

# Cofnod y Trafodion

## The Record of Proceedings

### 16/09/2014

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*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 13:30 gyda'r Llywydd (Y Fonesig Rosemary Butler) yn y Gadair.*

*The Assembly met at 13:30 with the Presiding Officer (Dame Rosemary Butler) in the Chair.*

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

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Good afternoon. The National Assembly for Wales is now in session.

Prynhawn da. Dyma ddechrau trafodion Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

13:30 **Datganiad gan y Llywydd**

**Statement by the Presiding Officer**

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

Before we begin this afternoon's business, it gives me great pleasure to announce that, in accordance with Standing Order 26.75, the Agricultural Sector (Wales) Bill was given Royal Assent on 30 July. [Applause.] Wow, we do not get that response very often.

Cyn i ni ddechrau busnes y prynhawn yma, mae'n bleser mawr gen i gyhoeddi, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 26.75, bod Bil Sector Amaethyddol (Cymru) wedi derbyn cydsyniad Brenhinol ar 30 Gorffennaf. [Cymeradwyaeth.] Waw, nid ydym ni'n cael yr ymateb yna'n aml iawn.

**Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog**

**Questions to the First Minister**

**Cyflwr yr Undeb**

**The State of the Union**

- 13:31 **Keith Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 1. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'u cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch cyflwr yr undeb cyn y refferendwm yn yr Alban ddydd Iau? OAQ(4)1816(FM)*
- 1. What discussions has the First Minister had with the UK Government regarding the state of the union ahead of Thursday's referendum in Scotland? OAQ(4)1816(FM)*
- 13:31 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Many, many discussions. Over the past few years, I have called repeatedly for reform of the UK's constitution to take account of devolution. That position, I am glad to say, has gained increasing support.
- Llawer iawn o drafodaethau. Dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf, rwyf wedi galw dro ar ôl tro i gyfansoddiad y DU gael ei ddiwygio i gymryd datganoli i ystyriaeth. Mae'r safbwynt hwnnw, rwy'n falch o ddweud, wedi ennill cefnogaeth gynyddol.
- Keith Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- In a world of growing uncertainty, it is important to know who your friends are. Being part of the UK and, in turn, part of Europe provides that. Both the Tories and Plaid Cymru would like to see those partnerships broken. Does the First Minister agree with me that the effect on our small nation and our economy would be devastating?
- Mewn byd o ansicrwydd cynyddol, mae'n bwysig gwybod pwy yw eich ffrindiau. Mae bod yn rhan o'r DU ac, yn ei dro, yn rhan o Ewrop yn darparu hynny. Byddai'r Toriaid a Phlaid Cymru yn hoffi gweld y partneriaethau hynny'n cael eu torri. A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno â mi y byddai'r effaith ar ein cenedl fach a'n heconomi yn drychinebus?
- 13:31 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Yes. As a patriotic Welshman, I want to see what is best for my nation. I believe that my nation's future is best served by being a nation with a strong identity within a reformed union of the UK, and indeed of the EU.
- Ydw. Fel Cymro gwladgarol, rwyf eisiau gweld yr hyn sydd orau i'm cenedl. Credaf mai bod yn genedl sydd â hunaniaeth gref o fewn undeb ddiwygiedig y DU, ac yn wir yr UE, sydd orau ar gyfer dyfodol fy nghenedl.
- 13:32 **Suzy Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- First Minister, whatever the outcome of Thursday's vote, the UK Government has said that the devolution settlement in the UK will need rebalancing. Are you able to tell us of any specific arguments that you have put forward in any of those 'many, many' meetings about Barnett reform?
- Brif Weinidog, beth bynnag fydd canlyniad pleidlais ddydd Iau, mae Llywodraeth y DU wedi dweud y bydd angen ail-gydbwyso'r setliad datganoli yn y DU. A allwch chi ddweud wrthym am unrhyw ddadleuon penodol yr ydych chi wedi eu datgan mewn unrhyw un o'r 'llawer iawn' o gyfarfodydd hynny am ddiwygio Barnett?
- 13:32 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Yes. A constitutional convention; Wales's underfunding to be dealt with; the implementation of part 1 of Silk in its entirety and the implementation of part 2 in its entirety; and a constitutional convention to deal with issues regarding the whole of the UK. These are issues that the UK Government, I am afraid, took no notice of two years ago and now is taking a great deal of notice of. I believe that, whatever happens on Friday and whatever the result, it will be absolutely essential to ensure that we have a UK that is fit for the future. I listened very carefully to what the Prime Minister himself said when he said that the United Kingdom is not a nation. It is made up of four nations and that must be reflected in any settlement from Friday onwards.
- Gallaf. Confensiwn cyfansoddiadol; ymdrin â thanariannu Cymru; gweithredu rhan 1 Silk yn ei chyfanrwydd a gweithredu rhan 2 yn ei chyfanrwydd; a chonfensiwn cyfansoddiadol i ymdrin â materion yn ymwneud â'r DU gyfan. Mae'r rhain yn faterion, rwy'n ofni, na chymerodd Llywodraeth y DU unrhyw sylw ohonynt ddwy flynedd yn ôl ond y mae'n cymryd llawer iawn o sylw ohonynt erbyn hyn. Rwy'n credu, beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd ddydd Gwener a beth bynnag fydd y canlyniad, y bydd yn gwbl hanfodol sicrhau bod gennym DU sy'n addas ar gyfer y dyfodol. Gwrandewais yn astud iawn ar yr hyn a ddywedodd Prif Weinidog y DU ei hun pan ddywedodd nad yw'r Deyrnas Unedig yn genedl. Mae hi'n cynnwys pedair cenedl ac mae'n rhaid adlewyrchu hynny mewn unrhyw setliad o ddydd Gwener ymlaen.
- 13:33 **Simon Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- First Minister, can I take you back to 19 November 2012? That is when you said,
- Brif Weinidog, a gaf i fynd â chi yn ôl i 19 Tachwedd, 2012? Dyna pryd y dywedaso, ch,

'We know Wales is underfunded by £350m a year. If we accepted income tax varying powers...it would simply lock in permanently the underfunding. Now that can't possibly be in Wales' best interests.'

Today, your leader said that the Barnett allocation would be locked in permanently and in perpetuity, and that the underfunding for Wales will continue. By your own definition, that is not in Wales's best interests. Can you tell the Assembly why you and your party have failed to act in Wales's best interests over the debate on our constitution?

Rydym yn gwybod bod Cymru'n cael ei thanariannu o £350m y flwyddyn. Pe byddem yn derbyn pwerau amrywio treth incwm...y cwbl y byddai hynny'n ei wneud fyddai gwneud y tanariannu'n barhaol. Does bosib y gall hynny fod o les gorau i Gymru.

Heddiw, dywedodd eich arweinydd y byddai dyraniad Barnett yn cael ei wneud yn barhaol ac am byth, ac y bydd y tanariannu i Gymru yn parhau. Yn ôl eich diffiniad eich hun, nid yw hynny er lles gorau Cymru. A allwch chi ddweud wrth y Cynulliad pam yr ydych chi a'ch plaid wedi methu â gweithredu er lles gorau Cymru yn ystod y drafodaeth ar ein cyfansoddiad?

13:33 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

I remind the Member that Ed Miliband has made it clear—and this is something that I agreed with him—that Wales's underfunding will be addressed with the election of a Labour Government. He has made that quite clear, Barnett or not. That is something that will be delivered by a Labour Government, elected in May—something that Plaid Cymru can never deliver.

Atgoffaf yr Aelod bod Ed Miliband wedi ei gwneud yn eglur—ac mae hyn yn rhywbeth y cytunais ag ef—y bydd tanariannu Cymru yn cael sylw ar ôl ethol Llywodraeth Lafur. Mae wedi gwneud hynny'n gwbl eglur, Barnett neu beidio. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth a fydd yn cael ei ddarparu gan Lywodraeth Lafur, a etholir ym mis Mai—rhywbeth na all Plaid Cymru byth ei ddarparu.

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13:34 **Mick Antoniw** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

First Minister, Plaid Cymru argues that the Scottish referendum opens the door to the prospect of independence for Wales. There is no evidence to suggest that the people of Wales would choose independence, let alone have it imposed upon them. Would the First Minister agree with me that the door that will be opened is the one that offers further devolution across the whole of the UK, so that the aspirations of different regions of the UK can be realised, including those of us here in Wales?

Brif Weinidog, mae Plaid Cymru'n dadlau bod refferendwm yr Alban yn agor y drws i'r posibilrwydd o annibyniaeth i Gymru. Nid oes unrhyw dystiolaeth i awgrymu y byddai pobl Cymru yn dewis annibyniaeth, heb sôn am gael gorfodi hynny arnynt. A fyddai'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno â mi mai'r drws a fydd yn cael ei agor yw'r un sy'n cynnig datganoli pellach ar draws y DU gyfan, fel y gall dyheadau gwahanol ranbarthau'r DU gael eu gwireddu, gan ein cynnwys ni yma yng Nghymru?

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13:34 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Absolutely. What was curious yesterday, Llywydd, was that I found myself agreeing with David Cameron, Nigel Farage and John Redwood in the sense that David Cameron said that the UK is made up of four nations; John Redwood called for more devolution, and Nigel Farage called for a federal UK. That shows how far we have come in terms of the UK's constitutional journey. One thing is absolutely clear and that is that the old union will not work from Friday onwards. There is a need to reconstruct the union on a path of equality and on a path of the equitable distribution of resources, as was pledged by the three UK party leaders yesterday. That is something that I look forward to discussing with colleagues in England, in Northern Ireland, and in Scotland.

Yn bendant. Yr hyn oedd yn rhyfedd ddoe, Lywydd, oedd i mi ganfod fy hun yn cytuno â David Cameron, Nigel Farage a John Redwood yn yr ystyr bod David Cameron wedi dweud bod pedair cenedl yn y DU; galwodd John Redwood am fwy o ddatganoli, a galwodd Nigel Farage am DU ffederal. Mae hynny'n dangos pa mor bell yr ydym ni wedi dod o ran taith gyfansoddiadol y DU. Mae un peth yn gwbl eglur a hynny yw na fydd yr hen undeb yn gweithio o ddydd Gwener ymlaen. Mae angen ailadeiladu'r undeb ar lwybr o gydraddoldeb ac ar lwybr o ddosbarthiad teg o adnoddau, fel yr addawyd gan dri arweinydd pleidiau'r DU ddoe. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth rwy'n edrych ymlaen at ei drafod gyda chydweithwyr yn Lloegr, yng Ngogledd Iwerddon, ac yn yr Alban.

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## Prentisiaethau

## Apprenticeships

13:35 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

2. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar brentisiaethau yng Nghanolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru? OAQ(4)1823(FM)

2. Will the First Minister make a statement on apprenticeships in Mid and West Wales? OAQ(4)1823(FM)

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- 13:35 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
Yes. Funding across Wales is being directed towards apprenticeships for those aged 16 to 24, as well as to higher-level apprenticeships, ensuring that young people in Wales continue to receive the skills that they need to progress in their chosen career, and, indeed, to progress to further learning at a higher level.  
Gwnaf. Mae cyllid ar draws Cymru yn cael ei gyfeirio tuag at brentisiaethau ar gyfer y rhai rhwng 16 a 24 oed, yn ogystal ag at brentisiaethau lefel uwch, gan sicrhau bod pobl ifanc yng Nghymru yn parhau i gael y sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt i ddatblygu yn y gyrfaoedd o'u dewis, ac, yn wir, i symud ymlaen i ddysgu pellach ar lefel uwch.
- 13:35 **William Powell** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)  
I would like to thank the First Minister very much for that response. Some contact that I have had with business leaders and with members of the British Institute of Hospitality over the summer has flagged up particular concerns around access to apprenticeship funding for the over-25s, and particularly for those returning to work, maybe after maternity leave or other career breaks. What steps, First Minister, are you prepared to consider to address this particular issue, which is of great concern, especially in the rural areas, where recruitment is a problem, and where the economy is potentially more fragile?  
Hoffwn ddiolch yn fawr iawn i'r Prif Weinidog am yr ymateb yna. Mae rhywfaint o gysylltiad yr wyf i wedi ei gael gydag arweinwyr busnes a chydag aelodau o Sefydliad Lletygarwch Prydain dros yr haf wedi nodi pryderon penodol ynghylch mynediad at gyllid prentisiaeth i'r rhai dros 25 oed, ac yn enwedig ar gyfer y rhai sy'n dychwelyd i'r gwaith, efallai ar ôl cyfnod mamolaeth neu seibiannau gyrfa eraill. Pa gamau, Brif Weinidog, ydych chi'n barod i'w hystyried i fynd i'r afael â'r mater penodol hwn, sy'n peri pryder mawr, yn enwedig yn yr ardaloedd gwledig, lle mae recriwtio yn broblem, a lle mae'r economi o bosibl yn fwy bregus?
- 13:36 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
We will do what we can, but given the financial situation that we face, we have had to target our resources in the most effective way. That will mean that higher-level apprenticeships will stay, Welsh-language apprenticeships will remain, and also, of course, we will continue to build on the highly successful Jobs Growth Wales scheme.  
Byddwn yn gwneud yr hyn a allwn, ond o ystyried y sefyllfa ariannol yr ydym ni'n ei hwynebu, bu'n rhaid i ni dargedu ein hadnoddau yn y ffordd fwyaf effeithiol. Bydd hynny'n golygu y bydd prentisiaethau lefel uwch yn parhau, y bydd prentisiaethau Cymraeg yn parhau, a hefyd, wrth gwrs, byddwn yn parhau i adeiladu ar gynllun hynod lwyddiannus Twf Swyddi Cymru.
- 13:36 **Russell George** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)  
First Minister, your Government has made much fanfare of the schemes, particularly the Young Recruits programme. One of my constituents has been an active participant in these schemes, and has provided valuable expertise to a number of apprentices. He wanted to take on three electrical apprentices this September, but they have been left in limbo, because he does not know whether there is going to be any support for him to take these three young men on. Why is he being put in this position, and what advice can you give him that that funding will be secured, and that he will not have to let down these three men?  
Brif Weinidog, mae eich Llywodraeth wedi tynnu cryn sylw at y cynlluniau, yn enwedig y rhaglen Recriwtiaid Newydd. Mae un o'm hetholwyr wedi bod yn cymryd rhan ymarferol yn y cynlluniau hyn, ac wedi darparu arbenigedd gwerthfawr i nifer o brentisiaid. Roedd e'n dymuno cyflogi tri phrentis trydanol y mis Medi hwn, ond maen nhw wedi cael eu gadael yn nhir neb, gan nad yw'n gwybod a fydd unrhyw gymorth ar gael iddo gyflogi'r tri dyn ifanc. Pam mae'n cael ei roi yn y sefyllfa hon, a pha gyngor allwch chi ei roi iddo y bydd cyllid yn cael ei sicrhau, ac na fydd yn rhaid iddo siomi'r tri dyn ifanc?
- 13:37 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
Well, I would advise him to contact either my office or the Minister's office with his details—or, indeed, you, as his Member—in order that we can examine what might be possible. However, the reality is that we cannot keep spending where we would want to in terms of apprenticeships because of the budget settlement that we have received from London.  
Wel, byddwn yn ei gyngori i gysylltu â naill ai fy swyddfa i neu swyddfa'r Gweinidog gyda'i fanylion—neu, yn wir, chi, fel ei Aelod—er mwyn i ni allu ystyried yr hyn a allai fod yn bosibl. Fodd bynnag, y gwir yw na allwn barhau i wario lle y byddem yn dymuno o ran prentisiaethau oherwydd y setliad cyllideb yr ydym ni wedi ei gael gan Lundain.

13:37 **Elin Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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Brif Weinidog, mae'ch Llywodraeth chi wedi torri sawl cyllideb addysg a hyfforddiant yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol hon ac yn ystod toriad yr haf, a goblygiadau torri'r gyllideb ar brentisiaethau yw na fydd, yn y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, o bosibl, prentisiaid newydd yn cael eu cymryd ymlaen gan fusnesau o hyn tan o leiaf fis Ebrill nesaf. Ac ystyried lefel diweithdra ymysg pobl ifanc, a ydych yn credu ei bod yn dderbyniol bod eich Llywodraeth chi wedi cymryd y cam hwn?

First Minister, your Government has cut a number of education and training budgets during this financial year and over the summer recess, and the implications of cutting back on the budget for apprenticeships is that, in Mid and West Wales, possibly, new apprentices will not be taken on by businesses between now until at least next April. Given the level of unemployment among young people, do you believe that it is acceptable that your Government has taken this step?

13:37 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Wel, nid wyf yn derbyn bod hynny'n iawn, o gofio'r ffaith bod Twf Swyddi Cymru gyda ni ac o gofio'r ffaith bod cynlluniau prentisiaethau yn dal i fod gyda ni. Nid wyf yn derbyn, felly, na fydd dim byd ar gael o gwbl. Mae'n wir dweud bod rhai o'r cynlluniau yn dal i fod yn eu lle, ac, wrth gwrs, fod rhai sy'n mynd i dargedu pobl ifanc.

Well, I do not accept that that is correct, bearing in mind that we have Jobs Growth Wales and apprenticeships schemes that are still in place. I do not accept, therefore, that there will be nothing at all available. It is true to say that some of the schemes are still in place, and, of course, that some of those target young people.

## Cwestiynau Heb Rybudd gan Arweinwyr y Pleidiau

## Questions Without Notice from the Party Leaders

13:38 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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First this afternoon, we have the leader of the opposition, Andrew R.T. Davies.

Yn gyntaf y prynhawn yma, mae gennym ni arweinydd yr wrthblaid, Andrew R.T. Davies.

13:38 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid / The Leader of the Opposition*

First Minister, yesterday, the deputy leader of Plaid Cymru said that you had betrayed the Welsh national interest in your discussions and your debates about Wales's place within the union. Do you not agree with me that the only betrayal that anyone will make is in seeking to break up the union of the United Kingdom, which has created so much economic vibrancy and social cohesion, and which, above all, offers such a bright future for the peoples of these islands?

Brif Weinidog, ddoe, dywedodd dirprwy arweinydd Plaid Cymru eich bod wedi bradychu lles cenedlaethol Cymru o fewn yr undeb. Onid ydych chi'n cytuno â mi mai'r unig frad y bydd unrhyw un yn ei gyflawni fydd ceisio chwalu undeb y Deyrnas Unedig, sydd wedi creu cymaint o hyfywedd economaidd a chydlynid cymdeithasol, ac sydd, yn anad dim, yn cynnig dyfodol mor ddisglair i bobloedd yr nysoedd hyn?

13:38 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

I think that you are both wrong. I do not like the word 'betrayal'. I think that this is an exercise in democracy. There are different viewpoints around this Chamber, and those viewpoints should be respected even though we may not agree with yours, or, indeed, Plaid Cymru's.

Rwy'n meddwl bod y ddau ohonoch yn anghywir. Nid wyf yn hoffi'r gair 'brad'. Rwy'n credu mai ymarfer democratiaeth yw hyn. Ceir gwahanol safbwyntiau o amgylch y Siambr hon, a dylai'r safbwyntiau hynny gael eu parchu hyd yn oed os nad ydym yn cytuno â'ch rhai chi, neu, yn wir, rhai Plaid Cymru.

13:39 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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I find that quite remarkable, that you disagree with the position that I put to you, but there again, that is your view.

Rwy'n credu bod hynna'n rhyfeddol, eich bod yn anghytuno â'r safbwynt a gyflwynais i chi, ond dyna ni, dyna yw eich barn.

What we have also hosted through the summer recess, First Minister, is the NATO summit, which showed Wales off in its true colours: able to host such a magnificent display of solidarity, in the face of many trials and tribulations across the world. Barack Obama, on leaving Wales, said,

Yr hyn yr ydym ni hefyd wedi ei gynnal yn ystod toriad yr haf, Brif Weinidog, yw uwchgynhadledd NATO, a ddangosodd wir rinweddau Cymru: y gallu i gynnal arddangosfa mor odidog o undod, yn wyneb llawer o hynt a helynt ar draws y byd. Meddai Barack Obama, wrth adael Cymru,

'You can see the extraordinary beauty, the wonderful people, the great hospitality' when you come to Wales.

Gallwch weld yr harddwch anhygoel, y bobl hyfryd, y lletygarwch gwych pan fyddwch chi'n dod i Gymru.

Is it not a fact that, if we were not a part of the United Kingdom, Wales could not play its role in supporting the ambitions that all the leaders stood for when they came to Wales, at the Celtic Manor and Cardiff Castle, and the declarations that NATO made about securing peace across the areas that it has responsibility for?

Onid yw'n ffaith, pe na byddem ni'n rhan o'r Deyrnas Unedig, na allai Cymru gyflawni ei swyddogaeth o gefnogi'r uchelgeisiau y safodd yr holl arweinwyr drostynt pan ddaethant i Gymru, yn y Celtic Manor ac yng Nghastell Caerdydd, a'r datganiadau a wnaeth NATO ynglŷn â sicrhau heddwch ar draws yr ardaloedd y mae'n gyfrifol amdanynt?

13:39

**Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

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Well, there is no question that we could not have hosted the NATO conference if we were not a part of the UK, and nor would we have received the same level of publicity—that much is true. I was very pleased with the publicity that was generated. I look forward to the investment conference that will take place in November. Of course, we had the reception as well for the media, and indeed the reception that was held in the Celtic Manor, and I was glad to be joined there by the leaders of Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats.

Wel, nid oes amheuaeth na allem ni fod wedi cynnal cynhadledd NATO pe na byddem ni'n rhan o'r DU, ac ni fyddem wedi derbyn yr un lefel o gyhoeddusrwydd ychwaith—mae cymaint â hynny'n wir. Roeddwn i'n falch iawn â lefel y cyhoeddusrwydd a gynhyrchwyd. Edrychaf ymlaen at y gynhadledd buddsoddiad a fydd yn cael ei chynnal ym mis Tachwedd. Wrth gwrs, cawsom y derbyniad i'r cyfryngau hefyd, ac, yn wir, y derbyniad a gynhaliwyd yn y Celtic Manor, ac roeddwn yn falch bod arweinwyr Plaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol wedi ymuno â mi yno.

13:40

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

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First Minister, I find it somewhat surprising that, on the first question, you were unable to stand in agreement with my good self. I also note the point that you made to Mick Antoniw that you were going to have discussions with other people, or 'colleagues' as you put it, in England, Northern Ireland and Scotland, but you did not say Wales. Would you entertain having that discussion with the political leaders here in Wales over the way that the union is shaped in the future, because it is vitally important? Where we disagree, we can have that debate, but we can offer common ground in the discussions, so that after a 'no' vote on Thursday, we can go and develop a union that will be responsive to the needs of the twenty-first century and find common ground in the principles that will benefit all the peoples of the islands of Great Britain.

Brif Weinidog, mae'n fy synnu braidd, o ran y cwestiwn cyntaf, nad oeddech chi'n gallu cytuno â mi. Nodaf hefyd y pwynt a wnaethoch i Mick Antoniw eich bod yn mynd i gael trafodaethau gyda phobl eraill, neu 'gydweithwyr' yn eich geiriau chi, yn Lloegr, Gogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban, ond ni ddywedasoch Cymru. A fydddech chi'n ystyried cael y drafodaeth honno gyda'r arweinwyr gwleidyddol yma yng Nghymru ar y ffordd y bydd yr undeb yn cael ei ffurfio yn y dyfodol, gan fod hynny'n hanfodol bwysig? O ran yr hyn yr ydym yn anghytuno arno, gallwn gael y ddadl honno, ond gallwn gynnig dir cyffredin yn y trafodaethau, fel y gallwn fynd ati i ddatblygu undeb a fydd yn ymateb i anghenion yr unfed ganrif ar hugain ar ôl pleidlais 'na' ddydd Iau, a dod o hyd i dir cyffredin o ran yr egwyddorion y bydd holl bobloedd ynysoedd Prydain Fawr yn elwa arnynt.



- 13:41 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- And indeed Northern Ireland. I have been saying this for two years, so I agree with him. I think that it should have been done a long time ago. There should have been a convention process to ensure that the UK faced the twenty-first century with a more modern structure than it has now. I think that what has happened in the past few weeks is quite remarkable: the fact that there is acknowledgement in Westminster of the family of nations—from the Prime Minister's words and others—of the four nations of the UK, and of the need to look very carefully at the structure of the UK. These things cannot be done overnight. There will be differing viewpoints, but it does need to be done and Wales must form a part of those discussions. In the same way, we as a Government would not accept Wales's continuing to be underfunded. If the Barnett formula is to remain, as per the pledge that was put forward yesterday, it is important that what we as a party have put forward, namely Barnett plus so that Wales's funding is dealt with, be taken forward. That is a view shared by the Liberal Democrats—I know that. I do not invite the leader of the Welsh Conservatives to say this now, but I do invite him in due course to outline his position in terms of what Wales's funding position should be in the future.
- 13:42 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- So, you are not going to have a dialogue.
- 13:42 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- We now move to the Leader of Plaid Cymru, Leanne Wood.
- 13:42 **Leanne Wood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Arweinydd Plaid Cymru / The Leader of Plaid Cymru*
- The First Minister is right. It is remarkable what the establishment can come up with when they are faced with the panic that they have been faced with over the last few weeks. This morning, a declaration was made jointly to Scotland by Labour, the Tories and the Liberal Democrats. Among the promises was a commitment to keep the Barnett formula. Already this morning, a Labour parliamentary candidate has condemned this vow in the strongest possible terms. Will the First Minister condemn this vow, too?
- 13:42 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Well, the vow is not to keep Barnett and then nothing for Wales. If that were the case, I could not agree with it. What the vow says is that Barnett would remain—[Interruption]. But look at the first paragraph, the preceding paragraph, which says that we need to see an equitable distribution of resources across the four nations. That means, of course, that it will be possible to secure Wales's proper share of funding while at the same time keeping the formula.
- A Gogledd Iwerddon, yn wir. Rwyf wedi bod yn dweud hyn ers dwy flynedd, felly rwy'n cytuno ag ef. Rwy'n meddwl y dylai hyn fod wedi ei wneud amser maith yn ôl. Dylid bod wedi cael proses gonfensiwn er mwyn sicrhau bod y DU yn wynebu'r unfed ganrif ar hugain gyda strwythur mwy modern na'r un sydd ganddi nawr. Rwy'n meddwl bod yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd yn yr wythnosau diwethaf yn dra rhyfeddol: y ffaith fod cydnabyddiaeth yn San Steffan o'r teulu o genhedloedd—yng ngeiriau Prif Weinidog y DU ac eraill—o bedair cenedl y DU, ac o'r angen i edrych yn ofalus iawn ar strwythur y DU. Ni ellir gwneud y pethau hyn dros nos. Bydd gwahanol safbwyntiau, ond mae angen ei wneud ac mae'n rhaid i Gymru fod yn rhan o'r trafodaethau hynny. Yn yr un modd, ni fyddem ni fel Llywodraeth yn derbyn bod Cymru yn parhau i gael ei thanariannu. Os yw fformiwla Barnett am barhau, yn unol â'r addewid a wnaed ddoe, mae'n bwysig bod yr hyn yr ydym ni fel plaid wedi ei gyflwyno, sef Barnett a mwy er mwyn ymdrin â chyllid Cymru yn cael ei fabwysiadu. Mae honno'n farn a rennir gan y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—rwy'n gwybod hynny. Nid wyf yn gwahodd arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru i ddweud hyn yn awr, ond rwyf yn ei wahodd maes o law i amlinellu ei safbwynt o ran beth ddylai sefyllfa ariannu Cymru fod yn y dyfodol.
- Felly, nid ydych chi'n mynd i gael deialog.
- Symudwn nawr at Arweinydd Plaid Cymru, Leanne Wood.
- Mae'r Prif Weinidog yn iawn. Mae'n rhyfeddol yr hyn y gall y sefydliad ei gynnig pan fyddant yn wynebu'r panig sydd wedi eu hwynebu dros yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Y bore yma, gwnaed datganiad ar y cyd i'r Alban gan Lafur, y Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Ymhlith yr addewidion oedd ymrwymiad i gadw fformiwla Barnett. Eisoes y bore yma, mae ymgeisydd seneddol Llafur wedi condemnio'r adduned hon yn y modd cryfaf posibl. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog gondemnio'r adduned hon hefyd?
- Wel, nid cadw Barnett ac yna dim byd i Gymru yw'r adduned. Pe byddai hynny'n wir, ni allwn gytuno ag ef. Yr hyn y mae'r adduned yn ei ddweud yw y byddai Barnett yn parhau—[Torri ar draws]. Ond edrychwch ar y paragraff cyntaf, y paragraff blaenorol, sy'n dweud bod angen i ni weld dosbarthiad teg o adnoddau ar draws y pedair cenedl. Mae hynny'n golygu, wrth gwrs, y bydd yn bosibl sicrhau cyfran briodol Cymru o gyllid gan gadw'r fformiwla ar yr un pryd.

13:43

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

Despite the First Minister's insistence, the vow today commits Labour to the current funding arrangements. Between 2010 and 2020, Wales would lose somewhere between £5.3 billion and £8.5 billion to our public services if the Barnett formula were fixed. Is the First Minister suggesting today that this announcement is not the whole truth? If so, do the people of Wales not deserve to know today what the future holds for their public services? First Minister, in short, where is your piece of paper? Where is your vow?

Er gwaethaf mynnu'r Prif Weinidog, mae adduned heddiw yn ymrwymo Llafur i'r trefniadau cyllido presennol. Rhwng 2010 a 2020, byddai Cymru yn colli rhywle rhwng £5.3 biliwn ac £8.5 biliwn i'n gwasanaethau cyhoeddus pe byddai fformiwla Barnett yn sefydlog. A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn awgrymu heddiw mai nad yw'r cyhoeddiad hwn yn cyflwyno'r gwir cyfan? Os felly, onid yw pobl Cymru yn haeddu cael gwybod heddiw beth yw dyfodol eu gwasanaethau cyhoeddus? Brif Weinidog, yn gryno, ble mae eich darn o bapur? Ble mae eich adduned?

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13:43

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

As Ed Miliband and I have said, an incoming Labour government will address the issue of fair funding for Wales. We have said that publicly for some months and that position has not changed. That fits, indeed, with the declaration that was made that there will be an equitable distribution of resources across the four nations. That is exactly what we want to see, as a party.

Fel y mae Ed Miliband a minnau wedi ei ddweud, bydd llywodraeth Lafur newydd yn mynd i'r afael â'r mater o ariannu teg i Gymru. Rydym ni wedi dweud hynny'n gyhoeddus ers rhai misoedd ac nid yw'r sefyllfa honno wedi newid. Mae hynny'n cyd-fynd, yn wir, â'r datganiad a wnaed y bydd dosbarthiad teg o adnoddau ar draws y pedair cenedl. Dyna'n union yr hyn yr ydym ni'n dymuno ei weld, fel plaid.

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13:44

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

Labour has had plenty of opportunities over many decades to reform the Barnett formula, and it has failed to do so. Why on earth should people in Wales believe promises now, especially in light of the guarantee that Labour has made in Scotland? Today was the opportunity for the First Minister to put country ahead of party, to win for Wales. All he has done throughout this entire period is list the responsibilities that he does not want to hold. He has harped on and on about a UK constitutional convention, but does today's announcement not show that team Westminster has given us all that we need to know? The constitutional convention has already been held in London and the First Minister was not even invited.

Mae Llafur wedi cael digon o gyfleoedd dros sawl degawd i ddiwygio fformiwla Barnett, ac mae wedi methu â gwneud hynny. Pam ar y ddaear y dylai pobl yng Nghymru gredu addewidion nawr, yn enwedig yng ngoleuni'r sicrwydd y mae Llafur wedi ei roi yn yr Alban? Heddiw oedd y cyfle i'r Prif Weinidog roi ei wlad o flaen ei blaid, i ennill dros Gymru. Y cwbl y mae wedi ei wneud trwy gydol yr holl gyfnod hwn yw rhestru'r cyfrifoldebau nad yw'n dymuno eu cael. Mae wedi paldaruo am gonfensiwn cyfansoddiadol y DU, ond onid yw cyhoeddiad heddiw yn dangos bod tîm San Steffan wedi dweud y cwbl sydd angen i ni ei wybod? Mae'r uwchgynhadledd gyfansoddiadol eisoes wedi ei chynnal yn Llundain, ac ni chafodd y Prif Weinidog ei wahodd hyd yn oed.

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13:45

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Well, I am not sure whether the leader of Plaid Cymru heard what I said or indeed listened when I said quite clearly that we as a party are committed to fair funding for Wales. I could not have put it more plainly, nor am I—thank you very much—part of team Westminster. I am part of team Wales as somebody who is a proud Welshman, and independence would not make me more Welsh than I am now. I have to say that the use of the word 'betrayal' by Plaid Cymru is dangerous. Why? It is because we know that the concept of independence for Scotland is not supported by two thirds of the Welsh electorate. We know that the concept of independence for Wales is not supported by 80% of voters. We know that the concept of independence for Wales is not supported even by a majority of those who plan to vote for Plaid Cymru in the Assembly elections. That is the reality of the situation for her party. Is she saying that all those people—those in this Chamber who are not of the same view as her—are in some way betraying their nation? I think that those words are exceptionally unfortunate and I do hope that greater thought will be given—as indeed Simon Thomas did earlier on—to the choice of words when it comes to describing those who are equally as patriotic as you but who do not hold the same view as you on independence, which is the majority of the people of Wales.

Wel, nid wyf yn siŵr a glywodd arweinydd Plaid Cymru yr hyn a ddywedais neu yn wir a wrandawodd pan ddywedais yn gwbl eglur ein bod ni fel plaid wedi ymrwymo i gyllid teg ar gyfer Cymru. Ni allwn fod wedi ei ddweud yn fwy plaen, ac nid wyf ychwaith—diolch yn fawr iawn—yn rhan o dîm San Steffan. Rwy'n rhan o dîm Cymru fel rhywun sy'n Gymro balch, ac ni fyddai annibyniaeth yn fy ngwneud i'n fwy o Gymro nag ydwyf i nawr. Mae'n rhaid i mi ddweud bod y defnydd o'r gair 'brad' gan Plaid Cymru yn beryglus. Pam? Oherwydd ein bod yn gwybod bod dwy ran o dair o etholwyr Cymru nad ydynt yn cefnogi'r cysyniad o annibyniaeth i'r Alban. Rydym ni'n gwybod nad yw 80% o bleidleiswyr yn cefnogi'r cysyniad o annibyniaeth i Gymru. Rydym ni'n gwybod nad yw mwyafrif y rhai sy'n bwriadu pleidleisio i Blaid Cymru yn etholiadau'r Cynulliad hyd yn oed yn cefnogi'r cysyniad o annibyniaeth i Gymru. Dyna yw gwirionedd y sefyllfa i'w phlaid hi. Ydy hi'n dweud bod yr holl bobl hynny—y rhai yn y Siambr hon nad ydynt o'r un farn â hi—yn bradychu eu cenedl mewn rhyw ffordd? Rwy'n credu bod y geiriau hynny'n eithriadol o anffodus ac rwy'n gobeithio y bydd mwy o ystyriaeth yn cael ei rhoi—fel y gwnaeth Simon Thomas yn gynharach yn wir—i'r dewis o eiriau pan ddaw i ddisgrifio'r rhai sydd yr un mor wladgarol â chi ond nad ydynt o'r un farn â chi o ran annibyniaeth, sef mwyafrif pobl Cymru.

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13:46

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

We have now—[Interruption.] Thank you—you have had your turn. I call the leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, Kirsty Williams.

Mae gennym nawr—[Torri ar draws.] Diolch yn fawr—rydych chi wedi cael eich tro. Galwaf ar arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru, Kirsty Williams.

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13:46

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

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

First Minister, we have made the biggest strides in furthering devolution when we have spoken with a united voice. Is it not time for us not only to reject separatism but to strive for proper home rule for Wales as part of a new United Kingdom?

Brif Weinidog, rydym ni wedi cymryd y camau mwyaf o ran bwrw ymlaen â datganoli pan ein bod wedi siarad ag un llais. Onid yw'n bryd, nid yn unig i ni wrthod ymwahaniaeth, ond i ymdrechu am wir ymreolaeth i Gymru yn rhan o Deyrnas Unedig newydd?

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13:47

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Yes, I agree. Home rule is a concept of course first put forward, I know, by her party, and it is something that I think needs to be resurrected. Home rule within the context of the UK is something that I would wholeheartedly support, and she is right to say that we should reject separatism in the UK as we should reject separatism in the EU. That is separatism in the same vein to my mind, and I entirely agree with her that Wales is better served in terms of its constitutional future when as many parties as possible can agree on that future.

Ydy, rwy'n cytuno. Mae ymreolaeth yn gysyniad wrth gwrs a gynigiwyd yn gyntaf, rwy'n gwybod, gan ei phlaid hi, ac mae'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn meddwl y mae angen ei atgyfodi. Mae ymreolaeth yng nghyd-destun y DU yn rhywbeth y byddwn yn ei gefnogi'n frwd, ac mae hi'n iawn i ddweud y dylem wrthod ymwahaniaeth yn y DU fel y dylem wrthod ymwahaniaeth yn yr UE. Mae hynny'n ymwahaniaeth yn yr un modd yn fy marn i, ac rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr â hi bod Cymru mewn sefyllfa well o ran ei dyfodol cyfansoddiadol pan fo cymaint o bartion â phosibl yn gallu cytuno ar y dyfodol hwnnw.

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13:47

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

First Minister, as the whole of the UK engages in a conversation about the future, would you not agree with me that it is essential that Wales's voice is heard loud and clear? All four parties in the Assembly participated through the Silk commission. Do you agree with me now that it is time for the rapid implementation of all the Silk recommendations?

Brif Weinidog, wrth i'r DU gyfan gymryd rhan mewn sgwrs am y dyfodol, oni fydddech chi'n cytuno â mi ei bod hi'n hanfodol bod llais Cymru yn cael ei glywed yn eglur? Cymerodd pob un o'r pedair plaid yn y Cynulliad ran drwy'r comisiwn Silk. A ydych chi'n cytuno â mi nawr ei bod yn bryd rhoi holl argymhellion Silk ar waith yn gyflym?

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- 13:47 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Yes, I do. There is no reason now why Silk part 2, or indeed parts of Silk part 1 that were not accepted by the current Government, should not be implemented. We have to understand that the atmosphere has changed exceptionally rapidly within the UK. If we are to proceed to a more equitable sharing not just of resources but of power within the UK, certainly, part 2 will need to be implemented.
- Ydw, mi ydwyf. Nid oes unrhyw reswm bellach pam na ddylid rhoi rhan 2 Silk, nac yn wir rhannau o ran 1 Silk na dderbyniwyd gan y Llywodraeth bresennol, ar waith. Mae'n rhaid i ni ddeall bod yr awyrgylch wedi newid yn eithriadol o gyflym o fewn y DU. Os ydym ni am symud ymlaen at rannu mwy cyfartal, nid yn unig o adnoddau ond o rym yn y DU, yn sicr, bydd angen rhoi rhan 2 ar waith.
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- 13:48 **Kirsty Williams** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)
- At the beginning of this year, you said that the income tax powers on offer to Wales are pretty much useless because of the lockstep. All four parties in this Chamber voted against the lockstep and, whatever the results on Thursday, the justification for keeping the lockstep becomes less and less tenable. Will you confirm today that, if the lockstep is removed, you will welcome the devolution of income tax powers to Wales?
- Dywedasoeh ar ddechrau'r flwyddyn hon bod y pwerau treth incwm sydd ar gael i Gymru fwy neu lai'n dda i ddim oherwydd y dull camu clos. Pleidleisiodd pob un o'r pedair plaid yn y Siambr hon yn erbyn y dull camu clos a, beth bynnag fo'r canlyniadau ddydd Iau, mae'r cyfiawnhad dros gadw'r dull camu clos yn mynd yn llai a llai credadwy. A wnewch chi gadarnhau heddiw, os caiff y dull camu clos ei ddiddymu, y byddwch yn croesawu datganoli pwerau treth incwm i Gymru?
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- 13:48 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Well, if the lockstep is removed, that is a start, but we need to sort out the issue of funding first. Once fair funding is established, then of course it will be time to look at tax powers. Why do I say that—[Interruption.] Well, I have said this many, many times in this Chamber: we cannot accept the situation where we are underfunded and then take on tax-varying powers. In doing that, it locks in the underfunding. If that is addressed, I think that this is something we need to look at now, especially given the fact that there may be devolution of taxes more widely across the whole of the UK. We would need to be absolutely sure that the redistributive element of taxation remains for Wales's best interests while at the same time having sufficient flexibility for this Chamber—in what is rapidly becoming, let us face it, the Parliament of Wales—to be able to exercise the powers that the people of Wales would want to see.
- Wel, os diddymir y dull camu clos, mae hynny'n ddechrau, ond mae angen i ni ddatrys y mater o ariannu yn gyntaf. Ar ôl sefydlu ariannu teg, yna, wrth gwrs, bydd yn amser i edrych ar bwerau treth. Pam ydw i'n dweud hynny—[Torri ar draws.] Wel, rwyf wedi dweud hyn lawer, lawer gwaith yn y Siambr hon: ni allwn dderbyn y sefyllfa lle rydym ni'n cael ein tanariannu ac yna'n ymgymryd â phwerau amrywio trethi. Trwy wneud hynny, mae'n gwneud y tanariannu'n barhaol. Os rhoddir sylw i hynny, rwy'n credu bod hyn yn rhywbeth y mae angen i ni ei ystyried nawr, yn enwedig o gofio'r ffaith y gallai trethi gael eu datganoli'n ehangach ledled y DU gyfan. Byddai angen i ni fod yn gwbl sicr bod elfen aiddosbarthu trethi yn parhau er lles Cymru gan gynnig digon o hyblygrwydd i'r Siambr hon ar yr un pryd—yn yr hyn sy'n datblygu'n gyflym, mae'n rhaid i ni gyfaddef, i fod yn Senedd Cymru—i allu arfer y pwerau y byddai pobl Cymru yn dymuno eu gweld.
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- Capasiti'r Rheilffyrdd**
- Rail Capacity**
- 13:49 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*3. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar gapasiti'r rheilffyrdd ledled Cymru? OAQ(4)1819(FM)*
- 3. Will the First Minister make a statement on rail capacity across Wales? OAQ(4)1819(FM)*
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[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 13:49 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Yes. We are committed to continuous improvement of our rail services and investment in our transport infrastructure, of course. For example, we will spend £177.3 million in revenue support this financial year on rail services in Wales.
- Gwnaf. Rydym wedi ymrwymo i welliant parhaus ein gwasanaethau rheilffyrdd a buddsoddiad yn ein seilwaith trafniadaeth, wrth gwrs. Er enghraifft, byddwn yn gwario £177.3 miliwn mewn cymorth refeniw ar wasanaethau rheilffyrdd yng Nghymru yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol hon.
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- 13:49 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Thank you, First Minister. When Deutsche Bahn took over the Arriva company, it paid a fee to take over the Wales and borders rail franchise, as I understand it, to both the UK and Welsh Governments. The Department for Transport has announced that that £1.2 million that it received has been invested in new rolling stock to increase the capacity of cross-border services between England and Wales. How much did the Welsh Government receive from this deal and what was it spent on?
- 13:50 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- It did not quite work that way, but what we have done, via revenue spending, is improve our rail services. For example, if you look at what has happened with the Vale of Glamorgan line and after that with the Ebbw valley line, and at the additional services to Fishguard and Goodwick station, they were put in place by Welsh Government. If you look at the partial redoubling of the Wrexham to Saltney Junction line and at the redoubling at Gowerton, these are all things that have been done to improve rail services in Wales. So, I believe that we have a good record as a Government of showing that we can deliver on rail.
- 13:50 **Joyce Watson** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- First Minister, with the railways, more often than not, it is a case of if you build it, they will come. For the past three years, the additional services between Fishguard and Carmarthen that you have just mentioned have benefited tourists and residents alike. May I take this opportunity, in the first place, to welcome the Government's decision to make those services permanent? As we go forward to a new franchise in 2018, First Minister, will the Government seek to put extra capacity in mid and west Wales on the negotiating table?
- 13:51 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- I thank the Member for the question. I can say that the Fishguard and Goodwick station and the services serving the station and beyond to the harbour will continue at least until the end of the current franchise in 2018. Additional services on the Heart of Wales and Cambrian lines will also begin in May next year on a three-year trial basis. Much of this depends on what happens with the franchise in terms of whether it is devolved or not. That is something that we would want to see, with, of course, the appropriate financial settlement.

13:51

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

First Minister, you have just mentioned the end of the current Arriva franchise in 2018 and the need to get the new franchise in order, so may I ask you a broader question than Eluned Parrott asked about the future of that franchise? The Enterprise and Business Committee published in December 2013 'The Future of the Wales and Borders Rail Franchise', which sets out the need for a very tight timetable to make sure that everything is in place for that new franchise to start. Could you tell us where we are on that timetable? Are you confident that everything will be in place by 2018? As you will be well aware, this is a vital part of the north-south Wales infrastructure and, if we do not get this right, there is a very real danger that the current service will cease in 2018. It will certainly cease in its current form, and we want it to be better, not worse.

Brif Weinidog, rydych chi newydd grybwyll diwedd masnachfrait bresennol Arriva yn 2018 a'r angen i drefnu'r fasnachfrait newydd, felly a gaf i ofyn cwestiwn ehangach i chi na ofynnodd Eluned Parrott am ddyfodol y fasnachfrait honno? Ym mis Rhagfyr 2013, cyhoeddodd y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes 'Dyfodol Masnachfrait Rheilffyrdd Cymru a'r Gororau', sy'n nodi'r angen am amserlen dynn iawn i sicrhau bod popeth ar waith i'r fasnachfrait newydd honno ddechrau. A allech chi ddweud wrthym ble'r ydym ni ar yr amserlen honno? A ydych chi'n hyderus y bydd popeth ar waith erbyn 2018? Fel y gwyddoch yn iawn, mae hon yn rhan hanfodol o seilwaith o'r gogledd i'r de ac, os na chawn ni hyn yn iawn, mae gwir berygl y bydd y gwasanaeth presennol yn dod i ben yn 2018. Bydd yn sicr yn dod i ben ar ei ffurf bresennol, ac rydym ni eisiau iddo fod yn well, nid gwaeth.

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13:52

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

I entirely agree. Negotiations are ongoing, because, bear in mind that this is a joint responsibility. The Secretary of State for Transport also has a role in improving the franchise at the moment. So, this is not entirely within the gift of the Welsh Government; it also needs the agreement, at the moment, of the UK Government. May I say that the period of time for which the next Wales and borders franchise will be awarded is yet to be determined, but I know that there is a review that has been commissioned by DfT examining this very issue? However, it is clearly important that the service continues at at least the level that it is now.

Rwy'n cytuno'n llwyr. Mae trafodaethau yn parhau, oherwydd, cofiwch mai cyfrifoldeb ar y cyd yw hwn. Mae gan yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Drafnidiaeth swyddogaeth hefyd o ran gwella'r fasnachfrait ar hyn o bryd. Felly, nid cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth Cymru yw hyn yn gyfan gwbl; mae hefyd angen, ar hyn o bryd, cytundeb Llywodraeth y DU. A gaf i ddweud na phenderfynwyd hyd yn hyn ar y cyfnod o amser ar gyfer dyfarniad masnachfrait nesaf Cymru a'r gororau, ond gwn fod adolygiad a gomisiynwyd gan yr Adran Drafnidiaeth yn ystyried yr union fater hwn? Fodd bynnag, mae'n amlwg yn bwysig bod y gwasanaeth yn parhau ar ei lefel presennol o leiaf.

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Many of us who came here in 1999 will remember that there was no north-south rail service in 1999. It involved a lengthy layover—that is an airline term—or a lengthy stop, in Shrewsbury, and now we are in the situation where we have regular, at least two-hourly services at certain times of the day. That is an immense improvement from what the situation was like 15 years ago.

Bydd llawer ohonom a ddaeth yma ym 1999 yn cofio nad oedd unrhyw wasanaeth rheilffordd rhwng y gogledd a'r de ym 1999. Roedd yn golygu arhosiad hirfaith yn yr Amwythig, ac rydym ni bellach yn y sefyllfa lle mae gennym wasanaethau rheolaidd, bob dwy awr o leiaf ar adegau penodol o'r dydd. Mae hynny'n welliant enfawr o'r sefyllfa fel yr oedd hi 15 mlynedd yn ôl.

13:53

**Rhun ap Iorwerth** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno bod y 'franchise' diwethaf wedi bod yn dychinebus, oherwydd ei fethiant i fynnu unrhyw dwf mewn capasiti ar reilffyrdd Cymru? A yw'n cytuno felly fod angen i'r 'franchise' nesaf fynnu cael y twf hwnnw ac mai'r unig ffordd y gallwn sicrhau hynny yw bod y cyfrifoldeb am y cytundeb nesaf, ynghyd â'r cyllid ar ei gyfer, yn cael eu datganoli, a hynny fel rhan o'r llif o gyfrifoldebau newydd a ddylai ddod yn sgîl refferendwm yr Alban, oni bai bod y Prif Weinidog am gael cynnig y pŵer hwnnw a'i wrthod?

Does the First Minister agree that the last franchise has been disastrous because of its failure to insist on any growth in capacity on the Welsh railways? Does he therefore agree that the next franchise must insist on that growth, and the only way in which we can ensure that that happens is for responsibility for the franchise, as well as the funding for it, to be devolved as part of the whole host of new powers that should come as a result of the Scottish referendum, unless the First Minister wants to be offered the power and refuses to take it?

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13:54

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Fel dywedais yn gynharach, fe fyddwn i o blaid sicrhau bod y 'franchise' yn dod i Lywodraeth Cymru ac, wrth gwrs, fod yr arian yn dod hefyd. Unwaith eto, rydym wedi cael cwestiwn yn cael ei ofyn a'r Aelod heb wrando ar yr atebion sydd wedi cael eu rhoi yn gynharach.

As I said earlier, I would be in favour of ensuring that the franchise came to Welsh Government together with the funding. It is obvious that you have been posing questions without listening to earlier answers.

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## Senotaffau a Chofebion Rhyfel

## Cenotaphs and War Memorials

- 13:54 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*4. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y canllawiau a roddwyd i awdurdodau lleol o ran cofio'r rhai a fu farw yn gwasanaethu eu gwlad, gan gyfeirio'n benodol at senotaffau a chofebion rhyfel? OAQ(4)1828(FM)*
- 13:54 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
We owe an immense debt of gratitude to our armed forces and veterans. We do not, as a Welsh Government, issue guidance, but I can inform the leader of the opposition that, under the War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, the responsibility for war memorials rests with local authorities.
- 13:55 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Thank you, First Minister. I have been dealing with a constituent, Sian Woodland, whose fiancé died in service of this country, and who has a campaign in Penarth to have his name added to the cenotaph there. The local authority, acting in good faith, in fairness to it, according to the guidance that it thought was in place, has refused that request. Obviously, local government is devolved. Local authorities, as you indicated in your earlier answer, are responsible for the maintenance of, the guidance on and the governance of cenotaphs. In the absence of any updated advice, could I encourage the Welsh Government to enter into discussions with local authorities and the Royal British Legion about providing up-to-date advice so that Sian, and people like her, do not have to go through the trials and tribulations and battles that she has had to over the past months and years to get recognition of her fiancé's passing?
- 13:56 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
I should say that local authorities have the power to maintain war memorials, not the responsibility—but they do, and so they should. I was aware of this, but I will look in more detail at the situation that the leader of the opposition has outlined and I will write to him with proposals regarding a way forward.
- 13:56 **Rhodri Glyn Thomas** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
Brif Weinidog, fe fyddwch chi'n ymwybodol bod y setliad ar gyfer llywodraeth leol wedi gostwng yn sylweddol yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf a bod rhagdybiaeth y bydd yn gostwng yn sylweddol yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Beth ydych chi fel Llywodraeth yn mynd i'w wneud i sicrhau bod y senotaffau a'r cofebion rhyfel hyn yn cael eu cynnal gan lywodraeth leol, sydd o dan bwysau ariannol enbyd ac a fydd, o reidrwydd, yn edrych ar eu cyfrifoldebau statudol?
4. Will the First Minister make a statement on the guidance issued to local authorities in relation to the commemoration of those who have died in service of their country, with particular reference to cenotaphs and war memorials? OAQ(4)1828(FM)
- Mae gennym ddyled enfawr i'n lluoedd arfog a'n cyn-filwyr. Nid ydym ni, fel Llywodraeth Cymru, yn cyflwyno canllawiau, ond gallaf hysbysu arweinydd yr wrthblaid mai cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol yw cofebion rhyfel, dan Ddeddf y Cofebion Rhyfel (Pwerau Awdurdodau Lleol) 1923.
- Diolch yn fawr, Brif Weinidog. Rwyf wedi bod yn ymdrin ag etholwr, sef Sian Woodland, y bu farw ei dyweddi wrth wasanaethu'r wlad hon, ac sydd ag ymgyrch ym Mhenarth i gael ychwanegu ei enw at y cofadail yno. Mae'r awdurdod lleol, yn gweithredu gydag ewyllys da, er tegwch iddo, yn ôl y canllawiau yr oedd yn credu oedd ar waith, wedi gwrthod y cais hwnnw. Yn amlwg, mae llywodraeth leol wedi ei datganoli. Awdurdodau lleol, fel y dywedasoch yn eich ateb cynharach, sy'n gyfrifol am gynnal a chadw cofadeiladau, y canllawiau arnynt a'u llywodraethu. Yn absenoldeb unrhyw gyngor wedi ei ddiweddarau, a gaf i annog Llywodraeth Cymru i gynnal trafodaethau gydag awdurdodau lleol a'r Llywodraeth Frenhinol ynglŷn â darparu cyngor cyfredol fel nad oes rhaid i Sian, a phobl debyg iddi, fynd drwy'r hynt a helynt a'r brwydrau y mae hi wedi eu cael dros y misoedd a'r blynyddoedd diwethaf i gael cydnabyddiaeth o farwolaeth ei dyweddi?
- Dylwn ddweud bod gan awdurdodau lleol y pŵer i gynnal cofebion rhyfel, nid y cyfrifoldeb—ond mae hynny'n wir a dylent wneud hynny. Roeddwn i'n ymwybodol o hyn, ond byddaf yn edrych yn fanylach ar y sefyllfa y mae arweinydd yr wrthblaid wedi ei hamlinellu a byddaf yn ysgrifennu ato gyda chynigion ar ffordd ymlaen.
- First Minister, you will be aware that the local government settlement has been substantially reduced over the past years and that there is an assumption that it will substantially reduce in the ensuing years. What are you going to do as a Government to ensure that these cenotaphs and war memorials are maintained by local authorities, which are under terrific financial pressures and which will, of necessity, be looking at their statutory responsibilities?

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- 13:56 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- Mae datganiad wedi cael ei wneud am gynllun grant a fydd yn helpu cynnal senotaffau ar draws Cymru i gyd. Bydd grantiau lan i £10,000 ar gael. Felly, rydym wedi sicrhau bod arian ar gael er mwyn gwella, os oes raid, rhai o'r senotaffau o gwmpas Cymru ac i helpu'r rheini sydd am gynnal y senotaffau hynny yn y ffordd y maent yn dymuno.
- A grant scheme has been put in place, and that will assist in terms of maintaining cenotaphs across Wales. Those grants will be available up to a maximum of £10,000. So, we have ensured that funding is available to improve, if necessary, some of the cenotaphs across Wales and to assist those who want to maintain those cenotaphs in the way that they wish.
- Amgylcheddau Di-fwg** **Smoke-free Environments**
- 13:57 **Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*5. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am fentrau Llywodraeth Cymru i alluogi pobl ifanc i fwynhau amgylcheddau di-fwg? OAQ(4)1827(FM)*
5. Will the First Minister provide an update on Welsh Government initiatives to allow young people to enjoy smoke-free environments? OAQ(4)1827(FM)
- 13:57 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- As the Member knows, our tobacco control action plan includes a number of measures to protect children from passive smoking. On 11 September, we launched a consultation on proposals to prohibit smoking in enclosed private vehicles where children under the age of 18 are being carried.
- Fel mae'r Aelod yn gwybod, mae ein cynllun gweithredu ar reoli tybaco yn cynnwys nifer o fesurau i amddiffyn plant rhag ysmegu goddefol. Ar 11 Medi, lanswyd ymgynghoriad gennym ar gynigion i wahardd ysmegu mewn cerbydau preifat caeedig lle mae plant dan 18 oed yn cael eu cludo.
- 13:57 **Sandy Mewies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- As you know, I have raised the issue of banning smoking in cars with children present several times in this Chamber and very much welcome the news that a consultation has started. Like the British Lung Foundation, which has campaigned long and hard on this issue, I am delighted to see it so high on the Welsh Government agenda. However, First Minister, do you consider that a fine of £50 is sufficient as a deterrent and can you give assurances that, if a ban does go ahead, it will be introduced as soon as practicable, as one in 10 children are still being exposed to smoke while travelling in cars?
- Fel y gwyddoch, rwyf wedi codi'r mater o wahardd ysmegu mewn ceir pan fo plant yn bresennol sawl gwaith yn y Siambr hon, ac rwy'n croesawu'r newyddion bod ymgynghoriad wedi dechrau yn fawr iawn. Fel y Sefydliad Prydeinig yr Ysgyfaint, sydd wedi ymgyrchu'n hir ac yn galed ar y mater hwn, rwy'n falch iawn o weld ei fod mor uchel ar agenda Llywodraeth Cymru. Fodd bynnag, Brif Weinidog, a ydych chi'n credu bod dirwy o £50 yn ddigonol fel arf ataliol ac a allwch chi roi sicrwydd, pe byddai gwaharddiad yn cael ei gyflwyno, y bydd hynny'n digwydd cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol, gan fod un o bob 10 plentyn yn dal i gael eu peryglu gan fwg wrth deithio mewn ceir?
- 13:58 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*
- I thank the Member for the question. Our view is that £50 is the appropriate level of fine. That is at the same level as the fine for smoking in a public vehicle and, while this is out to consultation, that is the proposed level at the moment. I can say that the proposed regulations will come into force in 2015. Most Members, I suspect, are keen to ensure that this goes ahead.
- Diolch i'r Aelod am y cwestiwn. Ein barn ni yw mai £50 yw'r lefel briodol o ddirwy. Mae hynny ar yr un lefel â'r ddirwy am ysmegu mewn cerbyd cyhoeddus ac, er bod hyn yn destun ymgynghoriad, dyna yw'r lefel arfaethedig ar hyn o bryd. Gallaf ddweud y bydd y rheoliadau arfaethedig yn dod i rym yn 2015. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o Aelodau, rwy'n amau, yn awyddus i sicrhau bod hyn yn digwydd.



13:59	<p><b>Darren Millar</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>First Minister, I also welcome the proposed ban on smoking in cars with children. It is something that I think the Welsh Government should have got on with some time ago, but, of course, this is not a silver bullet to protect young children from smoke, as there are other measures that the Welsh Government needs to take. Can you outline some of those other measures that you are taking as part of your tobacco control strategy?</p>	<p>Brif Weinidog, rwyf hefyd yn croesawu'r gwaharddiad arfaethedig ar ysmegu mewn ceir â phlant ynddynt. Mae'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn credu y dylai Llywodraeth Cymru fod wedi bwrw ymlaen ag ef gryn amser yn ôl, ond, wrth gwrs, nid yw hyn yn ateb terfynol i amddiffyn plant ifanc rhag mwg, gan fod mesurau eraill y mae angen i Lywodraeth Cymru eu cymryd. A allwch chi amlinellu rhai o'r mesurau eraill hynny yr ydych chi'n eu cymryd yn rhan o'ch strategaeth rheoli tybaco?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
13:59	<p><b>Carwyn Jones</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> <i>Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister</i></p> <p>The Member will be familiar with the tobacco control strategy, particularly with regard to the smoke-free playgrounds campaign that I know ASH has been very closely involved with, and all 22 local authorities have implemented that. We have the Welsh network of healthy schools schemes national quality award. That contains a minimum requirement that school grounds must be smoke free, and 69 schools, for example, have already achieved that. Within the public health White Paper, there are proposals to ban smoking in certain non-enclosed public places, including school grounds and children's playgrounds, building on the guidance that is already in place. Those are some examples of proposals for the future.</p>	<p>Bydd yr Aelod yn gyfarwydd â'r strategaeth rheoli tybaco, yn enwedig o ran yr ymgyrch meysydd chwarae di-fwg y gwn fod ASH wedi bod yn ymwneud yn agos iawn â hi, ac mae pob un o'r 22 awdurdod lleol wedi rhoi hynny ar waith. Mae gennym rwydwaith Cymru o ddyfarniad ansawdd cenedlaethol cynlluniau ysgolion iach. Mae hwnnw'n cynnwys gofyniad sylfaenol bod yn rhaid i dir ysgol fod yn ddi-fwg, ac mae 69 o ysgolion, er enghraifft, eisoes wedi cyflawni hynny. Ceir cynigion ym Mhapur Gwyn iechyd y cyhoedd i wahardd ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus penodol nad ydynt yn gaeedig, gan gynnwys tir ysgol a meysydd chwarae plant, gan adeiladu ar y canllawiau sydd eisoes ar waith. Dyna rai enghreifftiau o gynigion ar gyfer y dyfodol.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
14:00	<p><b>Alun Ffred Jones</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>Pa dystiolaeth sydd gan y Llywodraeth o lwyddiant ymgyrchoedd i berswadio pobl ifanc i beidio â dechrau ysmegu?</p>	<p>What evidence does the Government have of the success of campaigns to persuade young people not to start smoking?</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
14:00	<p><b>Carwyn Jones</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> <i>Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister</i></p> <p>Roeddwn yn gweld bod nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n dechrau ysmegu yn cwmpo. Hoffwn sicrhau ei fod yn cwmpo yn gyflymach nag ar hyn o bryd, ond o edrych ar y cynllun iechyd i reoli tybaco, mae cynlluniau i sicrhau bod y niferoedd yn cwmpo'n sylweddol yn y dyfodol.</p>	<p>I saw that the number of young people who start smoking is falling. I would like to ensure that it falls more quickly than is currently the case, but in the tobacco control action plan there are plans to ensure that that number reduces significantly in the future.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
<b>Gwarchod Caeau Chwarae Ysgolion</b>		<b>The Protection of School Playing Fields</b>	
14:00	<p><b>Byron Davies</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a></p> <p>6. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar warchod caeau chwarae ysgolion? OAQ(4)1831(FM)</p>	<p>6. Will the First Minister make a statement on the protection of school playing fields? OAQ(4)1831(FM)</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>
14:00	<p><b>Carwyn Jones</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> <i>Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister</i></p> <p>The use of school playing fields is a matter for individual local authorities. Ministers have no role in this—there are no powers for Ministers to intervene. However, I can say that local authorities must have regard to the School Premises Regulations 1999, which require that minimum areas of 'team game playing fields' must be provided for schools with pupils aged eight years old and over.</p>	<p>Mater i awdurdodau lleol unigol yw'r defnydd o feysydd chwarae ysgolion. Nid oes gan weinidogion unrhyw swyddogaeth yn hyn o beth—nid oes unrhyw bwerau i Weinidogion ymyrryd. Fodd bynnag, gallaf ddweud bod yn rhaid i awdurdodau lleol roi sylw i Reoliadau Adeiladau Ysgol 1999, sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod yn rhaid darparu mannau gofynnol o 'feysydd chwarae gemau tîm' ar gyfer ysgolion â disgyblion sy'n wyth mlwydd oed a hŷn.</p>	<p>Senedd.tv <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a></p>

14:01

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

Thank you very much indeed for that answer, First Minister. You may be aware that the people of Pontarddulais have risen up against the City and County of Swansea Council and placed significant pressure on the council to ensure that the shambolic plans to sell off sections of school playing fields across the authority are dropped. Given the protections that you have outlined to protect our school playing fields, will you intervene personally to ensure that Swansea council re-thinks its plans to sell off parts of the playing fields, such as the plans at Pontarddulais Primary School? I would strongly recommend that this is not ignored, as the strength of feeling among the people of Swansea on this issue is strong and has already cost the leader and other members their jobs on the council.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am yr ateb yna, Brif Weinidog. Efallai y byddwch yn ymwybodol fod pobl Pontarddulais wedi codi yn erbyn Dinas a Sir Abertawe a rhoi pwysau sylweddol ar y cyngor i sicrhau bod y cynlluniau traed moch i werthu rhannau o feysydd chwarae ysgolion ar draws yr awdurdod yn cael eu tynnu'n ôl. O ystyried y mesurau amddiffyn yr ydych chi wedi eu hamlinellu i ddiogelu meysydd chwarae ein hysgolion, a wnewch chi ymyrryd yn bersonol i sicrhau bod cyngor Abertawe yn ailystyried ei gynlluniau i werthu rhannau o'r meysydd chwarae, fel y cynlluniau yn Ysgol Gynradd Pontarddulais? Byddwn yn argymhell yn gryf nad yw hyn yn cael ei anwybyddu, gan fod teimladau cryf ymhlith pobl Abertawe o ran y mater hwn ac mae eisoes wedi golygu bod yr arweinydd ac aelodau eraill wedi colli eu swyddi yn y cyngor.

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14:01

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

I am aware of the strength of feeling and I trust that Swansea council will consider that strength of feeling when it takes its final decision. As I said earlier, there are no powers for Welsh Ministers to intervene; that would require primary legislation. That clearly is not going to happen, as the Member will know, before the final decision is taken. I understand that the council has carried out a consultation and that a report will be represented to the Swansea cabinet over the next few months for a decision to be made, but as I said, we do expect that the regulations should be adhered to when any decision is taken.

Rwy'n ymwybodol o'r teimladau cryf a hyderaf y bydd cyngor Abertawe yn ystyried y cryfder hwnnw pan fydd yn gwneud ei benderfyniad terfynol. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, nid oes unrhyw bwerau i Weinidogion Cymru ymyrryd; byddai hynny'n gofyn am ddeddfwriaeth sylfaenol. Mae'n amlwg nad yw hynny'n mynd i ddigwydd, fel y bydd yr Aelod yn gwybod, cyn gwneud y penderfyniad terfynol. Deallaf fod y cyngor wedi cynnal ymgynghoriad ac y bydd adroddiad yn cael ei gyflwyno i gabinet Abertawe yn ystod yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad, ond fel y dywedais, rydym ni'n disgwyl gweld cydymffurfriad â'r rheoliadau pan fydd unrhyw benderfyniad yn cael ei wneud.

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14:02

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

First Minister, do you agree that there is a difference between playing fields that are used and surplus land around a school? Local authorities need to raise their share of the money for the twenty-first century schools programme. I urge anyone who wants to stop land from being sold off to visit Lôn Las and Manselton schools, which are in desperate need of being replaced. Apart from selling land, how else can local authorities raise the money to replace these buildings that are out of date, and were probably out of date 50 years ago?

Brif Weinidog, a ydych chi'n cytuno bod yna wahaniaeth rhwng meysydd chwarae sy'n cael eu defnyddio a thir nad yw'n cael ei ddefnyddio o gwmpas ysgol? Mae angen i awdurdodau lleol godi eu cyfran o'r arian ar gyfer y rhaglen ysgolion unfed ganrif ar hugain. Rwy'n annog unrhyw un sydd eisiau atal tir rhag cael ei werthu i ymweld ag ysgolion Lôn Las a Manselton, sydd mewn angen dybryd o gael eu hailadeiladu. Ac eithrio gwerthu tir, sut arall all awdurdodau lleol godi'r arian i ailadeiladu'r adeiladau hyn sydd wedi mynd yn hen, ac mae'n debyg eu bod yn hen 50 mlynedd yn ôl?

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14:02

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

It is a difficult balance that local authorities have to achieve. I understand that. There will be discussions around what is surplus land and what is a school playing field. That I also understand. Swansea council must weigh these matters evenly, as I am sure it will, while considering the regulations before coming to a decision, having of course consulted with the people of Pontarddulais.

Mae'n gydbwysedd anodd y mae'n rhaid i awdurdodau lleol ei gyflawni. Rwy'n deall hynny. Bydd trafodaethau yn cael eu cynnal ar yr hyn sy'n dir dros ben a'r hyn sy'n faes chwarae ysgol. Rwy'n deall hynny hefyd. Mae'n rhaid i gyngor Abertawe bwysu a mesur y materion hyn yn gyfartal, fel yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnaiff, gan ystyried y rheoliadau cyn gwneud penderfyniad, ar ôl, wrth gwrs, ymgynghori â phobl Pontarddulais.

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14:03

**Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Brif Weinidog, ym mis Rhagfyr 2010—bron i bedair blynedd yn ôl—cafodd Bil Aelod unigol ar gaeau chwarae Gydsyniad Brenhinol ond nid yw eto wedi'i weithredu. Gallai hynny fod wedi atal y drafodaeth sy'n digwydd yn Abertawe ar hyn o bryd, lle bydd caeau yn cael eu gwerthu yn y dyfodol. Rwy'n deall mai dim ond eleni yr ymgynghorodd eich Llywodraeth ar y rheoliadau ond o'r gyfathrebiaeth rwyf wedi'i gweld gydag awdurdodau lleol roedd trafodaeth yn 2011 ar brysuro â'r ymgynghoriad. Pam fod y ddeddfwriaeth hon wedi bod mor isel ar eich agenda wleidyddol, o feddwl bod awdurdodau lleol fel Abertawe am werthu caeau chwarae yn ein hardal ni?

First Minister, in December 2010—almost four years ago—a Member-proposed Bill on playing fields was granted Royal Assent, yet it has not been implemented. This could have prevented the debate that is currently taking place in Swansea, where playing fields will be sold off in the future. I understand that it was only this year that your Government consulted on the regulations, but according to the correspondence that I have seen with local authorities there was a discussion in 2011 on the issue of pressing ahead with the consultation. Why has this legislation been so low on your political agenda, bearing in mind that there are authorities, such as Swansea, that want to sell off playing fields in our area?

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14:04

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Yn gyntaf, mae'n rhaid penderfynu beth yw cae chwarae a beth yw tir nad oes defnydd yn cael ei wneud ohono. Nid wyf yn gwybod beth yw'r sefyllfa ym Mhontarddulais, wrth gwrs, gan nad wyf yn gwybod digon am y sefyllfa. Ond, wedi dweud hynny, mae rheoliadau ar waith ar hyn o bryd a byddwn yn erfyn i awurdodau lleol ddilyn y rheoliadau hynny cyn cymryd penderfyniad. Felly, mae'n bwysig bod y cyngor yn ystyried hynny.

First, you have to decide what a playing field is and what unused land is. I do not know about the situation in Pontarddulais, of course, as I do not know enough about the situation there. Having said that, there are regulations in place at present and, as I said, I would expect local authorities to adhere to those regulations before coming to a decision. Therefore, it is important that the council considers that.

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14:04

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

Of course, First Minister, the programme for the proposed sell-off of fields in Pontarddulais Primary School is a sell-off of surplus land. The problem is that in the case of Pontarddulais they have included effectively half of the rugby pitch in that proposal, which is why residents are opposed to it. I certainly support Mike Hedges in terms of finding the capital for schools like Pontarddulais and Lôn Las. In respect of the point that Bethan Jenkins has made, is the Government actually proposing to commence that measure any time in the future and, in doing so, will you clarify definitions of what is and what is not a playing field to assist local authorities in making that judgment?

Wrth gwrs, Brif Weinidog, mae'r rhaglen ar gyfer y gwerthu caeau arfaethedig yn Ysgol Gynradd Pontarddulais yn achos o werthu tir dros ben. Y broblem yn achos Pontarddulais yw eu bod wedi cynnwys hanner y cae rygbi yn y cynnig hwnnw fwy neu lai, a dyna pam mae trigolion yn ei wrthwynebu. Rwy'n sicr yn cefnogi Mike Hedges o ran dod o hyd i'r cyfalaf ar gyfer ysgolion fel Pontarddulais a Lôn Las. O ran y pwynt y mae Bethan Jenkins wedi ei wneud, a yw'r Llywodraeth wir yn bwriadu cychwyn y mesur hwnnw unrhyw bryd yn y dyfodol, ac, wrth wneud hynny, a fyddwch chi'n egluro'r diffiniadau o'r hyn sydd yn faes chwarae a'r hyn nad yw'n faes chwarae i gynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol i wneud y penderfyniad hwnnw?

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14:05

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

These are matters, of course, that remain under consideration, but I will write to the Member and indeed to the Plaid Cymru Member for South Wales West, Bethan, and I will provide information on the current situation and the proposed way forward.

Mae'r rhain yn faterion, wrth gwrs, sy'n parhau i gael eu hystyried, ond byddaf yn ysgrifennu at yr Aelod ac yn wir i Aelod Plaid Cymru dros Orllewin De Cymru, Bethan, a byddaf yn rhoi'r wybodaeth am y sefyllfa bresennol a'r ffordd arfaethedig ymlaen.

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**Partneriaeth Masnach a Buddsoddi Trawsatlantig**

**Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership**

14:05

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

*7. Pa drafodaethau y mae'r Prif Weinidog wedi'u cael ynghylch y goblygiadau i Gymru o'r Bartneriaeth Masnach a Buddsoddi Trawsatlantig arfaethedig? OAQ(4)1825(FM)*

*7. What discussions has the First Minister had about the implications for Wales of the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership? OAQ(4)1825(FM)*

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- 14:05 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
It is a reserved matter, but given the significance of trade to the Welsh economy, it is essential that the right balance is struck between safeguarding and encouraging trade, protecting investors and, of course, safeguarding the ability to keep services public. Neither I nor this Government under any circumstances would look to support any treaty that would put us in a position of being unable to defend the Welsh NHS. We are assured by the UK Government that that will not be the case, but it is worth repeating the Welsh Government's view as well.
- Mae'n fater a gadwyd yn ôl, ond o ystyried pwysigrwydd masnach i economi Cymru, mae'n hanfodol bod y cydbwysedd cywir yn cael ei daro rhwng diogelu ac annog masnach, diogelu buddsoddwyr ac, wrth gwrs, diogelu'r gallu i gadw gwasanaethau'n gyhoeddus. Ni fyddwn i na'r Llywodraeth hon yn dymuno cefnogi unrhyw gytundeb a fyddai'n ein rhoi mewn sefyllfa o fethu ag amddiffyn y GIG yng Nghymru dan unrhyw amgylchiadau. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn ein sicrhau na fydd hynny'n digwydd, ond mae'n werth ailadrodd barn Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd.
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[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 14:06 **Jenny Rathbone** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
The European Commission President, Juncker, has tried to reassure people that he will not sacrifice Europe's safety, health, social and data protection standards on the altar of free trade. Nevertheless, in its present guise, is it not the case that multinationals could sue elected Governments for doing anything that puts their profits at risk? Just as the referendum on Thursday will be a forever decision for the Scottish people, is it not the case that the TTIP could be a forever decision that would make it impossible to defend the NHS from privatisation?
- Mae Llywydd y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd, Juncker, wedi ceisio sicrhau pobl na fydd yn aberthu safonau diogelwch, iechyd, cymdeithasol a diogelu data Ewrop ar allor masnach rydd. Serch hynny, yn ei ffurf bresennol, onid yw'n wir y gallai cwmnïau rhyngwladol erlyn Llywodraethau etholedig am wneud unrhyw beth sy'n rhoi eu helw mewn perygl? Yn union fel y bydd y refferendwm ddydd lau yn benderfyniad am byth i bobl yr Alban, onid yw'n wir y gallai'r Barneriaeth Masnach a Buddsoddi Trawsatlantig fod yn benderfyniad am byth a fyddai'n ei gwneud yn amhosibl amddiffyn y GIG rhag preifateiddio?
- Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 14:06 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
It is the view of the UK Government that that would not happen; it is for it to express that view and, indeed, to defend it. What I can say in terms of the Welsh Government is that we would not support any treaty that would force any Government anywhere in the UK to privatise services. Public services should be kept public and under no circumstances should there be any pressure on anyone to remove them from the public sphere.
- Barn Llywodraeth y DU yw na fyddai hynny'n digwydd; ei chyfrifoldeb hi yw mynegi'r farn honno ac, yn wir, ei hamddiffyn. Yr hyn y gallaf ei ddweud o ran Llywodraeth Cymru yw na fyddem yn cefnogi unrhyw gytundeb a fyddai'n gorfodi unrhyw Lywodraeth mewn unrhyw le yn y DU i breifateiddio gwasanaethau. Dylai gwasanaethau cyhoeddus gael eu cadw'n gyhoeddus ac ni ddylai fod unrhyw bwysau ar unrhyw un i gael gwared arnynt o'r byd cyhoeddus dan unrhyw amgylchiadau.
- Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 14:07 **William Graham** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
As I understand it, First Minister, the EU Trade Commissioner, Karel De Gucht, has specifically confirmed that public services are exempted. The First Minister will know that the European Commission has taken the unprecedented step of setting up a very wide ranging panel of businesses, trade unions and consumer interests to take this matter forward and it is hoped that this, should it come to fruition, could boost United Kingdom trade by more than £10 billion a year.
- Fel rwy'n ei deall hi, Brif Weinidog, mae Comisiynydd Masnach yr UE, Karel De Gucht, wedi cadarnhau'n benodol bod gwasanaethau cyhoeddus wedi eu heithrio. Bydd y Prif Weinidog yn gwybod bod y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd wedi cymryd y cam digynsail o sefydlu panel eang iawn o fusnesau, undebau llafur a buddiannau defnyddwyr i symud ymlaen â'r mater hwn a gobeithir y gallai hyn, pe byddai'n dwyn ffrwyth, roi hwb o fwy na £10 biliwn y flwyddyn i fasnach y Deyrnas Unedig.
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[Fideo](#) [Video](#)
- 14:07 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
I welcome the words of the Commission—that is important—but it is also important that the Commission ensures that that message is heard loud and clear by the European Court of Justice, which, of course, may take a different view. So, the more that that is emphasised and reiterated by the Commission itself, the easier it will be for Governments to keep public services public.
- Rwy'n croesawu geiriau'r Comisiwn—mae hynny'n bwysig—ond mae hefyd yn bwysig bod y Comisiwn yn sicrhau bod y neges yn cael ei chlywed yn eglur gan Lys Cyfiawnder Ewrop, a allai, wrth gwrs, fod â barn wahanol. Felly, y mwyaf y caiff hynny ei bwysleisio a'i ailadrodd gan y Comisiwn ei hun, y rhwyddaf y bydd hi i Lywodraethau gadw gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yn gyhoeddus.
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14:08 **Llyr Gruffydd** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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As part of these negotiations, US Senators have called for an end to European specialist product definitions, which are a mark of quality for us here in relation to Welsh lamb, Welsh beef, Halen Môn and other food produce. The EU has already banned hormone-treated beef and chlorine-washed chicken from the US, but the TTIP means that these bans could be lifted. Do you agree that the outcome of these discussions could be very detrimental to the food sector in Wales, and could you be a bit more specific as to how your Government is ensuring that those views are being represented within those discussions?

Yn rhan o'r trafodaethau hyn, mae Seneddwy'r yn yr Unol Daleithiau wedi galw am roi terfyn ar ddiffiniadau cynnyrch arbenigol Ewropeaidd, sy'n farc ansawdd i ni yma o ran cig oen Cymru, cig eidion Cymru, Halen Môn a chynhyrchion bwyd eraill. Mae'r UE eisoes wedi gwahardd cig eidion wedi ei drin â hormonau a chyw iâr wedi ei olchi â chlorin o'r Unol Daleithiau, ond mae'r Bartneriaeth Masnach a Buddsoddi Trawsatlantig yn golygu y gellid diddymu'r gwaharddiadau hyn. A ydych chi'n cytuno y gallai canlyniad y trafodaethau hyn fod yn niweidiol iawn i'r sector bwyd yng Nghymru, ac a allech chi fod ychydig yn fwy manwl ynghylch sut mae eich Llywodraeth yn sicrhau bod y safbwyntiau hynny'n cael eu cynrychioli yn y trafodaethau hynny?

14:08 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Those views are exceptionally important for us. We are ensuring that Wales's views are heard, but what I can say with regard to food standards is that the TTIP is not designed to undermine food standards that exist within the European Union. It will still be the case that anybody who wishes to export to the European Union will have to meet the European Union's food standards. That is clarification that I welcome.

Mae'r safbwyntiau hynny yn eithriadol o bwysig i ni. Rydym ni'n sicrhau bod safbwyntiau Cymru'n cael eu clywed, ond yr hyn y gallaf ei ddweud o ran safonau bwyd yw mai nad tansellio safonau bwyd sy'n bodoli yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yw bwriad y Bartneriaeth Masnach a Buddsoddi Trawsatlantig. Bydd yn dal yn wir y bydd yn rhaid i unrhyw un sy'n dymuno allforio i'r Undeb Ewropeaidd fodloni safonau bwyd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Mae hwnnw'n eglurhad yr wyf yn ei groesawu.

## Cefnogaeth Blynyddoedd Cynnar

## Early Years Support

14:09 **Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*8. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar gefnogaeth blynyddoedd cynnar i blant difreintiedig o dan 5 oed? OAQ(4)1822(FM)*

*8. Will the First Minister make a statement on early years support for disadvantaged children under the age of 5? OAQ(4)1822(FM)*

14:09 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Rydym yn gwybod bod hyn yn rhywbeth pwysig dros ben. Yr haf diwethaf, cyhoeddwyd ein cynllun blynyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant strategol, o dan yr enw 'Adeiladu Dyfodol Mwy Disglair', sy'n dangos y camau sylweddol rydym wedi'u cymryd hyd yma.

We know that this is extremely important. Last summer, we published our strategic early years and childcare plan, under the name 'Building a Brighter Future', which sets out the significant actions that we have taken to date.

14:09 **Aled Roberts** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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Rwy'n cydnabod y camau sylweddol sydd wedi cael eu cymryd, ond ym mis Mawrth eleni, ymestynnodd Llywodraeth Prydain y ddarpariaeth o ran y 'pupil premium' i blant o dan bump oed. Mae eich Llywodraeth chi cyn hyn wedi dweud nad yw'n barod i ystyried hynny, ond a wnewch chi, yn ystod eich trafodaethau ynglŷn â'r gyllideb, sicrhau eich bod yn gweld beth sydd i'w elwa o ran plant tair a phedair oed o fewn y gyfundrefn addysg os yw'r math o ddarpariaeth yn cael ei ymestyn?

I acknowledge the significant steps that have been taken, but, of course, the UK Government, in March of this year, extended the provision from the point of view of the pupil premium to children under the age of five. Your Government before now has stated that it is not willing to consider that, but will you, in your discussion on the budget, ensure that you consider what advantages there are for three and four-year-olds within the education system if that kind of provision is extended?

14:10 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Rydym yn ddigon parod i wrando ar gynlluniau sy'n mynd i helpu plant, yn enwedig plant o dan bump oed. Rwy'n siŵr y bydd hwn yn rhywbeth a fydd yn cael ei drafod dros y misoedd nesaf.

We are more than happy to listen to plans that will help children, especially those under five. I am sure that this will be something that is discussed over the coming months.

14:10 **Janet Finch-Saunders** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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First Minister, according to the index of multiple deprivation, Tudno ward in Conwy has 20% of children living in the most depressed poverty levels—that is 233 children. While we commend the work of Home Start in Conwy, which is a fantastic support network, it is only able to support around 70 families per year. As the First Minister of Wales, what are you doing to support those families who are not able to access this much needed support?

Brif Weinidog, yn ôl y mynegai amddifadedd lluosog, mae 20% o blant yn ward Tudno yng Nghonwy yn byw yn y lefelau tldi mwyaf dirwasgedig—mae hynny'n 233 o blant. Er ein bod yn cymeradwyo gwaith Home-Start yng Nghonwy, sy'n rhwydwaith cefnogaeth gwych, dim ond tua 70 o deuluoedd y mae'n gallu eu cefnogi bob blwyddyn. Beth ydych chi'n ei wneud fel Prif Weinidog Cymru i gefnogi'r teuluoedd hynny nad ydynt yn gallu cael mynediad at y gefnogaeth hon y mae wir ei hangen?

14:11 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

If you look at the support that is available through Communities First and the support that is available through Flying Start, we have a good record, I believe, of giving assistance to those communities that need it most, with a view to ensuring that they grow and prosper in the future. That is why we have seen so many communities be able to provide opportunities for the people who live there that they otherwise would not have had.

Os edrychwch chi ar y gefnogaeth sydd ar gael trwy Cymunedau yn Gyntaf a'r gefnogaeth sydd ar gael trwy Dechrau'n Deg, mae gennym hanes da, rwy'n credu, o roi cymorth i'r cymunedau hynny sydd ei angen fwyaf, gyda'r bwriad o sicrhau eu bod yn tyfu ac yn ffynnu yn y dyfodol. Dyna pam yr ydym ni wedi gweld cymaint o gymunedau yn gallu cynnig cyfleoedd i'r bobl sy'n byw yno na fyddent wedi eu cael fel arall.

## Gwasanaethau Gofal Llygaid

## Eye Care Services

14:11 **Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

*9. A wnaiff y Gweinidog ddatganiad ar y ddarpariaeth o wasanaethau gofal llygaid yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)1826(FM)*

*9. Will the First Minister make a statement on the provision of eye care services in Wales? OAQ(4)1826(FM)*

14:11 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

Yes. Our eye health care delivery plan commits the Government to improving eye health, building on the Wales eye care service initiative.

Gwnaf. Mae ein cynllun cyflawni ar ofal iechyd llygaid yn ymrwymo'r Llywodraeth i wella iechyd llygaid, gan adeiladu ar fenter gwasanaeth gofal llygaid Cymru.

14:11 **Jocelyn Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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Thank you for that. A constituent in my region experienced a marked deterioration in her sight when her regular eye care treatment was cancelled due to staff shortages at Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda. The service was suspended. Alternative provision was eventually found, but because of the time taken to do that, the deterioration is, for her, permanent. Would you agree that this is unacceptable? What action will your Government take to ensure that eye care services are improved, or can we expect more specialist services to shut down due to staff shortages?

Diolch i chi am hynna. Gwaethygodd golwg etholwr yn fy rhanbarth i yn sylweddol pan gafodd ei thriniaeth gofal llygaid rheolaidd ei ganslo oherwydd prinder staff yn Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda. Cafodd y gwasanaeth ei atal dros dro. Daethpwyd o hyd i ddarpariaeth arall yn y pen draw, ond oherwydd yr amser a gymerwyd i wneud hynny, mae'r dirywiad yn barhaol iddi hi. A fydddech chi'n cytuno bod hyn yn annerbyniol? Pa gamau wnaiff eich Llywodraeth eu cymryd i sicrhau bod gwasanaethau gofal llygaid yn cael eu gwella, neu a allwn ni ddisgwyl gweld mwy o wasanaethau arbenigol yn cau oherwydd prinder staff?



14:12

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

No. There have been problems at Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda with an unprecedented level of sickness. That is the reason for it. The next question was what has been done about it. The local health board held a meeting on 11 September to address the problems and to build a more detailed plan for ophthalmology services for Cwm Taf. Patients should see a marked improvement in access to services in the coming months. In the meantime, the health board has advised that the hospital has reduced the backlog of patients requiring immediate treatment from 79 to 29 people. It intends to treat the remainder as quickly as possible. Saturday clinics have been introduced in order for that to happen. If any member of the public is waiting longer than 26 weeks, they should contact the chief executive of the LHB in order to ensure that the LHB moves forward with their case.

Na allwn. Bu problemau yn Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda gyda lefel digynsail o salwch. Dyna'r rheswm am hyn. Y cwestiwn nesaf oedd beth sydd wedi cael ei wneud am y peth. Cynhaliodd y bwrdd iechyd lleol gyfarfod ar 11 Medi i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau ac i adeiladu cynllun mwy manwl ar gyfer gwasanaethau offthalmoleg ar gyfer Cwm Taf. Dylai cleifion weld gwelliant sylweddol o ran mynediad at wasanaethau yn y misoedd nesaf. Yn y cyfamser, mae'r bwrdd iechyd wedi dweud bod yr ysbyty wedi lleihau'r ôl-groniad o gleifion sydd angen triniaeth ar unwaith o 79 i 29 o bobl. Mae'n bwriadu trin y gweddill cyn gynted â phosibl. Cyflwynwyd clinigau dydd Sadwrn er mwyn i hynny ddigwydd. Os bydd unrhyw aelod o'r cyhoedd yn aros mwy na 26 wythnos, dylai gysylltu â phrif weithredwr y BILL er mwyn sicrhau bod y BILL yn symud ymlaen gyda'i achos.

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14:13

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

Next week is Eye Health Week across the UK, as you are probably well aware, with the message that the number of people with sight loss is expected to double, from the almost 100,000 now across Wales, every 25 years. However, over 50% of that sight loss can be prevented. How will the Welsh Government respond to the call by that campaign and the chair of the Eye Health Week steering group in Wales, to encourage people to have an eyesight test every two years, not only to establish whether they need glasses or contact lenses, but to detect eye conditions that could cause wider health problems?

Mae'n Wythnos Iechyd y Llygaid ar draws y DU yr wythnos nesaf, fel y gwyddoch yn iawn mae'n debyg, gyda'r neges y disgwylir i nifer y bobl sydd wedi colli eu golwg ddyblu, o bron i 100,000 ledled Cymru ar hyn o bryd, bob 25 mlynedd. Fodd bynnag, gellir atal dros 50% o'r achosion hynny o golli golwg. Sut wnaiff Llywodraeth Cymru ymateb i'r alwad gan yr ymgyrch honno a chadeirydd grŵp llywio Wythnos Iechyd y Llygaid yng Nghymru, er mwyn annog pobl i gael prawf golwg bob dwy flynedd, nid yn unig er mwyn canfod a oes angen sbectol neu lensys cyffwrdd ond hefyd canfod cyflyrau llygaid a allai achosi problemau iechyd ehangach?

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14:13

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

*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*

We have the eye health care delivery plan, which was launched in September of last year. We are leading the way when it comes to the Wales eye care service. It is recognised as doing so. It is inevitable that the number of people with eye disease will rise, because of the ageing population. However, if you look at wet macular degeneration, six years ago, there was effectively no treatment; now there is. People are being treated and that is something to be welcomed. There are some conditions, of course, for which there are no treatments. It is quite natural, for example, as people age, for their retinas to become opaque and it makes it much more difficult to see contrast. As some of us know only too well, you find yourself doing this when trying to look at a document, particularly if it has a sheen on it. The eye care service is, I believe, leading the way, certainly as far as Britain is concerned. That is shown by the fact that, in 2013-14, just for wet macular degeneration, there were 30,000 appointments and 16,000 minor procedures to treat people with wet AMD. Those people, only just a few years ago, would have gone blind.

Mae'r cynllun cyflawni ar ofal iechyd llygaid gennym, a lanswyd ym mis Medi y llynedd. Rydym ni ar flaen y gad pan ddaw at wasanaeth gofal llygaid Cymru. Cydnabyddir bod hynny'n wir. Mae'n anochel y bydd nifer y bobl sy'n dioddef o glefyd y llygaid yn cynyddu, oherwydd bod y boblogaeth yn heneiddio. Fodd bynnag, os edrychwch chi ar ddirywiad macwlaidd gwlyb, chwe blynedd yn ôl, nid oedd unrhyw driniaeth ar ei gyfer i bob pwrpas; erbyn hyn mae triniaeth ar gael. Mae pobl yn cael eu trin ac mae hynny'n rhywbeth i'w groesawu. Ceir rhai cyflyrau, wrth gwrs, lle nad oes triniaethau. Mae'n eithaf naturiol, er enghraifft, wrth i bobl heneiddio, i'w retinas droi'n afloyw ac mae'n ei gwneud yn llawer anos gweld cyferbyniad. Fel y mae rhai ohonom yn ei wybod yn iawn, byddwch yn canfod eich hun yn gwneud hyn wrth geisio edrych ar ddogfen, yn enwedig os oes sglein arni. Yn fy marn i, mae'r gwasanaeth gofal llygaid yn arwain y ffordd, yn sicr cyn belled ag y mae Prydain yn y cwestiwn. Dangosir hynny gan y ffaith, yn 2013-14, dim ond o ran dirywiad macwlaidd gwlyb, roedd 30,000 o apwyntiadau a 16,000 o fân-driniaethau i drin pobl ag AMD gwlyb. Byddai'r bobl hynny wedi mynd yn ddall dim ond ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl.

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**Masnachu Pobl**

**Human Trafficking**

- 14:14 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*10. Pa gamau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd dros weddill tymor y Cynulliad 2014-15 i fynd i'r afael â masnachu pobl yng Nghymru? OAQ(4)1824(FM)*  
*10. What action will the Welsh Government take in the remainder of the 2014-15 Assembly term to tackle human trafficking in Wales? OAQ(4)1824(FM)*
- 14:15 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
We will of course continue our work to tackle this crime, which we prefer to call slavery. Our Wales anti-slavery leadership group is providing strong oversight and clear direction for this work.  
Byddwn wrth gwrs yn parhau â'n gwaith i fynd i'r afael â'r drosedd hon, y mae'n well gennym ei galw'n gaethwasiaeth. Mae ein grŵp arweinyddiaeth gwrth-gaethwasiaeth Cymru yn darparu goruchwyliaeth gref a chyfeiriad eglur ar gyfer y gwaith hwn.
- 14:15 **Mohammad Asghar** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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Human trafficking in Wales is on the increase, with the number of reported cases rising from 34 to 50 in the last year alone. However, as with hate crime, it is likely that human trafficking cases are seriously under-reported. What action is the Welsh Government taking to increase awareness and identification of the signs of human trafficking among local authorities, charities and other bodies in Wales?  
Mae masnachu pobl yng Nghymru ar gynydd, wrth i nifer yr achosion a gofnodwyd godi o 34 i 50 yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf yn unig. Fodd bynnag, fel gyda throseddau casineb, mae'n debygol bod achosion o fasnachu pobl yn cael eu tan-adrodd yn ddifrifol. Pa gamau mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn eu cymryd i godi ymwybyddiaeth ac adnabod yr arwyddion o fasnachu pobl ymhlith awdurdodau lleol, elusennau a chyrrff eraill yng Nghymru?
- 14:15 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
We have an anti-slavery co-ordinator. The UK Government is looking at the establishment of an anti-slavery commissioner in the Modern Slavery Bill, which we welcome. We have the Wales anti-slavery leadership group and the Wales anti-slavery operational delivery group. We are also developing anti-slavery awareness training to give our front-line professionals and practitioners the skills and confidence to tackle slavery, and there will be an anti-slavery conference that will take place later this year or at the beginning of next year, which will build on the success of the conference that was held in March.  
Mae gennym gydgysylltydd gwrth-gaethwasiaeth. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn bwriadu cyflwyno comisiynydd gwrth-gaethwasiaeth yn y Bil Caethwasiaeth Fodern, a chrosawn hynny. Mae gennym grŵp arweinyddiaeth gwrth-gaethwasiaeth Cymru a grŵp cyflawni gweithredol gwrth-gaethwasiaeth Cymru. Rydym hefyd yn datblygu hyfforddiant ymwybyddiaeth gwrth-gaethwasiaeth i roi'r sgiliau a'r hyder i'n gweithwyr proffesiynol a'n hymarferwyr rheng flaen i fynd i'r afael â chaethwasiaeth, a bydd cynhadledd gwrth-gaethwasiaeth a fydd yn cael ei chynnal yn ddiweddarach eleni neu ddechrau'r flwyddyn nesaf, a fydd yn adeiladu ar lwyddiant y gynhadledd a gynhaliwyd ym mis Mawrth.
- 14:16 **Joyce Watson** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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I was invited to give evidence to the House of Commons at the draft stage of the Modern Slavery Bill. We, in Wales, were the first country in the UK to appoint a human trafficking co-ordinator, and that gives a Welsh perspective. However, since the Bill has passed to the Committee Stage, the only mention of Wales is alongside England, suggesting to me that the Bill is more concerned with policing than protection. There has been little consideration, in my opinion, of the devolved aspects of that Bill. First Minister, will you raise these observations and concerns with your counterparts in Westminster?  
Cefais wahoddiad i roi tystiolaeth i Dŷ'r Cyffredin yn ystod cam drafft y Bil Caethwasiaeth Modern. Ni yng Nghymru oedd y wlad gyntaf yn y DU i benodi cydgysylltydd masnachu pobl, ac mae hynny'n rhoi safbwynt Cymreig i ni. Fodd bynnag, ers i'r Bil fynd yn ei flaen i'r Cam Pwyllgor, yr unig sôn am Gymru fu ochr yn ochr â Lloegr, gan awgrymu i mi bod y Bil yn ymwneud mwy â phlismona nag amddiffyn. Prin fu'r ystyriaeth, yn fy marn i, o'r agweddau datganoledig ar y Bil hwnnw. Brif Weinidog, a wnewch chi godi'r arsylwadau a'r pryderon hyn gyda'ch cymheiriaid yn San Steffan?

- 14:17 **Carwyn Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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*Y Prif Weinidog / The First Minister*  
Yes. I know that the Minister has been keeping an eye on this Bill. Of course, it is about England and Wales because there are justice and policing elements that are not, at the moment, devolved, and that is why it is being taken forward on an England and Wales basis. However, we are ensuring that the Welsh voice is heard, and it will be critical to make sure that account is taken of the difference in Welsh institutions. There is a tendency sometimes, particularly in the Home Office, to assume that what exists in England must also be true of Wales. We strive constantly to remind them that that is not the case.
- 14:17 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
Thank you, First Minister. Diolch yn fawr, Brif Weinidog.
- 14:17 **Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes** Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
**Business Statement and Announcement**  
**Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)  
*Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth / The Minister for Finance and Government Business*  
I have several substantive changes to report to this week's business. The Business Committee has agreed to schedule a motion to elect Members to committees immediately after this business statement and announcement. The oral statement on the climate change policy refresh has been postponed until later this term. The Minister for Health and Social Services will make a statement on learning from mortality case note reviews. The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport will make a statement to update Members on the blue badge scheme. Finally, I will make a statement on the sixth cohesion forum.  
  
Business for the next three weeks is as shown on the business statement and announcement, which can be found among the agenda papers available to Members electronically.  
  
Mae gen i nifer o newidiadau sylweddol i'w hadrodd i fusnes yr wythnos hon. Mae'r Pwyllgor Busnes wedi cytuno i drefnu cynnig i ethol Aelodau i bwyllgorau yn syth ar ôl y datganiad a chyhoeddiad busnes hwn. Gohiriwyd y datganiad llafar ar adnewyddu'r polisi newid yn yr hinsawdd tan yn ddiweddarach y tymor hwn. Bydd y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn gwneud datganiad ar ddysgu o adolygiadau o nodiadau achosion o farwolaethau. Bydd Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth yn gwneud datganiad i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Aelodau am y cynllun bathodnydd glas. Yn olaf, byddaf yn gwneud datganiad ar y chweched fforwm cydlyniant.  
  
Mae'r busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf fel y'i dangosir ar y datganiad a chyhoeddiad busnes, y gellir ei weld ymhlith papurau'r agenda sydd ar gael i'r Aelodau'n electronig.
- 14:18 **Andrew R.T. Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
[Fideo](#) [Video](#)  
Congratulations, leader of the house, on your appointment. It is a bit like groundhog day; I know that you have done this job before. I seek two statements from you today, please. The First Minister, in his reply to me about cenotaphs and war memorials, was very gracious in saying that he would look into this and reply to me directly. However, I would be grateful if the Government could issue a more general statement so that all Members could be aware of this matter. The more that I have looked into it, the more that I have seen that there are other issues in other parts of Wales that need attention and clear advice to be put out for local authorities. I would be grateful if any correspondence in which the First Minister engages with me could be formalised into a statement. I know that Sian Woodland and family would appreciate that as well.  
  
Llongyfarchiadau, arweinydd y tŷ, ar eich penodiad. Mae'n ychydig fel groundhog day; gwn eich bod wedi gwneud y swydd hon o'r blaen. Gofynnaf am ddau ddatganiad gennych heddiw, os gwelwch yn dda. Roedd y Prif Weinidog, yn ei ateb i mi am gofadeladau a chofebion rhyfel, yn haelionus iawn wrth ddweud y byddai'n ymchwilio i hyn ac yn ateb i mi'n uniongyrchol. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai'r Llywodraeth gyhoeddi datganiad mwy cyffredinol fel y gallai pob Aelod fod yn ymwybodol o'r mater hwn. Po fwyaf yr wyf wedi ymchwilio iddo, y mwyaf yr wyf wedi gweld bod materion eraill mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru sydd angen sylw a chyngor eglur i gael ei gyflwyno i awdurdodau lleol. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai unrhyw ohebiaeth y mae'r Prif Weinidog yn ei rhannu â mi gael ei ffurfioli mewn datganiad. Gwn y byddai Sian Woodland a'i theulu yn gwerthfawrogi hynny hefyd.

Secondly, around road maintenance, I know that your predecessor committed to ask the Minister for transport to give a statement on maintenance of the A48 through the Vale of Glamorgan. Sadly, I do not think that that statement was ever forthcoming. The road has deteriorated quite badly in several places. I would suggest that the potholes that now appear on this major trunk road are dangerous at the very least. I would be grateful if that statement could be forthcoming as to the regular maintenance that is undertaken to protect motorists and users of that vital trunk road that travels through the Vale of Glamorgan and into Cardiff.

Yn ail, o ran cynnal a chadw ffyrdd, rwy'n gwybod bod eich rhagflaenydd wedi ymrwmo i ofyn i'r Gweinidog trafndiaeth roi datganiad am gynnal a chadw'r A48 trwy Fro Morgannwg. Yn anffodus, nid wyf yn credu bod y datganiad hwnnw byth am gael ei wneud. Mae'r ffordd wedi dirywio'n eithaf gwael mewn sawl man. Byddwn yn awgrymu bod y tyllau sy'n ymddangos ar y gefnffordd fawr hon yn beryglus a dweud y lleiaf. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai'r datganiad hwnnw gael ei wneud o ran y gwaith cynnal a chadw rheolaidd sy'n cael ei wneud i ddiogelu modurwyr a defnyddwyr y gefnffordd hanfodol honno sy'n teithio trwy Fro Morgannwg ac i mewn i Gaerdydd.

14:20 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank the leader of the opposition for his opening remarks, and, indeed, for his questions. I think that it will be important to share the guidance that the First Minister will bring forth, not just in terms of a response, as he promised, in terms of correspondence with a particular case in mind in terms of memorials, but to ensure that it is shared among all Assembly Members. Therefore, I will discuss this with the First Minister. Also, the Minister for the Economy, Science and Transport will be bringing forth her statement on road maintenance in due course.

Diolchaf i arweinydd yr wrthblaid am ei sylwadau agoriadol, ac, yn wir, am ei gwestiynau. Credaf y bydd yn bwysig rhannu'r canllawiau y bydd y Prif Weinidog yn eu cyflwyno, nid yn unig o ran ymateb, fel yr addawodd, o ran gohebiaeth gydag achos penodol mewn golwg o ran cofebion, ond er mwyn sicrhau ei bod yn cael ei rhannu ymhlith holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad. Byddaf yn trafod hyn gyda'r Prif Weinidog felly. Hefyd, bydd Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth yn cyflwyno ei datganiad ar gynnal a chadw ffyrdd yn y man.

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14:20 **Julie Morgan** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Whatever the result of the Scottish referendum on Thursday, it will be the first time that 16 and 17-year-olds will have had the vote in the UK. That is something that I very much welcome, because I think that we should bring in votes at 16. However, could we possibly have a debate, or some way of discussing the implications of 16 and 17-year-olds voting, to see what trends have been shown and what lessons we can learn?

Beth bynnag fo canlyniad y refferendwm yn yr Alban ddydd Iau, hwn fydd y tro cyntaf y bydd pobl 16 a 17 mlwydd oed, wedi cael pleidlais yn y DU. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth rwy'n ei groesawu'n fawr, gan fy mod yn meddwl y dylem gyflwyno pleidleisiau i rai 16 oed. Fodd bynnag, a fyddai'n bosibl i ni gael dadl, neu ryw ffordd o drafod goblygiadau pobl 16 a 17 mlwydd oed yn pleidleisio, er mwyn gweld pa dueddiadau a ddangoswyd a pha wersi y gallwn eu dysgu?

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14:21 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Julie Morgan for that question. I think that we have had some memorable debates in this Chamber, and one of them, I recall, was sometime back about lowering the age of voting to 16 and 17-year-olds. I think that we all remember the young people who came and lobbied us across the whole Chamber on that matter, and we were very supportive. There was strong support in the Chamber, and lessons will be learned, and we will need to look at youth engagement, particularly as a result of the referendum results, and I am certain that we will welcome a debate on that matter.

Hoffwn ddiolch i Julie Morgan am y cwestiwn yna. Rwy'n credu ein bod ni wedi cael rhai dadleuon cofiadwy yn y Siambr hon, ac roedd un ohonynt, rwy'n cofio, ychydig yn ôl ar ostwng yr oedran pleidleisio i bobl 16 a 17 mlwydd oed. Rwy'n meddwl ein bod ni i gyd yn cofio'r bobl ifanc a ddaeth i'n lobbio ni ar draws y Siambr gyfan ar y mater hwnnw, ac roeddem ni'n gefnogol iawn. Cafwyd cefnogaeth gref yn y Siambr, a bydd gwersi'n cael eu dysgu, a bydd angen i ni edrych ar ymgysylltu â phobl ifanc, yn enwedig yn sgil canlyniadau'r refferendwm, ac rwy'n sicr y byddwn yn croesawu dadl ar y mater hwnnw.

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14:21

**Bethan Jenkins** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Weinidog, wythnos hon, mae nifer fawr o rieni yn ardal Castell-nedd Port Talbot wedi cael gwybod y bydd nifer fawr o ysgolion yn cau yn yr ardal, a hynny drwy edrych ar Facebook, Twitter neu hyd yn oed negeseuon testun gan ysgolion. Nid wyf yn credu bod hynny'n ddemocrataidd iawn. Rwy'n ystyried nad oes gennyh farn na dylanwad i allu dewis beth sy'n digwydd yn yr ardal, ond a fedrwn ni gael trafodaeth ar lefel genedlaethol yn y Senedd yng nghyd-destun cyrhaeddiad addysgol a'r effaith y bydd cau ysgolion yn ei gael ar ardaloedd lleol? Yn wir, roedd y cyn Weinidog addysg yn poeni am y sefyllfa hon cy maint ag iddo fynd allan yn y Rhondda i ymgyrchu yn erbyn ei bolisi ei hun. Felly, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cael y drafodaeth hon, ar lefel genedlaethol, tra bod rieni ar lefel Castell-nedd hon yn poeni yn arw am yr hyn sydd yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd.

Minister, this week, a number of parents in the Neath Port Talbot area have been informed that many schools are to close in the area, and they found out by looking at Facebook, Twitter or even text message from the schools themselves. I do not think that this is particularly democratic. I do understand that you do not have the influence to choose what happens in the area on this issue, but may we have a discussion on a national level in the Senedd in terms of educational attainment and the impact that school closures will have on local areas? Indeed, the former Minister for education was so concerned about this issue that he went out in the Rhondda to campaign against his own policy. So, I do think that it is very important that we have this debate at a national level while parents at the Neath level are extremely concerned about what is happening currently.

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14:22

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

I thank Bethan Jenkins for her question. However, there is clear guidance, in terms of our proposals to move towards school closures, which has been debated and discussed at length by committee and in the Assembly. However, we have to ensure that that clear guidance is now implemented by the local authority taking the lead in terms of school closure proposals.

Diolchaf i Bethan Jenkins am ei chwestiwn. Fodd bynnag, ceir canllawiau eglur o ran ein cynigion i symud tuag at gau ysgolion, sydd wedi cael eu dadlau a'u trafod yn fanwl gan y pwyllgor ac yn y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid i ni sicrhau bod y canllawiau eglur hynny'n cael eu rhoi ar waith bellach gan yr awdurdod lleol sy'n arwain y gwaith o ran y cynigion i gau ysgolion.

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14:23

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

I welcome the Minister back to her old job.

Croesawaf y Gweinidog yn ôl i'w hen swydd.

The demand for white chicken meat has meant that there are numerous applications for large-scale chicken farms in my constituency, and, indeed, around Wales. Previously, the Government has stated that it has no policy with regard to large-scale poultry farming. Therefore, I guess that the Government does not have concerns for the animal health, human health and, indeed, the environmental impact of such applications. Could you arrange for a statement from the Welsh Government with regard to the support for large-scale poultry units of this kind, so that my constituents can be clear about what they can expect to be developed in their communities?

Mae'r galw am gig cyw iâr gwyn wedi golygu bod nifer o geisiadau ar gyfer ffermydd cyw iâr ar raddfa fawr yn fy etholaeth i, ac, yn wir, ledled Cymru. Yn flaenorol, mae'r Llywodraeth wedi dweud nad oes ganddi unrhyw bolisi o ran ffermio dofednod ar raddfa fawr. Felly, rwy'n tybio nad oes gan y Llywodraeth bryderon am iechyd anifeiliaid, iechyd pobl nac, yn wir, effaith amgylcheddol ceisiadau o'r fath. A allech chi drefnu datganiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru o ran y gefnogaeth i unedau dofednod ar raddfa fawr o'r math hwn, fel y gall fy etholwyr fod yn eglur ynghylch yr hyn y gallant ddisgwyl iddo gael ei ddatblygu yn eu cymunedau?

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14:24

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

I am grateful to the leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats for bringing this point to our attention, but, as an Assembly Member for Brecon and Radnorshire particularly, I am sure that the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food, Rebecca Evans, will want to take up this point and clarify the position with you and the whole Assembly.

Rwy'n ddiolchgar i arweinydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru am dynnu ein sylw at y pwynt hwn, ond, fel Aelod Cynulliad dros Frycheiniog a Sir Faesyfed yn arbennig, rwy'n siŵr y bydd y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bywd, Rebecca Evans, yn dymuno mynd i'r afael â'r pwynt hwn ac egluro'r sefyllfa gyda chi a'r Cynulliad cyfan.

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14:24

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

Minister, you will know that successive Ministers for health, including yourself in the past, have accepted that the ambulance response times for south-east Wales are consistently the lowest response rates in Wales. The Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board has explained that currently the trust rotas are not totally aligned to expected demand and, to meet this shortfall, private ambulances were utilised during each weekend in September. Clearly, this is a worrying aspect. I ask that the Minister for health comes forward with a reasonable statement to explain these actions. What remedial action will be taken to ensure that this does not happen again and to restore public confidence in the ambulance service in south-east Wales?

Weinidog, byddwch yn gwybod bod Gweinidogion iechyd olynol, gan eich cynnwys chi eich hun yn y gorffennol, wedi derbyn mai amseroedd ymateb ambiwlansys de-ddwyrain Cymru sydd â'r cyfraddau ymateb isaf yng Nghymru yn gyson. Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Aneurin Bevan wedi esbonio nad yw rotas yr ymddiriedolaeth yn cyd-fynd yn llwyr â'r galw disgwyliedig ar hyn o bryd ac, i lenwi'r bwlch hwn, defnyddiwyd ambiwlansys preifat yn ystod pob penwythnos ym mis Medi. Yn amlwg, mae hon yn agwedd sy'n peri pryder. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog iechyd gyflwyno datganiad rhesymol i egluro'r camau hyn. Pa gamau adfer fydd yn cael eu cymryd i sicrhau nad yw hyn yn digwydd eto ac i adennill hyder y cyhoedd yn y gwasanaeth ambiwlans yn ne-ddwyrain Cymru?

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14:25

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

My response to the question from William Graham—and I welcome a question on this point—is that we must look at improvements. If we look at the most recent response times for the ambulance service, we see that the Welsh ambulance service has made improvements, with 58.3% of emergency responses to the most immediate life-threatening calls, category A calls, arriving at the scene in eight minutes. This figure is up from 53% in June. It is important for the record that we acknowledge that improvement. It is also important that we recognise that there was an increase in demand in July compared to June. There was a 7% rise in the number of emergency calls, with more than 38,000 in July.

Fy ymateb i'r cwestiwn gan William Graham—ac rwy'n croesawu cwestiwn ar y pwynt hwn—yw bod yn rhaid i ni edrych ar welliannau. Os edrychwn ni ar yr amseroedd ymateb diweddaraf ar gyfer y gwasanaeth ambiwlans, gwelwn fod gwasanaeth ambiwlans Cymru wedi gwneud gwelliannau, gyda 58.3% o ymatebion brys i alwadau sy'n bygwth bywyd yn fwyaf uniongyrchol, galwadau categori A, gyrraedd y lleoliad mewn wyth munud. Mae'r ffigur hwn wedi codi o 53% ym mis Mehefin. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod y gwelliant hwnnw ar gyfer y cofnod. Mae hefyd yn bwysig ein bod yn cydnabod y bu cynnydd mewn galw ym mis Gorffennaf o'i gymharu â mis Mehefin. Bu cynnydd o 7% i nifer y galwadau brys, gyda mwy na 38,000 ym mis Gorffennaf.

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14:25

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

Weinidog, cafwyd nifer o ddatganiadau dros yr haf gan y Llywodraeth ac rwy'n siŵr y bydd galwadau di-ri am ddadleuon a datganiadau pellach. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar ddau sydd o bwys i mi y prynhawn yma. Yn gyntaf, cafwyd datganiad jest ar ddiwedd y tymor diwethaf gan Weinidog yr economi ynglŷn â'r M4 newydd. Rwy'n deall bod y datganiad hwnnw wedi cael tipyn o sylw yn y wasg a'r cyfryngau ers hynny, ond nid ydym wedi cael cyfle fel Cynulliad i drafod y penderfyniad hwnnw. Cafwyd dadl yn enw Plaid Cymru ar yr M4, ond roedd y Llywodraeth yn pallu pleidleisio yn y dadl honno oherwydd—meddai'r Llywodraeth—ei bod yn aros am adroddiad y pwyllgor. Rydym yn dal yn aros am adroddiad y pwyllgor—[Torri ar draws.] Mae adroddiad y pwyllgor wedi ei gyhoeddi bellach. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym benderfyniad y Gweinidog yn y cyfamser. Hoffwn, felly, cael dadl yn enw'r Llywodraeth er mwyn inni allu edrych ar benderfyniad y Gweinidog yn rhinwedd yr hyn sydd wedi cael ei ddweud gan y pwyllgor a gan dystion eraill hefyd. Credaf y byddai hynny'n beth buddiol a hollol wrpasol i'r Cynulliad ei wneud.

Minister, there were a number of statements made by the Government over the summer months and I am sure that there will be endless calls for debates and further statements. However, I would like to concentrate on two that are very important to me this afternoon. First, there was a statement at the very end of last term from the Minister for the economy on the new M4. I understand that that statement has received a great deal of coverage in the press and media since then, but we have not had an opportunity as an Assembly to discuss that decision. There was a debate in the name of Plaid Cymru on the M4, but the Government refused to vote in that debate because it said that it was awaiting the committee's report. We are still awaiting the committee's report, I believe—[Interruption.] I am sorry; I understand that the committee's report has now been published. However, we have had a decision from the Minister in the meantime. I would therefore like a debate in the Government's time so that we can scrutinise the Minister's decision in light of what has been said by the committee and other witnesses. I believe that it would be beneficial and timely for the Assembly to do that.

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Mae'r ail ddatganiad yr hoffwn ei weld yn un mwy lleol. Yn ystod yr haf, daeth i fy sylw nifer o bethau oedd yn fy mhoeni yn fawr iawn ynglŷn â gweinyddiaeth Cyngor Sir Penfro. Ysgrifennais at y Gweinidog dros lywodraeth leol blaenorol, Lesley Griffiths, ynglŷn â'r ffordd yr oedd arian Ewropeaidd wedi cael ei ddefnyddio yn sir Benfro ac ymddygiad y prif weithredwr hefyd. Ers hynny, mae'r prif weithredwr wedi wynebu a cholli pleidlais o ddiffyg hyder. Hoffwn glywed gan y Llywodraeth, mewn datganiad, beth yw'r camau i'w cymryd nawr i gael gwared â'r prif weithredwr. Nid wyf yn deall y sefyllfa bresennol. Mae gennyh brif weithredwr lle mae pawb ond ryw bedwar, rwy'n meddwl, wedi pleidleisio yn ei erbyn mewn pleidlais o ddiffyg hyder, ond mae e'n dal i fod yn brif weithredwr, mewn enw, ar awdurdod sydd, yn ôl y Gweinidog blaenorol, Lesley Griffiths, a'r awdurdod ei hun, wedi camweinyddu grantiau Ewropeaidd. Mae'n amlwg bod rhywbeth mawr o'i le yn yr awdurdod hwn. A oes modd i ni gael datganiad er mwyn rhoi diweddariad i'r Siamb ynglŷn â'r camau mae'r Llywodraeth yn eu cymryd a hefyd i esbonio wrth bawb yn sir Benfro beth sy'n digwydd nawr gan fod prif weithredwr sydd heb gefnogaeth ei awdurdod ei hun?

The second statement I would like to see is more local in nature. During the summer, it came to my attention that there were a number of issues that were of great concern in terms of the administration of Pembrokeshire County Council. Specifically, I wrote to the previous Minister for local government, Lesley Griffiths, on the way that European funding had been dealt with in Pembrokeshire and the conduct of the chief executive. Since then, the chief executive has faced and lost a vote of no confidence. I would like to hear from the Government, in a statement, what the next steps are in order to dismiss the chief executive. I do not understand what the current situation is. You have a chief executive that virtually everyone—bar four, I think—voted against in a vote of no confidence, but he remains chief executive, in name, of an authority that the previous Minister, Lesley Griffiths, had stated had maladministered European grants. Clearly, there is something majorly wrong in this authority. Can we have a statement updating the Chamber on the steps taken by Government and an explanation for everyone in Pembrokeshire exactly what is happening now that we have a chief executive that does not have the support of his own authority?

14:28

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

I appreciate Simon Thomas's questions this afternoon during the business statement. Of course, in terms of the first statement, it was not issued during recess; there was an oral statement at the end of the session by the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport on the M4. Of course, there will be a number of opportunities in terms of scrutiny, questioning and advice on this matter as we progress in this term. Of course, it will be a matter in terms of the response to the Environment and Sustainability Committee as well as the Enterprise and Business Committee.

Rwy'n gwerthfawrogi cwestiynau Simon Thomas y prynhawn yma yn ystod y datganiad busnes. Wrth gwrs, o ran y datganiad cyntaf, ni chafodd ei gyflwyno yn ystod y toriad; cafwyd datganiad llafar ar ddiwedd y sesiwn gan Weinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth ar yr M4. Wrth gwrs, bydd nifer o gyfleoedd o ran craffu, cwestiynu a chynghor ar y mater hwn wrth i ni symud ymlaen drwy'r tymor hwn. Wrth gwrs, bydd yn fater o ran yr ymateb i Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd yn ogystal â'r Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes.

On your second point, a large part of this is a matter for Pembrokeshire County Council as a whole as to the way in which it handles this, but I certainly will draw the Minister for Public Services's attention to the question that you raised this afternoon.

O ran eich ail bwynt, mater i Gyngor Sir Penfro yn ei gyfanrwydd yw rhan fawr o hyn, o ran y ffordd y mae'n ymdrin â hyn, ond byddaf yn sicrhau yn tynnu sylw'r Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus at y cwestiwn a godwyd gennyh y prynhawn yma.

14:29

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

Weinidog, mae Arriva Trains Wales ar hyn o bryd yn ymgynghori ar newid amserlen gwasanaethau ar draws Cymru. Rwy'n meddwl y bydd y newidiadau hynny yn dod i rym ym mis Rhagfyr. Mae'r newidiadau yn cynnwys tynnu yn ôl rhai o'r gwasanaethau rhwng gogledd Cymru a Manceinion a Birmingham. Pan y mae wedi ei gwestiynu ar hynny, mae'n dweud ei fod yn gwneud hyn o achos gofynion Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer gwasanaethau ar lein y Cambrian a hefyd yn ne Cymru. A gaf ofyn felly am ddatganiad ynglŷn â phwy sydd yn gyfrifol am bennu'r gwasanaethau hyn, ac, wrth ystyried yr hyn a ddywedodd Rhun ap Iorwerth yn gynharach ynglŷn â'r ffaith nad oes twf yn y 'franchise', lle yn union mae strategaeth Llywodraeth Cymru yn hyn o beth?

Minister, Arriva Trains Wales is at present consulting on changes to the timetable for services across Wales. I believe that those changes will come into force in December. The changes include the withdrawal of some services between north Wales and Manchester and Birmingham. When it has been questioned on this change, it has said that it is due to Welsh Government requirements for services on the Cambrian line and in south Wales. May I therefore ask for a statement on who is responsible for determining these services, and, in considering what Rhun ap Iorwerth said earlier about the fact that there has not been any growth in the franchise, where exactly does the Welsh Government strategy lie in this?

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- 14:30 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Certainly our responsibility is not to be organising the train timetables. Although we may be very concerned about changes that take place as a result of train operator decisions, they are the operators' decisions, but it is very important that we put the record straight in terms of capacity and also draw attention to the role and responsibility of the UK Government as far as this is concerned.
- Yn sicr nid ein cyfrifoldeb ni yw trefnu'r amserlenni trenau. Er efallai ein bod yn bryderus iawn am newidiadau sy'n digwydd o ganlyniad i benderfyniadau gweithredwr trenau, penderfyniadau'r gweithredwyr ydyn nhw, ond mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod yn egluro'r sefyllfa o ran capasiti a hefyd yn tynnu sylw at swyddogaeth a chyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth y DU cyn belled ag y mae hyn yn y cwestiwn.
- 14:30 **Byron Davies** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- I would also like to add my voice to that of others. I know that colleagues would join me in an opportunity to debate the M4 relief road announcement—an announcement made by the Minister in the last week of term, which has become something of a usual Government practice for large scale capital investment. Members have not had the opportunity to fully scrutinise this decision by the Minister or indeed to tease out much of the promised evidence or issues surrounding the transparency of the decision. I think that the announcement deserves a full debate within this Chamber given the serious environmental and possible financial liabilities and the urgent need to, of course, tackle congestion in south east Wales, which is strangling our economy. So, I would very much welcome the Minister and this Government presenting Members with an opportunity to debate this further as soon as possible.
- Hoffwn ychwanegu fy llais at un rhai pobl eraill hefyd. Gwn y byddai cyd-aelodau'n ymuno â mi mewn cyfle i drafod y cyhoeddiad ar ffordd liniaru'r M4—cyhoeddiad a wnaed gan y Gweinidog yn ystod wythnos olaf y tymor, sydd wedi mynd yn arfer braidd gan y Llywodraeth o ran buddsoddiad cyfalaf ar raddfa fawr. Nid yw'r aelodau wedi cael cyfle i graffu'n llawn ar y penderfyniad hwn gan y Gweinidog nac yn wir i geisio cael llawer o'r dystiolaeth a addawyd neu'r materion yn ymwneud â thryloywder y penderfyniad. Credaf fod y cyhoeddiad yn haeddu trafodaeth lawn o fewn y Siambr hon o ystyried y rhwymedigaethau amgylcheddol ac ariannol difrifol posibl a'r angen brys, wrth gwrs, i fynd i'r afael â thagfeydd yn ne-ddwyrain Cymru, sy'n tagu ein heconomi. Felly, byddwn yn sicr yn croesawu'r Gweinidog a'r Llywodraeth hon yn cynnig cyfle i Aelodau drafod hyn ymhellach cyn gynted â phosibl.
- 14:31 **Jane Hutt** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- I think that Byron Davies also had a full opportunity to respond and question when an oral statement was made by the Minister at the end of the last session.
- Rwy'n meddwl hefyd bod Byron Davies wedi cael cyfle llawn i ymateb a chwestiynu pan wnaed datganiad llafar gan y Gweinidog ar ddiwedd y sesiwn olaf.
- 14:31 **Eluned Parrott** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#) Senedd.tv  
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- Minister, this morning the Welsh Government published its long-anticipated evaluation report into Jobs Growth Wales. It is a major piece of work; it cost more than £100,000 to conduct this evaluation and it has taken nearly a year to agree the findings since the completion of the primary data collection back in October last year. So, can you tell me why the first major evaluation of a scheme that you have claimed was the best in the world, that is your flagship, and that is the First Minister's default answer to everything, did not merit a statement in this Chamber today? Can you assure me that the Welsh Government will bring forward a statement to allow Members to scrutinise the Government on what you yourselves say is one of your major policy achievements? Otherwise, cynics might be tempted to suggest that, for some reason, you might not want to talk about it.
- Weinidog, y bore yma cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cymru ei hadroddiad hir-ddisgwyliedig ar Twf Swyddi Cymru. Mae'n ddarn pwysig o waith; costiodd fwy na £100,000 i gynnal y gwerthusiad hwn ac mae wedi cymryd bron i flwyddyn i gytuno ar y canfyddiadau ers cwblhau'r gwaith casglu data sylfaenol yn ôl ym mis Hydref y llynedd. Felly, a allwch chi ddweud wrthyf pam nad oedd y gwerthusiad mawr cyntaf o gynllun rydych chi wedi hawlio yw'r gorau yn y byd, sef eich prosiect blaenllaw, ac ateb y Prif Weinidog i bopeth, yn haeddu datganiad yn y Siambr hon heddiw? A allwch chi fy sicrhau y bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn cyflwyno datganiad i ganiatáu i'r Aelodau graffu ar y Llywodraeth ynghylch yr hyn yr ydych chi eich hunain yn ddweud yw un o'ch prif gyflawniadau polisi? Fel arall, efallai y bydd sinigiaid yn cael eu temtio i awgrymu, am ryw reswm, nad ydych chi eisiau siarad am hyn.

14:32

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

This summer, I have taken the opportunity to meet not only young people who have benefitted from Jobs Growth Wales, but also their employers. I have met in solicitors' practices, and then, last week, in an accountancy practice, young people who came through Jobs Growth Wales who did not have many prospects or hope even though they were highly skilled and who now actually have jobs with those employers. Across the whole of Wales, thousands of young people are in that position. In terms of the opportunities that you have—which you take advantage of, of course, Eluned Parrott—to scrutinise and ask questions of the Ministers, that is important. However, let us recognise what Jobs Growth Wales has achieved for those young people and how much the employers, particularly in the private sector, value them. I would say also, as Minister for Finance, that it is vital that we have a clear evaluation of our programmes, and I am very confident that the evaluation has endorsed, and, indeed, accredited what we are achieving in Jobs Growth Wales.

Yr haf hwn, rwyf wedi manteisio ar y cyfle i gyfarfod nid yn unig â phobl ifanc sydd wedi elwa o Twf Swyddi Cymru, ond hefyd eu cyflogwyr. Rwyf wedi cyfarfod mewn practisau cyfreithwyr, ac yna, yr wythnos diwethaf, mewn practis cyfrifwyr, â phobl ifanc a ddaeth drwy Twf Swyddi Cymru nad oedd ganddynt lawer o ragolygon na gobaith er eu bod yn fedrus iawn ac sydd â swyddi gyda'r cyflogwyr hynny erbyn hyn. Mae miloedd o bobl ifanc yn y sefyllfa honno ar draws Cymru gyfan. O ran y cyfleoedd sydd gennych chi—yr ydych chi'n manteisio arnynt, wrth gwrs, Eluned Parrott—i graffu a gofyn cwestiynau i'r Gweinidogion, mae hynny'n bwysig. Fodd bynnag, gadewch i ni gydnabod yr hyn y mae Twf Swyddi Cymru wedi ei gyflawni i'r bobl ifanc hynny a faint mae cyflogwyr, yn enwedig yn y sector preifat, yn eu gwerthfawrogi. Byddwn hefyd yn dweud, fel y Gweinidog Cyllid, ei bod yn hanfodol ein bod yn cael gwerthusiad eglur o'n rhaglenni, ac rwy'n hyderus iawn bod y gwerthusiad wedi cymeradwyo, ac, yn wir, achredu'r hyn yr ydym yn ei gyflawni yn Twf Swyddi Cymru.

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14:33

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

I call the Welsh Government to bring forward two statements. First is on the implications of the unanimous 28 August vote by almost 700 people in support of a local referendum calling for the reinstatement of NHS in-patient community beds in Flint. They say that patient outcomes are now worse, that services are now costing more, and that ambulance drivers are saying that you can chart each community hospital closure with how much time they now have to wait outside Glan Clwyd and other hospitals. Although neither the Welsh Government nor the health board are obliged to take notice of the outcome of the referendum, the health board chair has said that they cannot but take notice of it. We therefore need a statement on the Welsh Government's position in the likely event of a strong referendum vote in favour of the reinstatement of these beds in Flint, noting the precedent set by a previous Minister for health to intervene when community hospitals were threatened with closure and when primary care centres were proposed without beds.

Galwaf ar Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno dau ddatganiad. Mae'r cyntaf ar oblygiadau pleidlais unfrydol 28 Awst gan bron i 700 o bobl i gefnogi refferendwm lleol yn galw am ailgyflwyno gwelyau cymunedol y GIG i gleifion mewnol yn y Fflint. Maen nhw'n dweud bod canlyniadau i gleifion yn waeth erbyn hyn, bod gwasanaethau yn costio mwy bellach, a bod gyrrwyr ambiwlans yn dweud eich bod yn gallu olrhain pob achos o gau ysbty cymuned drwy faint o amser y mae'n rhaid iddynt aros y tu allan i ysbty Glan Clwyd ac ysbty eraill erbyn hyn. Er nad oes ymrwymiad ar Lywodraeth Cymru na'r bwrdd iechyd i gymryd sylw o ganlyniad y refferendwm, mae cadeirydd y bwrdd iechyd wedi dweud nad oes ganddynt ddewis ond cymryd sylw ohono. Felly, mae angen datganiad arnom ar safbwynt Llywodraeth Cymru yn yr achos tebygol o bleidlais refferendwm gref o blaid ailgyflwyno'r gwelyau hyn yn y Fflint, gan nodi'r cynsail a osodwyd gan y Gweinidog iechyd blaenorol i ymyrryd pan roedd ysbty cymuned dan fygythiad o gael eu cau a phan gynigiwyd canolfannau gofal sylfaenol heb welyau.

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Secondly, and finally, could I call for an update statement on the fire and rescue services report in Wales and consequent following programme board? I now have a letter from the chair of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority to the previous Minister for local government stating, 'It is remarkable that the conclusion has been drawn that the current Government's funding arrangements do not function effectively without seeking the opinion of fire authorities themselves'. To which the Minister simply replied, 'I am committed to taking forward all the recommendations set out in the report regardless'. An update on this would therefore be, I think, appropriate.

Yn ail, ac yn olaf, a gaf i alw am ddatganiad ar y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr adroddiad ar wasanaethau tân ac achub yng Nghymru a'r bwrdd rhaglen dilynol? Mae gennyf lythyr erbyn hyn gan gadeirydd Awdurdod Tân ac Achub Gogledd Cymru at y Gweinidog llywodraeth leol blaenorol yn dweud, 'Mae'n rhyfeddol y daethpwyd i'r casgliad nad yw trefniadau cyllido cyfredol y Llywodraeth bresennol yn gweithio'n effeithiol heb ofyn am farn awdurdodau tân eu hunain'. Ac atebodd y Gweinidog i hynny'n syml gan ddweud, 'rwyf wedi ymrwymo i fwrw ymlaen â'r holl argymhellion a nodir yn yr adroddiad beth bynnag'. Rwy'n credu y byddai diweddariad ar hyn yn briodol felly.

14:35

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

Well, I think, in terms of responding to that second question from Mark Isherwood, what else would you hope for? The Minister is going to respond to and implement the recommendations of the fire and rescue service report, and respond and implement in full.

Wel, rwy'n credu, o ran ymateb i'r ail gwestiwn yna gan Mark Isherwood, beth arall fydddech chi'n gobeithio amdano? Mae'r Gweinidog yn mynd i ymateb i argymhellion yr adroddiad ar y wasanaeth tân ac achub a'u rhoi ar waith, ac ymateb a gweithredu'n llawn.

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On your first point, of course it is very important that we acknowledge patient engagement and patient response and the difficulties in terms of the most important service change, which has to be in the health service to the benefit of the health and social care of patients.

O ran eich pwynt cyntaf, wrth gwrs mae'n bwysig iawn ein bod yn cydnabod ymgysylltiad cleifion ac ymateb cleifion a'r anawsterau o ran y newid gwasanaeth pwysicaf, y mae'n rhaid ei wneud yn y gwasanaeth iechyd er lles iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol cleifion.

14:36

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

May I also congratulate you, Minister, on your re-emergence as the Minister for Government business?

A gaf i hefyd eich llongyfarch, Weinidog, ar eich ailymddangosiad fel Gweinidog busnes y Llywodraeth?

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May I also ask you for a statement on cancer treatment in Wales? I am not talking about mainstream cancer—the treatment of which I receive good and bad reports on—but specifically about calls for a cancer treatment fund. You will probably be aware that there is currently a petition in south-east Wales, with thousands of signatures, with some of my constituents feeling that they have no option but to sell their homes and move across the border in order to access the cancer treatment fund that is currently happening in England. I know that we have been told that there are—I can see the Minister shaking his head—alternatives here. However, my constituents, and, I am sure, constituents of other Members here, do not feel that the alternatives are as good as a properly designated and properly funded cancer treatment fund. For goodness' sake, it is happening across the border in England, so please let us have a statement bringing forward one here.

A gaf i ofyn i chi am ddatganiad ar driniaeth cancer yng Nghymru? Nid wyf yn sôn am ganser prif ffrwd—rwyf yn derbyn adroddiadau da a gwael ar y driniaeth ohono—ond yn benodol am alwadau am gronfa triniaeth cancer. Mae'n debyg y byddwch yn ymwybodol bod deiseb yn neddwyrain Cymru ar hyn o bryd, sydd â miloedd o lofnodion, gan fod rhai o'm hetholwyr yn teimlo nad oes ganddynt unrhyw ddewis ond gwerthu eu cartrefi a symud ar draws y ffin er mwyn cael mynediad at y gronfa triniaeth cancer sy'n digwydd yn Lloegr ar hyn o bryd. Gwn y dywedwyd wrthym—gallaf weld y Gweinidog yn ysgwyd ei ben—bod dewisiadau eraill yma. Fodd bynnag, nid yw fy etholwyr, nac, rwy'n siŵr, etholwyr Aelodau eraill yma, yn teimlo bod y dewisiadau eraill cystal â chronfa triniaeth cancer wedi ei neilltuo'n briodol a'i hariannu'n briodol. Er mwyn popeth, mae'n digwydd ar draws y ffin yn Lloegr, felly gadewch i ni gael datganiad yn cyflwyno hynny yma.

14:37

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

Well, of course, Nick Ramsay, you know that we spend more per person on cancer treatment, and the range of cancer treatments and services that are available has been recognised extensively and independently. So, we are indeed proud of our delivery in terms of cancer treatment services, and also, of course, of the independent clinical input and assessment in terms of the cancer treatments that are in place.

Wel, wrth gwrs, Nick Ramsay, byddwch yn gwybod ein bod yn gwario mwy fesul pen ar driniaeth cancer, a chydabuwyd yr amrywiaeth o driniaethau a gwasanaethau cancer sydd ar gael yn eang ac yn annibynnol. Felly, rydym yn wirioneddol falch o'n darpariaeth o ran gwasanaethau trin cancer, a hefyd, wrth gwrs, o'r mewnbwn clinigol annibynnol ac asesiad o ran y triniaethau cancer sydd ar waith.

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14:37

## **Cynnig i Ethol Aelodau i Bwyllgorau**

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

Unless there are any objections, I propose that the motions are grouped for debate and voted on together. I call on a member of the Business Committee to move the motions.

Cynnig NDM5566 Rosemary Butler

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 17.14, yn ethol Nick Ramsay (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Cyllid yn lle Paul Davies (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig).

Cynnig NDM5567 Rosemary Butler

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 17.14, yn ethol Jane Hutt (Llafur) yn aelod o'r Pwyllgor Busnes yn lle Lesley Griffiths (Llafur).

## **Motion to Elect Members to Committees**

Oni bai bod unrhyw wrthwynebiadau, cynigiau fod y cynigion yn cael eu grwpio ar gyfer y ddatl ac y dylid pleidleisio arnynt gyda'i gilydd. Galwaf ar aelod o'r Pwyllgor Busnes i gyflwyno'r cynigion.

Motion NDM5566 Rosemary Butler

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Nick Ramsay (Welsh Conservatives) as a member of the Finance Committee in place of Paul Davies (Welsh Conservatives).

Motion NDM5567 Rosemary Butler

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 17.14, elects Jane Hutt (Labour) as a member of the Business Committee in place of Lesley Griffiths (Labour).

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14:38	<b>Elin Jones</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> Cynigiau y cynigion.	I move the motions.	<a href="#">Senedd.tv</a> <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:38	<b>Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> The proposal is to agree the motions. Does any Member object? There are no objections. Therefore, the motions are agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.  <i>Derbyniwyd y cynigion yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.</i>	Y cynnig yw derbyn y cynigion. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad. Felly, derbynnir y cynigion yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 12.36.  <i>Motions agreed in accordance with Standing Order 12.36.</i>	<a href="#">Senedd.tv</a> <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:38	<b>Datganiad: Adnewyddu'r Polisi Newid yn yr Hinsawdd—Gohiriwyd</b>  This item has been postponed.	<b>Statement: Climate Change Policy Refresh—Postponed</b> <b>Llywydd / The Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> Gohiriwyd yr eitem hon.	<a href="#">Senedd.tv</a> <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:38	<b>Datganiad: Dysgu o Adolygiadau Nodiadau Achos Marwoldeb</b> <b>Llywydd / The Presiding Officer</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> I call on the Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford.  <i>Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (David Melding) i'r Gadair am 14:38.</i>	<b>Statement: Learning from Mortality Case Note Reviews</b> Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Mark Drakeford.  <i>The Deputy Presiding Officer (David Melding) took the Chair at 14:38.</i>	<b>Y</b> <a href="#">Senedd.tv</a> <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>
14:38	<b>Mark Drakeford</b> <a href="#">Bywgraffiad</a> <a href="#">Biography</a> <i>Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / The Minister for Health and Social Services</i> Rwy'n ddiolchgar am y cyfle cynnar hwn i gyflawni adnewid a wnes i i'r Aelodau wrth gyhoeddi adolygiad Palmer ar y defnydd o ddata marwolaeth wedi'i addasu yn ôl risg yng Nghymru ar 16 Gorffennaf. Daeth adolygiad Palmer i'r casgliad mai'r ffordd orau o ddarparu gwybodaeth addas am ansawdd gofal yn ysbytai Cymru yw drwy weithdrefn adolygu achosion o farwolaeth. Rhoddais adnewid y byddwn i'n edrych yn fwy manwl ar y defnydd o'r broses honno yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru.  Ers 2010, mae cyfarwyddwyr meddygol y byrddau a'r ymddiriedolaethau iechyd yng Nghymru wedi bod yn adolygu'r gofal a ddarparwyd i bob claf a fu farw mewn ysbyty. Mae'r penderfyniad i adolygu pob marwolaeth, yn hytrach na chyfran fechan o farwolaethau, fel yn systemau iechyd eraill y Deyrnas Unedig, wedi bod yn elfen allweddol o'r gwaith yng Nghymru ers y cychwyn. Roedd profiad cynnar yn dangos potensial y system adolygu nodiadau achos a'r manteision o symud at ddull cyffredin ar gyfer Cymru gyfan.	I am grateful for this early opportunity to fulfil a commitment I made to Members when publishing the Palmer review of the use of risk adjusted mortality data in Wales on 16 July. The Palmer review concluded that meaningful information about the quality of care in Welsh hospitals can best be provided through the mortality case review procedure. I undertook to report more extensively on the use of that process in the Welsh NHS.  Since 2010, medical directors of both the health boards and trusts in Wales have reviewed the care provided to all patients who died in hospital. The decision to review every death, rather than a small proportion of deaths, as in the other United Kingdom health systems, has been a key distinguishing feature of the Welsh approach from the outset. Early experience demonstrated both the potential value of the case note review system and the advantages of moving to a common, pan-Wales approach.	<a href="#">Senedd.tv</a> <a href="#">Fideo</a> <a href="#">Video</a>

It was for that reason that, in April 2013, I asked Dr Grant Robinson, today the national clinical lead for unscheduled care in Wales, to lead a 12-month piece of work to develop a consistent methodological approach to mortality case note reviews. As a result, a two-stage review process has rapidly become standard across Wales. Stage 1 involves an initial review of all deaths in hospitals in order to examine those where a more in-depth review is needed to examine the complexities in the care received. This second stage is generally carried out by a multidisciplinary panel. The second-stage analysis identifies those rare cases where a death may have been avoidable. It also reveals where the quality of overall care could be improved.

The evidence from mortality case reviews clearly demonstrates that deaths in Welsh hospitals are in very large measure both expected and unavoidable. While each one is a matter of intense sorrow and distress to those individuals most closely involved, including those who have provided care to the person who has died, in almost every case those deaths are not attributable to the quality of care received.

It was the strength and clarity of evidence from the case note mortality reviews that allowed Professor Stephen Palmer to conclude that RAMI scores at, for example, the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, the Royal Glamorgan Hospital in Llantrisant and Wrexham Maelor Hospital did not require further investigation.

Paragraph 24 of his report begins in this way:

'My recommendation that the RAMI should not be used as an overall summary measure of hospital performance in Wales leaves a question about how the public should be assured about deaths in hospitals. The answer is, through the case note reviews'.

In concluding, as he does, that the public in Wales should take assurance about the safety and quality of hospital care from timely medical record reviews of all deaths in hospitals, he also points to the importance of the reviews to health boards in discharging their responsibilities. Health boards in Wales already take reports of mortality case note reviews through their quality and safety committees and at board meetings.

I want that process of accountability to go further. I believe that we need to standardise the way in which health boards make the results of the reviews public, preferably through the My Local Health Service website. For that reason, I have asked the national transparency and mortality taskforce to take this matter forward at its next meeting in October.

Am y rheswm hwnnw y gofynnais ym mis Ebrill 2013 i Dr Grant Robinson, sydd erbyn hyn yn arweinydd clinigol cenedlaethol ar gyfer gofal heb ei drefnu yng Nghymru, arwain darn 12 mis o waith i ddatblygu dull methodolegol cyson o gynnal adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau. O ganlyniad, mae proses adolygu dau gam wedi dod yn safonol yn gyflym iawn ledled Cymru. Mae cam 1 yn cynnwys adolygiad cychwynnol o'r holl farwolaethau mewn ysbytai er mwyn archwilio'r rhai hynny lle mae angen adolygiad mwy trylwyr i archwilio'r cymhlethdodau yn y gofal a dderbyniwyd. Cynhelir yr ail gam hwn fel arfer gan banel amlddisgyblaethol. Mae dadansoddiad yr ail gam yn nodi'r achosion prin hynny lle y gellid bod wedi osgoi'r farwolaeth. Mae hefyd yn amlygu ymhle y gellid gwella ansawdd y gofal yn gyffredinol.

Mae tystiolaeth adolygiadau achosion marwolaeth yn dangos yn glir fod marwolaethau mewn ysbytai yng Nghymru i raddau helaeth iawn yn rhai y gellir eu disgwyl ac yn anochel. Er bod pob marwolaeth yn fater o dristwch a thralod dwys i'r unigolion hynny sydd fwyaf agos, gan gynnwys y rhai sydd wedi darparu gofal i'r person a fu farw, ym mron pob achos nid yw'r marwolaethau hynny i'w priodoli i ansawdd y gofal a dderbynnir.

Oherwydd cryfder ac eglurder y dystiolaeth yn deillio o'r adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau daeth yr Athro Stephen Palmer i'r casgliad nad oedd angen ymchwilio ymhellach i'r sgoriau RAMI, er enghraifft, yn Ysbyty'r Tywysog Siarl ym Merthyr Tudful, Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg yn Llantrisant ac Ysbyty Maelor Wrecsam.

Mae paragraff 24 o'i adroddiad yn dechrau fel hyn:

'Yn sgil fy argymhelliad na ddylid defnyddio'r RAMI fel dull cyffredinol cryno o fesur perfformiad ysbytai yng Nghymru, ceir cwestiwn ynghylch sut y dylid rhoi sicrwydd i'r cyhoedd ynghylch marwolaethau mewn ysbytai. Yr ateb yw, drwy'r adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau.'

Wrth ddod i'r casgliad, fel y mae'n ei wneud, y dylai'r cyhoedd yng Nghymru gael sicrwydd am ddiogelwch ac ansawdd gofal ysbyty o adolygiadau amserol o gofnodion meddygol yr holl farwolaethau mewn ysbytai, mae hefyd yn cyfeirio at bwysigrwydd yr adolygiadau i fyrddau iechyd wrth gyflawni eu cyfrifoldebau. Mae byrddau iechyd yng Nghymru eisoes yn mynd ag adroddiadau o adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau trwy eu pwyllgorau ansawdd a diogelwch a chyfarfodydd bwrdd.

Rwyf am i'r broses honno o atebolrwydd fynd ymhellach. Credaf fod angen inni safoni'r ffordd y mae byrddau iechyd yn cyhoeddi canlyniadau'r arolygon, yn ddelfrydol drwy wefan Fy Ngwasanaeth Iechyd Lleol. Am y rheswm hwnnw, rwyf wedi gofyn i'r tasglu tryloywder a marwolaethau cenedlaethol fwrw ymlaen â hyn yn ei gyfarfod nesaf ym mis Hydref.



While mortality case note reviews already provide a real-time, reliable and informative means of analysing deaths in hospitals, there is more that can be done to build upon what has been achieved in a very short period of time. Thus while we now have a universal mortality review tool for the first stage of the process, contributing, as it does, to greater consistency of decision making across our health boards, the next step will be to reduce the variation in the proportion of deaths that are referred for a detailed stage 2 investigation in different parts of Wales. The Palmer review pointed to ways in which this variation can be reduced through improved consistency of method and greater clinical engagement.

I am very pleased to be able to confirm to Members this afternoon that clinical leadership of this work will be undertaken by Dr Jason Shannon, consultant pathologist and assistant medical director at Cwm Taf Local Health Board. Dr Shannon will lead the further development of the Wales-wide approach to mortality reviews, including their extension to deaths that take place in the community.

Members will recall that it was a specific recommendation of the Palmer review, in that Professor Palmer recommended that the extension should begin with those deaths that occur in the community in the 30-day period immediately after hospital discharge.

I am anxious to bring to Members' attention the potential contribution to providing consistency and rigour in this way of working to the development of the new role of the medical examiner and changes to death certification in Wales and England.

Dirprwy Lywydd, as some here will recall, the reform of the death certification process was contained in the Coroners and Justice Act 2009. The UK Government intends to introduce a new, unified system of scrutiny by appointing independent medical examiners who will look at all deaths in Wales and England that are not investigated by a coroner. The objectives are to strengthen the safeguards for the public, to make the process simpler, and to make it more transparent for bereaved families.

In large measure, these are not devolved matters, but under the 2009 Act, the terms and conditions of employment of medical examiners in Wales will be determined by the Welsh Ministers. We have established a death certification implementation board for Wales, and I have asked Dr Shannon to explore whether all stage 1 case note mortality reviews could be undertaken through the newly created medical examiner service. This could add to the independence of the process, taking it outside the NHS altogether. It could further improve the consistency of the process, and it could make this important analysis more visible to the public. This is a conversation that we continue to have through the Department of Health as we work closely with it to introduce the new medical examiner role in Wales and England.

Er bod adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau eisoes yn ffordd amser real, dibynadwy a llawn gwybodaeth o ddadansoddi marwolaethau mewn ysbytai, mae mwy y gellir ei wneud i adeiladu ar yr hyn sydd wedi'i gyflawni mewn cyfnod byr iawn. Felly, er bod gennym bellach offeryn cyffredinol o adolygu marwolaethau ar gyfer cam cyntaf y broses, sy'n cyfrannu, fel y mae, at fwy o gysondeb wrth wneud penderfyniadau yn ein holl fyrddau iechyd, y cam nesaf fydd lleihau'r amrywiaeth yng nghyfran y marwolaethau sy'n cael eu cyfeirio ar gyfer ymchwiliad manwl cam 2 mewn gwahanol rannau o Gymru. Tynnodd adolygiad Palmer sylw at ffyrdd y gellid lleihau'r amrywiad hwn drwy ddulliau mwy cyson a mwy o ymgysylltiad clinigol.

Rwyf yn falch iawn o allu cadarnhau gerbron yr Aelodau y prynhawn yma mai Dr Jason Shannon, patholegydd ymgynghorol a chyfarwyddwr meddygol cynorthwyol ym Mwrdd Iechyd Lleol Cwm Taf fydd arweinydd clinigol y gwaith hwn. Bydd Dr Shannon yn arwain datblygiad pellach yr ymagwedd Cymru gyfan tuag at adolygiadau marwolaethau, gan gynnwys eu hestyn i farwolaethau sy'n digwydd yn y gymuned.

Bydd yr Aelodau'n cofio mai dyna un o argymhellion penodol adolygiad Palmer, oherwydd argymhellodd yr Athro Palmer y dylai'r estyniad ddechrau gyda'r marwolaethau hynny sy'n digwydd yn y gymuned o fewn 30 diwrnod ar ôl gadael yr ysbyty.

Rwyf yn awyddus i ddwyn sylw'r Aelodau at gyfraniad posibl datblygu swyddogaeth newydd yr archwilydd meddygol a newidiadau i ardystio marwolaethau yng Nghymru a Lloegr i sicrhau cysondeb a thrylwyrder yn y ffordd hon o weithio.

Ddirprwy Lywydd, fel y bydd rhai yma'n cofio, roedd y gwaith o ddiwygio'r broses ardystio marwolaethau wedi ei gynnwys yn Neddf Crwneriaid a Chyfiawnder 2009. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn bwriadu cyflwyno system newydd, unedig o graffu drwy benodi archwilydd meddygol annibynnol a fydd yn edrych ar yr holl farwolaethau yng Nghymru a Lloegr nad oes ymchwiliad crwner iddynt. Yr amcanion yw cryfhau'r mesurau i ddiogelu'r cyhoedd, gwneud y broses yn symlach, a'i gwneud yn fwy tryloyw i deuluoedd sy'n galaru.

I raddau helaeth, nid materion datganoledig yw'r rhain, ond o dan Ddeddf 2009, bydd telerau ac amodau cyflogaeth archwilydd meddygol yng Nghymru yn cael eu pennu gan Weinidogion Cymru. Rydym wedi sefydlu bwrdd gweithredu ardystio marwolaethau i Gymru, ac rwyf wedi gofyn i Dr Shannon ystyried a ellid cynnal pob adolygiad o nodiadau achos marwolaethau cam 1 drwy'r gwasanaeth archwilydd meddygol sydd newydd ei greu. Gallai hyn ychwanegu at annibyniaeth y broses, a'i chymryd y tu allan i'r GIG yn gyfan gwbl. Gallai wella cysondeb y broses ymhellach, a gallai wneud y dadansoddiad pwysig hwn yn fwy gweladwy i'r cyhoedd. Mae hon yn sgwrs yr ydym yn parhau i'w chael drwy'r Adran Iechyd wrth inni gydweithio'n agos â hi i gyflwyno rôl newydd yr archwilydd meddygol yng Nghymru ac yn Lloegr.

I think that it is fair for me to point out that, because we already have a universal stage 1 process in place, Wales is the only part of the United Kingdom where such a system involving the new medical examiners could be made to work. Other administrations, however, are taking a close interest in the development of the case note mortality review system here, and a meeting with Scottish colleagues took place yesterday for that purpose.

A consistent process of case note mortality reviews of every death in hospitals has taken root in Wales and is already contributing to a better understanding of the quality of care provided in our district general hospitals. There is more that we can do to develop the approach still further, and I am very grateful to the clinical community in Wales for rising to this new and important challenge.

14:48

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

Thank you, Minister, for your statement. I very much welcome the case note mortality reviews that have taken place, and I think that it is the start of a system in Wales that the public can have confidence in. However, I have a few questions about the existing processes and, indeed, the existing alerts or trigger points in the Welsh NHS that would require further investigation, if necessary.

The Palmer review, of course, concluded that the risk adjusted mortality index, which we have used in Wales in recent times and which your own officials described as 'fire alarms going off' in certain hospitals, is not a reliable indicator of the quality of provision. However, we must not forget that it was mortality indices that were the initial fire alarm, as it were, that went off in Mid Staffs, which attracted the attention that led to further reviews of that particular hospital and alerted people to it. I wonder whether there are other mortality indices that the Welsh Government might consider using in future if that particular one is something that we are going to rule out. It is important that we have something by which we can measure Welsh NHS performance with other parts of the UK, in spite of our differing health systems. Perhaps the SHMI, summary hospital-level mortality indicator, is something that might be more appropriate.

That said, I do think that there are some questions that I would like to ask you about the reviews that have taken place. You referred to the 4,165 case note reviews. What proportion of those reviews was it concluded that the deaths were avoidable? I would like to know precisely how many, Minister, were avoidable of the 4,165 case notes that were reviewed.

Credaf ei bod yn deg imi nodi, gan fod gennym eisoes broses cam 1 gyffredinol ar waith, mai Cymru yw'r unig ran o'r Deyrnas Unedig lle y gellid gwneud i system o'r fath sy'n cynnwys yr archwilwyr meddygol newydd weithio. Mae gweinyddiaethau eraill, fodd bynnag, yn dangos diddordeb mawr yn natblygiad y system adolygu nodiadau achos marwolaethau yma yng Nghymru, a chynhaliwyd cyfarfod â chydweithwyr yn yr Alban ddoe i'r diben hwnnw.

Mae proses gyson o adolygu nodiadau achos marwolaethau ar bob marwolaeth sy'n digwydd yn yr ysbyty wedi ymwreiddio yng Nghymru ac mae eisoes yn cyfrannu at well ddealltwriaeth o ansawdd y gofal a ddarperir yn ein hysbytai cyffredinol dosbarth. Mae mwy y gallwn ei wneud i ddatblygu'r ymagwedd hon ymhellach, ac rwyf yn ddiolchgar iawn i'r gymuned glinigol yng Nghymru am ymateb i'r her newydd a phwysig hon.

Diolch ichi, Weinidog, am eich datganiad. Rwyf yn croesawu'n fawr iawn yr adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau sydd wedi eu cynnal, ac rwyf yn credu ei fod yn ddechrau system yng Nghymru y gall y cyhoedd fod yn hyderus yn ei chylch. Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf rai cwestiynau am y prosesau presennol ac, yn wir, y rhybuddion presennol neu'r pwyntiau sbardun yn y GIG yng Nghymru y byddai angen ymchwilio ymhellach iddynt, pe bai angen.

Daeth adolygiad Palmer, wrth gwrs, i'r casgliad nad yw'r mynegai marwolaethau wedi'i addasu yn ôl risg, yr ydym wedi ei ddefnyddio yng Nghymru yn ddiweddar ac a ddisgrifiwyd gan eich swyddogion eich hun fel 'larymau tân yn canu' mewn rhai ysbytai, yn ddangosydd dibynadwy o ansawdd y ddarpariaeth. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni beidio ag anghofio mai mynegeion marwolaethau oedd y larwm tân cychwynnol, fel petai, yng Nghanolbarth Swydd Stafford, a ddenodd y sylw a arweiniodd at gynnal mwy o adolygiadau o'r ysbyty penodol hwnnw a rhoi gwybod i bobl amdano. Tybed a oes mynegeion marwolaethau eraill y gallai Llywodraeth Cymru ystyried eu defnyddio yn y dyfodol os yw'r un penodol hwnnw yn rhywbeth yr ydym yn mynd i'w ddiystyru. Mae'n bwysig bod gennym rywbeth y gallwn ei ddefnyddio i fesur perfformiad y GIG yng Nghymru yn erbyn rhannau eraill o'r DU, er gwaethaf ein systemau iechyd gwahanol. Efallai fod SHMI, dangosydd cryno marwolaethau ar lefel ysbytai, yn rhywbeth a allai fod yn fwy priodol.

Wedi dweud hynny, mae rhai cwestiynau yr hoffwn eu gofyn ichi am yr adolygiadau sydd wedi eu cynnal. Cyfeiriasoch at y 4,165 o adolygiadau o nodiadau achos. Pa gyfran o'r adolygiadau hynny a ddaeth i'r casgliad y gellid bod wedi osgoi'r marwolaethau hynny? Hoffwn wybod yn fanwl gywir, Weinidog, faint o'r 4,165 o nodiadau achos a adolygwyd y gellid bod wedi eu hosgoi.

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I very much welcome the fact that the reviews will extend to people who have been discharged from hospital into the community. That is absolutely right and proper, but I do wonder whether 30 days is an appropriate number, particularly given that thrombosis, for example, is measured as being hospital-acquired if it occurs during a six-week period from discharge. I wonder, Minister, whether you will be able to comment on that and the consistency of the data that are being recorded.

May I also ask, Minister, about those deaths that happened prior to admission to hospital? We hear increasingly of individuals who have to undergo more complex procedures as a result of long waits for treatment, and some who, unfortunately, expire before their treatment is available in hospital. That, to me, is also an indicator of the health of the NHS and the care that it provides to patients. I wonder, Minister, whether there is any way in which you can measure that sort of problem, as well.

We know, of course, Minister, that mortality is just one symptom, perhaps, of an NHS that might have some difficulties in terms of avoidable deaths in hospitals. There are other measures that health boards across the country should also be keeping their eyes on, including hospital-acquired infections. It was very disappointing over the summer to see reports of increases in *Clostridium difficile* deaths in Wales and *C. difficile* reports, including 30 avoidable deaths, as a result of hospital-acquired infections at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd in north Wales. I wonder, Minister, whether you will re-emphasise the need for hospitals across the country to measure in a better way the hospital-acquired infection rates in their areas and, indeed, to eradicate hospital-acquired infections. It is welcome, of course, that they are down on where they were back in 2008 when there was a renewed emphasis on this, but I just wonder whether that is something that we need to re-emphasise as well.

Patient safety incidents have been on the increase as well, across Wales. That is a matter of great concern. The number of cases being referred for litigation, the number of cases being referred to the public services ombudsman, and the number of complaints being made about the NHS, not just by patients but by staff reporting concerns to managers, have also been on the increase. All of these are indicators of the quality of provision in our national health service. We all want the best possible quality for patients, and I wonder, Minister, how you are going to ensure that the governance arrangements in the NHS are able to manage all these data in all their various forms, including the mortality data to which you refer, so as to ensure that patients can have confidence that services of the highest quality are consistently being delivered in all parts of the country.

Croesawaf yn fawr y ffaith y bydd yr adolygiadau yn cynnwys pobl sydd wedi eu rhyddhau o'r ysbyty i'r gymuned. Mae hynny'n hollol iawn a phriodol, ond tybed a yw 30 yn nifer priodol o ddiwrnodau, yn enwedig o ystyried bod thrombosis, er enghraifft, yn cael ei fesur fel thrombosis a gafwyd yn yr ysbyty os bydd yn digwydd yn ystod y chwe wythnos ar ôl rhyddhau'r claf o ysbyty. Tybed, Weinidog, a allwch sôn am hynny a chysondeb y data sy'n cael eu cofnodi.

A gaf fi ofyn hefyd, Weinidog, am y marwolaethau hynny sy'n digwydd cyn derbyn pobl i'r ysbyty? Rydym yn clywed fwyfwy am unigolion sy'n gorfod cael triniaethau mwy cymhleth oherwydd iddynt aros yn hir am driniaeth, ac mae rhai sydd, yn anffodus, yn marw cyn bod eu triniaeth ar gael yn yr ysbyty. Mae hynny, i mi, hefyd yn ddangosydd o iechyd y GIG a'r gofal y mae'n ei ddarparu i gleifion. Tybed, Weinidog, a oes ffordd y gallwch fesur y math hwnnw o broblem, yn ogystal?

Rydym yn gwybod, wrth gwrs, Weinidog, mai un symptom yn unig yw marwolaethau, efallai, o GIG a allai fod â rhai anawsterau o ran marwolaethau y gellid eu hosgoi mewn ysbytai. Mae mesurau eraill y dylai byrddau iechyd ledled y wlad hefyd gadw llygad arnynt, gan gynnwys heintiau a gafwyd mewn ysbytai. Roedd yn siomedig iawn yn ystod yr haf gweld adroddiadau am gynnydd mewn marwolaethau *Clostridium difficile* yng Nghymru ac adroddiadau *C. difficile*, gan gynnwys 30 o farwolaethau y gellid bod wedi eu hosgoi, o ganlyniad i heintiau a gafwyd mewn ysbytai yn Ysbyty Glan Clwyd yn y gogledd. Tybed, Weinidog, a fyddwch yn rhoi pwyslais o'r newydd ar yr angen i ysbytai ledled y wlad fesur cyfraddau heintiau a gafwyd mewn ysbytai yn eu hardaloedd yn well ac, yn wir, gael gwared ar heintiau a gafwyd mewn ysbytai. Croesewir, wrth gwrs, y ffaith eu bod wedi gostwng o gymharu â lle'r oeddynt yn ôl yn 2008 pan oedd pwyslais o'r newydd ar hyn, ond tybed a yw hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen inni ei ailbwyseisio yn ogystal?

Mae digwyddiadau diogelwch cleifion wedi bod ar gynnydd hefyd ledled Cymru. Mae hynny'n fater sy'n peri pryder mawr. Mae nifer yr achosion sy'n dod yn achosion ymgyfreitha, nifer yr achosion sy'n cael eu cyfeirio at yr ombwdsmon gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, a nifer y cwynion sy'n cael eu gwneud am y GIG, nid yn unig gan gleifion ond drwy i staff roi gwybod i'r rheolwyr am bryderon, hefyd wedi bod ar gynnydd. Mae'r rhain i gyd yn ddangosyddion o ansawdd y ddarpariaeth yn ein gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol. Rydym i gyd am gael yr ansawdd gorau posibl i gleifion, ac ys gw'n i, Weinidog, sut yr ydych yn mynd i sicrhau bod y trefniadau llywodraethu yn y GIG yn gallu ymdopi â'r holl ddata hyn yn eu holl ffurfiau amrywiol, gan gynnwys y data marwolaethau y cyfeiriwch atynt, er mwyn sicrhau y gall cleifion fod yn hyderus bod gwasanaethau o'r safon uchaf yn cael eu cyflwyno'n gyson ym mhob rhan o'r wlad?

I thank Darren Millar for those questions. He is right to begin by pointing out that the genesis of much of the debate that we have about measuring mortality came from concerns at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. There are four different forms of measurement that I used in different parts of the NHS across the United Kingdom, and SHMI is certainly one of them. There are reports into the various methods being commissioned in different parts of the United Kingdom, including whether SHMI is the best of the measures available. We will continue to take a close interest in those and to follow the science where it takes us.

The Member asked me for the specific figure of avoidable deaths from the audit of mortality case note reviews carried out between October last year and March this year. I do not have the exact figure with me, but I can tell him this, though, I think: a major study of all deaths in English hospitals published in 2012 found that in around 5% of deaths that took place—in hospital in England—there was a more than 50% chance that that death was avoidable from the cause to which death was ultimately attributed. It is very important that, in that study, they make the point that, although the person need not have died of that cause, maybe, some of these were very ill people and another cause would have been attributed in its place. In the Welsh second-stage reviews, health boards are reporting between 1.5% and about 2.8% of deaths regarded as being avoidable on the same basis. We can see whether the numerical figure is available, but, as a percentage, between 1.5% and 2.8% of deaths in that audit are regarded as being preventable from the cause attributed.

On the 30-day issue, it is what SHMI records, of course, namely deaths within 30 days of discharge from hospital. However, the point that I was trying to make is that in Wales, we would like to move to a position where all deaths—whether they take place in the community or in hospital; before admission or after admission; within 30 days or beyond 30 days—are subject to a stage 1 review. That is where the medical examiner service comes into play, because if we are to be able to do that, we may well need to be able to deploy the resource of that service.

Darren Millar is absolutely right when he says that mortality figures are only one indicator of the quality of care within our hospitals. Hospital-acquired infection rates certainly are another indicator of quality, and we continue to do everything that we can to draw them to the attention of staff, patients and visitors—all those who have a part to play in helping us to bear down on those things in our hospitals.

Diolch i Darren Millar am y cwestiynau hynny. Mae'n iawn i ddechrau drwy nodi bod llawer o'r trafodaethau yr ydym yn eu cael am fesur marwolaethau wedi eu sbarduno gan y pryderon yn Ymddiriedolaeth Sefydledig GIG Canolbarth Swydd Stafford. Mae pedair ffordd wahanol o fesur yn cael eu defnyddio mewn gwahanol rannau o'r GIG ledled y Deyrnas Unedig, ac mae SHMI yn sicr yn un ohonynt. Mae adroddiadau ar y gwahanol ddulliau'n cael eu comisiynu mewn gwahanol rannau o'r Deyrnas Unedig, gan gynnwys ai SHMI yw'r mesur gorau sydd ar gael. Byddwn yn parhau i gymryd diddordeb mawr yn y rhain a dilyn y wyddoniaeth i ble bynnag yr aiff â ni.

Gofynnodd yr Aelod i mi am y nifer penodol o farwolaethau y gellid eu hosgoi o'r archwiliad o adolygiadau o nodiadau achos marwolaethau a gynhaliwyd rhwng mis Hydref y llynedd a mis Mawrth eleni. Nid oes gennyf yr union ffigur, ond gallaf ddweud hyn wrtho, fodd bynnag: canfu astudiaeth bwysig o'r holl farwolaethau mewn ysbytai yn Lloegr a gyhoeddwyd yn 2012, fod mwy na 50% o siawns mewn tua 5% o'r marwolaethau a ddigwyddodd mewn ysbytai yn Lloegr fod y farwolaeth yn un y gellid bod wedi ei hosgoi o'r achos y priodolwyd y farwolaeth iddo yn y pen draw. Mae'n bwysig iawn, yn yr astudiaeth honno, gwneud y pwynt, er nad oedd angen i'r person fod wedi marw o'r achos hwnnw, efallai, fod rhai o'r rhain yn bobl sâl iawn ac y byddai rheswm arall wedi ei briodoli yn ei le. Yn yr adolygiadau ail gam yng Nghymru, mae byrddau iechyd yn adrodd bod rhwng 1.5% a thua 2.8% o farwolaethau yn rhai yr ystyrir y gellid eu hosgoi ar yr un sail. Gallwn weld a yw'r ffigur rhifiadol ar gael, ond, fel canran, mae rhwng 1.5% a 2.8% o farwolaethau yn yr archwiliad yn cael eu hystyried yn rhai y gellid bod wedi eu hatal ar sail yr achos a briodolwyd.

O ran y mater 30 diwrnod, dyna'r hyn y mae SHMI yn ei gofnodi, wrth gwrs, sef marwolaethau o fewn 30 diwrnod ar ôl rhyddhau cleifion o'r ysbyty. Fodd bynnag, y pwynt yr oeddwn yn ceisio ei wneud yw y byddem yng Nghymru yn hoffi bod mewn sefyllfa lle y mae'r holl farwolaethau—p'un a ydynt yn digwydd yn y gymuned neu yn yr ysbyty; cyn eu derbyn neu ar ôl eu derbyn i'r ysbyty; o fewn 30 diwrnod, neu y tu hwnt i 30 diwrnod—yn destun adolygiad cam 1. Dyna swyddogaeth gwasanaeth yr archwilwyr meddygol, oherwydd os ydym am allu gwneud hynny, efallai y bydd angen inni ddefnyddio adnoddau'r gwasanaeth hwnnw.

Mae Darren Millar yn llygad ei le pan ddywed mai un dangosydd yn unig yw ffigurau marwolaethau o ansawdd y gofal yn ein hysbytai. Mae cyfraddau heintiau a gafwyd yn yr ysbyty yn sicr yn ddangosydd arall o ansawdd, ac rydym yn parhau i wneud popeth y gallwn i dynnu sylw'r staff, y cleifion a'r ymwelwyr atynt—yr holl bobl sydd â rhan i'w chwarae i'n helpu i fynd i'r afael a'r pethau hynny yn ein hysbytai.

His final point, I think, is slightly more complex. He points to the rise in patient safety incidents notified, the rise in complaints, and the rise in staff reporting concerns. Our ambition in Wales is to have a culture in which if you see it and you think that it needs attention, you draw attention to it. If we regard complaints and raising concerns as a sign of a bad thing, we discourage people from doing the thing that we say we really want them to do. I think that it is just a bit more complex than saying that just because complaints are on the rise, it is a bad thing. It may be that we are succeeding in persuading people that if they see things that are a cause of concern, they tell us about them, and that staff do the same. If we want an open culture, that is something that we should be prepared to welcome.

Mae ei bwynt olaf, rwyf yn meddwl, ychydig yn fwy cymhleth. Mae'n tynnu sylw at y cynnydd mewn digwyddiadau diogelwch cleifion a nodwyd, y cynnydd yn nifer y cwynion, a'r cynnydd yn nifer yr achosion a adroddir gan staff. Ein huchelgais yng Nghymru yw cael diwylliant lle y tynnir sylw at rywbeth os gwelir ef yn digwydd ac os credir bod angen rhoi sylw iddo. Os ystyriwn fod cwynion a chodi pryderon yn arwydd o rywbeth gwael, rydym yn annog pobl i beidio â gwneud y peth yr ydym yn dweud ein bod am iddynt ei wneud. Credaf ei bod ychydig yn fwy cymhleth na dweud bod y ffaith bod cwynion ar gynnydd ynddo i hun yn beth drwg. Efallai ein bod yn llwyddo i ddarbwylo pobl, os ydynt yn gweld pethau sy'n achosi pryder, i ddweud wrthym amdanynt, a darbwyllo'r staff i wneud yr un peth. Os ydym am gael diwylliant agored, mae hynny'n rhywbeth y dylem fod yn barod i'w groesawu.

14:57

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

Diolch, Weinidog, am y diweddariad hwn heddiw. Rwy'n croesawu'r camau i dynhau'r adolygiadau o farwolaethau, fel rydych wedi'u hamlinellu, a hefyd y camau i asesu'r cyfraddau marwoldeb, i gysoni'r gyfundrefn sy'n asesu hyn, a hefyd i gynyddu tryloywder ac annibyniaeth y gyfundrefn. Rwy'n croesawu'n fawr eich bod yn bwriadu edrych ar sut y byddwch yn gwella tryloywder y cyfraddau hyn ac edrych yn benodol, o bosibl, ar gyhoeddi'r cyfraddau ar y safle we, Fy Ngwasanaeth Iechyd Lleol, gan wneud hynny ar lefel bob ysbyty, neu hyd yn oed, o bosibl, ar lefel wardiau rhai o'r ysbytai mawr. Gellid edrych ar wneud hynny. Rwyf hefyd yn edrych ymlaen at yr hyn a ddaeth tuag at ddiwedd eich datganiad heddiw, sef y gyfundrefn newydd a fydd o bosibl yn gallu rhoi'r annibyniaeth i asesu'r adolygiadau o farwolaethau drwy'r arolygwyr meddygol—y 'medical examiners' hyn. Mae hynny'n ddatblygiad gyda photensial sylweddol, byddwn i'n dweud.

Mae dau gwestiwn gennyf, felly. Mae'r cwestiwn cyntaf am ysbyty Glangwili. Roedd adroddiad Palmer yn nodi bod angen ymchwil pellach ar y lefel uwch o gyfraddau marwoldeb yng Nglangwili, a hynny oherwydd bod y cyfraddau yn yr ysbyty hwnnw yn anesboniadwy o'r gwaith yr oedd ef wedi medru ei gwblhau. Cyfeiriasoch yn eich datganiad at y ffaith nad oes angen gwaith ymchwil pellach ar ysbytai Merthyr, Llantrisant ac Ysbyty Maelor Wrecsam, felly y cwestiwn i chi yw pa ddiweddariad y gallwch chi ei roi i ni am y gwaith a ofynnwyd o'r bwrdd iechyd, iddo edrych ar ymchwiliad pellach o gyfraddau marwoldeb yng Nglangwili. Pryd y byddwch chi mewn sefyllfa i'n diweddarau ni fel Aelodau lleol yn y gorllewin sydd ag etholwyr sy'n cael eu gwasanaethu gan yr ysbyty penodol hwnnw, ac i roi sicrwydd i ni yng Nghymru nad oes un ysbyty yn sefyll allan oherwydd cyfradd marwolaethau anesboniadwy, fel nododd yr Athro Palmer ynghynt yn y flwyddyn? Felly, os gwnewch chi roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i ni am Langwili, buaswn i'n ddiolchgar am hynny.

Thank you for this update, Minister. I welcome the steps taken to tighten up the reviews of deaths, as you have outlined, and also the steps to assess the mortality rates, to make the assessment system consistent, and also to enhance the transparency and independence of the system. I warmly welcome the fact that you intend to look at how you will improve the transparency of these rates and look specifically at publishing the rates on the My Local Health Service website, and to do that on a hospital level, or even potentially on a ward level for some of the larger hospitals. That could certainly be considered. I also look forward to what was announced towards the end of your statement today, namely the new regime that can provide independence to the assessment of mortality rate reviews through the new medical examiners. That is a development that has significant potential, in my opinion.

I have two questions, therefore. First of all, on Glangwili hospital, the Palmer report noted that further research was required on the high level of mortality rates at Glangwili, because the rates at that particular hospital were unexplained from the work that he had been able to carry out. You referred in your statement to the fact that there is no need for further research into Merthyr, Llantrisant and Wrexham Maelor hospitals, so the question for you is what update can you give us on the work that has been required of the local health board to undertake a further review of mortality rates at Glangwili. When will you be in a position to provide an update for us as local Members in west Wales who have constituents who are served by that particular hospital, and to provide assurances in Wales that there is not a single hospital that stands out with unexplained mortality rates, as noted by Professor Palmer earlier this year? Therefore, I would be grateful if you could give us an update on Glangwili hospital.

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Yn ail ac yn olaf, Weinidog, hoffwn eich atgoffa bod enghreifftiau anffodus yn yr NHS lle mae nodiadau cleifion yn cael eu newid yn 'retrospective' gan staff. Mae achosion llys, yn dal i fynd ymlaen o bosibl ar hyn o bryd, oherwydd bod hynny wedi digwydd. Nid wyf yn disgwyl ichi ddweud dim byd am achosion unigol, ond pa gamau yr ydych chi'n eu cymryd i roi'r hyder a'r hyfforddiant i staff, i ddechrau, nad yw hyn yn dderbyniol o gwbl yn y gyfundrefn sydd ohoni, ac i gymryd y camau pellach sydd wedi'u nodi mewn nifer o gylchoedd i gryfhau'r gyfraith er mwyn gwneud newidiadau 'retrospective' o'r math hwn yn anghyfreithlon?

Secondly and finally, Minister, I just wish to remind you again that there are some unfortunate cases in the NHS where patient notes are amended retrospectively by staff. There are court cases, which are still ongoing at present possibly, on that particular issue. I do not expect you to comment on individual cases, but what steps are you taking in order to give staff the confidence and the training, to start, to ensure that they realise that this is not acceptable in the system as it currently stands, and indeed to take those further steps that have been noted in a number of different places that we need to strengthen the law in making retrospective changes of this kind an illegal act?

15:01

## Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Rwy'n diolch i Elin Jones am y sylwadau hynny. Rwy'n cytuno, wrth gwrs, fod annibyniaeth yn y system yn bwysig, a'i bod yn bwysig cael system lle mae aelodau'r cyhoedd yn gallu deall beth mae'r gwaith sy'n mynd ymlaen yn y byrddau iechyd yn ei ddangos am safonau gofal yn ein hysbytai.

Rwyf am droi at y ddau gwestiwn, ac at yr un am Langwili i ddechrau.

The Member was absolutely right in saying that Professor Palmer had said in his report that, while he was able to provide an assurance in relation to five of the six hospitals in Wales that had a risk adjusted mortality index level above 100, that those figures were explainable and were not a reflection of standards of care. He was not able to give that assurance at that point in relation to Glangwili hospital because there was some further work that he required the health board to do. That work has been going on over the summer. The health board has got to the point where it believes that it has completed work that it can do. I have said that, before it goes any further, I want that work to be reported to Professor Palmer and I want him to take a view of what the board has done. If he is still not satisfied, and if he still believes that there is further work that it needs to do, it will have to do that. It has not reached that point at all, because it has only very recently provided to him the results of the work that it has undertaken. He is now in the process of considering it. As soon as we have the results of that—and I appreciate very much the points that Elin Jones made about the need to get that information to local Members so that they can provide necessary assurances to their populations—we will make sure that that is done.

In relation to her second question, it is a continuous matter of making sure that we reinforce with that very large number of people who work in the NHS that there are codes of conduct—things that are acceptable and things that are not acceptable. We are working hard with some of the royal colleges to make sure that the codes of conduct to which people who are employed sign up as part of their employment are reinforced with them so that there is no ambiguity about what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. Whether the law has a part to play in all of this beyond the capacity that the law already has to intervene when criminal offences have occurred is something that we still need to explore further.

I thank Elin Jones for those comments. I agree, of course, that it is important to have independence in the system and to have a system where members of the public can understand what exactly the work in the health boards shows about the standards of care in our hospitals.

I will now turn to the two questions, and to the one on Glangwili hospital first.

Roedd yr Aelod yn llygad ei lle wrth ddweud bod yr Athro Palmer wedi dweud yn ei adroddiad, er ei fod yn gallu darparu sicrwydd o ran pump o'r chwe ysbyty yng Nghymru a oedd â lefel Mynegai Marwolaethau wedi'i Addasu yn ôl Risg uwch na 100, ei bod yn bosibl egluro'r ffigurau hyn ac nad oeddynt yn adlewyrchu safonau gofal. Nid oedd yn gallu rhoi sicrwydd ar y pwynt hwnnw mewn perthynas ag Ysbyty Glangwili gan fod rhywfaint yn rhagor o waith yr oedd angen i'r bwrdd iechyd ei wneud. Mae'r gwaith hwnnw wedi bod yn digwydd dros yr haf. Mae'r bwrdd iechyd wedi cyrraedd pwynt lle mae'n credu ei fod wedi cwblhau'r gwaith y gall ei wneud. Rwyf wedi dweud, cyn iddo fynd ymhellach, fy mod am i'r gwaith hwnnw gael ei adrodd i'r Athro Palmer ac rwyf am iddo edrych ar yr hyn y mae'r bwrdd wedi ei wneud. Os na fydd yn fodlon wedi i hynny ddigwydd, ac os yw'n dal i gredu bod mwy o waith y mae angen i'r Bwrdd ei wneud, bydd yn rhaid iddo wneud hynny. Nid yw wedi cyrraedd y pwynt hwnnw o gwbl, oherwydd mai dim ond yn ddiweddar iawn y darparwyd iddo ganlyniadau'r gwaith y mae'r Bwrdd wedi'i wneud. Mae'r Athro bellach wrthi'n eu hystyried. Cyn gynted ag y cawn ganlyniadau hynny—ac rwyf yn derbyn yn fawr iawn y pwyntiau a wnaeth Elin Jones am yr angen i roi'r wybodaeth i'r Aelodau lleol er mwyn iddynt allu rhoi'r sicrwydd angenrheidiol i'w poblogaethau—byddwn yn gwneud yn siŵr bod hynny'n digwydd.

Ynglŷn â'i hail gwestiwn, mae'n fater parhaus o sicrhau ein bod yn ailbwysleisio wrth y nifer fawr iawn o bobl sy'n gweithio yn y GIG fod codau ymddygiad—pethau sy'n dderbyniol a'r pethau nad ydynt yn dderbyniol. Rydym yn gweithio'n galed gyda rhai o'r colegau brenhinol i wneud yn siŵr bod y codau ymddygiad y mae pobl sy'n cael eu cyflogi'n ymrwymo iddynt fel rhan o'u cyflogaeth yn cael eu pwysleisio o'r newydd fel nad oes dim amwysedd ynghylch yr hyn sy'n dderbyniol a'r hyn nad yw'n dderbyniol. A oes gan y gyfraith ran i'w chwarae yn hyn oll y tu hwnt i'r gallu sydd gan y gyfraith eisoes i ymyrryd pan fo troseddau'n digwydd? Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen inni ymchwilio ymhellach iddo.

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I thank the Minister for his statement this afternoon. When previously debating issues of how best we can use data to give us a true understanding of what is going on in hospitals, the test that I have always set is that the system needs to be clearly understood by those who are operating it, and by patients; it needs to be administered in a transparent way; its findings need to be publicly available; and any lessons learned from that review need to be publicly available. To be fair to the Government, the statement that we have today is leading us to a system that, I think, fulfils those tests.

May I congratulate Dr Shannon on his appointment? Cwm Taf has a very strong record with regard to reviews of this nature, as highlighted by the Palmer report. So, we have someone who certainly knows how to implement a system at health board level, and I am sure and confident that he will be able to spread that good practice across NHS Wales and I wish him well in doing so. However, one thing that Palmer did recognise about the Cwm Taf system, which he held up as an example of good practice, was that sometimes that system had capacity issues. Could the Minister outline how he feels capacity issues could be avoided and whether he sees the involvement of the medical examiner role in this process as a way of ensuring that reviews are carried out in a timely fashion and backlogs are avoided? Palmer also noted that the process can be very resource intensive. Could the Minister give us an indication of how any issues around resources are going to be dealt with?

I am very glad to see the Minister's desire to have these data published on public websites. One of the limitations of RAMI was that it looked at a whole-hospital level, which meant that RAMI data could hide underperformance in one particular sector while, perhaps, denigrating services within that hospital that were very good indeed. Can the Minister explain to us how these data will be published? Will it be on a health board basis or a hospital basis, and, indeed, will they look at levels at a group speciality level so that the bad does not bring down the good and the good does not hide the bad?

Again, what would be crucial to making this a success is the level of clinical engagement, which is something that has been problematic in the past and acknowledged by Palmer. Could the Minister give us an indication of how he is going to address issues around clinical engagement? That leads me to my point with regard to medical records and their accuracy. Now, altering them after the fact is simply wrong, and I am sure that that is not a widespread practice within the NHS. However, what can be widespread is inaccurate medical recording that lacks depth to give medical records the completeness needed for them to be useful tools during this process. What training will be given to staff at all levels to ensure that medical record-keeping is as accurate as it can be and provides the depth that is needed if these reviews are to be of any use to us? With that, Deputy Presiding Officer, I conclude.

Diolch i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad y prynhawn yma. Wrth drafod materion yn y gorffennol ynglŷn â'r ffordd orau o ddefnyddio data i roi dealltwriaeth wirioneddol inni o'r hyn sy'n digwydd mewn ysbytai, y prawf yr wyf wedi ei osod bob amser yw bod angen i'r sawl sy'n gweithredu'r system, a'r cleifion, ddeall y system yn iawn; mae angen ei gweinyddu mewn ffordd dryloyw; mae angen i'r canfyddiadau fod ar gael i'r cyhoedd; ac mae angen i unrhyw wersi a ddysgir o'r adolygiad hwnnw fod ar gael i'r cyhoedd. A bod yn deg â'r Llywodraeth, mae'r datganiad sydd gennym heddiw'n ein harwain at system sydd, yn fy marn i, yn bodloni'r profion hynny.

A gaf fi longyfarch Dr Shannon ar ei benodiad? Mae gan Gwm Taf record gref iawn o ran adolygiadau o'r math hwn, fel y dangoswyd yn adroddiad Palmer. Felly, mae gennym rywun sydd yn sicr yn gwybod sut i weithredu system ar lefel bwrdd iechyd, ac rwyf yn sicr ac yn ffyddiog y bydd yn gallu lledaenu'r arfer da hwnnw ledled GIG Cymru a dymunaf yn dda iddo yn hynny o beth. Fodd bynnag, un peth y mae Palmer yn ei gydnabod am system Cwm Taf, ac a nododd fel enghraifft o arfer da, yw bod gan y system weithiau broblemau o ran capasiti. A wnaiff y Gweinidog amlinellu sut y mae'n teimlo y gellid osgoi problemau capasiti ac a yw'n ystyried bod swyddogaeth yr archwilydd meddygol yn y broses hon yn ffordd o sicrhau bod adolygiadau yn cael eu cynnal mewn modd amserol ac ôl-groniadau'n cael eu hosgoi? Nododd Palmer hefyd y gall y broses alw am adnoddau hynod ddwys. A allai'r Gweinidog roi awgrym inni o sut y caiff unrhyw broblemau ynghylch adnoddau eu trin?

Rwyf yn falch iawn o weld dymuniad y Gweinidog i gyhoeddi'r data hyn ar wefannau cyhoeddus. Un o gyfyngiadau RAMI oedd ei fod yn edrych ar lefel ysbyty-gyfan, ac roedd hyn yn golygu y gallai data RAMI guddio tanberfformiad mewn un sector penodol ac, efallai, bardduo gwasanaethau yn yr ysbyty hwnnw a oedd mewn gwirionedd yn dda iawn. A all y Gweinidog esbonio inni sut y bydd y data hyn yn cael eu cyhoeddi? A fydd ar sail bwrdd iechyd neu ar sail ysbyty, ac, yn wir, a fyddant yn edrych ar lefelau ar lefel arbenigedd grŵp fel nad yw'r drwg yn gostwng safon y da ac fel nad yw'r da'n cuddio'r drwg?

Unwaith eto, yr hyn a fyddai'n allweddol er mwyn gwneud hyn yn llwyddiant yw lefel yr ymgysylltiad clinigol, sy'n rhywbeth sydd wedi peri problemau yn y gorffennol ac sydd wedi ei gydnabod gan Palmer. A wnaiff y Gweinidog roi awgrym inni o sut y mae'n bwriadu mynd i'r afael â materion sy'n ymwneud ag ymgysylltiad clinigol? Mae hynny'n dod â fi at fy mhwynt ynglŷn â chofnodion meddygol a'u cywirdeb. Mae eu newid yn ddiweddarach yn gwbl anghywir, ac rwyf yn siŵr nad yw hyn yn arfer cyffredin yn y GIG. Fodd bynnag, yr hyn a all fod yn gyffredin yw cofnodi meddygol anghywir nad yw'n ddigon trylwyr i sicrhau bod y cofnodion meddygol yn ddigon cyflawn er mwyn iddynt fod yn offerynnau defnyddiol yn ystod y broses hon. Pa hyfforddiant a fydd yn cael ei roi i staff ar bob lefel i sicrhau bod cofnodion meddygol yn cael eu cadw mor gywir â phosibl a'u bod yn darparu'r dyfnder sydd ei angen os yw'r adolygiadau hyn yn mynd i fod o unrhyw ddefnydd inni? Gyda hynny, Ddirprwy Lywydd, rwyf am ddirwyn i ben.

## Mark Drakeford [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I thank Kirsty Williams for that very interesting set of questions. I thank her as well for her kind remarks about Dr Shannon. I went to meet him last week, in advance of today's statement, to hear from him directly about the system that they run in Cwm Taf. It was he who said to me that in the two-stage process that they run there, which Palmer commended, 20% of cases that they review at stage 1 are felt to be of concern to move to stage 2, and it is 1.5%, in their health board, of those stage 2 cases that they see as having some avoidable mortality. He will bring to the work that he does a great deal of respect from the wider clinical community for the expertise that he already has in the system. He told me that, having put a lot of effort into the backlog, the Cwm Taf system is now in balance. The capacity issue is such that they are able to deal with the volume of work that they see day by day, but if we are to do what we would like to do and move to a case note review system for all deaths in Wales, then the role of the medical examiner at stage 1 is very important for us to play into that possibility.

He will be leading that discussion through the mortality taskforce that we have established. In its meeting in October, it will be discussing some of the issues that Kirsty Williams raised, as to how we can report mortality case note review data in a way that is both clear and intelligible to the lay reader. How can we do it in a way that avoids the pitfalls of the very blunt instrument that RAMI turned out to be? As to answers to some of her questions about whether it is better to report on a whole health board basis, on a single hospital basis or even, as Elin Jones suggested, sometimes on an individual ward basis, the taskforce will discuss that as part of the new reporting arrangements.

Clinical engagement is a theme that comes through the Palmer review. Dr Shannon said to me that the best way of resolving clinical engagement and making sure that we make progress in the accuracy of medical records is to draw people directly in to the multidisciplinary consideration of individual cases at the stage 2 part of the process. People are sometimes a bit reluctant to commit to the time and the effort, but when you get them in the room and you sit them down, and they see the value of what they do, you change people's minds. They see, as a result of carrying out the reviews, how reliant they are on the clarity and accuracy of the recording that went on earlier in the process, and it makes a difference to their own practice in turn.

Diolch i Kirsty Williams am y gyfres ddiddorol iawn honno o gwestiynau. Diolch iddi hefyd am ei sylwadau caredig am Dr Shannon. Cyfarfûm ag ef yr wythnos diwethaf, cyn y datganiad heddiw, i glywed yn uniongyrchol ganddo am y system sydd ar waith yng Nghwm Taf. Ef a ddywedodd wrthyf, yn y broses dau gam y maent yn ei gweithredu yno, yr oedd Palmer yn ei chanmol, yr ystyrir bod 20% o'r achosion a adolygir yng nghanam 1 yn peri digon o bryder i symud i gam 2, ac 1.5% o'r achosion cam 2 hynny, yn eu bwrdd iechyd hwy, y maent yn eu hystyried yn rhai lle gellid bod wedi osgoi marwolaeth. Bydd yn dod â llawer iawn o barch o blith y gymuned glinigol ehangach i'r gwaith y mae'n ei wneud oherwydd yr arbenigedd sydd ganddo eisoes yn y system. Dywedodd wrthyf fod system Cwm Taf, ar ôl gwneud ymdrech fawr i ymdrin â'r ôl-groniadau, bellach yn cadw'r ddysgl yn wastad. Mae'r capasiti yno'n golygu eu bod yn gallu ymdrin â swm y gwaith y maent yn ei weld o ddydd i ddydd, ond os ydym am wneud yr hyn y byddem yn hoffi ei wneud a symud tuag at system adolygu nodiadau achos ar gyfer yr holl farwolaethau yng Nghymru, yna mae swyddogaeth yr archwilydd meddygol yng nghanam 1 yn bwysig iawn inni o ran ystyried y posibilrwydd hwnnw.

Bydd yn arwain y drafodaeth honno drwy'r tasglu marwolaethau yr ydym wedi'i sefydlu. Yn ei gyfarfod ym mis Hydref, bydd yn trafod rhai o'r materion a godwyd gan Kirsty Williams, ynglŷn â sut y gallwn adrodd am ddata adolygiadau nodiadau achos marwolaethau mewn ffordd sy'n glir ac yn ddealladwy i'r darlennydd lleyg. Sut y gallwn wneud hynny mewn ffordd sy'n osgoi gwendidau'r offeryn heb awch a gawsom yn RAMI? O ran atebion i rai o'i chwestiynau ynghylch a yw'n well adrodd ar sail y bwrdd iechyd cyfan, ar sail ysbyty unigol neu hyd yn oed, fel yr awgrymodd Elin Jones, weithiau ar sail wardiau unigol, bydd y tasglu'n trafod hynny fel rhan o'r trefniadau adrodd newydd.

Mae ymgysylltiad clinigol yn thema sy'n dod i'r amlwg yn adolygiad Palmer. Dywedodd Dr Shannon wrthyf mai'r ffordd orau o ymdrin ag ymgysylltiad clinigol a gwneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud cynnydd o ran cywirdeb cofnodion meddygol yw tynnu pobl yn uniongyrchol i mewn i ystyried achosion unigol mewn modd amlddisgyblaethol yn ystod cam 2 o'r broses. Mae pobl weithiau ychydig yn amharod i roi amser ac ymdrech i hyn, ond pan fyddant yn yr ystafell ac yn eistedd i lawr, a phan welant werth yr hyn y maent yn ei wneud, gallwch newid meddyliau pobl. Maent yn gweld, yn sgil cynnal yr adolygiadau, pa mor ddibynnol y maent ar eglurder a chywirdeb y cofnodi sy'n digwydd yn gynharach yn y broses, ac mae'n gwneud gwahaniaeth i'w harferion hwythau o ganlyniad.

## Jenny Rathbone [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

I very much welcome the forensic approach that the Minister has outlined for the analysis of deaths in hospitals. I think that it is particularly important as it certainly puts to bed some of the more mischievous allegations that have been bandied around about the quality of care in our NHS hospitals, by people including the Prime Minister. It is very welcome that we have this forensic analysis, particularly as it is grossly unfair to those who provided the very best care to patients whose death was both expected and unavoidable.

Croesawaf yn fawr yr ymagwedd ffrensig y mae'r Gweinidog wedi ei hamlinellu ar gyfer dadansoddi marwolaethau mewn ysbytai. Credaf ei bod yn arbennig o bwysig gan ei bod yn sicr yn rhoi diwedd ar yr honiadau mwya'f direidus a gafwyd ynglŷn ag ansawdd y gofal yn ein hysbytai GIG, gan gynnwys gan y Prif Weinidog. Rwyf yn croesawu'r dadansoddiad ffrensig hwn yn fawr, yn enwedig gan ei bod yn annheg iawn ar y rhai a ddarparodd y gofal gorau posibl i gleifion yr oedd eu marwolaeth i'w disgwyl ac yn anochel.

I would like to pick up a point that was made by Darren Millar on the prevention and control of infection in hospitals. Both of us read Professor Duerden's report on Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board, and I hope that this systematic analysis of all deaths will reinforce the importance of low-tech interventions that can bring down further the already very low numbers of avoidable deaths. I note that the Palmer report already points out that patients are spending less time in hospital, so, rather than focusing merely on hospital spells of care, we should be looking at the care pathways to follow. So, I very much welcome your announcement that Dr Shannon is also going to be looking at deaths in the community. I am certainly a huge advocate of people, whose death is both expected and unavoidable, being allowed to remain in their own homes when they are about to die, rather than being bundled off to hospital. So, I particularly welcome the forensic approach that is being applied to deaths across our whole health and social care community, and I congratulate you on the work that has been done.

Hoffwn godi pwynt a wnaed gan Darren Millar ar atal a rheoli heintiau mewn ysbytai. Rydym ein dau wedi darllen adroddiad yr Athro Duerden ar Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Betsi Cadwaladr, ac rwyf yn gobeithio y bydd y dadansoddi systematig hwn ar yr holl farwolaethau'n ategu pwysigrwydd ymyriadau technoleg isel a allai ostwng eto y niferoedd o farwolaethau y gellid eu hosgoi sydd eisoes yn isel iawn. Sylwaf fod adroddiad Palmer eisoes yn nodi bod cleifion yn treulio llai o amser yn yr ysbyty, felly, yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio ar gyfnodau o ofal yn yr ysbyty yn unig, dylem fod yn edrych ar y llwybrau gofal sy'n dilyn. Felly, rwyf yn croesawu'n fawr iawn eich cyhoeddiad fod Dr Shannon hefyd yn mynd i fod yn edrych ar farwolaethau yn y gymuned. Rwyf yn sicr yn cefnogi'n fawr yr egwyddor y dylai pobl y mae eu marwolaeth i'w disgwyl ac yn anochel gael aros yn eu cartrefi eu hunain pan fyddant ar fin marw, yn hytrach na chael eu hanfon i'r ysbyty. Felly, rwyf yn croesawu'n arbennig yr ymagwedd ffrensig tuag at farwolaethau ledled ein cymuned iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, ac rwyf yn eich llongyfarch ar y gwaith sydd wedi'i wneud.

15:14

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

May I just respond to the final point that Jenny Rathbone made? One of the real difficulties with RAMI that Professor Palmer identifies is that it does not appear to respond in an informed way to the variation across Wales, between those communities where deaths often happen at home and those communities where, for cultural and historical reasons, a much higher number of people die in hospital. If you have a higher proportion of your community dying in hospital, and RAMI does not find a way of navigating that in the figures that it produces, you end up with the sort of misleading data that RAMI provides, and Palmer is very clear on that.

A gaf fi ymateb i'r pwynt olaf a wnaeth Jenny Rathbone? Un o'r anawsterau gwirioneddol gyda RAMI y mae'r Athro Palmer yn tynnu sylw ato yw ei bod yn ymddangos nad yw'n ymateb ar sail gwybodaeth i'r amrywiadau ledled Cymru, rhwng y cymunedau hynny lle mae marwolaethau'n aml yn digwydd yn y cartref ac yn y cymunedau hynny lle, am resymau diwylliannol a hanesyddol, y mae llawer mwy o bobl yn marw yn yr ysbyty. Os oes gennych gyfran uwch o'ch cymuned yn marw yn yr ysbyty, ac os nad yw RAMI yn dod o hyd i ffordd o ymdrin â hynny yn y ffigurau y mae'n eu cynhyrchu, cechw y math o ddata camarweiniol y mae RAMI yn eu darparu, ac mae Palmer yn glir iawn ynghylch hynny .

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We have, very much as our ambition here in Wales—and it is the work that Baroness Ilori Finlay has led with such distinction—a palliative care service that is every bit as good and responsive and available 24 hours of every day for people who want to die at home, as we have a service for people who die in hospices or in hospital. In parts of Wales, we do that very well. In other places, there are further developments we still need to make. As we move to a stage one review system for all deaths, that will become even more important.

Ein huchelgais yma yng Nghymru—a dyma'r gwaith y mae'r Farwnes Ilori Finlay wedi ei arwain mor rhagorol—yw gwasanaeth gofal lliniarol sydd cystal ac yr un mor ymatebol ac ar gael 24 awr y dydd bob dydd i bobl sydd am farw yn eu cartrefi, â'r gwasanaeth i bobl sy'n marw mewn hosbis neu yn yr ysbyty. Mewn rhannau o Gymru, rydym yn gwneud hynny'n dda iawn. Mewn mannau eraill, mae datblygiadau pellach y mae angen inni eu gwneud. Wrth inni symud at system adolygu cam un ar gyfer pob marwolaeth, bydd hyn yn dod yn bwysicach fyth.

15:15

### **Datganiad: Camau gan y Sector Tai i Fynd i'r Afael ag Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol a Cham-drin Domestig**

I call Lesley Griffiths.

### **Statement: Housing Sector Action Y to Tackle Anti-social Behaviour and Domestic Abuse**

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

Galwaf ar Lesley Griffiths.

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

I am committed to continuing the work of my colleague Carl Sargeant in doing more to tackle anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse in the housing-related context. The Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Bill remains a commitment for Welsh Government and will be significant in terms of preventing and tackling domestic abuse.

In March this year, my predecessor outlined the action he was taking to prevent such problems occurring and what action would be taken when they do occur, to ensure that victims receive timely and effective help. Today, I am providing an update on progress.

Anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse are unacceptable. I am pleased to note that there was a 7% decrease in anti-social behaviour incidents in England and Wales recorded by the police in 2013-14 compared with the previous year. This is encouraging. However, there is no room for complacency because these issues continue to affect the lives of too many individuals in our communities. I am pleased to see clear signs of a shift towards the needs of victims and the preventative agenda. Local authorities, police and housing associations are working together in community safety partnerships to address anti-social behaviour and there is similar partnership working to tackle domestic abuse. Of course, there is always scope to do more, and, in particular, to bring greater consistency.

I am committed to ensuring that landlords take a proactive approach in tackling both anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse. For social landlords, this means being aware of, and looking out for, the early warning signs of domestic abuse, which can sometimes be exhibited through anti-social behaviour. Social housing providers need firm and proactive policies and trained staff to deal with anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse both for staff within their organisations and for tenants.

In 2011, we consulted on more robust powers of possession in cases of anti-social behaviour to be introduced in Wales as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The Act, which is wide-ranging, enhances the tools that can be used as a remedy for anti-social behaviour. In order to ensure that the details of the Act are understood by our social landlords, we have an experienced policy officer on a two-year secondment from the south Wales police and crime commissioner's office. She will be working across the housing sector and with the Home Office on the details of the Act and its new provisions for tackling anti-social behaviour. This work is part of a programme put into place following a study commissioned by the Welsh Government into anti-social behaviour practice across Wales.

Rwyf wedi ymrwymo i barhau â gwaith fy nghydwethiwr Carl Sargeant a gwneud mwy i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig yng nghydestun tai. Mae Bil Trais ar sail Rhywedd Cam-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol (Cymru) yn parhau i fod yn ymrwymiad i Lywodraeth Cymru, a bydd yn arwyddocaol o ran atal a mynd i'r afael â cham-drin domestig.

Ym mis Mawrth eleni, amlinellodd fy rhagflaenydd y camau yr oedd yn eu cymryd i atal problemau o'r fath rhag digwydd a pha gamau a fyddai'n cael eu cymryd pan fyddant yn digwydd, er mwyn sicrhau bod dioddefwyr yn derbyn cymorth amserol ac effeithiol. Heddiw, rwyf yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynnydd.

Mae ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig yn annerbyniol. Rwyf yn falch o nodi y bu 7% o ostyngiad mewn achosion o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yng Nghymru a Lloegr a gofnodwyd gan yr heddlu yn 2013-14 o gymharu â'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Mae hyn yn galonogol. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylem fod yn hunanfodlon oherwydd mae'r materion hyn yn parhau i effeithio ar fywydau gormod o unigolion yn ein cymunedau. Rwyf yn falch o weld arwyddion clir o symud tuag at anghenion dioddefwyr a'r agenda atal. Mae awdurdodau lleol, yr heddlu a chymdeithasau tai yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd mewn partneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ac mae gwaith partneriaeth tebyg i fynd i'r afael â cham-drin domestig. Wrth gwrs, mae lle bob amser i wneud mwy, ac, yn arbennig, i sicrhau mwy o gysondeb.

Rwyf wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod landlordiaid yn mynd ati mewn modd rhagweithiol i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig. O ran landlordiaid cymdeithasol, mae hyn yn golygu bod yn ymwybodol o arwyddion cynnar cam-drin domestig a chwilio amdanynt, arwyddion sy'n dod i'r amlwg weithiau drwy ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae angen polisïau cadarn a rhagweithiol ar ddarparwyr tai cymdeithasol a staff sydd wedi'u hyfforddi i ymdrin ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig, i staff yn eu sefydliadau ac i'r tenantiaid.

Yn 2011, buom yn ymgynghori ar gyflwyno pwerau meddiannu cryfach mewn achosion o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yng Nghymru fel rhan o Ddeddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlismaona 2014. Mae'r Ddeddf, sy'n eang ei chwmpas, yn gwella'r offerynnau y gellir eu defnyddio i ymdrin ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Er mwyn sicrhau bod landlordiaid cymdeithasol yn deall manylion y Ddeddf, mae gennym swyddog polisi profiadol ar secondiad dwy flynedd o swyddfa Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu De Cymru. Bydd yn gweithio ledled y sector tai a chyda'r Swyddfa Gartref ar fanylion y Ddeddf a'i darpariaethau newydd ar gyfer mynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae'r gwaith hwn yn rhan o raglen a sefydlwyd yn dilyn astudiaeth a gomisiynwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru o arferion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ledled Cymru.

Of course, prevention is always preferable and it is the core of our approach. A more proactive approach by social landlords will assist in this area. However, there are occasions where eviction is the only outcome. The provisions in Part 5 of the Act aim to speed up the eviction of anti-social tenants with secure or assured tenancies. Sections 94 to 97 introduce new absolute grounds for possession for anti-social behaviour. The court must make an order for possession if it is satisfied any of the specified conditions are met. The first condition relates to the tenant, or a person residing in or visiting the dwelling house, being convicted of a serious offence while in the locality of the house, or against someone connected with the area in which the house is located. In order to help professionals to understand the new powers, the Home Office published statutory guidance in July. This has been brought to the attention of our housing organisations.

All of these actions will ensure that professionals have effective powers that are quick, practical and easy to use, providing better protection for victims and communities and a real deterrent to perpetrators. Officials will now work together in taking forward the Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Bill and the supporting work, such as the national training framework and 'Ask and Act'.

As mentioned earlier, Carl Sargeant commissioned research in relation to anti-social behaviour policy and practice. The findings were published in February this year to coincide with a national conference that we held to drive further improvements. The research reviewed the practices of social landlords and the effectiveness of Welsh Government policy in supporting this. The study also sought to identify effective approaches and best practice among social landlords and the means of improving practice and policies throughout the sector.

The report makes a number of recommendations. The headline actions are ensuring that social landlords' anti-social behaviour policies and procedures focus on prevention, early intervention and multi-agency and partnership working. Also included is information sharing and adopting a twin-track approach, which uses enforcement action alongside the provision of support for perpetrators. I consider it extremely important that all social landlords read and take action on the findings of the study, as there were many actions for them to fulfil. I will be monitoring this.

The Welsh Government will develop, in conjunction with the housing sector, a new framework for tackling anti-social behaviour. This will be based on best practice and will take a victim-centred approach, using risk assessments as appropriate and ensuring that the new powers in the Act are properly used to improve the way that organisations respond to anti-social behaviour and act to prevent it from occurring. Our hate crime toolkit for social landlords has also been updated and is due to go on our website in the autumn.

Wrth gwrs, mae bob amser yn well atal y broblem ac mae hynny'n ganolog i'n hymagwedd. Bydd ymagwedd fwy rhagweithiol gan landlordiaid cymdeithasol o gymorth yn y maes hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae adegau pan nad oes dewis arall ond troi allan. Nod y darpariaethau yn Rhan 5 o'r Ddeddf yw cyflymu'r broses o droi allan tenantiaid gwrthgymdeithasol â thenantiaethau diogel neu sicr. Mae adrannau 94–97 yn cyflwyno rhesymau absoliwt newydd dros feddiannu oherwydd ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae'n rhaid i'r llys wneud gorchymyn meddiant os bydd yn fodlon bod unrhyw un o'r amodau penodedig wedi ei fodloni. Mae'r amod cyntaf yn ymwneud â chael y tenant, neu berson sy'n byw yn yr annedd neu'n ymweld ag ef, yn euog o drosedd ddifrifol yng nghyffiniau'r tŷ, neu yn erbyn rhywun sy'n gysylltiedig â'r ardal lle mae'r tŷ wedi ei leoli. Er mwyn helpu gweithwyr proffesiynol i ddeall y pwerau newydd, cyhoeddodd y Swyddfa Gartref ganllawiau statudol ym mis Gorffennaf. Mae hyn wedi ei ddwyn i sylw ein sefydliadau tai.

Bydd pob un o'r camau hyn yn sicrhau bod gweithwyr proffesiynol yn cael pwerau effeithiol sy'n gyflym, yn ymarferol ac yn hawdd eu defnyddio, a fydd yn darparu gwell amddiffyniad i ddiodefwyr a chymunedau a mesurau ataliol gwirioneddol yn erbyn tramgwyddwyr. Bydd swyddogion yn awr yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i fwrw ymlaen â Bil Trais ar sail Rhywedd, Cam-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol (Cymru) a'r gwaith ategol, megis y fframwaith hyfforddi cenedlaethol a 'Gofyn a Gweithredu'.

Fel y soniwyd yn gynharach, comisynnodd Carl Sargeant ymchwil mewn perthynas â pholis ac arfer ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Cafodd y canfyddiadau eu cyhoeddi ym mis Chwefror eleni i gyd-fynd â chynhadledd genedlaethol a gynhaliwyd gennym i ysgogi gwelliannau pellach. Bu'r ymchwil yn adolygu arferion landlordiaid cymdeithasol ac effeithiolrwydd polisi Llywodraeth Cymru i gefnogi hyn. Roedd yr astudiaeth hefyd yn ceisio nodi dulliau effeithiol ac arfer gorau ymhlith landlordiaid cymdeithasol a ffyrdd o wella arfer a pholisiau ledled y sector.

Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi nifer o argymhellion. Y prif gamau gweithredu yw sicrhau bod polisïau a gweithdrefnau ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol landlordiaid cymdeithasol yn canolbwyntio ar atal, ymyrraeth gynnar a gwaith amlasiantaeth a gweithio mewn partneriaeth. Hefyd, mae'n cynnwys rhannu gwybodaeth a mabwysiadu ymagwedd ddeublyg, sy'n defnyddio camau gorfodi ochr yn ochr â darparu cymorth i dramgwyddwyr. Rwyf o'r farn ei bod yn hynod bwysig bod pob landlord cymdeithasol yn darllen ac yn gweithredu yn sgil canfyddiadau'r astudiaeth, gan fod nifer o gamau gweithredu iddynt eu cyflawni. Byddaf yn monitro hyn.

Bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn datblygu, ar y cyd â'r sector tai, fframwaith newydd ar gyfer mynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Bydd hyn yn seiliedig ar arfer gorau a bydd yn defnyddio ymagwedd sy'n canolbwyntio ar y diodefwyr, gan ddefnyddio asesiadau risg fel y bo'n briodol a sicrhau bod y pwerau newydd yn y Ddeddf yn cael eu defnyddio'n gywir i wella'r ffordd y mae sefydliadau'n ymateb i ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ac yn gweithredu i'w atal rhag digwydd. Mae ein pecyn cymorth troseddau casineb i landlordiaid cymdeithasol hefyd wedi ei ddiweddarau a disgwylir iddo fod ar ein gwefan yn yr hydref.

Next year, the renting homes Bill will be introduced at the Assembly. As well as establishing simpler, fairer and more effective arrangements for renting a home, this too will contribute to tackling anti-social behaviour and domestic violence. The Bill will propose the inclusion of a statutory prohibited-conduct term in every rental contract. This will enable all landlords in the social and private sectors to tackle anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse more effectively.

The Bill will also enable perpetrators of domestic abuse to be evicted without having to end the tenancy of the victim. This proposal has been welcomed by the police and those working with the victims of abuse, with responses to the renting homes White Paper consultation carried out last year showing overwhelming support for the proposals.

The new legislation that has been introduced in our Housing (Wales) Bill will also contribute to educating landlords and agents in the private sector about anti-social behaviour issues and how to deal with tenants who exhibit such behaviour.

It is vital that we do all that we can to help people who suffer from anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse. I am determined that the housing sector will play its part to the full.

Y flwyddyn nesaf, bydd y Bil rhentu cartrefi'n cael ei gyflwyno yn y Cynulliad. Yn ogystal â sefydlu trefniadau symlach, tecach a mwy effeithiol ar gyfer rhentu cartrefi, bydd hyn hefyd yn cyfrannu at fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a thrais yn y cartref. Bydd y Bil yn cynnig y dylid cynnwys telerau ymddygiad gwaharddedig ym mhob contract rhentu. Bydd hyn yn galluogi pob landlord yn y sectorau cymdeithasol a phreifat i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig yn fwy effeithiol.

Mae'r Bil hefyd yn golygu y gall y rhai sy'n cyflawni cam-drin domestig gael eu troi allan heb orfod terfynu tenantiaeth y dioddefwr. Mae'r cynnig hwn wedi ei groesawu gan yr heddlu a'r rhai sy'n gweithio gyda dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig, ac roedd yr ymatebion i ymgynghoriad y Papur Gwyn ar rentu cartrefi a gynhaliwyd y llynedd yn dangos cefnogaeth aruthrol i'r cynigion.

Bydd y ddeddfwriaeth newydd sydd wedi ei chyflwyno ym Mil Tai (Cymru) hefyd yn cyfrannu at addysgu landlordiaid ac asiantau yn y sector preifat am faterion ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a sut i ddelio â thenantiaid sy'n arfer ymddygiad o'r fath.

Mae'n hollbwysig ein bod yn gwneud popeth a allwn i helpu pobl sy'n dioddef o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig. Rwyf yn benderfynol y bydd y sector tai yn chwarae ei ran yn llawn.

15:23

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

Thank you for your statement. Clearly, we also welcome a victim-centred approach with a range of interventions, from prevention through to eviction.

You refer to a twin-track approach to perpetrators, from enforcement through to support. How are you ensuring the availability of perpetrator schemes and programmes across Wales, noting, for example, the concern expressed by Relate? In north Wales, for example, its funding was due to end in August, but its primary funders—local authorities—have failed to respond to it. That will, of course, lead to greater costs for services provided by local authorities, health boards and others further down the road.

In terms of the wider involvement of the third sector, you referred to community safety partnerships, housing associations, councils, local authorities and the police. The third sector plays a key role. What co-production, co-design and co-delivery role do you envisage the third sector playing? Where we live, for example, the former Flintshire Neighbourhood Watch Association—now Flintshire and Wrexham Watch Association—has pioneered effective mediation schemes where there have been neighbour disputes and anti-social behaviour. There has also been cross-generational working where, perhaps, older people have felt frightened of younger people. However, by bringing them together, it has created common purpose and a real community.

Diolch ichi am eich datganiad. Yn amlwg, rydym ninnau hefyd yn croesawu ymagwedd sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dioddefwr gydag ystod o ymyriadau, o atal hyd at droi allan.

Rydych yn cyfeirio at ymagwedd ddeublyg tuag at dramgwyddwyr, o orfodi hyd at roi cymorth. Sut ydych chi'n sicrhau bod cynlluniau a rhaglenni tramgwyddwyr ar gael ledled Cymru, gan nodi, er enghraifft, y pryder a fynegwyd gan Relate? Yn y gogledd, er enghraifft, roedd ei gyllid i fod i ddod i ben ym mis Awst, ond nid yw ei brif gyllidwyr—awdurdodau lleol—wedi ymateb iddo. Bydd hynny, wrth gwrs, yn arwain at fwy o gostau i wasanaethau a ddarperir gan awdurdodau lleol, byrddau iechyd ac eraill ymhellach yn y dyfodol.

O ran cyfranogiad ehangach y trydydd sector, soniasoch am bartneriaethau diogelwch cymunedol, cymdeithasau tai, cynghorau, awdurdodau lleol a'r heddlu. Mae'r trydydd sector yn chwarae rhan allweddol. Pa swyddogaeth gydgyhyrchu, cydgynllunio a chydgyflenwi ydych chi'n ei rhagweld i'r trydydd sector? Yn ein hardal ni, er enghraifft, mae Cymdeithas Gwarchod Cymdogaeth Sir y Fflint gynt—Cymdeithas Gwarchod Sir y Fflint a Wrecsam bellach—wedi arloesi â chynlluniau cyfryngu effeithiol lle bu anghydfod rhwng cymdogion ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Mae gwaith wedi ei wneud rhwng y cenedlaethau hefyd lle mae pobl hŷn, o bosibl, wedi bod ag ofn pobl iau. Fodd bynnag, drwy ddod â hwy at ei gilydd, mae nod cyffredin a chymuned go iawn wedi ei chreu.

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How would you engage with police over a situation somewhere in the whole of north Wales—I will not name anyone—where concern was raised that a neighbourhood's social tenants were being terrorised by drug dealing but the police were reluctant to act because they were after bigger fish higher up the food chain? You refer to the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 speeding up the eviction of anti-social tenants. What dialogue, if any, will you or the Welsh Government have, or, are you having, with the courts and the police to ensure that everybody is singing from the same song sheet? In the context of mortgages, for example, there is a protocol, and I wonder whether such a protocol might be beneficial here.

Finally, I will mention the issue of children and young people and ensuring a child-centred approach, where children and young people may either be victims or witnesses, having seen and experienced anti-social behaviour or violence in their own homes. In Flintshire, there is a children and young people group that used to meet on Mondays, modelled on a multi agency risk assessment conference, where all the agencies, public and third sector, come together, focused on that child-centred approach. How could we be rolling that out across Wales, in terms of experiences within the home, but more broadly also in terms of bullying in the schools or elsewhere?

15:26

## Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Thank you for those questions, Mark Isherwood. You asked several questions about what discussions I have had et cetera. You will appreciate that, in day two in the job, it is very early days. However, I want to build on the excellent work that Carl Sargeant has undertaken. Having looked at what work has been carried out in this area, in preparation for today's statement, it is clear that, over the past year, there has been a great deal of progress made.

You mention, specifically, an organisation that is concerned about its funding. I was not aware of that, but if you would like to write to me about that specific organisation, I will have a look at it for you. The third sector has a huge role to play in this multi-agency and partnership working that I refer to in the oral statement. Again, I was concerned to hear what you said about the police, and if it is a specific piece of casework that you had, I would be happy to take it up also.

On the review that my predecessor undertook, looking at the policies, you will be aware that there are many recommendations—I think that 24 recommendations came forward that we are looking at. That is something that we can take forward alongside the Act that came from the UK Government. I mentioned in my opening remarks that we have somebody seconded from the police and crime commissioner's office. So, I will be looking to her to advise me in relation to the questions that you asked about protocols.

Sut y byddech chi'n ymgysylltu â'r heddlu ynghylch sefyllfa yn rhywle yng ngogledd Cymru gyfan—nid wyf am enwi neb—lle mynegwyd pryder bod tenantiaid cymdeithasol cymdogaeth benodol yn cael eu dychryn gan ddelwyr cyffuriau ond roedd yr heddlu yn amharod i weithredu am eu bod yn awyddus i ddal pysgod mwy yn uwch yn y gadwyn fwyd? Rydych yn dweud bod Deddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlisma 2014 yn cyflymu'r broses o droi allan tenantiaid gwrthgymdeithasol. Pa ddeialog, os o gwbl, y byddwch chi neu Lywodraeth Cymru'n ei chael, neu yr ydych yn ei chael, â'r llysoedd a'r heddlu i sicrhau bod pawb yn rhannu'r un weledigaeth? Yng nghyd-destun morgeisi, er enghraifft, mae protocol. Tybed a allai protocol o'r fath fod yn fuddiol yma?

Yn olaf, rwyf am sôn am blant a phobl ifanc a sicrhau ymagwedd sy'n canolbwyntio ar y plentyn, lle gall plant a phobl ifanc naill ai fod yn ddiodefgyr neu'n dystion, ar ôl gweld a phrofi ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol neu drais yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Yn Sir y Fflint, roedd grŵp o blant a phobl ifanc yn arfer cwrdd ar ddydd Llun, grŵp a oedd wedi ei foddelu ar gynhadledd asesu risg amlasiantaeth, lle y daw'r holl asiantaethau, o'r sector cyhoeddus a'r trydydd sector, at ei gilydd, a chanolbwyntio ar yr ymagwedd honno sy'n rhoi pwyslais ar y plentyn. Sut y gallem gyflwyno hynny ledled Cymru, o safbwynt profiadau yn y cartref, ond yn fwy cyffredinol hefyd o safbwynt bwlio yn yr ysgol neu yn rhywle arall?

Diolch am y cwestiynau hynny, Mark Isherwood. Gofynasoch sawl cwestiwn ynglŷn â pha drafodaethau yr wyf wedi'u cael ac yn y blaen. Byddwch yn deall, a minnau yn y swydd ers deuddydd, mai megis dechrau yr wyf. Fodd bynnag, rwyf am adeiladu ar y gwaith rhagorol a wnaed gan Carl Sargeant. Ar ôl edrych ar y gwaith sydd wedi ei wneud yn y maes hwn, wrth baratoi ar gyfer y datganiad heddiw, mae'n amlwg bod llawer iawn o gynnydd wedi ei wneud dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

Rydych yn sôn, yn benodol, am sefydliad sy'n pryderu am ei gyllid. Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol o hynny, ond os hoffech ysgrifennu ataf ynglŷn â'r sefydliad penodol hwnnw, edrychaf ar hynny ar eich rhan. Mae gan y trydydd sector ran enfawr i'w chwarae yn y gwaith amlasiantaeth a phartneriaethol hwn yr wyf yn cyfeirio ato yn y datganiad llafar. Unwaith eto, roeddwn yn bryderus o glywed yr hyn a ddywedasoch am yr heddlu, ac os mai darn penodol o waith achos a oedd gennych dan sylw, byddwn yn fodlon ymdrin â hynny hefyd.

Ynglŷn â'r adolygiad a gynhaliwyd gan fy rhagflaenydd, o edrych ar y polisiau, byddwch yn ymwybodol bod llawer o argymhellion—credaf ein bod yn edrych ar 24 o argymhellion a gyflwynwyd. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth y gallwn fwrw ymlaen ag ef ochr yn ochr â'r Ddeddf a ddaeth gan Lywodraeth y DU. Soniais yn fy sylwadau agoriadol fod gennym rywun ar secondiad o swyddfa'r comisiynydd heddlu a throseddu. Felly, byddaf yn gofyn iddi roi cyngor imi ynglŷn â'r cwestiynau y gofynasoch am brotocolau.

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Minister, thank you for your first statement in relation to housing, and I wish you well with your new portfolio responsibilities.

You mentioned that anti-social behaviour incidents decreased by 7% last year. I am sure that we would all very much welcome that good news, but sadly, across Wales, the rates of domestic violence are increasing—there was a 5% rise in these incidents last year, according to the official statistics. I could not help but note that you did not mention that fact in your statement.

I am sure that you would agree that it is vitally important for people to feel safe in their own homes. Therefore, I welcome the action taken by the housing sector to tackle anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse. Research in my area suggests that there is a link between the two, with 40% of social housing tenants who are victims of domestic abuse having been reported for anti-social behaviour. So, an effective approach must include a strategy to tackle both of those things, because I am sure that we can see the strain there between the two. Often, the same household is involved in both behaviours.

I am pleased to hear you say that victims of anti-social behaviour and their needs will become a higher priority. With so many social tenants being victims and having complaints made against them, how will you ensure that the housing sector, in its efforts to tackle the anti-social behaviour, does not unduly punish victims of domestic abuse, because, as we would all appreciate, that would increase their vulnerability? I hope that the victims of domestic abuse will also get a higher priority. I do not know if you are aware of Bron Afon Community Housing's approach to supporting victims of domestic abuse, which helps people to access specialist services, working alongside the police.

Perhaps you would undertake to look at the Bron Afon scheme; I am sure that they would very much welcome a visit from yourself or your officials. You mentioned the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, and its potential impact across the country, especially in relation to social tenants. Have you undertaken any assessment of how many tenants may have action taken against them under this new Act? Have you undertaken an equality impact assessment to see if women are more likely to be subject to action in terms of tackling anti-social behaviour because they hold the tenancy of those properties?

You mentioned that the perpetrators of domestic violence may be subject to eviction under the new renting homes Bill that you will be bringing forward soon without the victim having to give up the tenancy. I think that we would all very much welcome that change. However, why are you confining this change to just domestic violence? Surely, you could think about extending the same protection to the innocent partners of the anti-social behaviour perpetrators. You may, Minister, be prepared to look at that.

Weinidog, diolch ichi am eich datganiad cyntaf ynglŷn â thai, a dymunaf yn dda i chi â'ch cyfrifoldebau portffolio newydd.

Soniasoch fod achosion o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol wedi gostwng 7% y llynedd. Rwyf yn siŵr y byddem i gyd yn croesawu'r newyddion da hynny, ond yn anffodus, ledled Cymru, mae cyfraddau trais yn y cartref ar gynnydd—bu 5% o gynnydd yn nifer y digwyddiadau hyn y llynedd, yn ôl yr ystadegau swyddogol. Nodais na soniasoch am y ffaith honno yn eich datganiad.

Rwyf yn siŵr y byddech yn cytuno ei bod yn hanfodol bwysig bod pobl yn teimlo'n ddiogel yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Felly, rwyf yn croesawu'r camau a gymerwyd gan y sector tai i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig. Mae ymchwil yn fy ardal i yn awgrymu bod cysylltiad rhwng y ddau, gydag adroddiadau am ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ymhlith 40% o denantiaid tai cymdeithasol sy'n dioddef o gam-drin domestig. Felly, rhaid i ymagwedd effeithiol gynnwys strategaeth i fynd i'r afael â'r ddau beth hynny, oherwydd rwyf yn siŵr y gallwn weld y tyndra yno rhwng y ddau. Yn aml, mae'r un aelwyd yn rhan o'r ddau fath o ymddygiad.

Rwyf yn falch o'ch clywed yn dweud y bydd dioddefwyr ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a'u hanghenion yn dod yn flaenoriaeth uwch. Gyda chynifer o denantiaid cymdeithasol yn ddiodefwyr, a chwynion yn cael eu gwneud yn eu herbyn, sut y byddwch yn sicrhau nad yw'r sector tai, yn ei ymdrechion i fynd i'r afael ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, yn cosbi dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig yn ormodol, oherwydd, fel y byddem i gyd yn sylweddoli, byddai hynny'n eu gadael yn fwy agored i niwed? Rwyf yn gobeithio y bydd y rhai sy'n dioddef o gam-drin domestig hefyd yn cael blaenoriaeth uwch. Nid wyf yn gwybod a wyddoch am ymagwedd Tai Cymunedol Bron Afon tuag at gefnogi dioddefwyr cam-drin domestig. Mae'n helpu pobl i gael cymorth gwasanaethau arbenigol, gan weithio ochr yn ochr â'r heddlu.

Efallai y byddwch yn ymrwymo i edrych ar gynllun Bron Afon; rwyf yn sicr y byddai'n croesawu ymweliad gennych chi neu'ch swyddogion yn fawr iawn. Soniasoch am Ddeddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlismaona 2014, a'i heffaith bosibl ledled y wlad, yn enwedig mewn perthynas â thenantiaid cymdeithasol. A ydych wedi cynnal unrhyw asesiad o nifer y tenantiaid y byddai camau'n cael eu cymryd yn eu herbyn o dan y Ddeddf newydd? A ydych wedi cynnal asesiad o'r effaith ar gydraddoldeb i weld a yw menywod yn fwy tebygol o fod yn destun camau i ymdrin ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol gan eu bod yn dal tenantiaeth yr eiddo?

Soniasoch y gallai'r rhai sy'n cyflawni trais domestig gael eu troi allan o dan y Bil rhentu cartrefi newydd y byddwch yn ei gyflwyno cyn hir, heb i'r dioddefwr orfod rhoi'r gorau i'r denantiaeth. Rwyf yn meddwl y byddai pawb ohonom yn croesawu'r newid hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, pam ydych chi'n cyfyngu'r newid hwn i drais domestig yn unig? Siawns y gallech feddwl am estyn yr un amddiffyniad i bartneriaid diniwed y rhai sy'n cyflawni ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Efallai, Weinidog, y byddech yn barod i edrych ar hynny.

On the domestic violence perpetrator programmes, I wonder if you would be prepared to tell us if you think that there are sufficient services available for those who actually want to stop committing domestic abuse across Wales.

Ynglŷn â'r rhaglenni tramgwyddwyr trais domestig, tybed a fydddech yn barod i ddweud wrthym a ydych yn credu bod digon o wasanaethau ar gael i'r rhai sy'n wirioneddol awyddus i roi'r gorau i gyflawni cam-drin domestig ledled Cymru.

15:31

## Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Jocelyn Davies, for those questions and for your kind words. Within the local government and communities department it is very good now that our officials will be working together. The community safety officials will now be working with the housing officials and I think that that will give a better link. As my colleague Leighton Andrews will take forward the Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Bill, this is something that we can look at specifically. You mentioned the 5% increase, and that, perhaps, is something that we can look at.

You mentioned the Bro Afon scheme, which I am not aware of, but I would be very happy to visit if you would like to arrange an invitation. It does not matter which portfolio you are in; examples of best practice are really important and it would be good to see if that could be rolled out further in Wales.

In relation to whether there are enough programmes for perpetrators, certainly the review that we did of services in my previous portfolio led me to believe that that was the case. With the renting homes Bill, I would be very happy to look at the people who have committed the anti-social behaviour rather than evicting the whole family; it would be the perpetrator. Alongside domestic violence, that would definitely be something that we could look at. We are hoping to introduce the Bill early next year. Clearly, there is a long way to go, but it is certainly something that we could look at.

You also asked about the assessment of tenants. I know that that is not something that I have undertaken, but I will ask my officials if that has been done. If it has not, I am very happy to undertake that and I will write to the Member specifically on that point.

Diolch i chi, Jocelyn Davies, am y cwestiynau hynny ac am eich geiriau caredig. Mae'n dda iawn y bydd ein swyddogion yn awr yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd o fewn yr adran llywodraeth leol a chymunedau. Bydd y swyddogion diogelwch cymunedol yn awr yn gweithio gyda'r swyddogion tai, a chredaf y bydd hynny'n sicrhau gwel cyswllt rhyngddynt. Bydd fy nghydweithiwr, Leighton Andrews yn bwrw ymlaen â Bil Trais ar Sail Rhywedd, Cam-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol (Cymru), ac mae hyn felly'n rhywbeth y gallwn edrych arno'n benodol. Soniasoch am y 5% o gynnydd, ac mae hynny o bosibl yn rhywbeth y gallwn edrych arno.

Soniasoch am gynllun Bro Afon, nad wyf yn ymwybodol ohono, ond byddwn yn hapus iawn i ymweld ag ef os hoffech drefnu gwahoddiad. Does dim ots pa bortffolio sydd gennych; mae enghreifftiau o arfer gorau'n wirioneddol bwysig a byddai'n dda gweld a ellid cyflwyno hynny ymhellach yng Nghymru.

O ran a oes digon o raglenni ar gyfer tramgwyddwyr, yn sicr gwnaeth ein hadolygiad o wasanaethau yn fy mhortffolio blaenorol imi feddwl bod digon ohonynt. Gyda'r Bil rhentu cartrefi, byddwn yn hapus iawn i edrych ar y bobl sydd wedi cyflawni'r ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn hytrach na thro'i'r teulu cyfan allan; dim ond y tramgwyddwr fyddai'n cael ei droi allan. Ochr yn ochr â thrais domestig, byddai hynny'n sicr yn rhywbeth y gellid edrych arno. Rydym yn gobeithio cyflwyno'r Bil yn gynnar y flwyddyn nesaf. Yn amlwg, mae ffordd bell i fynd eto, ond mae'n sicr yn rhywbeth y gallwn edrych arno.

Roeddech yn holi hefyd ynglŷn ag asesu tenantiaid. Gwn nad yw hynny'n rhywbeth yr wyf wedi ei wneud, ond gofynnaf i'm swyddogion a yw hynny wedi ei wneud. Os nad yw, rwyf yn hapus iawn i wneud hynny, a byddaf yn ysgrifennu at yr Aelod ynglŷn â'r pwynt hwnnw'n benodol.

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15:33

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

I very much welcome the statement, and I also welcome the progress made in the social housing sector. Anti-social behaviour blights the lives of too many of my constituents. It is unacceptable. I, and I am sure others, are aware of people evicted by a social landlord who have then moved into a privately rented property in the same street, creating the same nuisance and problems that they did before, but without the social landlord being able to take any action. Again, and probably like many other people here, I have corresponded with private sector landlords, who, as long as they get their rent, are totally disinterested in the behaviour of their tenants. Also, many private landlords live far away from the properties that they own. For reasons that I do not fully understand, a large part of Plasmarl appears to be owned by people in Basingstoke. While it will enable all landlords to take action on anti-social behaviour, what will be done to ensure that private landlords utilise these powers to stop the blight on many of my constituents?

Rwyf yn croesawu'r datganiad yn fawr iawn, ac rwyf hefyd yn croesawu'r cynnydd a wnaed yn y sector tai cymdeithasol. Mae ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn amharu ar fywydau gormod o fy etholwyr. Mae'n annerbyniol. Rwyf fi, ac eraill rwyf yn siŵr, yn gwybod am bobl sydd wedi eu troi allan gan landlord cymdeithasol sydd wedyn yn symud i eiddo rhentu preifat ar yr un stryd, gan greu'r un niwsans a phroblemau ag a wnaethant yn yr eiddo blaenorol, ond heb i'r landlord cymdeithasol allu cymryd unrhyw gamau. Unwaith eto, fel llawer o bobl eraill yma mae'n debyg, rwyf wedi gohebu â landlordiaid y sector preifat, sydd yn gwbl ddifater ynglŷn ag ymddygiad eu tenantiaid, cyhyd â'u bod yn cael eu rhent. Hefyd, mae llawer o landlordiaid preifat yn byw yn bell oddi wrth yr eiddo y maent yn berchen arno. Am resymau nad wyf yn eu deall yn iawn, mae'n ymddangos mai pobl o Basingstoke sy'n berchen ar ran helaeth o Blasmarl. Er y bydd yn galluogi pob landlord i weithredu ar ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, beth a wneir i sicrhau bod landlordiaid preifat yn defnyddio'r pwerau hyn i atal hyn rhag amharu ar nifer o fy etholwyr?

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15:34

**Lesley Griffiths** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Mike Hedges, for that contribution. You are absolutely right and, as I said in my answer to Mark Isherwood, I think, that a great deal of progress has been made over the past year. As Jocelyn Davies says, everyone has the right to feel safe, and everyone should feel at peace in their own homes. That is really important. Anti-social behaviour, in whatever form, is totally unacceptable. You are right that it does cause misery and it is very disruptive to communities, particularly when people are moved on.

Diolch ichi, Mike Hedges, am y cyfraniad hwnnw. Rydych yn llygad eich lle ac, fel y dywedais yn fy ateb i Mark Isherwood, rwyf yn credu bod llawer iawn o gynnydd wedi'i wneud dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Fel y dywed Jocelyn Davies, mae gan bawb hawl i deimlo'n ddiogel, a dylai pawb gael heddwch yn eu cartrefi eu hunain. Mae hynny'n bwysig iawn. Mae ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, ar ba bynnag ffurf, yn gwbl annerbyniol. Rydych yn iawn ei fod yn achosi trallod ac mae'n tarfu'n arw ar gymunedau, yn enwedig pan fydd pobl yn cael eu symud ymlaen.

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Obviously, all social housing providers now have policies in place regarding anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse—for tenants and for staff. So, I think that what I am looking at first is to make sure—. It is no good just having a policy on a shelf gathering dust; it is really important that it is implemented correctly, and that is something that I am monitoring. In relation to private landlords, again, that is something that—you know, it is day two in the job—we can look at as we go forward.

Yn amlwg, mae pob darparwr tai cymdeithasol wedi sefydlu polisiâu sy'n ymwneud ag ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol a cham-drin domestig—i denantiaid ac i staff. Felly, rwyf yn meddwl mai'r hyn yr wyf yn edrych arno i ddechrau yw gwneud yn siŵr—. Nid oes pwynt cael polisi ar silff yn casglu llwch; mae'n bwysig iawn ei fod yn cael ei weithredu'n gywir, ac mae hynny'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn ei fonitro. Mewn perthynas â landlordiaid preifat, unwaith eto, mae hynny'n rhywbeth—fel y gwyddoch, rwyf ar fy ail ddiwrnod yn y swydd—y gallwn edrych arno wrth inni symud ymlaen.

15:35

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

May I also welcome the statement, and the continuing work that the Government is doing in terms of anti-social behaviour and, of course, domestic abuse? I also welcome you to your new role, Minister.

A gaf finnau hefyd groesawu'r datganiad, a'r gwaith y mae'r Llywodraeth yn parhau i'w wneud ar ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol ac, wrth gwrs, cam-drin domestig? Rwyf hefyd yn eich croesawu i'ch swydd newydd, Weinidog.

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A number of questions arise from the statement. In terms of the Wales anti-social behaviour policy and practice review, it does identify that prevention is absolutely key in terms of this, and that is certainly the intent behind the Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Bill. However, you will understand that some members of the committee feel particularly badly that that Bill does not quite deal with that prevention issue, because it does not deal with the education side of it. I was wondering whether, as part of this approach to tackling domestic violence and anti-social behaviour in the housing sector, you will be looking at how that Bill can be amended along those lines, and at how you can improve the education of perpetrators, and particularly at what funding we put in place for perpetrator programmes, as part of that.

In terms of the study, I note that the main conclusion in that study is that social landlords across Wales are not really taking a consistent approach to this particular problem. It says that there is a lack of a common definition, which is a real barrier to partnership working, and that landlords' self-defined overall approaches to anti-social behaviour appear to differ quite markedly. Furthermore, although landlords report that early intervention is important, only four landlords offer a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week response to incidents of anti-social behaviour, et cetera. Could you outline, therefore, Minister, how specifically those criticisms of social landlords are being addressed, as part of the implementation of the recommendations, and how you are ensuring that the various landlords in Wales are being brought together to try to get that common approach, and common definition, so that we can have proper partnership working on that?

In terms of the statement, you have referred to the outcomes and that report. How will you actually be monitoring the outcomes of this study? Will you be reporting—either to committee, or to Plenary—on those outcomes, so that we can actually monitor exactly what is happening in relation to this study, and how those recommendations are being implemented?

Finally, Minister, we refer a lot, I think, to social landlords. What work is being done in terms of the private sector, which can be a particular problem in terms of anti-social behaviour? Are you considering, in co-ordination with other colleagues, strengthening the powers that, for example, environmental health has in terms of anti-social behaviour in the private rented sector, or giving local government additional powers to deal with the private rented sector and the anti-social behaviour that goes on there?

Mae nifer o gwestiynau'n codi o'r datganiad. O ran polisi ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol Cymru a'r adolygiad o'r arferion, mae'n nodi bod atal yn gwbl allweddol yn hyn o beth, a dyna'n sicr sydd wrth wraidd Bil Trais ar Sail Rhywedd, Cam-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol (Cymru). Fodd bynnag, byddwch yn deall bod rhai aelodau o'r pwyllgor yn teimlo'n arbennig o gryf nad yw'r Bil yn ymdrin yn llwyr ag atal, am nad yw'n ymdrin ag agwedd addysgol y broblem. Tybed a fyddwch yn edrych ar sut y gellir diwygio'r Bil yn hynny o beth, fel rhan o'r ymagwedd hon tuag at fynd i'r afael â thrais domestig ac ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn y sector tai, ac ar y ffordd y gellid gwella addysg i dramgwyddwyr ac yn erwedig ar ba gyllid y byddwn yn ei neilltuo i'r rhaglenni tramgwyddwyr, fel rhan o hynny.

O ran yr astudiaeth, nodaf mai prif gasgliad yr astudiaeth honno yw nad yw landlordiaid cymdeithasol ledled Cymru'n gweithredu'n gyson ar y broblem benodol hon. Mae'n dweud bod diffyg diffiniad cyffredin, sy'n rhwystro gwirioneddol i weithio mewn partneriaeth, a'i bod yn ymddangos bod gwahaniaeth eithaf sylweddol rhwng ymagweddau hunanddiffiniedig cyffredinol landlordiaid tuag at drin ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol. Ar ben hynny, er bod landlordiaid yn dweud bod ymyrraeth gynnar yn bwysig, dim ond pedwar landlord sy'n cynnig ymateb 24-awr, saith diwrnod yr wythnos i achosion o ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol, ac yn y blaen. A wneuch chi amlinellu felly, Weinidog, sut yn benodol y mae'r beirniadaethau hynny ar landlordiaid cymdeithasol yn cael sylw, fel rhan o'r broses o weithredu'r argymhellion, a sut yr ydych yn sicrhau bod y gwahanol landlordiaid yng Nghymru'n cael eu dwyn at ei gilydd i geisio sicrhau ymagwedd gyffredin, a diffiniad cyffredin, er mwyn inni gael gwaith partneriaeth gwirioneddol yn hynny o beth?

O ran y datganiad, rydych wedi cyfeirio at y canlyniadau ac at yr adroddiad hwnnw. Sut y byddwch mewn gwirionedd yn monitro canlyniadau'r astudiaeth hon? A fyddwch yn adrodd—naill ai i'r pwyllgor, neu i'r Cyfarfod Llawn—ar y canlyniadau hynny, er mwyn inni allu monitro yn union beth sy'n digwydd o ran yr astudiaeth hon, a sut y mae'r argymhellion hynny'n cael eu gweithredu?

Yn olaf, Weinidog, rydym yn cyfeirio'n aml at landlordiaid cymdeithasol. Pa waith sy'n cael ei wneud o ran y sector preifat, a all fod yn broblem benodol o ran ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol? A ydych yn ystyried, ar y cyd â chydweithwyr eraill, cryfhau'r pwerau sydd gan, er enghraifft, iechyd yr amgylchedd o ran ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol yn y sector rhentu preifat, neu roi pwerau ychwanegol i lywodraeth leol i ymdrin â'r sector rhentu preifat a'r ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol sy'n digwydd yno?

15:38

**Lesley Griffiths** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I thank Peter Black for his questions.

In relation to the Gender-based Violence, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Bill, that is now being taken forward by my colleague Leighton Andrews, the Minister for Public Services. I am sure that he will be looking very closely as the Bill goes through this Assembly at the points that you raise.

Diolch i Peter Black am ei gwestiynau.

O ran Bil Trais ar Sail Rhywedd, Cam-drin Domestig a Thrais Rhywiol (Cymru), mae fy nghydweithiwr, Leighton Andrews, y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus bellach yn bwrw ymlaen â hynny. Rwyf yn siŵr y bydd yn edrych yn ofalus iawn ar y pwyntiau yr ydych yn eu codi wrth i'r Bil fynd drwy'r Cynulliad hwn.

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You are absolutely right to say that the review that was undertaken did show that there was inconsistency with the policies and the approach taken between social landlords. We have set up a working group, which brings together all partner organisations within the housing sector, along with the police. My officials will be sitting on it. I mentioned that it will be chaired by our secondment from the south Wales police and crime commissioner's office.

The recommendations in the review were not just for Welsh Government—they were also for housing associations, housing providers, and local authorities to take forward. So, I am very keen that this working group, which is due to meet for the first time this month, will have a look at that. We can have a look at how it will be monitored, and, yes, I would be very happy to report—in whatever form—to Assembly Members once that work has been undertaken.

Like Mike Hedges, you asked about the private sector. I have not had the opportunity to look at that yet, but I will certainly ask for a briefing from officials to see what powers we have to give to local authorities or private sector landlords to ensure that it is not just social landlords, housing associations and local authority providers that still have stock that are taking forward these policies and protocols.

Rydych yn llygad eich lle wrth ddweud bod yr adolygiad a gynhaliwyd yn dangos bod anghysondeb rhwng polisiâu a rhwng ymagweddau'r landlordiaid cymdeithasol. Rydym wedi sefydlu gweithgor, sy'n dod â holl sefydliadau'r sector tai sy'n bartneriaid at ei gilydd, yn ogystal â'r heddlu. Bydd fy swyddogion yn eistedd ar y gweithgor. Soniais y bydd yn cael ei gadeirio gan ein secondiad o swyddfa comisinydd heddlu a throseddau de Cymru.

Nid argymhellion i Lywodraeth Cymru'n unig oedd argymhellion yr adolygiad—roeddent hefyd ar gyfer cymdeithasau tai, darparwyr tai, ac awdurdodau lleol. Felly, rwyf yn awyddus iawn i'r gweithgor, sydd i fod i gyfarfod am y tro cyntaf y mis yma, edrych ar hynny. Gallwn edrych ar sut y bydd yn cael ei fonitro, a byddwn, byddwn yn hapus iawn i adrodd yn ôl—ar ba bynnag ffurf—i Aelodau'r Cynulliad pan fydd y gwaith hwnnw wedi'i wneud.

Fel Mike Hedges, gofynasoch am y sector preifat. Nid wyf wedi cael cyfle i edrych ar hynny eto, ond byddaf yn sicr yn gofyn am sesiwn wybodaeth gan swyddogion er mwyn gweld pa bwerau y mae'n rhaid inni eu rhoi i awdurdodau lleol neu landlordiaid yn y sector preifat er mwyn sicrhau nad dim ond landlordiaid cymdeithasol, cymdeithasau tai a darparwyr awdurdodau lleol sydd â stoc ar ôl sy'n bwrw ymlaen â'r polisiâu a'r protocolau hyn.

15:40

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

Rwy'n falch o gyfrannu heddiw. Ers y tro diwethaf y cafodd yr adolygiad ei drafod, mae Bil Tai (Cymru) wedi ei basio. Rwy'n falch i weld bod yr achos yn dal i fod ar ben eich agenda chi, Weinidog. Mae'n bwnc eang sydd yn creu effeithiau eang. Hoffwn ganolbwyntio'n fwyaf ar ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol.

Rydym ni yn Llanelli yn cydnabod pŵer canfyddiad. Mae fy swyddfa leol newydd drefnu arolwg arall gyda thriogion ardal Station Road i glywed barn pobl leol am y canfyddiad. Yn ganolog i hwn fydd y bartneriaeth a ffurfiwyd gan asiantaethau a gwasanaethau lleol a'r ffordd y mae eu gwaith ar lawr gwlad yn bwydo i mewn i bolisi uwch ar ganfyddiad. Yn y ymatebion ceir cydnabyddiaeth o raglen trwyddedu dethol Cyngor Sir Gâr yn ward Tyisha. Dyna le mae'r nifer uchaf o dai rentu preifat. Cynllun ydyw i roi rheolaeth uwch dros landlordiaid preifat i gyrraedd safonau trwyddedu ac i denantiaid i gydymffurfio â nhw. Mae'r rhaglen i'w weld yn llwyddiannus, a'r gobaith yw ei ehangu i wardiau eraill.

Yn dilyn y gynhadledd cymunedau mwy diogel a gynhaliwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, pa gynlluniau sydd gennych i fwrw ymlaen gyda chydweithrediad uwch yn y sector? Yn ei sylwadau yn y Siambr yn gynharach yn y flwyddyn bu i'r Gweinidog longyfarch gweithrediad Llanelli a phwysleisio pwysigrwydd perchnogaeth gymunedol. Sut y gall cynadledau megis hon gynnwys cyfle i symud i'r cam nesaf i drafod llwyddiannau lleol?

I am pleased to contribute today. Since the last time that the review was discussed, the Housing (Wales) Bill has been done. I am pleased to see that the case is still at the top of your agenda, Minister. It is a broad-ranging topic that causes great impacts. I would like to focus mostly on anti-social behaviour.

We in Llanelli recognise the power of perception. My local office has just arranged another survey of residents of the Station Road area to hear the views of local people about perception. Central to this will be the partnership formed by agencies and services at a local level and how their work at a grass-roots level can feed into higher level policy on the issue of perception. In the responses there is recognition of Carmarthenshire County Council's selective licensing scheme in the Tyisha ward. That is where there is the highest number of private rented accommodation. It is a scheme to provide more control over private landlords so that they attain the licence standards and for tenants to conform. The programme seems to be successful, and the hope is that it can be expanded to other wards.

Following the safer communities conference, staged by the Welsh Government, what plans do you have to proceed with better collaboration in the sector? In his comments in the Chamber earlier in the year, the Minister applauded the actions taken in Llanelli and emphasised the importance of community ownership. How can conferences such as this provide opportunities for us to move to the next stage to discuss such successes at a local level?

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Yn olaf, yn sgîl yr adolygiad hwn a Deddf Ymddygiad Gwrthgymdeithasol, Troseddu a Phlisma 2014—sef y Ddeddf y soniodd Jocelyn amdani yn gynharach—a allwch chi roi diweddariad ar waith eich swyddogion ar y testun o gydweithio â Llywodraeth San Steffan?

Finally, as a result of this review and the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014—the Act that Jocelyn mentioned earlier—can you give an update on the work of your officials on the issue of collaboration with the Westminster Government?

15:42

## Lesley Griffiths [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you, Keith Davies, for those questions. You are absolutely right, perception is everything, is it not? It is very interesting to hear about the work undertaken in Llanelli. Again, as I mentioned to Jocelyn Davies, I would be very interested to learn more about it and, again, if it is best practice, to see what we can do to get it rolled out across Wales.

You mentioned the safer communities conference, which was held in February in Cardiff. I spoke at that conference in my previous role, from the domestic abuse point of view, and Carl Sargeant spoke from the housing point of view. At the time, I thought that that conference was very good at getting that information out and disseminating it. Therefore, I have decided that I am going to hold another one, in north Wales. The first one was held in Cardiff, but it is important to hold one in north Wales, hopefully before Christmas, to review progress and to focus on north Wales social landlords.

A great deal of work has been done by officials, who have been working very closely with the Home Office. You will be aware that some five or six legislative consent motions went through the Assembly following the introduction of the Bill—now the Act. I know that officials are working very closely with the Home Office to ensure that we consolidate the existing anti-social behaviour powers that we have into the six new powers that have come forward from the UK Government Act.

Diolch i chi, Keith Davies, am y cwestiynau hynny. Rydych yn llygad eich lle, mae popeth yn dibynnu ar ganfyddiad, onid yw? Mae'n ddiddorol iawn clywed am y gwaith a wnaed yn Llanelli. Unwaith eto, fel y soniais wrth Jocelyn Davies, byddai gennyf ddiddordeb mawr mewn dysgu mwy am hyn, ac unwaith eto, os yw'n arfer gorau, gweld beth y gellir ei wneud i'w gyflwyno ledled Cymru.

Soniasoch am y gynhadledd cymunedau mwy diogel, a gynhaliwyd ym mis Chwefror yng Nghaerdydd. Siaradais yn y gynhadledd honno yn fy swydd flaenorol, o safbwynt cam-drin domestig, a siaradodd Carl Sargeant o safbwynt tai. Ar y pryd, roeddwn yn meddwl bod y gynhadledd yn dda iawn am gael y wybodaeth honno allan a'i lledaenu. Felly, rwyf wedi penderfynu fy mod yn mynd i gynnal un arall, yn y gogledd. Cynhaliwyd y gynhadledd gyntaf yng Nghaerdydd, ond mae'n bwysig cynnal un yn y gogledd, cyn y Nadolig gobeithio, er mwyn adolygu cynnydd a chanolbwyntio ar landlordiaid cymdeithasol gogledd Cymru.

Mae llawer iawn o waith wedi ei wneud gan swyddogion, sydd wedi bod yn cydweithio'n agos iawn â'r Swyddfa Gartref. Byddwch yn gwybod bod tua pump neu chwech o gynigion cydsyniad deddfwriaethol wedi mynd drwy'r Cynulliad ar ôl cyflwyno'r Bil—sydd bellach yn Ddeddf. Gwn fod swyddogion yn gweithio'n agos iawn gyda'r Swyddfa Gartref i sicrhau ein bod yn cyfuno'r pwerau sydd gennym eisoes o ran ymddygiad gwrthgymdeithasol i greu'r chwe phŵer newydd sydd wedi eu cyflwyno dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth y DU.

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15:43

## Datganiad: Y Cynllun Bathodyn Glas—y Wybodaeth Ddiweddaraf

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

I call on the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, Edwina Hart.

## Statement: The Blue Badge Scheme—Update

Galwaf ar Edwina Hart y Gweinidog dros yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth.

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

*Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth / The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport*

During the short debate on 2 July, introduced by Peter Black, he set out concerns and issues with the blue badge scheme in Wales that had been raised with him. Other Members who took part in that debate also indicated that this was an issue about which they had considerable concerns. In response, I agreed that the operation of the scheme is one of the most difficult areas within my portfolio, particularly in terms of ensuring fairness and equity, and welcomed suggestions from Members on any issues and areas that needed further consideration. I wrote to Members seeking further information about concerns with the scheme to enable me to collate a comprehensive list of issues and complaints for further consideration. To date, I have received only a couple of responses from Members, but my letter box is still open to Members who wish to raise issues.

One area that I had said I would give further consideration to is the awarding of temporary blue badges. Eligibility for blue badges is set down in regulations and is currently limited to people with permanent conditions. However, it is possible that the regulations could be amended to change that constraint. It has been suggested that temporary blue badges should be considered for individuals undergoing hip or knee replacements, who have fractured lower limbs, are suffering from head injuries, have had a stroke, or are pregnant. If badges were issued in all these cases, it is likely that the scheme might become unsustainable and current badge holders would be unable to access the concessions on which they rely.

Our current guidance does allow for people who are waiting for hip and knee replacements and have considerable difficulty walking to be issued with badges. However, when badges are issued in such circumstances, the badge holder is obliged to notify the issuing authority if their condition improves and to return the badge.

My blue badge expert review group considered the issue of temporary conditions. Its report, published in July 2013, recognised that there could be merit in allowing people with temporary conditions access to the scheme, but also noted that there have been issues in ensuring the return of badges when they are no longer needed. The group suggested that consideration be given to the variation of the life of a badge, including temporary periods for those who experience mobility difficulties due to medical procedures.

Yn ystod y ddadl fer ar 2 Gorffennaf, a gyflwynwyd gan Peter Black, nododd ef y pryderon a'r materion yn ymwneud â'r cynllun bathodyn glas yng Nghymru a godwyd gydag ef. Nododd Aelodau eraill a gymerodd ran yn y ddadl honno hefyd fod hwn yn fater yr oedd ganddynt bryderon sylweddol yn ei gylch. Mewn ymateb, cytunais fod gweithredu'r cynllun yn un o'r meysydd anoddaf yn fy mhortffolio, yn enwedig o ran sicrhau tegwch a chyfiawnder, a chroesewais awgrymiadau gan Aelodau am unrhyw faterion a meysydd yr oedd angen eu hystyried ymhellach. Ysgrifennais at yr Aelodau i ofyn am fwy o wybodaeth am bryderon ynglŷn â'r cynllun i fy ngalluogi i gasglu rhestr gynhwysfawr o faterion a chwynion i'w hystyried ymhellach. Hyd yn hyn, dim ond un neu ddau o ymatebion yr wyf wedi'u cael gan Aelodau, ond mae fy mlwch llythyrau'n dal ar agor i Aelodau a hoffai godi materion.

Un maes yr wyf wedi dweud y byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth bellach iddo yw dyfarnu bathodynnau glas dros dro. Mae cymhwysedd ar gyfer bathodynnau glas wedi'i nodi yn y rheoliadau ac mae wedi'i gyfyngu ar hyn o bryd i bobl â chyflyrau parhaol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bosibl y gellid diwygio'r rheoliadau i newid y cyfyngiad hwnnw. Awgrymwyd y dylid ystyried bathodynnau glas dros dro ar gyfer unigolion sy'n cael clun neu ben-glin newydd, sydd wedi torri asgwrn yn rhannau isaf y corff, sy'n dioddef o anafiadau i'r pen, sydd wedi cael strôc, neu sy'n feichiog. Pe byddai bathodynnau yn cael eu cyflwyno yn yr holl achosion hyn, mae'n debygol y byddai'r cynllun yn mynd yn anghynladwy ac na fyddai deiliaid bathodynnau presennol yn gallu defnyddio'r consesiynau y maent yn dibynnu arnynt.

Mae ein canllawiau presennol yn caniatáu rhoi bathodynnau i bobl sy'n aros am glun neu ben-glin newydd ac sy'n ei chael hi'n anodd iawn cerdded. Fodd bynnag, pan gyflwynir bathodynnau dan amgylchiadau o'r fath, rhaid i ddeiliad y bathodyn roi gwybod i'r awdurdod cyflwyno os yw ei gyflwr yn gwella a dychwelyd y bathodyn.

Mae fy ngrŵp adolygu arbenigol ar gyfer y bathodyn glas wedi ystyried y mater o amodau dros dro. Roedd ei adroddiad, a gyhoeddwyd ym mis Gorffennaf 2013, yn cydnabod y gallai fod yn fuddiol caniatáu i bobl â chyflyrau dros dro ddefnyddio'r cynllun, ond nododd hefyd y bu problemau o ran sicrhau y caiff bathodynnau eu dychwelyd pan nad oes eu hangen mwyach. Awgrymodd y grŵp y dylid ystyried amrywio oes bathodyn, gan gynnwys cyfnodau dros dro ar gyfer pobl sy'n profi anawsterau symudedd oherwydd llawfeddygaeth.

There are a number of options for introducing time-limited blue badges: for example, extending the eligibility criteria to all people with temporary conditions, with or without payment, or from a supply of badges held by the issuing authority. Alternatively, the eligibility criteria could be extended to people with temporary conditions that are complex and impact on the individual for a year or more. This option would capture those people who have the greatest temporary barriers and would have a small impact on available parking. However, there would be an impact on local authorities with respect to resources to assess applications in these cases.

There are many issues that need careful consideration when looking at the matter of temporary badges, including the implications for existing blue badge holders in accessing parking as a result of an increase in the number of people with a blue badge and whether that was justified, which conditions should be considered for a temporary badge, how the conditions are identified and assessed, the duration for which a badge should be issued, and the cost of further extending the scheme, which the Welsh Government would need to meet. It would also be necessary to consider other issues such as which conditions should be captured, the period for which a temporary badge should be issued, and what evidence, et cetera.

I should make it clear that any proposed changes would be subject to further consultation and that any legislative changes will be subject to the negative procedure route.

During the debate in July, I updated Members on the guidance and assessment toolkit that we were developing to assist local authorities in verifying applications for a badge, particularly in respect of those who apply under the discretionary criteria. The toolkit has now been issued to local authorities and will help to ensure a consistent approach in the delivery of the scheme and the outcome of decisions across Wales.

During the debate, I also indicated that we would be looking at other issues as well: further independent support and advice for local authorities. Over the summer we have been progressing work to introduce this new independent advisory service, which will provide local authorities with access to medically trained professionals who can offer them advice in cases where a medical judgement is required. The independent advisory service will also help in assessing applications from people with a severe cognitive or sensory impairment. The tendering exercise for providing this service closed last Friday, and we are currently in the process of assessing those bids.

I think we are all in agreement in the Chamber that the blue badge scheme is hugely important to hundreds of thousands of people across Wales. The benefits it provides, such as access to parking close to services, make an enormous difference to people's quality of life. I am committed to an ongoing programme of improvement to the implementation of the scheme, and I will continue to look for ways to support local authorities to deliver the scheme effectively and consistently across Wales.

Ceir nifer o ddevisiadau ar gyfer cyflwyno bathodynau glas am amser cyfyngedig: er enghraifft, ymestyn y meini prawf cymhwysedd i bawb sydd â chyflyrau dros dro, gyda neu heb dâl, neu o gyflenwad o fathodynau a gedwir gan yr awdurdod cyflwyno. Fel arall, gellid ymestyn y meini prawf cymhwysedd i gynnwys pobl â chyflyrau dros dro sy'n gymhleth ac sy'n effeithio ar yr unigolyn am fwyddyn neu fwy. Byddai'r dewis hwn yn helpu'r bobl hynny sy'n wynebu'r rhwystrau dros dro mwyaf heb gael effaith fawr ar y lleoedd parcio sydd ar gael. Fodd bynnag, byddai hyn yn effeithio ar awdurdodau lleol o ran adnoddau i asesu ceisiadau yn yr achosion hyn.

Mae angen ystyried llawer o faterion yn ofalus wrth edrych ar fathodynau dros dro, gan gynnwys y goblygiadau i leoedd parcio ar gyfer deiliaid bathodynau glas presennol o ganlyniad i gynnydd yn nifer y bobl sydd â bathodyn glas a pha un a ellid cyfiawnhau hynny, pa amodau y dylid eu hystyried ar gyfer bathodyn dros dro, sut caiff yr amodau eu nodi a'u hasesu, am ba hyd y dylid cyflwyno bathodyn, a chost ymestyn y cynllun ymhellach, y byddai angen i Lywodraeth Cymru ei thalu. Hefyd, byddai angen ystyried materion eraill megis pa gyflyrau y dylid eu cynnwys, am ba gyfnod y dylid cyflwyno bathodyn dros dro, a pha dystiolaeth, ac ati.

Dylwn ei gwneud yn glir y byddai unrhyw newidiadau arfaethedig yn destun ymgynghori pellach ac y defnyddir y weithdrefn negyddol ar gyfer unrhyw newidiadau deddfwriaethol.

Yn ystod y ddatl ym mis Gorffennaf, rhoddais ddiweddariad i'r Aelodau am y pecyn canllawiau ac asesu yr oeddem yn ei ddatblygu i gynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol i wirio ceisiadau am fathodyn, yn enwedig y rheini sy'n gwneud cais o dan y meini prawf dewisol. Mae'r pecyn erbyn hyn wedi ei roi i awdurdodau lleol a bydd yn helpu i sicrhau cysondeb wrth gyflwyno'r cynllun ac o ran canlyniadau penderfyniadau ledled Cymru.

Yn ystod y ddatl, nodais hefyd y byddem yn edrych ar faterion eraill yn ogystal: mwy o gefnogaeth a chyngor annibynnol i awdurdodau lleol. Dros yr haf, rydym wedi bod yn datblygu gwaith i gyflwyno'r gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol newydd hwn, a fydd yn sicrhau bod gweithwyr proffesiynol sydd wedi cael hyfforddiant meddygol ar gael i awdurdodau lleol i gynnig cyngor mewn achosion lle mae angen barn feddygol. Bydd y gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol hefyd yn helpu i asesu ceisiadau gan bobl sydd â nam gwybyddol neu synhwyrdd difrifol. Daeth yr ymarfer tendro am ddarparu'r gwasanaeth hwn i ben ddydd Gwener diwethaf, ac rydym ar hyn o bryd yn y broses o asesu'r ceisiadau hynny.

Rwyf yn credu ein bod i gyd yn cytuno yn y Siambr bod y cynllun bathodyn glas yn hynod o bwysig i gannoedd o filoedd o bobl ledled Cymru. Mae'r buddion y mae'n eu darparu, megis lle i barcio'n agos at wasanaethau, yn gwneud gwahaniaeth enfawr i ansawdd bywyd pobl. Rwyf wedi ymrwymo i raglen barhaus o wella'r ffordd y caiff y cynllun ei weithredu, a byddaf yn parhau i chwilio am ffordd o gynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol i ddarparu'r cynllun yn effeithiol ac yn gyson ledled Cymru.

Finally, any comments from Members in writing to help and assist us in our further deliberations will be very useful for me as Minister. I also apologise, Deputy Presiding Officer, because I think that my speech does not necessarily reflect what is on the website in terms of the statement that was issued. So, I apologise for any confusion.

Yn olaf, bydd unrhyw sylwadau ysgrifenedig gan Aelodau i'n helpu a'n cynorthwyo i drafod hyn ymhellach yn ddefnyddiol iawn i mi fel Gweinidog. Rwyf hefyd yn ymddiheuro, Ddirprwy Lywydd, oherwydd credaf nad yw fy araith o reidrydd yn adlewyrchu'r hyn sydd ar y wefan o ran y datganiad a gyhoeddwyd. Felly, rwyf yn ymddiheuro am unrhyw ddryswch.

15:49

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

Minister, thank you very much indeed for your statement on the blue badge scheme update. You will be delighted to know that I have very little to say on it. I do really appreciate that it probably is one of the most difficult areas to administer. I note that we have to be realistic and draw the line somewhere, and it has been suggested that temporary blue badges should be considered for individuals undergoing hip and knee replacements, et cetera. Yes, okay, but you mentioned there strokes as well. Having had personal family evidence of strokes, I think that it is a very important area and that it should be very much included in the scheme.

The administration costs of the variation of the life of a badge, including temporary periods, would be enormous I would think. Those are obviously serious considerations. I note the many issues that need careful consideration. Again, I come back to the cost of further extending the scheme. I do welcome the new independent advisory service, which will provide access to medically trained professionals. I think that this is a real step in the right direction and an essential course to follow, and I think that, yes, it is hugely important to hundreds of thousands of people across Wales. Whether we can arrive at a situation that satisfies everyone remains to be seen. I doubt it. However, I welcome your statement and positive practical approach to what is a really delicate situation, so, thank you.

Weinidog, diolch yn fawr iawn am eich datganiad am ddiweddarau'r cynllun bathodyn glas. Byddwch yn hapus iawn o wybod nad oes gennyf fawr ddim i'w ddweud yn ei gylch. Rwyf yn wir yn sylweddoli ei fod yn ôl pob tebyg yn un o'r meysydd anoddaf i'w weinyddu. Nodaf fod yn rhaid inni fod yn realistig a thynnu'r llinell yn rhywle, ac awgrymwyd y dylid ystyried bathodynnau glas dros dro i unigolion sy'n cael clun neu ben-glin newydd, ac ati. Ie, iawn, ond gwnaethoch sôn am strociau hefyd. Rwyf wedi cael tystiolaeth deuluol bersonol o strociau, a chredaf ei fod yn faes pwysig iawn ac y dylid yn bendant ei gynnwys yn y cynllun.

Byddwn yn meddwl y byddai costau gweinyddol amrywio oes bathodyn, gan gynnwys cyfnodau dros dro, yn enfawr. Mae'r rheini'n amlwg yn ystyriaethau difrifol. Nodaf y materion niferus y mae angen eu hystyried yn ofalus. Unwaith eto, dof yn ôl at gost ymestyn y cynllun ymhellach. Rwyf yn croesawu'r gwasanaeth cyngori annibynnol newydd, a fydd yn sicrhau bod gweithwyr proffesiynol sydd wedi'u hyfforddi'n feddygol ar gael. Credaf fod hwn yn gam gwirioneddol i'r cyfeiriad cywir ac yn llwybr hanfodol i'w ddilyn, ac rwyf yn meddwl, ydy, mae'n eithriadol o bwysig i gannoedd o filoedd o bobl ledled Cymru. A allwn ni gyrraedd sefyllfa sy'n bodloni pawb? Dyna'r cwestiwn. Rwyf yn amau hynny. Fodd bynnag, croesawaf eich datganiad a'ch ymagwedd ymarferol gadarnhaol at y sefyllfa wirioneddol anodd hon, felly, diolch yn fawr.

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15:51

### **Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Thank you very much for those comments. You are quite right that we will never satisfy everyone on this particular scheme, and I do not think that we will ever cover everybody who might need the benefit of a blue badge. One of the points that are made to me and come up is that, sometimes, it is about people having difficulty getting in and out of vehicles in car-parking spaces with their conditions. If they could get out properly and open the car door fully, they would find it much easier in terms of then being able to use their stick or whatever they require to assist with their mobility. So, I think that there are wider issues about the size of car-parking spaces if we are looking at this as a very practical issue in very real terms.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am y sylwadau yna. Rydych yn llygad eich lle na wnawn ni byth fodloni pawb o ran y cynllun penodol hwn, ac nid wyf yn meddwl y gwnawn ni byth gwmpasu pawb a allai fod ag angen buddion bathodyn glas. Un o'r pwyntiau a wneir imi ac sy'n codi yw bod hyn, weithiau, yn ymwneud â phobl sy'n cael anhawster mynd i mewn ac allan o gerbydau mewn mannau parcio ceir oherwydd eu cyflyrau. Pe gallent fynd allan yn iawn ac agor drws y car yn llawn, byddent yna'n ei chael yn llawer haws i allu defnyddio eu ffon neu beth bynnag sydd ei angen arnynt i gynorthwyo gyda'u symudedd. Felly, rwyf yn meddwl bod materion ehangach yma ynghylch maint mannau parcio ceir os ydym yn edrych ar hyn fel mater ymarferol iawn mewn termau real iawn.

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May I say as well, I will be picking this up, because you make a good point about strokes, and there are other conditions as well that will need to be looked at? However, in terms of the administration costs, that is one of the concerns that has been flagged up to me already in terms of how much it will cost to administer and the burden then on local authorities and the burden on us in terms of staff costs. However, I welcome your comments very much about the independent advisory service, and when we have assessed the bids and everything I will be making a further statement on all of these particular issues with regard to blue badges. However, I would be grateful if people could take up my offer on this to tell me what they think about temporary badges and what conditions should be involved and whether we should do anything about it in order that I can do some further work on this particular issue.

A gaf i ddweud hefyd y byddaf yn bwrw ymlaen â hyn, oherwydd rydych chi'n gwneud pwynt da am strociau, ac mae cyflyrau eraill hefyd y bydd angen edrych arnynt? Fodd bynnag, o ran y costau gweinyddu, mae hynny'n un o'r pryderon y tynnwyd fy sylw atynt eisoes o ran faint y bydd yn ei gostio i'w weinyddu a'r baich wedyn ar awdurdodau lleol a'r baich arnom ni o ran costau staff. Fodd bynnag, rwyf yn croesawu eich sylwadau'n fawr iawn am y gwasanaeth cyngori annibynnol, a phan fyddwn wedi asesu'r ceisiadau a phopeth, byddaf yn gwneud datganiad pellach am yr holl faterion arbennig hyn o ran bathodynau glas. Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallai pobl fanteisio ar fy nghynnig yn hyn o beth i ddweud wrthyf beth yw eu barn am fathodynau dros dro a pha amodau a ddylai fod yn gysylltiedig ac a ddylem wneud unrhyw beth am y mater, er mwyn imi allu gwneud rhywfaint o waith pellach ar y mater arbennig hwn.

15:52

## Rhun ap Iorwerth [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

A gaf innau groesawu datganiad heddiw? Mae gennyf nifer o bwyntiau, ond nid rhai hirfaith, i godi ac ambell i gwestiwn hefyd. Rydych yn gwneud y sylw mai dim ond llond llaw o Aelodau a wnaeth ymateb i'ch cais penodol am wybodaeth a allai helpu efo'ch gwaith diweddaraf ar hyn. Rwy'n gwybod fy mod i wedi ysgrifennu atoch yn y gorffennol, ac rwy'n siŵr bod nifer o Aelodau eraill hefyd wedi ysgrifennu atoch yn y gorffennol. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n croesawu yn sicr eich apêl ar y diwedd i bobl barhau i gysylltu â chi efo gwybodaeth er mwyn gallu helpu i'n llywio i'r cyfeiriad iawn yn y maes hwn. Rydych wedi mynd drwy'r gwaith sydd wedi cael ei wneud gan y grŵp adolygu ac mae cyfres o argymhellion a chyfres o broblemau ymarferol yn cael eu codi. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n siŵr y byddech yn cyfaddef mai prin iawn yw'r atebion llawn sydd yn cael eu cynnig ar hyn o bryd, ac, wrth gwrs, dim ond diweddariad yw hyn ar lle yr ydym. Tynnaf eich sylw at un cwestiwn sydd yn parhau, sef pa gyflyrau y dylid eu cynnwys o dan y rheoliadau hyn. Ysgrifennais atoch yn benodol ynglŷn ag etholwr sy'n dioddef o 'ulcerative colitis'. Er gwaethaf y rhestr gynhwysfawr sydd gennych o wahanol gyflyrau, nid yw hynny'n benodol yn ymddangos.

Felly, mae nifer eang iawn o feysydd meddygol, os liciwch, mae angen inni edrych arnynt. Fy nghwestiwn i yn y fan honno yw: pa waith pellach penodol sy'n cael ei wneud ar gynnwys cyflyrau penodol o fewn rheoliadau bathodynau glas? Rwy'n croesawu'r hyn yr ydych yn ceisio ei wneud o ran cael cysondeb yn y ffordd yr ymdrinnir â cheisiadau am fathodynau glas ar draws Cymru, a gweld mai dyna'ch bwriad wrth gael y gwasanaeth cyngori annibynnol newydd. Rwy'n edrych ymlaen at weld hwn, gobeithio, unwaith y bydd y broses dendro wedi digwydd—rwyf yn croesi fy mysedd—fel enghraifft o ddefnyddio rheolau caffael yng Nghymru fel ffordd o gefnogi busnesau Cymreig.

Fodd bynnag, cynnig cyngor meddygol fydd y grŵp annibynnol hwn. Digwydd bod, roedd yr etholwr y tynnais eich sylw ato sydd ag 'ulcerative colitis' wedi cael cefnogaeth meddyg teulu yn ei gais am fathodyn. Rydych yn dweud eich bod eisiau tynnu meddygon teulu allan o'r broses. A ydych yn gallu rhoi sicrwydd, serch hynny, y bydd tystiolaeth gref gan feddygon teulu yn dal i gael ei hystyried mewn achosion pan fo hynny'n berthnasol?

May I also welcome this afternoon's statement? There are a number of points that I would like to raise, but they will not be particularly lengthy and I also have a few questions. You make the comment that only a handful of Members responded to your specific request for information that could assist you with your latest work on this issue. I know that I have written to you in the past as have a number of other Members, I am sure. However, I do certainly welcome your appeal at the end of your statement for people to continue to contact you with further information in order to assist in steering us in the right direction in this particular area. You have taken us through the work carried out by the review group and a number of recommendations and a number of practical problems were identified. However, I am sure that you would admit that the solutions are few and far between at present, and, of course, this is only an update on where we are at present. I will draw your attention to one persistent question, namely which conditions should be included in these regulations. I wrote to you specifically about a constituent who suffered ulcerative colitis. Despite this comprehensive list that you have of the various conditions to be taken into account, that particular example does not appear.

So, there are very many medical conditions that we need to consider. My question there is this: what other specific work is ongoing on including other specific medical conditions within the blue badge regulations? I welcome what you are endeavouring to do in seeking consistency in the way that applications for blue badges are dealt with across Wales, and I note that that is your objective in having the independent advisory service. I look forward, hopefully, once the tendering process has taken place—I cross my fingers—to seeing this being an example of using procurement rules in Wales as a means of supporting Welsh businesses.

However, this independent advisory group will provide medical advice. As it happens, the constituent I drew to your attention with ulcerative colitis had the support of his GP in his application for a blue badge. You say that you want to take GPs out of this process. Can you give us an assurance, however, that strong medical evidence from GPs will still be taken into account in cases where that is relevant?

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Fy nghwestiwn olaf, am wn i, yw: o ystyried y rhestr hir o gwestiynau sy'n parhau a'r rhestr o argymhellion gan y grŵp cynghori, pa mor agos ydym at gael eich argymhellion chi'n benodol, fel Llywodraeth, ynglŷn â sut i weithredu yn y dyfodol a chael y cynllun, yn y pen draw, ydydych chi'n gweithio tuag ato?

My final question is: in considering the lengthy list of questions that remain to be answered from the advisory group, how close are we to getting your specific recommendations, as a Government, on how we should proceed for the future and getting the scheme that you are working towards in place?

15:56

**Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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Thank you very much indeed for those helpful comments. I have taken on board all previous correspondence that I have had from Assembly Members on individual cases for blue badges. I have also taken into account the correspondence that I have had directly from members of the public about the issues around the issuing of blue badges and their complaints about local authorities sometimes and the way that it is dealt with, and, of course, some of the criteria issues.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am y sylwadau defnyddiol yna. Rwyf wedi ystyried yr holl ohebiaeth flaenorol a gefais gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad am achosion unigol ar gyfer bathodynau glas. Rwyf hefyd wedi ystyried yr ohebiaeth yr wyf wedi'i chael yn uniongyrchol gan aelodau o'r cyhoedd am y materion sy'n gysylltiedig â chyflwyno bathodynau glas a'u cwynion am awdurdodau lleol weithiau a'r modd yr ymdrinnir â hynny, ac, wrth gwrs, am rai o'r materion sy'n ymwneud â'r meini prawf.

There has been a lot of excellent work carried out by the review group and solutions, as you said, are few and far between, because, at the end of the day, there will be a number of illnesses, including colitis and others, which people have indicated are not relevant now, but which might be in the future. What I intend to do is to keep all of these issues under review, as I try to develop what is a very difficult policy area, because, whatever I do, I will be wrong in terms of what an individual might think that I should do regarding blue badges. I think we have to try to carefully approach this and weigh the benefits of the blue badges that are issued against the needs of people, and, of course, what could be the huge cost and the backfiring of it if you have too many blue badges, in terms of the accessibility of spaces for people. So, it is a very complicated area.

Mae'r grŵp adolygu wedi gwneud llawer o waith rhagorol ac mae atebion, fel y dywedaso, yn brin iawn, oherwydd, yn y pen draw, bydd nifer o afiechydon, gan gynnwys colitis ac eraill, y mae pobl wedi nodi nad ydynt yn berthnasol yn awr, ond a allai fod yn y dyfodol. Rwyf yn bwriadu parhau i adolygu pob un o'r materion hyn, wrth imi geisio datblygu'r maes polisi anodd iawn hwn, oherwydd, beth bynnag a wnaf, byddaf yn anghywir o ran yr hyn y gallai unigolyn feddwl y dylwn ei wneud ynglŷn â bathodynau glas. Rwyf yn meddwl bod yn rhaid inni geisio ymdrin â hyn yn ofalus gan bwysu a mesur manteision y bathodynau glas sy'n cael eu cyflwyno yn erbyn anghenion pobl, ac, wrth gwrs, y gost enfawr bosibl pe na byddai'n gweithio a bod gennych ormod o fathodynau glas, o ran hygyrchedd lleoedd i bobl. Felly, mae'n faes cymhleth iawn.

I have had discussions about some of these issues with the Minister for health previously in terms of where the health service could have helped and assisted more. That is why we went for the independent advisory panel, because we thought that that would help in terms of the pressures that are sometimes put on individual MPs, or individual GPs, rather—not MPs, of course; what a Freudian slip on my part—because I think that that is quite pertinent. When I was Minister for health, I remember the undue pressure they were under for the prescription of various drugs and antibiotics, so they would be under even more pressure, I think, when they are asked to do it. However, the independent advisory service will provide access to medically trained professionals to offer the quality advice that I think local authorities need where a medical judgment is required. One of the complaints has been that the decisions are being made now by local authorities and staff in local authorities know nothing about some of the conditions and do not have any understanding and that has been a particular pressure.

Rwyf wedi cael trafodaethau am rai o'r materion hyn o'r blaen gyda'r Gweinidog Iechyd o ran lle y gallai'r gwasanaeth iechyd fod wedi helpu a chynorthwyo mwy. Dyna pam y penderfynwyd ar y panel cynghori annibynnol, gan ein bod yn credu y byddai hynny o gymorth o ran y pwysau a roddir weithiau ar Aelodau Seneddol unigol, neu ar feddygon teulu unigol, yn hytrach—nid ASau, wrth gwrs; dyna slip Freudaidd ar fy rhan i—oherwydd credaf fod hynny'n eithaf perthnasol. Pan oeddwn i'n Weinidog Iechyd, rwyf yn cofio'r pwysau gormodol a oedd arnynt i roi presgripsiynau gwahanol gyffuriau a gwrthfotigau, felly byddent dan fwy fyth o bwysau, rwyf yn meddwl, pe gofynnid iddynt wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, bydd y gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol yn sicrhau bod gweithwyr proffesiynol sydd wedi'u hyfforddi'n feddygol ar gael i gynnig y cyngor safonol yr wyf yn meddwl bod ei angen ar awdurdodau lleol pan fo angen barn feddygol. Un o'r cwynion oedd bod y penderfyniadau'n cael eu gwneud yn awr gan awdurdodau lleol ac nad yw staff awdurdodau lleol yn deall dim am rai o'r cyflyrau ac nad oes ganddynt unrhyw ddirnadaeth, ac mae hynny wedi bod yn bwysau penodol.



May I also say to you as well that one of the areas that I do think we need to look further at on this will be the training of individuals with liaison with the new independent advisory service and local government and we are keen to get that issue absolutely correct? However, I would welcome, if you have any further contribution to make, Rhun, from your constituents, actually having those specific cases, because that is the only way that I can take it forward in discussions.

I, like you, very much hope—I have not actually seen the paperwork yet on the establishment of the service—that it will be from Wales in terms of what we want in terms of that procurement process, because I think it is important, in general business terms, that Wales should be able to use as many companies and things in Wales and to procure within Wales to ensure that we keep the value of the work in Wales.

15:59

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

May I very much welcome this discussion and may I very much welcome the Minister's statement? As the Minister is well aware, with certain conditions, such as asthma, MS and arthritis, people have good and bad days, and, on their good days, they walk up to county hall to try to get a blue badge, at which time they get rejected. We do need consistency across Wales.

I can give you two Swansea examples. One is of a frail, elderly lady of 95 who cannot get a badge, because she has great difficulty getting to county hall in order to get it. She needs the badge to go to Morriston Hospital. I know that you, Minister, know Morriston Hospital and the difficulty of finding somewhere to park close to where you need to be unless you have a blue badge. Another example is of a rejection letter, which stated that 'A letter has been provided from the asthma clinic inviting you to attend. However, this does not confirm that you attend regularly, or confirm if an appointment was made.'

Why do you think that they were invited to the asthma clinic—for a day out?

I am sure that Peter Black is going to go through a similar series of these things. Have there, in the past, been too many people having blue badges and abusing them? Yes. However, now, too many frail, elderly people and those with serious conditions are being refused them in Swansea. My guess is that, apart from Rhun ap Iorwerth, everybody taking part in this debate will be from Swansea. There is a specific Swansea problem that needs addressing. My question is this: will the independent advice service address this problem? I know, Minister, that you are as well aware of that as I am, because you must be getting the same complaints from your own constituents.

A gaf i hefyd ddweud wrthych mai un o'r meysydd yr wyf yn credu bod angen inni edrych ymhellach arno yn hyn o beth fydd hyfforddi unigolion sydd mewn cysylltiad â'r gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol newydd a llywodraeth leol a'n bod yn awyddus i gael y mater hwnnw'n hollol gywir? Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn croesawu, os oes gennych unrhyw gyfraniad pellach i'w wneud, Rhun, gan eich etholwyr, sydd â'r achosion penodol hynny mewn gwirionedd, gan mai dyna'r unig ffordd y gallaf symud ymlaen â'r mater mewn trafodaethau.

Rwyf fi, fel chithau, yn gobeithio'n fawr—nid wyf wedi gweld y gwaith papur mewn gwirionedd eto ar sefydlu'r gwasanaeth—y bydd yn dod o Gymru o ran yr hyn yr ydym yn dymuno ei gael o ran y broses gaffael honno, oherwydd credaf ei bod yn bwysig, mewn termau busnes cyffredinol, y dylai Cymru allu defnyddio cynifer o gwmnïau a phethau yng Nghymru a chaffael o fewn Cymru i sicrhau ein bod yn cadw gwerth y gwaith yng Nghymru.

A gaf i groesawu'r drafodaeth hon yn fawr iawn ac a gaf i groesawu datganiad y Gweinidog yn fawr iawn? Fel y gŵyr y Gweinidog yn iawn, gyda rhai cyflyrau, megis asthma, MS ac arthritis, mae pobl yn cael diwrnodau da a gwael, ac, ar eu diwrnodau da, maent yn cerdded i neuadd y sir i geisio cael bathodyn glas, ac yna'n cael eu gwrthod. Mae angen cysondeb arnom ledled Cymru.

Gallaf roi dwy enghraifft o Abertawe i chi. Mae un yn ymwneud â gwraig fregus, oedranus 95 oed nad yw'n gallu cael bathodyn, gan ei bod yn anodd iawn iddi fynd i neuadd y sir i'w gael. Mae angen y bathodyn arni i fynd i Ysbyty Treforys. Gwn eich bod chi, Weinidog, yn gyfarwydd ag Ysbyty Treforys a'r anhawster o ddod o hyd i rywle i barcio yn agos at ble mae angen i chi fod oni bai bod gennych fathodyn glas. Enghraifft arall yw llythyr gwrthod, a oedd yn dweud 'Mae llythyr wedi ei ddarparu gan y clinig asthma yn eich gwahodd i fod yn bresennol. Fodd bynnag, nid yw hyn yn cadarnhau eich bod yn mynychu'n rheolaidd, nac yn cadarnhau pa un a gafodd apwyntiad ei wneud.'

Pam yr ydych yn meddwl y cawsant eu gwahodd i'r clinig asthma—am ddiwrnod allan?

Rwyf yn siŵr y bydd Peter Black yn mynd drwy gyfres debyg o'r pethau hyn. A oes gormod o bobl, yn y gorffennol, wedi cael bathodynau glas a'u camddefnyddio? Oes. Fodd bynnag, erbyn hyn, mae gormod o bobl fregus, oedranus a phobl â chyflyrau difrifol yn cael eu gwrthod yn Abertawe. Rwyf yn dyfalu y bydd pawb, ar wahân i Rhun ap Iorwerth, sy'n cymryd rhan yn y ddaidl hon yn dod o Abertawe. Mae problem benodol yn Abertawe y mae angen ymdrin â hi. Dyma fy nghwestiwn: a fydd y gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol yn unioni'r broblem hon? Gwn, Weinidog, eich bod lawn mor ymwybodol o hynny â minnau, oherwydd mae'n rhaid eich bod yn cael yr un cwynion gan eich etholwyr eich hun.

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**Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

What you have illustrated in your contribution is what we all get across the Chamber in terms of inconsistency in the way in which the system is dealt with. I very much hope that, when we have the independent service, its relationship with local government will mean that we can deal with some of these issues. I wish that I could say with absolute confidence that that will be the case, but I think that more issues will start to emerge on this whole blue badge agenda the more we discuss it. I think that it is very important that I start to take some decisions about whether I will require more temporary badges and everything, and, should I do it, what the cost/benefit would be et cetera. That is why I want further contributions from Members before I make decisions.

I think as well that face-to-face applications enable local authorities to verify identities and to signpost, and it is also good practice. However, on the other hand, there are some people who physically cannot get to undertake these things, so we have to look at this wider issue if we are truly to make Wales accessible in terms of people having the opportunity to go out and about and pick up public services. This discussion could go on for hours and hours in terms of our examples, and even when you think that you have a solution, I think that we will find that something else will spring up that we have to look at in terms of this debate.

Yr hyn yr ydych wedi'i ddangos yn eich cyfraniad yw'r hyn yr ydym i gyd yn ei weld ar draws y Siambr o ran anghysondeb yn y modd yr ymddrinir â'r system. Rwyf yn gobeithio'n fawr, pan fydd y gwasanaeth annibynnol gennym, y bydd ei berthynas â llywodraeth leol yn golygu y gallwn ymddrin â rhai o'r materion hyn. Hoffwn allu dweud yn gwbl hyderus y gwnaiff hynny ddiwydd, ond rwyf yn meddwl y bydd mwy o faterion yn dechrau dod i'r amlwg ar agenda'r bathodynnau glas hyn wrth inni ei thrafod ymhellach. Rwyf yn meddwl ei bod yn bwysig iawn fy mod yn dechrau gwneud rhai penderfyniadau ynghylch a fydd angen mwy o fathodynnau dros dro arnaf a phopeth, a, phe bawn yn gwneud hynny, beth fyddai'r gost a budd ac ati. Dyna pam yr hoffwn gael mwy o gyfraniadau gan Aelodau cyn imi wneud penderfyniadau.

Rwyf yn meddwl hefyd bod ceisiadau wyneb yn wyneb yn galluogi awdurdodau lleol i wirio pwy yw pobl ac i gyfeirio, ac mae hefyd yn arfer da. Fodd bynnag, ar y llaw arall, mae rhai pobl sy'n gorfforol yn methu â mynd i wneud y pethau hyn, felly rhaid inni edrych ar y mater ehangach hwn os ydym mewn gwirionedd am wneud Cymru'n hygyrch o ran sicrhau bod gan bobl y cyfle i fynd o gwmpas a defnyddio gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Gallai'r drafodaeth hon fynd ymlaen am oriau ac oriau o ran yr enghreifftiau sydd gennym, a hyd yn oed pan fyddwch yn meddwl bod gennych ateb, rwyf yn meddwl y gwelwn rywbeth arall yn codi y bydd yn rhaid inni edrych arno o ran y ddadl hon.

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

May I thank you for this statement, Minister, and for the positive response to my short debate from 2 July? Ironically, your comment earlier on about people who have difficulty getting in and out of cars and who need more space is not covered by the regulations, and you cannot get a blue badge for that particular aspect, so maybe that is something that needs to be addressed, because I have had at least one case along those lines in my dealings with constituents.

If I may, I wish to raise a number of points in relation to the statement. With regard to the awarding of temporary blue badges, as it stands at the moment, the guidance talks about permanent conditions, and the blue badge is for a permanent condition. Yet, the blue badge is issued for only a three-year period, so even though you have a permanent condition, you are not given a permanent blue badge. Now, I have always had difficulty with that, but that is fine, because there may well be changes in people's circumstances and it means that you need to review that. It occurs to me, Minister, that rather than having a temporary blue badge, you could, for example, where you have a condition that might be temporary, such as somebody waiting for a hip or a knee operation, issue them with a blue badge for a shorter period of time, and that might be a solution. Maybe there could be a one-year badge, which they would have to reapply for if that condition were still in place. That might be an administratively easier way of dealing with that particular issue.

Hoffwn ddiolch ichi am y datganiad hwn, Weinidog, ac am yr ymateb cadarnhaol i fy nadl fer ar 2 Gorffennaf. Yn eironig, nid yw'r rheoliadau'n ymddrin â'ch sylw cynharach am bobl sy'n cael anhawster mynd i mewn ac allan o'u ceir ac sydd ag angen mwy o le, ac ni allwch gael bathodyn glas ar gyfer yr agwedd benodol honno, felly efallai fod hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen inni roi sylw iddo, oherwydd rwyf wedi gweld o leiaf un achos o'r math hwnnw wrth imi ymwneud ag etholwyr.

Os caf, hoffwn godi nifer o bwyntiau ynglŷn â'r datganiad. O ran dyfarnu bathodynnau glas dros dro, ar hyn o bryd, mae'r canllawiau'n sôn am gyflyrau parhaol, ac mae'r bathodyn glas ar gyfer cyflwr parhaol. Ac eto, dim ond am gyfnod o dair blynedd y caiff y bathodyn glas ei gyflwyno, felly er bod gennych gyflwr parhaol, nid ydych yn cael bathodyn glas parhaol. Nawr, rwyf erioed wedi cael anhawster gyda hynny, ond mae hynny'n iawn, oherwydd mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd newidiadau i amgylchiadau pobl sy'n golygu bod angen ichi adolygu hynny. Mae'n ymddangos i mi, Weinidog, yn hytrach na chael bathodyn glas dros dro, y gallech, er enghraifft, os oes gennych gyflwr a allai fod dros dro, megis rhywun sy'n aros am lawdriniaeth clun neu ben-glin, roi bathodyn glas iddynt am gyfnod byrrach, a gallai hynny fod yn ateb. Efallai y gellid cael bathodyn un flwyddyn, y byddai'n rhaid iddynt wneud cais arall amdano pe bai'r cyflwr hwnnw'n dal i fod arnynt. Gallai hynny fod yn ffordd haws yn weinyddol o ymddrin â'r mater penodol hwnnw.

Can you clarify the definition of 'permanent and severe' and tell us how it can be reconciled with the Department for Work and Pensions definition, which is accepted for applicants for the high-level mobility personal independence payment? We have had a number of issues around that, whereby conditions that would qualify for high-level mobility PIP or disability living allowance are not being accepted by the local authority in terms of the blue badge. I think that that is something that needs to be addressed as part of this.

It is also the case that local authorities are insisting on evidence of PIP or DLA, but they are not using their discretion. Swansea is a particular culprit here. It is not using its discretion, where an applicant does not have PIP or DLA, in terms of looking at someone and saying, 'Well, that person is obviously having trouble walking'. I had a constituent come to my office who had to be helped inside. We have a ramp and a handrail to help people up, but this person had to be helped into the office. They had been turned down for a blue badge because they were not getting PIP or DLA, even though it would be quite evident if they went to the council offices that they were having difficulty walking just a few yards. I think that there is a danger that some local authorities are fettering their own discretion and acting in an unreasonable way because of that, and I have referred at least two cases to the ombudsman on those grounds, asking him to review how they are acting in that particular way.

In terms of the toolkit, I very much welcome the fact that it has now been issued to local authorities. Could that be copied to Assembly Members, and possibly to local councillors so that we have access to it, as well, particularly when dealing with people who come to us for assistance?

Again, I very much welcome the independent advisory service. I think that that will make a huge difference, particularly for those local authorities that insist that they are not able to use occupational therapists. Swansea council claims that it cannot afford it even though it actually employs occupational therapists. Other authorities, such as Bridgend County Borough Council, are much better in this regard and will use their own occupational therapists in terms of that. Will this independent advisory service actually make the decision, or will it advise the local authority in the same way as an occupational therapist will do? Will the independent advisers include pharmacologists and psychologists, and how will the service particularly address the issue of incontinence, which I think has been raised?

I have also had another case brought to my attention by Mark Williams MP, who has had a number of cases in terms of blue badges around autism. People on the autism spectrum have not been eligible for blue badges, and that has been a problem in some cases. I wonder whether you could have a look at that.

A allwch egluro'r diffiniad o 'parhaol a difrifol' a dweud wrthym sut y gellir ei gysoni â diffiniad yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, sy'n cael ei dderbyn ar gyfer ymgeiswyr am y taliad annibyniaeth bersonol symudedd lefel uchel? Rydym wedi gweld nifer o faterion yn gysylltiedig â hynny, lle nad yw'r amodau a fyddai'n gwneud rhywun yn gymwys am daliad annibyniaeth bersonol symudedd lefel uchel neu lwfans byw i'r anabl yn cael eu derbyn gan yr awdurdod lleol o ran y bathodyn glas. Credaf fod hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen rhoi sylw iddo yn rhan o hyn.

Mae hefyd yn wir bod awdurdodau lleol yn mynnu tystiolaeth o'r taliad annibyniaeth bersonol neu Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl, ond nad ydynt yn defnyddio eu disgrisiwn. Mae Abertawe'n arbennig o euog o hyn. Nid ydynt yn defnyddio eu disgrisiwn, lle nad oes gan ymgeisydd daliad annibyniaeth bersonol neu DLA, i edrych ar rywun a dweud, 'Wel, mae'n amlwg bod y person yna'n cael trafferth cerdded'. Daeth etholwr i fy swyddfa a oedd yn gorfod cael cymorth i ddod i mewn. Mae gennym ramp a chanllaw i helpu pobl i ddod i mewn, ond roedd yn rhaid i'r person hwn gael ei helpu i mewn i'r swyddfa. Roedd wedi cael gwrthod bathodyn glas am nad oedd yn cael taliad annibyniaeth bersonol na Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl, er y byddai'n eithaf amlwg pe byddai'n mynd i swyddfeydd y cyngor ei fod yn ei chael yn anodd cerdded dim ond ychydig lathenni. Credaf fod perygl bod rhai awdurdodau lleol yn llesteirio eu disgrisiwn eu hunain ac yn gweithredu mewn ffordd afresymol oherwydd hynny, ac rwyf wedi cyfeirio dau achos o leiaf at yr ombwdsmon ar y sail honno, gan ofyn iddo adolygu sut y maent yn gweithredu yn y ffordd benodol honno.

O ran y pecyn cymorth, rwyf yn croesawu'n fawr y ffaith ei fod bellach wedi'i gyflwyno i awdurdodau lleol. A ellid anfon copi ohono at Aelodau'r Cynulliad, ac o bosibl at gynghorwyr lleol er mwyn i ni gael ei weld, hefyd, yn enwedig wrth ymdrin â phobl sy'n dod atom am gymorth?

Unwaith eto, rwyf yn croesawu'r gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol yn fawr iawn. Rwyf yn meddwl y gwnaiff wahaniaeth enfawr, yn enwedig i'r awdurdodau lleol hynny sy'n mynnu nad oes therapyddion galwedigaethol ar gael iddynt. Mae cyngor Abertawe'n honni na allant fforddio hynny er eu bod yn cyflogi therapyddion galwedigaethol eu hunain mewn gwirionedd. Mae awdurdodau eraill, megis Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, yn llawer gwell yn hyn o beth a byddant yn defnyddio eu therapyddion galwedigaethol eu hunain o ran hynny. A fydd y gwasanaeth cynghori annibynnol hwn yn gwneud y penderfyniad ei hun, ynteu a fydd yn cynghori'r awdurdod lleol yn yr un modd ag y bydd therapydd galwedigaethol yn ei wneud? A fydd y cynghorwyr annibynnol yn cynnwys ffarmacolegwyr a seicolegwyr, a sut y bydd y gwasanaeth yn benodol yn ymdrin â mater anymataliaeth, y credaf iddo gael ei godi?

Mae Mark Williams AS hefyd wedi tynnu fy sylw at achos arall, sef nifer o achosion o ran bathodynau glas yn ymwneud ag awtistiaeth. Nid yw pobl ar y sbectrum awtistiaeth wedi bod yn gymwys i gael bathodynau glas, ac mae hynny wedi bod yn broblem mewn rhai achosion. Tybed a allech chi edrych ar hynny?

Will changes to guidance allow evidence from GPs? Do you agree that it is unacceptable for councillors to insist on a letter from a consultant when other evidence is available, and when waiting times to see a consultant can be 12 months or more? Does the toolkit offer advice to councils on how to use their discretionary powers where it is obvious that the applicant cannot work, like the example that I gave earlier on, but cannot produce the high level of evidence that is necessary? I think that this issue of fettering discretion is a very important one. I think that the toolkit does need to address that, and I am very much looking forward to seeing a copy of that to see whether it addresses that issue.

Finally, Minister, in terms of the independent advisory service, I know that you have not seen the bids yet, but can you give us an indication of the timescale for when that is likely to be in place? Thank you.

16:07

**Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

If I give an indication of timescale on the bids process and say to you that I would like my officials to get it all back by the beginning of next week, you can be assured that, by my giving an assurance here, I can give you early notice of what is going on with it. So, I will give you the assurance that we will do it as soon as possible.

I very much agreed with your contribution today about the anomalies in the system and the way in which some local authorities operate. Some are much better than others in their use of discretion. Discretion is a very difficult thing. Sometimes, you feel that people are going out of their way not to exercise their discretion. They keep to the letter of everything rather than actually look at the human being behind the request, which I think you should do when you are in the public service. You should certainly do it when you are a local authority that is providing services. I think that that is essential.

In terms of the toolkit, I am more than happy, to issue it for AMs. If AMs did want a briefing about the use of the toolkit, I would be more than happy to arrange that for them and possibly for their staff, who might be dealing on a daily basis with some of the issues that are arising. Also in terms of the toolkit, it would be my intention to review the use of this toolkit in 12 months' time to see what will happen with some of the points that you raise, and to see whether any patterns arise that we do not like from the use of this toolkit, because this is very much an ongoing agenda.

The independent advice service will be available for the small number of cases, I think, that local authorities are unable to make decisions on, and it will provide access to every type of medically trained professional to offer advice to local authorities. I think that it is quite important that you go across the piece in terms of medical professionals and that it is not restricted. That would then get to grips with some of the illnesses and conditions that people currently do not get blue badges for.

A fydd newidiadau i ganllawiau yn caniatáu tystiolaeth gan feddygon teulu? A ydych chi'n cytuno ei bod yn annerbyniol i gynghorwyr fynnu llythyr gan ymgynghorydd pan fydd tystiolaeth arall ar gael, a phan fo amseroedd aros i weld meddyg ymgynghorol yn gallu bod yn 12 mis neu fwy? A yw'r pecyn cymorth yn cynnig cyngor i gynghorau am sut i ddefnyddio eu pwerau dewisol lle mae'n amlwg na all yr ymgeisydd weithio, fel yr enghraifft a roddais yn gynharach, ond nad yw'n gallu cyflwyno'r lefel uchel o dystiolaeth sydd ei hangen? Credaf fod y mater hwn o lesteirio disgrisiwn yn un pwysig iawn. Credaf fod yn rhaid i'r pecyn cymorth roi sylw i hynny, ac rwyf yn edrych ymlaen yn fawr at weld copi ohono i weld pa un a yw'n rhoi sylw i'r mater hwnnw.

Yn olaf, Weinidog, o ran y gwasanaeth cyngori annibynnol, rwyf yn gwybod nad ydych wedi gweld y cynigion hyd yma, ond a allwch roi syniad inni o'r amserlen ar gyfer pryd y bydd hynny'n debygol o fod ar waith? Diolch.

Os rhof syniad o amserlen y broses gynigion a dweud wrthyfch yr hoffwn i fy swyddogion fod wedi cael popeth yn ôl erbyn dechrau'r wythnos nesaf, gallwch fod yn sicr, gan fy mod wedi rhoi sicrwydd yma, y gallaf eich rhybuddio'n gynnar am yr hyn sy'n digwydd ynglŷn â hyn. Felly, rhof ichi'r sicrwydd y gwnawn hynny cyn gynted â phosibl.

Roeddwn yn cytuno'n gryf â'ch cyfraniad heddiw ynglŷn â'r anghysondebau yn y system a'r ffordd y mae rhai awdurdodau lleol yn gweithredu. Mae rhai'n defnyddio disgrisiwn yn llawer gwell nag eraill. Mae disgrisiwn yn beth anodd iawn. Weithiau, byddwch yn teimlo bod pobl yn mynd allan o'u ffordd i beidio ag arfer eu disgrisiwn. Maent yn cadw at lythren y ddeddf yn hytrach nag edrych ar y bod dynol go iawn y tu ôl i'r cais, sy'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn meddwl y dylech ei wneud pan eich bod yn y gwasanaeth cyhoeddus. Dylech yn sicr wneud hynny pan eich bod yn awdurdod lleol sy'n darparu gwasanaethau. Rwyf yn meddwl bod hynny'n hanfodol.

O ran y pecyn cymorth, rwyf yn fwy na pharod i'w gyflwyno i ACau. Pe byddai ACau o blaid cael eu briffio am ddefnyddio'r pecyn cymorth, byddwn yn fwy na pharod i drefnu hynny ar eu cyfer ac o bosibl ar gyfer eu staff, a allai fod yn ymdrin bob dydd â rhai o'r materion sy'n codi. Hefyd o ran y pecyn cymorth, fy mwriad fyddai adolygu'r defnydd o'r pecyn cymorth hwn ymhen 12 mis i weld beth fydd yn digwydd o ran rhai o'r pwyntiau yr ydych yn eu codi, ac i weld a oes unrhyw batrymau'n codi nad ydym yn hoff ohonynt wrth ddefnyddio'r pecyn cymorth hwn, oherwydd mae hon yn sicr yn agenda barhaus.

Bydd y gwasanaeth cyngor annibynnol ar gael ar gyfer y nifer fechan o achosion, rwyf yn meddwl, lle na all awdurdodau lleol wneud penderfyniadau, a bydd yn darparu mynediad at bob math o weithiwr proffesiynol sydd wedi cael hyfforddiant meddygol i gynnig cyngor i awdurdodau lleol. Credaf ei bod yn eithaf pwysig eich bod yn cynnwys pob math o weithiwr meddygol proffesiynol yn hyn o beth, ac na chaiff ei gyfyngu. Byddai hynny wedyn yn ymdrin â rhai o'r afiechydon a'r cyflyrau nad yw pobl yn cael bathodynau glas ar eu cyfer ar hyn o bryd.

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I am actually quite tempted by what you said about the temporary badge issue, because there is a case, I think, of issuing a temporary badge for a year and then you have to make a detailed case of why it has to continue in terms of some conditions. I think that that is something that we can actually look at.

I was concerned about the comments that you made about autism because this is one of the areas—with cognitive impairment and other things—that we do want to deal with. I would like to have some more examples, if Members have them, of how constituents have been adversely affected by what has happened within some local authority areas.

On the disability living allowance and personal independence payments, we have had to look in detail at this as a result of letters that have come in. Our understanding is that people who receive DLA or PIP before they reach the age of 65 will continue to do so afterwards as long as they continue to meet the eligibility criteria. They are also able to have their awards reconsidered to take into account any deteriorating or additional conditions, and consequently they may then receive the award that meets the automatic eligibility criteria.

The discretionary eligibility criteria for a blue badge are in place in recognition of the fact that people aged over 65 are unable to apply for DLA or PIP, and this is an issue. In these cases, the applicant needs to provide evidence of their eligibility and specifically of their being unable to walk or of their having considerable difficulty walking. The criteria are the same as would be used to test for DLA or PIP. However, this difficulty walking issue has proved quite problematic in some authority areas, where people have been asked to prove that they have difficulty walking. They of course then do manage to walk for their assessment and everything, as they struggle to do it, but then they get turned down for the badge. So, there are certain really practical issues on this. We did a public consultation in 2011 and put forward methods to assess applications under the discretionary criteria. They included self-assessment and a GP assessment, both of which were discounted at the time. The preferred method of assessment was a desk-based approach, based on the intelligent use—and I stress that—of available information. Now, the new toolkit and guidance are intended to support this, and in addition the new independent advisory service will be able to support the decisions.

Rwyf mewn gwirionedd wedi fy nhemtio gryn dipyn gan yr hyn a ddywedasoch am fater bathodynau dros dro, oherwydd ceir achos, rwyf yn meddwl, dros gyhoeddi bathodyn dros dro am flwyddyn ac yna bod yn rhaid ichi gyflwyno achos manwl i ddweud pam mae'n rhaid i hynny barhau o ran rhai cyflyrau. Credaf fod hynny'n rhywbeth y gallwn edrych arno mewn gwirionedd.

Roeddwn yn bryderus am y sylwadau a wnaethoch am awtistiaeth gan fod hwn yn un o'r meysydd—ynghyd â namau gwybyddol a phethau eraill—yr hoffem ymdrin â hwy. Hoffwn gael ychydig mwy o enghreifftiau, os ydynt gan Aelodau, o sut y mae'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd mewn rhai ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol wedi effeithio'n andwyol ar etholwyr.

O ran y lwfans byw i'r anabl a thaliadau annibyniaeth bersonol, rydym wedi gorfod edrych yn fanwl ar hyn o ganlyniad i lythyrau yr ydym wedi'u derbyn. Rydym ar ddeall y bydd pobl sy'n cael Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl neu daliad annibyniaeth bersonol cyn iddynt gyrraedd 65 oed yn parhau i'w derbyn ar ôl hynny cyn belled â'u bod yn parhau i fodloni'r meini prawf cymhwysedd. Hefyd, gellir ailystyried eu dyfarniadau i ystyried unrhyw gyflyrau sy'n dirywio neu gyflyrau newydd, ac o ganlyniad efallai y byddant yna'n cael y dyfarniad sy'n bodloni'r meini prawf cymhwysedd awtomatig.

Mae'r meini prawf cymhwyster dewisol ar gyfer cael bathodyn glas wedi'u sefydlu i gydnabod y ffaith nad yw pobl dros 65 oed yn cael gwneud cais am Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl na thaliad annibyniaeth bersonol, ac mae hyn yn broblem. Yn yr achosion hyn, mae angen i'r ymgeisydd ddarparu tystiolaeth ei fod yn gymwys ac yn benodol ddim yn gallu cerdded neu ei fod yn cael anhawster sylweddol i gerdded. Mae'r meini prawf yr un fath â'r rhai a ddefnyddid i brofi ar gyfer Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl neu daliad annibyniaeth bersonol. Fodd bynnag, mae'r mater hwn o anhawster i gerdded wedi bod yn dipyn o broblem mewn rhai ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol, lle gofynnwyd i bobl brofi eu bod yn cael anhawster i gerdded. Maent wrth gwrs wedyn yn llwyddo i gerdded ar gyfer eu hasesiad a phopeth, er eu bod yn ei chael yn anodd gwneud hynny, ond yna cânt eu gwrthod ar gyfer y bathodyn. Felly, mae rhai materion ymarferol iawn yn gysylltiedig â hyn. Cawsom ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus yn 2011 a chyflwynwyd dulliau i asesu ceisiadau dan y meini prawf dewisol. Roeddent yn cynnwys hunanasesu ac asesiad gan feddyg teulu, ond cawsant ill dau eu diystyru ar y pryd. Y dull asesu a ddewiswyd oedd dull desg, yn seiliedig ar ddefnyddio'r wybodaeth sydd ar gael yn ddeallus—a phwysleisiaf hynny. Nawr, bwriedir i'r pecyn cymorth a'r canllawiau newydd ategu hyn, a hefyd, bydd y gwasanaeth cyngori annibynnol newydd yn gallu ategu'r penderfyniadau.

On the DWP issue, uprating letters are sent annually to people awarded either the DLA or PIP, and so asking for a letter that has been issued within 12 months is, I think, a reasonable request. If the applicant has lost their uprating letter, they can contact the DWP for a copy. It is easy to see some of the practical problems that arise in these assessments, and arrangements are being made to allow data sharing between DWP and the blue badge improvement service, which is responsible for badge production and the national database. However, one of the areas that I have been concerned about is the issuing of badges to children up to the age of three, who cannot apply for DLA or PIP. They may need to be accompanied by very bulky life-support equipment or may need emergency transport to hospital. Some of the children's issues are really quite difficult in this area. So, we are trying to comprehensively look at all of this particular agenda, and I want to give the Member an absolute assurance today that just because we have the toolkit now does not mean that we are not going to revise it, and that if the service is not satisfactory, it does not mean that we are not going to do anything about it, because we will. I know that Members have an enormous amount of correspondence and feel a sense of responsibility to their constituents for what is going on in this particular agenda.

O ran yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau, anfonir llythrau uwchraddio'n flynyddol at bobl sy'n cael naill ai'r Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl neu'r taliad annibyniaeth bersonol, ac felly mae gofyn am lythyr a gyhoeddwyd o fewn 12 mis, yn fy marn i, yn gais rhesymol. Os yw'r ymgeisydd wedi colli'r llythyr uwchraddio, caiff gysylltu â'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau i gael copi. Mae'n hawdd gweld rhai o'r problemau ymarferol sy'n codi yn yr asesiadau hyn, ac mae trefniadau'n cael eu gwneud i ganiatáu rhannu data rhwng yr Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau a gwasanaeth gwella'r bathodyn glas, sy'n gyfrifol am gynhyrchu bathodynau a'r gronfa ddata genedlaethol. Fodd bynnag, un o'r meysydd yr wyf wedi bod yn pryderu yn ei gylch yw cyflwyno bathodynau i blant hyd at dair oed, nad ydynt yn gallu gwneud cais am Lwfans Byw i'r Anabl na thaliad annibyniaeth bersonol. Gall fod angen iddynt ddefnyddio offer cynnal bywyd swmpus iawn, neu efallai y bydd arnynt angen cludiant brys i'r ysbyty. Mae rhai o'r materion sy'n wynebu'r plant yn y maes hwn yn eithaf anodd yn wir. Felly, rydym yn ceisio edrych yn gynhwysfawr ar yr holl agenda benodol hon, a hoffwn roi sicrwydd llwyr i'r Aelod heddiw nad yw'r ffaith bod gennym y pecyn cymorth nawr yn golygu nad ydym yn mynd i'w ddiwygio, ac, os nad yw'r gwasanaeth yn foddhaol, nid yw'n golygu na fyddwn yn gwneud dim byd am y peth, oherwydd byddwn yn gwneud hynny. Gwn fod Aelodau'n cael llawer iawn o ohebiaeth ac yn teimlo cyfrifoldeb i'w hetholwyr am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn yr agenda benodol hon.

16:12 **Mark Isherwood** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I wrote to you last December on behalf of a constituent, supporting the issuing of a temporary blue badge in their circumstances. When I suggested in the Chamber to you in May that perhaps a way of addressing this issue would be to have dates—expiry dates, renewal dates—included on those temporary blue badges, you said that you would refer it to officials. What role do you feel this could play perhaps in addressing some of the concerns that you have rightly highlighted today?

Ysgrifennais atoch fis Rhagfyr diwethaf ar ran etholwr, o blaid cyflwyno bathodyn glas dros dro o ystyried eu hamgylchiadau. Pan awgrymais yn y Siambr ichi ym mis Mai mai un ffordd bosibl o ymdrin â'r mater hwn fyddai rhoi dyddiadau—dyddiadau dod i ben, dyddiadau adnewyddu—ar y bathodynau glas dros dro hynny, dywedasochoch y byddech yn cyfeirio'r mater at swyddogion. Pa ran yr ydych yn teimlo y gallai hyn o bosibl ei chwarae wrth dawelu rhai o'r pryderon yr ydych wedi tynnu sylw atynt yn briodol heddiw?

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16:12 **Edwina Hart** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

We have to look at everything suggested to us at this particular time to get this system absolutely right, and I am not ruling anything in or out in the further discussions that I will be having and from the further suggestions that I will be getting from Members. I will formally update the Chamber in due course.

Mae'n rhaid inni edrych ar bopeth a awgrymwyd i ni ar yr adeg benodol hon i sicrhau bod y system hon yn hollol gywir, ac nid wyf yn addo cynnwys nac eithrio dim yn yr trafodaethau pellach y byddaf yn eu cael nac yn yr awgrymiadau pellach a gaf gan Aelodau. Rhof y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Siambr yn ffurfiol maes o law.

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16:13 **Datganiad: Y Chweched Fforwm Cydlyniant**

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

I call on the Minister for Finance and Government Business, Jane Hutt.

**Statement: The Sixth Cohesion Forum**

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth, Jane Hutt.

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*Y Gweinidog Cyllid a Busnes y Llywodraeth / The Minister for Finance and Government Business*

On 8 September, I addressed the EU's sixth cohesion forum in Brussels. The forum marked the publication of the sixth cohesion report on economic, social and territorial cohesion and was attended by some 700 individuals, including Ministers and leaders from national and regional Governments, as well as representatives of institutions from across the EU. The forum focused on the contribution of EU cohesion policy, the main investment policy of the EU, in delivering on the goals of Europe 2020, by creating jobs and reducing economic disparities across the EU.

I was very pleased to be asked to be a member of a panel that considered how best to set about improving governance and building the capacity of modern administrations. The considerable diversity across the EU, in terms of governance and administration, was evident during the debate, although there were obvious common themes, including around the need for political commitment and trust, and the importance of involving civil society and the social partners in developing new and improved arrangements. I was delighted to contribute to this very important debate and to have the opportunity to highlight the huge importance of cohesion policy and of EU funding to Wales. I was also able to explain the significant progress that we have made here in Wales in modernising the arrangements through which EU funds are deployed, managed and governed.

Wales has, of course, been a major beneficiary of structural funds since 2000 and, over this period, we have made significant progress in delivering structural reform and in meeting the social challenges that accompany structural economic change. The 2007-13 round of structural funds alone has already helped to create over 9,000 enterprises and 28,000 jobs, as well as helping nearly 61,000 people into work and over 180,000 to gain qualifications.

Since 2000, we have learnt many important lessons on how to maximise the impact of investments, and we continue to build on this learning as we move into the new programme period. We are keen to share our knowledge and understanding with other member states and my attendance at the forum enabled me to contribute further to the important debate around how best to maximise the added value of EU funding. I was able to explain to the forum how, under the 2007-13 round of programmes, we have been able to: move from around 3,000 very small project investments to around 300 more strategic investments; make significant investments in our delivery and monitoring systems and processes, including our e-gateway system; embrace modern smart procurement arrangements and engage effectively with the private sector in both programme design and delivery; and take innovative approaches to create legacy funding streams, including financial engineering instruments under the JEREMIE initiative.

Ar 8 Medi, bûm yn annerch chweched fforwm cydlyniant yr UE ym Mrwsel. Roedd y fforwm yn nodi cyhoeddi'r chweched adroddiad cydlyniant ar gydlyniant economaidd, cymdeithasol a thiriogaethol ac roedd oddeutu 700 o unigolion yn bresennol yno, gan gynnwys Gweinidogion ac arweinwyr o Lywodraethau cenedlaethol a rhanbarthol, yn ogystal â chynrychiolwyr sefydliadau o bob rhan o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Roedd y fforwm yn canolbwyntio ar gyfraniad polisi cydlyniant yr UE, prif bolisi buddsoddi'r UE, at gyflawni nodau Ewrop 2020, drwy greu swyddi a lleihau gwahaniaethau economaidd ledled yr UE.

Roeddwn yn falch iawn o gael gwahoddiad i fod yn aelod o banel a oedd yn ystyried y ffordd orau o fynd ati i wella llywodraethu a meithrin gallu gweinyddiaethau modern. Roedd yr amrywiaeth sylweddol ar draws yr UE, o ran llywodraethu a gweinyddu, yn amlwg yn ystod y ddadl, er bod rhai themâu cyffredin amlwg, gan gynnwys yr angen am ymddiriedaeth ac ymrwymiad gwleidyddol, a phwysigrwydd cynnwys cymdeithas sifil a'r partneriaid cymdeithasol wrth ddatblygu trefniadau newydd a gwel. Roeddwn yn falch iawn o gael cyfrannu at y ddadl bwysig iawn hon ac i gael cyfle i dynnu sylw at bwysigrwydd aruthrol polisi cydlyniant a chyllid yr UE i Gymru. Roedd yn gyfle hefyd i egluro'r cynnydd sylweddol yr ydym wedi'i wneud yma yng Nghymru o ran moderneiddio'r trefniadau ar gyfer defnyddio, rheoli a llywodraethu cronfeydd yr UE.

Mae Cymru, wrth gwrs, wedi elwa'n fawr ar y cronfeydd strwythurol ers 2000 ac, yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, rydym wedi gwneud cynnydd sylweddol o ran sicrhau diwygiadau strwythurol a bodloni'r heriau cymdeithasol sy'n cyd-fynd â newid economaidd strwythurol. Mae cylch cronfeydd strwythurol 2007-13 eisoes wedi helpu i greu dros 9,000 o fentrau a 28,000 o swyddi, yn ogystal â helpu bron i 61,000 o bobl i gael gwaith a thros 180,000 i ennill cymwysterau.

Ers 2000, rydym wedi dysgu llawer o wersi pwysig am sut i sicrhau bod buddsoddiadau'n cael yr effaith fwyaf, ac rydym yn parhau i adeiladu ar yr hyn a ddysgir wrth inni symud i mewn i gyfnod y rhaglenni newydd. Rydym yn awyddus i rannu ein gwybodaeth a'n dealltwriaeth ag aelod-wladwriaethau eraill a thrwy fod yn bresennol yn y fforwm, cefais gyfle i gyfrannu ymhellach at y drafodaeth bwysig ynghylch y ffordd orau o wneud y mwyaf o werth ychwanegol arian yr UE. Eglurais wrth y fforwm ein bod, o dan gyloch rhaglenni 2007-13, wedi gallu: symud o tua 3,000 o fuddsoddiadau prosiect bach iawn i oddeutu 300 o fuddsoddiadau mwy strategol; gwneud buddsoddiadau sylweddol yn ein systemau a'n prosesau cyflenwi a monitro, gan gynnwys ein system e-borth; cofleidio trefniadau caffael clyfar, modern ac ymgysylltu'n effeithiol â'r sector preifat o ran cynllunio a darparu rhaglenni; a defnyddio dulliau arloesol o greu ffrydiau ariannol etifeddol, gan gynnwys offerynnau peiriannu ariannol o dan y fenter JEREMIE.

While in Brussels, I also took the opportunity to meet with senior Commission officials from the directorates general responsible for regional policy and maritime affairs. I was pleased and reassured that they felt that we are very much on track with our structural fund programmes. Negotiations with the European Commission on the 2014-20 structural funds programmes are progressing well. I am hopeful that the programmes will be agreed by the Commission by the end of October, following the agreement of the UK partnership agreement. I will continue to keep Members informed of developments.

I also met with the French Secretary of State for European affairs, Harlem Désir, to discuss our respective approaches to promoting youth employment. He was particularly interested to learn about the success of Jobs Growth Wales and was pleased that we have invited a representative of the French Government to present some of its initiatives to promote youth employment to our Wales forum on Europe, which will take place in Cardiff on 27 November. My ministerial counterpart in Lithuania, Rimantas Šadžius, whom I also met, explained to me that structural funds had been a life saver for Lithuania during the financial crisis. Fortunately, the situation there has improved and his Government is now exploring the possible use of financial instruments. I was able to share our positive experiences of using the structural funds along with investment from the European Investment Bank under the JEREMIE initiative.

This visit also gave me the opportunity to meet with Welsh MEPs Derek Vaughan, Kay Swinburne and Jill Evans to outline the latest developments on the structural fund programmes and to discuss further opportunities to communicate the benefits of the European Union to Wales. This enabled me to express my gratitude for their work to date in representing Wales in Europe. I am now looking forward to working closely with them in this parliamentary term, as it is clear that EU funds have been, and will continue to be, vital for Wales. So, too, is the UK and Wales's continued membership of the EU if we are to have the best chance of our businesses thriving and our people prospering.

Like all European nations, we continue to face a very difficult public spending outlook. Further infrastructure investments are vital to Wales in helping us to connect people to jobs and businesses to markets. Tackling poverty requires a collective effort across Government and across all investments, which is why we are including it as one of our three cross-cutting themes in the new structural fund programmes, alongside equality and environmental sustainability. These are not short-term problems with quick solutions. They require a sustained commitment to structural investment. This is why, while we acknowledge the UK Government's position that future cohesion policy should focus resources away from wealthier member states, regional economic disparities within member states, such as those facing large parts of Wales, force us to conclude that structural funds should continue to be made available to the poorest regions in the EU, irrespective of the relative wealth of the member state in which they are located.

Tra bŵm ym Mrwsel, manteisiais ar y cyfle hefyd i gwrdd ag uwch swyddogion y Comisiwn yn y cyfarwyddiaethau cyffredinol sy'n gyfrifol am bolisiau rhanbarthol a materion morol. Roeddwn yn falch ac yn fodlon eu bod o'r farn ein bod i raddau helaeth ar y trywydd iawn gyda'n rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol. Mae trafodaethau â'r Comisiwn Ewropeidd am raglenni cronfeydd strwythurol 2014-20 yn mynd rhagddynt yn dda. Rwyf yn obeithiol y bydd y Comisiwn yn cytuno ar y rhaglenni erbyn diwedd mis Hydref, ar ôl cytuno ar gytundeb partneriaeth y DU. Byddaf yn parhau i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r Aelodau am y datblygiadau.

Cyfarfŵm hefyd ag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Ffrainc dros faterion Ewropeidd, Harlem Désir, i drafod ymagweddau'r naill a'r llall tuag at hyrwyddo cyflogaeth ieuencid. Roedd ganddo ddi-ddordeb arbennig mewn cael gwybod am lwyddiant Twf Swyddi Cymru ac roedd yn falch ein bod wedi gwahodd cynrychiolydd o Lywodraeth Ffrainc i gyflwyno rhai o'i mentrau i hyrwyddo cyflogaeth ieuencid i'n fforwm Cymru ar Ewrop, a gynhelir yng Nghaerdydd ar 27 Tachwedd. Eglurodd fy ngweinidog cyfatebol yn Lithwania, Rimantas Šadžius, y cyfarfŵm ag ef hefyd, fod y cronfeydd strwythurol wedi achub croen Lithwania yn ystod yr argyfwng ariannol. Yn ffodus, mae'r sefyllfa yn wedi gwella ac mae ei Lywodraeth yn awr yn edrych ar bosibilrwydd defnyddio offerynnau ariannol. Bu modd imi rannu ein profiadau cadarnhaol o ddefnyddio'r cronfeydd strwythurol ynghyd â buddsoddi gan Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop o dan y fenter JEREMIE.

Rhododd yr ymweliad hwn gyfle imi hefyd i gwrdd ag ASEau Cymru Derek Vaughan, Kay Swinburne a Jill Evans i amlinellu'r datblygiadau diweddaraf ar raglenni'r cronfeydd strwythurol ac i drafod cyfleoedd pellach i gyfleu manteision yr Undeb Ewropeidd i Gymru. Roedd hyn yn gyfle imi i fynegi fy ngwerthfawrogiad o'u gwaith hyd yma wrth gynrychioli Cymru yn Ewrop. Rwyf yn awr yn edrych ymlaen at gydweithio'n agos â hwy yn y tymor seneddol hwn, gan ei bod yn amlwg bod arian yr UE wedi bod, ac y bydd yn parhau i fod, yn hanfodol i Gymru. Felly, hefyd, mae aelodaeth barhaus y DU a Chymru o'r UE os ydym gan gael y siawns orau o weld ein busnesau a'n pobl yn ffynnu.

Fel pob gwlad yn Ewrop, rydym yn dal i wynebu rhagolygon gwariant cyhoeddus anodd iawn. Mae buddsoddiadau pellach mewn seilwaith yn hanfodol i Gymru i'n helpu i gysylltu pobl â swyddi a busnesau â marchnadoedd. Mae'n rhaid wrth ymdrech ar y cyd ar draws y Llywodraeth ac ar draws pob buddsoddiad er mwyn trechu tlodi, a dyna pam y mae'n un o'n tair thema drawsbynciol yn y rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol newydd, ochr yn ochr â chydarddoldeb a chynaliadwyedd amgylcheddol. Nid problemau tymor byr y gellir eu datrys yn gyflym mo'r rhain. Mae'n rhaid wrth ymrwymiad parhaus i fuddsoddi strwythurol. Dyna pam, er ein bod yn cydnabod safbwynt Llywodraeth y DU y dylai polisi cydlyniant yn y dyfodol ganolbwyntio adnoddau oddi wrth aelod-wladwriaethau mwy cyfoethog, y mae gwahaniaethau economaidd rhanbarthol o fewn aelod-wladwriaethau, megis y rhai sy'n wynebu rhannau helaeth o Gymru, yn ein gorfodi i ddod i'r casgliad y dylai cronfeydd strwythurol barhau i fod ar gael i ranbarthau tlotaf yr UE, waeth pa mor gymharol gyfoethog y bo'r aelod-wladwriaeth maent yn rhan ohoni.

Finally, you will have all seen the announcement of the proposed new college of commissioners. As and when they are appointed, I will be writing to them offering congratulations and emphasising the Welsh Government's positive, constructive engagement in the EU and our strong commitment to the UK's continued membership.

Yn olaf, byddwch i gyd wedi gweld y cyhoeddiad am y coleg newydd arfaethedig o gomisiynwyr. Wrth iddynt gael eu penodi, byddaf yn ysgrifennu atynt i'w llongyfarch ac i bwysleisio ymgysylltiad cadarnhaol, adeiladol Llywodraeth Cymru yn yr UE a'n hymrwymiad cryf i aelodaeth barhaus y DU.

16:19

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

Minister, thank you very much indeed for your statement. I congratulate you on your addressing the EU sixth cohesion forum in Brussels. It is a feather in the cap for Wales that you should be addressing a forum attended by some 700 individuals, including Ministers and leaders from national regional Governments.

To deal with a couple of the points you raised in your statement, I will start with a remark you made towards the end of your statement, which was that these are not short-term problems with quick solutions. That is something of an understatement—the understatement of the century—for this Government, seeing as you have been here now for 14 years, so I would appreciate it if you could identify progress that you have made on these problems. Whenever we discuss EU funding, especially in terms of cohesion funding, it seems that the same old arguments are rolled out in defence of the Government here. Admittedly, they are now sprinkled with the odd mention of Jobs Growth Wales—which is to be commended, I hasten to add.

You mention in your statement that you were pleased to sit as a member of a panel entitled 'improving governance—and build the capacity of modern administrations'. I wonder whether the widening regional disparities cropped up, and what your explanation for west Wales and the Valleys was. To remind Members, GDP fell from 72% of the EU average to 64%, which the report attached to your statement highlights. Being placed in the same category and compared with Greece is not something that I welcome, and neither do any of my colleagues on this side of the Chamber.

Also, Minister, when you list the obvious common themes of including political commitment and trust, and the importance of involving civil society and social partners, once again, I have to highlight that you completely omit partners in the private sector, who are tasked in the main with securing sustainable long-term employment. Yet again, I will ask you to address this omission in answering my questions.

In short, Minister, I am pleased to note that you had another positive meeting in Brussels with European counterparts, and I really hope that your Government in Wales recognises the huge potential that we have before us once again. However, I would much rather see a more detailed statement on delivery and how we address serious regional disparities, which highlight weaknesses in our economy here in Wales. I was very pleased—delighted, in fact—to see your close liaison with all of our Welsh MEPs, and I look forward to significant progress in the creation of jobs and connecting with businesses and markets. Once again, I mention that this can be achieved only by working with the private sector. Thank you.

Weinidog, diolch yn fawr iawn am eich datganiad. Rwyf yn eich llongyfarch am annerch chweched fforwm cydlyniant yr UE ym Mrwsel. Mae'n bluen yn het Cymru eich bod wedi annerch fforwm lle'r oedd tua 700 o unigolion yn bresennol, gan gynnwys Gweinidogion ac arweinwyr o Lywodraethau rhanbarthol cenedlaethol.

I ateb un neu ddau o'r pwyntiau a godwyd gennych yn eich datganiad, dechreuaf â sylw a wnaethoch tuag at ddiwedd eich datganiad, sef nad problemau tymor byr y gellir eu datrys yn gyflym mo'r rhain. Mae hynny'n dipyn o danddatganiad—tanddatganiad y ganrif—i'r Llywodraeth hon, ac ystyried eich bod bellach wedi bod yma ers 14 mlynedd, felly byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech nodi'r cynnydd yr ydych wedi'i wneud ar y problemau hyn. Pryd bynnag y byddwn yn trafod arian yr UE, yn enwedig o ran cyllid cydlyniant, mae'n ymddangos bod yr un hen ddadleuon yn cael eu cyflwyno i amddiffyn y Llywodraeth yma. Oes, mae bellach ambell i gyfeiriad at Dwf Swyddi Cymru—rhywbeth sydd i'w ganmol, prysuraf i ychwanegu.

Rydych yn sôn yn eich datganiad eich bod yn falch o eistedd fel aelod o banel o'r enw 'gwella llywodraethu—a meithrin gallu gweinyddiaethau modern'. Tybed a godwyd y gwahaniaethau rhanbarthol sy'n tyfu, a beth oedd eich eglurhad ar gyfer gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd. I atgoffa Aelodau, syrthiodd cynnyrch domestig gros o 72% o gyfartaledd yr UE i 64%, fel y nodir yn yr adroddiad sydd ynghlwm wrth eich datganiad. Nid wyf fi, na neb o'm cydweithwyr ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr, yn croesawu bod yn yr un categori â Gwlad Groeg na chael ein cymharu â hi.

Hefyd, Weinidog, pan restrwch themâu cyffredin amlwg ymddiriedaeth ac ymrwymiad gwleidyddol, a phwysigrwydd cynnwys cymdeithas sifil a phartneriaid cymdeithasol, unwaith eto, rhaid imi dynnu sylw at y ffaith eich bod yn hepgor yn llwyr bartneriaid yn y sector preifat, y disgwylir iddynt yn anad neb sicrhau cyflogaeth hirdymor gynaliadwy. Unwaith eto, gofynnaf ichi roi sylw i'r diffyg hwn wrth ateb fy nghwestiynau.

Yn fyr, Weinidog, rwyf yn falch o nodi eich bod wedi cael cyfarfod cadarnhaol arall ym Mrwsel â swyddogion cyfatebol Ewropeaidd, ac rwyf yn gobeithio'n fawr y gwnaiff eich Llywodraeth yng Nghymru gydnabod y potensial aruthrol sydd ger ein bron unwaith eto. Fodd bynnag, byddai'n well o lawer gennyf weld datganiad manylach am gyflenwi a sut i roi sylw i wahaniaethau rhanbarthol difrifol, sy'n tynnu sylw at wendidau yn ein heconomi yma yng Nghymru. Roeddwn yn falch iawn—wrth fy modd, a dweud y gwir—o weld eich cysylltiad agos â phob un o'n ASEau Cymru, ac edrychaf ymlaen at gynnydd sylweddol o ran creu swyddi a chysylltu â busnesau a marchnadoedd. Unwaith eto, nodaf mai'r unig ffordd o gyflawni hyn yn drwy weithio gyda'r sector preifat. Diolch.

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I thank Byron Davies for his positive response to my attendance at the cohesion forum and the opportunity that it gave me to engage with Ministers and leaders across the European Union, and to engage in high-level discussions in terms of the opportunities that we share, and the experiences that we can share, regarding the importance of the cohesion policy and the use of EU structural funds.

It is very important that, in terms of your key points about why we need these structural funds, and why we will continue to need them, we recognise—I am sure that you do—the regions of west Wales and the Valleys have suffered a deeper recession than the rest of the UK, together with significant budget cuts. I have repeatedly stressed the importance of EU funds to this region and across Wales, particularly in supporting our jobs and growth agenda.

In terms of opportunities for business, I think that it is important again that the current structural funds programmes have brought £3.7 billion of total project investment to Wales, delivering over 26,000 opportunities for businesses. The private sector is fully engaged in terms of the impact and outcomes, and, as I said in my statement, it is much more engaged in shaping our programmes and looking at the more than 650,000 employment and training opportunities for individuals across Wales.

However, I think that we also have to recognise that, if we look at the importance of EU membership, in terms of benefits to the UK and Wales, this statement gives me the opportunity to say that the single market has opened up access to 500 million consumers in the EU single market and has generated foreign investment. Potential investors in Wales would otherwise think twice about investing in Wales. Access to 3 million Welsh consumers and the hundreds of millions of consumers that Europe offers opens up opportunities for Wales and the UK. Let us also look at our export figures, with more than 500 firms in Wales exporting over £5 billion-worth of exports annually to other EU member states.

The fact that EU funds are vital to Wales, particularly to the private sector, is clear. If you look at independent surveys on programmes, in terms of their benefits for business, around 35% to 40% of surveyed businesses reported that European regional development fund support had a positive effect on either turnover, profitability or productivity, and 30% of businesses reported that the performance of their workplace would have been worse without ERDF support.

Diolch i Byron Davies am ei ymateb cadarnhaol i'm presenoldeb yn y fforwm cydlyniant a'r cyfle a gefais i ymgysylltu â Gweinidogion ac arweinwyr ar draws yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, ac i gymryd rhan mewn trafodaethau lefel uchel ynglŷn â'r cyfleoedd yr ydym yn eu rhannu, a'r profiadau y gallwn eu rhannu, o ran pwysigrwydd y polisi cydlyniant a defnyddio cronfeydd strwythurol yr UE.

Mae'n bwysig iawn, o ran eich pwyntiau allweddol ynghylch pam y mae angen y cronfeydd strwythurol hyn arnom, a pham y bydd eu hangen arnom o hyd, ein bod yn cydnabod—rwyf yn siŵr eich bod yn gwneud hynny—fod rhanbarthau'r gorllewin a'r Cymoedd wedi dioddef dirwasgiad dyfnach na gweddill y DU, ynghyd â thoriadau sylweddol yn y gyllideb. Rwyf wedi pwysleisio dro ar ôl tro pa mor bwysig yw arian yr UE i'r rhanbarth hwn a ledled Cymru, yn enwedig o ran cefnogi ein hagenda twf a swyddi.

O ran cyfleoedd ar gyfer busnes, rwyf yn meddwl ei bod yn bwysig unwaith eto fod y rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol presennol wedi dod â chyfanswm o £3.7 biliwn o fuddsoddiadau mewn prosiectau i Gymru, gan ddarparu dros 26,000 o gyfleoedd i fusnesau. Mae'r sector preifat wedi ymgysylltu'n llawn o ran yr effaith a'r canlyniadau, ac, fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, mae wedi ymgysylltu'n fwy o lawer â llunio ein rhaglenni ac edrych ar y 650,000 a mwy o gyfleoedd cyflogaeth a hyfforddiant i unigolion ledled Cymru.

Fodd bynnag, credaf fod yn rhaid inni gydnabod hefyd, os edrychwn ar bwysigrwydd aelodaeth o'r UE, o ran manteision i'r DU a Chymru, fod y datganiad hwn yn gyfle imi i ddweud bod y farchnad sengl wedi agor y drws i 500 miliwn o ddefnyddwyr ym marchnad sengl yr UE, ac wedi ysgogi buddsoddiadau tramor. Fel arall, byddai buddsoddwyr posibl yng Nghymru'n meddwl ddwywaith am fuddsoddi yng Nghymru. Mae'r ffaith bod 3 miliwn o ddefnyddwyr yng Nghymru a channoedd o filiynau o ddefnyddwyr yn Ewrop yn cynnig cyfleoedd i Gymru a'r DU. Gadewch inni hefyd edrych ar ein ffigurau allforio—mae mwy na 500 o gwmnïau yng Nghymru'n allforio gwerth dros £5 biliwn o allforion bob blwyddyn i aelod-wladwriaethau eraill yr UE.

Mae'r ffaith bod arian yr UE yn hanfodol i Gymru, yn enwedig i'r sector preifat, yn glir. Os edrychwch ar arolygon annibynnol o raglenni, o ran eu buddion i fusnesau, dywedodd tua 35% i 40% o'r busnesau a holwyd fod cymorth cronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewrop wedi cael effaith gadarnhaol naill ai ar drosiant, proffidioldeb neu gynhyrchiant, a dywedodd 30% o fusnesau y byddai perfformiad eu gweithle wedi bod yn waeth heb gymorth cronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewrop.

Therefore, I welcome your questions, Byron Davies, today. We have moved on from those large numbers of smaller project investments to more strategic investments, and they are all in line with the Guilford review and the economic prioritisation framework. The fact that we are embracing those new and smart procurement arrangements and are engaging more effectively with the private sector in programme, design and delivery, is something that I feel is very strong, in terms of the impact and the partnership that we take in Wales.

*Daeth y Llywydd i'r Gadair am 16:25.*

Felly, rwyf yn croesawu eich cwestiynau heddiw, Byron Davies. Rydym wedi symud ymlaen o'r niferoedd mawr hynny o fuddsoddiadau mewn prosiectau llai i fuddsoddiadau mwy strategol, ac maent i gyd yn cyd-fynd ag adolygiad Guilford a'r fframwaith blaenoriaethu economaidd. Mae'r ffaith ein bod yn cofleidio'r trefniadau caffael newydd, clyfar hynny, ac yn ymgysylltu'n fwy effeithiol â'r sector preifat i gynllunio a chyflenwi rhaglenni, yn rhywbeth yr wyf yn teimlo'i fod yn gryf iawn, o ran yr effaith a'r bartneriaeth sydd gennym yng Nghymru.

*The Presiding Officer took the Chair at 16:25.*

16:25

## **Alun Ffred Jones** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

Rwy'n croesawu presenoldeb y Gweinidog yn y gynhadledd. Mae Plaid Cymru yn cytuno y dylai cyfartalu neu gysoni economaidd fod yn un o flaenoriaethau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd. Y ffaith ydy, yn anffodus, fod anghyfartaledd economaidd yn waeth yn y Deyrnas Unedig nag yn unrhyw wladwriaeth arall yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Yng Nghymru y mae rhai o'r wardiau mwyaf difreintiedig yn Ewrop. Gwaetha'r modd, mae'r ystadegau diweddaraf yn dangos bod y Cymoedd, y gorllewin a Chymru gyfan wedi llithro'n ôl o'u cymharu â GDP cyfartalog 28 gwlad yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Felly, nid yw'r cefndir hwnnw yn un addawol.

Gan droi at gwestiynau, rydych yn cyfeirio yn eich ail baragraff at bwysigrwydd cyd-drafod â chymdeithas sifil a phartneriaid cymdeithasol, ond a fuoch chi'n trafod y TTIP o gwbl, sef y bartneriaeth masnach a buddsoddi traws-lwerydd, rhwng yr Undeb Ewropeaidd a'r Unol Daleithiau, sef y 'transatlantic trade and investment partnership'? Un o amcanion y cytundeb hwn yw ei gwneud yn haws i gwmnïau rhyngwladol gymryd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus drosodd ac i roi pŵer iddyn nhw erlyn llywodraethau sy'n bygwth eu helw, hynny ydy, drwy warchod gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. A fu unrhyw drafod ar hyn? Os na fu unrhyw drafod ar hyn, buaswn i'n gofyn pam, oherwydd mae'n fygythiad uniongyrchol i'r union bartneriaid yr ydych chi'n cyfeirio atynt yn yr ail baragraff.

Yn ail, ers yr argyfwng ariannol, mae tri chwarter y gostyngiad mewn busnesau hyfyw wedi digwydd yng ngorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd. A ydy'r Llywodraeth wedi cynnal asesiad o sut mae cryfhau a hybu busnesau yn yr ardaloedd difreintiedig yma ac ardaloedd lle mae cysylltiadau trafniadaeth, ac yn y blaen, yn ei gwneud hi'n fwy anodd iddyn nhw gynnal eu busnes? Felly, dyna ydy'r ail gwestiwn.

I welcome the Minister's attendance at the conference. Plaid Cymru agrees that economic alignment should be one of the priorities of the European Union. The fact is, unfortunately, that economic disparity is worse in the UK than in any other European Union state. Wales has some of the most deprived wards in Europe. Unfortunately, the latest statistics show that west Wales and the Valleys, and Wales as a whole, have slipped back when compared with the average GDP of the 28 European Union member states. So, that backdrop is not a promising one.

Turning to questions, you refer in your second paragraph to the importance of engaging with civil society and social partners, but did you discuss the TTIP at all, which is the transatlantic trade and investment partnership between the European Union and the United States? One of the objectives of this agreement is to make it easier for international companies to take over public services and to give them power to prosecute governments that threaten their profits, that is, by retaining public services. Were there any discussions on this? If there were not any discussions, I would ask why, given that this is a direct threat to the very partners you refer to in the second paragraph.

Secondly, since the financial crisis, three quarters of the decrease in viable businesses occurred in west Wales and the Valleys. Has the Government made any assessment of how to strengthen and promote businesses in deprived areas and areas where transport links, and so forth, make it more difficult for them to sustain their businesses? So, that is the second question.

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Yn drydydd, gwyddom yn iawn fod gwariant cyfalaf yn bwysig fel hwb economaidd. Rydw i wedi eich clywed chi, yma, yn beirniadu'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain am dorri ar wariant cyfalaf, er, rydym yn gwybod bellach y bydd y Plaid Lafur yn glynu at y patrymau gwariant hynny. Ond mae'n fater o bryder mawr i Plaid Cymru fod y Llywodraeth hon yng Nghymru wedi rhoi ei hwyau i gyd ym masged yr M4, sef £0.5 biliwn o'i holl hawl gwario ychwanegol a £0.5 biliwn arall o'r bloc grant ar un rhan o'r ffordd yn y de-ddwyrain, gan anwybyddu gofynion gweddill Cymru, er enghraifft cyfleoedd i drydaneiddio lein gogledd Cymru. Y cwestiwn yr hoffwn ei ofyn yw: ai cais gan Brif Weinidog Cymru i Lywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig oedd yr hawl benthyg yma ar gyfer yr M4? Diolch yn fawr.

Thirdly, we know full well that capital expenditure is important as an economic boost. I have heard you, here, criticising the Government in London for cutting capital expenditure, although we now know that the Labour Party will adhere to those spending patterns. However, it is a matter of great concern to Plaid Cymru that this Government has put all its eggs in the M4 basket, with £0.5 billion of its additional borrowing entitlement and £0.5 billion from the block grant to be spent on one part of the road in the south-east, while ignoring the requirements of the rest of Wales, such as the opportunities to electrify the north Wales line. The question that I would like to ask is this: did the First Minister of Wales make a bid to the United Kingdom Government in relation to the borrowing entitlement for the M4? Thank you very much.

16:29

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

I completely agree with you. In fact, I mentioned in my response to Byron Davies the backdrop of the economic and social disparities that the west Wales and the Valleys regions, communities and businesses face. That is why I made an important point in relation to the fact that I have had concerns that the UK Government has subscribed to the view that we should move away from supporting the more wealthier nations, regardless of the fact that there are poorer regions within wealthier member states. Therefore, I saw my opportunity at the cohesion policy forum to clearly state the case in terms of the importance of protecting our communities. As I said, the regional economic disparities within member states, such as those that face large parts of Wales force us to conclude that structural funds need to be given to the poorest regions in the EU, irrespective of the relative wealth of the member state in which they are located.

TTIP was not a part of the discussion in terms of this event—at the sixth cohesion forum—but is clearly a vital part of the discussions, as the First Minister responded in questions this afternoon. I am sure that it is a matter that will be discussed at, for example, the Joint Ministerial Committee that I serve on with Ministers from the devolved administrations. Indeed, we have touched on this, and it is vital that we clarify the point made by William Graham in his contribution. The point that he made this afternoon was helpful, but as the First Minister said, we need to look beyond that in terms of the Commission's response. However, the sixth cohesion forum was about not only how the EU cohesion funds have enabled us to support and create jobs and growth and tackle those disparities; my panel was about governance and administration. It was about how we can improve in the shaping of our programmes and the delivery, management and governance of our programmes, which is, of course, of key interest and a key issue in many regions in the EU. The importance of engaging with civil society relates to the way in which we can monitor and make things more transparent, and develop trust in terms of the importance of the EU.

Rwyf yn cytuno'n llwyr â chi. Yn wir, soniais yn fy ymateb i Byron Davies am gefndir y gwahaniaethau economaidd a chymdeithasol sy'n wynebu rhanbarthau, cymunedau a busnesau'r gorllewin a'r Cymoedd. Dyna pam y gwneuthum bwynt pwysig o ran y ffaith bod gennyf bryderon fod Llywodraeth y DU wedi tanysgrifio i'r farn y dylem symud oddi wrth gefnogi'r gwledydd mwy cyfoethog, heb ystyried y ffaith bod rhanbarthau tlotach yn bodoli o fewn aelod-wladwriaethau cyfoethocach. Felly, gwelais fy nghyfle yn y fforwm polisi cydlyniant i ddatgan yr achos yn glir o ran pwysigrwydd diogelu ein cymunedau. Fel y dywedais, mae'r gwahaniaethau economaidd rhanbarthol o fewn aelod-wladwriaethau, megis y rhai sy'n wynebu rhannau helaeth o Gymru, yn golygu bod yn rhaid inni ddod i'r casgliad fod angen rhoi cronfeydd strwythurol i'r rhanbarthau tlotaf yn yr UE, waeth pa mor gymharol gyfoethog y bo'r aelod-wladwriaeth y maent yn rhan ohoni.

Nid oedd TTIP yn rhan o'r drafodaeth yn y digwyddiad hwn—y chweched fforwm cydlyniant—ond mae'n amlwg yn rhan hanfodol o'r trafodaethau, fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog wrth ateb cwestiynau y prynhawn yma. Rwyf yn siŵr y caiff y mater ei drafod yn y Cydbwyllgor Gweinidogion, er enghraifft, yr wyf yn gwasanaethu arno gyda Gweinidogion o'r gweinyddiaethau datganoledig. Yn wir, rydym wedi crybwyll hyn, ac mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn egluro'r pwynt a wnaeth William Graham yn ei gyfraniad. Roedd y pwynt a wnaeth y prynhawn yma'n ddefnyddiol, ond fel y dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, mae angen inni edrych y tu hwnt i hynny o ran ymateb y Comisiwn. Fodd bynnag, roedd y chweched fforwm cydlyniant yn ymwneud â mwy na sut y mae cronfeydd cydlyniant yr UE wedi ein galluogi i gefnogi a chreu swyddi a thwf ac ymdrin â'r gwahaniaethau hynny; roedd fy mhanel i'n ymwneud â Llywodraethu a gweinyddu. Roedd yn ymwneud â sut y gallwn lunio ein rhaglenni'n well a chyflenwi, rheoli a llywodraethu ein rhaglenni'n well, sydd, wrth gwrs, o ddiddordeb allweddol ac yn fater allweddol mewn sawl rhanbarth yn yr UE. Mae pwysigrwydd ymgysylltu â chymdeithas sifil yn ymwneud â'r modd y gallwn fonitro a gwneud pethau'n fwy tryloyw, a datblygu ymddiriedaeth o ran pwysigrwydd yr UE.

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Of course, it is important that we see the EU structural funds as one part of the financial opportunities that we have in terms of the Welsh Government's budget for Wales. This is one part of it. Not only do we now have borrowing powers, but we have also used and are developing our innovative means to invest in our infrastructure. Alun Ffred Jones is, of course, very well aware of the progress made on that and the importance of the borrowing powers that we have now secured, and it is also important that they are shaped for the benefit of the infrastructure of Wales.

Wrth gwrs, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gweld cronfeydd strwythurol yr UE fel un rhan o'r cyfleoedd ariannol sydd gennym o ran cyllideb Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer Cymru. Un rhan ohoni yw hyn. Yn ogystal â phwerau benthyca, mae gennym bellach hefyd ein dulliau arloesol o fuddsoddi yn ein seilwaith yr ydym wedi'u defnyddio ac yn dal i'w datblygu. Mae Alun Ffred Jones, wrth gwrs, yn ymwybodol iawn o'r cynnydd a wnaethpwyd ar hynny ac o bwysigrwydd y pwerau benthyca yr ydym yn awr wedi'u sicrhau, ac mae hefyd yn bwysig eu llunio er budd seilwaith Cymru.

16:33

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

Thank you, Minister, for your very detailed statement this afternoon and the written statement on the same subject last week. You are nothing if not thorough, Minister, it would appear.

I am glad that Wales's significant long-term experience of delivering structural funds programmes is being put to good use in Europe, and I thank you, Minister, for representing Wales on that stage. Certainly, we have been told that we have learned from all of our experience since 2000, and I am glad that we are sharing what we have learned in order to help other regions improve their own performance. However, alongside contributing to this debate, this forum was surely an opportunity to learn from other places, too. After all, other places have managed to lift themselves out of the relative poverty that has opened structural funds to us once again, but we have not. We are still only at 64% of the EU average in terms of GDP, and that is, I am sure, a source of great disappointment to us all. Therefore, perhaps the Minister might like to tell us, during her time in Brussels, which regions she met with to discuss the lessons that they can teach us? Which regions have good policy ideas or programmes that Wales could usefully learn from, copy or develop our own versions of? What did you learn as well as teach while you were in Brussels?

I would also like to thank you for raising the reception held by Jobs Growth Wales. I wonder whether the Minister had the evaluation report to hand when discussing Jobs Growth Wales with the French Secretary of State for European affairs. I wonder how he responded to the findings that three quarters of that funding was wasted, and what his response was especially to findings that suggest that the programme's weakest performances in addressing joblessness were in Communities First areas—that young people in Communities First clusters were only half as likely to be successful in getting a Jobs Growth Wales placement as young people elsewhere; or, for example, that the programme had failed to create opportunities in communities where they were needed most, such as Rhondda Cynon Taf in my region, because you failed to target resources at the areas of most need.

Diolch, Weinidog, am eich datganiad manwl iawn y prynhawn yma a'r datganiad ysgrifenedig ar yr un pwnc yr wythnos diwethaf. Rydych yn sicr yn drylwyr, Weinidog, mae'n ymddangos.

Rwyf yn falch bod profiad hirdymor pwysig Cymru o gyflenwi rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol yn cael defnydd da yn Ewrop, ac rwyf yn diolch ichi, Weinidog, am gynrychioli Cymru ar y llwyfan hwnnw. Yn sicr, rydym wedi cael gwybod ein bod wedi dysgu o'n holl brofiad ers 2000, ac rwyf yn falch ein bod yn rhannu'r hyn yr ydym wedi'i ddysgu er mwyn helpu rhanbarthau eraill i wella eu perfformiad hwythau. Fodd bynnag, yn ogystal â chyfrannu at y ddadl hon, roedd y fforwm hwn yn sicr yn gyfle i ddysgu oddi wrth fannau eraill, hefyd. Wedi'r cyfan, mae manau eraill wedi llwyddo i'w codi eu hunain allan o'r tlogi cymharol sydd wedi agor cronfeydd strwythurol inni unwaith eto, ond nid ydym ni. Rydym yn dal i fod ar 64% yn unig o gyfartaledd yr UE o ran cynnyrch domestig gros, ac mae hynny, rwyf yn siŵr, yn destun siom fawr inni i gyd. Felly, efallai yr hoffai'r Gweinidog ddweud wrthym, yn ystod ei hamser ym Mrwsel, pa ranbarthau y cyfarfu â hwy i drafod y gwersi y gallant eu dysgu inni? Pa ranbarthau sydd â syniadau polisi neu raglenni da y byddai'n fuddiol i Gymru ddysgu ohonynt, eu copio neu ddatblygu ei fersiynau ei hun ohonynt? Beth a ddysgasoch chi yn ogystal â'i ddysgu i eraill tra oeddech ym Mrwsel?

Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch ichi am sôn am y derbyniad a gynhaliwyd gan Twf Swyddi Cymru. Tybed a oedd gan y Gweinidog yr adroddiad gwerthuso wrth law pan fu'n trafod Twf Swyddi Cymru gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Ffrainc dros faterion Ewropeaidd. Tybed sut yr ymatebodd i'r canfyddiadau fod tri chwarter y cyllid hwnnw wedi'i wastraffu, a beth oedd ei ymateb yn arbennig i'r canfyddiadau sy'n awgrymu bod perfformiadau gwannaf y rhaglen o ran ymdrin â diweithdra mewn ardaloedd Cymunedau yn Gyntaf—nad yw pobl ifanc mewn clystyrau Cymunedau yn Gyntaf ond hanner mor debygol o lwyddo i gael lleoliad Twf Swyddi Cymru â phobl ifanc mewn manau eraill; neu, er enghraifft, fod y rhaglen wedi methu â chreu cyfleoedd mewn cymunedau lle'r oedd eu hangen fwyaf, megis Rhondda Cynon Taf yn fy rhanbarth i, oherwydd eich bod wedi methu â thargedu adnoddau at yr ardaloedd mwyaf anghenus.

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The truth is that if we want structural funds to make a serious impact on the fate of west Wales and the Valleys in the next round, we must be far more robust in the way that we prioritise and target funding on those places, those individuals and those groups with the greatest need. In my discussions with EU officials over the last year, they have time and again emphasised the importance of having a clear strategic focus and a much more concentrated programme to deliver a smaller number of far more impactful interventions than we have previously done.

There is also a very clear move away, in European policy terms, not from infrastructure as a whole, but specifically from road building as part of the infrastructure balance. Road building is not seen to have as much potential for economic development in the future as public transport, freight development and ports in particular. What was the view on prioritising the M4, for example, over public transport and ports? How does your M4 policy, which will damage the port of Newport and make it difficult for it to expand in future, align with the emerging EU direction of travel in this area of policy, which is clearly towards developing what it calls the 'motorways of the seas'?

Y gwir yw, os ydym am i gronfeydd strwythurol gael effaith go iawn ar dynged y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd yn y cylch nesaf, bydd yn rhaid inni fod yn llawer mwy cadarn yn y ffordd yr ydym yn blaenoriaethu ac yn targedu cyllid at y lleoedd hynny, yr unigolion hynny a'r grwpiau hynny sydd â'r angen mwyaf. Yn fy nhrafodaethau â swyddogion yr UE yn ystod y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, maent wedi pwysleisio dro ar ôl tro pa mor bwysig yw pwyslais strategol clir a rhaglen fwy dwys o lawer i ddarparu nifer llai o ymyriadau sy'n cael effaith lawer mwy nag yr ydym wedi'i wneud o'r blaen.

Mae symudiad clir iawn i ffwrdd hefyd, yn nhermau polisi Ewropeaidd, nid oddi wrth seilwaith yn gyffredinol, ond yn benodol oddi wrth adeiladu ffyrdd fel rhan o'r cydbwysedd seilwaith. Nid ystyrir bod adeiladu ffyrdd yn creu cymaint o botensial ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yn y dyfodol â thrafnidiaeth gyhoeddus, datblygiadau o ran cludo nwyddau a phorthladdoedd yn arbennig. Beth oedd y farn am flaenoriaethu'r M4, er enghraifft, dros drafndiaeth gyhoeddus a phorthladdoedd? Sut y mae eich polisi M4, a fydd yn niweidio porthladd Casnewydd ac yn ei gwneud yn anodd ei ehangu yn y dyfodol, yn cyd-fynd â chyfeiriad yr UE sy'n datblygu yn y maes polisi hwn, ac yn amlwg yn symud tuag at ddatblygu'r hyn y mae'n ei alw'n 'draffyrdd y moroedd'?

16:36

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

I thank Eluned Parrott for her questions and contribution this afternoon. We are going to be debating European matters again tomorrow. It is very much in the spirit of what I said in my response to the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee's report, published earlier this year, that we bring back, discuss and debate and that I report on my role, particularly, as Minister for Finance in terms of the importance of the new round of structural funds, and how we are going to make the best use of them.

In attending events such as the EU sixth cohesion forum in Brussels—I know that committee members also attend events, particularly with the Committee of the Regions, where they do this—we are learning lessons and engaging. I mentioned my meetings not only with the French Minister, but also with a Minister from Lithuania. He said very clearly to me that his country has been rescued and has depended on EU structural funds and that it is turning around. I was also on a panel with the Minister responsible for infrastructure from Poland. We also have a great deal to learn. It is certainly not a matter of me going there just to say what we are doing; it is also an opportunity, as Ministers, to learn.

In my discussions with the French Minister we talked about the forthcoming Wales forum on youth employment. That is going to be a Wales forum in Europe—very much an open event for our partners. I was there to discuss how he and his Government could come to that. He enlightened us on some of their initiatives, such as the *contrat de génération*—a scheme where older workers mentor younger workers. Also, companies are supporting younger workers in programmes and schemes similar to Jobs Growth Wales. Of course, we have to learn from opportunities from other countries in terms of the way forward.

Diolch i Eluned Parrott am ei chwestiynau a'i chyfraniad y prynhawn yma. Byddwn yn trafod materion Ewropeaidd eto yfory. Mae'n sicr yn cyd-fynd ag ysbryd yr hyn a ddywedais yn fy ymateb i adroddiad y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol, a gyhoeddwyd yn gynharach eleni, ein bod yn dod yn ôl, yn trafod ac yn dadlau a fy mod yn adrodd am fy swyddogaeth, yn enwedig, fel Gweinidog Cyllid o ran pwysigrwydd y cylch newydd o gronfeydd strwythurol, a sut yr ydym yn mynd i'w defnyddio yn y ffordd orau bosibl.

Wrth fynd i ddiwyddiadau megis chweched fforwm cydlyniant yr UE ym Mrwsel—gwn fod aelodau'r pwyllgor hefyd yn mynychu digwyddiadau, yn enwedig gyda Phwyllgor y Rhanbarthau, lle maent yn gwneud hyn—rydym yn dysgu gwersi ac yn ymgysylltu. Soniais am fy nghyfarfodydd nid yn unig â'r Gweinidog o Ffrainc, ond hefyd â Gweinidog o Lithwania. Dywedodd yn bendant iawn wrthyf fod ei wlad wedi ei hachub ac wedi dibynnu ar gronfeydd strwythurol yr UE a bod pethau'n gwella. Roeddwn hefyd ar banel gyda'r Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am seilwaith yng Ngwlad Pwyl. Mae gennym hefyd lawer iawn i'w ddysgu. Yn sicr, nid mynd yno i ddweud yr hyn yr ydym ni'n ei wneud yn unig yr wyf, mae hefyd yn gyfle, fel Gweinidogion, i ddysgu.

Yn fy nhrafodaethau â'r Gweinidog o Ffrainc buom yn siarad am fforwm Cymru ar gyflogaeth ieuencid sydd ar ddod. Bydd hwnnw'n fforwm Cymru yn Ewrop—ac yn sicr yn ddiwyddiad agored i'n partneriaid. Roeddwn yno i drafod sut y gallai ef a'i Lywodraeth ddod at hynny. Rhoddodd wybod inni am rai o'u mentrau, megis y *contrat de génération*—cynllun lle mae gweithwyr hŷn yn mentora gweithwyr iau. Hefyd, mae cwmnïau'n cefnogi gweithwyr iau mewn rhaglenni a chynlluniau tebyg i Twf Swyddi Cymru. Wrth gwrs, mae'n rhaid inni ddysgu o gyfleoedd o wledydd eraill o ran y ffordd ymlaen.

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The particular panel that I sat on provided an opportunity to look at the way forward in terms of maximising the impact of the 2014–20 structural funds programmes. That is key in terms of the very important point that you made, as did Grahame Guilford in his review, about concentration, simplification and integration. Those are the key points, and they were points that I drew attention to in terms of the way forward. We have to make sure that we are demonstrating a good strategic fit with the EU's 2020 goals, and also with our programme for government focus on growth, jobs and tackling poverty. It is about greater focus and concentration of resources. That is about making tough choices, and it is about how we work in full partnership with our stakeholders. We know that research and innovation, SME competitiveness, renewable energy and energy efficiency, connectivity and sustainable urban development are at the forefront of their goals, as they are for us. You are right, in terms of what the Commission is looking at, and also what accords with our aims. We are looking at those increased investment levels for innovation, energy, SME competitiveness and, of course, continuing to help drive youth employment. For the European social fund, that is going to include a new priority in this area for east Wales, which is very important in terms of your region and the constituencies that we represent.

Clearly, there is an issue about how this fits in, in terms of the development of our infrastructure in Wales. Information and communication technologies and transport infrastructure do remain key investments, but I think that we would have to make a very strong economic case in terms of specific transport proposals. I have to say that there was a great deal of interest—certainly, I have talked about this publicly and with them over the last week—in the integration prospects in terms of the opportunities of the metro. That is something in which I know Members are very interested.

16:41

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

Just a couple of questions, Minister. First, in your statement you mentioned the European Investment Bank. I am pleased that the Welsh Government is now taking more notice, certainly than in the early days of the Assembly, of the potential offered by the European Investment Bank. Aside from major infrastructure projects that the EIB can fund, such as road and rail links, which other countries have accessed in the past, it committed €60 billion in 2014 and 2015 in loans specifically to SMEs for job creation. So, on the back of that, how are you assisting small and medium-sized enterprises in Wales to successfully access this funding, and how many have done so during the 2014 and 2015 period?

Roedd y panel penodol yr oeddwn yn eistedd arno'n gyfle i edrych ar y ffordd ymlaen o ran gwneud yn fawr o effaith rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol 2014–20. Mae hynny'n allweddol o ran y pwynt pwysig iawn a wnaethoch, fel y gwnaeth Grahame Guilford yn ei adolygiad, ynglŷn â chrynhoi, symleiddio ac integreiddio. Dyna'r pwyntiau allweddol, ac roeddent yn bwyntiau y tynnais sylw atynt o ran y ffordd ymlaen. Mae'n rhaid inni wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn dangos ein bod yn cyd-fynd yn strategol ag amcanion 2020 yr UE, a hefyd â ffocws ein rhaglen lywodraethu ar dwf, swyddi a threchu tlodi. Mae'n fater o roi mwy o ffocws a chrynhoi adnoddau. Mae hynny'n golygu gwneud dewisiadau anodd, ac mae'n ymwneud â sut yr ydym yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth lawn â'n rhanddeiliaid. Rydym yn gwybod bod ymchwil ac arloesi, cystadleurwydd busnesau bach a chanolig, ynni adnewyddadwy ac effeithlonrwydd ynni, cysylltedd a datblygu trefol cynaliadwy'n flaenllaw yn ei nodau, fel y maent i ninnau. Rydych yn iawn, o ran yr hyn y mae'r Comisiwn yn edrych arno, a hefyd o ran yr hyn sy'n cyd-fynd â'n hamcanion. Rydym yn edrych ar y lefelau buddsoddi uwch hynny ar gyfer arloesi, ynni, cystadleurwydd busnesau bach a chanolig ac, wrth gwrs, parhau i helpu i sbarduno gwaith i bobl ifanc. Ar gyfer cronfa gymdeithasol Ewrop, bydd hynny'n cynnwys blaenoriaeth newydd yn y maes hwn ar gyfer dwyrain Cymru, sy'n bwysig iawn o ran eich rhanbarth chi a'r etholaethau yr ydym yn eu cynrychioli.

Yn amlwg, mae angen trafod sut y mae hyn yn cyd-fynd â'r gwaith o ddatblygu ein seilwaith yng Nghymru. Mae technolegau gwybodaeth a chyfathrebu a seilwaith trafnidiaeth yn dal i fod yn fuddsoddiadau allweddol, ond credaf y byddai'n rhaid inni wneud achos economaidd cryf iawn o ran cynigion trafnidiaeth penodol. Rhaid imi ddweud bod llawer iawn o ddiddordeb—yn sicr, rwyf wedi siarad am hyn yn gyhoeddus a chyda hwy yn ystod yr wythnos ddiwethaf—yn y rhagolygon integreiddio o ran cyfleoedd y metro. Mae hynny'n rhywbeth yr wyf yn gwybod bod gan Aelodau ddiddordeb mawr ynddo.

Dim ond cwpl o gwestiynau, Weinidog. Yn gyntaf, yn eich datganiad soniasoch am Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop. Rwyf yn falch bod Llywodraeth Cymru bellach yn cymryd mwy o sylw, yn sicr nag yn nyddiau cynnar y Cynulliad, o'r potensial a gynigir gan Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop. Ar wahân i'r prosiectau seilwaith mawr y gall y Banc eu hariannu, megis cysylltiadau ffyrdd a rheilffyrdd, y mae gwledydd eraill wedi manteisio arnynt yn y gorffennol, mae wedi neilltuo €60 biliwn yn 2014 a 2015 mewn benthyciadau yn benodol i fusnesau bach a chanolig i greu swyddi. Felly, ar gefn hynny, sut ydych chi'n cynorthwyo busnesau bach a chanolig yng Nghymru i lwyddo i gael gafaeth ar y cyllid hwn, a sawl un sydd wedi gwneud hynny yn ystod y cyfnod 2014 a 2015?

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Secondly, other Members have asked questions on European structural funds. Your party, in the past, has admitted that European structural funds could have been better spent and, as Byron Davies pointed out in his contribution, west Wales and the Valleys are not, sadly, catching up with other areas in the way that we were promised they would. You mentioned that other countries say that they have been saved by structural funds. Well, it was not that long ago that we were promised that west Wales and the Valleys would only have to be saved once, and that there would not be any need for future structural funds. However, here we are, qualifying for a further round of structural funds. We know full well—Eluned Parrott will remember this from our Horizon 2020 inquiry in the Enterprise and Business Committee—that the bar is being raised in terms of the ability of countries and regions across Europe to access future funding from European structural funds. We now have to show a much greater link between research and development, innovation, our university sector and sustainable economic results at the end of receiving that funding. So, what are you doing to make sure that Wales really is at the forefront when accessing those funds, which we need and require, and that SMEs, in particular, are able to develop, access that funding and build the future economy that Wales needs?

Yn ail, mae Aelodau eraill wedi gofyn cwestiynau am gronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd. Mae eich plaid chi, yn y gorffennol, wedi cyfaddef y gellid bod wedi gwario cronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd yn well ac, fel y nododd Byron Davies yn ei gyfraniad, yn anffodus, nid yw'r gorllewin a'r Cymoedd yn dal i fyny ag ardaloedd eraill yn y ffordd yr addawyd inni y byddent. Soniasoch fod gwledydd eraill yn dweud eu bod wedi cael eu hachub gan gronfeydd strwythurol. Wel, nid oes fawr o dro ers i ni gael addewid mai dim ond unwaith y byddai'n rhaid achub y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, ac na fyddai angen cronfeydd strwythurol yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, dyma ni, yn gymwys am gylch pellach o gronfeydd strwythurol. Rydym yn gwblhau yn iawn—bydd Eluned Parrott yn cofio hyn o'n hymchwiliad Horizon 2020 yn y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes—fod y bar yn cael ei godi o ran gallu gwledydd a rhanbarthau ledled Ewrop i gael gafael ar gyllid yn y dyfodol o gronfeydd strwythurol Ewropeaidd. Yn awr, rhaid inni ddangos mwy o gysylltiad o lawer rhwng ymchwil a datblygu, arloesi, ein sector prifysgolion a chanlyniadau economaidd cynaliadwy ar ôl cael y cyllid hwnnw. Felly, beth ydych chi'n ei wneud i wneud yn siŵr bod Cymru ar flaen y gad mewn gwirionedd o ran cael gafael ar y cronfeydd hynny, y mae eu hangen arnom, a bod busnesau bach a chanolig, yn arbennig, yn gallu datblygu, cael gafael ar y cyllid hwnnw ac adeiladu'r economi sydd ei hangen ar Gymru yn y dyfodol?

16:43

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

These are all important points that should be at the forefront of debate, discussion and scrutiny in this Assembly. Of course, the importance of the European Investment Bank goes without saying. You know that I initiated strengthened engagement with the EIB last year, when I met the UK vice-president of the bank, Jonathan Taylor, making the case for investment in Wales. Since then, we have a team of EIB officials working in Wales. Just to give you some examples, in terms of the importance of the EIB as an active investor in the Welsh economy, the bank signed off recently on a €30 million loan to support the R&D programme of Norgine, a pharmaceutical company with research facilities at Hengoed. That is exactly the point about the opportunities in terms of the EIB and the financing of R&D, as you know.

You will also, of course, know of the way in which the university sector is engaging. Bangor University received a €45 million loan for new teaching, research and support facilities at the university.

Also, in terms of the private sector, not only is there the £160 million loan to Wales and West Utilities, there are a number of loans that it is considering in terms of commercial ventures in Wales. Of course, we can report back on that. I hope that all Members will visit the new Swansea University innovation campus. I encourage Members to do that and I am sure that David Rees would encourage those visits. I went to the topping out ceremony, and the Minister for the Economy, Science and Transport also recently visited. It would not be there without European Investment Bank, European regional development fund and Welsh Government funding. It is now attracting huge commercial interest, not just in Wales, but across the world in terms of the greatest possible advantage.

Mae'r rhain i gyd yn bwyntiau pwysig a ddylai fod yn flaenllaw wrth inni ddadlau, trafod a chraffu yn y Cynulliad hwn. Wrth gwrs, mae'n amlwg pa mor bwysig yw Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop. Gwyddoch fy mod wedi cychwyn ymgysylltu cadarnach â Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop y llynedd, pan gyfarfûm ag is-lywydd y banc yn y DU, Jonathan Taylor, i gyflwyno'r achos dros fuddsoddi yng Nghymru. Ers hynny, mae gennym dîm o swyddogion Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop sy'n gweithio yng Nghymru. Dyma rai enghreifftiau ichi: o ran pwysigrwydd Banc Buddsoddi Ewrop fel buddsoddwr gweithgar yn economi Cymru, yn ddiweddar cymeradwyodd y banc fenthyciad gwerth €30 miliwn i gefnogi rhaglen ymchwil a datblygu Norgine, cwmni fferylloedd â chyfleusterau ymchwil yn Hengoed. Dyna'n union yw'r pwynt ynglŷn â'r cyfleoedd o ran y Banc a chyllido ymchwil a datblygu, fel y gwyddoch.

Byddwch hefyd, wrth gwrs, yn gwybod am y ffordd y mae sector y prifysgolion yn ymgysylltu. Derbyniodd Prifysgol Bangor fenthyciad o €45 miliwn ar gyfer cyfleusterau addysgu, ymchwil a chefnogaeth newydd yn y brifysgol.

Hefyd, o ran y sector preifat, yn ogystal â'r benthyciad £160 miliwn i Wales and West Utilities, mae'n ystyried nifer o fenthyciadau o ran mentrau masnachol yng Nghymru. Wrth gwrs, gallwn adrodd yn ôl ar hynny. Rwyf yn gobeithio y bydd pob Aelod yn ymweld â champws arloesedd newydd Prifysgol Abertawe. Anogaf yr Aelodau i wneud hynny ac rwyf yn siŵr y byddai David Rees yn annog yr ymweliadau hynny. Euthum i seremoni gosod y garreg gopa, ac mae Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth hefyd wedi ymweld yn ddiweddar. Ni fyddai yno heb Fanc Buddsoddi Ewrop, cronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewrop a chyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Mae bellach yn denu diddordeb masnachol aruthrol, nid yn unig yng Nghymru, ond ledled y byd o ran y fantais fwyaf bosibl.

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I think that it is important to recognise that this also has to be linked to new opportunities with Horizon 2020. Of course, part of my discussions with Commission officials and indeed with our MEPs was to talk about ways in which, together, we can promote these opportunities. I have mentioned concentration, simplification and integration as the sort of key ways in which we are going to maximise the benefits of the new round of European programmes. I do think that it is important that we have a single programme monitoring committee, our economic prioritisation framework, the single IT system, the common application process and monitoring functions, integrated cross-cutting teams and joint programme monitoring and evaluation strategic frameworks. It was said to me in Brussels that, across the board, the Welsh European Funding Office is leading best practice across the EU.

In terms of independent evaluation surveys, it is important. I have already mentioned the independent evaluation in terms of business impact and in terms of ESF impact. This is an opportunity for us to move forward to learn the lessons, which I did as well as offering our experience at the sixth cohesion forum. We must also ensure that we move forward in terms of tackling the situation in west Wales and the Valleys, which is a result, I have to say, of the recession and also a result of public spending cuts from your Government, I would say, in the last four years. It is an opportunity for us to really turn this around.

Credaf ei bod yn bwysig cydnabod bod yn rhaid i hyn hefyd fod yn gysylltiedig â chyfleoedd newydd gyda Horizon 2020. Wrth gwrs, rhan o'm trafodaethau â swyddogion y Comisiwn ac yn wir â'n ASEau oedd siarad am sut y gallwn, gyda'n gilydd, hyrwyddo'r cyfleoedd hyn. Rwyf wedi sôn am grynhoi, symleiddio ac integreiddio fel mathau o ffyrdd allweddol y gallwn wneud y gorau o fanteision y cylch newydd o raglenni Ewropeaidd. Rwyf yn meddwl ei bod yn bwysig bod gennym un pwyllgor monitro rhaglenni, ein fframwaith blaenoriaethu economaidd, y system TG sengl, y broses ymgeisio gyffredin a swyddogaethau monitro, timau trawsbynciol integredig a fframweithiau strategol monitro a gwerthuso rhaglenni ar y cyd. Dywedwyd wrthyf ym Mrwsel fod Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, drwyddi draw, yn arwain arfer gorau ar draws yr UE.

O ran arolygon gwerthuso annibynnol, mae'n bwysig. Rwyf eisoes wedi sôn am y gwerthusiad annibynnol o ran yr effaith ar fusnes ac o ran effaith Cronfa Gymdeithasol Ewrop. Mae hwn yn gyfle inni i symud ymlaen i ddysgu'r gwersi, a gwneuthum hynny yn ogystal â chynnig ein profiad yn y chweched fforwm cydlyniant. Rhaid inni sicrhau hefyd ein bod yn symud ymlaen o ran ymdrin â'r sefyllfa yn y gorllewin a'r Cymoedd, sydd yn ganlyniad, rhaid imi ddweud, i'r dirwasgiad a hefyd yn ganlyniad i doriadau mewn gwariant cyhoeddus gan eich Llywodraeth, byddwn yn dweud, yn y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Mae'n gyfle inni i newid y sefyllfa'n sylweddol.

16:47 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

Thank you, Minister.

Diolch, Weinidog.

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16:47 **Rheoliadau (Gweithdrefnau a Ffioedd) Tribiwnlys Eiddo Preswyl (Cymru) (Diwygio Rhif 2) 2014**

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

I call on the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, Lesley Griffiths, to move the motion.

Cynnig NDM5561 Lesley Griffiths

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru; yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 27.5:

Yn cymeradwyo bod y fersiwn ddrafft o'r Rheoliadau Gweithdrefnau a Ffioedd Tribiwnlys Eiddo Preswyl (Cymru) (Diwygio Rhif 2) 2014 yn cael ei llunio yn unol â'r fersiwn ddrafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 25 Mehefin 2014.

**The Residential Property Tribunal (Fees and Procedures) (Wales) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2014**

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi, Lesley Griffiths, i gynnig y cynnig.

Motion NDM5561 Lesley Griffiths

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales; in accordance with Standing Order 27.5:

Approves that the draft The Residential Property Tribunal Procedures and Fees (Wales) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2014 is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 25 June 2014.

16:48 **Lesley Griffiths** [Bywgraffiad Biography](#)

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

I move the motion.

Cynigiaf y cynnig.

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16:48

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

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I have no speakers. Therefore, 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.

Nid oes gennyf siaradwyr. Felly, y cynnig yw y dylid derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Nid oes gwrthwynebiad. Felly, mae'r cynnig wedi 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.*

16:48

## **Memorandwm Cydsyniad Deddfwriaethol Atodol (Memorandwm Rhif 3) ar y Bil Dadreoleiddio: Diwygiadau mewn perthynas â Phedolwyr a Chytundebau Cartref-Ysgol**

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

I call on the Minister for Education and Skills to move the motion. I call Huw Lewis.

Cynnig NDM5525 Alun Davies

Cynnig bod Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog 29.6, yn cytuno y dylai Senedd y DU ystyried darpariaethau yn y Bil Dadreoleiddio, sy'n ymwneud â Phedolwyr a Chytundebau cartref-ysgol i'r graddau y maent yn dod o fewn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.

## **Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No-3) Deregulation Bill: Amendments in relation to Farriers and Home-school Agreements**

**Y** Senedd.tv  
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Galwaf ar y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau i gynnis y cynnig. Galwaf ar Huw Lewis.

Motion NDM5525 Alun Davies

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order 29.6 agrees that provisions in the Deregulation Bill, relating to Farriers and Home-school agreements in so far as they fall within the legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

16:48

## **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

I move the motion.

Thank you for the opportunity to open today's debate on this supplementary legislative consent motion on the UK Deregulation Bill, which concerns amendments relating to farriers and home-school agreements. I would like to thank the Assembly's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee for its scrutiny of the legislative consent memorandum and its subsequent report. I note that the committee considered it reasonable to make the Farriers Registration Council provision through the UK Bill. The committee did, however, express concerns that the repeal of provisions about home-school agreements is being dealt with by a Westminster Bill rather than a Welsh Bill. I have already written to the Chair of the committee to explain why I took this approach.

Cynigiau y cynnig.

Diolch am y cyfle i agor y ddadl heddiw ar y cynnig cydsyniad deddfwriaethol atodol hwn ar Fil Dadreoleiddio'r DU, sy'n ymwneud â diwygiadau sy'n ymwneud â phedolwyr a chytundebau cartref-ysgol. Hoffwn ddiolch i Bwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol y Cynulliad am graffu ar y memorandwm cydsyniad deddfwriaethol a'i adroddiad dilynol. Nodaf fod y pwyllgor wedi ystyried ei bod yn rhesymol gwneud darpariaeth y Cyngor Cofrestru Pedolwyr drwy Fil y DU. Roedd y pwyllgor, fodd bynnag, yn mynegi pryderon fod Bil o San Steffan yn hytrach na Bil o Gymru'n cael ei ddefnyddio i ddiddymu'r darpariaethau ynghylch cytundebau cartref-ysgol. Rwyf eisoes wedi ysgrifennu at Gadeirydd y pwyllgor i egluro pam y cymerais y camau hyn.

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The Welsh Government follows the general principle that legislation relating to Wales that is within the Assembly's legislative competence should be made in Wales using Assembly Bills. However, we have to balance this with opportunities presented to us to ensure that legislation affecting Wales is made in a timely manner. In this case, I concluded that it was sensible and reasonable to take advantage of the opportunity to repeal the home-school agreement provisions for Wales through the Deregulation Bill. In my view, the repeal of these provisions is not contentious. Home-school agreements have been difficult to enforce in practice, parents are not legally required to sign them and there are no sanctions for failing to comply with them. We would, therefore, be using the UK Bill to repeal legislation that no longer has a practical purpose. As such, the repeal is deregulatory in nature and relieves an unnecessary burden on schools.

Removing the requirement for the home-school agreement in Wales, if agreed, will free up schools to work with parents in a way that suits the circumstances of the school, its pupils and their parents, rather than through a prescribed mechanism. In the absence of a suitable Assembly Bill, taking provisions in the UK Deregulation Bill means that we can repeal the provision more quickly than we could do otherwise. The committee's scrutiny and the debate here today ensure that the Assembly has its say on a matter within its competence. I hope that my explanation has allayed the committee's concerns and I commend the motion to the Chamber.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru'n dilyn yr egwyddor gyffredinol y dylai deddfwriaeth sy'n ymwneud â Chymru ac sydd o fewn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol y Cynulliad gael ei gwneud yng Nghymru gan ddefnyddio Biliau'r Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gydbwyso hyn â'r cyfleoedd a gyflwynir inni i sicrhau bod deddfwriaeth sy'n effeithio ar Gymru'n cael ei gwneud mewn modd amserol. Yn yr achos hwn, deuthum i'r casgliad ei bod yn synhwyrol ac yn rhesymol manteisio ar y cyfle i ddefnyddio'r Bil Dadreoleiddio i ddiddymu darpariaethau'r cytundebau cartref-ysgol i Gymru. Yn fy marn i, nid yw diddymu'r darpariaethau hyn yn fater dadleuol. Mae cytundebau cartref-ysgol wedi bod yn anodd eu gorfodi'n ymarferol, nid oes gofyn cyfreithiol i rieni eu llofnodi ac nid oes cosbau am fethu â chydymffurfio â hwy. Byddem, felly, yn defnyddio Bil y DU i ddiddymu deddfwriaeth sydd heb ddiben ymarferol mwyach. Felly, mater o ddadreoleiddio yw eu diddymu, ac mae'n lleddfu baich diangen ar ysgolion.

Bydd dileu'r gofyniad am y cytundeb cartref-ysgol yng Nghymru, os cytunir i wneud hynny, yn rhyddhau ysgolion i weithio gyda rhieni mewn ffordd sy'n addas i amgylchiadau'r ysgol, ei disgyblion a'u rhieni, yn hytrach na drwy ddull rhagnodedig. Yn absenoldeb Bil Cynulliad addas, mae defnyddio darpariaethau Bil Dadreoleiddio'r DU yn golygu y gallwn ddiddymu'r ddarpariaeth yn gynt nag y gallem ei wneud fel arall. Mae gwaith craffu'r pwyllgor a'r ddadl yma heddiw'n sicrhau bod y Cynulliad yn cael dweud ei ddweud am fater sydd o fewn ein cymhwysedd. Rwyf yn gobeithio bod fy esboniad wedi tawelu pryderon y pwyllgor ac rwyf yn cymeradwyo'r cynnig i'r Siambr.

16:51 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee, David Melding.

Galwaf ar Gadeirydd y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol, David Melding.

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16:52 **David Melding** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

May I just say that the committee reported on this supplementary legislative consent memorandum on 23 July 2014? As you have heard, we did consider the approach to be reasonable in relation to provisions regarding the Farriers Registration Council, given that they relate to the composition of that body, which has responsibility across Great Britain. However, in relation to the provisions relating to home-school agreements, we believe that the policy change should have been contained within a Welsh Government Bill and subject to scrutiny by the National Assembly. The key here is that it is a policy change. Our committee never expresses any opinion on the merits of a policy, but we do note that a policy change is occurring and, therefore, it really should be for this place to determine whether it is a technical matter, a more substantial one or one that would require a robust policy to replace it.

A gaf fi ddweud bod y pwyllgor wedi adrodd ar y memorandwm cydsyniad deddfwriaethol atodol ar 23 Gorffennaf 2014? Fel y clywsoch, roeddem o'r farn bod yr ymagwedd yn rhesymol o ran y darpariaethau sy'n ymwneud â'r Cyngor Cofrestru Pedolwyr, ac ystyried eu bod yn ymwneud â chyfansoddiad y corff hwnnw, sydd â chyfrifoldeb ledled Prydain Fawr. Fodd bynnag, o ran y darpariaethau sy'n ymwneud â chytundebau cartref-ysgol, rydym yn credu y dylid bod wedi cynnwys y newid polisi o fewn Bil Llywodraeth Cymru a'i wneud yn destun gwaith craffu gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Yr hyn sy'n allweddol yma yw mai newid polisi ydyw. Nid yw ein pwyllgor byth yn mynegi unrhyw farn am rinweddau polisi, ond rydym yn nodi bod newid polisi'n digwydd ac, felly, y lle hwn ddylai benderfynu a yw'n fater technegol, yn fater mwy sylweddol ynteu'n fater y byddai angen polisi cadarn i gymryd ei le.

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We believe that there has been ample opportunity to remove home-school arrangements by using a Welsh Bill rather than a UK Bill arising in Westminster. This is the key point that better planning, perhaps, would have enabled a Welsh Bill to be used. The Minister wrote to us on 3 September in response to our report. I am grateful to him for setting out his reasons, but I have to record our misgivings in relation to the justifications that he has used. For example, it is not clear why the provisions could not be included in the Education (Wales) Bill, which was originally introduced in July 2013. If timing was an issue and the provisions repealed are, in the Minister's view, non-contentious, why not make use of the amendments process at Stage 2 of the Education (Wales) Bill, which would have allowed for further scrutiny by the Assembly at Stage 3?

In defending the use of a UK Bill, it is perhaps somewhat strange to use an argument that, if amendments had been tabled to the Education (Wales) Bill, it would not have enabled scrutiny by a Stage 1 committee, particularly when that is the case for many significant Government amendments that are tabled to legislation in this Chamber, and at least some scrutiny would have been enabled by an amendment.

We will continue to press for the use of Welsh Bills to deliver the Government's policy objectives. That is what our committee is set up to do. It is an approach that enables scrutiny in detail and it allows this Assembly to make these judgments and not the Minister. Therefore, we feel that it is an essential part of the process in keeping the Government true to its commitment to make Welsh laws in Wales and to make those laws more accessible.

16:54

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

Fe fydd Plaid Cymru'n gwrthwynebu'r cynnig hwn heddiw am y rhesymau da y mae Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol wedi'u gosod allan, sef, yn fras, y dylai'r lle hwn ddeddfu, yn enwedig mewn maes sydd wedi'i ddatganoli'n llwyr i'r Cynulliad. Mae'r Cadeirydd, David Melding, wedi ymdrin â hynny'n drwyadl. Felly, fe wnaif gyfyngu fy sylwadau i i'r mater o newid polisi fan hyn. Heddiw yw'r tro cyntaf i'r Gweinidog presennol, y cyn-Weinidog, neu unrhyw Weinidog addysg y Blaid Lafur, sefyll i fyny yn y Siambr hon a dweud nad oes diben ymarferol i gytundebau ysgol a chartref. Dyma'r tro cyntaf erioed i hynny gael ei ddweud gan Weinidog, a mae'n ei ddweud ar y diwrnod y mae'n gofyn i ni fel Cynulliad roi'r hawl i San Steffan eu diddymu yng Nghymru.

Ers i'r rhain gael eu cyflwyno ac ers i'r sefydliad hwn feddu ar rymoedd deddfwriaethol llawn ers y refferendwm, mae dau Fil addysg wedi mynd trwyddo a oedd yn addas i ddelio â hwn—y Bil addysg roedd y Cadeirydd yn sôn amdano a'r Bil safonau ysgolion. Mae ymchwiliad llawn gan y Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc i ymwneud rhieni ag ysgolion wedi cael ei gynnal o dan gadeiryddiaeth Ann Jones ac ni chafodd hwnnw unrhyw dystiolaeth gan y Gweinidog, na neb arall, nad yw'r cytundebau ysgol a chartref hyn yn gweithio yng Nghymru a bod eisiau cael gwared arnynt.

Rydym yn credu y bu digon o gyfle i gael gwared ar drefniadau rhwng y cartref a'r ysgol drwy ddefnyddio Bil Cymru yn hytrach na Bil y DU sy'n codi yn San Steffan. Dyma'r pwynt allweddol, sef y byddai cynllunio gwell, efallai, wedi ein galluogi i ddefnyddio Bil Cymru. Ysgrifennodd y Gweinidog atom ar 3 Medi i ymateb i'n hadroddiad. Rwyf yn ddiolchgar iddo am nodi ei resymau, ond rhaid imi gofnodi ein hamheuan o ran y cyfiawnhad y mae wedi'i ddefnyddio. Er enghraifft, nid yw'n glir pam na ellid cynnwys y darpariaethau yn y Bil Addysg (Cymru), a gyflwynwyd yn wreiddiol ym mis Gorffennaf 2013. Os oedd yr amseru'n broblem a'r darpariaethau a ddiddymwyd, ym marn y Gweinidog, yn rhai di-gynnen, beth am ddefnyddio'r broses gwelliannau yng Ngham 2 Bil Addysg (Cymru), a fyddai wedi caniatáu craffu pellach gan y Cynulliad yng Ngham 3?

Wrth amddiffyn defnyddio un o Filiau'r DU, efallai ei bod braidd yn rhyfedd dadlau na fyddai cyflwyno gwelliannau i'r Bil Addysg (Cymru) wedi galluogi craffu gan bwyllgor Cam 1, yn enwedig pan fo hynny'n wir am lawer o welliannau mawr gan y Llywodraeth a gyflwynir i'r ddeddfwriaeth yn y Siambr hon, ac y byddai gwelliant wedi galluogi o leiaf rywfaent o graffu.

Byddwn yn parhau i bwysu am ddefnyddio Biliau Cymru i gyflawni amcanion polisi'r Llywodraeth. Dyna'r hyn y mae ein pwyllgor wedi'i sefydlu i'w wneud. Mae'n ymagwedd sy'n galluogi craffu manwl ac mae'n caniatáu i'r Cynulliad hwn wneud y dyfarniadau hyn, nid y Gweinidog. Felly, rydym o'r farn ei bod yn rhan hanfodol o'r broses o gadw'r Llywodraeth yn drwm i'w hymrwymiad i wneud cyfreithiau Cymru yng Nghymru ac i wneud y cyfreithiau hynny'n fwy hygyrch.

Plaid Cymru will oppose this motion today for the very good reasons set out by the Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee, namely that, broadly, this place should be legislating, particularly in areas that have been entirely devolved to the Assembly. The Chair, David Melding, has dealt with that issue thoroughly. Therefore, I will limit my comments to the issue of the policy change here. Today is the first time that the current Minister, his predecessor Minister, or any Labour Minister for education, has stood up in this Chamber and said that home-school agreements do not have any practical use. This is the first time that that has been said by any Minister, and he is saying it on the day that he is asking us as an Assembly to give the right to Westminster to abolish them in Wales.

Since these were introduced and since this institution took full legislative powers after the referendum, two education Bills have gone through that could have dealt with this issue—the education Bill that the Chair mentioned and the school standards Bill. There has been a full inquiry by the Children and Young People Committee into parents' involvement with schools, which was chaired by Ann Jones, and that received no evidence from the Minister, or anyone else, that the home-school agreements are not working in Wales and that they need to be replaced.

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Yn syml iawn, oherwydd y mae Lloegr yn cael gwared arnynt, mae'n rhaid i ni gael gwared arnynt hefyd. Mae'n ddigon posibl bod y Gweinidog yn iawn ac nad oes diben i'r cytundebau bellach, bod polisi wedi symud ymlaen a bod angen cael gwared arnynt, er fy mod yn sylwi nad dyna oedd barn y Blaid Lafur yn 2009 pan yr oedd Ed Balls yn dal i siarad am y cytundebau hyn fel rhywbeth positif a oedd yn adeiladu perthynas rhieni a phlant â'r ysgol.

Os oes newid polisi yn digwydd, dylai gael ei drafod yn y fan hon a'i benderfynu gan bwyllgor yn y fan hon, a dylid ffurfio deddfwriaeth sy'n cael ei phasio yn y fan hon. Nid yw'n ddigon da i weld beth mae Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig yn ei wneud mewn maes polisi sydd wedi datganoli yn llwyr i Gymru a phenderfynu y byddwn yn caniatáu i Loegr a San Steffan ddeddfu yn y maes hwnnw. Yn syml iawn, nid yw'n ffordd effeithlon a thrwyadl o lunio polisi yng Nghymru a gweithredu polisi ar ffurf deddfwriaethol. Felly, er mwyn egwyddor, nid oherwydd bod hwn yn bolisi nad oes eisiau cael ei newid, ond er mwyn gweld y broses yn cael ei dilyn yn gyfiawn ac yn drwyadl, rydym yn mynd i wrthwynebu hwn heddiw.

Quite simply, because England is abolishing them, we have to do likewise. It is quite possible that the Minister is correct and that there is no purpose to these agreements, that the policy has moved forward and that we need to abolish them, although I note that that was not the view of the Labour Party in 2009 when Ed Balls was still talking about these agreements as a positive development that built relationships between parents, children and the school.

If there is to be a change of policy, it should be discussed here and decided by a committee here, and then we should formulate legislation and pass that legislation here. It is not good enough to see what the United Kingdom Government is doing in a policy area that has been devolved entirely to Wales and then take a decision that we will allow England and Westminster to legislate in that area. Quite simply, that is not the effective, thorough and efficient way that we should be drawing up policy in Wales and implementing policy in terms of legislation. Therefore, as a point of principle, not because this is a policy that does not need to be changed, but in order to see the process being followed justly and thoroughly, we are going to oppose this today.

16:57 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

I call on the Minister to reply.

Galwaf ar y Gweinidog i ymateb.

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16:57 **Huw Lewis** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

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

In response to the comments that have been made, I would make three brief points. There was no other appropriate legislative Welsh Bill available at the time that the proposal to repeal these provisions was raised. That is the first point. The second point is that the UK Government's legislative proposal to repeal the requirement for a home-school agreement is also appropriate for Welsh circumstances, but there is no time available for a similar provision to be brought forward by the Welsh Government. Thirdly, the fact that the provisions are non-controversial, deregulatory in nature and repeal legislation that has little practical purpose and, in so doing, remove an unnecessary burden on schools is important. Taking a provision in a UK Bill enables a pragmatic solution to be reached in a timely fashion as a matter of practical, good government.

Wrth ymateb i'r sylwadau sydd wedi'u gwneud, byddwn yn gwneud tri phwynt byr. Nid oedd Bil deddfwriaethol Cymreig arall priodol ar gael ar yr adeg y codwyd y cynnig i ddiddymu'r darpariaethau hyn. Dyna'r pwynt cyntaf. Yr ail bwynt yw bod cynnig deddfwriaethol Llywodraeth y DU i ddiddymu'r gofyniad am gytundeb cartref-ysgol hefyd yn briodol ar gyfer amgylchiadau Cymru, ond nad oes amser gan Lywodraeth Cymru i gyflwyno darpariaeth debyg. Yn drydydd, mae'r ffaith nad yw'r darpariaethau'n ddadleuol, eu bod yn golygu dadreoleiddio a'u bod yn diddymu deddfwriaeth sydd heb lawer o bwrpas ymarferol ac, wrth wneud hynny, yn cael gwared ar faich diangen ar ysgolion, yn bwysig. Mae cymryd darpariaeth mewn Bil y DU yn ein galluogi i sicrhau ateb pragmatig mewn modd amserol fel mater o lywodraethu da, ymarferol.

I take on board the points that have been made by the committee. This is not something that is, I hasten to add, becoming any part of a habit of working on the part of the Welsh Government, but we have to take into account that, occasionally, moving the legislative programme forward in Wales through these means is a useful and pragmatic way of moving forward. I have listened to the points raised during today's debate and I ask Members to support this LCM.

Rwyf yn derbyn y pwyntiau a wnaeth y pwyllgor. Prysuraf i ychwanegu nad yw hyn yn rhywbeth sy'n dod yn unrhyw ran o arfer o weithio ar ran Llywodraeth Cymru, ond rhaid inni ystyried y ffaith bod symud y rhaglen deddfwriaethol ymlaen yng Nghymru yn y modd hwn, o bryd i'w gilydd, yn ffordd ddefnyddiol a phragmatig o symud ymlaen. Rwyf wedi gwrandao ar y pwyntiau a godwyd yn ystod y ddaid heddiw a gofynnaf i Aelodau gefnogi'r cynnig cydsyniad deddfwriaethol hwn.

16:58 **Y Llywydd / The Presiding Officer** [Bywgraffiad](#) [Biography](#)

The proposal is to agree the motion. Does any Member object? There is objection, therefore, I will defer voting on this item until voting time.

Y cynnig yw y dylid derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw Aelod yn gwrthwynebu? Mae gwrthwynebiad, felly, gohiriaf y pleidleisio ar yr eitem hon tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.

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It was agreed by the Business Committee this morning that voting time would take place at the end of business. We have now reached that point, so I intend to take the vote immediately, unless three Members want the bell to be rung. I see that they do not, so we will move straight to voting time.

*Gohiriwyd y pleidleisio tan y cyfnod pleidleisio.*

## **Cyfnod Pleidleisio**

[Canlyniad y bleidlais ar gynnig NDM5525](#)

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig: O blaid 41, Yn erbyn 7, Ymatal 0.*

Cytunodd y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma y byddai'r cyfnod pleidleisio'n digwydd ar ddiwedd y busnes. Rydym bellach wedi cyrraedd yr adeg honno, felly rwyf yn bwriadu cynnal y bleidlais ar unwaith, oni bai fod tri Aelod am i'r gloch gael ei chanu. Gwelaf nad oes, felly symudwn yn syth at y cyfnod pleidleisio.

*Voting deferred until voting time.*

## **Voting Time**

[Result of the vote on motion NDM5525](#)

*Motion agreed: For 41, Against 7, Abstain 0.*

16:59

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

That brings today's business to a close. Thank you very much.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 16:59.*

Daw hynny â busnes heddiw i ben. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

*The meeting ended at 16:59.*

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