afael â'r clefyd amhlesurus hwn.

Mae'r ffigurau gros ynddynt eu hunain yn gorfodi pob un ohonom i dalu sylw at hyn neu, fel arall, bydd yn rheoli pob agwedd arall ar y gwasanaeth iechyd. Cymeradwyaf y gwaith a wneir gan Diabetes UK, a gynhaliodd ymgyrch a barodd bythefnos yn ddiweddar i dargedu pobl â negeseuon am ddiabetes math 2. Ymchwiliodd yn ddwfn i'r data a defnyddiodd godau post i olrhain a chanfod y bobl sydd fwyaf tebygol o fod mewn perygl. Cynhaliodd ymgyrch a sicrhaudd fod llwybrau bysiau'r bobl hynny wedi'u targedu â hysbysebion a hysbysfyrdau, a bod y gorsafoedd radio yr oeddent yn gwrando arnynt yn chwarae'r hysbysebion. Rhaid inni gynnal mwy o ymgyrchoedd o'r fath fel bod y boblogaeth gyfan yn ymwybodol o'r risgiau a wynebant os na newidiant eu ffordd o fyw.

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The cross-party group on diabetes, which I have chaired for the past two years, prioritised two key work streams last year. One was structured patient education, and we found—like the committee, with its excellent reports—that the health boards have a mixed approach to patient education, including one health board, Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, which had removed patient education from its budget altogether. Therefore, recommendation 9 of the committee's report, accepted by the Government, will make a real difference to patient management of their condition. I particularly applaud the Minister's focus on family-based interventions to tackle the lifestyle changes required, both for the diagnosed individual and their at-risk relatives.

The second work stream of the cross-party group on diabetes was around integrated patient management systems. We do not need to reinvent the wheel. Colleagues in Scotland already have such a system to ensure that everyone who is involved in the care of patients knows that that person has diabetes. It was really noticeable at the stakeholder event held at the Senedd in June that a significant number of people had anecdotal evidence about the near-death experiences that they had had when they had gone into hospitals for unrelated issues. However, because the staff who were looking after them did not understand the importance of ensuring that they controlled their diabetes, they could have ended up in the same situation as Gillian Astbury at the mid Staffordshire hospital, where staff are now being prosecuted. The Bronglais situation is similar.

I congratulate the committee, and the Minister for his clear response in the implementation plan published earlier this month. I look forward to working with Elin Jones and Darren Millar on the reconstituted diabetes cross-party working group.

Blaenoriaethodd y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar ddiabetes, yr wyf wedi'i gadeirio dros y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf, ddwy ffrwd waith allweddol y llynedd. Un oedd addysg cleifion strwythuredig, a chanfuwyd—fel y pwyllgor, gyda'i adroddiadau ardderchog—fod gan y byrddau iechyd ymagwedd gymysg at addysg cleifion, gan gynnwys un bwrdd iechyd, Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, a oedd wedi dileu addysg cleifion o'i gyllideb yn gyfan gwbl. Felly, bydd argymhelliad 9 o adroddiad y pwyllgor, a dderbyniwyd gan y Llywodraeth, yn gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol i reolaeth cleifion o'u cyflwr. Cymeradwyaf yn arbennig ffocws y Gweinidog ar ymyriadau teuluol i fynd i'r afael â'r newidiadau sy'n ofynnol i ffordd o fyw, ar gyfer yr unigolyn sydd wedi cael diagnosis o ddiabetes ac i'w berthnasau sydd mewn perygl o'i ddatblygu.

Roedd ail ffrwd waith y grŵp trawsbleidiol ar ddiabetes yn ymwneud â systemau rheoli cleifion integredig. Nid oes angen inni ailddyfeisio'r olwyn. Mae gan gyd-Aelodau yn yr Alban system o'r fath eisoes i sicrhau bod pawb sy'n ymwneud â gofal cleifion yn gwybod bod gan yr unigolyn hwnnw ddiabetes. Roedd yn amlwg iawn yn y digwyddiad i randdeiliaid a gynhaliwyd yn y Senedd ym mis Mehefin fod gan nifer sylweddol o bobl dystiolaeth anecdotaidd o'r profiadau porth angau yr oeddent wedi'u cael pan oeddent wedi mynd i mewn i'r ysbyty am faterion digyswllt. Fodd bynnag, am nad oedd y staff a oedd yn gofalu amdanynt yn deall pwysigrwydd sicrhau eu bod yn rheoli eu diabetes, gallent fod wedi wynebu'r un sefyllfa yn y pen draw â Gillian Astbury yn yr ysbyty yng nghanolbarth Swydd Stafford, lle mae staff bellach yn cael eu herlyn. Mae'r sefyllfa ym Mronglais yn debyg.

Llongyfarchaf y pwyllgor, a'r Gweinidog ar ei ymateb dir yn y cynllun gweithredu a gyhoeddwyd yn gynharach y mis hwn. Edrychaf ymlaen at weithio gydag Elin Jones a Darren Millar ar y gweithgor diabetes trawsbleidiol ar ei newydd wedd.

16:35 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford, to speak to the report.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Mark Drakeford, i siarad am yr adroddiad.

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16:35 **Mark Drakeford** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Minister for Health and Social Services*

Diolch yn fawr, Lywydd.

Diolch yn fawr, Lywydd.

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Thank you for the chance to take part in the debate. The Government supports the motion in front of the Assembly this afternoon. I would like to thank the committee and all those who contributed to the inquiry, and I would like to thank the committee for the report. As Kirsty Williams said, I was lucky to be there while the evidence was being taken, and the conclusions drawn by the committee are ones that I fully understand. My predecessor, Lesley Griffiths, made it clear to her officials that she wanted to wait until the committee's report was available before finalising the Government's diabetes delivery plan for Wales. I think that it is very clear to see the way in which the committee's recommendations have been very influential in the content of that delivery plan. I was pleased to be able to launch the plan at the Riverside health clinic here in Cardiff on 26 September. I thank Darren Millar for recognising the welcome that the plan has had. I agreed with him when he said that the plan is one thing, and that making it happen is another.

At the Riverside health clinic, I was able to speak to a large number of people with diabetes who had undertaken structured education programmes and to hear from them about the positive effect that this had had on their lives. I was thinking about the phrase that Kirsty used about diabetes wreaking havoc in people's lives. What people said to me that morning was that, when you get a diagnosis of diabetes, your fear immediately is that this illness or condition will run your life from now on—that it will be in charge of you. However, what you learn through the structured education programme are ways in which you can be in charge of it, and how you are able to go on leading your life in a way that you would want to do, coping with the condition. That is why we have put structured education into the plan, and at the heart of the plan. I have a slightly heretical view of the education agenda. My belief is that some education is better than no education at all. While the NICE standards are the gold standards for education, I do not want LHBs to say to me that because they cannot do absolutely everything that NICE requires of them, that means that they can do nothing at all. The NICE programmes work very well for some people, but we know now, based on the evidence, that they do not work all that well for everybody. There is a range of education that needs to be provided so that we have a slightly wider repertoire of programmes that we are able to offer people in order to do the very powerful things that I heard about from those people who had undergone education programmes in Riverside at the end of last month.

Diolch ichi am y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y ddadl. Mae'r Llywodraeth yn cefnogi'r cynnig sydd ger bron y Cynulliad y prynhawn yma. Hoffwn ddiolch i'r pwyllgor ac i bawb a gyfrannodd at yr ymchwiliad, a hoffwn ddiolch i'r pwyllgor am yr adroddiad. Fel y dywedodd Kirsty Williams, roeddwn yn ffodus i fod yno pan oedd y dystiolaeth yn cael ei chymryd, ac mae'r casgliadau y daeth y pwyllgor iddynt yn rhai a ddeallaf yn llwyr. Eglurodd fy rhagflaenydd, Lesley Griffiths, i'w swyddogion ei bod am aros nes bod adroddiad y pwyllgor ar gael cyn cwblhau cynllun cyflenwi diabetes y Llywodraeth i Gymru. Credaf ei bod yn glir iawn sut y mae argymhellion y pwyllgor wedi bod yn ddylanwadol iawn yng nghynnwys y cynllun cyflenwi hwnnw. Roeddwn yn falch o allu lansio'r cynllun yng nghlinig iechyd Glan yr Afon yma yng Nghaerdydd ar 26 Medi. Diolch i Darren Millar am gydnabod y croeso y mae'r cynllun wedi'i gael. Cytunais ag ef pan ddywedodd mai un peth yw'r cynllun, ond bod sicrhau ei fod yn digwydd yn rhywbeth arall.

Yng nghlinig iechyd Glan yr Afon, cefais gyfle i siarad â nifer fawr o bobl sydd â diabetes a oedd wedi dilyn rhaglenni addysg strwythuredig a chlywed ganddynt am yr effaith gadarnhaol yr oedd hyn wedi ei chael ar eu bywydau. Roeddwn yn meddwl am yr ymadrodd a ddefnyddiodd Kirsty am ddiabetes yn difetha bywydau pobl. Yr hyn a ddywedodd pobl wrthyf y bore hwnnw oedd, pan gewch ddiagnosis o ddiabetes, eich pryder yn syth yw y bydd y salwch neu'r cyflwr hwn yn difetha'ch bywyd o hyn allan—y bydd yn eich rheoli chi. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a ddsygwch drwy'r rhaglen addysg strwythuredig yw ffyrdd y gallwch ei reoli, a sut y gallwch barhau i fyw eich bywyd mewn ffordd y byddech am ei fyw, gan ymdopi â'r cyflwr. Dyna pam rydym wedi cynnwys addysg strwythuredig yn y cynllun, ac wrth wraidd y cynllun. Mae gennyf farn ychydig yn gyfeiliornus am yr agenda addysg. Fy nghred yw bod rhywfaint o addysg yn well na dim addysg o gwbl. Er mai safonau NICE yw'r safonau aur ar gyfer addysg, nid wyf am i BILlau ddweud wrthyf, oherwydd na allant wneud popeth y mae NICE yn gofyn iddynt ei wneud, fod hynny'n golygu na allant wneud dim o gwbl. Mae rhaglenni NICE yn gweithio'n dda iawn i rai pobl, ond gwyddom erbyn hyn, yn seiliedig ar y dystiolaeth, nad ydynt yn gweithio cystal i bawb. Mae ystod o addysg y mae angen ei darparu fel bod gennym repertoire ychydig yn ehangach o raglenni y gallwn eu cynnig i bobl er mwyn gwneud y pethau pwerus iawn y clywais amdanynt gan y bobl hynny a ddilynodd raglenni addysg yng Nglan yr Afon ddiweddd mis diwethaf.

As many other people have said already this afternoon, type 2 diabetes can truly be seen as a condition of the twenty-first century. There are clear links to sedentary lifestyles, diet, the rise of obesity, and so on. The Caerphilly cohort evidence that Jenny Rathbone referred to is very powerful evidence indeed of the fact that it is possible to make a very real difference in preventing diabetes when people are aware of the simple steps that they can take. We have to do much more on that. We cannot simply accept that there is to be exponential growth in type 2 diabetes. A number of Members referred to the £0.5 billion that we already spend in the Welsh NHS on diabetes, and the prediction that we may end up spending twice that much by 2020. I am afraid that I can tell you now that we will not be, because the money simply is not there to do that. So, we have to find better ways of preventing the onset of the disease than simply thinking of ways in which, when people become ill, the NHS is left to try to deal with it.

An educated and knowledgeable public is the key to all of this. We have to work better to provide the support that the public needs, whether that is when people have diabetes or by helping people to take the personal responsibility for their own health that they need to take to prevent its onset.

A number of specific questions have been raised in the debate, and I will try to respond to a number of them. The appointment of a national clinical lead is very important; it is a very important position. We are currently developing the role. I did not want simply to make a decision on it before the all-Wales diabetes implementation group held its first meeting. It held that first meeting yesterday. There is work from that group to do, with Adam Cairns, the chief executive of Cardiff, who is to chair the implementation group, to finalise exactly what they want that national clinical lead to do. However, I think the way that Kirsty Williams described it, to co-ordinate and drive progress with a plan, will not be at all far from what this important role will need to fulfil.

Two of the committee's recommendations were accepted in principle, rather than being accepted in full. One was about requiring all GPs to take part in the national audit. We are not quite in that relationship with the contractor professions, but I am pleased to report to the Assembly that over 80% of GP practices have taken part in the latest national audit, compared with 57% in the previous one. So, we are getting there by persuasion in any case, and the only reason we did not accept the ThinkGlucose recommendation in full is not at all that we want to reinvent the wheel, but simply that, in the end, ThinkGlucose is a commercial product, and I did not feel that it was right for us as a Government to endorse a single product when there are number in the market. We do want local health boards to do what the ThinkGlucose product does, and, working with the 1000 Lives Plus campaign, we will make sure that that happens.

Fel y mae llawer o bobl eraill eisoes wedi ei ddweud y prynhawn yma, gall diabetes math 2 gael ei ystyried yn gyflwr sy'n perthyn yn wirioneddol i'r unfed ganrif ar hugain. Mae cysylltiadau clir â ffyrdd o fyw lle na wneir llawer o ymarfer corff, deiet, y cynnydd mewn gordewdra ac ati. Mae tystiolaeth carfan Caerffili, y cyfeiriodd Jenny Rathbone ati, yn dystiolaeth bwerus iawn yn wir o'r ffaith ei bod yn bosibl gwneud gwahaniaeth go iawn i atal diabetes pan fydd pobl yn ymwybodol o'r camau syml y gallant eu cymryd. Rhaid inni wneud mwy o waith o lawer ar hynny. Ni allwn dderbyn yn syml y bydd twf cynt gynt mewn diabetes math 2. Cyfeiriodd nifer o Aelodau at y £0.5 biliwn yr ydym eisoes yn ei wario yn y GIG yng Nghymru ar ddiabetes, a'r rhagfynegiad y gallwn yn y pen draw wario dwywaith gymaint erbyn 2020. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond gallaf ddweud wrthyhch nawr na fyddwn yn gwneud hynny, oherwydd, yn syml, nid yw'r arian ar gael i wneud hynny. Felly, rhaid inni ddod o hyd i ffyrdd gwell o atal y clefyd rhag dechrau yn hytrach na meddwl am ffyrdd lle y gadewir y GIG i geisio ymdopi â'r clefyd pan fydd pobl yn mynd yn sâl.

Cyhoedd addysgedig a gwybodus yw'r allwedd i hyn oll. Rhaid inni weithio'n well i ddarparu'r cymorth sydd ei angen ar y cyhoedd, boed hynny pan fydd gan bobl ddiabetes neu drwy helpu pobl i gymryd y cyfrifoldeb personol am eu hiechyd eu hunain y mae angen iddynt ei gymryd i'w atal rhag dechrau.

Codwyd nifer o gwestiynau penodol yn y ddadl, a byddaf yn ceisio ymateb i nifer ohonynt. Mae penodi arweinydd clinigol cenedlaethol yn bwysig iawn; mae'n swydd bwysig iawn. Rydym yn datblygu'r rôl ar hyn o bryd. Nid oeddwn am wneud penderfyniad yn ei chylch cyn i grŵp gweithredu diabetes Cymru gyfan gynnal ei gyfarfod cyntaf. Cynhaliodd y cyfarfod cyntaf hwnnw ddoe. Mae gwaith gan y grŵp hwnnw i'w wneud, gydag Adam Cairns, prif weithredwr Caerdydd, a fydd yn cadeirio'r grŵp gweithredu, i gadarnhau yn union beth y maent am i'r arweinydd clinigol cenedlaethol hwnnw ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, credaf na fydd y ffordd y'i disgrifiwyd gan Kirsty Williams, sef cydgyssylltu a sbarduno cynnydd gyda chynllun, yn bell o gwbl o'r hyn y bydd angen i'r rôl bwysig hon ei gyflawni.

Derbyniwyd dau o argymhellion y pwyllgor mewn egwyddor, yn hytrach na'u derbyn yn llawn. Roedd un yn ymwneud â gofyn i bob meddyg teulu gymryd rhan yn yr archwiliad cenedlaethol. Nid ydym eto wedi meithrin y gydberthynas â'r proffesiynau sydd â chontractau, ond mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud wrth y Cynulliad bod dros 80% o bractisau meddygon teulu wedi cymryd rhan yn yr archwiliad cenedlaethol diweddaraf, o gymharu â 57% yn yr un blaenorol. Felly, rydym yn cyrraedd y nod drwy ddarbwylllo, a'r unig reswm na wnaethom dderbyn argymhelliad ThinkGlucose yn llawn yw nid am ein bod am ailddyfeisio'r olwyn ond, yn syml, yn y pen draw, am fod ThinkGlucose yn gynnyrch masnachol, ac nid oeddwn yn teimlo ei fod yn iawn i ni fel Llywodraeth gymeradwyo un cynnyrch pan fo nifer ar gael ar y farchnad. Nid ydym am i fyrdau iechyd lleol wneud yr hyn y mae cynnyrch ThinkGlucose yn ei wneud, a, thrwy weithio gyda'r ymgyrch 1000 o Fywydau a Mwy, gwnawn yn siŵr bod hynny'n digwydd.



A number Members have referred to the IT scheme. We are going to use the Scottish model and we have had some very helpful co-operation from the Scottish Government in doing that. My officials met with NHS Wales Informatics Service yesterday, where a project manager has now been appointed, and we will have some definite news on that for Members by December.

The only one of the recommendations that we are going to carry forward as a Government, as opposed to doing it through the implementation group, is that of the audit of specialist nurses, and work on that has already begun. I will definitely report the outcome of that to Members when it becomes available.

I want to say to Elin Jones that when the all-Wales diabetes implementation group met yesterday, representatives from all the local diabetes planning and implementation groups were there. It is a really key part of that group's job to do exactly what she said, which is to make sure that there is a strong relationship between the work of the groups and the work of the boards themselves.

As far as diabetic retinopathy recall arrangements are concerned, the thing I am pleased to tell you is that the diabetic retinopathy scheme itself is confident that it is able to use the data that it has to manage the flow of work that it will need to secure in the future.

Let me end by just agreeing with what David Rees said at the very beginning. Diabetes is neither trivial nor transient. This report, and the plan that the Government has put in place, I think give us a really good basis for addressing the challenges that Wales faces in the future.

Mae nifer o Aelodau wedi cyfeirio at y cynllun TG. Bwriadwn ddefnyddio model yr Alban, ac rydym wedi cael rhywfaint o gymorth defnyddiol iawn gan Lywodraeth yr Alban i wneud hynny. Cyfarfu fy swyddogion â Gwasanaeth Gwybodeg GIG Cymru ddoe, lle y penodwyd rheolwr prosiect erbyn hyn, a bydd gennym rywfaint o newyddion pendant ar hynny i Aelodau erbyn mis Rhagfyr.

Yr unig un o'r argymhellion y bwriadwn weithredu arno fel Llywodraeth, yn hytrach na gwneud hynny drwy'r grŵp gweithredu, yw'r argymhelliad i archwilio nyrsys arbenigol, ac mae gwaith ar hynny eisoes wedi dechrau. Byddaf yn bendant yn hysbysu'r Aelodau am ganlyniad hynny pan fydd ar gael.

Hoffwn ddweud wrth Elin Jones, pan gyfarfu grŵp gweithredu diabetes Cymru gyfan ddoe, fod cynrychiolwyr o'r holl grwpiau cynllunio a gweithredu diabetes lleol yno. Mae wir yn rhan allweddol iawn o waith y grŵp hwnnw i wneud yn union yr hyn a ddywedodd, sef gwneud yn siŵr bod cydberthynas gref rhwng gwaith y grwpiau a gwaith y byrddau eu hunain.

O ran trefniadau ailaw retinopathi diabetig, yr hyn yr wyf yn falch o'i ddweud wrthyhych yw bod y cynllun retinopathi diabetig ei hun yn hyderus y gall ddefnyddio'r data sydd ganddo i reoli llif y gwaith y bydd angen iddo ei sicrhau yn y dyfodol.

Gadewch imi orffen drwy gytuno â'r hyn a ddywedodd David Rees ar y dechrau'n deg. Nid yw diabetes yn ddiwbwys nac yn fyrhoedlog. Mae'r adroddiad hwn, a'r cynllun y mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ei roi ar waith, yn fy marn i, yn rhoi sail dda iawn inni ar gyfer mynd i'r afael â'r heriau sy'n wynebu Cymru yn yn y dyfodol.

16:43 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I call the Chair of the committee to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y pwyllgor i ymateb i'r ddatl.

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16:44 **David Rees** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I first of all thank all Members for contributing today. Some interesting points have been raised, and I just want to highlight a couple of them. Kirsty highlighted the point that it was 10 years ago that this plan was first put forward, and we still have not reached most of its stated goals. That is clear. However, what came through the report was that the strong leadership role was critical. Again, as Darren pointed out, it is important that that strong leadership comes from Government—and the clinical role. Minister, I am very pleased to hear that the implementation group met yesterday and that it is taking the clinical lead role forward. It is critical that we now move that into position.

Yn gyntaf, hoffwn ddiolch i bob Aelod am gyfrannu heddiw. Codwyd rhai pwyntiau diddorol, a hoffwn dynnu sylw at ddau ohonynt. Tynnodd Kirsty sylw at y ffaith i'r cynllun hwn gael ei gyflwyno gyntaf 10 mlynedd yn ôl, ac nid ydym wedi cyflawni'r rhan fwyaf o'i nodau datganedig o hyd. Mae hynny'n glir. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a ddeilliodd o'r adroddiad oedd bod y rôl arwain gref yn hollbwysig. Unwaith eto, fel y soniodd Darren, mae'n bwysig bod yr arweinyddiaeth gref yn dod o'r Llywodraeth—a'r rôl glinigol. Weinidog, rwy'n falch iawn o glywed i'r grŵp gweithredu gyfarfod ddoe a'i fod yn datblygu rôl yr arweinydd clinigol. Mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn gweithredu ar hynny nawr.

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Elin highlighted the co-ordination of services across Wales, particularly the formalisation of those relationships at health board level between the groups and the boards. Again, we cannot argue with that. However, she also added an important point, which is that it should not take an ombudsman's report to be able to highlight these things; we should have been looking at this beforehand.

Tynnodd Elin sylw at y gwaith o gydgyssylltu gwasanaethau ledled Cymru, yn enwedig ffurfioli'r cydberthnasau hynny ar lefel bwrdd iechyd rhwng y grwpiau a'r byrddau. Unwaith eto, ni allwn ddadlau â hynny. Fodd bynnag, ychwanegodd bwynt pwysig hefyd, sef na ddylai gymryd adroddiad ombwdsmon i dynnu sylw at y pethau hyn; dylem fod wedi bod yn edrych ar hyn ymlaen llaw.

Jenny, who chairs the cross-party group, made an important point: prevention is key. Lifestyle behaviour is important and we must provide that education. Minister, you made a point of talking about education. It is critical and we must find better ways of preventing the onset of diabetes. People need to take personal responsibility. I hope that that education goes across a wide range of people. For example, pregnant women who have high sugar levels as a consequence of it need to be aware of the consequences of high sugar levels on the whole process and, particularly, the birth of their child. Education covers a wide range and not just the individuals.

Gwnaeth Jenny, sy'n cadeirio'r grŵp trawsbleidiol, bwynt pwysig: mae atal yn allweddol. Mae ymddygiad ffordd o fyw yn bwysig a rhaid inni ddarparu'r addysg honno. Weinidog, gwnaethoch bwynt o siarad am addysg. Mae'n hanfodol a rhaid inni ddod o hyd i ffyrdd gwell o atal diabetes rhag dechrau. Mae angen i bobl gymryd cyfrifoldeb personol. Gobeithio bod yr addysg honno yn cynnwys ystod eang o bobl. Er enghraifft, mae angen i fenywod beichiog sydd â lefelau uchel o siwgr o ganlyniad i ddiabetes fod yn ymwybodol o ganlyniadau lefelau uchel o siwgr ar y broses gyfan ac, yn enwedig ar enedigaeith eu plentyn. Mae addysg yn cwmpasu ystod gyfan ac nid yr unigolion yn unig.

Minister, I am also pleased to hear that 80% of GPs are now taking part in the national audit, which is very encouraging, and that you are looking at information technology, which is something that we will always look at in any system. Thank you to the committee for its efforts. It is pleasing to see a report from the committee being implemented, but, to come back to Darren's final point, comment is good but we want to see movement on the ground. That is what we will see and judge and will come back to in the future.

Weinidog, rwy'n falch o glywed hefyd fod 80% o feddygon teulu bellach yn cymryd rhan yn yr archwiliad cenedlaethol, sy'n galonogol iawn, a'ch bod yn edrych ar dechnoleg gwybodaeth, sy'n rhywbeth y byddwn bob amser yn ei ystyried mewn unrhyw system. Diolch i'r pwyllgor am ei ymdrechion. Mae'n braf gweld adroddiad gan y pwyllgor yn cael ei roi ar waith, ond, gan ddod yn ôl at bwynt olaf Darren, mae sylwadau yn dda ond rydym am weld camau gweithredu ar lawr gwlad. Dyna'r hyn y byddwn yn ei weld ac yn ei farnu ac yn dod yn ôl ato yn y dyfodol.

16:46

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

The proposal is to note the Health and Social Care Committee's report. Does any Member object? I see that there is no objection. Therefore, the motion is carried in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.

Y cynnig yw ein bod yn nodi adroddiad y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Gwelaf nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.*

*Motion agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.*

## Dadl i Geisio Cytundeb y Cynulliad i Gyflwyno Bil Arfaethedig Aelod ynghylch Llythrennedd Ariannol

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 16:46.*

## Debate Seeking the Assembly's Agreement to Introduce a Member Proposed Bill on Financial Literacy

*The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 16:46.*

Cynnig NDM5299 Bethan Jenkins

Motion NDM5299 Bethan Jenkins

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 26.91:

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 26.91:

Yn cytuno y caiff Bethan Jenkins gyflwyno Bil er mwyn gweithredu'r wybodaeth cyn y balot a gyflwynwyd ar 11 Gorffennaf 2013 o dan Reol Sefydlog 26.90.

Agrees that Bethan Jenkins may introduce a Bill to give effect to the pre-ballot information tabled on 11 July 2013 under Standing Order 26.90.

16:46

## Bethan Jenkins [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I move the motion.

Cynigiau y cynnig.

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Fellow Members, every party in this Chamber has at one time or another voiced deep concerns about inequality and poverty in Wales. We all come at these issues from different perspectives and we come with different solutions, but we all agree on one thing: the Assembly should remain committed to ending these two evils. In that, we will never rest our efforts and never deter ourselves from looking to do more. I bring the Bill before you today at a time when Wales remains in a period of deep economic crisis. This is no usual recession: fundamental changes to the ways we work, earn and live are taking place. The way I see it, we can sit here and talk around the houses about who is to blame, or we can use this Assembly for what it was purposed to do.

Here is an idea of how it is: 84% of people seeking Citizens Advice Cymru help between April 2012 and March this year had financial capability issues; in the past six months, around 398,000 people in Wales have missed more than one payment on a loan, credit agreement, mortgage, or had an unauthorised-overdraft charge; and in the past year, 1.2 million people in Wales have used a credit or store card to pay because they did not have the money at the time. Now consider this: the pay-day lending industry as we know it did not even exist six years ago. Today, some 92,000 people in Wales—4% of the adult population in Wales—have taken out a pay-day loan. When you link the economic crisis with the rise of the pay-day lender—and they are linked—and you believe that the Assembly is here to act, you have to accept that we need a robust means of empowering the people of Wales, so that they can make informed financial choices and become more prosperous, not further mired in debt and robbed of opportunity.

If our first purpose here is to enable, then we need a solution that lasts. Therefore, I believe that we need legislation. Martin Lewis, founder of MoneySavingExpert.com has said,

'We have a vicious cycle of financial illiteracy and debt to break in this country. Financial education in schools would make a massive difference.'

This Bill has his attention and his backing; he called it 'music to my ears'. This is a golden opportunity to demonstrate to Wales and the rest of the world that we are very serious indeed about financial education. We also need legislation because there are barriers to good practice being adopted: overcrowded curricula, teacher inexperience and a lack of resources. The all-party parliamentary group on financial education for young people has argued for a statutory requirement on schools to teach financial education as a core part of the curriculum for that very reason.

Gyd-Aelodau, mae pob plaid yn y Siambr hon wedi lleisio pryderon difrifol ar ryw adeg neu'i gilydd am anghydraddoldeb a thlodi yng Nghymru. Mae pob un ohonom yn ystyried y materion hyn o safbwyntiau gwahanol ac yn cynnig atebion gwahanol, ond rydym i gyd yn cytuno ar un peth: dylai'r Cynulliad barhau i ymrwymo i roi terfyn ar y ddau ddrwg hyn. Yn hynny o beth, ni fyddwn byth yn llaesu dwylo nac yn petruso rhag ceisio gwneud mwy. Dof â'r Bil ger eich bron heddiw ar adeg pan fo Cymru yn parhau i fod mewn cyfnod o argyfwng economaidd dwfn. Nid yw hwn yn ddirwasgiad arferol: gwelwn newidiadau sylfaenol i'r ffordd rydym yn gweithio, yn ennill bywoliaeth ac yn byw. O'r hyn a welaf i, gallwn eistedd yma a siarad yn ddi-baid ynghylch pwy sydd ar fai, neu gallwn ddefnyddio'r Cynulliad hwn am yr hyn y'i bwriadwyd.

Dyma syniad ichi o'r sefyllfa fel ag y mae: roedd gan 84% o bobl a geisiodd help gan Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru rhwng mis Ebrill 2012 a mis Mawrth eleni broblemau gallu ariannol; yn y chwe mis diwethaf, mae tua 398,000 o bobl yng Nghymru wedi colli mwy nag un taliad ar fenthyciad, cytundeb credyd, morgais, neu wedi cael tâl am orddrafft heb ei awdurdodi; ac yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, mae 1.2 miliwn o bobl yng Nghymru wedi defnyddio cerdyn credyd neu siop i dalu am nad oedd ganddynt yr arian ar y pryd. Nawr ystyriwch hyn: nid oedd y diwydiant benthycia diwrnod cyflog fel yr ydym yn ei adnabod yn bodoli hyd yn oed chwe blynedd yn ôl. Heddiw, mae tua 92,000 o bobl yng Nghymru—4% o'r boblogaeth sy'n oedolion yng Nghymru—wedi cymryd benthyciad diwrnod cyflog. Pan fyddwch yn cysylltu'r argyfwng economaidd â dyfodiad y benthyciwr diwrnod cyflog—ac mae cysylltiad rhyngddynt—'a'ch bod yn credu bod y Cynulliad yma i weithredu, rhaid ichi dderbyn bod angen inni gael dull cadarn o rymuso pobl Cymru, fel y gallant wneud dewisiadau ariannol hyddysg a dod yn fwy ffyniannus, yn hytrach na chael eu llethu ymhellach gan ddyled a'u hamddifadu o gyfleoedd.

Os mai galluogi pobl yw ein diben cyntaf yma, yna mae angen ateb parhaol. Felly, credaf fod angen inni ddeddfu. Dywedodd Martin Lewis, sylfaenydd MoneySavingExpert.com,

Mae cylch dieflig o anllythrennedd ariannol a dyled i'w dorri yn y wlad hon. Byddai addysg ariannol mewn ysgolion yn gwneud gwahaniaeth enfawr.

Mae'r Bil hwn wedi tynnu ei sylw ac wedi ennyn ei gefnogaeth; dywedodd ei fod wrth ei fodd. Mae hwn yn gyfle euraid i ddangos i Gymru a gweddill y byd ein bod o ddifrif ynghylch addysg ariannol. Mae angen deddfwriaeth arnom hefyd gan fod rhwystrau i arfer da yn cael eu mabwysiadu: cwricwla gorlawn, diffyg profiad athrawon a diffyg adnoddau. Mae'r grŵp seneddol hollbleidiol ar addysg ariannol i bobl ifanc wedi dadlau dros osod gofyniad statudol ar ysgolion i addysgu addysg ariannol fel rhan greiddiol o'r cwricwlwm am yr union reswm hwnnw.

To its credit, the Welsh Government has provided financial education for a number of years. At present, it is taught to year 9 in maths, and it is compulsory in personal and social education through key stage 4, where it accounts for two of 61 learning outcomes. Post-16, it is not compulsory. The Welsh Financial Education Unit has done a lot of good work, training over 700 teachers. A review on behalf of the Welsh Government found that this unit was regarded as tremendously valuable. Last week, however, my office learned that future funding for the unit has been identified beyond this financial year, and we also learned this morning from Ministers in committee that this was always intended to be a time-limited project. That report also said there was some evidence to indicate that pupils are starting to develop a greater awareness of finance in society. This is crucial. 'Money Matters', Estyn's report on financial education in schools, which also backed that finding, reported that few schools monitor or evaluate the impact of financial education on pupils' understanding, skills and knowledge.

The 'Impact Review of Financial Education for Young People' found that current financial education interventions are held to be effective without a correspondingly robust evidence base. The proposal you will have is essentially a Bill of two parts. It is by no means the finished article, and I positively welcome input and proposals from as many of you as possible, just as I am extremely thankful for many of you on the opposite benches who have already talked to me about your own ideas. I am also grateful to the multitude of third sector organisations and charities, consumer bodies, individuals, and the financial inclusion champion for Wales, who have taken time to meet me and my staff to suggest what they would like to see in this Bill. Not one of them has said 'no' to legislation, or that it is unnecessary. The bottom line is that we can all benefit here, and we can all benefit from input into this Bill.

The first part of the Bill concerns itself with financial education, and, as Nelson Mandela said, education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world. We do have power over education here in Wales.

There is a simple reason that I want to see financial education provision that is not only universal, but buried deep in the curriculum's DNA: the pace of financial innovation is now so swift that students we teach PPI to today will be faced with a totally new range of products when they come to borrow tomorrow. We know these products are often the same idea in new packaging, but if it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, we need future generations to be able to see it for what it is—and that means a greater focus not only in maths, but in all subjects. Finance impacts on all aspects of our lives, and if the primary purpose of education is to prepare our young people for a successful future, it stands to reason that it should cut across everything that they learn in school.

Er clod iddi, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu addysg ariannol ers nifer o flynyddoedd. Ar hyn o bryd, caiff ei haddysgu i ddisgyblion blwyddyn 9 mewn gwersi mathemateg, ac mae'n orfodol mewn addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol drwy gyfnod allweddol 4, lle mae'n cyfrif am ddau o 61 o ddeilliannau dysgu. Nid yw'n orfodol i ddisgyblion ôl-16. Mae Uned Addysg Ariannol Cymru wedi gwneud llawer o waith da, ac wedi hyfforddi dros 700 o athrawon. Canfu adolygiad ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru yr ystyrir bod yr uned hon yn hynod o werthfawr. Yr wythnos diwethaf, fodd bynnag, cafodd fy swyddfa wybod bod cyllid ar gyfer yr uned yn y dyfodol wedi'i bennu y tu hwnt i'r flwyddyn ariannol hon, a chawsom wybod hefyd y bore yma gan Weinidogion yn y pwyllgor mai prosiect â therfyn amser oedd hwn erioed. Dywedodd yr adroddiad hwnnw hefyd fod rhywfaint o dystiolaeth i ddangos bod disgyblion yn dechrau datblygu mwy o ymwybyddiaeth o gyllid mewn cymdeithas. Mae hyn yn hanfodol. Nododd 'Materion Ariannol', adroddiad Estyn ar addysg ariannol mewn ysgolion, a oedd hefyd yn cefnogi'r canfyddiad hwnnw, mai prin iawn oedd yr ysgolion oedd yn monitro neu'n arfarnu effaith addysg ariannol ar ddealltwriaeth, sgiliau a gwybodaeth y disgyblion.

Canfu'r 'Impact Review of Financial Education for Young People' yr ystyrir bod ymyriadau addysg ariannol presennol yn effeithiol heb sylfaen dystiolaeth gadarn gyfatebol. Bil mewn dwy ran fydd y cynnig a gewch yn ei hanfod. Nid yw'n orffenedig o bell ffordd, a chroesawaf sylwadau a chynigion gan gymaint ohonoch ag y bo modd, yn union fel rwyf yn hynod ddiolchgar i lawer ohonoch ar y meinciau gyferbyn sydd eisoes wedi siarad â mi am eich syniadau eich hun. Rwy'n ddiolchgar hefyd i'r llu o sefydliadau yn y trydydd sector ac elusennau, cyrff defnyddwyr, unigolion, a hyrwyddwr cynhwysiant ariannol Cymru, sydd wedi rhoi o'i amser i gwrdd â mi a'm staff er mwyn awgrymu beth yr hoffent ei weld yn y Bil hwn. Nid oes yr un ohonynt wedi gwrthwynebu'r ddeddfwriaeth, nac wedi dweud ei bod yn ddiangen. Y gwir amdani yw y gall pob un ohonom elwa yma, ac y gall pob un ohonom elwa o gyfrannu at y Bil hwn.

Mae rhan gyntaf y Bil yn ymwneud ag addysg ariannol, ac, fel y dywedodd Nelson Mandela, addysg yw'r arf mwyaf pwerus y gallwch ei ddefnyddio i newid y byd. Mae gennym bŵer dros addysg yma yng Nghymru.

Mae rheswm syml pam fy mod am weld darpariaeth addysg ariannol sydd nid yn unig ar gael i bawb, ond sydd hefyd wedi'i gwreiddio'n ddwfn yn y cwricwlwm: mae arloesedd ariannol yn datblygu mor gyflym bellach fel y bydd myfyrwyr yr ydym yn rhoi gwersi am PPI iddynt heddiw yn wynebu ystod hollol newydd o gynhyrchion pan fyddant am fenthyg arian yn y dyfodol. Gwyddom mai yr un yw'r cynhyrchion hyn yn aml ond eu bod wedi'u pecynnu mewn ffordd wahanol, ond os mai yr un peth ydynt yn y bôn, mae angen i genedlaethau'r dyfodol allu gweld hynny—ac mae hynny'n golygu mwy o ffocws, nid yn unig mewn mathemateg, ond ym mhob pwnc. Mae cyllid yn effeithio ar bob agwedd ar ein bywydau, ac os mai prif ddiben addysg yw paratoi ein pobl ifanc ar gyfer dyfodol llwyddiannus, mae'n amlwg y dylai dorri ar draws popeth y maent yn ei ddysgu yn yr ysgol.

Creating a nation of financially literate school leavers opens the door to improved economic success as inward investors are given confidence from this achievement. We could look to introduce something similar to the financial baccalaureate being tested at King Edward V College in Stourbridge, for example. This legislation would focus on more than just the curriculum content—we are looking to ensure that debt advice becomes a statutory responsibility for universities. It is also about pastoral care for students, putting in place frameworks to enable universities and sixth-form colleges to prohibit harmful financial activity.

Before we can get to the future, we have to deal with what is happening right now. Citizens Advice has seen a fivefold increase in people who have problems with a pay-day lender. A 2008 YouGov survey found that 70% of 18-24 year olds were in debt, and I firmly believe that that is down to student fees. Time is against us, and universal credit is nearly upon us, and it will require families who have budgeted weekly to change the way that they have done things for generations. Meanwhile, the Trussell Trust reports today that the number of people relying on its food banks has trebled in the last year, with some people handing back food that requires cooking because they cannot even afford to use energy. Chief among my proposals, therefore, is a statutory duty on local authorities to promote financial inclusion. At face value, local authorities might not welcome an additional burden following today's settlement, but I think it is there to prompt innovation, push down silos, and unify the excellent work already going on in many councils across Wales so that service users can get what they need far more easily, which is not happening everywhere at the moment.

So, to the doubters, I say this: it will cost a lot less to help someone in bad debt today than it will when they are homeless tomorrow. As well as fire-fighting these issues right now, it would be financially sensible to identify and combat future problems. 'Preventative' is the word for scrutiny, and I think 'preventative' is the word for this Bill.

Over the summer, the Assembly's outreach team took my proposal out to the public, including nearly 200 secondary-age students. A resounding 97% thought that the idea was very good or excellent. A majority thought that good financial practice should be promoted through schools, universities and adult education. Of school-age respondents, 77% said that they did not feel that they had enough education to manage their money effectively.

Lastly—before I hear what others have to say—this is what one of my constituents, Serai, told me:

Mae creu cenedl o bobl ifanc sy'n gadael yr ysgol yn llythrennog yn ariannol yn agor y drws i fwy o lwyddiant economaidd wrth i fewnfuddsoddwyr ennyn hyder ar sail y cyflawniad hwn. Gallem ystyried cyflwyno rhywbeth tebyg i fagloriaeth ariannol sydd ar brawf yn King Edward V College yn Stourbridge, er enghraifft. Byddai'r ddeddfwriaeth hon yn canolbwyntio ar fwy na dim ond cynnwys y cwricwlwm—rydym am sicrhau bod cyngor ar ddyled yn dod yn gyfrifoldeb statudol i brifysgolion. Mae hefyd yn ymwneud â gofal bugeiliol i fyfyrwyr, sefydlu fframweithiau i alluogi prifysgolion a cholegau chweched dosbarth i wahardd gweithgaredd ariannol niweidiol.

Cyn y gallwn ystyried y dyfodol, rhaid inni ddelio â'r hyn sy'n digwydd ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r Ganolfan Cyngor ar Bopeth wedi gweld pum gwaith yn fwy o bobl sydd â phroblemau gyda benthyciwr diwrnod cyflog. Canfu arolwg YouGov yn 2008 fod 70% o bobl ifanc 18-24 oed mewn dyled, ac rwy'n grediniol mai ffioedd myfyrwyr sy'n gyfrifol am hynny. Mae amser yn ein herbyn, a chredyd cynhwysol bron ar ein gwarthaf, a bydd angen i deuluoedd sydd wedi cyllidebu'n wythnosol newid y ffordd y maent wedi gwneud pethau ers cenedlaethau. Yn y cyfamser, mae Ymddiriedolaeth Trussell yn nodi heddiw bod nifer y bobl sy'n dibynnu ar ei banciau bwyd wedi treblu yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, gyda rhai pobl yn dychwelyd bwyd y mae angen ei goginio am na allant fforddio defnyddio ynni hyd yn oed. Fy mhrif gynnig, felly, yw rhoi dyletswydd statudol ar awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant ariannol. Ar yr olwg gyntaf, efallai na fydd awdurdodau lleol yn croesawu baich ychwanegol yn dilyn setliad heddiw, ond credaf fod ei hangen er mwyn annog arloesedd, dileu seilos, ac uno'r gwaith rhagorol sydd eisoes yn digwydd mewn llawer o gynghorau ledled Cymru fel y gall defnyddwyr gwasanaeth gael yr hyn sydd ei angen arnynt yn llawer haws, sef rhywbeth nad yw'n digwydd ym mhob man ar hyn o bryd.

Felly, dywedaf hyn wrth y rhai sy'n amau: bydd yn costio llawer llai i helpu rhywun mewn dyled heddiw nag y bydd pan fydd yn ddiartref yfory. Yn ogystal â mynd i'r afael ag argyfyngau ar hyn o bryd, byddai'n synhwyrol yn ariannol i nodi problemau yn y dyfodol a mynd i'r afael â hwy. 'Ataliol' yw'r gair am graffu, a chredaf mai 'ataliol' yw'r gair am y Bil hwn.

Dros yr haf, cododd tîm allgymorth y Cynulliad fy nghynnig gyda'r cyhoedd, gan gynnwys bron i 200 o fyfyrwyr oedran uwchradd. Roedd mwyafrif llethol o 97% o'r farn bod y syniad yn dda iawn neu'n ardderchog. Roedd mwyafrif o'r farn y dylid hyrwyddo arferion ariannol da mewn ysgolion, prifysgolion ac addysg i oedolion. O'r ymatebwyr o oedran ysgol, dywedodd 77% nad oeddent yn teimlo eu bod wedi cael digon o addysg i reoli eu harian yn effeithiol.

Yn olaf—cyn imi glywed yr hyn sydd gan eraill i'w ddweud—dyma'r hyn a ddywedodd un o'm hetholwyr, Serai, wrthyf:

'Pay-day loan companies and doorstep lenders make it so easy for vulnerable people to get into trouble. They fail to carry out credit checks and promise almost instant cash. I am a young mum, and I owe about £600 to the Provy and companies such as Wonga. I don't get hassled any more, but the debts are still there. I have a poor credit rating, which will impact on my future choices. I won't be able to get a mortgage or a bank loan.'

Mae cwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog a benthycwyr carreg y drws yn ei gwneud mor hawdd i bobl sy'n agored i niwed fynd i drafferthion. Nid ydynt yn cynnal gwiriadau credyd ac maent yn addo arian parod bron ar unwaith. Rwy'n fam ifanc, ac mae arnaf tua £600 i'r Provy a chwmnïau fel Wonga. Nid wyf yn cael fy mhoeni mwyach, ond mae'r dyledion yn dal i fodoli. Mae gennyf statws credyd gwael, a fydd yn effeithio ar fy newisiadau yn y dyfodol. Ni fyddaf yn gallu cael morgais na benthyciad banc.

If you think that there is more that we can do to benefit Serai, and those like her, through financial capability as well as to combat the spread of pay-day lending, as Welsh Government Ministers have said in recent weeks, then please do back this Bill. If you think that this Assembly can reduce the misery of poverty through financial education, then please allow these proposals to go forward today. Diolch yn fawr.

Os credwch y gallwn wneud mwy i helpu Serai, a rhai tebyg iddi, drwy allu ariannol yn ogystal â brwydro yn erbyn lledaeniad benthycia diwrnod cyflog, fel y mae Gweinidogion Llywodraeth Cymru wedi'i ddweud yn yr wythnosau diwethaf, yna da chi, cefnogwch y Bil hwn. Os credwch y gall y Cynulliad hwn leihau'r trallod a ddaw yn sgil tlodi drwy addysg ariannol, yna da chi, gadewch i'r cynigion hyn symud ymlaen heddiw. Diolch yn fawr.

16:56 **Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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I call the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi.

16:56 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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*Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi / The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty*

Deputy Presiding Officer, I would like to thank Bethan Jenkins for her opening remarks and to state at the outset the Welsh Government's commitment to financial literacy and financial inclusion. It is a fundamental part of our commitment to tackle poverty in Wales.

Ddirprwy Lywydd, hoffwn ddiolch i Bethan Jenkins am ei sylwadau agoriadol, ac i nodi ar y cychwyn ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cymru i lythrennedd ariannol a chynhwysiant ariannol. Mae'n rhan sylfaenol o'n hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â thlodi yng Nghymru.

The test for these proposals is whether legislation would add real value to the work already under way. The principles of this proposed Bill are, of course, very important, but we need to balance that against the good work that is already going on. I welcome this opportunity to highlight the work that the Welsh Government is already doing to increase financial literacy and to provide access to mainstream financial advice and products that address the issues highlighted by Bethan Jenkins.

Y prawf ar gyfer y cynigion hyn yw a fyddai deddfwriaeth yn ychwanegu gwerth gwirioneddol at y gwaith sydd eisoes ar y gweill. Mae egwyddorion y Bil arfaethedig hwn, wrth gwrs, yn bwysig iawn, ond mae angen inni gydbwyso hynny yn erbyn y gwaith da sydd eisoes yn mynd rhagddo. Croesawaf y cyfle hwn i dynnu sylw at y gwaith y mae Llywodraeth Cymru eisoes yn ei wneud i wella llythrennedd ariannol a chynnig cyngor ariannol prif ffrwd a chynhyrchion sy'n mynd i'r afael â'r materion a amlygwyd gan Bethan Jenkins.

I will address the first point of the proposal—placing financial education within the school curriculum. In September 2013, a new national literacy and numeracy framework became statutory for all learners between the ages of five and 14. This framework contains a 'manage money' strand, a requirement to learn about money across the curriculum. The numeracy framework is therefore strengthening existing requirements for developing financial capability and lays down the building blocks for financial education from the foundation phase upwards. The new maths GCSE under development will continue this financial literacy learning for ages 14 and onwards.

Af i'r afael â phwynt cyntaf y cynnig—cynnwys addysg ariannol yn y cwricwlwm ysgol. Ym mis Medi 2013, daeth fframwaith llythrennedd a rhifedd cenedlaethol newydd yn statudol ar gyfer pob dysgwr rhwng pump a 14 oed. Mae'r fframwaith hwn yn cynnwys elfen o 'reoli arian', gofyniad i ddysgu am arian ar draws y cwricwlwm. Felly, mae'r fframwaith rhifedd yn atgyfnerthu gofynion presennol ar gyfer datblygu gallu ariannol ac yn gosod y congilfeini addysg ariannol o'r cyfnod sylfaen ymlaen. Bydd y TGAU newydd mewn mathemateg sy'n cael ei datblygu yn parhau â'r broses hon o addysgu llythrennedd ariannol ar gyfer disgyblion 14 oed a throsodd.

This work is being strengthened further by Welsh Government through the provision of continued support for teachers. A financial education teaching pack has been developed for use by primary and secondary schools. This valuable source of support will go live on the Learning Wales site later this autumn, and will cover financial knowledge and understanding, financial skills, competence and financial responsibility.

Caiff y gwaith hwn ei atgyfnerthu ymhellach gan Lywodraeth Cymru drwy roi cymorth parhaus i athrawon. Mae pecyn addysgu addysg ariannol wedi cael ei ddatblygu i'w ddefnyddio gan ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd. Bydd y ffynhonnell werthfawr o gymorth hon yn mynd yn fyw ar safle Dysgu Cymru yn ddiweddarach yn yr hydref, a bydd yn cynnwys gwybodaeth a dealltwriaeth ariannol, sgiliau ariannol, cymhwysedd a chyfrifoldeb ariannol.

Welsh Government has also put in place a support package for learners aged 16-plus through Student Finance Wales, which provides information on student loans and on maintenance and grants for learners aged 16-plus.

I will turn now to the wider financial inclusion aspects of this motion—that is advice services, credit unions and the links to welfare reform. We are working with the advice services, credit unions and other partners to support our most vulnerable people and seeking to increase financial capability and inclusion, and thus improve the lives of those who need our help the most. The welfare reform changes, mixed with the prevailing economic climate, have had a direct impact on the ability of individuals to manage their household incomes. Debt advice services are therefore becoming a more essential factor in the ongoing battle against financial exclusion in Wales. This increased demand for debt and money advice has already been recognised by the Welsh Government, and measures are being developed that will ensure that people are able to get the help they need to help to mitigate these external factors.

There is also much good work carried out by our partners in the third sector, particularly around debt advice and financial capability. We have undertaken a review of the advice services in Wales to ensure that people in need of advice and support can access the help that they need. This has shown that there are many good services available to people. For example, Money Advice Service and Citizens Advice Cymru play a tremendous role in providing access to debt and money advice, and we have funded Citizens Advice Cymru to deliver dedicated outreach support in the 35 Communities First clusters, where such provision was not available. Additionally, the Welsh Government has made £1.8 million of additional money available to the advice sector this financial year to support not-for-profit providers to cope with the anticipated increased demand.

Welsh Government supports the work of credit unions, particularly to tackle the issue of financial exclusion. Credit unions are a safe, affordable, option as they strive to promote ethical and responsible lending to those who would otherwise be financially excluded. Welsh Government has offered an additional £1.25 million to credit unions this financial year to accelerate their development and to help to improve sustainability so that they can continue to help financially excluded people across their services. While it is difficult to quantify, the reality is that loans provided by credit unions are saving many consumers millions of pounds in interest, especially when compared to the often extortionate rate of interest charged by pay-day loan companies.

Digital technologies are also helping us to address the issue of financial capability and inclusion. The Welsh Government has funded the Money Made Clear Wales website. That forms part of our work to improve financial capability and enables people to find credible and unbiased information about the advice and financial services available to them. There is also immediate help available on the website about budgeting and managing money.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd wedi sefydlu pecyn cymorth ar gyfer dysgwyr 16 oed a throsodd drwy Gyllid Myfyrwyr Cymru, sy'n rhoi gwybodaeth am fenthyciadau myfyrwyr ac ar gynhaliadaeth a grantiau ar gyfer dysgwyr 16 oed a throsodd.

Trof yn awr at agweddau cynhwysiant ariannol ehangach y cynnig—hynny yw, gwasanaethau cynghori, undebau credyd a'r cysylltiadau â diwygio lles. Rydym yn gweithio gyda'r gwasanaethau cynghori, undebau credyd a phartneriaid eraill i gefnogi ein pobl fwyaf agored i niwed ac yn ceisio cynyddu gallu ariannol a chynhwysiant, a thrwy hynny wella bywydau'r rhai sydd angen ein help fwyaf. Mae'r newidiadau diwygio lles, ynghyd â'r hinsawdd economaidd sydd ohoni, wedi cael effaith uniongyrchol ar allu unigolion i reoli incwm eu haelwyd. Felly mae gwasanaethau cyngor ar ddyledion yn dod yn ffactor mwy hanfodol yn y frwydr barhaus yn erbyn allgáu ariannol yng Nghymru. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru eisoes wedi cydnabod y galw cynyddol hwn am ddyledion a chynghori ariannol, ac mae mesurau yn cael eu datblygu a fydd yn sicrhau bod pobl yn gallu cael yr help sydd ei angen arnynt i liniaru'r ffactorau allanol hyn.

Mae llawer o waith da hefyd yn cael ei wneud gan ein partneriaid yn y trydydd sector, yn enwedig o ran cyngor ar ddyledion a gallu ariannol. Rydym wedi cynnal adolygiad o'r gwasanaethau cynghori yng Nghymru er mwyn sicrhau y gall pobl y mae angen cyngor a chymorth arnynt gael gafael ar yr help sydd ei angen arnynt. Mae hyn wedi dangos bod llawer o wasanaethau da ar gael i bobl. Er enghraifft, mae Gwasanaeth Cynghori Ariannol a Chyngor ar Bopeth Cymru yn chwarae rhan aruthrol o ran cynnig cyngor ariannol a chyngor ar ddyledion, ac rydym wedi rhoi arian i Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru roi cymorth allgymorth penodol yn y 35 o glystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, lle nad oes darpariaeth o'r fath ar gael. Yn ogystal, mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi darparu £1.8 miliwn o arian ychwanegol i'r sector cynghori y flwyddyn ariannol hon i helpu darparwyr nid er elw i ymdopi â'r cynnydd a ragwelir yn y galw.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cefnogi gwaith yr undebau credyd, yn enwedig ar fynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol. Mae undebau credyd yn opsiwn diogel, fforddiadwy gan eu bod yn ymdrechu i hyrwyddo benthycia moesegol a chyfrifol i'r rhai hynny a fyddai fel arall yn cael eu hallgáu yn ariannol. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cynnig swm ychwanegol o £1.25 miliwn i undebau credyd y flwyddyn ariannol hon er mwyn cyflymu eu datblygiad ac er mwyn helpu i wella cynaliadwyedd fel y gallant barhau i helpu pobl sydd wedi'u hallgáu'n ariannol ym mhob rhan o'u gwasanaethau. Er ei bod yn anodd ei fesur, y realiti yw bod y benthyciadau a ddarperir gan undebau credyd yn arbed miliynau o bunnoedd mewn llog i lawer o ddefnyddwyr, yn enwedig o gymharu â'r cyfraddau llog gormodol a godir gan gwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog.

Mae technolegau digidol hefyd yn ein helpu i fynd i'r afael â gallu a chynhwysiant ariannol. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ariannu gwefan Money Made Clear Cymru. Mae hynny'n rhan o'n gwaith i wella gallu ariannol a galluogi pobl i ddod o hyd i wybodaeth gredadwy a diduedd am y cyngor a'r gwasanaethau ariannol sydd ar gael iddynt. Mae cymorth uniongyrchol hefyd ar gael ar y wefan am gyllidebu a rheoli arian.

I understand the sentiment underpinning this motion and recognise the good intention of helping to address the issue of financial literacy and wider exclusion in Wales. What I cannot see at the moment is that Bethan Jenkins has identified a particular issue that really needs legislation. While I thank Bethan Jenkins for highlighting the issues, and definitely share her commitment to tackling them, there is a real danger that we could find ourselves diverting resources into framing legislation that would be better used making a real difference to people's everyday lives. I am not prepared to do that. I am also not prepared to commit any Government resources to support the development of the Bill's proposals, as the focus must remain on the work that we are doing in supporting our most vulnerable people. I will not be opposing Bethan Jenkins's wish to take this proposal forward today—

Deallaf y teimlad wrth wraidd y cynnig hwn ac yn cydnabod y bwriad da o helpu i fynd i'r afael â llythrennedd ariannol ac allgáu ehangach yng Nghymru. Yr hyn na allaf ei weld ar hyn o bryd yw bod Bethan Jenkins wedi nodi mater penodol y mae angen deddfu yn ei gylch mewn gwirionedd. Er fy mod yn diolch i Bethan Jenkins am dynnu sylw at y materion, ac yn sicr rwy'n rhannu ei hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â hwy, mae perygl gwirioneddol y gallem fod mewn sefyllfa lle rydym yn dargyfeirio adnoddau ar gyfer llunio deddfwriaeth y gellid eu defnyddio'n well i wneud gwahaniaeth go iawn i fywydau bob dydd pobl. Nid wyf yn fodlon gwneud hynny. Nid wyf yn fodlon ychwaith neilltuo unrhyw adnoddau gan y Llywodraeth i gefnogi'r broses o ddatblygu cynigion y Bil, gan fod yn rhaid parhau i ganolbwyntio ar y gwaith yr ydym yn ei wneud o ran cefnogi ein pobl fwyaf agored i niwed. Ni fyddaf yn gwrthwynebu dymuniad Bethan Jenkins i ddatblygu'r cynnig hwn heddiw—

17:03 **Nick Ramsay** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I am grateful to you for taking an intervention. I was just listening to what you said there, and, surely, what we are talking about in this debate, whether you agree with this or not, is the Member in question's right to submit a Bill at this point to the Assembly. That will increase focus on this issue, which I am sure you would like to do.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar ichi am dderbyn ymyriad. Roeddwn yn gwrandao ar yr hyn a ddywedasocho, a siawns mai'r hyn yr ydym yn sôn amdano yn y ddadl hon, p'un a ydych yn cytuno â hyn ai peidio, yw hawl yr Aelod dan sylw i gyflwyno Bil i'r Cynulliad ar y cam hwn. Bydd hynny'n rhoi mwy o ffocws ar y mater hwn, sef rhywbeth yr hoffech ei wneud mae'n siŵr gennyf.

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17:03 **Jeff Cuthbert** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

You are a little premature in your interjection, I am afraid.

I will not be opposing Bethan Jenkins's wish to take this proposal forward today, but I will need a lot of convincing that legislation will add any value to the policies in place and make a meaningful contribution to the work already under way in this area. Therefore, I will be abstaining.

Mae eich ymyriad braidd yn gynamserol, mae arnaf ofn.

Ni fyddaf yn gwrthwynebu dymuniad Bethan Jenkins i ddatblygu'r cynnig hwn heddiw, ond bydd angen llawer o argyhoeddi arnaf y bydd deddfwriaeth yn ychwanegu unrhyw werth at y polisiau sy'n bodoli ac yn gwneud cyfraniad ystyrlon at y gwaith sydd eisoes ar y gweill yn y maes hwn. Felly, byddaf yn ymatal.

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17:04 **Angela Burns** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I would like to thank Bethan Jenkins for bringing forward this Member-proposed Bill.

Your aims are utterly laudable. No-one here would doubt the need for having good financial management education. I suspect that almost every single one of us will have seen or met a constituent who has fallen prey to bad financial circumstances—to some of the absolute sharks out there. I will name them, because I think that they are appalling. People borrow £20 from Wonga at the end of the month and then find out a couple of months later that it has grown a huge amount, and for some people it is far too much. Therefore, I absolutely support your aims and objectives here.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Bethan Jenkins am gyflwyno'r Bil arfaethedig Aelod hwn.

Mae eich amcanion yn hollol ganmoladwy. Nid oes neb yma yn amau'r angen am gael addysg dda ar reoli ariannol. Rwy'n amau y bydd bron pob un ohonom wedi gweld neu wedi cwrdd ag etholwr sydd wedi bod mewn amgylchiadau ariannol gwael—oherwydd rhai o'r benthycwyr diegwyddor hynny sydd i'w cael. Byddaf yn eu henwi, gan fy mod o'r farn eu bod yn warthus. Mae pobl yn cael benthycy £20 gan Wonga ar ddiwedd y mis ac yna'n canfod ychydig o fisoedd yn ddiweddarach ei fod wedi tyfu'n sylweddol, ac i rai pobl mae hynny'n llawer gormod. Felly, rwy'n llwyr gefnogi eich nodau a'ch amcanion yn hyn o beth.

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I have just listened to the Minister reel out a very long list of the actions that he believes that Welsh Government is currently taking, and how good he believes those actions are in helping to promote financial inclusion. I will be honest with you: I do not know where the truth lies on this. I do not know whether what Welsh Government is doing is adequate enough or whether you can bring something to the party that will help to reinforce that. Therefore, because of that, and because the Welsh Conservatives have always believed that it is a privilege and a right for Members to bring forward a Bill, we will support you at this juncture so that you can test it further and put more meat on the bones so that we can all have a look at it and see whether it needs to go further or not.

I share some of the Minister's concerns, and I am not entirely clear that legislation is the best way forward. I am reluctant to put legislation on the statute book, because I think that we should legislate as minimally as possible. The hand of Government should be light upon the yoke; it should not be heavy. I have a degree of confusion over how we might legislate, for example, to prevent local authorities allowing betting shops and pay-day loan shops et cetera spring up in their neighbourhood, and how you can control that. Would that compromise EU law? How would that stand all sorts of tests? You could argue that charity shops are also an indication of areas of poverty.

We can use the national curriculum. We may be able to use the qualifications review to put forward a robust and compulsory method of educating people in the broader sense of financial management. That is what I got from you, Bethan Jenkins—that you felt it was just a bit too narrow at present. You are absolutely right, because financial management is about more than 'Here's some money and this is what you do with it'. It is about the whole process, and understanding the impact that not paying in to a pension fund might have on your life, or the impact that not trying to build up some savings might have. I totally understand that, but I wonder if legislation is the best way, or whether we can, with the Welsh Government and the education sector, look towards making it a robust and compulsory part of the national curriculum, insofar as other areas are compulsory. It is, without a doubt, extremely difficult.

I am also slightly less enamoured of the commentary about what we may or may not do with FE and HE institutions. We as a National Assembly not so very long ago had a debate on lowering the voting age to 16, so if we are going to say to young people at 16, 'We deem you to be adult enough to do the greatest thing of all, which is to vote in your Parliament', I am slightly nervous about banning them from being able to access a credit card at freshers' week, or to access or be able to apply for loans. They are either grown up or not. I would much rather, with young adults, say that it is not about prohibition but about education and support. You made commentary about whether or not pastoral care is offered by universities and further education institutions. I would be horrified if they did not offer direct debt management advice as part of their pastoral care, so we would like to see that evidence so that we can explore it. If they are offering it and it is making no difference and we are still in bad shape, making it statutory will not make any difference to that.

Rwyf newydd wrando ar y Gweinidog yn adrodd rhestr hir iawn o'r camau y cred y mae'r Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd ar hyn o bryd, a pha mor dda yw'r camau hynny yn ei farn ef, o ran helpu i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant ariannol. Byddaf yn onest gyda chi: ni wn beth yw'r gwirionedd yma. Ni wn a yw'r hyn y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei wneud yn ddigon neu a oes modd ichi gyflwyno rhywbeth a fydd yn helpu i atgyfnerthu hynny. Felly, oherwydd hynny, ac oherwydd bod y Ceidwadwyr Cymreig wedi credu erioed ei bod yn fraint ac yn hawl i Aelodau gael cyflwyno Bil, byddwn yn eich cefnogi ar hyn o bryd er mwyn ichi ei brofi ymhellach a rhoi mwy o gig ar yr asgwrn fel y gallwn i gyd edrych arno a gweld a oes angen ei ddatblygu ymhellach ai peidio.

Rhannaf rai o bryderon y Gweinidog, ac nid wyf yn hollol sicr mai deddfwriaeth yw'r ffordd orau ymlaen. Rwy'n gyndyn o roi deddfwriaeth ar y llyfr statud, gan fy mod o'r farn y dylem ddeddfu cyn lleied â phosibl. Dylai llaw y Llywodraeth fod yn ysgafn ar yr iau; ni ddylai fod yn drwm. Rwyf ychydig yn ddryslyd ynghylch sut y gallem ddeddfu, er enghraifft, i atal awdurdodau lleol rhag caniatáu i siopau betio a siopau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog ac ati agor yn eu cymdogaeth, a sut y gallwch reoli hynny. A fyddai hynny'n groes i gyfraith yr UE? Sut y byddai hynny'n gwrthsefyll pob math o brofion? Gallech ddadlau bod siopau elusen hefyd yn arwydd o ardaloedd o dlodi.

Gallwn ddefnyddio'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol. Efallai y gallwn ddefnyddio'r adolygiad o gymwysterau i gyflwyno dull cadarn a gorfodol o addysgu pobl yn yr ystyr ehangach am reoli ariannol. Dyna'r argraff a gefais gennyh, Bethan Jenkins—eich bod yn teimlo ei fod ychydig yn rhy gul ar hyn o bryd. Rydych yn llygad eich lle, oherwydd mae a wnelo rheoli ariannol â mwy na 'Dyma ychydig o arian a dyma'r hyn y dylech ei wneud ag ef'. Mae a wnelo â'r broses gyfan, a deall yr effaith y gallai peidio â thalu i mewn i gronfa bensiwn ei chael ar eich bywyd, neu'r effaith y gallai peidio â cheisio cronni rhywfaint o arbedion ei chael. Deallaf hynny'n llwyr, ond tybed ai deddfwriaeth yw'r ffordd orau, neu a allwn, gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a'r sector addysg, ystyried ei wneud yn rhan gadarn a gorfodol o'r cwricwlwm cenedlaethol, i'r un graddau ag y mae meysydd eraill yn orfodol. Mae'n anodd dros ben, heb os nac oni bai.

Rwyf hefyd ychydig yn llai hoff o'r sylwadau am yr hyn y gallwn neu na allwn ei wneud gyda sefydliadau AB ac AU. Beth amser yn ôl, cawsom ni fel Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ddadl ar ostwng yr oedran pleidleisio i 16, felly os ydym yn mynd i ddweud wrth bobl ifanc 16 oed, 'Rydym yn ystyried eich bod yn ddigon aeddfed i wneud y peth pwysicaf oll, sef pleidleisio i ethol eich Senedd', rwyf braidd yn nerfus ynghylch eu gwahardd rhag gallu cael cerdyn credyd yn wythnos y glas, neu rhag gallu gwneud cais am fenthyciadau. Maent naill ai wedi tyfu i fyny neu ddim. Gydag oedolion ifanc, byddai'n well gennyf ddweud nad yw'n ymwneud â gwaharddiad ond ag addysg a chymorth. Gwnaethoch sylwadau ynghylch a yw gofal bugeiliol yn cael ei gynneg gan brifysgolion a sefydliadau addysg bellach. Byddwn yn arwydo pe na fyddent yn cynnig cyngor uniongyrchol ar reoli dyled fel rhan o'u gofal bugeiliol, felly hoffem weld y dystiolaeth honno fel y gallwn ei harchwilio. Os ydynt yn ei gynneg ac nad yw'n gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth ac nad yw'r sefyllfa'n gwella, ni fydd ei gwneud yn statudol yn gwneud unrhyw wahaniaeth i hynny.

So, these are all the things that we look forward to having a greater understanding of in the next stage of the Bill. We will endeavour to work with you, in whichever way we can, because this is such a vitally important topic, and far too many people in Wales do not know the basics of money management and fall prey to some of the most awful companies out there.

Felly, dyma'r holl bethau yr ydym yn edrych ymlaen at gael gwell dealltwriaeth ohonynt yng ngham nesaf y Bil. Byddwn yn ymdrechu i weithio gyda chi, ym mha ffordd bynnag y gallwn, oherwydd mae hwn yn bwnc sydd mor hanfodol bwysig, ac nid yw llawer gormod o bobl yng Nghymru yn gwybod y ffeithiau sylfaenol ynghylch rheoli arian ac maent yn cael eu hunain ar warthaf rhai o'r cwmnïau gwaethaf sydd i'w cael.

17:09

## Mike Hedges [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I wish that you had called me before Jeff Cuthbert and Angela Burns, Deputy Presiding Officer, because they have reduced my speech quite considerably. [Laughter.]

Trueni na wnaethoch fy ngalw i cyn Jeff Cuthbert ac Angela Burns, Ddirprwy Lywydd, oherwydd maent wedi lleihau fy araith yn eithaf sylweddol. [Chwerthin.]

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Bethan Jenkins has highlighted a problem that I am very familiar with. Too many people are experiencing ultra-high interest loans. There are those preying on the most vulnerable in society. We have all met groups such as the Bonymaen mums who became entangled with illegal money lenders. In their case, a local credit union came to their rescue. It is an unfortunate fact that the higher the interest charged, the more an organisation appears to be able to advertise. The poorer you are, the more you pay, be it for fuel or loans and, unless you have a local branch of Lidl or Aldi, for food as well. There is a serious lack of financial understanding. Most children at the age of 16 will know the Pythagoras theorem and they will know about the angles on a circle, but what they will not know is how to calculate compound interest or APR. There is a need to address this information shortfall. There is a need for children to enter the adult world financially literate.

Mae Bethan Jenkins wedi tynnu sylw at broblem yr wyf yn gyfarwydd iawn â hi. Mae gormod o bobl yn cael benthyciadau llog uchel iawn. Mae rhai sy'n manteisio ar y bobl fwyaf agored i niwed mewn cymdeithas. Mae pob un ohonom wedi cwrdd â grwpiau megis mamau Bon-y-maen yr aethant ynghlwm â benthycwyr arian anghyfreithlon. Yn eu hachos hwy, daeth undeb credyd lleol i'w hachub. Mae'n ffaith anffodus mai po uchaf yw'r llog a godir, y mwyaf y mae'n ymddangos y gall sefydliad hysbysebu. Po dlotaf yr ydych, y mwyaf y byddwch yn ei dalu, boed hynny am danwydd neu fenthyciadau ac, oni bai fod gennych gangen leol o Lidl neu Aldi, am fwyd hefyd. Mae diffyg dealltwriaeth ariannol difrifol. Bydd y rhan fwyaf o blant yn 16 oed yn gwybod am theorem Pythagoras a byddant yn gwybod am yr onglau ar gylch, ond ni fyddant yn gwybod sut i gyfrifo adlog neu gyfradd ganrannol flynyddol. Mae angen mynd i'r afael â'r diffyg gwybodaeth hwn. Mae angen i blant fod yn llythrennog yn ariannol cyn iddynt fentro i fyd oedolion.

While this is a problem, I am not convinced that it needs separate legislation. I am able to be convinced and that is why I will support it at this stage. I believe that it could be addressed by using the Welsh baccalaureate, creating a core skill of personal finance, rewriting the application of numbers as a key skill to make it meaningful and relevant to everyday life and to include financial calculations, by using budgeting as a means of teaching spreadsheets in ICT, greater use of personal and social education lessons in schools to underpin financial understanding and to expand the use of credit unions in schools. All of the above can be achieved without primary legislation.

Er bod hyn yn broblem, nid wyf yn argyhoeddedig bod angen deddfwriaeth ar wahân. Gallaf gael fy argyhoeddi, a dyna pam y byddaf yn ei gefnogi ar hyn o bryd. Credaf y gellid mynd i'r afael ag ef drwy ddefnyddio bagloriaeth Cymru, gan sefydlu cyllid personol yn sgil graidd, ailbennu cymhwysio rhifau yn sgil allweddol er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn ystyrlon ac yn berthnasol i fywyd bob dydd a chynnwys cyfrifiadau ariannol, drwy ddefnyddio cyllidebu fel ffordd o addysgu am daenenni mewn TGCh, mwy o ddefnydd o wersi addysg bersonol a chymdeithasol mewn ysgolion fel sail i ddealltwriaeth ariannol ac ehangu'r defnydd o undebau credyd mewn ysgolion. Gellir cyflawni pob un o'r uchod heb ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol.

Remember, comprehensive education was brought in based on Anthony Crossland's Department of Education and Science circular 10/65, not on legislation. There is a problem that needs addressing and I await the next stage of the process. What we all want to see can be achieved without the need for separate legislation, but I am quite prepared to see it go to the next stage, in order for it to go forward. Before anybody corrects me, I meant that they will know about the 'codes' on a circle, not 'angles'. [Laughter.]

Cofiwch, cyflwynwyd addysg gynhwysfawr yn seiliedig ar gylchlythyr 10/65 Adran Addysg a Gwyddoniaeth Anthony Crossland, nid ar sail deddfwriaeth. Mae yna broblem y mae angen mynd i'r afael â hi ac rwy'n aros am gam nesaf y broses. Gellir cyflawni'r hyn y mae pob un ohonom am ei weld heb yr angen am ddeddfwriaeth ar wahân, ond rwyf yn barod iawn i'w weld yn mynd i'r cam nesaf, er mwyn iddo fynd yn ei flaen. Cyn i neb fy nghywiro, roeddwn yn golygu y byddant yn gwybod am y 'codau' ar gylch, nid 'onglau'. [Chwerthin.]

17:11

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

Mae'n dda gennyf gyfrannu at y ddadl hon, gan gefnogi'r Bil mae Bethan Jenkins wedi'i gyflwyno gerbron y Senedd, a gobeithiaf yn fawr y caiff gefnogaeth i fynd ymhellach.

I am pleased to contribute to this debate, and to support the Bill that Bethan Jenkins has brought before the Senedd. I very much hope that it will be supported to proceed further.

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Mae'n wir, mae'n siŵr gennyf, bod cwestiynau, fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, ynglŷn â sut yn union y bydd y Bil hwn yn gweithio. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n meddwl ei fod yn gwbl briodol, gan ein bod yn rhannu cymaint o bryderon Bethan Jenkins a chymaint o'r pryderon sydd gan ein hetholwyr a phobl ifanc yn ein hetholaethau, ein bod yn gweld hwn yn cael ei brofi yn awr, drwy'r system sydd gennym. Dyna pam rydym wedi ein sefydlu fel Senedd, gyda system o fynd â Bil i'r Cyfarfod Llawn ac ymlaen drwy bwyllgor i gael ei brofi.

Yr hyn nad yw wedi'i ddweud eto, beth bynnag yw ymdrechion clodwiv'r Llywodraeth, yw pa mor ddiffygiol yw addysg ariannol ar hyn o bryd. Cyfeiriodd Bethan Jenkins at y grŵp seneddol ar addysg ariannol ar gyfer pobl ifanc. Mae hwnnw wedi canfod bod dros hanner ein pobl ifanc 17 oed eisoes wedi bod mewn dyled. Mae'r FSA wedi canfod mai pobl ifanc yn eu hugeiniau yw'r grŵp oedran lleiaf abl i ddelio â chyllid ac i ddeall arian. Mae 36% o'r boblogaeth heb ddeall yn llawn beth yw ystyr y llythrennau 'APR'. Rwy'n siŵr bod 100% o Aelodau yn y fan hon yn gwybod yn iawn beth yw 'APR', ond pan nad yw traean o'r boblogaeth yn deall yr ystyr, sut mae adeiladu cymdeithas wâr, gynhwysol gyda chyn lleied o ddealltwriaeth?

Erbyn hyn, mae'n hollbwysig, os ydych eisiau bod yn aelod llawn o gymdeithas, ichi feddu ar sgiliau ariannol craidd. Mae'n rhaid ichi wybod sut i redeg cyfrif banc a deall sut mae hanes credyd yn gweithio. Oni bai bod gennyh fynediad at y pethau hyn, ni allwch fod yn aelod llawn. Mae'n gwbl briodol, felly, mai'r Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi sy'n ateb y ddadl. Rwy'n siomedig nad yw am gefnogi'r Bil, ond o leiaf nid yw wedi ei wrthwynebu'n llwyr. Mae hwn yn rhan o sut rydym yn cynnwys pawb mewn cymdeithas, ac yn rhan o sut i adeiladu gallu pobl i gyfrannu'n llawn.

Mae ychydig o gwestiynau wedi codi heddiw ynglŷn ag addysg ôl-16. Mae hynny hefyd yn gwbl ddilys i edrych arno mewn pwyllgor. Mae'r Bil, fel y mae wedi'i ddrafftio—drafft cyntaf yw hwn—yn sôn am ddyletswydd ysgolion. Yn y pwyllgorau, gallwn edrych ar sut mae gwneud hyn yn ddyletswydd, o bosibl, ar Weinidogion a Llywodraeth, a pha ran mae addysg uwch a cholegau addysg bellach yn ei chwarae.

Yr hyn sy'n fy synnu i ac unrhyw un sydd â phlentyn sydd wedi mynd trwy brifysgol, yw pa mor gyffredin yw gweld myfyrwyr yn defnyddio benthydwyr diwrnod pae, megis Wonga, i ychwanegu at grantiau cynhaliol neu arian mam a dad, neu beth bynnag. Mae'n fater o ffaith ac yn rhywbeth cwbl gyffredin erbyn hyn i fyfyrwyr ddefnyddio adnoddau fel hynny, ac mae eisiau, yn amlwg, i brifysgolion ystyried hynny yn eu polisiau lles ar gyfer myfyrwyr.

It is true to say, I am sure, that there are questions, as the Minister said, as to how exactly this could work. However, I think that it is entirely appropriate, as we share so many of Bethan Jenkins's concerns and so many of the concerns expressed by constituents and young people in our constituencies, that we should see this being tested now through the system that we have. That is why we have established these systems as a Senedd, by which a Bill is taken to Plenary and then through committees to be tested.

What has not been said yet, whatever the praiseworthy efforts made by the Government, is just how deficient financial education is at present. Bethan Jenkins referred to the parliamentary group on financial education for young people. That has found that over half our young people, by the age of 17, have already experienced debt. The FSA has found that young people in their twenties are the age group least able to deal with their finances and to understand finance. Thirty-six per cent of the population have not fully understood the meaning of 'APR'. I am sure that 100% of Members here fully understand it, but when a third of the population does not know what that means, how can you build a civilised, inclusive society with so little understanding?

It is now crucially important, if you want to play a full part in society, that you have strong core financial skills. You have to know how to run a bank account and you have to understand how credit history works. Unless you have access to those things, you cannot play a full part. It is, therefore, entirely appropriate that it is the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty responding to this debate. I am disappointed that he is not supporting the Bill, but at least he is not opposing it entirely. This is a part of how we include everyone in society and build people's ability to contribute fully.

A few questions have been raised this afternoon about post-16 education. That is an entirely valid area for committees to consider. The Bill, as currently drafted—it is a first draft—mentions the duty placed on schools. In committees, we can look at how we can possibly place duties on Ministers and Government, and what role higher and higher education can play.

What surprises me, and what would surprise anyone with a child who has gone through university, is how common it is for students to use pay-day loan companies, such as Wonga, to supplement their grant or mum and dad's money, or whatever. It is a matter of fact that it is entirely common now for students to use those companies, and universities obviously have to take account of that in their student welfare policies.

May I close by explaining why I think that it is important that we take a legislative route at this stage, rather than depend on the good offices of the Welsh Government and some excellent work that is being done in the voluntary sector as well, and why it is relevant that we consider a legislative route and support Bethan Jenkins today? For a start, it sends a very strong message that we are taking this extremely seriously, and that we see the link, as Bethan set out, between recent economic history in Wales and the participation of young people in a fully economic wellbeing way, if you like, and that they contribute to and can take part in society. Secondly, we are not able here to do some of the things that I would like a Parliament that can do these things to do, such as legislating around pay-day loans, the amount of interest that can be charged for them and their advertising. There have been significant changes by the regulatory bodies due to pressure from people like Bethan and me, and other Members here I know, putting in evidence to those bodies and demanding action. Passing this motion today will be part of putting pressure on the system and demanding action. I think that there are some clear legislative things that we can do. There will be a question of proportionality and balance, but the best way to test that is through our committee system. Please support this motion today so that we can give Bethan's Bill a really good airing and find a way forward for it.

Hoffwn gloi drwy egluro pam fy mod o'r farn ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn dilyn llwybr deddfwriaethol ar y cam hwn, yn hytrach na dibynnu ar gymwynasgarwch Llywodraeth Cymru a gwaith rhagorol sy'n cael ei wneud yn y sector gwirfoddol hefyd, a pham mae'n berthnasol inni ystyried llwybr deddfwriaethol a chefnogi Bethan Jenkins heddiw? I ddechrau, mae'n anfon neges gref iawn ein bod wir yn cymryd hyn o ddifrif, a'n bod yn gweld y cyswllt, fel y nododd Bethan, rhwng hanes economaidd diweddar yng Nghymru a chyfranogiad pobl ifanc mewn ffordd lles lwyf economaidd, os hoffech, a'u bod yn cyfrannu at gymdeithas ac yn gallu cymryd rhan ynddi. Yn ail, ni allwn ni yma wneud rhai o'r pethau yr hoffwn i Senedd sy'n gallu gwneud y pethau hyn ei wneud, fel deddfu ynghylch benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog, swm y llog y gellir ei godi ar eu cyfer a'u hysbysebion. Gwnaed newidiadau sylweddol gan y cyrff rheoleiddio o ganlyniad i bwysau gan bobl fel Bethan a minnau, ac Aelodau eraill yma, yn cyflwyno tystiolaeth i'r cyrff hynny ac yn mynnu bod camau'n cael eu cymryd. Bydd derbyn y cynnig hwn heddiw yn rhan o'r broses o roi pwysau ar y system a mynnu bod camau'n cael eu cymryd. Credaf fod rhai pethau deddfwriaethol dir y gallwn eu gwneud. Bydd cwestiwn ynghylch cymesuredd a chydbwysedd, ond y ffordd orau o brofi hynny yw drwy ein system bwyllgorau. Gofynnaf ichi gefnogi'r cynnig hwn heddiw fel y gallwn roi sylw mawr i Fil Bethan a dod o hyd i ffordd i'w ddatblygu.

17:16

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

May I, first of all, start by congratulating Bethan on winning this ballot? I think that if she is successful today, she may well regret it, because having just been through the process, I know that it is a lot of hard work and a lot of pressure, but it is worth while in the end, if you get what you want out of it. I think that the proposals that Bethan has put forward are very worth while and are certainly worth supporting to see what sort of legislation can come out of that, which we can then scrutinise and talk about at that stage. Although my group has a free vote on this, I can confirm that all the Welsh Liberal Democrat Members will be voting for this motion today to support this Bill to go forward.

Having listened to the Minister responding to this Bill, I got the impression that he thinks that financial literacy and the problems of financial literacy started in 2010, when clearly that is not the case. It has always been a problem, certainly since I have been in the Assembly and before that, in terms of getting people and institutions to focus on how we can improve financial literacy and people's understanding of finance. Simon Thomas set out very clearly the sorts of issues that people need to understand if they are to manage their own finances. Possibly there are more basic rules that people need to understand, and how to budget, I think, is the key one. However, a lack of financial literacy and a lack of understanding of how to budget and how to manage money can cause many problems in a person's life and, ultimately, lead to stress, depression, homelessness and a whole range of other problems, which we need to prevent from happening.

Yn gyntaf oll, hoffwn ddechrau drwy longyfarch Bethan ar ennill y balot hwn. Credaf os bydd yn llwyddiannus heddiw, efallai y bydd yn edifar, gan fy mod newydd fod drwy'r broses fy hun, gwn ei fod yn llawer o waith caled ac yn llawer o bwysau, ond mae'n werth chweil yn y pen draw, os cechw yr hyn yr ydych yn ei geisio. Credaf fod y cynnig a gyflwynodd Bethan yn fuddiol ac yn sicr yn werth eu cefnogi i weld pa fath o ddeddfwriaeth all ddatblygu o hynny, a gallwn wedyn graffu arni a'i thrafod bryd hynny. Er bod gan fy ngrŵp bleidlais rydd ar hyn, gallaf gadarnhau y bydd holl Aelodau Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru yn pleidleisio o blaid y cynnig hwn heddiw i gefnogi symud y Bil hwn yn ei flaen.

Ar ôl gwranddo ar y Gweinidog yn ymateb i'r Bil hwn, cefais yr argraff ei fod yn credu mai yn 2010 y dechreuodd llythrennedd ariannol a phroblemau llythrennedd, er ei bod yn amlwg nad yw hynny'n wir. Mae bob amser wedi bod yn broblem, yn sicr ers imi fod yn y Cynulliad, a chyn hynny, o ran cael pobl a sefydliadau i ganolbwyntio ar y ffordd y gallwn wella llythrennedd ariannol a dealltwriaeth pobl o gyllid. Nododd Simon Thomas yn glir iawn y mathau o faterion y mae angen i bobl eu deall er mwyn gallu rheoli eu harian eu hunain. Mae'n bosib bod mwy o reolau sylfaenol y mae angen i bobl eu deall, ac mae sut i gyllidebu yn un allweddol yn fy marn i. Fodd bynnag, gall diffyg llythrennedd ariannol a diffyg dealltwriaeth o sut i gyllidebu a sut i reoli arian achosi llawer o broblemau ym mywyd unigolyn ac, yn y pen draw, gall arwain at straen, iselder, digartrefedd ac ystod eang o broblemau eraill, y mae angen inni eu hatal rhag digwydd.

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This is not the first time, of course, that this has been raised in the Assembly. In 2008, there was a debate, which my party sponsored, calling on the Welsh Assembly Government to support schemes aimed at improving financial literacy among children and adults, and to offer advice and support to those who are already struggling with debt. More recently, the Communities and Culture Committee undertook an inquiry into financial inclusion and the impact of financial education. The report made many recommendations regarding the financial inclusion strategy and action plan—a strategy that has been in the making since 2007. This was followed by a Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee follow-up inquiry this time last year, which continued to press the issue of financial inclusion. The issue remains that a large section of society is not financially literate.

The Welsh Government does have a financial inclusion strategy and a financial inclusion delivery group, however, we have yet to hear an evaluation of its work. The programme for government annual report in June stated that,

'An update on the progress in implementing our Financial Inclusion Strategy is expected to be published before summer recess.'

However, I have not been able to find a copy of that update. I am not quite sure whether it has been published as yet and maybe the Minister can advise us of some future date as to when we will have an update on that. However, the upshot of the point that I am making is that work has been ongoing, but we do not seem to be getting very far in terms of taking that work forward and putting in place robust and constructive measures to help people to understand the basics of finance. That is why, I think, that it is worth exploring this Bill. A lot of what Bethan Jenkins is putting forward can be done through administrative means, through secondary legislation and through a whole range of other measures that Ministers have the power to implement on their own. Of course, they could do that, but they have not been doing it and that is part of the problem. However, I think that it is certainly worth exploring this idea of a duty on local authorities to promote financial inclusion. I think that that could have some merit in seeing how that will work. It is certainly worth exploring, with the Welsh Local Government Association and local councils themselves, as to exactly how they would use such a duty and how that could help. If we are able to bring such a duty forward, it may well be that that will help in terms of promoting financial literacy not just in schools and colleges, but to the adult population, many of whom struggle with these issues as much as their children and others. I think that that would be worth while doing.

Wrth gwrs, nid dyma'r tro cyntaf i hyn gael ei godi yn y Cynulliad. Yn 2008, cafwyd dadl, a noddwyd gan fy mhlaid i, yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i gefnogi cynlluniau oedd â'r nod o wella llythrennedd ariannol ymhlith plant ac oedolion, a chynnig cyngor a chefnogaeth i'r rhai sydd eisoes yn cael anawsterau â dyled. Yn fwy diweddar, cynhaliodd y Pwyllgor Cymunedau a Diwylliant ymchwiliad i gynhwysiant ariannol ac effaith addysg ariannol. Gwnaeth yr adroddiad nifer o argymhellion ynglŷn â'r strategaeth a'r cynllun gweithredu cynhwysiant ariannol—strategaeth sydd wedi bod yn yr arfaeth ers 2007. Yn dilyn hyn, cafwyd ymchwiliad dilynol gan y Pwyllgor Cymunedau, Cydraddoldeb a Llywodraeth Leol yr adeg hon y llynedd, a barhaodd i dynnu sylw at gynhwysiant ariannol. Hanfod y mater yw bod rhan fawr o'r gymdeithas yn anllythrennog yn ariannol.

Mae gan Llywodraeth Cymru strategaeth cynhwysiant ariannol a grŵp cyflawni cynhwysiant ariannol, fodd bynnag, nid ydym wedi clywed gwerthusiad o'i waith eto. Nododd y rhaglen ar gyfer adroddiad blynyddol y llywodraeth ym mis Mehefin y canlynol,

Disgwylir i ddiweddariad ar y cynnydd o ran rhoi ein Strategaeth Cynhwysiant Ariannol ar waith gael ei gyhoeddi cyn toriad yr haf.

Fodd bynnag, nid wyf wedi llwyddo i ddod o hyd i gopi o'r diweddariad hwnnw. Nid wyf yn hollol siŵr a yw wedi cael ei gyhoeddi hyd yma ac efallai y gall y Gweinidog ddweud wrthym pryd y cawn y diweddariad hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, byrdwn y pwynt a wnaif yw bod gwaith wedi bod yn mynd rhagddo, ond nid yw'n ymddangos ein bod yn llwyddo o ran datblygu'r gwaith a sefydlu mesurau cadarn ac adeiladol er mwyn helpu pobl i ddeall pethau sylfaenol mewn perthynas â chyllid. Dyna pam y credaf ei bod yn werth edrych ar y Bil hwn. Gellir cyflawni llawer o'r hyn a gynigir gan Bethan Jenkins drwy ddulliau gweinyddol, drwy is-ddeddfwriaeth a thrwy ystod gyfan o fesurau eraill y mae gan Weinidogion y pŵer i'w gweithredu ar eu pennau eu hunain. Wrth gwrs, gallent wneud hynny, ond nid ydynt wedi bod yn gwneud hynny ac mae hynny'n rhan o'r broblem. Fodd bynnag, credaf ei bod yn sicr yn werth edrych ar y syniad hwn o roi dyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo cynhwysiant ariannol. Credaf y gallai fod yn werthfawr gweld sut y bydd hynny'n gweithio. Mae'n sicr yn werth ystyried, gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru a chynghorau lleol eu hunain, sut yn union y byddent yn defnyddio dyletswydd o'r fath a sut y gallai fod o gymorth. Os gallwn gyflwyno dyletswydd o'r fath, mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd hynny o gymorth o ran hyrwyddo llythrennedd ariannol nid yn unig mewn ysgolion a cholegau, ond hefyd i'r boblogaeth sy'n oedolion, y mae llawer ohonynt yn cael cymaint o drafferth â'u plant gyda'r materion hyn. Credaf y byddai hynny'n fuddiol.

I will finish by referring to credit unions. Our credit unions have been mentioned a number of times around this particular agenda. I hope that this Bill will ensure that we have a more positive experience in terms of that. I welcome the work that the Welsh Government has been doing, but you should not look upon credit unions as an alternative to pay-day lenders. They are actually designed as mutuals that encourage people to save and provide an ethical source of credit. They work hard to combat financial exclusion through the loans that they provide, but they also need to be sustainable. Many are finding this difficult and need Welsh Government support, both on policy and financially. It is important that the Welsh Government grasps this and starts to look at how it can support credit unions in terms of the work that they do on financial inclusion.

In conclusion, I think that this Bill has a lot of merit. It certainly needs to be taken to the next stage to see what can come out of it, and I certainly hope that we are able to do that and look at the proposals that it can bring forward that can be put on the statute book.

Rwyf am gloi drwy gyfeirio at undebau credyd. Mae ein hundebau credyd wedi cael eu crybwyll nifer o weithiau mewn perthynas â'r agenda benodol hon. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Bil hwn yn sicrhau ein bod yn cael profiad mwy cadarnhaol mewn perthynas â hyn hynny. Croesawaf y gwaith y mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi bod yn ei wneud, ond ni ddylech edrych ar undebau credyd fel dewis amgen i fenthycwyr diwrnod cyflog. Maent wedi'u cynllunio mewn gwirionedd fel cwmnïau cydfuddiannol sy'n annog pobl i gynilo ac i gynnig ffynhonnell foesebol o gredyd. Maent yn gweithio'n galed i fynd i'r afael ag allgáu ariannol drwy'r benthyciadau y maent yn eu darparu, ond mae hefyd angen iddynt fod yn gynaliadwy. Mae hyn yn anodd i lawer ac mae angen cymorth Llywodraeth Cymru arnynt, o ran polisiau ac yn ariannol. Mae'n bwysig bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn deall hyn ac yn dechrau edrych ar sut y gall gefnogi undebau credyd o ran y gwaith y maent yn ei wneud ar gynhwysiant ariannol.

I gloi, credaf fod llawer o werth i'r Bil hwn. Yn sicr mae angen ei ddatblygu i'r cam nesaf i weld beth all ddod ohono, a gobeithiaf yn wir y gallwn wneud hynny ac edrych ar y cynigion y gall eu cyflwyno y gellir eu rhoi ar y llyfr statud.

17:21

## Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A gaf ddweud yn gyntaf fy mod yn croesawu'r Bil arfaethedig hwn? Mae'n ffordd o gynnig seiliau cadarn i bobl wrth ddelio â materion ariannol dyrys iawn sydd wedi, fel yr rydym yn gwybod, arwain at drafferthion i lawer iawn o unigolion o fewn ein cymunedau. Mi wnaf siarad yn gyntaf ynglŷn ag ail ran y Bil a fyddai'n ymestyn pwerau awdurdodau lleol. Un enghraifft, yn gyntaf, yw pobl sydd wedi dioddef galwyr diwahoddiad twyllodrus. Mae un cyngor yn benodol yn Ynys Môn, Cyngor Cymdeithas Rhoscolyn, wedi bod yn galw arnom i gymryd camau penodol i atal y math hwn o 'cold-calling'. Mae'n ymwybodol iawn o gymaint o loes mae'r mathau hyn o ddigwyddiadau yn eu hachosi i bobl yn ei gymuned. Nid yw'n gyd-ddigwyddiad wrth gwrs mai'r bobl fwyaf difreintiedig a bregus yn ein cymdeithas sy'n dioddef yn aml.

Yr ydym yn gwybod am bobl eraill a fydd yn colli budd-daliadau oherwydd eu bod yn methu defnyddio'r system ar-lein i ganfod swydd—yr 'universal jobmatch'. Un o'r cynigion y byddai'r Bil hwn yn ei wneud byddai gwahardd awdurdodau lleol rhag codi am fynediad at y rhyngwrwyd—fel sydd wedi digwydd mewn rhai lleoedd yn Lloegr yn barod—a byddai hynny o leiaf yn lleihau'r cyfle i bobl gael eu cosbi oherwydd eithrio digidol ac, yn fwy eang na hynny, yn sicrhau na fydd Cymru'n cael ei gadael ar ôl yn yr economi wybodaeth.

May I say to begin with that I welcome this proposed Bill? It is a way of laying firm foundations for people as they deal with serious financial matters that we know have led to difficulties for many individuals within our communities. I will talk first about the second part of the Bill, which would extend the powers of local authorities. First, one example is people who have suffered fraudulent cold callers. One council in particular in Anglesey, Rhoscolyn Community Council, has been calling on us to take specific steps to prevent this kind of cold calling. It is very aware of how much harm these kinds of events cause to people in its community. It is no coincidence, of course, that it is the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our society who often suffer.

We know of other people who would lose their benefits because they cannot use the online system to find jobs—the universal jobmatch. One of the proposals that this Bill would make would be to prevent local authorities from charging for access to the internet—as has already happened in some places in England—and at least this would lessen the risk of people being punished because of digital exclusion and, more widely than that, ensure that Wales is not left behind in the information economy.

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Efallai mai'r cynnig sydd fwyaf pwysig i rai pobl yw'r syniad o alluogi awdurdodau i ailafael mewn rheolaeth dros ganol eu trefi ac ati, a rhoi mwy o reolaeth iddynt dros beth sy'n digwydd yno. Er enghraifft, mae ardaloedd tlotaf rhai o'n trefi yn gweld cynnydd mawr mewn siopau betio a siopau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog, efo problemau cysylltiedig o ran eithrio ariannol yn deillio o hynny. Dyna pam y mae'r Bil wedi ei groesawu gan aelod cabinet dros gyfleoedd i blant a phobl ifanc yn Abertawe, a ddywedodd bod awdurdodau lleol yn crefu am reolau i gyfyngu ar gynllunio er mwyn atal benthycwyr llog uchel rhag agor yn eu trefi a'u hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Dywedodd bod siopau benthyca ar log uchel yn agor yn gyflym, yn enwedig yn ein hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig, lle maen nhw'n debygol o gael cwsmeriaid mwy bregus y gallant eu targedu yn benodol. Mae'r un aelod cabinet yn cyfeirio yn ôl at y pwynt cyntaf a godais ynglŷn â galwyr diwahoddiad, gan ddweud bod angen mawr am gyfyngiadau ar alwyr diwahoddiad y gallai awdurdodau lleol eu gosod dros ein hardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Dyna i chi rhywbeth arall y gallai'r Bil hwn ei gynnig.

Yn fy ngwaith gynt fel newyddiadurwr gwleidyddol, roedd pobl yn aml yn gofyn i fi, 'Pam nad yw gwleidyddion yn gwneud mwy ynglŷn â phroblemau bob dydd pobl?' Dyma gyfle go iawn yn y fan hon—drwy Fil y mae angen gwaith arno, ond sy'n cynnig potensial—i daclo rhywbeth sy'n ymwneud â phroblemau pob dydd pobl. Dyna mae pobl yn ei ddisgwyl gennym ni yn y Cynulliad.

Mae gymaint o ystadegau y gallaf eu rhoi ichi. Mae Age Concern yn amcangyfrif bod 500,000 o alwadau diwahoddiad wedi digwydd yng Nghymru y llynedd. Nid yw 43% o rieni'n gwybod ystyr termau ariannol hollol sylfaenol fel 'APR' neu 'PPI'. Mae bron i chwarter y boblogaeth yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf wedi cael eu cosbi oherwydd nad oeddent yn deall telerau ac amodau cynhyrchion ariannol. Mae gen i gymaint o dystiolaeth ystadegol pam y dylem ddilyn y llywybr hwn.

I will turn to what could be done in higher education. At least 50% of all students have said that they have seriously considered leaving their courses, with financial problems being a main reason. We know that a disproportionate number of those students will be from poorer backgrounds. There is growing evidence of pay-day loan companies targeting campuses, especially those students who perhaps have had delays in receiving their loans or who are on zero-hour contracts, for example. If we are serious about raising educational standards in Wales, yes, we should ask our universities to have a duty to provide counselling services, safe areas on campus and so on. However, why not ask them also to include financial wellbeing? That is why the National Union of Students has told us this week that this Bill has to be seen as part of the solution to ending the exploitation of students on campuses across Wales. Many others are supporting this. Do we have a problem? Yes. We accept that. The key question today is: is this a problem that needs legislation? I say that it is a problem serious enough that we cannot afford not to explore every legislative avenue, and that is why it is a pleasure to support this.

Perhaps the most important proposal for some people is the idea of enabling authorities to retain control over their town centres and so on, giving them greater control over what happens there. For example, the poorest areas of some of our towns are seeing a great expansion in betting shops and pay-day loan shops, with the associated problems in terms of financial exclusion emanating from that. That is why the Bill has been welcomed by the cabinet member for opportunities for children and young people in Swansea, who said that local authorities are seeking regulations to restrict planning in order to prevent high-interest loan companies from setting up in their towns and their most disadvantaged communities. He said that shops offering high-interest loans are opening quickly, especially in our most disadvantaged areas, where they are likely to attract those more vulnerable customers that they can target. The same cabinet member referred to the first point that I made in relation to cold callers. He has said that there is a need for restrictions on cold callers that local authorities could put in place in our most vulnerable areas. This is something else that this Bill could offer.

In my former role as a political journalist, people would often ask me, 'Why don't politicians do more to deal with people's everyday problems?' This is a genuine opportunity for us—through a Bill that needs work, but has potential—to tackle something that deals with everyday problems that people face. That is what people expect from us here in the Assembly.

There are so many statistics that I could give to you. Age Concern estimates that there were 500,000 examples of cold-calling in Wales last year. Forty-three per cent of parents do not understand fundamental terms such as 'APR' and 'PPI'. Almost a quarter of the population were punished in the last year because they did not understand the terms and conditions attached to financial products. I have such a lot of statistical evidence why we should follow this path.

Trof at yr hyn y gellid ei wneud mewn addysg uwch. Mae o leiaf 50% o'r holl fyfyrwyr wedi dweud eu bod wedi ystyried gadael eu cyrsiau o ddifrif, a phroblemau ariannol yw'r prif reswm dros hynny. Gwyddom y bydd nifer anghymesur o'r myfyrwyr hynny yn dod o gefndiroedd tlotach. Mae tystiolaeth gynyddol o gwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog yn targedu campysau, yn enwedig y myfyrwyr hynny sydd wedi wynebu oedi cyn cael eu benthyciadau o bosibl neu sydd ar gontractau dim oriau, er enghraifft. Os ydym o ddifrif ynghylch codi safonau addysgol yng Nghymru, yna dylem ofyn i'n prifysgolion gael dyletswydd i ddarparu gwasanaethau cwnsela, manau diogel ar y campws ac yn y blaen. Fodd bynnag, beth am ofyn iddynt hefyd gynnwys lles ariannol? Dyna pam mae Undeb Cenedlaethol y Myfyrwyr wedi dweud wrthym yr wythnos hon fod y Bil hwn yn cael ei ystyried yn rhan o'r ateb i roi terfyn ar fanteisio ar fyfyrwyr ar gampysau ledled Cymru. Mae llawer o bobl eraill yn cefnogi hyn. A oes gennym broblem? Oes. Derbyniwn hynny. Y cwestiwn allweddol heddiw yw: a yw hon yn broblem y mae angen deddfwriaeth ar ei chyfer? Dywedaf ei bod yn broblem ddigon difrifol fel na allwn fforddio peidio ag archwilio pob dull deddfwriaethol, a dyna pam mae'n bleser gennyf gefnogi hyn.

## Bethan Jenkins [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Diolch yn fawr. I thank everybody who has contributed today. What I wanted to do was to have people's ideas. That was the whole intention of wanting to take this debate forward. I will try to go through some of the points.

Thank you, Angela, for the input and the backing that you and the Conservatives have afforded me today. If we can work in that way, going forward, I am sure that we can all work progressively together. The only thing that I would say, with regard to one detail of what you said about banning credit cards, is that I do not think that I suggested that. I want to better equip people so that, when they are taking out these products, they will know—potentially—not to take out certain products that may harm them and their future in any way. Rhun and others have mentioned the propensity of pay-day loan companies that are targeting campuses, and that is where we could potentially focus our energies.

Minister, I do not know if I should say thank you for abstaining, but I will say thank you for not voting against me. I take issue slightly with you saying that this would divert money into legislation from what we are trying to do on the ground. As I tried to say in my speech, this is about trying to prevent people from getting to the worst parts of their lives, where they have to access emergency services because they potentially have not had the tools and skills to not do that. So, many of the issues that I would want to try to discuss would mitigate them having to be costly down the line for the Welsh Government. So, I do not think that we should look at it in that negative way. However, thank you for your comments and for the good things that are already being done. I have spoken to the financial inclusion champion for Wales, and she tells me that there are many gaps. If people had the recognition that legislation was there, as Simon Thomas said, it would give people the confidence to know that we are serious about this issue, and councils and other providers could not just say, 'Oh well, we will put that under the table for now; it is not our main priority. We will not consider it until we really need to.' That is something that has been identified in some councils, although others—Caerphilly was mentioned to me—are doing very noble things.

Thank you, Mike Hedges, for your support. I know that you have had a keen interest in this, notwithstanding your colleagues in Swansea, who I have met, with regard to the Fair Credit campaign. I am glad that you are going to be supporting me today, and that we can discuss this down the line. As I have said, I also thank Simon Thomas, who made it very clear why legislation is needed, in terms of highlighting and signalling to society that we can do things in Wales and we can do them effectively.

Diolch yn fawr. Diolchaf i baw a gyfrannodd heddiw. Yr hyn yr oeddwn am ei wneud oedd cael syniadau pobl. Dyna holl fwriad cyflwyno'r ddadl hon. Ceisiaf fynd drwy rai o'r pwyntiau.

Diolch ichi, Angela, am y sylwadau a'r gefnogaeth a gefais gennych chi a'r Ceidwadwyr heddiw. Os gallwn weithio yn y ffordd honno, wrth symud ymlaen, rwy'n siŵr y gall pob un ohonom gydweithio mwy. Yr unig beth y byddwn yn ei ddweud, o ran un manylyn o'r hyn y gwnaethoch ei ddweud am wahardd cardiau credyd, yw na chredaf imi awgrymu hynny. Rwyf am arfogi pobl yn well er mwyn sicrhau, pan fyddant yn prynu'r cynhyrchion hyn, eu bod yn gwybod—o bosibl—na ddylent brynu rhai cynhyrchion a allai eu niweidio hwy a'u dyfodol mewn unrhyw ffordd. Mae Rhun ac eraill wedi sôn am duedd cwmnïau benthyciadau diwrnod cyflog i dargedu campysau, a dyna lle y gallem ganolbwyntio ein hegni o bosibl.

Weinidog, ni wn a ddylwn i ddiolch ichi am ymatal, ond diolch ichi am beidio â phleidleisio yn fy erbyn. Anghytunaf rywfaint â chi i ryw raddau pan ddywedwyd y byddai hyn yn dargyfeirio arian i ddeddfwriaeth oddi wrth yr hyn yr ydym yn ceisio'i wneud ar lawr gwlad. Fel y ceisiais ei ddweud yn fy araith, mae a wnelo hyn â cheisio atal pobl rhag profi adegau gwaethaf eu bywydau, lle mae'n rhaid iddynt gael gafael ar wasanaethau brys am nad ydynt o bosibl wedi cael yr adnoddau na'r sgiliau i beidio â gwneud hynny. Felly, byddai llawer o'r materion y byddwn am geisio eu trafod yn golygu na fyddai'n rhaid iddynt fod mor gostus yn ddiweddarach i Llywodraeth Cymru. Felly, ni chredaf y dylem edrych ar hyn mewn ffordd negyddol. Fodd bynnag, diolch ichi am eich sylwadau ac am y pethau da sydd eisoes yn cael eu gwneud. Rwyf wedi siarad â hyrwyddwr cynhwysiant ariannol Cymru, a dywedodd wrthyf fod llawer o fylchau. Pe bai pobl yn cydnabod bod deddfwriaeth, fel y dywedodd Simon Thomas, byddai'n rhoi hyder i bobl wybod ein bod o ddifrif ynghylch y mater hwn, ac ni allai cynghorau na darparwyr eraill ddweud, 'O wel, byddwn yn rhoi hynny o'r neilltu am y tro, nid dyna yw ein prif flaenoriaeth. Ni fyddwn yn ei ystyried hyd nes bod gwir angen inni wneud hynny.' Mae hynny'n rhywbeth a nodwyd mewn rhai cynghorau, er bod rhai eraill—cafodd Caerffili ei grybwyll wrthyf—yn gwneud pethau cloddiw iawn.

Diolch ichi, Mike Hedges, am eich cefnogaeth. Gwn eich bod wedi cymryd diddordeb brwd yn hyn, er gwaethaf eich cyd-Aelodau yn Abertawe, yr wyf wedi cwrrdd â hwy, o ran yr ymgyrch Credyd Teg. Rwy'n falch y byddwch yn fy nghefnogi heddiw, ac y gallwn drafod hyn yn ddiweddarach. Fel y dywedais, diolchaf hefyd i Simon Thomas, a eglurodd yn glir iawn pam bod angen deddfwriaeth, o ran amlygu a dangos i gymdeithas y gallwn wneud pethau yng Nghymru ac y gallwn eu gwneud yn effeithiol.



Thank you, again, to the Liberal Democrats' Peter Black for supporting us—or me, whatever. It is important to recognise that we need to evaluate what is already out there, and I think that your point about the delivery group and the fact that we have not seen that evaluation is important in how we take things forward, especially with regard to your point that the Government could take secondary legislation forward but is not. The whole point of us having Member proposed Bills is that we can see where there are gaps—I am not trying to undermine the Government in any way—and that we can do better on these particular issues. Again, I know that you are a champion of credit unions, and I am sure that they must be included in all of this. However, they are not the alternative, because we know that many people at the moment are deemed to be too risky to be taken on by the credit unions because of their financial issues. So, we need to come to and explore other options, as credit unions are perhaps not the one-size-fits-all solution that some politicians and others think they are.

Diolch yn fawr i Rhun am gefnogi'r Bil. Mae'n bwysig iawn eich bod wedi dweud beth sy'n digwydd yn lleol gyda chynghorwyr, a'r gwaith da y mae cynghorwyr ar Ynys Môn yn ei wneud, yn amlwg, o ran y galwyr diwahoddiad. Rwy'n credu ei bod yn bwysig bod Age Concern wedi bod yn sôn yr wythnos hon am y sgamio sy'n digwydd, yn enwedig y targedu o hen bobl yn ein cymdeithas. Efallai y gallwn drafod sut y bydd y Bil, os bydd pobl yn ei gefnogi, yn gallu edrych i mewn i'r pethau hynny.

Gwnaethoch eich pwynt mwyaf effeithiol wrth ddweud am yr hyn yr oeddech yn ei wneud yn eich swydd flaenorol a'r hyn yr oedd pobl yn ei ddweud ar stepen y drws. Mae lot o bobl yn dod ataf i ar stepen y drws a dweud yr un peth: 'Pam ydych yn trafod pethau cyfansoddiadol drwy'r amser? Nag ych chi'n gallu gwneud rhywbeth i helpu fi yn fy mywyd bob dydd?' Rwy'n credu mai dyna holl resymeg dod â'r Bil gerbron, wedi cwrrdd â'r mamau yn Abertawe a nifer fawr o etholwyr yn sgîl y 'bedroom tax'. Mae ar bobl angen y sgiliau hyn fel y gallant deimlo bod ganddynt y pŵer i reoli eu cyllidebau eu hunain.

When I hosted a meeting about the bedroom tax in Neath two weeks ago, people came up to me with basic questions: 'I don't know what to do now to pay off my debt'; 'I've been told by the council that I have to pay so much a week, but I can't afford that'; 'I've been told I have had three eviction notices.' We really have to try to prioritise this, because some people feel so disempowered in Wales. We have to be embarrassed, actually, as legislators that some people do not know anything about how they can run their own lives and run their own accounts. That is why we need to legislate in this area, because we need to be showing a clear sign that this is a priority. I see that Antoinette wants to make an intervention.

Diolch, unwaith eto, i Peter Black o'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am ein cefnogi ni—neu am fy nghefnogi i, beth bynnag. Mae'n bwysig cydnabod bod angen inni werthuso'r hyn sydd eisoes ar gael, a chredaf fod eich pwynt am y grŵp cyflawni a'r ffaith nad ydym wedi gweld bod gwerthuso'n bwysig o ran sut rydym yn datblygu pethau, yn enwedig o ran eich pwynt y gallai'r Llywodraeth ddatblygu is-ddeddfwriaeth, ond nad yw'n gwneud hynny. Holl ddiben Biliau arfaethedig Aelod yw y gallwn weld lle mae'r bylchau—nid wyf yn ceisio tansellio'r Llywodraeth mewn unrhyw ffordd—ac y gallwn wneud yn well o ran y materion penodol hyn. Unwaith eto, gwn eich bod o blaid undebau credyd, ac rwy'n siŵr bod yn rhaid eu cynnwys yn hyn i gyd. Fodd bynnag, nid dewis amgen ydynt, oherwydd gwyddom yr ystyrir bod llawer o bobl yn cynnig gormod o risg i'r undebau credyd eu derbyn ar hyn o bryd oherwydd eu problemau ariannol. Felly, mae angen inni gael opsiynau eraill a'u harchwilio, gan nad yw undebau credyd yn ateb cyffredinol mor ddelfrydol ag y mae rhai gwleidyddion ac eraill yn ei feddwl.

I thank Rhun for supporting the Bill. It is very important that you should let us know what is happening locally with councillors, and the good work that councillors on Anglesey are obviously doing on cold callers. I think that it is important that Age Concern has been talking this week about the scamming that happens, particularly targeting older people in our communities. Perhaps we could discuss how the Bill, if people support it, could address some of those issues.

The most effective point that you made was in reference to your previous post and what people were telling you on the doorstep. Many people come to me on the doorstep and say the same thing: 'Why are you discussing constitutional issues all of the time? Can't you do something to help me in my day-to-day life?' I think that this is the rationale behind bring this Bill forward, having met mothers in Swansea and many constituents following the bedroom tax. People need these skills so that they can feel empowered to manage their own budgets.

Pan gynhaliats gyfarfod am y dreth ystafell wely yng Nghastell-nedd bythefnos yn ôl, daeth pobl ataf gyda chwestiynau sylfaenol: 'Dydw i ddim yn gwybod beth i'w wneud yn awr i dalu fy nyled', 'Rwyf wedi cael gwybod gan y cyngor bod yn rhaid imi dalu swm penodol bob wythnos, ond ni allaf fforddio hynny', 'Rydw i wedi cael gwybod fy mod wedi cael tri rhybudd troi allan'. Mae gwir raid inni geisio blaenoriaethu hyn, gan fod rhai pobl yn teimlo mor ddi-rym yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni deimlo cywilydd, mewn gwirionedd, fel deddfwyr nad yw rhai pobl yn gwybod dim ynghylch sut y gallant redeg eu bywydau eu hunain a rhedeg eu cyfrifon eu hunain. Dyna pam y mae angen inni ddeddfu yn y maes hwn, oherwydd mae angen inni yn dangos arwydd clir bod hyn yn flaenoriaeth. Gwelaf fod Antoinette am wneud ymyriad.

17:33	<b>Antoinette Sandbach</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> I am grateful. It is clearly about being able to manage your budget and financial literacy so that you understand the terminology, and you understand the consequences of what an annual percentage rate is. That is the key. It applies in all sorts of contexts, and it will apply in relation to the universal credit and how you manage that. It is not just about the spare room subsidy; the context is far wider than that.	Rwy'n ddiolchgar. Mae'n amlwg yn ymwneud â'r gallu i reoli eich cyllideb a llythrennedd ariannol fel eich bod yn deall y derminoleg, ac yn deall canlyniadau cyfradd ganrannol flynyddol. Mae hynny'n allweddol. Mae'n gymwys ym mhob math o gyd-destunau, a bydd yn gymwys mewn perthynas â'r credyd cynhwysol a sut y byddwch yn rheoli hynny. Mae'n ymwneud â mwy na'r cymorthdal ystafell sbâr; mae'r cyd-destun yn llawer ehangach na hynny.	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
17:33	<b>Bethan Jenkins</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> No, but I—	Na, ond—	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
17:33	<b>Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> Can I ask that you answer that and then quickly make your concluding remarks?	A allaf ofyn ichi ateb hynny ac yna gwneud eich sylwadau terfynol yn gyflym?	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
17:33	<b>Bethan Jenkins</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> I will be finished now.  All I am saying is that, yes, it is about everybody in society, but, really, we are keeping the poorest poorer because they do not have the tools to do the job. We should not be doing that; we should be making sure that they can help themselves out of the poverty that they face. Quite frankly, the policies that the UK Government is putting forward are not helping them. I do not want to blame you for that, however, because I know that that is not what you were doing. I will park that there.  I would just like to thank everybody for taking part and, as I said, the Assembly Members and the many groups that have shown enthusiasm for this Bill to at least go on to the next stage, so that we can pick through the detail and see what priorities individual Assembly Members have, because I know that we all have them. We see these issues every day, and we need to really put this at the top of the political agenda.	Byddaf yn gorffen yn awr.  Y cyfan yr wyf yn ei ddweud yw, ydy, mae'n ymwneud â phawb yn y gymdeithas, ond, mewn gwirionedd, rydym yn sicrhau bod y tlotaf yn aros yn dlawd oherwydd nad oes ganddynt yr adnoddau i wneud y gwaith. Ni ddylem fod yn gwneud hynny; dylem fod yn sicrhau y gallant helpu eu hunain i ddianc rhag y tlodi y maent yn ei wynebu. A dweud y gwir, nid yw'r polisiau y mae Llywodraeth y DU yn eu cyflwyno yn eu helpu. Nid wyf am eich beio chi am hynny, fodd bynnag, oherwydd gwn nad dyna beth rydych chi'n ei wneud. Hoffwn nodi hynny.  Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb am gymryd rhan ac, fel y dywedais, mae Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r grwpiau niferus sydd wedi dangos eu bod yn awyddus i'r Bil hwn fynd ymlaen i'r cam nesaf o leiaf, fel y gallwn edrych drwy'r manylion a gweld pa flaenoriaethau sydd gan Aelodau Cynulliad unigol, oherwydd gwn fod gan bob un ohonom flaenoriaethau. Gwelwn y problemau hyn bob dydd, ac mae angen inni roi hyn ar frig yr agenda wleidyddol.	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
17:34	<b>Y Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There is objection. I defer voting until voting time.  <i>Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.</i>	Y cwestiwn yw a ddylid derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad. Gohiriaf y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.  <i>Voting deferred until voting time.</i>	Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
17:34	<b>Cyfnod Pleidleisio</b> <b>Dirprwy Lywydd / The Deputy Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> Voting time will now follow directly, unless there are three Members who wish for the bell to be rung. There are not.  <a href="#">Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnis NDM5299</a>  <i>Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 38, Yn erbyn 0, Ymatal 15.</i>	<b>Voting Time</b> Bydd y cyfnod pleidleisio yn dilyn yn syth, oni bai bod tri Aelod sy'n dymuno i'r gloch gael ei chanu. Nid oes.  <a href="#">Result of the vote on motion NDM5299</a>  <i>Motion agreed: For 38, Against 0, Abstain 15.</i>	<b>Y</b> Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>

17:35

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

Will those Members who are leaving the Chamber please do so quickly and quietly?

A wnaiff yr Aelodau hynny sy'n gadael y Siambr wneud hynny yn gyflym ac yn dawel?

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## Dadl Fer: Awtistiaeth: Yr Angen am Ddiagnosis Amserol yng Nghymru

*Daeth Sandy Mewies i'r Gadair am 17:35.*

## Short Debate: Autism: The Need for a Timely Diagnosis in Wales

*Sandy Mewies took the Chair at 17:35.*

17:36

### Sandy Mewies [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on Paul Davies to speak on the topic that he has chosen.

Galwaf ar Paul Davies i siarad ar y pwnc a ddewiswyd ganddo.

[Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

17:36

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

Thank you, acting Deputy Presiding Officer. I have agreed that Mark Isherwood, Kirsty Williams, Rebecca Evans and Rhodri Glyn Thomas may have a minute each of my time in this debate.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Lywydd dros dro. Rwyf wedi cytuno y gall Mark Isherwood, Kirsty Williams, Rebecca Evans a Rhodri Glyn Thomas gael munud yr un o'm hamser yn y ddadl hon.

[Senedd.tv](#)  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

I am pleased to use my short debate this afternoon to highlight once again the issue of autism and, in particular, the delay in diagnosing autism in children in Pembrokeshire and, indeed, in other parts of Wales. I am grateful for the assistance that I have had from the National Autistic Society Cymru in supporting and helping me to prepare for this debate. I have repeatedly raised this hugely important issue on the floor of this Chamber with Ministers for health, Ministers for education, and even the First Minister, given that some children in Pembrokeshire wait up to seven years for a diagnosis. One of the Pembrokeshire NAS branch members has said:

'I have waited over six years for my one son to get a diagnosis. Now I am waiting for the other it has been about two years and it fills me with dread.'

Unfortunately, matters are not progressing as quickly as they should, because parents and children continue to wait. This was clearly highlighted on the BBC's 'Wales Today' programme last week. Despite several meetings with my own local health board and my local authority, progress is still too slow. We need to see much more progress in the way in which services are being delivered in Pembrokeshire. Members will be aware that autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with and relates to other people and the world around them. Autism is much more common than many people think. There are around 700,000 people with autism in the UK, which is more than one in 100. According to NAS Cymru figures, around 29,000 people in Wales have autism and around 6,000 of these are children and young people aged under 18.

Rwy'n falch o ddefnyddio fy nadl fer y prynhawn yma i dynnu sylw unwaith eto at awtistiaeth ac, yn arbennig, yr oedi o ran gwneud diagnosis o awtistiaeth mewn plant yn Sir Benfro ac, yn wir, mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru. Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cymorth a gefais gan Gymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth Cymru wrth fy nghefnogi a'm helpu i baratoi ar gyfer y ddadl hon. Codais y mater hynod bwysig hwn ar lawr y Siambr hon droeon gyda Gweinidogion iechyd, Gweinidogion addysg, a hyd yn oed y Prif Weinidog, o ystyried bod rhai plant yn Sir Benfro yn aros hyd at saith mlynedd i gael diagnosis. Dywedodd un o aelodau cangen Cymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth Sir Benfro:

Bûm yn aros dros chwe blynedd am ddiagnosis ar gyfer un o'm meibion. Yn awr, rwy'n aros am ddiagnosis i'r llall ers tua dwy flynedd ac mae'n codi ofn arnaf.

Yn anffodus, nid yw materion yn datblygu mor gyflym ag y dylent, gan fod rhieni a phlant yn dal i aros. Amlygwyd hyn yn glir ar raglen 'Wales Today' y BBC yr wythnos diwethaf. Er gwaethaf nifer o gyfarfodydd gyda fy mwrdd iechyd lleol a'm hawdurdod lleol, mae cynnydd yn dal yn rhy araf. Mae angen inni weld llawer mwy o gynnydd yn y ffordd y caiff gwasanaethau eu darparu yn Sir Benfro. Bydd yr Aelodau yn ymwybodol bod awtistiaeth yn anabledd datblygiadol gydol oes sy'n effeithio ar y ffordd y mae unigolyn yn cyfathrebu ac yn ymwneud â phobl eraill a'r byd o'i gwmpas. Mae awtistiaeth yn llawer mwy cyffredin nag y mae llawer o bobl yn ei gredu. Mae tua 700,000 o bobl ag awtistiaeth yn y DU, sef mwy nag un o bob 100. Yn ôl ffigurau NAS Cymru, mae gan tua 29,000 o bobl yng Nghymru awtistiaeth a phlant a phobl ifanc o dan 18 oed yw tua 6,000 ohonynt.

It is a spectrum condition, which means that, while all people with autism share certain areas of difficulty, no two people with autism are exactly the same. Therefore, I totally accept that diagnosing autism can be very complex and that it will involve multi-agency and specialist assessments, which must be carried out by experts in their field of work. While there are examples of good practice in diagnosis in Wales, experiences in Pembrokeshire have been particularly difficult. I am sure that the Deputy Minister will agree with me that waiting up to seven years for a diagnosis is simply unacceptable, and, because of that, it is having a huge impact on families across Pembrokeshire. NAS Cymru, and its Pembrokeshire branch in particular, has been working tirelessly for some time now to change this unacceptable situation to ensure that children across Pembrokeshire and, indeed, across Wales receive a timely diagnosis. Pembrokeshire parents have met with local politicians, Pembrokeshire County Council and Hywel Dda Local Health Board in an attempt to raise awareness of this issue and to work together with these public bodies to tackle this issue head on for the benefit of their children.

Quite simply, a timely diagnosis is absolutely essential for people with autism. Early intervention is crucial in order to provide the appropriate support and to avoid long-term problems in the future. Early diagnosis can provide an explanation for years of feeling different. It is very often a gateway to identifying the necessary support, which, in turn, reduces the anxiety and stress for children with autism and their families. For children in particular, it can help to ensure that the right support is put in place from an early age. As NAS Cymru tells us, early intervention for children with autism is crucial for their educational, emotional and social development, and their longer term health. The Deputy Minister and the Chamber will be aware that the NAS Pembrokeshire branch decided to take action by taking its campaign directly to politicians here at the Assembly.

The branch arranged a petition, which called on the Welsh Government to ensure a timely diagnosis for children with autism, wherever they live in Wales, so that they can live fulfilled lives. This petition gained over 900 signatures in the space of just a few short weeks, not just from people in Pembrokeshire but from across Wales and further afield, demonstrating the strength of feeling on this issue. On 18 June this year, a group of children with autism and members of the NAS Cymru Pembrokeshire branch, as well as others, travelled to Cardiff bay to deliver their petition to Assembly Members. This petition rightly gained local and, indeed, national media coverage, and questions were raised with the First Minister as a result of that specific action. Shortly after the handing in of this petition, in a written response to me, the First Minister confirmed that Hywel Dda health board was due to implement an action plan in recognition of the lengthy wait experienced by children and their families in Pembrokeshire. I am pleased that this action plan has now been established, and, while I accept that Hywel Dda health board has made progress here, perhaps the Deputy Minister in her response could confirm that the action plan is in fact being implemented, and that the action plan describes what measures will be put in place to ensure that the plan is working and that waiting times are being dealt with.

Mae'n gyflwr sbectrwm, sy'n golygu, er bod pawb sydd ag awtistiaeth yn rhannu rhai meysydd anhawster penodol, nid oes unrhyw ddau berson ag awtistiaeth yn union yr un fath. Felly, derbynaf yn llwyr y gall fod yn gymhleth iawn gwneud diagnosis o awtistiaeth ac y bydd asesiadau aml-asiantaeth ac asesiadau arbenigol yn rhan o'r broses, y mae'n rhaid iddynt gael eu cyflawni gan arbenigwyr yn eu maes gwaith. Er bod enghreifftiau o arfer da o ran gwneud diagnosis yng Nghymru, bu profiadau yn Sir Benfro yn arbennig o anodd. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn cytuno â mi bod aros hyd at saith mlynedd i gael diagnosis yn gwbl annerbyniol, a'i fod, oherwydd hynny, yn cael effaith enfawr ar deuluoedd ledled Sir Benfro. Bu NAS Cymru, a'i changen yn Sir Benfro yn arbennig, yn gweithio'n ddiflino ers peth amser bellach i newid y sefyllfa annerbyniol hon er mwyn sicrhau bod plant ledled Sir Benfro ac, yn wir, ledled Cymru yn cael diagnosis amserol. Mae rhieni yn Sir Benfro wedi cyfarfod â gwleidyddion lleol, Cyngor Sir Penfro a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda i geisio codi ymwybyddiaeth o'r mater hwn ac i gydweithio â'r cyrff cyhoeddus hyn i fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn yn uniongyrchol er budd eu plant.

Yn syml iawn, mae diagnosis amserol yn gwbl hanfodol i bobl ag awtistiaeth. Mae ymyrraeth gynnar yn hollbwysig er mwyn darparu'r cymorth priodol ac er mwyn osgoi problemau hirdymor yn y dyfodol. Gall diagnosis cynnar ddarparu esboniad am flynyddoedd o deimlo'n wahanol. Mae'n aml iawn yn borth i nodi'r cymorth angenrheidiol, sydd, yn ei dro, yn lleihau'r pryder a'r straen i blant ag awtistiaeth a'u teuluoedd. Ar gyfer plant yn arbennig, gall helpu i sicrhau bod y cymorth cywir yn cael ei roi ar waith o oedran cynnar. Fel y dywed NAS Cymru wrthym, mae ymyrraeth gynnar ar gyfer plant ag awtistiaeth yn hanfodol o ran eu datblygiad addysgol, emosiynol a chymdeithasol, a'u hiechyd tymor hwy. Bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog a'r Siambwr yn ymwybodol bod cangen NAS Sir Benfro wedi penderfynu cymryd camau drwy dargedu ei hymgyrch yn uniongyrchol at wleidyddion yma yn y Cynulliad.

Trefnodd y gangen ddeiseb, a oedd yn galw ar Lywodraeth Cymru i sicrhau diagnosis amserol i blant ag awtistiaeth, ble bynnag y maent yn byw yng Nghymru, fel y gallant fyw bywydau llawn. Casglwyd dros 900 o lofnodion ar y ddeiseb hon o fewn dim ond ychydig wythnosau, nid yn unig gan bobl yn Sir Benfro, ond o bob cwr o Gymru a thu hwnt, gan ddangos cryfder teimladau ar y mater hwn. Ar 18 Mehefin eleni, teithiodd grŵp o blant ag awtistiaeth ac aelodau o gangen NAS Cymru Sir Benfro, ynghyd ag eraill, i fae Caerdydd i gyflwyno eu deiseb i Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Cafodd y ddeiseb hon, yn briodol, sylw yn y cyfryngau lleol ac, yn wir, yn y cyfryngau cenedlaethol, a gofynnwyd cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog o ganlyniad i'r cam gweithredu penodol hwnnw. Yn fuan ar ôl derbyn y ddeiseb hon, mewn ymateb ysgrifenedig imi, cadarnhaodd y Prif Weinidog bod bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda yn bwriadu rhoi cynllun gweithredu ar waith i gydnabod yr amser aros hir a brofir gan blant a'u teuluoedd yn Sir Benfro. Rwy'n filch bod y cynllun gweithredu hwn bellach wedi'i sefydlu, ac, er fy mod yn derbyn bod bwrdd iechyd Hywel Dda wedi gwneud cynnydd yn hyn o beth, efallai y gallai'r Dirprwy Weinidog gadarnhau yn ei hymateb bod y cynllun gweithredu ar waith mewn gwirionedd, a bod y cynllun gweithredu yn disgrifio pa fesurau a gaiff eu rhoi ar waith er mwyn sicrhau bod y cynllun yn llwyddiannus ac yn ymdrin ag amseroedd aros.

The second aim of the petition is to put pressure on the Welsh Government to review its implementation of and ensure compliance with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guidelines on recognition, referral and diagnosis of children and young people on the autism spectrum. This is something that is being called for as part of the Welsh Government's refresh of its ASD strategic action plan, and perhaps the Deputy Minister can tell us in her reply to this debate how local health boards are currently implementing NICE guidelines on diagnosis. It is quite obvious from the representations that I have received that not everyone can access a timely diagnosis, and that not every area has been following the NICE guidelines on recognition, referral and diagnosis of children and young people on the autism spectrum. Given that this is the case, perhaps the Deputy Minister can tell us what the Government is going to do to ensure compliance even after it refreshes its action plan. It is absolutely essential that we hear from the Government what action it intends to take to tackle the lack of early intervention. I would also like to think that, given these protracted problems, the Government will carry out an immediate audit of waiting times across Wales in order to specifically pinpoint the severe problems. Perhaps the Deputy Minister in her response can confirm that an audit will take place across Wales to gain an accurate picture of the situation as highlighted in the petition.

As has already been alluded to, the Welsh Government is drawing up a refreshed autism spectrum disorder action plan, which will take into account the views of a wide range of stakeholders and will be going out to consultation early next year, I believe. Of course, I welcome this, but the Government needs to attach greater urgency to the situation, given that some of my constituents' children have been waiting up to seven years for a diagnosis. When the Welsh Government launched its ASD action plan, Wales was the first of the UK nations to have an autism-specific strategy, but being first is not the same as being first-rate, and, clearly, implementation of the plan in each local authority differs greatly. Some councils do not seem to have even the basics in place. In Pembrokeshire, for example, I understand that the key role of the ASD lead is still vacant, and this is a basic requirement of that action plan. Given that some local authorities are performing better than others across Wales, I fully agree with the National Autistic Society's call for the establishment of a national board to ensure accountability across Wales. I hope very much that the Deputy Minister will seriously consider this proposal, because establishing a board such as this would ensure that each of the 22 local authorities would have an action plan in place. It would also ensure that each council is spending its ASD money in a way that has the greatest impact on the lives of people with autism in Wales.

All nod y ddeiseb yw rhoi pwysau ar Lywodraeth Cymru i adolygu sut y mae'n rhoi canllawiau'r Sefydliad Cenedlaethol dros Ragoriaeth mewn Iechyd a Gofal Clinigol ar adnabod, atgyfeirio a gwneud diagnosis o blant a phobl ifanc ar y sbectrwm awtistig ar waith a sut y mae'n sicrhau ei bod yn cydymffurfio â hwy. Gelwir am hyn fel rhan o waith Llywodraeth Cymru i adnewyddu ei chynllun gweithredu strategol ar anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig, ac efallai y gall y Dirprwy Weinidog ddweud wrthym yn ei hymateb i'r ddadl hon sut mae byrddau iechyd lleol wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn rhoi canllawiau NICE ar ddiagnosis ar waith. Mae'n gwbl amlwg o'r sylwadau a dderbyniwyd gennyf na all pawb gael diagnosis amserol, ac nad yw pob ardal wedi bod yn dilyn canllawiau NICE ar adnabod, atgyfeirio a gwneud diagnosis o blant a phobl ifanc ar y sbectrwm awtistig. O ystyried mai felly y mae, efallai y gall y Dirprwy Weinidog ddweud wrthym beth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn bwriadu ei wneud i sicrhau cydymffurfiaeth, hyd yn oed ar ôl iddi adnewyddu ei chynllun gweithredu. Mae'n gwbl hanfodol ein bod yn clywed gan y Llywodraeth pa gamau y mae'n bwriadu eu cymryd i fynd i'r afael â'r diffyg ymyrraeth gynnar. Hoffwn feddwl hefyd, o ystyried y problemau maith hyn, y bydd y Llywodraeth yn cynnal archwiliad ar unwaith o amseroedd aros ledled Cymru er mwyn nodi'n benodol y problemau difrifol. Efallai y gall y Dirprwy Weinidog yn ei hymateb gadarnhau y caiff archwiliad ei gynnal ledled Cymru i gael darlun cywir o'r sefyllfa fel y'i hamlygwyd yn y ddeiseb.

Fel y crybwyllwyd eisoes, mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn llunio cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig, a fydd yn ystyried safbwyntiau ystod eang o randdeiliaid ac yr ymgynghorir arno ddechrau flyddyn nesaf, fe gredaf. Wrth gwrs, croesawaf hyn, ond mae angen i'r Llywodraeth weithredu ar fwy o frys wrth ymateb i'r sefyllfa, o ystyried bod plant rhai o'm hetholwyr wedi bod yn aros hyd at saith mlynedd i gael diagnosis. Pan lansiodd Llywodraeth Cymru ei chynllun gweithredu ASD, Cymru oedd y wlad gyntaf o blith gwledydd y DU i roi strategaeth awtistiaeth benodol ar waith, ond nid yw'r ffaith mai ni oedd y wlad gyntaf yn golygu mai ni sydd orau, ac, yn amlwg, mae gwahaniaeth mawr o ran i ba raddau y rhoddwyd y cynllun ar waith ymhob awdurdod lleol. Nid yw rhai cynghorau, yn ôl pob tebyg, wedi rhoi'r camau sylfaenol ar waith hyd yn oed. Yn Sir Benfro, er enghraifft, rwyf ar ddeall bod rôl allweddol yr arweinydd ASD yn wag o hyd, ac mae hyn yn un o ofynion sylfaenol y cynllun gweithredu hwnnw. O ystyried bod rhai awdurdodau lleol yn perfformio'n well nag eraill ledled Cymru, rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr â galwad y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth am fwrdd cenedlaethol i sicrhau atebolrwydd ledled Cymru. Rwy'n gobeithio'n fawr y gwnaiff y Dirprwy Weinidog ystyried y cynnig hwn o ddirif, oherwydd byddai sefydlu bwrdd o'r fath yn sicrhau y byddai gan bob un o'r 22 o awdurdodau lleol gynllun gweithredu ar waith. Byddai hefyd yn sicrhau bod pob cyngor yn gwario ei arian ASD mewn ffordd a gaiff yr effaith fwyaf ar fywydau pobl ag awtistiaeth yng Nghymru.

I understand that the Welsh Government has also established an ASD stakeholder group to provide the Government with expert advice on developing and implementing its refreshed strategic action plan. I believe that the membership of this group includes the Association of Directors of Social Services Cymru, Autism Cymru, the National Autistic Society Cymru, a parent carer and a service user. I understand that views gathered from these experts and stakeholder engagement events, along with the findings of the independent evaluation, will actually inform the new strategy. While I am pleased that the Welsh Government is engaging with stakeholders, it is evident that the new strategy will take some time to come into being. However, children in Pembrokeshire will continue to wait for a diagnosis, and I am sure that Members in the Chamber will recognise that seven years is simply too long to wait. For some children in Pembrokeshire this means that they can start their education at four and can be approaching 11 years of age, beginning secondary school, without having received an appropriate diagnosis. Crucially, this means that they are not receiving the right support they need at a key stage in their development. Sadly, the figures show that over one in four children with autism have been bullied at school, and more than half of children with autism are not in the kind of school their parents believe would best support them. Therefore, more needs to be done to recognise the signs of autism, especially in a school setting.

ASD is often described as a hidden disorder; it does not affect someone's physical appearance. The signs of whether a child has autism are shown in a pattern of behaviour, which requires careful consideration. Some children are very quiet, others will be noisy and many find it hard to communicate effectively with others. In the circumstances, the Welsh Government needs to work closely with local authorities, local schools and local health boards to ensure that teachers and school staff have sufficient training so that they can recognise the signs of ASD.

It is absolutely essential to encourage co-operation between agencies and workforce training, especially in light of the wider SEN reform, currently under way, and I hope that the Government is focusing its attention on ensuring that all these agencies are collaborating effectively. I am sure that the Deputy Minister will accept that the situation in Pembrokeshire is unacceptable, and I know from a response to a written question that I tabled, that she and her colleagues have not had the opportunity yet to meet with my local LHB to discuss this specific issue. Perhaps, therefore, in the spirit of this debate, either she, or the Minister for health, will take up the invitation to join me in meeting the local health board to discuss this issue further.

Rwyf ar ddeall bod Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd wedi sefydlu grŵp rhanddeiliaid ASD i roi cyngor arbenigol i'r Llywodraeth ar ddatblygu a gweithredu ei chynllun gweithredu strategol diwygiedig. Credaf fod aelodaeth y grŵp hwn yn cynnwys Cymdeithas Cyfarwyddwyr Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru, Awtistiaeth Cymru, Cymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth Cymru, rhiant-ofalwr a defnyddiwr gwasanaeth. Rwyf ar ddeall y bydd y sylwadau a gesglir gan yr arbenigwyr hyn ac o'r digwyddiadau ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid, ynghyd â chanfyddiadau'r gwerthusiad annibynnol, yn llywio'r strategaeth newydd. Er fy mod yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid, mae'n amlwg y bydd yn cymryd peth amser cyn y caiff y strategaeth newydd ei llunio. Fodd bynnag, bydd plant yn Sir Benfro yn parhau i aros am ddiagnosis, ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd Aelodau yn y Siambwr yn cydnabod bod saith mlynedd yn rhy hir o lawer i aros. I rai plant yn Sir Benfro, mae hyn yn golygu y gallant ddechrau eu haddysg yn bedair oed ac y byddant bron yn 11 oed, yn dechrau yn yr ysgol uwchradd, heb gael diagnosis priodol. Yn hollbwysig, mae hyn yn golygu nad ydynt yn cael y cymorth priodol sydd ei angen arnynt yn ystod cam allweddol o'u datblygiad. Yn anffodus, dengys y ffigurau bod dros un o bob pedwar plentyn ag awtistiaeth wedi cael ei fwlio yn yr ysgol, ac nad yw dros hanner y plant ag awtistiaeth yn y math o ysgol a fyddai'n eu cefnogi orau, ym marn eu rhieni. Felly, mae angen gwneud mwy i adnabod arwyddion awtistiaeth, yn enwedig yn yr ysgol.

Caiff ASD yn aml ei ddisgrifio fel anhwylder cudd; nid yw'n effeithio ar ymddangosiad corfforol rhywun. Daw'r arwyddion sy'n dangos a oes gan blentyn awtistiaeth i'r amlwg mewn patrwm o ymddygiad, y mae angen ei ystyried yn ofalus. Bydd rhai plant yn dawel iawn, bydd eraill yn swnllyd ac mae llawer yn ei chael yn anodd cyfathrebu'n effeithiol ag eraill. O dan yr amgylchiadau, mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru weithio'n agos gydag awdurdodau lleol, ysgolion lleol a byrddau iechyd lleol i sicrhau bod athrawon a staff ysgolion wedi'u hyfforddi'n briodol i allu adnabod arwyddion ASD.

Mae'n gwbl hanfodol annog cydweithrediad rhwng asiantaethau a hyfforddi'r gweithlu, yn enwedig o ystyried y diwygiadau AAA ehangach sydd ar waith ar hyn o bryd, a gobeithio bod y Llywodraeth yn targedu ei sylw at sicrhau bod yr holl asiantaethau hyn yn cydweithredu'n effeithiol. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn derbyn nad yw'r sefyllfa yn Sir Benfro yn dderbyniol, a gwn o ymateb i gwestiwn ysgrifenedig a gyflwynwyd gennyf, nad yw hi na'i chyd-Aelodau wedi cael cyfle eto i gyfarfod â'm BILL i drafod y mater penodol hwn. Efallai, felly, yn unol ag ysbryd y ddadl hon, y gwnaiff hi, neu'r Gweinidog iechyd, dderbyn y gwahoddiad i ymuno â mi i gyfarfod â'r bwrdd iechyd lleol i drafod y mater hwn ymhellach.

It is quite clear that the services being developed and delivered in relation to autism is very patchy across Wales. In certain areas, such as Pembrokeshire, the situation is totally unacceptable, and I hope that in light of this debate the Welsh Government will now focus its attention on seriously improving the delivery of services and ensure that quicker progress is actually made. Children in Pembrokeshire and across Wales deserve a first-class service. We all look forward to seeing waiting times reduced and to children across Wales receiving the support that they rightly deserve.

Mae'n eithaf amlwg bod y gwasanaethau a gaiff eu datblygu a'u darparu mewn perthynas ag awtistiaeth yn anghyson iawn ar draws Cymru. Mewn rhai ardaloedd, megis Sir Benfro, mae'r sefyllfa yn gwbl annerbyniol, ac rwy'n gobeithio, yn dilyn y ddadl hon, y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru bellach yn canolbwyntio ei sylw o ddirif ar wella'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir a sicrhau y gwneir cynnydd cyflymach. Mae plant yn Sir Benfro a ledled Cymru yn haeddu gwasanaeth o'r radd flaenaf. Mae pob un ohonom yn awyddus i weld amseroedd aros yn lleihau a phlant ledled Cymru yn cael y cymorth y maent yn ei haeddu, a hynny'n briodol.

17:47

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

The 2012 National Autistic Society report found that 47% of people in Wales were waiting more than three years for a diagnosis, and the report on children's ASD diagnostic services in Wales, commissioned by the Welsh Government, identified a postcode lottery and a lack of understanding by senior management. Waiting times for diagnosis are now increasing, and children are being denied the educational, and other, support they need in consequence. Issues raised at the cross-party autism group, which I chair, also include research showing that less than a third of parents with children aged 14 to 17 years with autism said that they were satisfied with the transition support processes relating to education, that funding decisions are not made in a timely manner and that although the number of school exclusions overall was reducing, the number of children with special educational needs excluded from Welsh schools had doubled. A review of the autistic spectrum disorder action plan, working with people on the autistic spectrum and their families, is, therefore, called for and overdue.

Canfu adroddiad y Gymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth yn 2012 bod 47% o bobl yng Nghymru yn aros mwy na thair blynedd i gael diagnosis, a nododd yr adroddiad ar wasanaethau diagnostig ASD i blant yng Nghymru, a gomisiynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, loteri cod post a diffyg dealltwriaeth gan uwch reolwyr. Mae amseroedd aros o ran cael diagnosis bellach yn cynyddu, ac nid yw plant yn cael y cymorth addysgol na'r cymorth arall sydd ei angen arnynt o ganlyniad i hynny. Mae'r materion a godwyd yn y grŵp awtistiaeth trawsbleidiol, a gadeirir gennyf, hefyd yn cynnwys gwaith ymchwil sy'n dangos bod llai na thraean o rieni â phlant rhwng 14 a 17 oed ag awtistiaeth yn dweud eu bod yn fodlon ar y prosesau cymorth pontio ym maes addysg, na chaiff penderfyniadau ariannu eu gwneud mewn modd amserol ac er bod nifer yr achosion cyffredinol o wahardd plant o'r ysgol yn lleihau, bod nifer y plant ag anghenion addysgol arbennig a gaiff eu gwahardd o ysgolion yng Nghymru wedi dyblu. Felly mae angen adolygu'r cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer anhwylderau ar y sbectrwm awtistig, gan weithio gyda phobl ar y sbectrwm awtistig a'u teuluoedd ac mae'n hen bryd gwneud hynny.

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17:48

### **Kirsty Williams** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I thank Paul Davies for his campaigning in this area. I would like to emphasise the points that Paul made with regard to the impact of autism on educational attainment. In my constituency, we have had a number of children who have been excluded from school, which I believe is a direct result of a lack of support provided for those young people. A lack of resources has often led primary schools to try to encourage parents to remove their own children from mainstream school and encourage them to seek out specialist education because they fill ill-equipped and ill-trained to support a child with autism in mainstream education, even if that is what the child and the parents want. I would be grateful to hear from the Deputy Minister as to how she will work with colleagues in education to ensure that teachers and local education authorities are mindful of trying to ensure that people who want to stay in mainstream education can do that with the appropriate support for the individuals and the teachers who work alongside them.

Diolch i Paul Davies am ei waith ymgyrchu yn y maes hwn. Hoffwn bwysleisio'r pwyntiau a wnaeth Paul o ran effaith awtistiaeth ar gyrhaeddiad addysgol. Yn fy etholaeth i, cafodd nifer o blant eu gwahardd o'r ysgol am resymau sy'n deillio'n uniongyrchol, yn fy marn i, o'r diffyg cymorth a roddir i'r bobl ifanc hynny. Mae diffyg adnoddau yn aml wedi arwain at sefyllfa lle mae ysgolion cynradd yn ceisio annog rhieni i symud eu plant o ysgol brif ffrwd a'u hannog i ddod o hyd i addysg arbenigol am nad ydynt yn teimlo eu bod yn addas nac wedi'u hyfforddi'n briodol i helpu plentyn ag awtistiaeth o fewn addysg brif ffrwd, hyd yn oed os mai dyna yw dymuniad y plentyn a'r rhieni. Hoffwn glywed gan y Dirprwy Weinidog sut y bydd yn gweithio gyda'i chyd-Aelodau ym maes addysg i sicrhau bod athrawon ac awdurdodau addysg lleol yn anelu at geisio sicrhau y gall pobl sydd am aros o fewn addysg brif ffrwd wneud hynny gyda'r cymorth priodol i'r unigolion a'r athrawon sy'n gweithio gyda hwy.

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17:49

**Rebecca Evans** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Paul Davies for bringing forward this debate today and for giving me time to speak in it. 'The Life we Choose: Shaping Autism Services in Wales' report from the National Autistic Society Cymru is the result of the largest ever survey of people with autism in Wales and their families. It is an excellent report, and I know that because I wrote it in my previous life. [Laughter.] The report explores the experience of diagnosis and post-diagnostic support available in Wales, and it is clear that getting diagnosis is a critical milestone for people with autism, for all the reasons that Paul Davies described.

Given the increased awareness of autism, many adults with autism are seeking a diagnosis because it was overlooked when they were a child. Three years ago, the Welsh Government's task and finish group on adults with autism acknowledged that Wales was particularly poorly served by the paucity of diagnostic services for adults, that there was a lack of multi-agency diagnostic services and a very small number of clinicians with either an interest or skills in the field.

However, to its credit, the Welsh Government responded by allocating nearly £0.25 million to create an all-Wales approach to diagnosis. So, I would welcome an update from the Deputy Minister on how that funding has improved adult diagnosis in the last three years, because I understand that it is coming to an end this year.

Diolch i Paul Davies am gyflwyno'r ddatl hon heddiw ac am roi amser imi siarad. Mae'r adroddiad 'Ein Bywyd – Ein Dewis: Llundio Gwasanaethau Awtistiaeth yng Nghymru' gan Gymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth Cymru yn seiliedig ar yr arolwg mwyaf erioed o bobl ag awtistiaeth yng Nghymru a'u teuluoedd. Mae'n adroddiad ardderchog, a gwn hynny gan mai fi a'i hysgrifennodd yn fy mywyd blaenorol. [Chwerthin.] Mae'r adroddiad yn ystyried y profiad o gael diagnosis a'r cymorth ôl-ddiagnostig sydd ar gael yng Nghymru, ac mae'n amlwg bod cael diagnosis yn garreg filltir hollbwysig i bobl ag awtistiaeth, am yr holl resymau a ddisgrifiodd Paul Davies.

Gan fod mwy o ymwybyddiaeth o awtistiaeth, mae llawer o oedolion ag awtistiaeth am gael diagnosis am na chawsant ddiagnosis o'r fath pan oeddent yn blentyn. Dair blynedd yn ôl, cydnabu grŵp gorchwyl a gorffen Llywodraeth Cymru ar oedolion ag awtistiaeth bod y prinder gwasanaethau diagnostig i oedolion yn golygu bod pobl yng Nghymru yn cael eu gwasanaethu'n arbennig o wael, bod diffyg gwasanaethau diagnostig amlasiantaeth ac mai nifer fach iawn o glinigwyr oedd ar gael a oedd naill ai â diddordeb neu sgiliau yn y maes.

Fodd bynnag, er clod iddi, ymatebodd Llywodraeth Cymru drwy ddyrannu bron i £0.25 miliwn i greu dull gweithredu Cymru gyfan o wneud diagnosis. Felly, byddwn yn croesawu'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf gan y Dirprwy Weinidog am sut y mae'r arian hwnnw wedi gwella'r broses o sicrhau diagnosis i oedolion yn ystod y tair blynedd diwethaf, gan fy mod ar ddeall ei fod yn dod i ben eleni.

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17:51

**Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, you will have to be brief.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, bydd yn rhaid ichi fod yn gryno.

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17:51

**Rhodri Glyn Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n llongyfarch Paul am gyflwyno'r testun hwn ar gyfer y ddatl fer. Rwy'n cytuno gyda phopeth mae pawb wedi ei ddweud. Hoffwn ychwanegu ychydig at yr hyn a ddywedodd Kirsty Williams ynglŷn ag addysg, er rwy'n gwybod nad eich cyfrifoldeb uniongyrchol chi ydyw hynny, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Y peth pwysig pan fydd plant ar y sbectrwm awtistig yn cael eu cyflwyno i addysg, ac yn trosglwyddo o un haen addysg i un arall, yw bod y cyfnod paratoi yno fel eu bod yn dod yn gyfarwydd â'r newid yn eu hamgylchiadau. Yn aml iawn, maent yn cael eu taflu mewn i sefyllfa newydd, ac nid ydynt yn gallu dygymod â hynny. Pe bai chi'n codi'r pwnc hwnnw gyda'r Gweinidog dros addysg, byddwn yn dra diolchgar.

I congratulate Paul for introducing this subject for the short debate. I agree with everything that everyone has said. I would like to add a little to what Kirsty Williams said about education, although I know that it is not your direct responsibility, Deputy Minister. The important thing when children on the autistic spectrum are introduced to education, and transfer from one level of education to another, is that the preparatory period is there so that they become accustomed to the changes in their circumstances. Very often, they are thrown into new circumstances, and they cannot cope with that. If you could raise that with the Minister for education, I would be very grateful.

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17:51

**Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas, to reply to the debate.

Galwaf ar y Dirprwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Gwenda Thomas, i ymateb i'r ddatl.

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*Y Ddirwy Weinidog Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Deputy Minister for Social Services*

I am pleased to respond to Paul Davies in this very important debate, and I fully understand the anxiety that parents must feel while waiting for their child to receive an assessment for autism. That is why it is very important that the right support services are in place, and that there is timely access to diagnostic services.

The assessment of autism in a child can be very complex and can take a long time to complete. There is a multidisciplinary approach requiring a range of expertise to make sure that an accurate professional diagnosis is made.

It might be helpful at this point for me to refer to the progress within Pembrokeshire. The health board has agreed to set up a team of professionals to focus solely on reducing the number of children awaiting possible diagnosis on the autistic spectrum. This team will be in place by January 2014. The board is currently following a recruitment process for the staff to backfill the experienced staff, namely a psychologist and a speech and language therapist who will be seconded into this team. On 11 September, the chairman of Hywel Dda Local Health Board and the manager responsible for children and young people's health services met with a group of parents who were supported by the National Autistic Society Cymru's branch officer for Pembrokeshire and the external affairs manager. We believe that the meeting was positive, with the news of the team being set up being welcomed. They discussed the draft pathway for the diagnosis and the recognition of autism spectrum disorder in children and young people. The group was assured that it would have the opportunity to comment on the final draft. Further meetings between this group and the service manager will take place in conjunction with Pembrokeshire local authority staff so that discussions and actions can be agreed in a spirit of partnership. The health board, in partnership with the local authority and service users, will consider the practical implementation of the recently published NICE guidance on the management of autism in children and young people.

While children wait for a formal assessment, their care, support and educational requirements—and I take the point made by Kirsty Williams and Rhodri Glyn Thomas about cross-portfolio working here—should be assessed on the basis of their individual needs, and should not rely on a diagnosis being provided for that service to be available to them. In many ways, the Welsh Government has led the field in autism by publishing the UK's first strategic approach in the autism spectrum disorder strategic action plan in 2008.

I am proud of our collective achievements in raising awareness of autism and tackling some of the most pressing issues of concern for people with autism and their parents and carers. Together, we have made much progress. Each of our 22 local authorities now has an autistic spectrum disorder lead officer, a local autistic spectrum disorder action plan and an autistic spectrum disorder stakeholder group.

Mae'n bleser gennyf ymateb i Paul Davies yn y ddadl bwysig iawn hon, ac rwy'n llwyr ddeall y pryder y mae rhieni yn ei deimlo wrth aros i'w plenty gael asesiad ar gyfer awtistiaeth. Dyna pam mae'n bwysig iawn bod y gwasanaethau cymorth priodol ar waith, ac y gellir cael gafael ar wasanaethau diagnostig mewn modd amserol.

Gall y broses asesu awtistiaeth mewn plentyn fod yn gymhleth iawn a gall gymryd amser hir i'w chwblhau. Defnyddir dull gweithredu amlddisgyblaethol sy'n gofyn am amrywiaeth o arbenigedd er mwyn sicrhau y gwneir diagnosis proffesiynol cywir.

Gallai fod yn ddefnyddiol yn awr imi gyfeirio at y cynnydd yn Sir Benfro. Mae'r bwrdd iechyd wedi cytuno i sefydlu tîm o weithwyr proffesiynol i ganolbwyntio'n benodol ar leihau nifer y plant sy'n aros am ddiagnosis posibl ar y sbectrwm awtistig. Bydd y tîm hwn yn weithredol erbyn mis Ionawr 2014. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r bwrdd yn ymgymryd â phroses recriwtio i ddod o hyd i'r staff i ôl-lenwi swyddi'r staff profiadol, sef seicolegydd a therapydd lleferydd ac iaith, a gaiff eu secondio i'r tîm hwn. Ar 11 Medi, cyfarfu cadeirydd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Hywel Dda a'r rheolwr sy'n gyfrifol am wasanaethau iechyd plant a phobl ifanc â grŵp o rieni a gefnogwyd gan swyddog cangen Cymdeithas Genedlaethol Awtistiaeth Cymru ar gyfer Sir Benfro a'r rheolwr materion allanol. Credwn iddynt gael cyfarfod cadarnhaol, a chrosawyd y newyddion am sefydlu'r tîm. Trafodwyd y llwybr drafft ar gyfer gwneud diagnosis ac adnabod anhwylder yn y sbectrwm awtistig mewn plant a phobl ifanc. Rhoddwyd sicrwydd i'r grŵp y byddai'n cael y cyfle i gyflwyno sylwadau ar y drafft terfynol. Caiff cyfarfodydd pellach eu cynnal rhwng y grŵp hwn a'r rheolwr gwasanaeth mewn cydweithrediad â staff awdurdod Lleol Sir Benfro er mwyn gallu cynnal trafodaethau a chytuno ar gamau gweithredu mewn partneriaeth. Bydd y bwrdd iechyd, mewn partneriaeth â'r awdurdod lleol a defnyddwyr gwasanaethau, yn ystyried sut i fynd ati'n ymarferol i roi'r canllawiau a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar gan NICE ar reoli awtistiaeth mewn plant a phobl ifanc ar waith.

Tra bod plant yn aros am asesiad ffurfiol, dylid asesu eu gofynion o ran gofal, cymorth ac addysg—a derbyniaf y pwynt a wnaed gan Kirsty Williams a Rhodri Glyn Thomas am waith traws-bortffolio yn hyn o beth—ar sail eu hanghenion unigol, ac ni ddylid dibynnu ar gael diagnosis cyn y gellir cynnig y gwasanaeth hwnnw iddynt. Mewn sawl ffordd, bu Llywodraeth Cymru ar flaen y gad ym maes awtistiaeth drwy gyhoeddi dull gweithredu strategol cyntaf y DU yn y cynllun gweithredu strategol ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig yn 2008.

Rwy'n falch o'n llwyddiannau ar y cyd o ran codi ymwybyddiaeth o awtistiaeth a mynd i'r afael â rhai o'r materion pwysicaf sy'n peri pryder i bobl ag awtistiaeth a'u rhieni a'u gofawyr. Gyda'n gilydd, rydym wedi gwneud cryn gynnydd. Erbyn hyn mae gan bob un o'n 22 o awdurdodau lleol swyddog arweiniol ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig, cynllun gweithredu lleol ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig a grŵp rhanddeiliaid ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig.

Stakeholders, including people with autism, their parents and carers, all actively contribute to the local planning and delivery process. We have worked hard to raise awareness of autism, producing a series of advisory booklets for practitioners, such as those working in primary care, in schools and in dentists, and for employers and the criminal justice system.

There are other firsts that we have achieved in Wales. We have worked with the Wales Autism Research Centre in Cardiff University, supporting it to establish the first chair in autism, which is held by Professor Sue Leekam. The university is now leading the way to develop a research policy practice hub, bringing all of those who work in the field together to share research and good practice.

The first strategy highlighted the unmet needs of adults with autism—

17:56

**Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Order. Will you take an intervention?

Mae rhanddeiliaid, gan gynnwys pobl ag awtistiaeth, eu rhieni a'u gofalwyr, oll yn gwneud cyfraniad gweithredol i'r gwaith cynllunio a darparu lleol. Rydym wedi gweithio'n galed i godi ymwybyddiaeth o awtistiaeth, gan gynhyrchu cyfres o lyfrynnau cynghori i ymarferwyr, fel y rheini sy'n gweithio ym maes gofal sylfaenol, mewn ysgolion ac mewn deintyddfeydd, ac i gyflogwyr a'r system cyfiawnder troseddol.

Ceir enghreifftiau eraill lle y bu Cymru ar flaen y gad hefyd. Rydym wedi gweithio gyda Chanolfan Ymchwil Awtistiaeth Cymru ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd, gan ei helpu i sefydlu'r gadeiryddiaeth gyntaf ym maes awtistiaeth, a ddelir gan yr Athro Sue Leekam. Mae'r brifysgol bellach yn llywio'r broses o ddatblygu canolfan arfer polisi ymchwil, gan ddod â phawb sy'n gweithio yn y maes ynghyd i rannu ymchwil ac arfer da.

Tynnodd y strategaeth gyntaf sylw at y ffaith nad oedd anghenion oedolion ag awtistiaeth yn cael eu diwallu—

Trefn. A dderbyniwch ymyriad?

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17:56

**Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes.

Gwnaf.

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17:56

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

Deputy Minister, I am very grateful that you accepted my intervention. I think that the shocking issue that Paul Davies has raised is the huge delays that people are experiencing in terms of diagnosis. That is really where the concern lies, because without diagnosis, you cannot get treatment.

Ddirprwy Weinidog, rwy'n ddiolchgar iawn ichi am dderbyn fy ymyriad. Credaf mai'r mater syfrdanol a gododd Paul Davies yw'r oedi aruthrol y mae pobl yn ei brofi o ran cael diagnosis. Dyna'r pryder gwirioneddol, oherwydd heb ddiagnosis, ni allwch gael triniaeth.

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17:56

**Gwenda Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Yes. I will come to that.

Dof. Fe ddof at hynny.

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The first strategy highlighted the unmet needs of adults with autism and we have taken forward several initiatives aimed at improving their lives. We have established an adults' diagnostic network and have put in place community support for adults with Asperger's syndrome. To raise awareness of autism among employers, we have established the role of autistic spectrum disorder employment ambassador, Robert Lloyd Griffiths, the chief executive of the Institute of Directors Wales, who is very well placed to speak to companies to highlight the benefits of employing people with autism. We much appreciate his support, especially for young people.

Tynnodd y strategaeth gyntaf sylw at y ffaith nad oedd anghenion oedolion ag awtistiaeth yn cael eu diwallu ac rydym wedi cyflwyno sawl menter wedi'u hanelu at wella eu bywydau. Rydym wedi sefydlu rhwydwaith diagnostig i oedolion ac wedi rhoi cymorth cymunedol ar waith i oedolion â syndrom Asperger. Er mwyn codi ymwybyddiaeth o awtistiaeth ymhlith cyflogwyr, rydym wedi sefydlu rôl y llysgennad cyflogaeth ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig, sef Robert Lloyd Griffiths, prif weithredwr Sefydliad Cyfarwyddwyr Cymru, sydd mewn sefyllfa dda iawn i annerch cwmnïau er mwyn amlygu buddiannau cyflogi pobl ag awtistiaeth. Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi ei gymorth yn fawr, yn enwedig ar gyfer pobl ifanc.

Although a great deal has been achieved, we recognise that much more needs to be done. This year, we are refreshing the autistic spectrum disorder action plan. I have listened to the feedback that we have already received and I will ensure that the assessment and diagnosis will be a priority area. I have also carefully considered the concerns that parents submitted to the Petitions Committee earlier this year. I have, in fact, responded to the Petitions Committee through William Powell. To support the work that we are undertaking to refresh the action plan, I will be writing to all local health boards asking for an update on waiting times for children's autism diagnosis. Given that parents have also expressed their concerns about compliance with the NICE guidance for the diagnosis and management of children's autism, I will also be asking health boards for information on their application of the guidance. I will ensure that all of the NICE guidance on autism for children and adults will be taken into account in a refreshed autistic spectrum disorder action plan.

I have recently established an autistic spectrum disorder advisory stakeholder group to provide me with expert guidance on developing the refreshed action plan. The group met for the first time in September and I am particularly pleased to see that membership of the group includes people with autism, their parents and carers and representatives of the National Autistic Society. I note what Rebecca Evans said about the role of the third sector.

We will publish the draft refreshed action plan for public consultation in the spring of next year and we will be holding consultation events to seek the views of parents and carers to make sure that the action plan focuses on the priority areas that people with autism and their parents and carers want to see. Thank you very much for the opportunity to have this debate this afternoon.

17:59

**Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Deputy Minister. That brings today's proceedings to a close.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 17:59.*

Er bod cryn dipyn wedi'i gyflawni, rydym yn cydnabod bod angen gwneud llawer mwy. Eleni, rydym yn adnewyddu'r cynllun gweithredu ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig. Rwyf wedi gwrandao ar yr adborth a gawsom eisoes a byddaf yn sicrhau bod y broses o asesu a gwneud diagnosis yn faes blaenoriaeth. Rwyf hefyd wedi ystyried yn ofalus y pryderon a gyflwynodd rhieni i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau yn gynharach eleni. Yn wir, rwyf wedi ymateb i'r Pwyllgor Deisebau drwy William Powell. Er mwyn ategu'r gwaith sy'n mynd rhagddo i adnewyddu'r cynllun gweithredu, byddaf yn ysgrifennu at bob bwrdd iechyd lleol yn gofyn am y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am amseroedd aros ar gyfer gwneud diagnosis o awtistiaeth mewn plant. O gofio bod rhieni hefyd wedi mynegi eu pryderon ynghylch cydymffurfiaeth â chanllawiau NICE ar gyfer gwneud diagnosis o awtistiaeth mewn plant a rheoli'r cyflwr, byddaf hefyd yn gofyn i fyrdau iechyd am wybodaeth am sut y maent yn rhoi'r canllawiau ar waith. Byddaf yn sicrhau bod holl ganllawiau NICE ar awtistiaeth i blant ac oedolion yn cael eu hystyried o fewn y cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig.

Yn ddiweddar, sefydlais grŵp cynghori rhanddeiliaid ar gyfer anhwylderau yn y sbectrwm awtistig er mwyn rhoi arweiniad arbenigol imi ar ddatblygu'r cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig. Cyfarfu'r grŵp am y tro cyntaf ym mis Medi ac rwy'n falch iawn o weld bod aelodaeth y grŵp yn cynnwys pobl ag awtistiaeth, eu rhieni a'u gofawyr a chynrychiolwyr y Gymdeithas Awtistiaeth Genedlaethol. Nodaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Rebecca Evans am rôl y trydydd sector.

Byddwn yn cyhoeddi'r cynllun gweithredu diwygiedig drafft ar gyfer ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus yn ystod gwanwyn y flwyddyn nesaf, a byddwn yn cynnal digwyddiadau ymgynghori i ofyn am farn rhieni a gofawyr er mwyn sicrhau bod y cynllun gweithredu yn canolbwyntio ar y meysydd blaenoriaeth y mae pobl ag awtistiaeth a'u rhieni a'u gofawyr am eu gweld. Diolch yn fawr iawn am y cyfle i gynnal y ddadl hon y prynhawn yma.

Diolch, Ddirprwy Weinidog. Daw hynny â thrafodion heddiw i ben.

*The meeting ended at 17:59.*

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