



Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Y Cofnod Swyddogol)

The National Assembly for Wales
(The Official Record)

Dydd Mawrth 14 Tachwedd 2000
Tuesday 14 November 2000

Cynnwys
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Iwerddon) a Mentrau Cymunedol URBAN
*The Single Programming Document for LEADER, INTERREG (Wales-Ireland
programme) and URBAN Community Initiatives*

Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y Siambr.
Yn y golofn dde, cynhwyswyd cyfieithiad o'r areithiau hynny.

*In the left-hand column, the proceedings are recorded in the language in which they were
spoken in the Chamber. In the right-hand column, a translation of those speeches has been
included.*

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2 p.m. gyda'r Llywydd yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Presiding Officer in the Chair.*

**Datganiad gan y Llywydd
Statement by the Presiding Officer**

The Presiding Officer: At the end of exchanges last Thursday, following a point of order raised by Nick Bourne, I asked him to withdraw and reconsider the use that he made of the word 'offensive', according to my duties under Standing Order No. 7.2. That Standing Order forbids the use of language that the Presiding Officer considers to be disorderly, discriminatory or offensive. I have not had any indication from Nick Bourne that he is prepared to withdraw or reconsider anything that he said at the time, so I am forced to give my own conclusions on that incident.

As I indicated on Thursday, I have consulted the Record of Proceedings, which suggests that, at an early stage of the exchanges, Nick Bourne said that,

'the Greenham women are deeply offensive to many people in the country'.

Conservative Assembly Members: Hear, hear.

The Presiding Officer: Order. I am making a statement to the Assembly. That statement will not be interrupted.

My view is that that should not have been said in those terms, under our Standing Orders. If Nick Bourne had said that he, and possibly others, found the placing of the statue in the milling area deeply offensive, or that the cause espoused by the Greenham women was a matter of deep controversy, I believe that he would have been within his rights under our Standing Orders. Some of the later exchanges, on my reading of the Record, suggest that that or something similar may have been his underlying intention. I hope, therefore, that we can all agree to regard the issue of compliance with Standing Order No. 7.2 as resolved.

Y Llywydd: Ar ddiwedd y trafodaethau ddydd Iau diwethaf, yn dilyn pwynt o drefn a godwyd gan Nick Bourne, gofynnais iddo dynnu'r hyn a ddywedodd yn ôl ac ailystyried y defnydd a wnaeth o'r gair 'sarhaus', yn unol â'm dyletswyddau o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 7.2. Mae'r Rheol Sefydlog honno yn gwahardd defnyddio iaith yr ystyria'r Llywydd ei bod yn anhrefnus, yn wahaniaethol neu'n sarhaus. Ni chefais unrhyw arwydd gan Nick Bourne ei fod yn barod i dynnu'r hyn a ddywedodd yn ôl neu ailystyried unrhyw beth a ddywedodd ar y pryd, felly rhaid imi roi fy nghasgliadau fy hun ar y digwyddiad hwnnw.

Fel y nodais ddydd Iau, edrychais ar Gofnod y Trafodion, sydd yn awgrymu, yn gynnar yn y trafodaethau, i Nick Bourne ddweud,

'fod merched Comin Greenham yn hynod sarhaus i lawer o bobl yn y wlad'.

Aelodau Ceidwadol y Cynulliad: Clywch, clywch.

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Yr wyf yn gwneud datganiad i'r Cynulliad. Ni ellir torri ar draws y datganiad hwnnw.

Fy marn i yw na ddylai hynny fod wedi ei ddweud yn y termau hynny, o dan ein Rheolau Sefydlog. Petai Nick Bourne wedi dweud ei fod ef, ac eraill o bosibl, yn ystyried bod gosod y cerflun yn y neuadd yn sarhaus iawn, neu bod yr achos a gefnogwyd gan ferched Greenham yn hynod ddadleuol, credaf y byddai o fewn ei hawl o dan ein Rheolau Sefydlog. Awgryma rhai o'r trafodaethau diweddarach, wedi imi ddarllen y Cofnod, mai dyna oedd ei fwriad sylfaenol, neu rywbeth tebyg i hynny. Gobeithio, felly, y gallwn oll gytuno i ystyried bod y mater o gydymffurfio â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.2 wedi'i ddatrys.

Cwestiynau i Brif Weinidog Cymru Questions to the First Minister

‘Rhoi Cymru’n Gyntaf’ ‘Putting Wales First’

Q1 Jonathan Morgan: When will the partnership document ‘Putting Wales First’ expire? (OAQ7709)

C1 Jonathan Morgan: Pryd y bydd y ddogfen bartneriaeth ‘Rhoi Cymru’n Gyntaf’ yn dod i ben? (OAQ7709)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): On the first Wednesday of May 2003.

Prif Weinidog Cymru (Rhodri Morgan): Ar ddydd Mercher cyntaf mis Mai 2003.

Jonathan Morgan: Will you confirm that, before that document expires, you will have met your waiting lists and times promises, as noted on page 7 of ‘Putting Wales First’? Will you also confirm that you will reverse the 265 per cent increase in the number of patients waiting more than 18 months for an operation?

Jonathan Morgan: A gadarnhewch, cyn i’r ddogfen ddod i ben, y byddwch wedi cwrdd â’ch addewidion o ran rhestrau aros ac amserau, fel y nodir ar dudalen 7 ‘Rhoi Cymru’n Gyntaf’? A gadarnhewch hefyd y byddwch yn gwrthdroi’r cynnydd o 265 y cant yn nifer y cleifion sydd yn aros am fwy na 18 mis am lawdriniaeth?

The First Minister: It is part of the partnership agreement to achieve cuts in waiting times, an extension of free eye and dental checks and a prescription charge freeze for everyone in Wales. A special fund has been established to reduce health inequalities and it will incorporate a long-term strategy for the elderly. We hope to achieve all those targets by 2003 or as soon as is practical thereafter.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae’n rhan o’r cytundeb partneriaeth i gyflawni toriadau mewn amseroedd aros, cynyddu profion golwg a deintyddol am ddim a rhewi taliadau presgripsiwn i bawb yng Nghymru. Sefydlwyd cronfa arbennig i leihau anghydraddoldebau iechyd a bydd yn ymgorffori strategaeth tymor hir ar gyfer yr henoed. Gobeithiwn gyflawni’r holl dargedau hynny erbyn 2003 neu cyn gynted ag sydd yn ymarferol wedi hynny.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): The partnership agreement contains interesting comments about the civil service. We understand that you also made interesting remarks about the civil service in your lecture in Aberystwyth last night. Unfortunately, we could not be present at that lecture, so could you enlighten us on some of your remarks? It is reported that you said that the civil service, throughout the 1990s in Wales, or some members of it, had adopted a begging bowl approach and that some of them were regarded as expansionists and play-safers. Can you tell us what you meant by those phrases, if you used them?

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Mae’r cytundeb partneriaeth yn cynnwys sylwadau diddorol ynghylch y gwasanaeth sifil. Deallwn eich bod hefyd wedi gwneud sylwadau diddorol ynghylch y gwasanaeth sifil yn eich darlith yn Aberystwyth neithiwr. Yn anffodus, ni allem fod yn bresennol yn y ddarlith honno, felly a allech ein goleuo ynglŷn â rhai o’ch sylwadau? Adroddir ichi ddweud bod y gwasanaeth sifil, drwy’r 1990au yng Nghymru, neu rai aelodau ohono, wedi mabwysiadu ymagwedd dysgl gardod ac yr ystyriwyd rhai ohonynt fel ehangwyr a phobl a oedd yn chwarae’n saff. Allwch chi ddweud wrthym beth yw ystyr yr ymadroddion hynny, os y’u defnyddiwyd gennych?

The First Minister: You are 30 years out of date, which, even for you, is a lot. I was referring to my experiences as a civil servant in the early days of the Welsh Office in the 1960s.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I think perhaps, Rhodri, that you should correct the BBC's website. I will quote it for you. It says that you said—

The First Minister: I know what I said.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: This is what you are quoted as saying. If you want to correct it, this is your opportunity to do so.

The First Minister: I have already done so.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: OK. Do you think that it is important for us to have a debate about the future of the civil service in Wales? Your partnership agreement states that you will seek to work towards a more independent civil service in Wales. The people of Wales will be interested in knowing what exactly you mean by that. You have opened the debate in your lecture last night—

The Presiding Officer: A question please.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: We need to know the timescale. When do you think that independent civil service might be achieved?

The First Minister: When I referred to an independent civil service, I meant the ability to generate policies and not to piggyback on the back of Whitehall, which was my experience in the 1960s. As far as I know, there would be support across the four parties in the Assembly for a greater capacity within Wales to generate our own policies.

The one area where we might disagree across the four parties in the Assembly is that the Conservatives would not accept the partial blame that I laid at the feet of John Redwood. They will say 'oh, not John Redwood again'. However, he introduced massive cuts especially in the senior and policy making levels in the civil service in the Welsh

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr ydych 30 mlynedd allan ohoni, sydd yn amser hir, hyd yn oed i chi. Cyfeirio yr oeddwn at fy mhrofiadau fel gwas sifil yn nyddiau cynnar y Swyddfa Gymreig yn y 1960au.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Credaf efallai, Rhodri, y dylech gywiro gwefan y BBC. Dyfynnaf ohoni. Dywed i chi ddweud—

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gwn beth a ddywedais.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Dyma beth y dyfynnir ichi ei ddweud. Os ydych am ei gywiro, dyma eich cyfle i wneud hynny.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gwneuthum hynny eisoes.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: O'r gorau. A gredwch ei bod yn bwysig inni drafod dyfodol y gwasanaeth sifil yng Nghymru? Noda eich cytundeb partneriaeth y byddwch yn ceisio gweithio tuag at wasanaeth sifil mwy annibynnol yng Nghymru. Bydd gan bobl Cymru ddiddordeb cael gwybod beth yn union yw ystyr hynny. Agorwyd y drafodaeth yn eich darlith neithiwr—

Y Llywydd: Cwestiwn os gwelwch yn dda.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Mae angen inni wybod yr amserlen. Pryd y credwch y gellir cyflawni'r gwasanaeth sifil annibynnol hwnnw?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Pan gyfeiriais at wasanaeth sifil annibynnol, yr hyn yr oeddwn yn ei olygu oedd y gallu i lunio polisïau a pheidio â chael eu cario ar gefn Whitehall, sef fy mhrofiad yn y 1960au. Cyn belled ag y gwn, byddai cefnogaeth ar draws y bedair plaid yn y Cynulliad i well cynhwysedd o fewn Cymru i greu ein polisïau ein hunain.

Yr un maes lle y gallem anghytuno ar draws y pedair plaid yn y Cynulliad yw na fyddai'r Ceidwadwyr yn cymryd y bai rhannol a roddais wrth draed John Redwood. Byddant yn dweud 'o, nid John Redwood eto'. Fodd bynnag, cyflwynodd doriadau anferth yn enwedig ar y lefelau uwch a'r lefelau llunio polisïau yn y Swyddfa Gymreig. Torrodd y

Office. He cut the numbers by 25 per cent, or opened the cuts that were intended to reduce the number of civil servants by 25 per cent and probably 35 to 40 per cent at that policy making level. That happened at the point when the Welsh Office, after some 30 years of existence, was beginning to develop the ability to generate policies. The Welsh Office was top-sliced by those huge cuts that John Redwood brought in at the same time as he thought the Siemens workstations, the computers that all the civil servants were going to be given, could take the place of the policy making capability, which the Welsh Office was beginning to generate by the mid 1990's. The Welsh Office lost that ability again through the savageness of those cuts that John Redwood brought in. Apart from that—I guessed that the Conservatives would not agree with that analysis—I think all 60 Members agree with the need, post-devolution, for a greater independent policy making capability from officials to help us to generate the policies that suit us in Wales.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): You are right that we are concerned about the present and the future. We are not concerned about the past. Let us look at how the Assembly should be delivering for the people of Wales. What consolation can you offer to the 46,000 people who have been waiting for over six months to see a consultant, a figure that has risen from a mere 6,000 when you came into government?

The First Minister: The consolation I can offer is that doctors are being trained to consultant level as quickly as possible, which is some 14 years, but I hope that we do not wait 14 years before it happens. However, if the capability is not there within the medical profession to generate more consultants quickly other than by importing consultants from abroad, it poses us with a problem because you are trying to change the proverbial Esso supertanker at sea, which might take so long. You are trying to generate more nurses, more doctors and more consultants. The longest of those in terms of training is consultants, with a period well in

niferoedd 25 y cant, neu agorodd y toriadau a fwriadwyd i leihau nifer y gweision sifil 25 y cant a 35 i 40 y cant mae'n debyg ar y lefel llunio polisïau honno. Digwyddodd hynny ar y pwynt pan oedd y Swyddfa Gymreig, wedi iddi fod mewn bodolaeth am 30 mlynedd, yn dechrau datblygu'r gallu i lunio polisïau. Brig-dorrwyd y Swyddfa Gymreig gan y toriadau anferth hynny a gyflwynodd John Redwood ar yr un pryd ag y credodd y gallai'r gweithfannau Siemens, y cyfrifiaduron y byddai'r holl weision sifil yn eu cael, yn gallu cymryd lle'r gallu i lunio polisïau yr oedd y Swyddfa Gymreig yn dechrau eu cynhyrchu erbyn canol y 1990au. Collodd y Swyddfa Gymreig y gallu hwnnw unwaith eto drwy fileindra'r toriadau hynny a gyflwynodd John Redwood. Ar wahân i hynny—dyfalais na fyddai'r Ceidwadwyr yn cytuno â'r dadansoddiad hwnnw—credaf fod pob un o'r 60 Aelod yn cytuno â'r angen, ar ôl datganoli, am fwy o allu annibynnol i lunio polisïau gan swyddogion i'n helpu i lunio'r polisïau sydd yn addas ar ein cyfer ni yng Nghymru.

Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): Yr ydych yn gywir ein bod yn pryderu am y presennol a'r dyfodol. Nid ydym yn pryderu am y gorffennol. Gadewch inni edrych ar sut y dylai'r Cynulliad fod yn darparu ar gyfer pobl Cymru. Pa gysur y gallwch ei gynnig i'r 46,000 o bobl sydd wedi bod yn aros ers dros chwe mis i weld ymgynghorydd, ffigur a gododd o 6,000 yn unig pan ddaethoch i rym?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Y cysur y gallaf ei gynnig yw bod meddygon yn cael eu hyfforddi i lefel ymgynghori cyn gynted â phosibl, sef tua 14 blynedd, ond gobeithio na fyddwn yn aros 14 blynedd cyn i hyn ddigwydd. Fodd bynnag, os nad yw'r gallu yno o fewn y proffesiwn meddygol i gynhyrchu mwy o ymgynghorwyr yn gyflym heb fewnforio ymgynghorwyr o dramor, bydd problem yn codi oherwydd eich bod yn ceisio troi llong olew fawr ddjarhebol yn y môr a allai gymryd amser hir. Yr ydych yn ceisio cynhyrchu mwy o nyrsys, mwy o feddygon a mwy o ymgynghorwyr. Y rhai fydd yn cymryd y cyfnod hwyaf i'w

excess of 10 years. Therefore, generating additional consultants or finding another way through the human resources strategy that is part of the partnership agreement is top of the priority list for Jane Hutt as our Minister for Health and Social Services.

Nick Bourne: The supertanker metaphor was not mentioned when you made an early pledge to reduce waiting lists on coming to power. It was not mentioned then that waiting lists would go up by some 300 to 400 per cent before being reduced. Coming back to Jane Hutt's pledge to reduce waiting lists by 15,000 by next April, is this regarded as an issue of confidence on the part of the administration?

The First Minister: I do not think one anticipates what are issues of confidence. That is a matter for opposition parties as much as for me. This is a matter for us to use every practical method possible to accomplish the laudable health aims of trying to achieve the kind of NHS that the people in Wales have a right to expect.

hyfforddi yw'r ymgynghorwyr gyda chyfnod sylweddol hwy na 10 mlynedd. Felly mae cynhyrchu ymgynghorwyr ychwanegol neu ganfod ffordd arall drwy'r strategaeth adnoddau dynol sydd yn rhan o'r cytundeb partneriaeth ar frig y rhestr flaenoriaethau ar gyfer Jane Hutt fel ein Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol.

Nick Bourne: Ni chrybwyllwyd trosiad y llong olew pan wnaethoch addewid yn gynharach i ostwng rhestrau aros pan ddaethoch i rym. Ni chrybwyllwyd bryd hynny y byddai rhestrau aros yn cynyddu tua 300 i 400 y cant cyn cael eu gostwng. O ddychwelyd at addewid Jane Hutt i sicrhau gostyngiad o 15,000 mewn rhestrau aros erbyn mis Ebrill nesaf, a ystyrir bod hyn yn fater o hyder ar ran y weinyddiaeth?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni chredaf fod rhywun yn rhagweld yr hyn sydd yn faterion o hyder. Mae hynny'n fater i'r gwrthbleidiau yn ogystal ag i mi. Mae hyn yn fater i ni ddefnyddio pob dull ymarferol posibl i gyflawni'r amcanion iechyd clodwiw o geisio cyflawni'r math o NHS y mae gan bobl yng Nghymru yr hawl i'w ddisgwyl.

Partneriaeth â Busnes Partnership with Business

Q2 Helen Mary Jones: What discussions has the First Minister had with Partnership with Business about policies for promoting Welsh business and industry within Wales? (OAQ7732)

The First Minister: The next meeting of the Business Partnership Council is a fortnight Friday, on 1 December. As well as the discussions arising at meetings of the Business Partnership Council, consultative groups have been set up to assist with the development of the national economic development strategy. Over 80 organisations and individuals are represented on these groups and they are actively encouraged to comment on promoting Welsh business and industry in Wales.

2:10 p.m.

C2 Helen Mary Jones: Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi eu cynnal gyda Phartneriaeth â Busnes ynghylch polisiau ar gyfer hyrwyddo busnesau a diwydiannau o Gymru yng Nghymru? (OAQ7732)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae cyfarfod nesaf y Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes bythefnos i ddydd Gwener, ar 1 Rhagfyr. Yn ogystal â'r trafodaethau sydd yn codi mewn cyfarfodydd o'r Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes, sefydlwyd grwpiau ymgynghorol i gynorthwyo wrth ddatblygu strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol. Cynrychiolir dros 80 o sefydliadau ac unigolion ar y grwpiau hyn ac fe'u hanogir i roi sylwadau ar hyrwyddo busnes a diwydiant Cymreig yng Nghymru.

Helen Mary Jones: Do you agree that Objective 1 funding is one of our major opportunities to promote Welsh business? Are you aware of the ongoing problems about the involvement of the business community in Carmarthenshire, for example—and I know it is true elsewhere—in the Objective 1 programme? Will you assure us today that the Minister for Economic Development is taking urgent action with the monitoring committee to address these problems? What use is to be made of technical assistance funds to facilitate this?

The First Minister: If I understand the burden of Helen Mary Jones's question about Carmarthenshire and other parts of Wales as regards implementation of Objective 1, the private sector unit has now been set up in the Welsh European Funding Office under Helen Usher, who is well known to Helen Mary and myself through her previous role as Clerk of the Economic Development Committee. WEFO will have the specific job of liaising with the private sector to ensure that it is in no way inhibited by the belief that local authorities somehow have a better inside track to WEFO, that the voluntary sector can somehow spare more people, and that they, as busy businesspeople, cannot spare people to get involved. There is a problem about the amount of time required to sit on some of the bodies concerned. We have heard complaints about that. As people holding down full-time jobs or running busy companies, it is not easy for businesspeople to get directly involved. That sometimes applies to business organisations and their full-time staff as well.

Alun Cairns: Does the First Minister accept that the Business Partnership Council is not working as was originally envisaged at the time of the legislation? Businessmen often raise issues at the meeting only to find that those meetings are postponed time and time again. Does this demonstrate the priority that you place on such meetings, and what consideration have you given to bringing back the issues that are raised in one meeting at the second meeting so that adequate

Helen Mary Jones: A gytunwch bod arian Amcan 1 yn un o'n prif gyfleoedd i hyrwyddo busnes Cymreig? A Ydych chi'n ymwybodol o'r problemau parhaus ynghylch cyfranogiad y gymuned fusnes yn Sir Gaerfyrddin, er enghraifft—a gwn ei fod yn wir mewn lleoedd eraill—yn rhaglen Amcan 1? A wnewch chi ein sicrhau heddiw bod y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd yn gweithredu ar fyrder gyda'r pwyllgor monitro i ymdrin â'r problemau hyn? Pa ddefnydd a wneir o arian cymorth technegol i hwyluso hyn?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Os deallaf fyrdw'n cwstiwn Helen Mary Jones am Sir Gaerfyrddin a rhannau eraill o Gymru o ran gweithredu Amcan 1, sefydlwyd yr uned sector preifat bellach yn Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru o dan Helen Usher, y mae Helen Mary a minnau yn ei hadnabod yn dda drwy ei rôl flaenorol fel Clerc y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd. Bydd gan Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru y swydd benodol o gysylltu â'r sector preifat i sicrhau na chaiff ei lesteirio gan y gred y caiff awdurdodau lleol rhywsut lwybr mewnol gwell at Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, y gall y sector gwirfoddol rywsut hepgor mwy o bobl, ac na allant hwy, fel pobl fusnes brysur, sbario pobl i gymryd rhan. Ceir problem ynghylch faint o amser sydd ei angen i eistedd ar rai o'r cyrff dan sylw. Clywsom gwynion ynghylch hynny. Fel pobl sydd â swyddi llawn amser neu bobl sydd yn rhedeg cwmnïau prysur, nid yw'n hawdd i bobl fusnes gymryd rhan yn uniongyrchol. Weithiau bydd hynny'n berthnasol i sefydliadau busnes a'u staff llawn amser hefyd.

Alun Cairns: A dderbynia Prif Weinidog Cymru nad yw'r Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes yn gweithio fel y rhagwelwyd yn wreiddiol adeg y ddeddfwriaeth? Yn aml bydd pobl fusnes yn codi materion mewn cyfarfod i ganfod y caiff y cyfarfodydd hynny eu gohirio dro ar ôl tro. A yw hyn yn arddangos y flaenoriaeth a roddwch ar gyfarfodydd o'r fath, a pha ystyriaeth a roddwch i ailgodi'r materion a godwyd mewn un cyfarfod yn yr ail gyfarfod fel y gellir rhoi atebion digonol?

answers can be given?

The First Minister: I am not aware of postponements of the Business Partnership Council's meetings. As I mentioned earlier, the next meeting is a fortnight Friday. I would expect, at that meeting, that any issues raised as action points in previous meetings of the Business Partnership Council would have begun to be addressed by 1 December unless there is a pressing, practical reason why that has not happened. In general, the council is a channel of communication for businesses to express any concerns that they might have about being adversely affected by any actions or omissions by the Assembly, either as Committees or as Government. The council would expect to be notified of anything that might adversely affect them as businesses. It is a valuable channel of communication.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid wyf yn ymwybodol bod cyfarfodydd y Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes wedi'u gohirio. Fel y crybwyllais yn gynharach, mae'r cyfarfod nesaf bythefnos i ddydd Gwener. Disgwyliaf, yn y cyfarfod hwnnw, y dechreuir ymdrin ag unrhyw faterion a godwyd fel pwyntiau gweithredu mewn cyfarfodydd blaenorol o'r Cyngor Partneriaeth Busnes erbyn 1 Rhagfyr oni bai bod rheswm pwysig, ymarferol pam na ddigwyddodd hynny. Yn gyffredinol, mae'r cyngor yn sianel o gyfathrebu i fusnesau leisio unrhyw bryderon sydd ganddynt ynghylch cael eu heffeithio'n andwyol gan unrhyw weithredoedd neu hepgoriadau gan y Cynulliad, naill ai fel Pwyllgorau neu fel Llywodraeth. Disgwylia'r cyngor gael gwybod am unrhyw beth a allai gael effaith andwyol arnynt fel busnesau. Mae'n sianel gyfathrebu werthfawr.

Llywodraeth Fwy Agored ac Atebol Greater Openness and Accountability in Government

Q3 David Davies: What discussions has the First Minister had with UK ministers and his counterparts in the other devolved bodies on bringing greater openness and accountability to the processes of government? (OAQ7715)

C3 David Davies: Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi eu cynnal â gweinidogion y DU a'r rhai sydd yn cyfateb iddo yn y cyrff datganoledig eraill ynghylch gwneud prosesau'r llywodraeth yn fwy agored ac atebol? (OAQ7715)

The First Minister: I have been kept informed on the Freedom of Information Bill's passage through Parliament. It has not yet completed its passage through both houses. However, as regards discussions with UK Ministers, or my counterparts in the other devolved administrations on our own policy on openness and accountability, I believe that I discussed my 21 March statement to the Assembly on freedom of information with the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, a few days before or after my statement. I did so as a matter of courtesy. I have not discussed such matters with my opposite numbers in Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Rhoddwyd y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf imi ar daith y Mesur Rhyddid Gwybodaeth drwy'r Senedd. Nid yw eto wedi cwblhau ei daith drwy'r ddau dŷ. Fodd bynnag, o ran trafodaethau â Gweinidogion y DU, neu fy nghymheiriaid yn y gweinyddiaethau datganoledig eraill ar ein polisi ein hunain ar fod yn agored ac atebol, credaf imi drafod fy natganiad ar 21 Mawrth i'r Cynulliad ar ryddid gwybodaeth â'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, Jack Straw, ychydig ddyddiau cyn neu ar ôl fy natganiad. Gwnes hynny fel mater o gwrteisi. Ni thrafodais faterion o'r fath â'r rhai sydd yn cyfateb â mi yn yr Alban neu Ogledd Iwerddon.

David Davies: Do you agree that it is part of our openness and accountability policy to uphold the right of all Members in this Chamber to express their views—whatever

David Davies: A gytunwch ei bod yn rhan o'n polisi o fod yn agored ac atebol i gadarnhau hawl pob Aelod yn y Siambr hon i leisio ei farn—beth bynnag y bo—am

they may be—about different groups of people, whether they are fuel protesters, Greenham Common women, or any other protesting organisation?

The First Minister: I am not sure if that is a matter for me. We all take an interest in the Assembly's Standing Orders. I take an interest in them, but I have no more of an interest as First Minister than you have David, as Assembly Member for Monmouth. We all have a common interest in preserving freedom of expression, but subject to Standing Orders.

Richard Edwards: On openness, will you comment on the leaking of letters following the meeting of party leaders last week?

The First Minister: I observed the material that was produced after the meeting of the four party leaders with the Permanent Secretary and the Presiding Officer, and that was subsequently leaked to the press. I am sure that all of those present at the meeting regret the leaking of that letter. Some confidential discussions have to take place, regardless of a general policy of freedom of information that I strongly espouse.

I was the person who invited the Permanent Secretary to raise the issue that he did and I feel a degree of responsibility for that. I was not aware of a challenge to the lawfulness of the Assembly in passing the motion on sustainable development on 14 September. It was a meeting of the four party leaders, although Nick Bourne was not present due to an appalling M4 traffic jam. I am sure that we all regret the leak, particularly because a Permanent Secretary is no more in a position to answer back than any other official. We must ensure that Assembly officials are not put under difficult situations of being unable to answer back.

wahanol grwpiau o bobl, pa un a ydynt yn brotestwyr tanwydd, yn ferched Comin Greenham, neu'n unrhyw sefydliad protest arall?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Nid wyf yn siŵr a yw hynny'n fater i mi. Yr ydym oll yn cymryd diddordeb yn Rheolau Sefydlog y Cynulliad. Cymeraf ddiddordeb ynddynt, ond nid oes gennyf fwy o ddiddordeb fel Prif Weinidog Cymru nag sydd gennych chi David, fel Aelod o'r Cynulliad dros Fynwy. Mae gennym oll ddiddordeb cyffredin mewn diogelu rhyddid mynegiant, ond yn amodol ar Reolau Sefydlog.

Richard Edwards: Ar fod yn agored, a wnewch sylwadau ar ddatgelu llythyrau yn dilyn cyfarfod arweinwyr y pleidiau yr wythnos diwethaf?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gwelais y deunydd a gynhyrchwyd ar ôl cyfarfod pedwar arweinydd y pleidiau â'r Ysgrifennydd Parhaol a'r Llywydd, ac yn dilyn hynny fe'i datgelwyd i'r wasg. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod yn edifar gan bawb a oedd yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod i'r llythyr hwnnw gael ei ddatgelu. Rhaid cynnal rhai trafodaethau cyfrinachol, er gwaethaf polisi rhyddid gwybodaeth cyffredinol a gefnogaf yn gryf.

Fi oedd y person a wahoddodd yr Ysgrifennydd Parhaol i godi'r mater a gododd a themlaf rywfaint o gyfrifoldeb dros hynny. Nid oeddwn yn ymwybodol bod cyfreithlondeb y Cynulliad yn cael ei herio wrth dderbyn y cynnig ar ddatblygiad cynaliadwy ar 14 Medi. Yr oedd yn gyfarfod o bedwar arweinydd y pleidiau, er nad oedd Nick Bourne yn bresennol oherwydd tagfa draffig ddifrifol ar yr M4. Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod oll yn edifar am y datgeliad, yn enwedig gan nad yw Ysgrifennydd Parhaol mewn sefyllfa i ateb cymaint ag unrhyw swyddog arall. Rhaid inni sicrhau na roddir swyddogion y Cynulliad mewn unrhyw sefyllfa anodd o beidio â gallu ateb yn ôl.

Partneriaethau gyda Busnesau yng Nghanolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru Partnerships with Businesses in Mid and West Wales

Q4 Nick Bourne: Will the First Minister outline his plans to develop more

C4 Nick Bourne: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru amlinellu ei gynlluniau ar gyfer

partnerships with businesses in mid and west Wales? (OAQ7725)

The First Minister: I want more partnerships with businesses in the whole of Wales and not just in mid and west Wales. Sue Essex and I met the hauliers two or three weeks ago and there was heavy representation from Llanelli, Ammanford, Crosshands and Fishguard. If there are strong feelings about a particular issue in a particular area, then we should agree to meet representatives of those views. The meeting was open to hauliers from all over Wales but, as it happens, mid and west Wales were well represented that day.

Nick Bourne: I am concerned about this issue throughout Wales, but with a constituency hat on, I am particularly concerned about the job situation in some of the unemployment black spots in Powys, Llandrindod Wells, Knighton and Ystradgynlais. Can you hold out any hope that fresh jobs will go to those towns?

The First Minister: I do not know of any current proposals for jobs in those areas, but I will draw the attention of the officials concerned in the Welsh Development Agency and inside the Assembly's Economic Development group to the needs of those areas. Even though we have set out our stall on Objective 1 and have full assisted area status for areas that are west of the line between Powys and Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire, that does not mean that the areas east of that line in Powys, such as the towns that Nick mentioned, get no attention. It is important that they have some economic development, which is why I was pleased that a superb high technology firm, Invertek Drives Ltd in Four Crosses, north Montgomeryshire, announced 30 additional jobs. That is a large number of jobs for an area like Four Crosses, Llanymynech. Furthermore, that company's technology is of a globally leading type. We must try to ensure that areas that are east of Powys,

datblygu mwy o bartneriaethau gyda busnesau yng nghanolbarth a gorllewin Cymru? (OAQ7725)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr wyf am gael mwy o bartneriaethau â busnesau yng Nghymru gyfan ac nid dim ond yng nghanolbarth a gorllewin Cymru. Bu i Sue Essex a minnau gwrdd â'r cludwyr ddwy neu dair wythnos yn ôl a chafwyd cynrychiolaeth gref o Lanelli, Rhydaman, Crosshands ac Abergwaun. Os ceir teimladau cryf am fater penodol mewn ardal benodol, yna dylem gytuno i gwrdd â chynrychiolwyr y farn honno. Yr oedd y cyfarfod yn agored i gludwyr o bob rhan o Gymru ond, fel mae'n digwydd, yr oedd cynrychiolaeth dda o ganolbarth a gorllewin Cymru y diwrnod hwnnw.

Nick Bourne: Yr wyf yn bryderus ynghylch y mater hwn ledled Cymru, ond gan wisgo fy het etholaethol, yr wyf yn bryderus iawn am y sefyllfa o ran swyddi mewn rhai o'r mannau gwaethaf o ddiweithdra ym Mhowys, Llandrindod, Trefyclo ac Ystradgynlais. A oes gennych unrhyw obaith y bydd swyddi newydd yn mynd i'r trefi hynny?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Ni wn am unrhyw gynigion presennol am swyddi yn yr ardaloedd hynny, ond tynnaf sylw'r swyddogion dan sylw yn Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru ac yng ngrŵp Datblygu Economaidd y Cynulliad i anghenion yr ardaloedd hynny. Er ein bod wedi nodi ein barn ar Amcan 1 a bod gennym statws ardal a gynorthwyir llawn ar gyfer ardaloedd i'r gorllewin o'r llinell rhwng Powys a Cheredigion a Sir Gaerfyrddin, ni olyga hynny nad yw'r ardaloedd i'r dwyrain o'r llinell honno ym Mhowys, megis y trefi y soniodd Nick amdanynt, yn cael unrhyw sylw. Mae'n bwysig iddynt gael rhywfaint o ddatblygiad economaidd, a dyna pam yr oeddwn yn falch bod cwmni technoleg uchel ardderchog, Invertek Drives Ltd yn Four Crosses, yng ngogledd Sir Drefaldwyn, wedi datgan eu bod yn creu 30 o swyddi ychwanegol. Mae hynny'n nifer fawr o swyddi ar gyfer ardal megis Four Crosses, Llanymynech. Yn ogystal, mae technoleg y

between the Objective 1 boundary and the full assisted area boundary and the English border are not neglected, simply because they are not included in the Objective 1 area.

cwmni hwnnw o'r math sydd yn flaenllaw yn fyd-eang. Rhaid inni geisio sicrhau nad anghofir am yr ardaloedd i'r dwyrain o Bowys, rhwng ffin Amcan 1 a ffin yr ardal a gynorthwyr yn llawn a'r ffin â Lloegr, oherwydd na chânt eu cynnwys yn ardal Amcan 1.

Polisiau ar gyfer Gogledd Cymru (Blaenoriaethau) Policy for North Wales (Priorities)

C5 Cynog Dafis: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru restru ei flaenoriaethau wrth gyd-drefnu polisiau ar gyfer gogledd Cymru? (OAQ7723)

Q5 Cynog Dafis: Will the First Minister list his priorities in co-ordinating policy for north Wales? (OAQ7723)

Mae'n ddrwg gennyf fy mod wedi defnyddio'r ymadrodd 'gogledd Cymru' yn lle 'y gogledd' yn y cwestiwn a gyflwynwyd.

I apologise for having used the phrase 'north Wales' instead of 'the north' in the question that was tabled.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Synnais fod yr ymadrodd hwnnw wedi ymddangos yng nghwestiwn Cynog, yn enwedig ar ôl yr hyn a ddywedodd yn y drafodaeth ar y mater hwn rai wythnosau yn ôl.

The First Minister: I was surprised to see that phrase in Cynog's question, especially after what he said in the discussion on this matter some weeks ago.

Fy nyletswydd a'm blaenoriaeth yw sicrhau bod gogledd Cymru, neu'r rhan ogleddol o Gymru os yw'n well gan Cynog yr ymadrodd hwnnw, yn cael ei gynrychioli mewn materion megis penodiadau cyhoeddus a phenderfyniadau'r Llywodraeth. Pan rown adnoddau i wahanol rannau o Gymru, rhaid inni sicrhau nad yw gogledd Cymru o dan anfantaes oherwydd nad oes Aelod o ogledd Cymru i ddylanwadu y tu fewn i'r Cabinet.

My duty and priority is to ensure that north Wales, or the northern part of Wales if Cynog prefers that phrase, is represented in matters such as public appointments and Government decisions. When we give resources to different parts of Wales, we must ensure that north Wales is not disadvantaged because there are no Members from north Wales to exert influence within the Cabinet.

2:20 p.m.

Cynog Dafis: Cymeraf fod diddordeb gyda Phrif Weinidog Cymru yn amgylchiadau economaidd y Gogledd. A ydych yn gwybod am ddau gwmni llwyddiannus yn y Gogledd, sef DJ Construction/Windjen Bae Colwyn a Cambrian Engineering, Bangor? Maent yn cyflogi dros 300 o bobl rhyngddynt. Maent wedi mentro i fyd cystadleuol ynni adnewyddadwy ar anogaeth y Llywodraeth. A ydych yn gwybod am y trafferthion y mae'r ddau gwmni hynny yn eu hwynebu o ganlyniad i benderfyniadau y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd ac yn wyneb yr ymrwymiad sydd yn y cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy a drafodir yma ddydd Iau? Mae'n

Cynog Dafis: I take it that the First Minister is interested in the economic circumstances of the North. Are you aware of two successful companies in the North, DJ Construction/Windjen Colwyn Bay and Cambrian Engineering, Bangor? They employ over 300 people between them. They have ventured into the competitive world of renewable energy at the Government's behest. Do you know about the difficulties that these two companies face as a result of decisions made by the Minister for Environment and in the face of the commitment in the sustainable development scheme that will be discussed here on

gynllun da sydd yn sôn am gyfleoedd twf. Dyfynnaf

Thursday? It is a good scheme that mentions opportunities for growth. I quote

‘to grasp growth opportunities in renewable energy’.

Sut y bydd yn calonogi cwmnïau tebyg i ddal ati yn hytrach na digalonni a rhoi'r ffidil yn y to?

How will he encourage such companies to keep going rather than lose heart and give up?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Yr wyf yn fwy cyfarwydd â'r ail gwmi. Ymwelais â ffatri Cambrian Construction ym Mangor ac yr wyf yn adnabod y prif weithredwr a'r perchennog, David Williams, yn eithaf da. Nid yw hynny'n golygu nad oes rhaid ystyried unrhyw gynnig am fferm wynt ar ben mynydd rhywle yng Nghymru o dan yr un rheolau ac egwyddorion a ddefnyddid ar gyfer unrhyw gais arall am ganiatâd cynllunio. Os yw cwestiwn yn codi sydd o fwy na diddordeb lleol, rhaid ystyried ei alw i mewn. Mae Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru wedi argymhell i Sue Essex wneud hynny o bryd i'w gilydd. Wedyn, mae cwestiwn yn codi ynghylch derbyn cyngor Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru neu ei anwybyddu. Dyna'r hyn y mae hi wedi bod yn ei wneud. Os yw'r Cyngor Cefn Gwlad yn pwyso arnoch, bydd yn rhaid ichi ddilyn y rheolau. Ni allwch ddweud bob tro oherwydd bod gennym egwyddor o gefnogi datblygu cynaliadwy, felly, caiff pob fferm wynt ganiatâd cynllunio heb os nac oni bai a heb ystyried y ffactorau eraill sydd yn y fantol.

The First Minister: I am more familiar with the latter company. I have visited the Cambrian Construction factory in Bangor and I know the chief executive and the owner, David Williams, relatively well. That does not mean that any proposal for a wind farm on the top of a mountain somewhere in Wales should not be considered under the same rules and principles that would apply to any other application for planning permission. If a question arises which is of greater than local interest, you must consider calling it in. The Countryside Council for Wales has recommended that Sue Essex do that from time to time. The question then arises of whether to accept the Countryside Council of Wales's advice or ignore it. That is what she has been doing. If the Countryside Council puts pressure on you, you will have to follow the rules. You cannot say each time that because we have a principle of supporting sustainable development, therefore, every wind farm will, without question, receive planning permission, without considering other relevant factors.

Christine Humphreys: During your recent visit to north Wales, I am sure that you saw all the hard work that had been carried out by local authorities as well as the devastation caused by the recent floods. Will you outline the practical measures that you will take to help local authorities and those who have suffered as a result of the floods?

Christine Humphreys: Yn ystod eich ymweliad diweddar â gogledd Cymru, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi gweld yr holl waith caled a wnaethpwyd gan awdurdodau lleol yn ogystal â'r difrod a achoswyd gan y llifogydd diweddar. A amlinellwch y mesurau ymaferol a gymerwch i helpu awdurdodau lleol a'r rhai hynny a ddiroddodd o ganlyniad i'r llifogydd?

The First Minister: Yes. You used the word 'visit' in the singular rather than the plural, but I will ignore that for the moment. I visited Almere and Bangor-on-Dee about two and a half weeks ago. At that stage, you could see the devastation of the first wave of flooding. The second wave of flooding must

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Gwnaf. Defnyddiasoch y gair 'ymweliad' yn yr unigol yn hytrach nag yn y lluosog, ond anwybyddaf hynny am y tro. Ymwelais ag Almere a Bangor Is-coed tua phythefnos a hanner yn ôl. Bryd hynny, gallech weld difrod y don gyntaf o lifogydd. Rhaid bod yr

have utterly disheartened those people who had started to clean up their houses, some had already been flooded twice, and they were then flooded a third time. We are crossing our fingers that the worst of the flooding is over and starting to add up the costs for the three most affected local authorities in north-east Wales, mainly Flintshire, Denbighshire and Wrexham. We are all aware of the spectacular damages, such as the disappearance of the road over the Horseshoe Pass, the fragmented culvert in Ruthin, the flood damage in the lower Dee Valley and the number of houses that have been flooded. That was 600 at the last estimate, but it has probably exceeded that figure by now. We would not have received bids from Flintshire, Denbighshire and Wrexham yet, because they are still counting the cost of the clean-up in terms of immediate remedial works and any changes in policy to prevent such flooding from occurring again, should the same amount of rainfall occur. That is a matter for Sue, Edwina and I to consider to ensure that north Wales recovers as quickly as possible from the damage caused by the floods over the past two or three weeks.

ail don o lifogydd wedi llwyr ddigalonni'r bobl hynny a oedd wedi dechrau glanhau eu tai, yr oedd rhai wedi dioddef llifogydd ddwywaith, ac yna dioddefasant lifogydd am y trydydd tro. Croeswn ein bysedd bod y llifogydd gwaethaf drosodd a dechrewn gyfri'r gost ar gyfer y tri awdurdod lleol a effeithiwyd waethaf yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, yn bennaf Sir y Fflint, Sir Ddinbych a Wrecsam. Yr ydym oll yn ymwybodol o'r difrod anhygoel, megis ffordd yn diflannu dros Fwlch yr Oernant, y ffos ranedig yn Rhuthun, difrod gan y llifogydd yn rhan isaf Dyffryn Dyfrdwy a nifer y tai a ddiodeffodd lifogydd. Yr oedd hynny yn 600 adeg yr amcangyfrif diwethaf, ond mae'n debyg y bydd yn fwy na'r ffigur hwnnw erbyn hyn. Ni fyddem wedi derbyn cynigion o Sir y Fflint, Sir Ddinbych a Wrecsam eto, oherwydd eu bod yn dal i gyfrif y gost o lanhau yn nhermau gwaith adfer ar unwaith ac unrhyw newidiadau mewn polisi i atal llifogydd o'r fath rhag digwydd eto, os ceir yr un faint o law eto. Mae hynny'n fater i Sue, Edwina a minnau ei ystyried i sicrhau bod gogledd Cymru yn dod i drefn cyn gynted â phosibl wedi'r difrod a achoswyd gan y llifogydd dros y ddwy neu dair wythnos diwethaf.

Materion Trawsbynciol Cross-Cutting Issues

C6 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: A wnaiff Prif Weinidog Cymru ddatganiad byr ar y ffordd yr ymdrinnir â materion trawsbynciol wrth ddatblygu polisi? (OAQ7720)

Q6 Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Will the First Minister make a brief statement on how cross-cutting needs are being met in policy development? (OAQ7720)

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Y cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy yw un o'r tri neu bedwar mater trawsbynciol y rhaid inni eu hystyried. Trafodir y cynllun hwnnw ddydd Iau. Os caiff ei dderbyn gan y Cynulliad, bydd yn effeithio ar bopeth a wnawn fel Cynulliad. Byddwn yn gorfod ystyried yr agwedd honno ym mhopeth yr ydym yn ei wneud. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed Cynog, fel un sydd wedi cymryd diddordeb mewn materion gwyrdd ers degawdau, yn cymeradwyo'r cynllun fel un sylweddol a da. Yr wyf yn falch o gael y ganmoliaeth honno.

The First Minister: The sustainable development scheme is one of the three or four cross-cutting issues that we must consider. The scheme will be discussed on Thursday. If the Assembly adopts it, it will affect everything that we do. We will have to consider that aspect in everything we do as an Assembly. I was pleased to hear Cynog, as somebody who has taken an interest in green issues for many decades, commend this scheme as a substantial and good one. I am pleased to hear that praise.

Mae ein cynllun gweithredu ar gynhwysiant cymdeithasol wedi'i sefydlu, gyda £177

Our social inclusion action plan is in place, with £177 million allocated in the draft

miliwn wedi'i neilltuo yn y gyllideb ddraft ar gyfer 2003-04.

Mae pawb yn y Cynulliad yn cefnogi'r gwaith y mae'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn parhau i'w wneud.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cyfeirïaf yn benodol at ddatblygu cynaliadwy. A yw Prif Weinidog Cymru yn derbyn bod angen strwythurau cadarn ac ewyllys wleidyddol i sicrhau bod y gweithredu trawsbynciol hwn yn digwydd? Sut y byddai'n ymateb i'r awgrym y dylid cael system wirio a fyddai'n sicrhau bod Gweinidogion yn gorfod datgelu sut y maent yn ymateb i ofynion datblygu cynaliadwy o fewn eu portffolio?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Byddwn yn cymryd yn ganiataol y byddai rhyw fath o adroddiad yn cael ei roi i'r Pwyllgor Pwnc neu i'r Cyfarfod Llawn, o leiaf yn flynyddol os nad ddwywaith y flwyddyn, ar y modd y mae'r egwyddorion hynny wedi eu gwireddu yng ngwaith y Gweinidog perthnasol.

Mick Bates: First Minister, you will recall that, after the last debate on sustainable development, a commitment was made to investigate the feasibility of forming a group to implement our responsibilities under section 121 of the Government of Wales Act 1998. What progress has been made to fulfil that commitment?

The First Minister: Mick, you will have to write to me about the detail of that. We are trying to undertake a green audit of all Assembly policies. That is a commitment in the partnership agreement that we intend to implement. I guess that that will follow the kind of lines that Mick has in mind. I am not familiar with section 121, unless that is the overarching commitment to sustainable development in the original Act. If it is, then that is fine.

The implications are that you must have a budget in place. Our budget provides some £28 million for the next financial year to support sustainable development and that will increase to about £94 million in 2003-

budget for 2003-04.

Everybody in the Assembly supports the continuing work of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I refer specifically to sustainable development. Does the First Minister accept that firm structures and a political will are needed to ensure that this cross-cutting action takes place? How would he respond to the suggestion that there should be a verification system that would ensure that Ministers are compelled to reveal how they respond to sustainable development requirements within their portfolio?

The First Minister: I would take it for granted that some kind of report would be given to the Subject Committee or to Plenary, at least annually if not twice a year, on how those principles have been fulfilled in the work of the relevant Minister.

Mick Bates: Brif Weinidog, fe gofiwch ar ôl y drafodaeth ddiwethaf ar ddatblygu cynaliadwy, y gwnaethpwyd ymrwymiad i archwilio dichonoldeb ffurfio grŵp i weithredu ein cyfrifoldebau o dan adran 121 Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 1998. Pa gynnydd a wnaethpwyd i gyflawni'r ymrwymiad hwnnw?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mick, bydd yn rhaid i chi ysgrifennu ataf ynghylch manylion hynny. Yr ydym yn ceisio cynnal archwiliad gwyrdd o holl bolisiâu'r Cynulliad. Mae hynny'n ymrwymiad yn y cytundeb partneriaeth y bwriadwn ei weithredu. Mae'n debyg y bydd hynny'n dilyn y math o drywydd sydd gan Mick mewn golwg. Nid wyf yn gyfarwydd ag adran 121, oni bai mai dyna'r ymrwymiad trosfwaol i ddatblygu cynaliadwy yn y Ddeddf wreiddiol. Os felly, mae hynny'n iawn.

Y goblygiadau yw bod rhaid eich bod wedi trefnu cyllideb. Darpara ein cyllideb tua £28 miliwn ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf i gynnal datblygu cynaliadwy a bydd hynny'n cynyddu i tua £94 miliwn yn 2003-04. O

04. Within those resources, we estimate that we will be able to abide by any sensible commitment to sustainable development throughout all of the Assembly's functions.

fewn yr adnoddau hynny, amcangyfrifwn y gallwn gadw at unrhyw ymrwymiad synhwyrol i ddatblygu cynaliadwy drwy holl swyddogaethau'r Cynulliad.

Trefniadau Portffolio Newydd (Gogledd Cymru) New Portfolio Arrangements (North Wales)

Q7 Tom Middlehurst: Will the First Minister outline his proposals for the discharge of his responsibilities under his new portfolio arrangements as they relate to north Wales? (OAQ7707)

C7 Tom Middlehurst: A all Prif Weinidog Cymru amlinellu sut y mae'n bwriadu cyflawni ei ddyletswyddau o dan ei drefniadau portffolio newydd, yng nghydestun ei ddyletswydd i ogledd Cymru? (OAQ7707)

The First Minister: The work involves my combing through the decisions made by the Assembly and the Cabinet to ensure that there is no disadvantage to north Wales. I envisage that as concentrating on encouraging more companies and more people from north Wales to apply for public appointments. That would not, of course, guarantee that they would be successful, but it would ensure that they did not ignore the public appointment opportunities that the Assembly provides. In addition, in our executive decisions and our resource allocation decisions, or in our response to events such as the floods in north-east Wales over the past three weeks, we should be sensitive, visit people, talk to them at first hand, see the kind of problems that they face and respond, in so far as the Assembly's responsibilities allow, to crises such as that which recently hit north Wales.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Golyga'r gwaith fy mod yn mynd drwy'r penderfyniadau a wnaethpwyd gan y Cynulliad a'r Cabinet gyda chrib mân i sicrhau nad oes anfantis i ogledd Cymru. Rhagwelaf y bydd hynny'n digwydd wrth ganolbwyntio ar annog mwy o gwmnïau a mwy o bobl o ogledd Cymru i wneud cais am benodiadau cyhoeddus. Wrth gwrs, ni fyddai hynny'n sicrhau y byddent yn llwyddiannus, ond byddai'n sicrhau na fyddent yn anwybyddu'r cyfle o apwyntiadau cyhoeddus a ddarpara'r Cynulliad. Yn ogystal, yn ein penderfyniadau gweithredol a'n penderfyniadau dyrannu adnoddau, neu yn ein hymateb i ddigwyddiadau megis y llifogydd yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru dros y tair wythnos diwethaf, dylem fod yn sensitif, ymweld â phobl, siarad â hwy yn uniongyrchol, gweld y math o broblemau y maent yn eu hwynebu ac ymateb, cyn belled ac y caniatâ cyfrifoldebau'r Cynulliad, i argyfyngau megis y rhai hynny a effeithiodd ar ogledd Cymru yn ddiweddar.

Tom Middlehurst: Communities in north Wales will be reassured by what you said, First Minister. However, will you join with me in welcoming Edwina Hart's announcement yesterday, which acknowledged that the considerable burden that falls upon local authorities in north Wales as a consequence of the recent flooding will be fully reimbursed over and above the Bellwin threshold? Will you, in your role as the Cabinet Minister with responsibility for north Wales, provide personal leadership in what is an essential scheme to aid the recovery of communities affected by that devastation, and plan for the

Tom Middlehurst: Bydd yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn gysur i gymunedau yng ngogledd Cymru, Brif Weinidog. Fodd bynnag, a ymunwch â mi wrth groesawu datganiad Edwina Hart ddoe, a oedd yn cydnabod y caiff y baich sylweddol sydd yn disgyn ar awdurdodau lleol yng ngogledd Cymru o ganlyniad i'r llifogydd diweddar ei ad-dalu'n llawen dros y trothwy Bellwin? A fyddwch chi, yn eich rôl fel Gweinidog y Cabinet â chyfrifoldeb dros ogledd Cymru, yn darparu arweinyddiaeth bersonol mewn cynllun sydd yn hanfodol i gynorthwyo adferiad cymunedau yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y difrod hwnnw, a chynllunio ar gyfer y

necessary effective preventative measures, if we are to avoid the worst effects of a similar occurrence? Will you provide a joined-up approach to ensure that necessary resources are available to aid recovery, and ensure that the Assembly, local government and the Environment Agency work together to plan effective prevention measures? We must learn lessons from this and use this opportunity to take the necessary corrective action.

mesurau atal effeithiol angenrheidiol, os ydym am osgoi effeithiau gwaethaf digwyddiad tebyg? A ddarparwch ymagwedd gyfannol i sicrhau bod yr adnoddau angenrheidiol ar gael i gynorthwyo'r adferiad, a sicrhau bod y Cynulliad, llywodraeth leol ac Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn cydweithio i gynllunio mesurau atal effeithiol? Rhaid inni ddysgu gwersi o hyn a defnyddio'r cyfle hwn i gymryd y camau unioni angenrheidiol.

2:30 p.m.

The First Minister: I agree that lessons must be learnt. This will enable us to consider whether we could have done things better and could have avoided some of the worst flood damage and some of the social and economic tragedies. Luckily, there was no loss of human life. Nevertheless, there were major tragedies in terms of public infrastructure and it caused immense trauma for those people whose homes have been flooded up to three times in the space of a few weeks. Many of us perhaps feel that we could cope psychologically with our homes being flooded once, by reaching for the mop and brush and contacting insurance companies. However, people need hardiness of character to withstand it happening three times in two and a half weeks. To deal with that without having to seek medical attention is a feat. I expect that some trauma problems will be experienced in those communities that have been hit hard and repeatedly in a short space of time.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Cytunaf fod yn rhaid dysgu gwersi. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i ystyried pa un a allem fod wedi gwneud pethau'n well ac osgoi rhywfaint o ddifrod gwaethaf y llifogydd a rhai o'r trychinebau cymdeithasol ac economaidd. Yn ffodus, ni chollwyd bywyd dynol. Er hynny, cafwyd trychinebau mawr yn nhermau seilwaith cyhoeddus ac achosodd drawma anferth i'r bobl hynny a ddiodeffodd lifogydd yn eu cartrefi hyd at dair gwaith mewn mater o ychydig wythnosau. Efallai bod llawer ohonom yn teimlo y gallem ymdopi'n seicolegol pe bai ein cartrefi yn dioddef llifogydd unwaith, drwy ymestyn am y mop a'r brws a chysylltu â chwmnïau yswiriant. Fodd bynnag, mae angen cymeriad cryf ar bobl i ymdopi â'r peth yn digwydd deirgwaith mewn pythefnos a hanner. Mae ymdrin â hynny heb orfod cael sylw meddygol yn gamp. Diswyliaf y profir rhai problemau trawma yn y cymunedau hynny a effeithiwyd yn wael ac yn gyson mewn amser byr.

As regards my personal responsibility, I understand that Sue Essex will convene a meeting with Edwina Hart and myself to consider some issues raised by Tom's question, such as the Bellwin scheme, collecting local authority information on what needs doing now, and information from the Environment Agency on what methods of flood prevention work so that we can repair damaged flood banks or provide better flood prevention. We should also consider long-term issues such as changes to planning permission for houses built on a flood plain

Ynglŷn â'm cyfrifoldeb personol, deallaf y bydd Sue Essex yn trefnu cyfarfod ag Edwina Hart a minnau i ystyried rhai o'r materion a godwyd gan gwestiwn Tom, megis y cynllun Bellwin, casglu gwybodaeth awdurdodau lleol ar yr hyn sydd angen ei wneud yn awr, a gwybodaeth gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar pa ddulliau o waith atal llifogydd sydd yn gweithio fel y gallwn adnewyddu gwrthgloddiau llifogydd a ddifrodwyd neu ddarparu dulliau atal llifogydd gwell. Dylem hefyd ystyried materion tymor hir megis newidiadau i

or on its margins. We must address those issues, especially if we accept that there may be a risk of climate change. Therefore, we should consider whether the definition of a flood plain needs to be altered to take account of the greater vagaries of the weather.

ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer tai a adeiladwyd ar wastatir llifogydd neu ar ei gyrion. Rhaid inni ymdrin â'r materion hynny, yn enwedig os derbyniwn efallai bod risg o newid yn yr hinsawdd. Felly, dylem ystyried pa un a oes angen addasu'r diffiniad o wastatir llifogydd i ystyried troeon yn y tywydd.

Goblygiadau Adroddiadau y DU gyfan i Gymru Implications of UK-wide Reports for Wales

Q8 Richard Edwards: What discussions has the First Minister had with the Secretary of State for Wales regarding the implications of UK-wide reports for Wales? (OAQ7706)

C8 Richard Edwards: Pa drafodaethau y mae Prif Weinidog Cymru wedi eu cynnal gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynghylch goblygiadau adroddiadau ar gyfer y DU gyfan i Gymru? (OAQ7706)

The First Minister: I have frequent discussions with Paul Murphy on a range of matters. I will take the Phillips report on BSE as an example. I am sure that we all agree that it provided valuable lessons for Whitehall, as well as for Wales and the Assembly, by ensuring that issues raised on behalf of Wales will receive a more timely and a more respectful consideration should another such situation arise. I trust that such a situation will not happen again, partially because everybody has learnt lessons from the BSE catastrophe due to its effect on agriculture and human health. It is important that the Wales and the Whitehall-Westminster machines remember that, 10 years ago when Deirdre Hine's advice was wrongly ignored, civil servants had to abide by a Cabinet collective responsibility. Civil servants no longer have to abide by one Cabinet collective responsibility. Whitehall departments would not seek in future to attempt to silence someone giving them inconvenient, but sound, advice, as Dame Deirdre Hine tried to do 10 years ago with material at a key stage of the BSE catastrophe's development.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Caf drafodaethau aml â Paul Murphy ar ystod o faterion. Cymeraf adroddiad Phillips ar BSE fel enghraifft. Yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod oll yn cytuno iddo ddarparu gwersi gwerthfawr ar gyfer Whitehall, yn ogystal ag ar gyfer Cymru a'r Cynulliad, drwy sicrhau y bydd materion a godir ar ran Cymru yn cael ystyriaeth fwy amserol a mwy parchus pe bai sefyllfa arall o'r fath yn codi. Hyderaf na fydd sefyllfa o'r fath yn codi eto, yn rhannol oherwydd bod pawb wedi dysgu gwersi o'r drychineb BSE oherwydd ei effaith ar amaethyddiaeth ac iechyd dynol. Mae'n bwysig bod peiriannau Cymru a Whitehall-San Steffan yn cofio, 10 mlynedd yn ôl pan anwybyddwyd cyngor Deirdre Hine ar gam, fod yn rhaid i weision sifil gadw at gyfrifoldeb cyffredinol y Cabinet. Bellach nid oes yn rhaid i weision sifil gadw at un cyfrifoldeb cyffredinol y Cabinet. Ni fyddai adrannau Whitehall yn ceisio tawelu rhywun sydd yn rhoi cyngor anghyfleus, ond cadarn, iddynt yn y dyfodol fel y ceisiodd y Fonesig Deirdre Hine ei wneud 10 mlynedd yn ôl gyda deunydd ar gyfnod allweddol yn natblygiad trychineb BSE.

Richard Edwards: Rhodri, you adroitly anticipated my supplementary question. Would you agree that, if political devolution had been in place at that time, the BSE catastrophe could have been avoided?

Richard Edwards: Rhodri, rhagwelasoeh fy nghwestiwn atodol yn ddeheuig. A gytnwch, os byddai datganoli gwleidyddol wedi digwydd bryd hynny, y gellid bod wedi osgoi trychineb BSE?

The First Minister: To say that would perhaps be taking it too far. It is clear that no

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Efallai y byddai dweud hynny'n mynd yn rhy bell. Mae'n

attempt would have been made to silence the inconvenient advice of a highly qualified physician merely because it came from Wales. There is recognition in Whitehall now that more notice should be taken of what happens in Wales, either because it acknowledges, following Dame Deirdre Hine's advice, that the Welsh are not always wrong, or because there is no point in trying to silence a person, because that person would be responsible to the Assembly, not to the Whitehall or Westminster machine.

David Davies: Do you regret the fact that a terrible human tragedy, which resulted in immense suffering, is being used as a political football by one of your colleagues?

The First Minister: In the light of what you said previously about freedom of expression in the Chamber, David, there is an element of the biter being bitten in your question. Either you believe in freedom of expression, and Richard's right to use it, or you do not, in which case I do not know why you asked the previous question. To me it seems to be a perfectly proper lesson from the Phillips report: Dame Deirdre Hine's advice was ignored, it should not have been, and it will not be ignored in similar circumstances in the future.

amlwg na fyddai unrhyw ymdrech wedi cael ei gwneud i dawelu cyngor anghyfleus ffisegwr â chymwysterau da dim ond oherwydd iddo ddod o Gymru. Ceir cydnabyddiaeth yn Whitehall yn awr i'r ffaith y dylid bod wedi cymryd mwy o sylw o'r hyn sydd yn digwydd yng Nghymru, naill ai oherwydd ei fod yn cydnabod, yn dilyn cyngor y Fonesig Deirdre Hine, nad yw'r Cymry yn anghywir o hyd, neu oherwydd nad oes pwynt ceisio tawelu person, oherwydd byddai'r person hwnnw'n atebol i'r Cynulliad, nid i beiriant Whitehall neu San Steffan.

David Davies: A ydych yn edifar am y ffaith bod trychineb dynol ofnadwy, a arweiniodd at ddiodefaint aruthrol, yn cael ei ddefnyddio fel pêl-droed wleidyddol gan un o'ch cyd-Aelodau?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: O ystyried yr hyn a ddywedasoch yn flaenorol am ryddid mynegiant yn y Siambr, David, mae elfen o dalu'r pwyth yn ôl yn eich cwestiwn. Naill ai yr ydych yn credu mewn rhyddid mynegiant, a hawl Richard i'w ddefnyddio, neu beidio, ac os felly ni wn pam i chi ofyn y cwestiwn blaenorol. Ymddengys i mi i wers hollol gywir ddeillio o adroddiad Phillips: anwybyddwyd cyngor y Fonesig Deirdre Hine, ni ddylai hyn fod wedi digwydd, ac ni chaiff ei anwybyddu mewn amgylchiadau tebyg yn y dyfodol.

Datganiad ar y Llifogydd Statement on the Floods

The Minister for the Environment (Sue Essex): I am pleased to report that river levels in Wales are now falling and the floods are receding. There is still a severe flood warning on the lower River Dee, where several properties remain flooded and cut off. Flood watches remain for Powys and the Clwyd Valley.

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd (Sue Essex): Mae'n bleser gennyf nodi bod lefelau afonydd yng Nghymru yn syrthio bellach a bod y llifogydd yn cilio. Mae rhybudd o lifogydd difrifol ar ran isaf Afon Dyfrdwy o hyd, lle mae sawl eiddo yn parhau dan ddŵr ac wedi'u hynysu. Mae gwylfeydd llifogydd yn parhau ar gyfer Powys a Dyffryn Clwyd.

Members will be aware that I visited the worst of the flood-hit areas around Wrexham, Mold and Ruthin a week ago. Other Cabinet members and the Secretary of State for Wales have seen for themselves the

Bydd yr Aelodau yn ymwybodol imi ymweld â'r ardaloedd yr effeithiodd y llifogydd arnynt waethaf o gwmpas Wrecsam, Yr Wyddgrug a Rhuthun wythnos yn ôl. Mae aelodau eraill o'r Cabinet ac Ysgrifennydd

difficulties that people have faced. I want to express my appreciation to our north Wales Assembly Members who gave strong support to their local communities.

I saw for myself the damage that the flooding caused to property and land, and also the enormous difficulties that that presents. On behalf of the Assembly, I wish to thank all those who have worked so hard to keep flooding to a minimum and to provide relief and assistance to those affected. The floods have persisted over an extended period and it has been a long haul for all concerned. Let us hope that we have a period of fine weather to enable the recovery to begin.

The latest estimate that I have is that over 600 residential and commercial properties in Wales have been flooded. By far the worst affected areas are in northeast Wales: Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. However, most other parts of Wales, particularly Powys, have not escaped entirely. There are concentrated areas of flooding where culverts have collapsed and defences have been overwhelmed. These incidents will clearly need to be investigated by the operating authorities concerned, and the necessary repairs put in hand. It appears that there are many isolated properties or groups of properties affected where drainage systems have been unable to cope with the heavy rain. This was exacerbated by the gales that accompanied the first storms that brought down leaves, branches and, in some cases, whole trees, which caused blockages. While these are difficult to anticipate, I expect that local authorities will take note of those locations that may be vulnerable to such problems. Action on this issue has been agreed with local authorities and is reflected in the interim high level targets that were issued by the Assembly last year.

In practice, all of us can assist by being vigilant, clearing leaves away from any road gullies outside our properties and reporting

Gwladol Cymru wedi gweld drostynt eu hunain yr anawsterau a wynebwyd gan bobl. Yr wyf am fynegi fy ngwerthfawrogiad i Aelodau'r Cynulliad o ogledd Cymru a roddodd gefnogaeth gref i'w cymunedau lleol.

Gwelais dros fy hun y difrod a achosodd y llifogydd i eiddo a thir, a hefyd yr anawsterau enbyd y mae hynny'n eu creu. Ar ran y Cynulliad, hoffwn ddiolch i bawb a weithiodd mor galed i gadw'r llifogydd i isafswm ac i esmwytháu a chynorthwyo'r rheini yr effeithiwyd arnynt. Mae'r llifogydd wedi parhau dros gyfnod estynedig a bu'n gyfnod hir i bawb dan sylw. Gadewch inni obeithio y cawn gyfnod o dywydd braf er mwyn ei gwneud yn bosibl i ddechrau'r gwaith adfer.

Yn ôl yr amcangyfrif diweddaraf sydd gennyf, dioddefodd dros 600 o eiddo preswyl a masnachol yng Nghymru lifogydd. Mae'r ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt waethaf o bell ffordd yng ngogledd ddwyrain Cymru: Sir Ddinbych, Sir y Fflint a Wrecsam. Fodd bynnag, ni ddihangodd y rhan fwyaf o rannau eraill o Gymru yn llwyr, yn arbennig Powys. Mae ardaloedd lle y crynhodd llifogydd, a lle y dymchwelodd ffosydd ac y boddwyd amddiffynfeydd. Yn amlwg bydd angen i'r awdurdodau gweithredol perthnasol ymchwilio i'r achosion hyn, a mynd i'r afael â'r gwaith atgyweirio angenrheidiol. Ymddengys yr effeithiwyd ar lawer o eiddo neu grwpiau o eiddo a ynyswyd lle na allodd systemau draenio ymdopi â'r glaw trwm. Gwaethygydd hyn gan y gwyntoedd cryf a ddaeth gyda'r stormydd cyntaf ac a dynnodd ddail, canghennau ac, mewn rhai achosion, goed cyfan i lawr, a achosodd rwystrau. Er bod y rhain yn anodd eu rhagweld, mae'n siŵr gennyf y bydd awdurdodau lleol yn nodi'r lleoliadau hynny a allai fod yn agored i broblemau o'r fath. Cytunwyd ar y camau gweithredu i'w cymryd ar y mater hwn gydag awdurdodau lleol ac fe'u hadlewyrchir yn y targedau lefel uchel interim a gyhoeddwyd gan y Cynulliad y llynedd.

Yn ymarferol, gall pob un ohonom gynorthwyo drwy fod ar ein gwyliadwriaeth, gan glirio dail o unrhyw gafnau ffordd y tu

to our local council any potential blockage in watercourses before it becomes a flood hazard.

The ground, however, remains saturated. Further heavy rainfall could lead to more flooding and it is important that everybody remains vigilant. The one comfort that we can take from events to date is that there has been no reported loss of life. That is a testament to the efforts of those who helped to cope with the consequences. We should not, however, underestimate—the First Minister referred to this—the physical and mental affect of living with floods.

We must now put our efforts into recovering from this event. In response to local authorities' needs, Edwina Hart announced yesterday the activation of the Bellwin scheme in Wales. The Bellwin scheme covers the costs incurred by local authorities of taking immediate action to safeguard life or property, or to prevent suffering or severe inconvenience. Whereas the grant rate is normally 85 per cent from Government, for the purposes of this particular emergency, grant will be paid to local authorities at the rate of 100 per cent for eligible costs above their threshold. This threshold is set at 0.2 per cent of revenue budgets.

Expenditure likely to qualify for support would, in the main, cover evacuating people and temporarily rehousing them, supplying food and other stores, maintaining key communications, clearing obstructions and debris, and overtime costs of staff. It can also cover revenue costs for reinstatement of roads. It does not cover payments for that which can normally be insured.

It will be up to local authorities to assess the damage and submit claims, certified by District Audit, to the Assembly for payment. All local authorities are being contacted and provided with details of how they can submit claims.

2:40 p.m.

allan i'n heiddo a nodi unrhyw rwystr posibl i gyrsiau dŵr cyn iddo ddod yn berygl llifogydd.

Fodd bynnag, parha'r ddaear yn soeglyd. Gallai rhagor o law trwm arwain at fwy o lifogydd ac mae'n bwysig bod pawb yn parhau i fod ar eu gwyliadwriaeth. Yr un cysur y gallwn ei gael o'r digwyddiadau hyd yn hyn yw na nodwyd unrhyw achos o golli bywyd. Mae hynny'n dyst i ymdrechion y rheini a helpodd i ymdopi â'r canlyniadau. Fodd bynnag, ni ddylem fychanu—cyfeiriodd Prif Weinidog Cymru at hyn—yr effaith gorfforol a meddyliol o fyw gyda llifogydd.

Rhaid inni yn awr roi ein hymdrechion i mewn i'r gwaith o adfer ar ôl y digwyddiad hwn. Mewn ymateb i anghenion awdurdodau lleol, cyhoeddodd Edwina Hart ddoe y dylid gweithredu cynllun Bellwin yng Nghymru. Cwmpasa cynllun Bellwin y costau i awdurdodau lleol o gymryd camau ar unwaith i ddiogelu bywyd neu eiddo, neu i atal dioddefaint neu anghyfleustra difrifol. Er mai 85 y cant yw'r gyfradd grant arferol gan y Llywodraeth, at ddibenion yr argyfwng arbennig hwn, telir grant i awdurdodau lleol ar gyfradd o 100 y cant am gostau cymwys sydd yn uwch na'u trothwy. Pennwyd y trothwy hwn ar 0.2 y cant o gyllidebau refeniw.

Yn bennaf, y gwariant a fyddai'n debygol o fod yn gymwys am gymorth fyddai symud pobl o'u cartrefi a'u rhoi mewn tai eraill dros dro, cyflenwi bwyd a storffeydd eraill, cynnal systemau cyfathrebu allweddol, clirio rhwystrau a llanastr, a chostau goramser staff. Gall hefyd gynnwys costau refeniw ar gyfer adfer ffyrdd. Ni chynhwysir taliadau am yr hyn sydd fel arfer yn gallu cael ei yswirio.

Cyfrifoldeb awdurdodau lleol fydd asesu'r difrod a chyflwyno ceisiadau, a ardystir gan yr Archwiliad Dosbarth, i'r Cynulliad i'w talu. Cysylltir â phob awdurdod lleol ar hyn o bryd a darperir manylion iddynt o sut y gallant gyflwyno ceisiadau.

One immediate task that is facing us is to draw together an assessment of the damage to flood defences. That has been difficult to date, as high water levels have prevented inspections from taking place. As well as the obvious problems, however, there may be other areas where sustained high flows and water levels have damaged defences, although they may have held secure in the recent floods. Those defences at Bangor-on-Dee are a case in point. There is also other damage to infrastructure caused by the storms to be taken into account.

We therefore need to take a considered view of how much funding is needed, where it should be directed, and how it can be distributed. We have received an additional £3 million as a consequence of the floods money announced in England but we know that this will not be enough. We are well aware that Members in affected areas are keen to know as soon as possible where and how the money should be spent. However, this needs careful consideration and we need to await a full and comprehensive report from the Environment Agency before attempting to determine resource allocations.

On the issue of strengthening planning guidance to discourage development in flood plains, I discussed this with officials this morning and I expect to bring forward proposals soon. The draft high level targets that I issued for consultation earlier this year included a requirement for the Environment Agency to report those instances where planning authorities ignored their advice. Last year there were 25 cases, out of a total of more than 8,000, where the Agency's advice was not taken, but I am pleased to say that in only one of those did they feel the matter was sufficiently important to take it further.

To date we have concentrated on the emergency response to the incident. But we need to remember that the misery will continue for many people for some time. It is important that local support and advice continues to be available and local

Un dasg sydd yn ein hwynebu ar unwaith yw ffurfio asesiad o'r difrod i amddiffynfeydd llifogydd. Bu hynny'n anodd hyd yn hyn, gan y rhwystrodd lefelau dŵr uchel archwiliadau rhag cael eu cynnal. Fodd bynnag, yn ogystal â'r problemau amlwg, efallai bod ardaloedd eraill lle mae llifau a lefelau dŵr uchel parhaus wedi difrodi amddiffynfeydd, er iddynt efallai aros yn ddiogel yn y llifogydd diweddar. Mae'r amddiffynfeydd hynny ym Mangor Is-coed yn achos o hyn. Mae difrod arall i seilwaith a achoswyd gan y stormydd hefyd i'w ystyried.

Mae angen inni felly bwyso a mesur faint o arian sydd ei angen, lle y dylid ei gyfeirio, a sut y gellir ei ddosbarthu. Derbyniasom £3 miliwn ychwanegol o ganlyniad i'r arian llifogydd a gyhoeddwyd yn Lloegr ond gwyddom na fydd hyn yn ddigon. Yr ydym yn ymwybodol iawn bod Aelodau mewn ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt yn awyddus i wybod cyn gynted ag y bo modd lle a sut y dylid gwario'r arian. Fodd bynnag, mae angen i hyn gael ei ystyried yn ofalus ac mae angen inni aros am adroddiad llawn a chynhwysfawr oddi wrth Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd cyn ceisio penderfynu ar ddyrannu adnoddau.

O ran y mater o gryfhau arweiniad cynllunio er mwyn annog pobl i beidio â datblygu ar orlifdiroedd, trafodais hyn gyda swyddogion y bore yma a disgwyliaf gyflwyno cynigion yn fuan. Yr oedd y targedau lefel uchel drafft a gyhoeddwyd gennyf at ddibenion ymgynghori yn gynharach eleni yn cynnwys gofyniad i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd nodi'r achosion hynny lle yr anwybyddodd awdurdodau cynllunio eu cyngor. Y llynedd yr oedd 25 achos, o blith cyfanswm o fwy nag 8,000, lle na chymerwyd cyngor yr Asiantaeth, ond mae'n bleser gennyf ddweud mai dim ond mewn un o'r rheini yr oedd y mater yn ddigon pwysig, yn eu barn hwy, i'w gymryd ymhellach.

Hyd yn hyn yr ydym wedi canolbwyntio ar yr ymateb brys i'r digwyddiad. Ond mae angen inni gofio y bydd y trallod yn parhau i lawer o bobl am gryn amser. Mae'n bwysig bod cymorth a chyngor lleol yn parhau i fod ar gael ac mae gan awdurdodau lleol rôl

authorities have a key role in providing and co-ordinating such assistance. We also need to draw breath and consider the lessons. I will do that in working up the review proposals that I announced in Plenary about two weeks ago.

Janet Ryder: I welcome this statement and I join you in thanking everybody who has worked so hard over the last fortnight or three weeks. It seems an endless time for those who have lost their houses and, in some cases, been flooded twice. I thank them for the work that they have done in evacuating people and in their aftercare, helping them to start again.

I welcome the statement on the Bellwin scheme, and the fact that it will be funded 100 per cent. We must remember, however, that the Bellwin scheme only funds a restoration of the pre-flood conditions. Therefore, for example, if there is a culvert that is flooded, or a road that has disappeared, you can restore them to how they were before. However, any improvements, including major improvements, that we know need to be made will not be covered. I ask that when you and Edwina and Rhodri meet, you consider how you will help authorities meet the cost of the extra work and the new construction work that will be needed.

The £3 million that was announced last week is just a beginning; much more money than that will be needed. That will not go anywhere near restoring the flood defences that exist now. As you said, we need a research programme on how we will cope with increased rainfall.

There was a brief discussion at last week's informal North Wales Regional Committee meeting on the implications of this and on how whole river courses will have to be examined. That will need to be fully funded. It will be a major piece of research, but we will have to consider it.

You were there last week when the Environment Agency looked at their flooding

allweddol wrth ddarparu a chydlynu cymorth o'r fath. Mae angen inni hefyd dynnu anadl ac ystyried y gwersi. Gwnaf hynny drwy ailwampio'r cynigion arolygu a gyhoeddais yn y Cyfarfod Llawn tua phythefnos yn ôl.

Janet Ryder: Croesawaf y datganiad hwn ac ymunaf â chi wrth ddiolch i bawb a weithiodd mor galed dros y pythefnos neu'r tair wythnos diwethaf. Ymddengys ei fod yn gyfnod diddiwedd i'r rheini a golodd eu tai ac, mewn rhai achosion, a ddioddefodd lifogydd ddwywaith. Diolchaf iddynt am y gwaith a wnaethant wrth symud pobl o'u tai ac wrth ofalu amdanynt wedi hynny, gan eu helpu i aildechrau.

Croesawaf y datganiad ar gynllun Bellwin, a'r ffaith y caiff ei ariannu 100 y cant. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gofio mai dim ond adfer yr amodau cyn y llifogydd a wna arian o gynllun Bellwin. Felly, er enghraifft, os oes ceuffos sydd dan ddŵr, neu ffordd sydd wedi diflannu, gallwch eu hadfer i sut yr oeddent o'r blaen. Fodd bynnag, ni chwmpesir unrhyw welliannau, gan gynnwys gwelliannau mawr, y gwyddom sydd angen eu gwneud. Gofynnaf ichi ystyried, pan fyddwch chi ac Edwina a Rhodri yn cyfarfod, sut yr helpwch awdurdodau i dalu cost y gwaith ychwanegol a'r gwaith adeiladu newydd y bydd ei angen.

Dim ond megis dechrau yw'r £3 miliwn a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf; bydd angen llawer mwy o arian na hynny. Ni fydd hynny'n agos at fod yn ddigon i adfer yr amddiffynfeydd llifogydd sydd yn bodoli yn awr. Fel y dywedaso, mae angen rhaglen ymchwil arnom ar sut yr ymdopwn â rhagor o law.

Bu trafodaeth fer yng nghyfarfod anffurfiol Pwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd yr wythnos diwethaf ar oblygiadau hyn ac ar sut y bydd yn rhaid archwilio cyrsiau afonydd cyfan. Bydd yn rhaid ariannu hynny'n llawn. Bydd yn ddarn mawr o ymchwil, ond bydd yn rhaid inni ei ystyried.

Yr oeddech yno yr wythnos diwethaf pan edrychodd Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ar eu

models and their maps. Some of them did not correlate with what actually happened. We must consider how we will cope with this tremendous amount of rainfall.

There is another issue, however, which may delay repairs. That is, where disputes will arise concerning who owns, or is liable, for that piece of drain, culvert or road, whether it is the council, the Environment Agency or a private landowner.

Some of these areas have flooded repeatedly and can be identified now as being potential sources of problems, where lengthy legal disputes could prevent work from being carried out. I ask that you consider intervening in those areas now and state that you will put forward a plan of action, to which we will all agree, and we will sort out the bills later.

People know that long-term work is needed, but what they want to see now is the work being carried out so that they are not left vulnerable through the winter. I ask you to look at that major issue, which will apply to a number of areas throughout Wales. There are longer-term issues—

The Presiding Officer: Order. This is a statement. I would be grateful if you would limit your remarks.

Janet Ryder: I ask you to look at all the counties' urban development plans in light of this and in light of where they will develop, especially on potential flood plain areas.

Sue Essex: I will run through the points quickly. You are right that this is a challenge for us because it has revealed flooding in places that we had not previously expected that. It has also revealed the poverty in some places of the infrastructure that we have inherited. If anything good can come out of the flooding, it will be to make us realise how much more fundamentally we need to approach this issue.

modelau llifogydd a'u mapiau. Nid oedd rhai ohonynt yn cyfateb i'r hyn a ddigwyddodd mewn gwirionedd. Rhaid inni ystyried sut yr ymdopwn â'r glaw aruthrol hwn.

Fodd bynnag, mae mater arall a allai oedi gwaith atgyweirio, sef lle cyfyd anghydfod ynglŷn â phwy sydd yn berchen ar y darn hwnnw o ddraen, ceuffos neu ffordd neu pwy sydd yn gyfrifol amdano, pa un ai'r cyngor, Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd neu dirfeddiannwr preifat.

Dioddefodd rhai o'r ardaloedd hyn lifogydd droeon a gellir eu nodi bellach fel ffynonellau problemau posibl, lle gallai anghydfodau cyfreithiol maith rwystro gwaith rhag cael ei gyflawni. Gofynnaf ichi ystyried ymyrryd yn yr ardaloedd hynny yn awr a datgan y byddwch yn cyflwyno cynllun gweithredu, y cytunwn oll arno, ac y rhoddwn drefn ar y biliau wedyn.

Mae pobl yn gwybod bod angen gwaith tymor hir, ond yr hyn y maent am ei weld yn awr yw'r gwaith yn cael ei gyflawni fel na chânt eu gadael yn ddiameddiffyn drwy'r gaeaf. Gofynnaf ichi edrych ar y mater pwysig hwnnw, a fydd yn berthnasol i nifer o ardaloedd ledled Cymru. Mae materion tymor hwy—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Datganiad yw hwn. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech gyfyngu eich sylwadau.

Janet Ryder: Gofynnaf ichi edrych ar bob un o gynlluniau datblygu trefol y siroedd yng ngoleuni hyn ac yng ngoleuni lle y datblygant, yn arbennig ar ardaloedd o orlifdiroedd posibl.

Sue Essex: Af drwy'r pwyntiau yn gyflym. Yr ydych yn iawn pan ddywedwch fod hyn yn her inni gan ei fod wedi datgelu llifogydd mewn mannau lle nad oeddem wedi eu disgwyl yn flaenorol. Hefyd mae wedi datgelu pa mor wael yw'r isadeiledd a etifeddwyd gennym mewn rhai mannau. Os gall unrhyw beth da ddeillio o'r llifogydd, gwneud inni sylweddoli bod angen inni fynd i'r afael â'r mater hwn mewn ffordd gymaint yn fwy sylfaenol fydd hynny.

You are right about the Bellwin scheme. It is constrained by the legal situation but Edwina will make a statement to the Local Government and Housing Committee tomorrow. That will be on the agenda of the Committee meeting and of Thursday's Plenary. The Bellwin scheme can fund the reinstatement of those areas, so quite sizeable pieces of infrastructure can be reinstated. You are also right that, in some cases, the protection works can be done in a different and better way because we have learnt from experience that maybe systems are not coping in the way that they should. That must all be part of the Environment Agency's assessment as well as part of the consideration of future flood defence systems. Edwina will make clear at Committee tomorrow the aspects that Bellwin can cover and where there will be interim payments, which will be money up-front. Other arrangements need to be put in place to consider the whole picture of flood defence schemes and flood protection schemes.

The £3 million that was announced came from a meeting that I had with John Prescott. As Rhodri said, the money was a genuine, goodwill response to the first wave of flooding. We then saw a second wave, not only in Wales but in England, so we have seen that the probable costs of reinstatement have ratcheted up to a level that was not then anticipated. That is why I referred to the further consideration that is needed.

I will have to check what legal powers the Assembly has to take action or whether local authorities have those powers. That is a good point that we will consider. Maybe that needs to be added to the review so that if there are problems like this which work against long-term solutions being put in place, we might need to see whether there are back-up powers.

I had a discussion with officials today about urban development plans. We are putting something together to advise local government.

Yr ydych yn iawn ynglŷn â chynllun Bellwin. Cyfyngir arno gan y sefyllfa gyfreithiol ond gwnaiff Edwina ddatganiad i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai yfory. Bydd hynny ar agenda cyfarfod y Pwyllgor a Chyfarfod Llawn dydd Iau. Gall cynllun Bellwin ariannu'r gwaith o adfer yr ardaloedd hynny, felly gellir adfer darnau eithaf mawr o'r isadeiledd. Yr ydych yn iawn hefyd pan ddywedwch y gellir cyflawni'r gwaith diogelu, mewn rhai achosion, mewn ffordd wahanol a gwell gan ein bod wedi dysgu o brofiad nad yw systemau efallai yn ymdopi cystal ag y dylent. Rhaid i hynny oll fod yn rhan o asesiad Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn ogystal â rhan o'r ystyriaeth o systemau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd yn y dyfodol. Eglura Edwina yn y Pwyllgor yfory yr agweddau y gall Bellwin eu cwmpasu a lle bydd taliadau dros dro, sef arian ymlaen llaw. Mae angen rhoi trefniadau eraill yn eu lle er mwyn ystyried y darlun cyfan o gynlluniau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd a chynlluniau diogelu rhag llifogydd.

Daeth y £3 miliwn a gyhoeddwyd o gyfarfod a gefais gyda John Prescott. Fel y dywedodd Rhodri, yr oedd yr arian yn ymateb didwyll o ewyllys da i'r don gyntaf o lifogydd. Yna gwelsom ail don, nid yn unig yng Nghymru ond yn Lloegr, felly yr ydym wedi gweld bod costau tebygol y gwaith o adfer wedi codi i lefel nas disgwyliwyd ar y pryd. Dyna pam y cyfeiriais at yr ystyriaeth bellach sydd ei hangen.

Bydd yn rhaid imi wirio pa bwerau cyfreithiol sydd gan y Cynulliad i gymryd camau neu a yw awdurdodau lleol yn meddu ar y pwerau hynny. Mae hwnnw'n bwynt da y byddwn yn ei ystyried. Efallai fod angen ychwanegu hynny at yr adolygiad rhag ofn y bydd angen inni, weld a oes problemau fel hyn sydd yn gweithio yn erbyn y broses o ddatrys problemau yn y tymor hir, a oes pwerau wrth gefn.

Cefais drafodaeth gyda swyddogion heddiw ynglŷn â chynlluniau datblygu trefol. Yr ydym yn rhoi rhywbeth at ei gilydd i gynghori llywodraeth leol.

Karen Sinclair: I appreciate that much assessment is needed before the costs are clear. It was interesting yesterday how figures of millions were bandied around with no foundation whatsoever. I understand that the assessment is ongoing and that it must be done, but in the interim there are communities in my constituency that are suffering extreme hardship. Due to culverts collapsing and roads being severed, people are having to travel vast distances to get to the local town. Llantysilio and Pentre-dŵr are good examples of places where people have to use tortuous roads to get out of their communities. It is worrying that if we get snowfalls in the next few weeks, which is more than possible, these communities could effectively be cut off. It is important, and I would like an assurance from you today, that we can say to Denbighshire in particular to push ahead and start work in areas where communities could easily be cut off and are vulnerable at this point so that they do not have to wait for the assessment. We can deal with the immediate problems before the full costings are done and the local authorities can do that with a certain amount of confidence.

Sue Essex: On your first point, I spoke to Roger Thomas, general manager of Environment Agency Wales. It will take about two weeks to produce a general picture or map of Wales. I have asked for the areas where a general estimate of the work is needed and for a general estimate of the sum. It will possibly be sooner than you think. In terms of the difficult issues that you pointed out, as I understand it—and Edwina will make this clear tomorrow—local authorities can go ahead with those emergency works and there will be interim payments as long as it accords with Bellwin. Officials here are in dialogue with those in local government to ensure that that happens. I do not think that there is any practical fear of that. It might need a few conversations, but as I understand there is a green light for local authorities to go ahead on those immediate action points.

Karen Sinclair: Sylweddolaf fod angen llawer o asesu cyn bod y costau yn glir. Yr oedd yn ddiddorol ddoe sut y crybwyllwyd ffigurau yn y miliynau heb unrhyw sail o gwbl. Deallaf fod yr asesiad yn parhau a bod yn rhaid ei wneud, ond yn y cyfamser mae cymunedau yn fy etholaeth i sydd yn dioddef caledi eithafol. Yn sgîl ceuffosydd yn dymchwel a ffyrdd yn cael eu torri, mae pobl yn gorfod teithio pellteroedd maith er mwyn cyrraedd y dref leol. Mae Llandysilio a Phentre-dŵr yn enghreifftiau da o leoedd lle mae pobl yn gorfod defnyddio ffyrdd troellog er mwyn mynd allan o'u cymunedau. Mae'n fater o bryder y gallai'r cymunedau hyn, os cawn eira yn yr ychydig wythnosau nesaf, sydd yn fwy na phosibl, gael eu torri i ffwrdd i bob pwrpas. Mae'n bwysig, a hoffwn ichi roi sicrwydd heddiw, y gallwn ddweud wrth Sir Ddinbych yn benodol am fwrw ymlaen a dechrau gweithio mewn ardaloedd lle gallai cymunedau gael eu torri i ffwrdd yn hawdd ac sydd yn ddiamddiffyn ar hyn o bryd fel na fydd yn rhaid iddynt aros am yr asesiad. Gallwn ddelio â'r problemau uniongyrchol cyn i'r costio llawn gael ei wneud a gall yr awdurdodau lleol wneud hynny gyda rhywfaint o hyder.

Sue Essex: Ar eich pwynt cyntaf, siaradais â Roger Thomas, rheolwr cyffredinol Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd Cymru. Cymer tua phythefnos i lunio darlun neu fap cyffredinol o Gymru. Yr wyf wedi gofyn am yr ardaloedd lle mae angen amcangyfrif cyffredinol o'r gwaith ac am amcangyfrif cyffredinol o'r swm. Mae'n bosibl y bydd yn gynt nag y meddyliwch. Yn nhermau'r materion anodd a nodwyd gennych, yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf—a bydd Edwina'n egluro hyn yfory—gall awdurdodau lleol fwrw ymlaen gyda'r gwaith brys hwnnw a bydd taliadau dros dro cyn belled ag y bydd yn unol â Bellwin. Mae swyddogion yma mewn deialog gyda'r rheini mewn llywodraeth leol i sicrhau bod hynny'n digwydd. Ni chredaf fod unrhyw beth i'w ofni yn ymarferol o hynny. Efallai y bydd angen ychydig o sgysiau, ond yn ôl yr hyn a ddeallaf mae golau gwyrdd i awdurdodau lleol fwrw ymlaen gyda'r pwyntiau gweithredu uniongyrchol hynny.

2:50 p.m.

Peter Rogers: I welcome the statement. The farming community has suffered due to the fact that much of their crops—their winter fodder supplies and their production, particularly milk—will not be insured. They will therefore suffer great hardships. I would like the Assembly to recognise the need to ensure that these people, who are already struggling in business at the beginning of a severe winter, are part of some sort of aid package to ensure that they are able to carry on their business and to ensure that they can contribute to the Welsh economy.

Sue Essex: I am glad that you have drawn attention to the farming community. In north Wales there were difficult examples of farmers being cut off for a long period of time and of a danger to stock. We must pay tribute to the farming community, particularly in north-east Wales, because it took the heavy brunt of this. I was hoping to discuss the aid package with Carwyn Jones, but he is off sick. However, I will ensure that we put that on the agenda, because heavy losses have been sustained there.

John Marek: I support Peter Rogers's comments. I welcome the change in planning guidance, and the sooner you do that, the better for all of us in Wales. There have been farming losses in my constituency. Farming is in a parlous way and there is a danger that some businesses will not survive because they will fall foul of the Bellwin scheme, because the losses are said to be insurable, but are not insurable in practice. I have written to Carwyn on this, but I emphasise what Peter has said. It is vital that we ensure that businesses do not go under because the grants that are available do not apply to them. Will you do everything that you can to ensure that farmers are able to continue farming despite the recent floods?

Sue Essex: Yes, I will.

Mick Bates: I welcome the full report by the

Peter Rogers: Croesawaf y datganiad. Mae'r gymuned ffermio wedi dioddef yn sgîl y ffaith nad yswirir llawer o'u cnydau—eu cyflenwadau porthiant gaeaf a'r hyn a gynhyrchant, a llaeth yn benodol. Byddant felly yn dioddef caledi mawr. Hoffwn i'r Cynulliad gydnabod yr angen i sicrhau bod y bobl hyn, sydd eisoes mewn cyni o ran busnes ar ddechrau gaeaf caled, yn rhan o ryw fath o becyn cymorth i sicrhau y gallant barhau â'u busnes a sicrhau y gallant gyfrannu at economi Cymru.

Sue Essex: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi tynnu sylw at y gymuned ffermio. Yng ngogledd Cymru yr oedd enghreifftiau anodd o ffermwyr yn cael eu torri i ffwrdd am gyfnod hir o amser ac o berygl i'r stoc. Rhaid inni dalu teyrnged i'r gymuned ffermio, yn arbennig yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, oherwydd hi a ddioddefodd waethaf yn sgîl hyn. Yr oeddwn wedi gobeithio trafod y pecyn cymorth gyda Carwyn Jones, ond mae i ffwrdd yn sâl. Fodd bynnag, sicrhaf y byddwn yn rhoi hynny ar yr agenda, gan y cafwyd colledion trwm yn y fan honno.

John Marek: Cefnogaf sylwadau Peter Rogers. Croesawaf y newid mewn arweiniad cynllunio, a pho gyntaf y gwnewch hynny, gorau oll i bawb ohonom yng Nghymru. Bu colledion ffermio yn fy etholaeth i. Mae ffermio mewn sefyllfa enbyd ac mae perygl nad oroesa rhai busnesau gan na fyddant yn gymwys ar gyfer cynllun Bellwin, oherwydd dywedir bod y colledion yn yswiriadwy, ond nid ydynt yn yswiriadwy yn ymarferol. Ysgrifennais at Carwyn ynglŷn â hyn, ond pwysleisiaf yr hyn a ddywedodd Peter. Mae'n hanfodol ein bod yn sicrhau nad aiff busnesau i'r gwellt oherwydd nad yw'r grantiau sydd ar gael yn berthnasol iddynt. A wnewch bopeth o fewn eich gallu i sicrhau y gall ffermwyr barhau i ffermio er gwaethaf y llifogydd diweddar?

Sue Essex: Gwnaf.

Mick Bates: Croesawaf yr adroddiad llawn

Environment Agency. Can you confirm that they will review their management of reservoirs so as to keep the level lowered in order to be able to absorb more rain? You will recall that I have already mentioned the work that my colleague, Lembit Öpik MP, and I have done with respect to Clywedog in Montgomeryshire. We hope to arrange a similar lowering of the level of the Vyrnwy to absorb the extra rainfall that we now seem to be having. Will you ensure that that happens?

I have previously mentioned setting targets for building on brownfield sites. Can you assure me that, in the review, and in your discussions with officials about planning, targets on brownfield sites will be a part of that. On assistance for farmers, I welcome Peter and John's comments, and I hope that you have seen that Gordon Brown is having discussions on aid to farmers and will follow suit on that.

The critical issue on repairs, which you have missed, is bridges. In Powys, we have already estimated that it will cost £15 million to bring the bridges in Powys up to standard. I would like to see in this statement that bridges that require repair will receive moneys to ensure that they are repaired. We have a case where a bridge has collapsed due to flooding, and the diversions that will be in place will add thousands of pounds of cost to local businesses, in particular to farmers.

I also draw your attention, again in this report, to the fact that north-south communications are often halted, and halted annually, in the Welshpool area because the A483 does not have sufficient protection, so that the floods can be diverted by whatever mechanism. I would like to hear your response, to ensure that all those positive actions will mean that north-south communications are maintained.

Sue Essex: You have previously raised the management of reservoirs with me. That is

gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. A allwch gadarnhau y byddant yn adolygu'r modd y rheolant gronfeydd fel y cedwir y lefel yn is er mwyn iddynt allu amsugno mwy o law? Fe gofiwch imi grybwyll eisoes y gwaith a wnaethpwyd gan fy nghydweithiwr, Lembit Öpik AS, a minnau mewn perthynas â Chlywedog yn Sir Drefaldwyn. Gobeithiwn drefnu bod lefel y Fyrnwy yn cael ei gostwng mewn modd tebyg er mwyn amsugno'r glaw ychwanegol yr ymddengys ein bod yn ei gael bellach. A sicrhewch y bydd hynny'n digwydd?

Yr wyf wedi crybwyll pennu targedau ar gyfer adeiladu ar safleoedd tir llwyd o'r blaen. A allwch fy sicrhau y bydd targedau ar safleoedd tir llwyd yn rhan o hynny yn yr adolygiad, ac yn eich trafodaethau gyda swyddogion ynglŷn â chynllunio. O ran cymorth i ffermwyr, croesawaf sylwadau Peter a John, a gobeithiaf eich bod wedi gweld bod Gordon Brown yn cynnal trafodaethau ar gymorth i ffermwyr ac y bydd yn dilyn yr esiampl yn hynny o beth.

Y mater hanfodol ar atgyweirio, yr ydych wedi ei hepgor, yw pontydd. Ym Mhowys, mae gennym amcangyfrif eisoes y bydd yn costio £15 miliwn i ddod â'r pontydd ym Mhowys i safon dderbyniol. Hoffwn weld yn y datganiad hwn y derbynia'r pontydd sydd angen eu hatgyweirio arian i sicrhau y cânt eu hatgyweirio. Mae gennym achos lle dymchwelodd pont yn sgîl llifogydd, a bydd y gwyradau a roddir yn eu lle yn ychwanegu miloedd o bunnoedd o gost i fusnesau lleol, a ffermwyr yn benodol.

Tynnaf eich sylw hefyd, unwaith eto yn yr adroddiad hwn, at y ffaith y caiff ffyrdd rhwng y De a'r Gogledd eu rhwystro'n aml, a'u rhwystro'n flynyddol, yn ardal y Trallwng gan na ddiogelir yr A483 yn ddigonol, fel y gellir gwyrô'r llifogydd drwy ba ddull bynnag. Hoffwn glywed eich ymateb, er mwyn sicrhau bod pob un o'r camau cadarnhaol hynny yn golygu y caiff y ffyrdd rhwng y De a'r Gogledd eu cynnal a'u cadw.

Sue Essex: Yr ydych wedi codi mater rheoli cronfeydd gyda mi o'r blaen. Mae hynny'n

an important point. I hope that this meeting, to which the First Minister referred, will take place within a week, as soon as the Environment Agency feels free to do so. We will ensure that that is on the agenda. I do not want to get into the debate on targets on brownfield sites. I was talking about planning guidance on development and the way that drainage infrastructure, in particular, needs to respond as well as development in flood plains. We need to focus on that aspect.

On bridges, as you rightly say, there is a major problem in Wales about their renewal. An element has been included in the local government settlement this year to support local authorities to do that. On the difficulties that have been experienced on the roads, and at particular points, I thank you for bringing that to my attention because it has been a concern for people in mid and north Wales. We need to ensure that the assessment of works to be done brings that element in because that was as much the problem in some areas as was the physical flooding.

Alison Halford: Thank you, Sue, for visiting my area to see some of the devastation. Quite frankly, you do not realise how much it will cost to repair the damage. What happened in my part of the world, in Hendre and in parts of Mold, was that innocuous streams and tiny backwater rivers suddenly turned into raging torrents, which in the space of seconds crashed through gardens, took down fences and came up to 16 courses of brickwork in one area. We need to ensure in my constituency that these little millstreams that have not caused flooding previously and the river that had been well behaved, cannot suddenly turn into would-be killers. It is all very well concentrating on the large waterways, but in my area it was the small waterways that caused damage, and attention must be given to that.

I also feel sorry for the people in my area who have been flooded three times. I can think of nothing more traumatic than opening one's kitchen cupboards to find foul water

bwynt pwysig. Gobeithiaf y bydd y cyfarfod hwn, y cyfeiriodd y Prif Weinidog ato, yn digwydd o fewn wythnos, cyn gynted ag y teimla Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd yn rhydd i wneud hynny. Sicrhawn y bydd hynny ar yr agenda. Nid wyf am gael fy nhynnu i mewn i'r ddatl ynglŷn â thargedau ar safleoedd tir llwyd. Yr oeddwn yn siarad am arweiniad cynllunio ar ddatblygu a'r modd y mae angen i isadeiledd draenio, yn benodol, ymateb yn ogystal â gwaith datblygu mewn gorlifdiroedd. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar yr agwedd honno.

O ran pontydd, fel y dywedwch yn gywir, mae problem fawr yng Nghymru ynglŷn â'u hadnewyddu. Cynhwyswyd elfen yn y setliad llywodraeth leol eleni, er mwyn cynorthwyo awdurdodau lleol i wneud hynny. O ran yr anawsterau a brofwyd ar y ffyrdd, ac mewn mannau penodol, diolch am ddwyn hynny i'm sylw gan iddo fod yn bryder i bobl yng nghanolbarth a gogledd Cymru. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod yr asesiad o'r gwaith sydd i'w wneud yn cynnwys yr elfen honno gan y bu hynny'n gymaint o broblem mewn rhai ardaloedd â'r llifogydd ffisegol.

Alison Halford: Diolch, Sue, am ymweld â'm hardal i weld rhywfaint o'r llanastr. A bod yn hollol onest, ni sylweddolwch faint y bydd yn ei gostio i atgyweirio'r difrod. Yr hyn a ddigwyddodd yn fy rhan i o'r byd, yn Hendre ac mewn rhannau o'r Wyddgrug, oedd i nentydd diniwed a mân afonydd merddwr droi'n sydyn yn llifeiriant cynddeiriog, a hyrddiodd drwy erddi mewn eiliadau, a dynnodd ffensys i lawr ac a ddaeth i fyny at 16 haen o waith briciau mewn un ardal. Rhaid inni sicrhau yn fy etholaeth i na all y ffrydiau melinau bach hyn nad achosasant lifogydd o'r blaen a'r afon a oedd yn ddiidig, droi'n sydyn yn ddarpar laddwyr. Mae'n iawn canolbwyntiwn ar y dyfrffyrdd mawr, ond yn fy ardal i y dyfrffyrdd bach a achosodd y difrod, a rhaid rhoi sylw i hynny.

Teimlaf yn flin hefyd dros y bobl yn fy ardal a ddiodefodd lifogydd dair gwaith. Ni allaf feddwl am unrhyw beth mwy trawmatig nag agor cypyrddau'r gegin i ganfod dŵr

still sitting in saucepans and pans and among the tupperware. Water reached the washing machine and the dryer, water flowed into the downstairs lavatory, and water has gone inches and inches up the walls. Looking at the work of a builder who was beginning to repair somebody's house—some insurance companies have worked speedily—the cost is something like £28,000 to £30,000 to do up just one house. What do we do about the poor people who were not insured or are underinsured? Is there any way that some sort of hardship fund can be found for them, because there are pretty desperate and unhappy people in my part of the world?

I am grateful to the First Minister for commenting on the fear of further flooding. People are now distraught when it rains, worrying that the same thing could happen all over again. The saddest thing that I can recall, as I walked around and councillors introduced me to different people—

The Presiding Officer: Order. This is a statement.

Alison Halford: I feel sorry for the people in my area. I am sorry that I have taken up the Assembly's time, but poor people are desperately crying that their houses have been flooded three times. I know that the Assembly will do all that it can to help them.

Sue Essex: That is a testament to people's experiences of flooding. I know first-hand what that means, particularly the second and third time when you see people shovelling muck out and cleaning out, then a few days later it comes back in. It is soul destroying as well as back-breaking work. In some cases it means, as you say, that the whole of the flooring and plastering has to come away. That kind of renewal has to take place. It is enormously distressing. You are right to say, as I said just now, that we are looking at substantial sums of money. It is a real challenge, because as I saw for myself when I stood on the bridge in Mold with Karen and Janet, those small waterways such as the Alyn, people were describing it as a small, innocuous stream that had suddenly become

drewllyd mewn sosbenni a phadellau ac yn y *tupperware*. Cyrhaeddodd dŵr y peiriant golchi a'r sychwr dillad, llifodd dŵr i mewn i'r tŷ bach lawr grisiau, ac aeth dŵr fodfeddi ar fodfeddi i fyny'r waliau. O edrych ar waith adeiladwr a oedd yn dechrau atgyweirio tŷ rhywun—mae rhai cwmnïau yswiriant wedi gweithio'n gyflym—mae'r gost o gyweirio un tŷ yn unig yn rhywbeth rhwng £28,000 a £30,000. Beth a wnawn am y bobl druenus nas yswiriwyd neu a danyswiriwyd? A oes unrhyw ffordd y gellir canfod rhyw fath o gronfa caledi ar eu cyfer, oherwydd mae pobl go anobeithiol ac anhapus yn fy rhan i o'r byd?

Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i'r Prif Weinidog am wneud sylwadau ar yr ofn sydd rhag llifogydd pellach. Mae pobl mewn trallod bellach pan fydd yn bwrw, gan bryderu y gallai'r un peth ddigwydd unwaith eto. Y peth tristaf y gallaf ei gofio, wrth imi gerdded o gwmpas ac wrth i gynghorwyr fy nghyflwyno i wahanol bobl—

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Datganiad yw hwn.

Alison Halford: Teimlaf yn flin dros y bobl yn fy ardal. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf am gymryd amser y Cynulliad, ond mae pobl druenus yn gweiddi'n daer i'w tai ddioddef llifogydd dair gwaith. Gwn y gwna'r Cynulliad bopeth o fewn ei allu i'w helpu.

Sue Essex: Mae hynny'n dystiolaeth o brofiadau pobl o lifogydd. Gwn o brofiad yr hyn a olyga hynny, yn arbennig yr ail a'r drydedd waith pan welwch bobl yn carthu ac yn glanhau, yna rai dyddiau yn ddiweddarach daw'n ôl i mewn. Mae'n waith hynod o ddigalon yn ogystal â bod yn lladdfa. Mewn rhai achosion, fel y dywedwch, golyga fod yn rhaid i'r llawr a'r plastr i gyd ddod i ffwrdd. Rhaid i'r math hwnnw o waith adnewyddu ddigwydd. Mae'n hynod o dorcalonnu. Yr ydych yn iawn pan ddywedwch, fel y dywedais yn gynharach, ein bod yn edrych ar symiau sylweddol o arian. Mae'n her wirioneddol, oherwydd fel y gwelais y dyfrffyrdd bach hynny megis yr Alyn drosof fy hun pan sefais ar y bont yn yr Wyddgrug gyda Karen a Janet, yr oedd pobl yn ei

an absolute torrent. It was scary even to stand by it let alone be knocked over by it.

It is a fundamental reassessment of where flood risks are. This is a big challenge. However much we do, we can never say to people that we have given 100 per cent certainty against flooding. We cannot do that. We are in an unpredictable situation. All we can do is our best. People need to know that it will take resources. On your point about how people were affected, whether insured or not, I was pleased to see when we were in Ruthin that the local authority had community workers and social care workers already working, going from house to house, assessing people's needs and taking people through the problems. I stress the importance of that aftercare, because once the press has gone, once the floods have gone, once the politicians have gone, people have to pick up their lives. In many cases, they need someone to give them support. This is where advice workers, social workers, community workers and the local community all have their part to play. I hope that we will ensure that those aftercare packages are funded, and I hope that Bellwin will cover that.

3:00 p.m.

Ann Jones: Thank you for visiting the area, Sue. I add my thanks to all those who worked around the clock to ensure that people's calls were dealt with. I declare an interest as a former emergency service worker with 29 years' experience of taking those calls. It is those people who we must thank. Yes, it was their job, but many of them stayed on over and above the commitments of their duty. I also declare an interest as my son was with the lifeboat that went to Mold. Who would have thought of a lifeboat going to Mold? It horrifies us. There must be a speedy action to alleviate the misery of those flooded, as Alison mentioned, and we can all relate to

disgrifio fel nant fach ddiniwed a ddaeth yn sydyn yn llifeiriant llwyr. Yr oedd yn codi ofn ar rywun i sefyll gerllaw iddi heb sôn am gael eich bwrw drosodd ganddi.

Mae'n ailasesiad sylfaenol o lle mae'r risgiau o lifogydd. Mae hon yn her fawr. Pa faint bynnag o waith a wnawn, ni allwn fyth ddweud wrth bobl ein bod wedi rhoi sicrwydd o 100 y cant yn erbyn llifogydd. Ni allwn wneud hynny. Yr ydym mewn sefyllfa sydd yn amhosibl ei rhagweld. Dim ond ein gorau y gallwn ei wneud. Mae angen i bobl wybod y bydd angen adnoddau. O ran eich pwynt ynglŷn â sut yr effeithiwyd ar bobl, pa un a ydynt wedi eu hyswirio neu beidio, yr oeddwn yn falch, pan oeddem yn Rhuthun, o weld bod gan yr awdurdod lleol weithwyr cymunedol a gweithwyr gofal cymdeithasol yn gweithio eisoes, gan fynd o dŷ i dŷ, yn asesu anghenion pobl ac yn mynd â phobl drwy'r problemau. Pwysleisiaf bwysigrwydd yr ôl-ofal hwnnw, oherwydd unwaith y bydd y wasg wedi mynd, unwaith y bydd y llifogydd wedi mynd, unwaith y bydd y gwleidyddion wedi mynd, bydd yn rhaid i bobl ailgydio yn eu bywydau. Mewn llawer o achosion, mae angen rhywun i roi cymorth iddynt. Dyma lle y mae gan weithwyr cynghori, gweithwyr cymdeithasol, gweithwyr cymunedol a'r gymuned leol oll ran i'w chwarae. Gobeithiaf y byddwn yn sicrhau y caiff y pecynnau ôl-ofal hynny eu hariannu, a gobeithiaf y cwmpasa Bellwin hynny.

Ann Jones: Diolch am ymweld â'r ardal, Sue. Ychwanegaf fy niolchiadau i bawb a weithiodd bob awr o'r dydd a'r nos i sicrhau y deliwyd â galwadau pobl. Datganaf fuddiant fel cyn-weithiwr gyda'r gwasanaeth brys â 29 mlynedd o brofiad o gymryd y galwadau hynny. Nhw yw'r bobl y dylem ddiolch iddynt. Ie, dyna oedd eu gwaith, ond arhosodd llawer ohonynt ymlaen y tu hwnt i ymrwymadau eu dyletswydd. Datganaf fuddiant hefyd gan fod fy mab gyda'r bad achub a aeth i'r Wyddgrug. Pwy fyddai wedi meddwl am fad achub yn mynd i'r Wyddgrug? Mae'n ein brawychu. Rhaid sicrhau y cymerir camau yn gyflym i liniaru

those cases. I am glad that you mentioned the aftercare that you saw in Denbighshire, Sue. However, I echo Karen's remarks, and ask that county councils are careful about naming sums of money too early, and that we hold a full consultation on the damage and the amount of money that it will take so that we can put in proper flood defences in order to alleviate those problems. I thank you warmly for the way in which you have dealt with this awful situation with which we have all had to deal in north Wales.

Sue Essex: There is a range of people who need to take credit for what happened afterwards. You mentioned the workers, including your son and the lifeboat men. I saw some horrible footage of a lifeboat overturning on what would normally have been an innocuous field. It was a dangerous business in some cases, as well as a mucky business. You are right, we need careful assessment. Council officials are being responsible. The ones that we are dealing with are saying that they cannot rush to hurried figures because they need to assess this carefully. Many places in north Wales are isolated and have perhaps not been brought into the total picture that we need.

The Presiding Officer: Before I call Alun Pugh, I emphasise what I said earlier. This is the second statement that we have had on flooding. During the first statement I called party spokespeople, as I normally do. In this statement, I have given priority to local Members whose constituencies were affected.

Alun Pugh: Thank you, Sue, for that detailed statement and the announcements that you have made so far. The 100 per cent support for local authorities is particularly welcome in Denbighshire. Do you agree, that in view of the predicted increase in extreme weather events, substantial capital investments in new flood defences are justified, where flooding threatens not one or two houses, but entire communities and key

trallod y rheini a ddiodefodd lifogydd, fel y crybwyllodd Alison, a gallwn oll uniaethu â'r achosion hynny. Yr wyf yn falch ichi grybwyll yr ôl-ofal a welsoch yn Sir Ddinbych, Sue. Fodd bynnag, adleisiaf sylwadau Karen, a gofynnaf i gynghorau sir fod yn ofalus ynglŷn â nodi symiau o arian yn rhy gynnar, a'n bod yn cynnal sesiwn ymgynghori lawn ar y difrod a'r swm o arian a olyga hynny inni allu adeiladu amddiffynfeydd priodol rhag llifogydd er mwyn lliniaru'r problemau hynny. Diolchaf ichi'n fawr am y ffordd yr ymdriniasoch â'r sefyllfa ofnadwy hon y bu'n rhaid inni i gyd ddelio â hi yng ngogledd Cymru.

Sue Essex: Mae amrywiaeth o bobl y mae angen iddynt dderbyn clod am yr hyn a ddigwyddodd wedyn. Crybwyllasoch y gweithwyr, gan gynnwys eich mab a dynion y bad achub. Gwelais ffilm ofnadwy o fad achub yn troi drosodd ar yr hyn a fyddai fel arfer yn gae diniwed. Yr oedd yn fusnes peryglus mewn rhai achosion, yn ogystal â bod yn fusnes brwnt. Yr ydych yn iawn, mae angen inni asesu'r sefyllfa'n ofalus. Mae swyddogion cynghorau yn gweithredu'n gyfrifol. Mae'r rheini y deliwn â hwy yn dweud na allant ruthro gyda'r ffigurau gan fod angen iddynt asesu hyn yn ofalus. Mae llawer o leoedd yng ngogledd Cymru wedi eu hynysu ac efallai na chawsant eu cynnwys yn y darlun cyfan sydd ei angen arnom.

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw ar Alun Pugh, pwysleisiaf yr hyn a ddywedais yn gynharach. Hwn yw'r ail ddatganiad a gawsom ar y llifogydd. Yn ystod y datganiad cyntaf gelwais ar lefarwyr y pleidiau, fel sydd yn arferol gennyf. Yn y datganiad hwn, rhoddais flaenoriaeth i Aelodau lleol yr effeithiwyd ar eu hetholaethau.

Alun Pugh: Diolch, Sue, am y datganiad manwl hwnnw a'r cyhoeddiadau a wnaethoch hyd yn hyn. Mae croeso arbennig i'r gefnogaeth o 100 y cant ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol yn Sir Ddinbych. A gytnwch fod cyfiawnhad, yng ngoleuni'r cynnydd a ddarogenir yn y digwyddiadau eithafol o ran y tywydd, dros fuddsoddi cyfalaf sylweddol mewn amddiffynfeydd llifogydd, lle mae llifogydd yn bygwth nid un

communications links? The people of Ruthin need to know that downpours do not automatically result in half the town becoming knee-deep in water and key National Assembly highways becoming cut.

Sue Essex: Alun is right. We are looking at a reassessment of some flood defence and flood protection systems. Although many of those that had been put in place in previous years held and, as Alison said, many of the problems occurred from smaller, non-main rivers, when I was at Bangor-on-Dee and saw how extremely vulnerable the earthen bank there was, it became clear that we must reassess those places and the culverts in Ruthin, which was the problem that we saw on the ground there. The interesting point that will come out of the review is that we may also need to look at different methods.

Some of the traditional methods are not always acceptable to local people, and that can cause delays in making decisions. Part of the review, which is also taking place in England, will consider more creative ways of diverting rivers before they hit the huge capacity of built-up areas. In looking at the flood situation we can see the traditional ways in which settlements grew. Settlements were developed around rivers because they were crossing points, market places and were the places that people wanted to be and to live. However, they can be dangerous places. We have inherited the situation of some of our main rivers flowing through built-up areas. We will have to consider our traditional, concrete means of flood protection and try to see if we can find new ones, along with the necessary money.

Jonathan Morgan: I was pleased to hear your statement, particularly your indication that we should consider the lessons of the past few weeks. I draw your attention to the approach of Cardiff council. A statement that it issued a week and a half ago says that the authority will only provide flood protection and sandbags for residents living in council-

neu ddau dŷ yn unig, ond cymunedau cyfan a chysylltiadau ffordd allweddol? Mae angen i bobl Rhuthun wybod na fydd cawodydd trwm yn arwain yn awtomatig at bobl i fyny at eu gliniau mewn dŵr yn hanner y dref a bod priffyrdd allweddol y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn cael eu torri.

Sue Essex: Mae Alun yn iawn. Yr ydym yn edrych ar ailasesu rhai systemau amddiffyn rhag llifogydd a diogelu rhag llifogydd. Er i lawer o'r rheini a roddwyd yn eu lle mewn blynyddoedd a fu ddal ac, fel y dywedodd Alison, i lawer o'r problemau ddigwydd oherwydd afonydd llai nad oeddent yn brif afonydd, pan oeddwn ym Mangor Is-coed a gweld pa mor eithriadol o fregus yr oedd y lan ddaear yno, daeth yn glir bod yn rhaid inni ailasesu'r manau hynny a'r ceuffydd yn Rhuthun, sef y broblem a welwyd gennym ar lawr gwlad yno. Y pwynt diddorol a ddaw o'r adolygiad yw y bydd angen inni efallai edrych ar ddulliau gwahanol.

Nid yw rhai o'r dulliau traddodiadol yn dderbyniol i bobl leol bob amser, a gall hynny achosi oedi wrth wneud penderfyniadau. Ystyria rhan o'r adolygiad, sydd hefyd yn digwydd yn Lloegr, ffyrdd mwy creadigol o wyro afonydd cyn iddynt gyrraedd yr ardaloedd adeiledig mawr. Wrth edrych ar sefyllfa'r llifogydd gallwn weld sut y tyfodd pentrefi yn draddodiadol. Datblygwyd pentrefi o gwmpas afonydd oherwydd eu bod yn groesfannau, yn lleoedd marchnad a dyna oedd y manau lle yr oedd pobl am fyw a bod. Fodd bynnag, gallant fod yn fannau peryglus. Yr ydym wedi etifeddu'r sefyllfa lle y llifa rhai o'n prif afonydd drwy ardaloedd adeiledig. Bydd yn rhaid inni ystyried ein ffyrdd concred, traddodiadol o ddiogelu rhag llifogydd a cheisio gweld a allwn ganfod rhai newydd, ynghyd â'r arian angenrheidiol.

Jonathan Morgan: Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed eich datganiad, yn benodol eich awgrym y dylem ystyried gwersi'r ychydig wythnosau diwethaf. Tynnaf eich sylw at ymagwedd cyngor Caerdydd. Dywed datganiad a gyhoeddwyd ganddo wythnos a hanner yn ôl y caiff diogelwch rhag llifogydd a bagiau tywod ond eu darparu i'r rheini sydd

owned properties. If you own your own home, the local authority will not provide flood protection. It is a ridiculous situation that, in the event of a street where you own your own home being flooded, you would not receive any protection or sandbags from the local authority. That is a disgraceful policy. It actively discriminates against people who pay council tax and against the majority of Cardiff citizens who are house owners, particularly young families and the elderly. What do you intend to do about that?

yn byw yn eiddo'r cyngor. Os ydych yn berchen ar eich cartref eich hun, ni ddarperir diogelwch rhag llifogydd gan yr awdurdod lleol. Mae'n chwerthinllyd ystyried na fydddech yn derbyn unrhyw ddiogelwch na bagiau tywod gan yr awdurdod lleol, pe byddai'r stryd lle yr ydych yn berchen ar eich cartref yn dioddef llifogydd. Mae hynny'n bolisi gwarthus. Gwahaniaetha yn erbyn pobl sydd yn talu'r dreth gyngor ac yn erbyn mwyafrif dinasyddion Caerdydd sydd yn berchnogion tai, teuluoedd ifanc a'r henoed yn arbennig. Beth y bwriadwch ei wneud ynglŷn â hynny?

Sue Essex: I am sure that we all agree that we do not want to see any discrimination in terms of need. I will pass on that message to Edwina Hart as the Minister with responsibility for local government. I am sure that we will be able to obtain information from our meeting to consider the impact on all local authorities.

Sue Essex: Yr wyf yn sicr ein bod oll yn gytŷn nad ydym am weld unrhyw wahaniaethu yn nhermau angen. Trosglwyddaf y neges honno i Edwina Hart fel y Gweinidog sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros lywodraeth leol. Yr wyf yn sicr y gallwn gael gwybodaeth o'n cyfarfod i ystyried yr effaith ar bob awdurdod lleol.

The Presiding Officer: I understand, from an informal exchange of e-mails with the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities, that she will make a statement on the Bellwin issues during Thursday's Plenary. We will, therefore, return to the local government aspects at that time.

Y Llywydd: Deallaf, o gyfnwid negeseuon e-bost yn anffurfiol gyda'r Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau, y gwnaiff ddatganiad ar faterion Bellwin yn ystod y Cyfarfod Llawn ddydd Iau. Dychwelwn, felly, at agweddau ar lywodraeth leol bryd hynny.

Datganiad ar Ganolfan Cyswllt Cwsmeriaid Lloyds TSB ym Mhen-coed Statement on the Lloyds TSB Customer Contact Centre at Pencoed

The Deputy First Minister and Minister for Economic Development (Michael German): This morning, the First Minister and I attended the formal ground-breaking ceremony for a new customer contact centre being developed by Lloyds TSB at Pencoed.

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd (Michael German): Y bore yma, mynychodd y Prif Weinidog a minnnau y seremoni torri tir newydd ffurfiol ar gyfer canolfan cyswllt cwsmeriaid newydd y mae Lloyds TSB yn ei datblygu ym Mhen-coed.

The initial £5 million investment will provide over 400 jobs for the area, and Lloyds TSB confirmed this morning that it also proposes to undertake a further investment which, it is anticipated, will create a further 400 jobs within five years. This new facility will handle teleservice calls from Lloyds TSB's retail banking business, using state of the art interactive voice recognition systems. I am delighted that the National Assembly played

Darperir dros 400 o swyddi yn yr ardal gan y buddsoddiad cychwynnol o £5 miliwn, a chadarnhaodd Lloyds TSB y bore yma ei fod hefyd yn bwriadu buddsoddi ymhellach a fydd, yn ôl pob disgwyl, yn creu 400 o swyddi eraill ymhen pum mlynedd. Bydd y cyfleuster newydd hwn yn trafod galwadau gwasanaeth ffonio busnes bancio masnachol Lloyds TSB, gan ddefnyddio'r systemau rhyngweithiol diweddaraf i adnabod llais.

an instrumental role in winning the project for Pen-coed through its offer of regional selective assistance. The existence of Lloyds TSB contact centres in Newport and Swansea was critical to the decision to establish a centre at Pen-coed. Therefore, in total, we can look forward to the provision of over 3,000 jobs in these centres. The opening of the Pen-coed centre in the autumn of next year is only the first phase

This development is the latest in a line of customer contact centres that have been set up in Wales. Contact centres are big business, and Wales is now proving to be a highly attractive location for a host of companies with call centre requirements. These operations offer an excellent working environment, competitive wages and extensive use of modern technology. We can claim a strong portfolio of major companies, such as Lloyds TSB, Admiral Insurance, Manpower, British Telecom, One to One and Hyder, who have found that Wales is an ideal centre for their contact operations.

The customer contact centre boom means that we are better placed to hit one of the major targets identified in our economic strategy for Wales: the need to grow a high-value, high-pay private service sector to complement our successful manufacturing companies. Wales is now home to some 80 centres which employ around 20,000 people, a significant number of which are in the financial services sector. It is proving a popular choice because of the quality of the workforce and the pioneering training initiatives developed specifically for the industry. Another plus factor, so we are told, is the friendly Welsh accent.

Today we have seen a further vote of confidence in Wales from a blue-chip company. This will be Lloyds TSB's third customer contact centre in Wales. It is a development that reflects the company's satisfaction with its existing Welsh operations. This is a clear vote of confidence

Mae'n dda gennyf fod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol wedi chwarae rôl bwysig wrth sicrhau'r prosiect ar gyfer Pen-coed drwy gynnig cymorth dethol rhanbarthol. Yr oedd bodolaeth canolfannau cyswllt Lloyds TSB yng Nghasnewydd ac Abertawe yn rhan dyngedfennol o'r penderfyniad i sefydlu canolfan ym Mhen-coed. Felly, at ei gilydd, gallwn edrych ymlaen at weld dros 3,000 o swyddi yn cael eu darparu yn y canolfannau hyn. Dim ond y cam cyntaf yw agor canolfan Pen-coed yn yr hydref y flwyddyn nesaf.

Dyma'r datblygiad diweddaraf mewn cyfres o ganolfannau cyswllt cwsmeriaid a sefydlwyd yng Nghymru. Mae canolfannau cyswllt yn fusnes da, ac mae Cymru bellach yn lleoliad hynod ddeniadol i lu o gwmnïau sydd angen sefydlu canolfannau galwadau. Mae'r cwmnïau hyn yn cynnig amgylchedd gwaith ardderchog, cyflog cystadleuol a defnydd helaeth o dechnoleg fodern. Mae gennym bortffolio cryf o gwmnïau mawr, fel Lloyds TSB, Admiral Insurance, Manpower, British Telecom, One to One a Hyder, sydd wedi canfod bod Cymru yn lleoliad delfrydol ar gyfer eu gweithrediadau cysylltiadau.

Golyga'r cynnydd yn y canolfannau cyswllt cwsmeriaid ein bod mewn sefyllfa well i gyrraedd un o'r prif dargedau a nodwyd yn ein strategaeth economaidd ar gyfer Cymru: yr angen i ddatblygu sector gwasanaeth preifat â gwerth uchel a chyflog uchel sydd yn ategol i'n cwmnïau gweithgynhyrchu llwyddiannus. Mae Cymru bellach wedi denu tua 80 o ganolfannau sydd yn cyflogi tua 20,000 o bobl, y mae nifer sylweddol ohonynt yn y sector gwasanaethau ariannol. Mae Cymru'n ddewis poblogaidd oherwydd safon y gweithlu a'r mentrau hyfforddi arloesol a ddatblygwyd yn benodol ar gyfer y diwydiant. Ffactor cadarnhaol arall, yn ôl yr hyn a ddywedwyd wrthym, yw'r acen Gymreig gyfeillgar.

Gwelsom heddiw gwmni o'r radd flaenaf yn ymddiried eto yng Nghymru. Hon fydd trydedd ganolfan cyswllt cwsmeriaid Lloyds TSB yng Nghymru. Mae'n ddatblygiad sydd yn adlewyrchu boddhad y cwmni gyda'i ganolfannau presennol yng Nghymru. Mae'n arwydd pendant o ffydd yn economi Cymru

in the Welsh economy and is clear confirmation that the people of Wales have a lot to offer employers. I wish the company success and look forward to welcoming more quality projects like this in the months ahead.

3:10 p.m.

Janice Gregory: Thank you for that statement, Mike. It is a good news statement for the entire area, not only for my constituency, which includes Pen-coed. Some time ago, when I learnt, through various channels, that a call centre would be sited on this field, I accepted the news with trepidation, given the problems that Swansea and Cardiff have experienced with such centres. I was relieved to find out that this will be a Lloyds TSB call centre. You were right to say that it is a blue-chip company. I was delighted to attend the call centre's ground-breaking ceremony this morning. As we had thought, it will employ 400 people. I was pleased to hear Ann Gunther announce that those jobs will be doubled during the next five years. Apart from Lloyds TSB employees, I do not think that the First Minister or yourself, knew that she was going to make that announcement.

You were also right to say that this investment shows commitment to the quality of the Welsh workforce. However, it does not in any way diminish the problems in my constituency. The Sony UK plant, which recently received the devastating news of 400 job losses, is situated on the adjoining site. In welcoming these new jobs, I repeat the plea I made in October, to keep a close eye on inward investors.

Michael German: I can confirm that the Lloyds TSB operation will use the highest and latest technology. It is not just a question of people being able to interact on the telephone. The operation will also use the internet so that people can log-on to their banker and speak to him or her through a computer, with two-way visual contact. This is the latest technology, and the employees will undertake the work that used to be

ac yn cadarnhau bod gan bobl Cymru gryn dipyn i'w gynnig i gyflogwyr. Dymunaf bob llwyddiant i'r cwmni ac edrychaf ymlaen at groesawu rhagor o brosiectau o safon fel hon yn ystod y misoedd nesaf.

Janice Gregory: Diolch am y datganiad hwnnw, Mike. Mae'n ddatganiad newyddion da i'r ardal gyfan, nid yn unig i'm hetholaeth i, sydd yn cynnwys Pen-coed. Beth amser yn ôl, pan glywais, drwy wahanol gyfryngau, y byddai canolfan alwadau yn cael ei lleoli ar y maes hwn, derbyniais y newyddion yn betrusgar, o gofio'r problemau a gafodd Abertawe a Chaerdydd gyda chanolfannau o'r fath. Rhyddhad oedd canfod mai canolfan alwadau Lloyds TSB fydd hon. Yr oeddech yn llygad eich lle wrth ddweud ei fod yn gwmni o'r radd flaenaf. Yr oeddwn yn falch iawn o fynychu seremoni torri tir newydd y ganolfan alwadau y bore yma. Fel y tybiasom, bydd yn cyflogi 400 o bobl. Yr oedd yn dda gennyf glywed Ann Gunther yn cyhoeddi y bydd y swyddi hyn yn dyblu yn ystod y pum mlynedd nesaf. Ar wahân i gyflogeion Lloyds TSB, ni chredaf ichi na'r Prif Weinidog wybod ei bod yn bwriadu gwneud y cyhoeddiad hwnnw.

Yr oeddech hefyd yn llygad eich lle wrth ddweud bod y buddsoddiad hwn yn dangos ymrwymiad i safon y gweithlu yng Nghymru. Fodd bynnag nid yw'n lleihau'r problemau yn fy etholaeth i ar unrhyw gyfrif. Lleolir ffatri Sony UK, sydd newydd gael y newyddion enbyd ei bod yn colli 400 o swyddi, ar y safle cyfagos. Wrth groesawu'r swyddi newydd hyn, ailadroddaf yr apêl a wneuthum ym mis Hydref, inni gadw llygad barcud ar fewnfuddsoddwyr.

Michael German: Gallaf gadarnhau y bydd Lloyds TSB yn defnyddio'r dechnoleg ddiweddaraf o'r radd flaenaf. Nid yw hyn ond yn fater o bobl yn gallu cyfathrebu ar y ffôn. Bydd y ganolfan hefyd yn defnyddio'r rhyngwryd fel y gall pobl gysylltu â'u banciwr a siarad ag ef neu hi drwy gyfrifiadur, gyda chyswllt gweledol dwy-ffordd. Dyma'r dechnoleg ddiweddaraf, a bydd y cyflogeion yn gwneud y gwaith a

carried out by bank managers and assistant bank managers.

arferai gael ei wneud gan reolwyr banc a rheolwyr banc cynorthwyol.

Dafydd Wigley: Croesawaf y swyddi newydd hyn. Hoffwn brotestio nad yw'r datganiad hwn ar gael yn y Gymraeg, a chan fy mod yn dymuno ei ddyfynnu, bydd yn rhaid imi wneud hynny, a pharhau â'm cyfraniad, yn Saesneg.

Dafydd Wigley: I welcome these new jobs. I would like to protest that this statement is not available in Welsh, and as I wish to quote from it, I will have to do so, and continue my contribution, in English.

The Minister stated that this development

Dywedodd y Gweinidog fod y datblygiad hwn

'represents one of the major targets identified in our economic strategy for Wales—the need to grow a high value, high pay private service sector'.

Is this the type of service industry development that the Government had in mind in making this statement? Is this the core of its economic strategy in the financial service sector? Does this news represent the height of the Government's ambitions in this sector? The Deputy First Minister also said that the new jobs will pay 'competitive wages'. Will he confirm that the wage levels will be above the average for men and women in the financial service sector? Will he clarify his comments on the 'pioneering training initiatives' to which he referred, and what exactly are the new challenging skills that these new blue-chip jobs will require? Will he give an assurance that these jobs are here to stay and that they will not disappear like some of the similar jobs recently in the same area?

Ai hwn yw'r math o ddatblygiad yn y diwydiant gwasanaeth yr oedd gan y Llywodraeth mewn golwg wrth wneud y datganiad hwn? Ai dyna yw craidd ei strategaeth economaidd yn y sector gwasanaeth ariannol? A yw'r newyddion hwn yn adlewyrchu dyheadau mwyaf y Llywodraeth yn y sector hwn? Dywedodd y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog hefyd y bydd y swyddi newydd yn talu 'cyflog cystadleuol'. A gadarnhâ y bydd y lefelau cyflog yn uwch na'r cyfartaledd ar gyfer dynion a gwragedd yn y sector gwasanaeth ariannol? A eglura ei sylwadau ynglŷn â 'mentrau hyfforddi arloesol' y cyfeiriodd atynt, a pha sgiliau ymestynnol newydd y bydd y swyddi hyn o'r radd flaenaf yn gofyn amdanynt? A wnaiff roi sicrwydd y bydd y swyddi rhagorol hyn yn parhau ac na fyddant yn diflannu fel rhai o'r swyddi cyffelyb yn ddiweddar yn yr un ardal?

Michael German: We should be pleased that a blue-chip company has just offered to double its workforce in Wales, and should, therefore, congratulate it on its investment.

Michael German: Dylem ymfalchïo yn y ffaith bod cwmni o'r radd flaenaf wedi cynnig dyblu ei weithlu yng Nghymru, a dylem, felly, ei longyfarch ar ei fuddsoddiad.

Dafydd Wigley: Answer the questions.

Dafydd Wigley: Atebwch y cwestiynau.

Michael German: I will answer the questions. However, the tone of your contribution demeans the way in which this company is prepared to invest substantially in Wales. I referred to the nature of the work that these people will do. They will not simply answer calls and direct people elsewhere. They will direct and talk to

Michael German: Fe atebaf y cwestiynau. Fodd bynnag, yr oedd naws eich cyfraniad yn difrio parodrwydd y cwmni hwn i wneud buddsoddiad sylweddol yng Nghymru. Cyfeiriais at natur y gwaith y bydd y bobl hyn yn ei wneud. Nid dim ond ateb galwadau a chyfeirio pobl i fannau eraill a wnânt. Byddant yn cyfeirio a siarad â chwsmeriaid

customers about their financial decisions, in a complicated manner. The work is described as answering questions that make you scratch your head and think rather than read a simple answer from a piece of paper. These people will be highly skilled and will develop as part of a new way of dealing with customers in the service sector.

I reject entirely that this is not the sort of business that we are looking for. These centres are more sophisticated than you might think or that your questions make us believe. The career structures in these centres are very good. I asked the people from Lloyds TSB who attended the meeting this morning about it. There is a definite growth pattern through which people can move in the company, increasing in ways, style and their skills. As a blue-chip company, Lloyds TSB is committed to a training programme. The Assembly should welcome the fact that one of the country's major banks is prepared to invest in over 3,000 jobs in our principality.

Peter Black: I welcome this development. It is invaluable that such hi-tech jobs come to Pen-coed and to Wales. It is important that we are seen to be open and welcoming to these developments and not try to pick holes in the statement. We have had bad news in this area with the closure of Sony, as Janice Gregory mentioned. To what extent can this development help to replace those jobs and help people who will lose their jobs at Sony, who will be looking for further employment?

Michael German: I endorse what you said at the beginning of your statement. It is interesting that the Sony plant is next door to the site of this development. I specifically asked this morning whether Lloyds TSB had contacted Sony. They have done that and have made contact with local training suppliers to ensure that the people who will lose their jobs at Sony will pick up the skills that they need and use them in this new call centre.

am eu penderfyniadau ariannol, mewn modd cymhleth. Disgrifir y gwaith fel ateb cwestiynau a fydd yn gwneud ichi grafu'ch pen a meddwlyn hytrach na darllen ateb o ddarn o bapur. Bydd y bobl hyn yn fedrus iawn ac yn datblygu fel rhan o ffordd newydd o ymdrin â chwsmeriaid yn y sector gwasanaeth.

Gwrthodaf yn llwyr nad hwn yw'r math o fusnes yr ydym yn chwilio amdano. Mae'r canolfannau hyn yn fwy soffistigedig nag y byddech yn ei gredu neu y byddai eich cwestiynau yn gwneud inni gredu. Mae'r strwythurau gyrfaol yn y canolfannau hyn yn dda iawn. Gofynnais i'r bobl o Lloyds TSB a fynychodd y cyfarfod y bore yma ynglŷn â hyn. Mae patrwm pendant o dwf y gall pobl yn y cwmni symud drwyddo, gan wella o ran ffyrdd, arddull a'u sgiliau. Fel cwmni o'r radd flaenaf, mae Lloyds TSB yn ymrwymedig i raglen hyfforddi. Dylai'r Cynulliad groesawu'r ffaith bod un o brif fanciau'r wlad yn barod i fuddsoddi mewn dros 3,000 o swyddi yng Nghymru.

Peter Black: Croesawaf y datblygiad hwn. Mae'r ffaith bod swyddi uwch-dechnoleg o'r fath wedi dod i Ben-coed a Chymru yn hynod werthfawr. Mae'n bwysig ein bod yn cael ein hystyried fel gwlad sydd yn agored ac yn croesawu'r datblygiadau hyn a pheidio â lladd ar y datganiad. Cawsom newyddion drwg yn yr ardal hon o ran cau Sony, fel y soniodd Janice Gregory. I ba raddau y gall y datblygiad hwn helpu i ddarparu swyddi yn lle y swyddi hynny a helpu pobl a fydd yn colli eu swyddi yn Sony, a fydd yn chwilio am waith arall?

Michael German: Ategaf yr hyn a ddywedasoch ar ddechrau eich datganiad. Mae'n ddiddorol bod ffatri Sony wrth ymyl safle'r datblygiad hwn. Gofynnais yn benodol y bore yma a oedd Lloyds TSB wedi cysylltu â Sony. Maent wedi gwneud hynny ac maent wedi cysylltu â'r cyflenwyr hyfforddiant lleol er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y bobl a fydd yn colli eu swyddi yn Sony yn meithrin y sgiliau sydd eu hangen arnynt a'u defnyddio yn y ganolfan alwadau newydd hon.

There is no doubt in my mind that the quality of the jobs and, perhaps, the salaries for many people, will either be on a par with, or even greater, than what they receive at present. There is work to be done to ensure that the relationship of the personnel functions in Sony, Lloyds TSB and the local college of further education is enhanced. I give you a commitment that I will ensure that those three parties are brought together so that people can almost have a seamless web of walking from one job to the other, if they wish.

Alun Cairns: I declare an interest in what I am about to say and in the Deputy First Minister's statement. I welcome your statement and the investment that Lloyds TSB is making yet again in Wales. I reject Dafydd Wigley's contribution. That merely demonstrated the sour grapes that his party has shown that it feels by its behaviour in the Assembly. Lloyds TSB is an enormous and good employer in Wales and has a true track record of career progression. At a time when the number of jobs in the financial services sector across the United Kingdom is decreasing, we should welcome additional jobs to south Wales in an added value part of the service sector, where 3,000 people are employed in Wales. That will further add to the career progression of the people who are employed there.

Banking has been criticised for many years, sometimes such criticism is justified and on other occasions it is not. It is inevitable that many branches close, not only those of Lloyds TSB but across the whole network, because of the intensive competition in the market place at the moment. Do you join me in welcoming the increased number of jobs that were announced today of which, I understand, neither you nor the First Minister were aware? That demonstrates the commitment that blue-chip employers give to the economy of south Wales. Will you also describe for me your experience of flying in a hot air balloon today compared with flying in a helicopter some weeks ago when opening the Oakdale business park?

Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth gennyf y bydd safon y swyddi, a'r cyflogau efallai, i lawer o bobl, naill ai yn cyfateb i'r hyn a gânt ar hyn o bryd, neu hyd yn oed yn uwch. Mae gwaith i'w wneud i sicrhau bod y berthynas rhwng y swyddogaethau personél yn Sony, Lloyds TSB a'r coleg addysg bellach lleol yn gwella. Rhoddaf ymrwymiad ichi y byddaf yn sicrhau bod y tri chorff hynny yn dod at ei gilydd fel y gall pobl symud o'r naill swydd i'r llall bron yn ddi-fwlch, os dymunant.

Alun Cairns: Datganaf fuddiant yn yr hyn yr wyf am ei ddweud ac yn natganiad y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog. Croesawaf eich datganiad a'r buddsoddiad y mae Lloyds TSB yn ei wneud unwaith eto yng Nghymru. Gwrthodaf gyfraniad Dafydd Wigley. Yr oedd hynny ond yn adlewyrchu'r surni y mae ei blaid yn ei arddangos drwy ei hymddygiad yn y Cynulliad. Mae Lloyds TSB yn gyflogwr enfawr a da yng Nghymru a chanddo hanes da o ran datblygiad gyrfaol. Ar adeg pan fydd nifer y swyddi yn y sector gwasanaethau ariannol ar draws y Deyrnas Unedig yn gostwng, dylem groesawu'r swyddi ychwanegol yn ne Cymru fel rhan â gwerth ychwanegol o'r sector gwasanaeth, lle y cyflogir 3,000 o bobl yng Nghymru. Bydd hynny'n ategu ymhellach ddatblygiad gyrfaol y bobl a gyflogir yno.

Beirniadwyd y sector bancio ers blynyddoedd lawer, sydd weithiau'n briodol ac weithiau'n amrhiodol. Mae'n anochel bod llawer o ganghennau'n cau, nid yn unig rhai Lloyds TSB ond ar draws y rhwydwaith cyfan, am fod cystadleuaeth ddwys yn y farchnad ar hyn o bryd. A ymunwch â mi wrth groesawu nifer y swyddi ychwanegol a gyhoeddwyd heddiw nad oeddech chi, na'r Prif Weinidog, fe ddeallaf, yn ymwybodol ohonynt? Dengys hynny yr ymrwymiad y mae cyflogwyr o'r radd flaenaf yn ei roi i economi de Cymru. A wnewch hefyd ddisgrifio eich profiad o hedfan mewn balŵn aer poeth heddiw o gymharu â hedfan mewn hofrennydd ychydig wythnosau yn ôl pan agorasoch barc busnes Oakdale?

3.20 p.m.

Michael German: All I can say is that there is a rising market for jobs in Wales. I welcome the announcement by Lloyds TSB today, and I am grateful for your endorsement of the welcome for this blue-chip company to Wales.

Janet Davies: I warmly welcome this announcement. This will provide jobs in my constituency, although I was not invited to any event this morning. I do not believe that I need to declare an interest because my only connection with Lloyds TSB is that it holds a lot of my money. I am glad to see some of it being invested back into the area that I represent. I was going to ask a question about Sony, but it has already been asked by Peter Black. However, I also raise the issue of the number of people who have lost jobs at Lloyds TSB through reorganisation and restructuring in recent years. Will they have the opportunity to apply for these jobs? If special training is required, will they look to the local further education college at Bridgend rather than Pencoed—which is a specialist provider—for the training?

Michael German: The answer to the first question is that the company will be actively recruiting senior managers from the end of the year. They will then actively recruit the workforce for the new site in March. Perhaps Assembly Members who know of people seeking work in this area could suggest that they contact Lloyds TSB. I am sure that that would be of use to the company. The crucial issue that you mentioned in the last part of your question was about the nature of the training. Lloyds TSB will provide some training, but it will look to training providers and specifically to Bridgend college because of its experience in the more specific nature of the training needed for this particular function. I understand what you mean by Pencoed college being a former agricultural college.

Michael German: Y cyfan y gallaf ei ddweud yw bod marchnad gynyddol ar gyfer swyddi yng Nghymru. Croesawaf gyhoeddiad Lloyds TSB heddiw, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am ategu'r croeso i'r cwmni rhagorol hwn i Gymru.

Janet Davies: Croesawaf y cyhoeddiad hwn yn fawr. Bydd hyn yn darparu swyddi yn fy etholaeth i, er na chefais wahoddiad i unrhyw achlysur y bore yma. Ni chredaf fod angen datgan buddiant am mai fy unig gyswllt â Lloyds TSB yw ei fod yn gofalu am lawer o'm harian. Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod peth ohono yn cael ei fuddsoddi yn yr ardal hon a gynrychiolaf. Yr oeddwn yn bwriadu gofyn cwestiwn ynglŷn â Sony, ond mae Peter Black eisoes wedi ei ofyn. Fodd bynnag, codaf hefyd y mater bod nifer o bobl wedi colli eu swyddi yn Lloyds TSB yn sgîl ad-drefnu ac ailstrwythuro yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf. A fydd cyfle iddynt wneud cais am y swyddi hyn? Os oes angen hyfforddiant arbennig, a fyddant yn troi at y coleg addysg bellach lleol ym Mhen-y-bont yn hytrach na Phen-coed—sef y darparwr arbenigol—ar gyfer yr hyfforddiant?

Michael German: Yr ateb i'r cwestiwn cyntaf yw y bydd y cwmni wrthi'n recriwtio uwch reolwyr o ddiwedd y flwyddyn ymlaen. Yna byddant yn mynd ati i recriwtio'r gweithlu ar gyfer y safle newydd ym mis Mawrth. Efallai y gallai Aelodau'r Cynulliad sydd yn adnabod pobl sydd yn chwilio am waith yn yr ardal hon awgrymu iddynt gysylltu â Lloyds TSB. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai hynny'n ddefnyddiol i'r cwmni. Y mater hollbwysig y cyfeiriasoch ato yn rhan olaf eich cwestiwn oedd natur yr hyfforddiant. Bydd Lloyds TSB yn darparu peth hyfforddiant, ond bydd yn troi at ddarparwyr hyfforddiant ac yn benodol at goleg Pen-y-bont oherwydd ei brofiad o'r hyfforddiant mwy penodol sydd ei angen ar gyfer y swyddogaeth arbennig hon. Deallaf eich cyfeiriad at goleg Pen-coed fel cyn-goleg amaethyddol.

Datganiad ar RAF Sain Tathan **Statement on RAF St Athan**

The First Minister: I have a statement on the future of RAF St Athan and the Defence Avionics Repair Agency.

More than 4,000 staff, about 1,000 military and some 3,000 civilians are employed at the RAF St Athan base in the Vale of Glamorgan. Of this number, about 3,000 work for the newly created Defence Avionics Repair Agency, which undertakes both aircraft and aircraft engine overhaul work. Along with the BAE Systems Airbus plant at Broughton, this is the largest single employment site in Wales, which helps to demonstrate how important the aerospace industry has become to us in Wales.

The only firm proposal—of which we are aware—that involves any threat to jobs is DARA's proposal to transfer engine overhaul work, particularly helicopter engine overhaul work, comprising some 165 civilian staff to another DARA site at Fleetlands in Gosport, Hampshire. However, this is still only a proposal and is subject to full consultation with the trade unions. If this proposal is accepted, affected staff will be offered the choice of either transferring to Gosport or taking alternative aviation employment within the DARA ambit. We are not aware of any proposals to remove any other jobs from the Vale of Glamorgan area, although we are aware of DARA's ambition, as a newly-formed agency, to have a brand new maintenance base built for it. Cardiff Wales Airport is one such possibility. From this base, or from continued occupation of St Athan, DARA would be expected to bid for commercial as well as military repair work.

David Melding: I hope that that statement indicates the amount of anticipation that is now going into policy formulation. The development that could occur in the Vale is important. The jobs are important to the Vale, but they are also important to the whole of the Welsh economy. As the First

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae gennyf ddatganiad ar ddyfodol RAF Sain Tathan a'r Asiantaeth Trwsio Afioneg Amddiffyn.

Cyflogir mwy na 4,000 o staff, tua 1,000 o staff milwrol a thua 3,000 o staff sifil yng nghanolfan RAF Sain Tathan ym Mro Morgannwg. O blith y rhain, mae tua 3,000 yn gweithio i'r Asiantaeth Atgyweirio Afioneg Amddiffyn newydd ei sefydlu sydd yn gwneud gwaith cynnal a chadw ar awyrennau a pheiriannau awyrennau. Ynghyd â ffatri Airbus BAE Systems ym Mrychdyn, hwn yw'r gweithle unigol mwyaf yng Nghymru, sydd yn dangos pa mor bwysig yw'r diwydiant awyrofod inni yng Nghymru.

Yr unig gynnig pendant—yr ydym yn ymwybodol ohono—sydd yn golygu unrhyw fgythiad i swyddi yw cynnig DARA i drosglwyddo'r gwaith cynnal a chadw, yn enwedig y gwaith cynnal a chadw ar beirannau hofrenyddion, sydd yn cyflogi tua 165 o staff sifil i un o safleoedd eraill DARA yn Fleetlands yn Gosport, Hampshire. Fodd bynnag, cynnig yn unig ydyw ar hyn o bryd ac mae'n amodol ar ymgynghoriad llawn â'r undebau llafur. Os derbynnir y cynnig hwn, cynigir dewis i'r staff dan sylw naill ai drosglwyddo i Gosport neu gael gwaith arall yn ymwneud ag awyrennau o fewn DARA. Nid ydym yn ymwybodol o unrhyw gynigion i symud unrhyw swyddi eraill o ardal Bro Morgannwg, er ein bod yn ymwybodol o ddyhead DARA, fel asiantaeth newydd, i adeiladu canolfan cynnal a chadw newydd sbon. Maes Awyr Cymru Caerdydd yw un o'r posibiladau. O'r ganolfan hon, neu drwy barhau yn Sain Tathan, disgwylir y byddai DARA yn cynnig am waith atgyweirio masnachol yn ogystal â gwaith milwrol.

David Melding: Gobeithiaf fod y datganiad hwnnw'n nodi'r holl waith cynllunio ymlaen llaw sydd bellach yn cael ei wneud wrth lunio polisi. Mae'r datblygiad a allai ddigwydd yn y Fro yn bwysig. Mae'r swyddi'n bwysig i'r Fro ond maent hefyd yn bwysig i economi Cymru gyfan. Fel y

Minister said, the Vale has become a centre of excellence for aircraft maintenance. We need to promote St Athan, or possibly Cardiff Wales Airport, as the best site for DARA's proposal to build a new purpose-built maintenance base. The future objective must be to secure that kind of commitment from the agency. I hope that the First Minister will hold discussions on that with DARA, and I am sure that all parties in the Assembly will support him.

We should also pursue the question of whether the transfer of the engine overhaul work is a completely done deal or whether we could try to persuade DARA to review it. The maintenance of St Athan is very important. People in the Vale of Glamorgan are already beginning to ask whether the Ministry of Defence is committed to the long-term future of St Athan. Those may be wild fears, but one can see how they have some currency.

The First Minister: DARA is very important to Wales, as is Wales to DARA. It is possible that as many as 70 per cent of its employees work in Wales. Half of its employees work in St Athan alone. All of DARA's avionics work is carried out at RAF Sealand, in Tom Middlehurst's constituency. Sixty jobs have recently been gained there by the transfer of avionics work from Fleetlands. DARA is thinking of compensating Fleetlands by transferring the helicopter engine maintenance work there from St Athan. A huge amount of aviation skills is available in St Athan and in Sealand in north Wales. That is of enormous importance to DARA.

DARA was initially created as an executive agency of the Ministry of Defence, with a view to it becoming a trading fund on 1 April 2001. It will therefore be slightly more commercial or private sector orientated, although it will still be publicly owned. DARA will then need to get work from outside as well as inside the RAF, and it must look for the best way of doing that

dywedodd y Prif Weinidog, mae'r Fro wedi dod yn lleoliad sydd yn rhagori ar waith cynnal a chadw awyrennau. Mae angen hyrwyddo Sain Tathan, neu Faes Awyr Cymru Caerdydd o bosibl, fel y safle gorau ar gyfer cynnig DARA i adeiladu canolfan cynnal a chadw bwrpasol newydd. Rhaid mai'r amcan yn y dyfodol yw sicrhau y math hwnnw o ymrwymiad gan yr asiantaeth. Gobeithiaf y bydd y Prif Weinidog yn cynnal trafodaethau ynglŷn â hynny gyda DARA, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd pob plaid yn y Cynulliad yn ei gefnogi.

Dylem hefyd fynd ar drywydd y cwestiwn a yw'r penderfyniad i drosglwyddo'r gwaith cynnal a chadw peiriannau yn un cwbl derfynol neu a allwn geisio darbwyllo DARA i'w adolygu. Mae cynnal a chadw Sain Tathan yn bwysig iawn. Mae pobl ym Mro Morgannwg eisoes yn dechau gofyn a yw'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn yn ymrwymedig i ddyfodol tymor hir Sain Tathan. Efallai bod y rhain yn ofnau di-sail, ond gellir gweld sut y maent wedi codi.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae DARA yn bwysig iawn i Gymru, fel y mae Cymru yn bwysig i DARA. Mae'n bosibl fod cymaint â 70 y cant o'i gweithlu yn gweithio yng Nghymru. Mae hanner ei gweithlu yn gweithio yn Sain Tathan yn unig. Gwneir holl waith afioneg DARA yn RAF Sealand yn etholaeth Tom Middlehurst. Enillwyd 60 o swyddi yno yn ddiweddar ar ôl trosglwyddo gwaith afioneg o Fleetlands. Mae DARA yn ystyried gwneud iawn i Fleetlands drwy drosglwyddo gwaith cynnal a chadw peiriannau hofrenyddion o Sain Tathan. Mae nifer enfawr o sgiliau yn ymwneud ag awyrennau ar gael yn Sain Tathan ac yn Sealand yng ngogledd Cymru. Mae hynny o bwys mawr i DARA.

Sefydlwyd DARA yn wreiddiol fel un o asiantaethau gweithredol y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn, gyda'r bwriad y deuai yn gronfa fasnachu ar 1 Ebrill 2001. Felly bydd ychydig yn fwy masnachol neu wedi eu hanelu ychydig yn fwy at y sector preifat, er y bydd o dan berchenogaeth gyhoeddus o hyd. Yna bydd angen i DARA gael gwaith o'r tu allan i'r RAF yn ogystal â'r tu mewn

against the background that it is a tenant of the RAF, rather than an integral part of it. As a tenant, it is also looking at other options, including moving four or five miles up the road to Cardiff International Airport. If it stays at RAF St Athan, DARA—or the RAF, as its main customer—will face a major bill for refurbishing the hangars to give it the best possible future. Even if DARA moved to Cardiff International Airport, RAF St Athan would not close as an operational base, as it is a very important training base in conjunction with RAF Valley. One thousand employees at RAF St Athan are operational rather than maintenance staff as they jointly conduct the training programmes with RAF Valley.

Phil Williams: These possible job losses are within the Government's power. I have often stressed how badly Wales suffers from the uneven allocation of so-called non-identifiable Government spending on such things as research and the Ministry of Defence. Wales only receives 1.5 per cent of Ministry of Defence employment and procurement. Therefore, we already receive £600 million a year less than we would expect if the budget were distributed fairly. It now seems that a Government agency proposes to transfer 170 highly skilled jobs from Wales to Hampshire. That is ironic, as it would involve a serious loss of skills in the aircraft engine maintenance sector, which the Government and the First Minister has identified as a key sector in our future economy. We have world-class expertise in this sector. What steps can you take at this stage to ensure that we do not lose these jobs?

I was concerned to hear you say that DARA plans to have a brand new base. I believe that you can confirm that the proposal to transfer aircraft maintenance followed a rationalisation business case and that, in the near future, there will be a similar procedure concerning the hydraulic work in St Athan.

iddi, a rhaid iddi edrych am y ffordd orau o wneud hynny yn erbyn y cefndir ei fod yn denant i'r RAF, yn hytrach na rhan annatod ohoni. Fel tenant, mae hefyd yn ystyried opsiynau eraill, gan gynnwys symud pedair neu bum milltir i ffwrdd i Faes Awyr Rhyngwladol Caerdydd. Os bydd yn aros yn RAF Sain Tathan, bydd DARA—neu'r RAF fel ei phrif gwsmer—yn wynebu bil sylweddol am adnewyddu'r awyrendai i sicrhau'r dyfodol gorau posibl iddo'i hun. Hyd yn oed pe bai DARA yn symud i Faes Awyr Rhyngwladol Caerdydd, ni fyddai RAF Sain Tathan yn cau fel canolfan weithredol, gan ei bod yn ganolfan hyfforddi bwysig iawn mewn cydweithrediad â RAF Fali. Mae mil o gyflogeion RAF Sain Tathan yn staff gweithredol yn hytrach na staff cynnal a chadw gan eu bod yn trefnu rhaglenni hyfforddiant ar y cyd â RAF Fali.

Phil Williams: Mae'r colledion posibl hyn o ran swyddi o fewn pŵer y Llywodraeth. Yr wyf yn aml wedi pwysleisio pa mor wael y mae Cymru yn dioddef oherwydd y dyraniad anghyfartal o wariant y Llywodraeth na ellir ei nodi, fel y'i gelwir, ar bethau megis ymchwil a'r Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn. Ni chaiff Cymru ond 1.5 y cant o gyflogaeth a chaffael y Weinyddiaeth Amddiffyn. Felly, yr ydym eisoes yn cael £600 miliwn y flwyddyn yn llai na'r disgwyl pe bai'r gyllideb wedi ei dyrannu'n deg. Ymddengys bellach fod un o asiantaethau'r Llywodraeth yn cynnig trosglwyddo 170 o swyddi medrus iawn o Gymru i Hampshire. Mae hynny'n eironig, oherwydd byddai'n golygu colled ddifrifol o ran sgiliau yn y sector cynnal a chadw peiriannau awyrennau, a nodwyd gan y Llywodraeth a'r Prif Weinidog fel sector allweddol yn ein heconomi yn y dyfodol. Mae gennym arbenigedd o'r radd flaenaf yn y sector hwn. Pa gamau y gallwch eu cymryd ar hyn o bryd i sicrhau na chollwn y swyddi hyn?

Yr oeddwn yn pryderu wrth eich clywed yn dweud bod DARA yn bwriadu cael canolfan newydd sbon. Credaf ichi allu cadarnhau y daeth y cynnig i drosglwyddo gwaith cynnal a chadw awyrennau yn sgîl achos busnes i ad-drefnu ac y bydd gweithdrefn debyg, yn y dyfodol agos, yn glŷn â'r gwaith hydrolig yn

In light of the present proposal, there is concern at the possibility that this work may be transferred to Almondbank. If we lose the engine maintenance works and if there is a threat to the hydraulic works, what weight can be placed on your claim that there is a possibility that St Athan will remain the main centre for aircraft maintenance? What steps can you take to prevent the loss of the engine maintenance work, to ensure that there is no question of the hydraulic work being transferred and to put a strong case for the main base to be located in the Vale of Glamorgan?

3:30 p.m.

The First Minister: You gave a slightly biased picture. In answer to David Melding's question, I stated that we do not lose all such battles. We gained a battle at RAF Sealand, in terms of avionics work being transferred to Wales, although that is at the other end of the country and is not relevant to the Vale of Glamorgan as a labour market. However, you seem to assume that we lose every such battle. We won the first battle, but it looks as though we may be losing the second.

I have approached John Spellar MP, the Under Secretary of State for Defence, and have discussed this matter with him. I have lobbied him with my silky Welsh advocacy skills to persuade him that it is not a good idea to move the work involved in helicopter engine maintenance to a low unemployment area like Fleetlands in Gosport.

Phil's points about the hydraulics arm and bank are a little more speculative but that proposal might be made because, in establishing DARA and merging the fleet air arm back-up and maintenance work with the RAF's maintenance work and in bringing together former Royal Navy and former RAF maintenance facilities, there is, inevitably, duplication. DARA has been told to remove any duplication. We will win some of these battles and lose others.

The overall answer to Phil's question is that I

Sain Tathan. Yng ngoleuni'r cynnig presennol, mae pryder ynglŷn â'r posibilrwydd y caiff y gwaith hwn ei drosglwyddo i Almondbank. Os collwn y gwaith cynnal a chadw peiriannau ac os yw'r gwaith hydrologig dan fygythiad, pa mor ddilys yw eich honiad bod posibilrwydd y bydd Sain Tathan yn parhau fel y brif ganolfan ar gyfer gwaith cynnal a chadw awyrennau? Pa gamau y gallwch eu cymryd i atal y gwaith cynnal a chadw peiriannau rhag cael ei golli, i sicrhau na chaiff y gwaith hydrologig ei drosglwyddo o gwbl a rhoi dadl gref dros leoli'r brif ganolfan ym Mro Morgannwg?

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Rhoddasoch ddarlun braidd yn unlllygeidiog. I ateb cwestiwn David Melding, dywedais nad ydym yn colli pob brwydr o'r fath. Enillasom frwydr yn RAF Sealand o ran y gwaith afioneg a drosglwyddir i Gymru, er bod hynny ym mhen arall y wlad ac nad yw'n berthnasol i Fro Morgannwg fel marchnad lafur. Fodd bynnag, ymddengys ichi dybio ein bod yn colli pob brwydr o'r fath. Enillasom y frwydr gyntaf ond ymddengys ein bod yn colli'r ail frwydr o bosibl.

Yr wyf wedi cysylltu â John Spellar AS, yr Is-Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Amddiffyn, ac wedi trafod y mater hwn gydag ef. Yr wyf wedi ei lobio drwy ddefnyddio fy sgiliau eirioli cywrain Cymreig i'w ddarbwylllo nad yw'n syniad da i symud y gwaith sydd yn ymwneud â chynnal a chadw peiriannau hofrennydd i ardal o ddiweithdra isel fel Fleetlands yn Gosport.

Mae pwyntiau Phil ynglŷn â'r gangen a'r banc hydrologig braidd yn ddamcaniaethol ond gallai'r cynnig hwnnw gael ei wneud oherwydd bod dyblygu, wrth reswm, ar ôl sefydlu DARA ac uno gwaith cynnal a chadw cangen yr awyrlu â gwaith cynnal a chadw'r RAF a chyfuno hen gyfleusterau cynnal a chadw'r Llynges Frenhinol a'r RAF. Dywedwyd wrth DARA am gael gwared ar unrhyw ddyblygu. Byddwn yn ennill rhai o'r brwydrau hyn ac yn colli rhai eraill.

Yr ateb cyffredinol i gwestiwn Phil yw fy

am as confident as anybody can be in an uncertain world that the main guts of the DARA aircraft and airframe maintenance work will continue in the Vale of Glamorgan. That will be done by refurbishing and modernising the hangar facilities at St Athan or by a short-distance move to another location in the Vale of Glamorgan, such as Cardiff International Airport.

Tom Middlehurst: You referred briefly to RAF Sealand in your opening remarks. Can you assure me that there are no proposals from DARA that might impact on RAF Sealand, which, as you said, is a centre for avionics? You said that Wales has an important cluster of repair and maintenance facilities, and that is a strength that this country offers. We have high levels of expertise, and the defence industry and the private sector would think twice about transferring those skills, or attempting to transfer them, elsewhere. Can you give us an assurance that you will do all that you can to retain those jobs in Wales? My primary purpose in rising to speak is to seek assurances on the future of RAF Sealand and the people whom I represent there.

The First Minister: RAF Sealand has already had a positive impact by the transfer of the avionics former naval air arm and helicopter jobs from Fleetlands. I believe that the future of Sealand is as safe as any facility of this kind can be. However, your point about Wales as a centre of aerospace expertise is interesting and extremely important. My understanding is that what was previously known as the South Wales Aerospace Group—that is, the group of employers such as General Electric, the British Airways maintenance base at Cardiff International Airport, Nordam in Blackwood and DARA—is to be expanded to be a Wales aerospace group, to include BAE Systems in Broughton, DARA in Sealand and other firms in north Wales that provide manufacturing or servicing for the aircraft industry. I believe that the Wales aerospace group, as a group of employers interested in facilitating training for excellence for entry into the industry at craft apprenticeship level

mod mor hyderus ag y gall dyn fod mewn byd ansicr y bydd prif ran gwaith cynnal a chadw awyrennau a chyrrff awyrennau DARA yn parhau ym Mro Morgannwg. Gwneir hynny drwy adnewyddu a moderneiddio cyfleusterau'r awyrdai yn Sain Tathan neu drwy symud ychydig bellter i leoliad arall ym Mro Morgannwg, fel Maes Awyr Rhyngwladol Caerdydd.

Tom Middlehurst: Cyfeiriasoch yn fyr at RAF Sealand yn eich sylwadau agoriadol. A allwch fy sicrhau nad oes gan DARA unrhyw gynigion a allai effeithio ar RAF Sealand, sydd, fel y dywedasoch, yn ganolfan afioneg? Dywedasoch fod gan Gymru glwstwr pwysig o gyfleusterau trwsio a chynnal a chadw, a bod hynny yn gryfder a gynigir gan y wlad hon. Mae gennym lefel uchel o arbenigedd, a byddai'r diwydiant amddiffyn a'r sector preifat yn ystyried yn ddwys cyn trosglwyddo'r sgiliau hynny, neu geisio eu trosglwyddo i rywle arall. A allwch roi sicrwydd inni y gwnewch eich gorau glas i sicrhau bod y swyddi hynny yn aros yng Nghymru? Fy mhrif ddiben wrth godi i siarad yw ceisio sicrwydd ynglŷn â dyfodol RAF Sealand a'r bobl yr wyf yn eu cynrychioli yno.

Prif Weinidog Cymru: Mae RAF Sealand eisoes wedi cael effaith gadarnhaol yn sgîl trosglwyddo swyddi afioneg a hofrenyddion cyn-gangen awyrlu'r llynges o Fleetlands. Credaf fod dyfodol Sealand mor ddiogel ag y gall unrhyw gyfleuster o'i fath fod. Fodd bynnag, mae'ch pwynt ynglŷn â Chymru, fel canolfan arbenigedd awyrofod yn ddiddorol ac yn hynod bwysig. Deallaf fod y grŵp a elwid gynt yn Grŵp Awyrofod De Cymru—hynny yw, grŵp o gyflogwyr fel General Electric, canolfan cynnal a chadw British Airways ym Maes Awyr Caerdydd, Nordam yn y Coed Duon a DARA—yn cael ei ehangu'n grŵp awyrofod Cymru, er mwyn cynnwys BAE Systems ym Mrychdyn, DARA yn Sealand a chwmnïau eraill yng ngogledd Cymru sydd yn gweithgynhyrchu ar gyfer y diwydiant awyrennau neu'n ei wasanaethu. Credaf y bydd grŵp awyrofod Cymru, fel grŵp o gyflogwyr sydd â diddordeb mewn hyrwyddo hyfforddiant er rhagoriaeth i fynd i mewn i'r diwydiant ar

or above, will be one of the most powerful bodies promoting top quality employment in Wales. It will help to promote the aerospace industry as one of the areas of expertise where Wales has a global-level technological capability.

lefel prentisiaeth grefft neu'n uwch, yn un o'r cyrff mwyaf pwerus a fydd yn hyrwyddo cyflogaeth o safon uchel yng Nghymru. Bydd yn helpu i hyrwyddo'r diwydiant awyrfod fel un o'r meysydd o arbenigedd lle mae gan Gymru allu technolegol o safon byd-eang.

Pwyntiau o Drefn Points of Order

The Presiding Officer: Before I call the Minister for Assembly Business to give the business statement, I have notification of a point of order from Jocelyn Davies, in which that Minister might have an interest.

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw ar y Trefnydd i roi'r datganiad busnes, fe'm hysbyswyd o bwynt o drefn gan Jocelyn Davies, y bydd y Gweinidog â diddordeb ynddo o bosibl.

Jocelyn Davies: Point of order. I raise this under Standing Order No. 18, in relation to a statement made by the Minister for Economic Development last Thursday. In referring to one of our amendments, he said that amendment 6 duplicated the commitment in the partnership agreement and was, therefore, redundant because those matters have already been agreed and will be implemented by this Government. The claim that partnership agreement commitments are Assembly policy, without need for debate or resolution from Assembly Members is outrageous. Will you give a ruling on the status of the partnership document in relation to Assembly, rather than coalition Government policy, and give us clarification on the role of Plenary meetings in Assembly policy, or are Assembly Members' views also redundant?

Jocelyn Davies: Pwynt o drefn. Codaf hwn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 18, mewn perthynas â datganiad a wnaeth y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd ddydd Iau diwethaf. Wrth gyfeirio at un o'n gwelliannau, dywedodd fod gwelliant 6 yn dyblygu'r ymrwymiad yn y cytundeb partneriaeth ac, felly, nad oedd ei angen am y cytunwyd ar y materion hynny eisoes ac y bydd y Llywodraeth hon yn eu gweithredu. Mae'r honiad bod ymrwymadau'r cytundeb partneriaeth yn bolisi'r Cynulliad, heb angen i Aelodau'r Cynulliad eu trafod a'u pasio yn warthus. A roddwch ddyfarniad ar statws y ddogfen bartneriaeth mewn perthynas â'r Cynulliad, yn hytrach na pholisi'r Llywodraeth glymblaid, gan roi eglurhad inni ynglŷn â rôl y Cyfarfodydd Llawn o ran polisiau'r Cynulliad, neu a yw barn Aelodau'r Cynulliad hefyd yn ddiangen?

The Presiding Officer: Assembly Members' views are never redundant. Plenary sessions are the main focus for our work. Therefore, at all times, I seek to ensure that the Assembly can debate every issue that falls within its competence in a timely manner, and I will continue to do so. I understand that this matter was discussed this morning in the Business Committee and that there may be an indication of a time to debate this issue later.

Y Llywydd: Nid yw barn Aelodau'r Cynulliad byth yn ddiangen. Y cyfarfodydd llawn yw prif ganolbwynt ein gwaith. Felly, ceisiaf bob amser sicrhau bod y Cynulliad yn gallu trafod pob mater a ddaw o fewn ei allu a hynny'n amserol, a byddaf yn parhau i wneud hyn. Deallaf i'r mater hwn gael ei drafod y bore yma yn y Pwyllgor Busnes ac efallai y caiff amser ei bennu i drafod y mater hwn yn nes ymlaen.

Phil Williams: Further to that point of order, my concern, although it is on the same point, falls under Standing Order No. 7.8. I worded an amendment carefully to be consistent with the clause in the partnership agreement,

Phil Williams: Ymhellach i'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn, mae fy mhryder i, er yn ymwneud â'r un pwynt, yn dod o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 7.8. Lluniais welliant yn ofalus er mwyn bod yn gyson â'r cymal yn y cytundeb

because I was convinced that the unanimous support of all parties in the Assembly on a matter like this greatly strengthens the Government's hand in discussions with the Treasury. I was told that, because my amendment duplicated the partnership agreement and was already being implemented, the Labour and Liberal Democrat Members would vote against it. I have had difficulty in trying to explain that procedure to bemused members of the public, and I raise this point of order because I maintain that that did nothing to enhance the Assembly's credibility or status as a corporate body.

The Presiding Officer: How Members vote and how the partnership Government votes is not a matter for me. What Members say in relation to amendments is not a matter for me either, provided that their comments are in order. The matter for me is the Assembly's ability at all times to debate amendments and to ensure that, when amendments are adopted, they are understood to be the Assembly's view and have that status and, therefore, have a result.

Alun Pugh: I raise a point of order under Standing Order No. 4.6. It is regarding Alun Cairns's contribution on the statement by the Minister for Economic Development. I agree with much of what Mr Cairns said, and I do not have a problem with the content. I also agree that he declared an interest under Standing Order No. 4.5. However, is it acceptable under Standing Order No. 4.6 to praise an organisation in Plenary, from which you receive a financial benefit? I believe that that is in breach of that Standing Order.

The Presiding Officer: I will review the Record of Proceedings, as I always do. My understanding is that Alun Cairns declared an interest and, therefore, anything that he said in pursuant of that was understood to relate to that interest. I believe that, having declared an interest, he was free to make a general comment about a development that affects his electorate.

partneriaeth, am fy mod yn argyhoeddedig bod cefnogaeth unfrydol gan bob plaid yn y Cynulliad i fater o'r fath yn help mawr i'r Llywodraeth mewn trafodaethau gyda'r Trysorlys. Dywedwyd wrthym y byddai'r Aelodau Llafur a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn pleidleisio yn erbyn fy ngwelliant am ei fod yn dyblygu'r cytundeb partneriaeth a'i fod eisoes yn cael ei weithredu. Cefais anhawster wrth geisio egluro'r weithdrefn honno i aelodau syn o'r cyhoedd, a chodaf y pwynt hwn o drefn am fy mod yn honni nad oedd hynny'n codi hygrededd na statws y Cynulliad fel corff corfforaethol mewn unrhyw fodd.

Y Llywydd: Nid yw'n fater imi sut mae'r Aelodau'n pleidleisio na sut y mae'r Llywodraeth bartneriaeth yn pleidleisio. Nid yw'n fater imi chwaith beth a ddywed Aelodau ynglŷn â gwelliannau, ar yr amod bod eu sylwadau mewn trefn. Yr hyn sydd o bwys imi yw gallu'r Cynulliad bob amser i drafod gwelliannau a sicrhau, pan fabwysiedir gwelliannau, y deallir eu bod yn adlewyrchu barn y Cynulliad a bod ganddynt y statws hwnnw ac felly, bod goblygiadau iddynt.

Alun Pugh: Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4.6. Mae'n ymwneud â chyfraniad Alun Cairns ar y datganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd. Cytunaf â'r rhan helaeth o'r hyn a ddywedodd Mr Cairns, ac nid wyf yn anfodlon ar y cynnwys. Cytunaf hefyd ei fod wedi datgan buddiant o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4.5. Fodd bynnag, a yw mewn trefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 4.6 i ganmol sefydliad mewn Cyfarfod Llawn, yr ydych yn cael budd ariannol oddi wrtho? Credaf fod hynny'n groes i'r Rheol Sefydlog honno.

Y Llywydd: Adolygaf Gofnod y Trafodion, fel y gwnaf bob amser. Deallaf i Alun Cairns ddatgan buddiant ac, felly, tybiwyd bod unrhyw beth a ddywedodd yn unol â hynny yn ymwneud â'r buddiant hwnnw. Credaf ei fod yn rhydd, ar ôl datgan buddiant, i wneud sylw cyffredinol ynglŷn â datblygiad sydd yn effeithio ar ei etholaeth.

As I am responding to points of order, I will make a final point and emphasise that today's points of order have been in order. That is, they have related to our Plenary debates and have not been an opportunity to raise issue that might be raised elsewhere—what would be referred to in Westminster as spurious points of order, which are not related to the business in hand. I welcome that because it is important that we conduct ourselves in an orderly manner. There will be an opportunity—

Val Feld *rose*—

The Presiding Officer: Do you wish to raise a new point of order? I hope that it is in order.

Val Feld: This is further to your response.

The Presiding Officer: I was not inviting further support.

Val Feld: I seek clarification on your response, because I am curious that you said that points of order are directly related to Standing Orders. Standing Order No. 18, to which Jocelyn referred, relates to the reports of proceedings. Does that, therefore, mean that you would consider it in order for Members to raise matters that have been reported in the Record, to question and query them, as a point of order under Standing Orders? That seems to be an extraordinarily broad interpretation of that Standing Order.

Phil's point related to unbecoming behaviour. Do you interpret the statements that the Minister for Economic Development made on the motion previously being discourteous and unbecoming? I am curious as to your interpretation of the Standing Orders, and I would like clarification for the future, so that I do not waste your time by raising points of order that are inappropriate. However, it would be helpful to us all, if we could raise such points of order under Standing Order No. 18.

3:40 p.m.

Gan fy mod yn ymateb i bwyntiau o drefn, gwnaf bwynt i gloi drwy bwysleisio bod y pwyntiau o drefn heddiw wedi bod mewn trefn. Hynny yw, yr oeddent yn ymwneud â dadleuon yn ein Cyfarfodydd Llawn ac nid yn gyfle i godi mater y gellid bod wedi ei godi rywle arall—y cyfeirir ato yn San Steffen fel pwyntiau annilys o drefn, nad ydynt yn ymwneud â'r gwaith o dan sylw. Croesawaf hynny am ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn ymddwyn yn briodol. Bydd cyfle—

Val Feld *a gododd*—

Y Llywydd: A hoffech godi pwynt newydd o drefn? Gobeithiaf ei fod mewn trefn.

Val Feld: Mae hyn ymhellach i'ch ymateb.

Y Llywydd: Nid oeddwn yn gofyn am gefnogaeth bellach.

Val Feld: Ceisiaf eglurhad ynglŷn â'ch ymateb, gan fy mod yn awyddus i wybod pam eich bod wedi dweud bod pwyntiau o drefn yn ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â'r Rheolau Sefydlog. Mae Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 18, y cyfeiriodd Jocelyn ati, yn ymwneud â chofnod y trafodion. A olyga hynny, felly, y byddai mewn trefn, yn eich barn chi, i'r Aelodau godi materion a gofnodwyd yn y Cofnod, i'w hamau, fel pwynt o drefn o dan y Rheolau Sefydlog? Ymddengys fod hwnnw'n ddehongliad hynod eang o'r Rheol Sefydlog honno.

Yr oedd pwynt Phil yn ymwneud ag ymddygiad amhriodol. A ydych yn dehongli bod y datganiadau blaenorol a wnaeth y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd ar y cynnig yn anghwrtais ac amhriodol? Yr wyf yn awyddus i ddeall eich dehongliad o'r Rheolau Sefydlog, a hoffwn gael eglurhad ar gyfer y dyfodol, fel na fyddaf yn gwastraffu'ch amser drwy godi pwyntiau o drefn sydd yn amhriodol. Fodd bynnag, byddai'n ddefnyddiol inni oll pe gallem godi'r cyfryw bwyntiau o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 18.

The Presiding Officer: Standing Order No. 18 refers to the Record of Proceedings and to quotations from the record. A request from Members to raise clarification of matters that are in the record is an appropriate point of order. Whether or not such a request is in order at all times is a matter on which I will have to rule at the time. It is clear that any quotation from the Record, at any time, would not be regarded as *prima facie* in order. However, a quotation that relates to a particular issue that a Member seeks to clarify is a point of order.

On Standing Order No. 7.8 on the maintenance of order, I assume that Phil Williams was not referring to discourteous or unbecoming conduct, but to Standing Order No. 7.82 that relates to the production of Assembly business. That point of order is a broad one, relating to the progress of business. I assume that that is what he had in mind; if not, he did not specify otherwise.

I am anxious to avoid situations where matters, which are not points of order, are raised as, to use the Westminster term again, 'fraudulent points of order'. I would never use that term myself, but one loves to read it occasionally in *Erskine May*, and I have heard it being quoted in another place. However, I will not bother you any further with history.

Y Llywydd: Cyfeiria Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 18 at Gofnod y Trafodion a dyfyniadau o'r cofnod. Mae cais gan yr Aelodau am eglurhad o faterion sydd yn y cofnod yn bwynt priodol o drefn. Mae pa un a yw cais o'r fath bob amser mewn trefn yn fater y bydd yn rhaid imi ddyfarnu yn ei gylch ar y pryd. Mae'n amlwg na fyddai unrhyw ddyfyniad o'r Cofnod ar unrhyw adeg yn cael ei ystyried ar yr olwg gyntaf fel ei fod mewn trefn o reidrwydd. Fodd bynnag, mae dyfyniad sydd yn ymwneud â mater penodol y mae Aelod yn ceisio eglurhad yn ei gylch yn bwynt o drefn.

O ran Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.8 ar gynnal trefn, cymeraf nad oedd Phil Williams yn cyfeirio at ymddygiad anghwrtais neu amhriodol, ond at Reol Sefydlog Rhif 7.82 sydd yn ymwneud â llunio busnes y Cynulliad. Mae'r pwynt hwnnw o drefn yn un eang, yn ymwneud â threfniadau busnes. Cymeraf mai hynny oedd ganddo mewn golwg; os nad oedd, ni nododd fel arall

Yr wyf yn awyddus i osgoi sefyllfaoedd lle y caiff materion, nad ydynt yn bwyntiau o drefn, eu codi, gan ddefnyddio term San Steffan eto, fel 'fraudulent points of order'. Ni fyddwn byth yn defnyddio'r term hwnnw fy hunan, ond gellir mwynhau ei ddarllen o bryd i'w gilydd yn *Erskine May*, ac fe'i clywais yn cael ei ddyfynnu mewn lle arall. Fodd bynnag, ni wnaif eich poeni ymhellach gyda hanes.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Minister for Assembly Business (Andrew Davies): Business for Tuesday, 21 November will include a motion to approve the Teachers (Compulsory Registration) (Wales) Regulations 2000 and a debate on the report of the Standards Committee. On Thursday, 23 November, there will be motions to approve three items of subordinate legislation, a motion to approve changes to Standing Order No. 6.32 and a debate on the upgrade of school buildings. Business on Tuesday, 28 November and Thursday, 30 November is as I reported last

Y Trefnydd (Andrew Davies): Bydd y busnes ar gyfer Dydd Mawrth, 21 Tachwedd yn cynnwys cynnig i gymeradwyo Rheoliadau Athrawon (Cofrestru Gorfodol) (Cymru) 2000 a dadl ar adroddiad y Pwyllgor Safonau. Ddydd Iau, 23 Tachwedd, bydd cynigion i gymeradwyo tair eitem o is-ddeddfwriaeth, cynnig i gymeradwyo newidiadau yn Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 6.32 a dadl ar uwchraddio adeiladau ysgolion. Bydd y busnes ddydd Mawrth, 28 Tachwedd a dydd Iau, 30 Tachwedd fel y nodais yr wythnos diwethaf, heblaw am un eitem

week, but with one additional item of business on 30 November, which will include the first question time for the new House Committee. On Tuesday, 5 December, there will be motions to approve two items of subordinate legislation, a debate on the Assembly's public/private partnership, the private finance initiative policy and a minority party debate proposed by Plaid Cymru. On Thursday, 7 December, business will include a motion to adopt the Assembly's draft budget, which will be led by my colleague Edwina Hart.

I point out that the timings of the business on a statement are indicative only and, as was discussed in the Business Committee this morning, the timings of the regulations and subordinate legislation will be reduced accordingly.

Finally, on the advice of the Business Committee this morning, the Deputy Presiding Officer determined, in accordance with Standing Order No. 22.5 that the following items of subordinate legislation need not be referred to a subject committee: the Individual Learning Accounts (Wales) Regulations 2000, the Non-Domestic Rates (Telecommunications Apparatus) (Wales) Regulations 2000 and the Non-Domestic Ratings Contributions (Wales) (Amendments) 2000. Arrangements will be made to post a copy of this statement to the intranet and internet later today.

The Presiding Officer: As there are no objections to or comments on the business statement, I point out to Members that they have missed an opportunity to legitimately raise issues.

Dogfennau Rhaglennu Sengl ar gyfer LEADER, INTERREG (rhaglen Cymru – Iwerddon) a Mentrau Cymunedol URBAN

The Single Programming Documents for LEADER, INTERREG (Wales – Ireland programme) and URBAN Community Initiatives

The Presiding Officer: I have selected amendments 1,2 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

Michael German: I propose that

ychwanegol o fusnes ar 30 Tachwedd, a fydd yn cynnwys y sesiwn holi gyntaf ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Tŷ newydd. Ddydd Mawrth 5 Rhagfyr, bydd cynigion i gymeradwyo dwy eitem o is-ddeddfwriaeth, dadl ar bartneriaeth gyhoeddus/breifaf y Cynulliad, y polisi ynglŷn â mentrau cyllid preifat a dadl plaid leiafrifol a gynigiwyd gan Blaid Cymru. Ddydd Iau, 7 Rhagfyr, bydd y busnes yn cynnwys cynnig i fabwysiadu cyllideb ddrafft y Cynulliad, a arweinir gan fy nghyd-Aelod Edwina Hart.

Hoffwn nodi bod amseriadau'r busnes mewn datganiad yn rhai bras yn unig ac, fel y trafodwyd yn y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma, caiff amseriadau'r rheoliadau a'r is-ddeddfwriaeth eu lleihau yn unol â hynny.

I gloi, ar gyngor y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma, penderfynodd y Dirprwy Lywydd, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 22.5 nad oes angen cyfeirio'r eitemau canlynol o is-ddeddfwriaeth at bwyllgor pwnc: Rheoliadau Cyfrifon Dysgu Unigolion (Cymru) 2000, Rheoliadau Treth Annomestig (Cyfarpar Telathrebu) (Cymru) 2000 a Chyfraniadau Treth Annomestig (Cymru) (Gwelliant) 2000. Trefnir i gopi o'r datganiad hwn gael ei roi ar y fewnrwyd a'r rhyngwyd yn nes ymlaen heddiw.

Y Llywydd: Gan nad oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes na sylwadau arno, hoffwn nodi i'r Aelodau eu bod wedi colli cyfle i godi materion yn ddilys.

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf wedi dewis gwelliannau 1, 2 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Michael German: Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly

i. Takes note of the draft single programming documents for the LEADER+, INTERREG (Wales-Ireland programme) and URBAN community initiatives, laid in the Table Office on 7 November 2000; and

ii. authorises the Minister for Economic Development to submit them to the European Commission later this month in accordance with the prescribed timetable, with such additions or amendments as are necessary to meet the Commission's requirements.

This is good news for Wales, given that we have had the massive Objective 1 programme and 75 per cent coverage of the population under Objectives 1 and 2, it would be easy to forget about these community initiatives, but they represent an additional bonus for the economic development of Wales.

The draft single programming documents before you are the result of considerable effort by various partnership groups over many months in co-operation with Assembly Officials and, in the case of INTERREG, with colleagues in Ireland.

Ex-ante evaluations being prepared by consultants will accompany the programmes when they are submitted to the European Commission and copies will be made available in the Assembly Library.

I place on record my thanks and appreciation to the many organisations that make up the partnership, which put in a great deal of time and effort in drawing up the documents. Co-operation has been the key word in formulating these drafts. If the Assembly is content that the documents can go forward, we will initiate a negotiating process with the Commission in which the partnerships will continue to be involved.

I will now discuss each of the programmes in turn. On the Wales-Ireland INTERREG programme, the purpose of strand A of INTERREG III, under which the Wales-

y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol

i. yn nodi'r dogfennau rhaglennu sengl drafft ar gyfer LEADER+, INTERREG (rhaglen Cymru-Iwerddon) a mentrau cymunedol URBAN, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 7 Tachwedd 2000; a

ii. yn awdurdodi'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd i'w cyflwyno i'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn yn unol â'r amserlen benodedig, gan gynnwys unrhyw ychwanegiadau neu welliannau ag sydd yn angenrheidiol i fodloni gofynion y Comisiwn.

Mae hyn y newyddion da i Gymru, gan ystyried y cawsom y rhaglen Amcan 1 enfawr ac y cynhwyswyd 75 y cant o'r boblogaeth o dan Amcanion 1 a 2, byddai'n hawdd anghofio am y mentrau cymunedol hyn, ond cynrychiolant fonws ychwanegol ar gyfer datblygiad economaidd Cymru.

Mae'r dogfennau rhaglennu sengl drafft sydd ger eich bron yn ganlyniad ymdrech sylweddol gan amrywiol grwpiau partneriaeth dros nifer o fisoedd mewn cydweithrediad â swyddogion y Cynulliad, ac â chydweithwyr yn Iwerddon, yn achos INTERREG.

Bydd gwerthusiadau ex-ante a baratoir gan ymgynghorwyr yn cyd-fynd â'r rhaglenni pan y'u cyflwynir i'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd a bydd copïau ar gael yn Llyfrgell y Cynulliad.

Cofnodaf fy niolchiadau i'r sefydliadau lawer sydd yn rhan o'r bartneriaeth, sydd yn ymroi lawer iawn o amser ac ymdrech i lunio'r dogfennau, a'm gwerthfawrogiad ohonynt. Bu cydweithredu yn air allweddol wrth lunio'r dogfennau drafft hyn. Os bydd y Cynulliad yn fodlon y gall y dogfennau fynd yn eu blaen, dechreuwn broses negodi gyda'r Comisiwn y parha'r partneriaethau i gymryd rhan ynddi.

Trafodaf yn awr bob rhaglen yn ei thro. Ynglŷn â rhaglen INTERREG Cymru-Iwerddon, diben llinyn A INTERREG III, y paratowyd y rhaglen Cymru-Iwerddon oddi

Ireland programme has been prepared, is to facilitate cross-border co-operation between neighbouring authorities with the intention of developing cross-border economic and social centres through joint strategies for sustainable territorial development.

The SPD has been jointly prepared by Assembly and Irish Government officials, who were assisted by a partnership drafting group. It derives from analyses of the socio-economic baselines of Wales and Ireland, the environmental profile of the area, the evaluation of the INTERREG II programme and a mutual desire to broaden, strengthen and deepen the relationships that the programme created. There is a desire to establish truly common projects, which are jointly developed and managed and which will have a significant impact on the communities in the programme area. There are two headline priorities: to encourage the economic, social and technological development of the cross-border area and to achieve sustainable growth by enhancing the overall quality of the cross-border area.

The programme recognises the limited funds available and the impact that a cross-border programme can have in limited time, yet seeks to make a positive contribution to the needs of the area. It was endorsed wholeheartedly by the Economic Development Committee on 18 October. The indicative global budget is 47.6 million euros—29.8 million euros from Wales and 17.8 million euros from Ireland. The maximum intervention rate is 75 per cent in Wales and 50 per cent in Ireland. That is an excellent budget, more than twice the previous programme period. Last time, resources were split 10:1 in Ireland's favour, this time it is almost 2:1 in Wales's favour. That is a real victory and is particularly good news for north-west and south-west Wales. We aim to make the best possible use of these resources and to focus on key activities rather than trying to spread a sum too thinly.

The purpose of the LEADER+ programme,

tano, yw hyrwyddo cydweithredu trawsffiniol rhwng awdurdodau cyfagos gyda'r bwriad o ddatblygu canolfannau economaidd a chymdeithasol trawsffiniol drwy strategaethau ar y cyd ar gyfer datblygiad tiriogaethol cynaliadwy.

Paratowyd y ddogfen raglennu sengl ar y cyd gan swyddogion y Cynulliad a swyddogion Llywodraeth Iwerddon, a gynorthwywyd gan grŵp drafftio partneriaeth. Mae'n deillio o ddadansoddiadau o waelodlinau economaidd-gymdeithasol Cymru ac Iwerddon, proffil amgylcheddol yr ardal, gwerthusiad o raglen INTERREG II a dymuniad ar y ddwy ochr i ehangu, cryfhau a datblygu'r perthnasau a grëwyd gan y rhaglen. Dymunir sefydlu prosiectau hollol gyffredin, a ddatblygir ac a reolir ar y cyd ac a gaiff effaith sylweddol ar y cymunedau yn ardal y rhaglen. Ceir dwy brif flaenoriaeth: annog datblygiad economaidd, cymdeithasol a thechnolegol yr ardal drawsffiniol a chyflawni twf cynaliadwy drwy wella ansawdd cyffredinol yr ardal drawsffiniol.

Cydnabydda'r rhaglen yr arian cyfyngedig sydd ar gael a'r effaith y gall rhaglen drawsffiniol ei chael mewn cyfnod cyfyngedig, ac eto ceisia wneud cyfraniad cadarnhaol tuag at anghenion yr ardal. Fe'i cymeradwywyd yn galonnog gan y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd ar 18 Hydref. Mae'r gyllideb fyd-eang ddangosol yn 47.6 miliwn ewro—29.8 miliwn ewro o Gymru a 17.8 miliwn ewro o Iwerddon. Mae'r gyfradd ymyrraeth fwyaf yn 75 y cant yng Nghymru a 50 y cant yn Iwerddon. Mae honno'n gyllideb ardderchog, yn fwy na dwywaith cymaint â chyfnod y rhaglen flaenorol. Y tro diwethaf, rhannwyd yr adnoddau 10:1 o blaid Iwerddon, y tro hwn fe'u rhannwyd bron 2:1 o blaid Cymru. Mae hynny'n fuddugoliaeth wirioneddol ac mae'n newyddion da i ogledd-orllewin Cymru a de-orllewin Cymru yn arbennig. Ein bwriad yw gwneud y defnydd gorau posibl o'r adnoddau hyn a chanolbwyntio ar weithgareddau allweddol yn hytrach na cheisio dosbarthu'r arian yn rhy denau.

Diben y rhaglen LEADER+, fel ei

like its predecessors, is to pilot innovative approaches to rural development. The SPD was prepared by the Assembly, assisted by a partnership group consisting of key players from the public, private and voluntary sectors. Wales has benefited from LEADER programmes in the past—LEADER I in 1991-93, and LEADER II in 1994-99. Most of rural Wales participated in LEADER II, with the exception of a few areas in north-east and south-east Wales, which were not eligible because they were outside the Objective 5b area.

All rural areas are eligible to participate in LEADER+, through groups that will be selected through a competitive process. However, the focus of this programme is quite different from LEADER I and II, because groups will be required to develop strategies based on a theme. This programme consists of two themes: groups must decide whether to focus on community development or business development. The funds available under LEADER+ are modest compared to the mainstream Objective 1, 2 and 3 programmes and the other community initiatives. Wales has been allocated 14.8 million euros for 2000-06. It is important to use this money wisely and not to fund activities that could be funded from other sources, such as Objectives 1, 2 and 3 or the rural development plan.

3:50 p.m.

The interesting point about the budget for Wales is that we have sustained a budget for LEADER, despite pressure from the newly-eligible rural areas in England. That is good news for rural Wales, where we have been able to sustain a budget that would otherwise have come under pressure for reduction because of demands from English rural areas.

The challenge for the partnerships now is to ensure added value and innovation, given the large amount of resources available in the mainstream programme, and the lessons learned under LEADER I and II.

rhagflaenwyr, yw cynnal peilot o ymagweddau arloesol tuag at ddatblygu gwledig. Paratowyd y ddogfen raglennu sengl gan y Cynulliad, gyda chymorth gan grŵp partneriaeth yn cynnwys chwaraewyr allweddol o'r sectorau cyhoeddus, preifat a gwirfoddol. Elwodd Cymru ar raglenni LEADER yn y gorffennol—LEADER I yn 1991-93, a LEADER II yn 1994-99. Cymerodd y rhan fwyaf o Gymru wledig ran yn LEADER II, ac eithrio rhai ardaloedd yng ngogledd-ddwyrain Cymru a de-ddwyrain Cymru, gan nad oeddent yn gymwys oherwydd y'u lleolwyd y tu allan i'r ardal Amcan 5b.

Mae pob ardal wledig yn gymwys i gymryd rhan yn LEADER+, er y caiff grwpiau eu dewis drwy broses gystadleuol. Fodd bynnag, mae pwyslais y rhaglen hon yn wahanol iawn i LEADER I a II, oherwydd y bydd angen i'r grwpiau ddatblygu strategaethau yn seiliedig ar thema. Mae dwy thema i'r rhaglen hon: rhaid i'r grwpiau benderfynu canolbwyntio ar ddatblygu cymunedol neu ddatblygu busnes. Mae'r arian sydd ar gael o dan LEADER+ yn gymharol fach o'i gymharu â rhaglenni'r prif ffrwd Amcan 1, 2 a 3 a mentrau cymunedol eraill. Dyrannwyd 14.8 miliwn ewro i Gymru ar gyfer 2000-06. Mae'n bwysig defnyddio'r arian hwn yn gall a pheidio ag ariannu gweithgareddau y gallai ffynonellau eraill eu hariannu, megis Amcan 1, 2 a 3 neu'r cynllun datblygu gwledig.

Y pwynt diddorol am y gyllideb i Gymru yw ein bod wedi cadw cyllideb ar gyfer LEADER, er gwaethaf y pwysau o'r ardaloedd gwledig yn Lloegr sydd newydd ddod yn gymwys. Mae hynny'n newyddion da i Gymru wledig, lle yr ydym wedi gallu cadw cyllideb y byddai pwysau wedi bod i'w gostwng fel arall oherwydd gofynion gan ardaloedd gwledig yn Lloegr.

Yr her bellach ar gyfer y partneriaethau yw sicrhau gwerth ychwanegol ac arloesedd, gan ystyried cymaint o adnoddau sydd ar gael yn y rhaglen prif ffrwd, a'r gwersi a ddysgwyd o dan LEADER I a II.

In the past, evaluations have shown that LEADER groups have spent a disproportionate amount of their time seeking match funding for projects, and this has reduced their effectiveness. It is proposed that the Assembly will provide most of the match funding for LEADER+. The sum of £1 million per year was included in the draft budget for each of the next three years; this is subject to approval of the final budget later this month.

It is envisaged that most of the LEADER+ programme will be administered through a global grant, and the Welsh Development Agency has agreed to act as the intermediary. This procedure is not new to Wales since the LEADER I programme was administered in this way, by the WDA and the Development Board for Rural Wales, between 1991 and 1993. This will provide for much more flexibility in the flow of funds to LEADER groups, and the WDA will be able to offer support and guidance to groups for their projects.

I will now turn to the URBAN programme. Following an open competition across Wales, Wrexham was chosen to run the new URBAN II programme. This will provide a golden opportunity to address the economic and social regeneration of the designated nine wards in Wrexham west. I appreciate the disappointment felt by the unsuccessful bidders for the programme but, given that we could have only one programme in Wales, tough choices had to be made and in the end the best bid won.

The programme document has been developed by the Wrexham partnership within a tight deadline. The partnership gave a presentation to the Local Government and Housing Committee on 1 November. The Committee welcomed the progress to date and emphasised the need to address the problems encountered in previous URBAN programmes.

The partnership was also grateful for the Committee's comments on developing a

Yn y gorffennol, dangosodd y gwerthusiadau y treuliodd grwpiau LEADER gyfanswm anghymesur o'u hamser yn chwilio am arian cyfatebol ar gyfer prosiectau, a lleihawyd eu heffeithiolrwydd o'i herwydd. Cynigir mai'r Cynulliad fydd yn darparu rhan fwyaf yr arian cyfatebol ar gyfer LEADER+. Cynhwyswyd £1 miliwn y flwyddyn yn y gyllideb ddrafft ar gyfer pob un o'r tair blynedd nesaf; mae hyn yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth y gyllideb derfynol yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn.

Rhagwelir y caiff rhan fwyaf y rhaglen LEADER+ ei gweinyddu drwy grant byd-eang, a chytunodd Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru i weithredu fel cyfryngwr. Nid yw'r weithdrefn hon yn newydd i Gymru gan y gweinyddwyd rhaglen LEADER I yn y modd hwn, gan y WDA a Bwrdd Datblygu Cymru Wledig, rhwng 1991 a 1993. Darpara hyn lawer mwy o hyblygrwydd wrth roi arian i grwpiau LEADER, a gall y WDA gynnig cymorth ac arweiniad i grwpiau ar gyfer eu prosiectau.

Trof yn awr at y rhaglen URBAN. Yn sgîl cystadleuaeth agored ledled Cymru, dewiswyd Wrecsam i redeg y rhaglen newydd URBAN II. Darpara hyn y cyfle euraidd i ymdrin â gwaith adfywio economaidd a chymdeithasol yn y naw ward benodedig yng ngorllewin Wrecsam. Gwerthfawrogaf y siom a deimlwyd gan y cynigwyr aflwyddiannus ar gyfer y rhaglen ond, gan ystyried mai dim ond un rhaglen y bu'n bosibl inni ei chael yng Nghymru, bu'n rhaid gwneud dewisiadau anodd ac yn y pen draw, enillodd y cynnig gorau.

Datblygwyd dogfen y rhaglen gan bartneriaeth Wrecsam o fewn terfynau amser tynn. Rhoddodd y bartneriaeth gyflwyniad i'r Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol a Thai ar 1 Tachwedd. Croesawodd y Pwyllgor y cynnydd a wnaethpwyd hyd yma a phwysleisiodd yr angen i ymdrin â'r problemau a wynebwyd mewn rhaglenni URBAN blaenorol.

Yr oedd y bartneriaeth yn ddiolchgar hefyd am sylwadau'r Pwyllgor ar ddatblygu

long-term strategy and ensuring the empowerment process and community-driven approach continued beyond the life of the programme.

A top priority at the front end of this programme is to complete the development of an effective partnership that involves local community organisations fully and provides a clear mechanism for its priorities to come to the fore. It is anticipated that clear and effective community structures will be in place by the time the programme begins in the middle of next year.

A key to the success of the programme will be the development of a strong local partnership, which needs to be as wide as possible and in which residents' groups have a major role to play.

Wrexham has a legacy of industrial decline associated with the disappearance of steel-making and mining from its economy. The resulting economic, social and environmental problems have led to the loss of community pride and networks. That is why we must create an entrepreneurial and participating community, with the empowerment of the residents to take forward their own future as a key feature.

As the programme document is developed further over the coming months, and subsequently implemented, I expect that a real and visible difference will be made to the west Wrexham area. This programme will be worth around 10 million euros from the European regional development fund, which, with match funding, brings the total value to around £12 million. In URBAN, in this allocation, we have almost twice the previous budget allocation, and this is good news for the people of north-east Wales.

This initiative is somewhat different from the others in that the emphasis is on a financially highly-concentrated programme, targeted within a small area, providing a series of integrated actions and covering as many facets of urban regeneration as possible.

strategaeth tymor hir a sicrhau y parheir y broses awdurdodi a'r ymagwedd a yrrir gan y gymuned y tu hwnt i fywyd y rhaglen.

Y brif flaenoriaeth ar ddechrau'r rhaglen hon yw gorffen datblygu partneriaeth effeithiol sydd yn cynnwys sefydliadau cymunedol lleol yn llawn ac sydd yn darparu mecanwaith clir fel y gall ei blaenoriaethau ddod i'r amlwg. Disgwylir y bydd strwythurau cymunedol clir ac effeithiol yn barod erbyn i'r rhaglen ddechrau yng nghanol y flwyddyn nesaf.

Un peth fydd yn allweddol i lwyddiant y rhaglen fydd datblygu partneriaeth leol gryf, y mae angen iddi fod mor eang â phosibl ac y bydd grwpiau trigolion yn chwarae rhan bwysig ynddi.

Mae gan Wrecsam etifeddiaeth o ddirywiad diwydiannol sydd yn gysylltiedig â diflaniad y diwydiannau dur a glo o'i heconomi. Arweiniodd y problemau economaidd, cymdeithasol ac amgylcheddol dilynol at gollir balchder a'r rhwydweithiau cymunedol. Dyna pam y rhaid inni greu cymuned entrepreneuriaidd a chyfrannog, lle mae galluogi'r trigolion i ddatblygu eu dyfodol eu hunain yn nodwedd allweddol.

Wrth i ddogfen y rhaglen gael ei datblygu dros y misoedd i ddod, ac wrth iddi gael ei gweithredu wedyn, disgwyliaf y gwneir gwahaniaeth wirioneddol a gwledadwy i ardal gorllewin Wrecsam. Bydd y rhaglen hon yn werth tua 10 miliwn ewro o'r gronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewropeaidd, sydd, gydag arian cyfatebol, yn dod â'r gwerth cyfan i tua £12 miliwn. Yn URBAN, yn y dyraniad hwn, cawn bron ddwywaith dyraniad y gyllideb flaenorol, ac mae hyn yn newyddion da i bobl gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru.

Mae'r fenter hon rywfaint yn wahanol i'r lleill gan fod y pwyslais ar raglen sydd wedi'i chanolbwyntio'n dynn yn ariannol, a dargedir o fewn ardal fach, gan ddarparu cyfres o weithrediadau a integreiddir a chan gwmpasu cymaint o agweddau ar adfywio trefol â phosibl.

I now turn to the amendments. On amendment 1, I am aware of Jocelyn's comments, but there is a difference with the assurance that I gave last time. The difference between what is in the partnership document and this amendment is that if it is needed, we—the Government of Wales—guarantee to press the Treasury to provide the additional funding, not that we seek in advance an assurance or guarantee that they will provide it. That is the difference between the two because, as you know, treasuries do not respond to that sort of pressure. However, you have our assurance that we need to guarantee—

Trof yn awr at y gwelliannau. Ynglŷn â gwelliant 1, yr wyf yn ymwybodol o sylwadau Jocelyn, ond mae gwahaniaeth yn y sicrwydd a roddais y tro diwethaf. Y gwahaniaeth rhwng yr hyn a geir yn y ddogfen bartneriaeth a'r gwelliant hwn yw, ein bod ni—Llywodraeth Cymru—yn gwarantu y pwyswn ar y Trysorlys i ddarparu arian ychwanegol os bydd ei angen, nid ein bod yn chwilio am sicrwydd neu warant ymlaen llaw y byddant yn ei ddarparu. Dyna'r gwahaniaeth rhwng y ddau oherwydd, fel y gwyddoch, nid ymateba trysorfeydd i bwysau o'r math hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, fe'ch sicrhawn fod angen inni warantu—

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Will Mike give way?

Ieuan Wyn Jones: A wnaiff Mike ildio?

Michael German: No, I will not because I only have 30 seconds.

Michael German: Na wnaf, gan mai dim ond 30 eiliad sydd gennyf.

Therefore, I ask the Assembly to reject that amendment. On Jocelyn Davies's amendment 2, I welcome the support for young people as a target group within the LEADER+ programme. I sympathise with the point that has been made regarding the loss of the link between LEADER and deprivation. However, it is clear from the European Commission's guidelines on LEADER+ that the selection of groups should be based on the quality of their bids and how innovative they are. It would be misleading to call on LEADER groups to target the most deprived communities in their areas since that may weaken their bids and may not be acceptable to the EC. Therefore, I cannot support the amendment although I will ask officials to pursue this issue with the EC during the negotiations that will follow. I sympathise with the point, but I cannot support it because it might weaken our application. I am pleased to support amendment 3 and hope that we will continue to have an excellent relationship with our Irish colleagues.

Felly, gofynnaf i'r Cynulliad wrthod y gwelliant hwnnw. Ynglŷn â gwelliant 2 Jocelyn Davies, croesawaf y gefnogaeth ar gyfer pobl ifanc fel grŵp targed o fewn rhaglen LEADER+. Cydymdeimlaf â'r pwynt a wnaethpwyd am golli'r cyswllt rhwng LEADER ac amddifadedd. Fodd bynnag, mae'n glir o ganllawiau'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ar LEADER+ y dylid dewis y grwpiau yn seiliedig ar ansawdd eu cynigion a pha mor ddyfeisgar ydynt. Byddai'n gamarweiniol galw ar grwpiau LEADER i dargedu'r cymunedau mwyaf amddifad yn eu hardaloedd gan ei bod yn bosibl y byddai hynny yn gwanhau eu cynigion ac na fyddai'n dderbyniol i'r CE. Felly, ni allaf gefnogi'r gwelliant er y gofynnaf i'r swyddogion fynd ar drywydd y mater hwn gyda'r CE yn ystod y negodiadau a fydd yn dilyn. Cydymdeimlaf â'r pwynt, ond ni allaf ei gefnogi oherwydd y gallai wanhau ein cais. Mae'n dda gennyf gefnogi gwelliant 3 a gobeithiaf y parhawn i gael perthynas ardderchog â'n cydweithwyr yn Iwerddon.

The Presiding Officer: I call Janet Ryder to propose the amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies.

Y Llywydd: Galwaf ar Janet Ryder i gynnig y gwelliannau yn enw Jocelyn Davies.

Janet Ryder: I propose amendment 1. Add

Janet Ryder: Cynigiaf welliant 1.

at the end of the motion as a new clause:

Ychwaneger ar ddiwedd y cynnig fel cymal newydd:

recognises that the extra funds allocated in the comprehensive spending review to cover European grants for the structural funds and the community initiatives assumes a gradual build-up of actual spending and urges the coalition Government of Wales to press the Treasury to ensure that if the spending on worthwhile projects increases more rapidly than assumed in the CSR the extra funds will be allocated.

yn cydnabod bod y cyllid ychwanegol a ddyrannwyd yn yr arolwg cynhwysfawr o wariant i ariannu grantiau Ewropeaidd ar gyfer y cronfeydd strwythurol a'r mentrau cymunedol yn cymryd yn ganiataol y bydd cynnydd graddol yn y gwariant gwirioneddol, ac yn annog Llywodraeth glymblaid Cymru i bwysu ar y Trysorlys i sicrhau y bydd y cyllid ychwanegol yn cael ei ddyrannu os bydd y gwariant ar brosiectau dilys yn cynyddu'n gynt nag a dybiwyd yn yr arolwg cynhwysfawr o wariant.

I propose amendment 2. Add at the end of the motion as new clauses:

Cynigiad welliant 2. Ychwaneger ar ddiwedd y cynnig fel cymalau newydd:

regrets the fact that the link between this initiative and meeting the needs of the most deprived areas has been lost and calls on the local LEADER groups to specifically target the most deprived communities within their area;

yn gresynu bod y cysylltiad rhwng y fenter hon a bodloni anghenion yr ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig wedi ei dorri ac yn galw ar y grwpiau LEADER lleol i dargedu'n benodol y cymunedau mwyaf difreintiedig o fewn eu hardaloedd;

emphasises the importance of targeting young people within the LEADER+ initiative to rectify the out-migration of this particular group from rural areas.

yn pwysleisio bod targedu pobl ifanc o fewn Menter LEADER+ yn bwysig er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r ffaith fod y grwp penodol hwn yn symud allan o ardaloedd gwledig.

I propose amendment 3. Add at the end of the motion as a new clause:

Cynigiad welliant 3. Ychwaneger ar ddiwedd y cynnig fel cymal newydd:

welcomes the INTERREG IIIA Wales-Ireland initiative as an important opportunity to establish further collaboration within the economic and cultural fields between the two areas.

yn croesawu menter Cymru-Iwerddon INTERREG IIIA fel cyfle pwysig i sefydlu cydweithrediad pellach rhwng y ddwy ardal mewn meysydd economaidd a diwylliannol.

I will speak on the URBAN initiative, Elin will speak on LEADER and Ieuan will speak on INTERREG.

Byddaf fi yn siarad am fenter URBAN, bydd Elin yn siarad am LEADER a bydd Ieuan yn siarad am INTERREG.

I welcome this initiative for the Wrexham area as it is the only area in Wales chosen for URBAN II, which is one of the four new community initiatives. I welcome the fact that, having missed out on Objective 2 and assisted area status, the problems of Wrexham are at last being acknowledged.

Croesawaf y fenter hon ar gyfer ardal Wrecsam gan mai dyma'r unig ardal yng Nghymru a ddewiswyd ar gyfer URBAN II, sydd yn un o'r pedair menter gymunedol newydd. Croesawaf y ffaith y caiff problemau Wrecsam eu cydnabod o'r diwedd, a hithau heb ennill statws Amcan 2 nac ardal a gynorthwyir.

European funding will be around £6 million and will come from the European regional development fund. As Wrexham is not in the Objective 1 region, the ERDF can only contribute up to 50 per cent of the total cost of the programme. That leaves about £6 million to be found from a number of match funding resources. Where will that money come from? No provision was made in the comprehensive spending review to provide any match funding for Wales to take full advantage of the European funds.

In Swansea, the only previous URBAN programme area in Wales, the primary source of match funding was Swansea City and County Council, which invested around £2.2 million of its own money in the programme. That strengthens the call that local government must have big increases in its budget for the next year, to cope with the need to find match funding for the whole of the European programme. Although it might normally be possible for Wrexham to fund this match funding, the effects of the flooding of the last few weeks on the area, and the impact of the repairs and the restoration of damage—albeit that we have heard that funding will be provided for this—will affect the county's budget and that must be borne in mind. I seek a specific assurance today from Assembly officials that this will be considered.

The URBAN II initiative is directed at economic and social regeneration of the designated area, to promote sustainable urban development. That will be done through an integrated programme consisting of many projects that complement each other. The key for Wrexham will be to develop an effective partnership of local players to ensure that the area benefits in full from this funding.

I welcome, as Mike has already mentioned, the work done by the URBAN consultative group in evaluating the only other experience of administering an URBAN project in Wales, together with other URBAN programmes elsewhere, to establish best practice. That approach should be

Bydd y cyllid Ewropeaidd tua £6 miliwn a daw o'r gronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewropeaidd. Gan nad yw Wrecsam yn ardal Amcan 1, dim ond hyd at 50 y cant o gost gyfan y rhaglen y gall y gronfa datblygu rhanbarthol Ewropeaidd ei gyfrannu. Gadawa hynny tua £6 miliwn i ddod o nifer o adnoddau arian cyfatebol. O ble daw'r arian hwnnw? Ni wnaethpwyd unrhyw ddarpariaeth yn yr adolygiad cynhwysfawr o wariant i ddarparu unrhyw arian cyfatebol fel y gall Cymru fanteisio'n llawn ar y cronfeydd Ewropeaidd.

Yn Abertawe, yr unig ardal rhaglen URBAN flaenorol yng Nghymru, prif ffynhonnell yr arian cyfatebol oedd Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe, a fuddsoddodd tua £2.2 miliwn o'i arian ei hun yn y rhaglen. Mae hynny'n cryfhau'r achos dros gynyddu sylweddol yng nghyllideb llywodraeth leol ar gyfer y flwyddyn nesaf, er mwyn ymdopi â'r angen i ddod o hyd i arian cyfatebol ar gyfer y rhaglen Ewropeaidd gyfan. Er y gallai fod yn bosibl fel arfer i Wrecsam ariannu'r arian cyfatebol hwn, mae effeithiau llifogydd yr wythnosau diwethaf ar yr ardal, ac effaith atgyweirio ac adfer yn sgîl y difrod—er y clywsom y caiff arian ei ddarparu ar gyfer hyn—yn effeithio ar gyllideb y sir ac rhaid ystyried hynny. Gofynnaf am sicrwydd penodol heddiw gan swyddogion y Cynulliad y caiff hyn ei ystyried.

Anelir menter URBAN II at adfer yr ardal benodedig yn economaidd ac yn gymdeithasol, er mwyn hyrwyddo datblygu trefol cynaliadwy. Gwneir hynny drwy raglen integredig sydd yn cynnwys llawer o brosiectau sydd yn ategu ei gilydd. Y peth allweddol i Wrecsam fydd datblygu partneriaeth allweddol o chwaraewyr lleol i sicrhau bod yr ardal yn elwa ar yr arian hwn yn llawn.

Fel y crybwyllwyd eisoes gan Mike, croesawaf y gwaith a wnaethpwyd gan grŵp ymgynghorol URBAN wrth werthuso'r unig brofiad arall o weinyddu prosiect URBAN yng Nghymru, ynghyd â rhaglenni URBAN eraill mewn mannau eraill, er mwyn sefydlu yr arfer gorau. Dylid cymeradwyo'r

commended. Innovation and exchange of experiences and good practice is one of the key features of the new URBAN programme.

The single programming document shows the lessons that can be learnt from the Swansea project, which experienced many early difficulties in implementing the programme. It is to be hoped that the Wrexham project will be more successful in ensuring that community members become directly involved in the process. Local ownership and empowering local people in their communities is central to any urban regeneration.

It is important to include all groups, such as people with a learning or physical disability and ethnic and minority groups, in the mainstream plans rather than treat them as an add-on to any aspect of the programme. Wrexham is putting these lessons into practice.

4:00 p.m.

It was made clear at the last North Wales Regional Committee meeting during a discussion on the Communities First programme, that it is easy for agencies and larger groups to speak on behalf of the community without being truly representative of that community. It is crucial that effective monitoring and evaluation systems are built into the programme from the start and that community voices are heard. The proposed management arrangements, with the creation of five committees and two sub-groups to focus in depth on the two main priorities of the programme, show a bottom-up approach to community regeneration. Plaid Cymru welcomes that and it is in line with one of the main thrusts in the European Union structural funds programme.

The programme must have synergy with all the other initiatives already underway in the Wrexham area. Wrexham County Borough Council and the Welsh Development Agency are preparing a strategy for the economic restructuring of the area. That covers 17 wards. Nine out of those are included in this

ymagwedd honno. Mae arloesedd a chyfnewid profiadau ac arfer da yn un o nodweddion allweddol y rhaglen URBAN newydd.

Dengys y ddogfen raglennu sengl y gwersi y gellir eu dysgu o brosiect Abertawe, a brofodd lawer o anawsterau cynnar wrth weithredu'r rhaglen. Y gobaith yw y bydd prosiect Wrecsam yn fwy llwyddiannus wrth sicrhau y cymer aelodau'r gymuned ran uniongyrchol yn y broses. Mae perchnogaeth leol a galluogi pobl leol yn eu cymunedau yn ganolog i unrhyw waith adfer cymunedol.

Mae'n bwysig cynnwys pob grŵp, megis pobl ag anabledd dysgu neu gorfforol a grwpiau ethnig a lleiafrifol, yn y cynlluniau prif ffrwd yn hytrach na'u trin fel ychwanegiad i unrhyw agwedd ar y rhaglen. Mae Wrecsam yn rhoi'r gwersi hyn ar waith.

Gwnaethpwyd yn glir yng nghyfarfod olaf Pwyllgor Rhanbarth y Gogledd yn ystod trafodaeth ar y rhaglen Cymunedau yn Gyntaf, ei bod yn hawdd i asiantaethau a grwpiau mwy siarad ar ran y gymuned heb gynrychioli'r gymuned honno yn llwyr. Mae'n hanfodol yr adeiladir systemau monitro a gwerthuso effeithiol yn y rhaglen o'r cychwyn ac y clywir lleisiau'r cymunedau. Dengys y trefniadau rheoli arfaethedig, gan greu pum pwyllgor a dau is-grŵp i ganolbwyntio'n drylwyr ar ddwy brif flaenoriaeth y rhaglen, ymagwedd o'r gwaelod i fyny tuag at waith adfer cymunedol. Croesawa Plaid Cymru hynny ac mae'n gyson ag un o'r prif fyrdwnau yn rhaglen cronfeydd strwythurol yr Undeb Ewropeaidd.

Rhaid i'r rhaglen ymglyfuno â phob menter arall sydd eisoes ar waith yn ardal Wrecsam. Mae cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn paratoui strategaeth ar gyfer ailstrwythuro'r ardal yn economaidd. Cwmpasa hynny 17 o wardiau. Caiff naw o'r rheini eu cynnwys yn y fenter

new URBAN II initiative. Wrexham also has an Objective 3 local action plan and numerous other local strategies. Linkages into wider strategies and complementing other strategies are key features of the new URBAN programme. It is also vital that the programme demonstrates added value and does not in any way replace any national or local funding already earmarked.

The programme must also combat social exclusion by tackling issues such as the narrow economic base of the area, the poor environment legacy containing a number of derelict sites, the low educational attainment and poor public transport. I welcome the many positive elements proposed in this initiative that will help to combat social exclusion and create a more equal society. I particularly welcome the development of a community resource fund to address local needs and to create employment. However, I call for guarantees that assistance will be targeted on the most deprived communities. I understand that there is scope in this programme to apply for loans from the European Investment Bank. I ask Assembly officials to consider this option and to assist the Wrexham area by maximising every opportunity to secure funds and make a success of this programme.

Val Feld: I want to talk briefly about the three programmes because although they are small in relation to our structural funds programmes, they are an enormously important part of the whole that we are building. They are an important part of the opportunities that we have to draw down European funding from a range of different sources. When we talk about the need to bring resources into Wales, we must draw down as much European funding as possible.

What is important about the new LEADER programme is that it builds on previous successful programmes and takes them a step further. What is particularly welcome—though, unfortunately, there is not one in my constituency—is the 33 individual rural wards outside of the area that we normally

URBAN II newydd hon. Mae cynllun gweithredu lleol Amcan 3 a nifer o strategaethau lleol newydd gan Wrecsam hefyd. Mae cysylltiadau â strategaethau ehangach a chyflenwi strategaethau newydd yn nodweddion allweddol y rhaglen URBAN newydd. Mae'n hanfodol hefyd y dengys y rhaglen werth ychwanegol ac na ddisodla o gwbl unrhyw arian cenedlaethol neu leol a glustnodwyd eisoes.

Rhaid i'r rhaglen wrthsefyll allgáu cymdeithasol hefyd drwy fynd i'r afael â materion megis sail economaidd gul yr ardal, yr etifeddiaeth amgylcheddol wael sydd yn cynnwys nifer o safleoedd adfeiliedig, y cyrhaeddiad addysgol isel a chludiant cyhoeddus gwael. Croesawaf yr elfennau cadarnhaol niferus a gynigir yn y fenter hon a fydd yn helpu i wrthsefyll allgáu cymdeithasol a chreu cymdeithas fwy cyfartal. Croesawaf yn arbennig ddatblygu cronfa adnoddau cymunedol i ymdrin ag anghenion lleol ac i greu cyflogaeth. Fodd bynnag, galwaf am sicrwydd y targedir y cymorth tuag at y cymunedau sydd o dan yr anfantais fwyaf. Deallaf fod lle yn y rhaglen hon i wneud cais am fenthyciadau o'r Banc Buddsoddi Ewropeaidd. Gofynnaf i'r Cynulliad ystyried yr opsiwn hwn a chynorthwyo ardal Wrecsam drwy wneud y defnydd gorau o bob cyfle i ddiogelu arian a gwneud llwyddiant o'r rhaglen hon.

Val Feld: Dymunaf siarad yn fyr am y tair rhaglen gan eu bod yn rhan bwysig iawn o'r cyfan a adeiladwn, er eu bod yn fach o'u cymharu â'n rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol. Maent yn rhan bwysig o'r cyfleoedd sydd gennym i ddenu arian Ewropeaidd o amrywiaeth o ffynonellau gwahanol. Pan siaradwn am yr angen i ddod ag adnoddau i Gymru, rhaid inni ddenu cymaint o arian Ewropeaidd â phosibl.

Yr hyn sydd yn bwysig am y rhaglen LEADER newydd yw ei bod yn adeiladu ar raglenni llwyddiannus blaenorol ac yn eu cymryd gam ymhellach. Yr hyn a groesawn yn benodol—er nad oes un yn fy etholaeth i, yn anffodus—yw'r 33 o wardiau gwledig unigol y tu allan i'r ardal a alwn yn Gymru

call rural Wales that are now included in that programme. That is a major step forward. We live in a country that has many pockets of rurality. To target those wards and enable resources to tackle those problems is important for people on the ground.

I hope that Assembly Members will look at the programme, identify those wards in their constituencies and work to ensure that those people, often in sparse communities, know how to access that money and build the necessary partnerships. I hear what is being said about deprivation, but we must remember that this is part of a series of programmes. The Objective 1 programme and the URBAN programme particularly target deprivation. The LEADER programme is about rurality and sparsity and tries to reach people who may not find it easy to reach the other programmes and need particular help to make a difference at a local level.

It is also good that the new LEADER+ programme is so focused on innovation and partnership and that it is very much about building transnational links. When we become, as we have been, preoccupied with our structural funds programme, it is also important that we engage in programmes that make us look outside Wales to other parts of Europe. That enables us to see the work that is going on, not only so that we learn from people in other countries, but that we share our experiences with them.

That is also the great strength of the INTERREG programme. Again, we are building on past experience. We have got to the second phase because our work with the Republic of Ireland was so successful. My only disappointment is that Swansea is not included in this strand, although I am promised that there will be a further strand. However, from an economic development point of view, the great importance of the INTERREG programme is the opportunity that it offers to start rebuilding, particularly since the Assembly has been established, our

wledig fel arfer a gaiff eu cynnwys bellach yn y rhaglen honno. Dyna gam mawr ymlaen. Yr ydym yn byw mewn gwlad sydd â chymaint o bocedi gwledig. Mae targedu'r wardiau hynny a galluogi adnoddau i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hynny yn bwysig i bobl ar lawr gwlad.

Gobeithio y bydd Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn edrych ar y rhaglen, yn nodi'r wardiau hynny sydd yn eu hetholaethau ac yn gweithio i sicrhau y gŵyr y bobl hynny, sydd mewn cymunedau gwasgaredig yn aml, sut i gael gafael ar yr arian hwnnw ac adeiladu'r partneriaethau sydd eu hangen. Clywaf yr hyn a ddywedir am amddifadedd, ond rhaid inni gofio mai rhan o gyfres o raglenni yw hyn. Mae rhaglen Amcan 1 a rhaglen URBAN yn targedu amddifadedd yn benodol. Mae rhaglen LEADER yn ymwneud â natur wledig a phoblogaeth wasgaredig ac yn ceisio cyrraedd y bobl na allent gyrraedd y rhaglenni eraill yn hawdd ac sydd angen help penodol i wneud gwahaniaeth ar lefel leol.

Mae'n dda hefyd bod y rhaglen LEADER+ newydd yn canolbwyntio cymaint ar arloesedd a phartneriaeth a'i bod yn ymwneud cymaint ag adeiladu cysylltiadau rhyngwladol. Pan ymgollwn yn ein rhaglen cronfeydd strwythurol, fel y gwnaethom, mae'n bwysig hefyd ein bod yn ymgymryd â rhaglenni sydd yn gwneud inni edrych y tu allan i Gymru i rannau eraill o Ewrop. Galluoga hynny inni weld y gwaith a wneir, nid yn unig er mwyn inni ddysgu gan bobl mewn gwledydd eraill, ond fel y rhannwn ein profiadau ni â hwy.

Dyna gryfder mawr rhaglen INTERREG hefyd. Eto, adeiladwn ar brofiad y gorffennol. Cyraeddasom yr ail gam oherwydd i'n gwaith gyda Gweriniaeth Iwerddon fod mor llwyddiannus. Yr unig beth a'm siomwyd yw nas cynhwysir Abertawe yn y llinyn hwn, ond addawyd i mi y bydd llinyn arall. Fodd bynnag, o safbwynt datblygu economaidd, pwysigrwydd mawr rhaglen INTERREG yw'r cyfle a gynigia, yn enwedig ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad, i ddechrau ailadeiladu ein hen gysylltiadau masnachol a diwylliannol Celtaidd, a allai gynnig

old Celtic trading and cultural links, which could offer great opportunities in the future.

On the URBAN project—and I noted Janet's comments about Swansea—I have been involved in developing the Swansea project, although it is now based in Andrew's constituency, and it has been a difficult process. I am pleased that Wrexham had the sense to learn from Swansea's experience. I am also pleased that we have learnt that, when you spend a large amount of concentrated resources in an area of high deprivation, you must build on existing local structures and leaders, and work closely with the local authority. Although I accept the arguments about trying to bring more money into Wales through match funding, what made the difference in Swansea and what enabled it, in the end, to turn the corner, was the local authority's commitment of expenditure to that programme. It is right that Wrexham should put money in. Although I note from an earlier contribution that it will be reimbursed for the money that it spent on the floods, and that additional resources will go into local authorities, which is an important principle. I know from my past experience that there are strong, active tenants' associations in Wrexham, which can pick this programme up and work with it. The local authority has a good record of working with its tenants, so there is every chance that it will be successful.

Finally, returning to the points made when we discussed Objective 2, it is enormously important that we pull all these programmes into the framework that sits within our national economic development strategy, so that we use our European resources effectively to drive forward the areas where we have particular problems. We have to invest over the long term and build partnerships to generate change in the Welsh economy. I know that Mike believes in the need for us to co-ordinate, monitor and use all these programmes—however small, they are tools that we can use—to tackle some of our long-standing problems. That is an important part of the jigsaw.

cyfleoedd mawr yn y dyfodol.

Ynglŷn â'r prosiect URBAN—a nodais sylwadau Janet am Abertawe—cymerais ran yn y gwaith o ddatblygu prosiect Abertawe, er ei fod bellach wedi'i leoli yn etholaeth Andrew, a bu'n broses anodd. Yr wyf yn falch y cafodd Wrecsam y synnwyr i ddysgu o brofiad Abertawe. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch y dysgasom fod rhaid adeiladu ar strwythurau ac arweinwyr lleol cyfredol a chydweithio'n agos â'r awdurdod lleol, pan werir swm mawr o adnoddau dwys mewn ardal o amddifadedd mawr. Er y derbyniaf y dadleuon ynglŷn â cheisio dod â mwy o arian i Gymru drwy arian cyfatebol, yr hyn a wnaeth y gwahaniaeth yn Abertawe a'r hyn a'i galluogodd i droi'r gornel, yn y pen draw fu ymrwymiad yr awdurdod lleol o ran gwariant ar y rhaglen honno. Mae'n briodol y dylai Wrecsam roi arian i mewn. Er y nodaf o gyfraniad cynharach y caiff ei ad-dalu am yr arian a wariodd ar y llifogydd, ac yr aiff adnoddau ychwanegol i'r awdurdodau lleol, mae honno'n egwyddor bwysig. Gwn o'm profiad blaenorol fod cymdeithasau tenantiaid cryf a gweithgar yn Wrecsam, a all ymgymryd â'r rhaglen hon a gweithio gyda hi. Mae enw da gan yr awdurdod lleol o weithio gyda'i denantiaid, felly mae pob cyfle y bydd yn llwyddiannus.

Yn olaf, gan ddychwelyd at y pwyntiau a wnaethpwyd pan drafodasom Amcan 2, mae'n bwysig dros ben ein bod yn tynnu pob un o'r rhaglenni hyn i mewn i'r fframwaith sydd yn gorwedd o fewn ein strategaeth datblygu economaidd cenedlaethol, er mwyn inni ddefnyddio ein hadnoddau Ewropeaidd yn effeithiol i ganolbwyntio ar yr ardaloedd lle wynebwn broblemau penodol. Rhaid inni fuddsoddi dros y tymor hir a datblygu partneriaethau i gynhyrchu newid yn economi Cymru. Gwn fod Mike yn credu bod angen inni gydlyn, monitro a defnyddio pob un o'r rhaglenni hyn—waeth pa mor fach ydynt, y maent yn arfau y gallwn eu defnyddio—er mwyn mynd i'r afael â rhai o'n problemau hirsefydlog. Mae hynny'n rhan bwysig o'r jig-so.

Alun Cairns: The Welsh Conservative Party will support today's motion. Although these programmes are small in funding terms, compared with the structural funds that we have debated, they are important to the people involved in them.

The LEADER+ programme, for example, is worth 14 million euros. That was equivalent to £8.4 million at my last count, before I came down to the Chamber. No doubt, by the time that I get back to my office and check the exchange rate, it will be even less. Nonetheless, it is extremely important to the communities that we are seeking to support.

There are obvious improvements in this programme, compared with the former LEADER scheme. For example, we welcome the fact that the only source of funding will be the European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund, unlike other programmes. That will simplify administration. That is to be welcomed.

We welcome any simplification in the process because the technical way in which all structural funds have been administered in the past has restricted interests. A report documented in the LEADER+ programme by a consultant, whose name escapes me, raised several questions about the Welsh European Programme Executive, which implemented the former programme.

I am concerned, as I have mentioned in previous debates, that the vast majority of the Welsh European Funding Office's staff is made up from the Welsh European Programme Executive. Cultural changes—as we know—take a long time to happen and there is not a great deal of time left for these structural schemes. WEFO has an enormous challenge. I raised concerns last week about its ability to deliver the objective of the programming document. That remains the case in relation to these schemes. Objective 1 has rightly dominated the agenda, but WEFO has still been criticised—it is fair to say from all quarters—on the application process and the lack of support in seeking to develop the

Alun Cairns: Cefnoga Plaid Geidwadol Cymru y cynnig heddiw. Er bod y rhaglenni hyn yn fach o ran cyllido, o'u cymharu â'r cronfeydd strwythurol a ddadleuasom, maent yn bwysig i'r bobl a gymer ran ynddynt.

Mae'r rhaglen LEADER+ yn werth 14 miliwn ewro, er enghraifft. Yr oedd hynny'n gyfwerth ag £8.4 miliwn y tro diwethaf y'i cyfrifwyd gennyf, cyn imi ddod i lawr i'r Siambr. Yn ddiamau, erbyn imi ddychwelyd i'm swyddfa a gwirio'r gyfradd gyfnewid, bydd hyd yn oed yn llai. Serch hynny, mae'n bwysig iawn i'r cymunedau y ceisiwn eu cefnogi.

Ceir gwelliannau amlwg yn y rhaglen hon, o'i chymharu â'r hen gynllun LEADER. Er enghraifft, croesawn y ffaith mai'r unig ffynhonnell ariannu fydd y gronfa arweiniad a gwarant amaethyddol Ewropeaidd, yn wahanol i raglenni eraill. Bydd hynny yn symleiddio'r gwaith gweinyddu. Mae hynny i'w goesawu.

Croesawn unrhyw ffordd o symleiddio'r broses gan fod y ffordd dechnegol y gweinyddwyd cronfeydd strwythurol yn y gorffennol wedi cyfyngu ar fuddiannau. Cododd adroddiad a ddogfennwyd yn y rhaglen LEADER+ gan ymgynghorydd, na allaf gofio ei enw, nifer o gwestiynau am Weithrediaeth Rhaglenni Ewropeaidd Cymru, a weithredodd y rhaglen flaenorol.

Yr wyf yn poeni, fel y crybwyllais mewn dadleuon blaenorol, y daw rhan fwyaf o staff Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru o Weithrediaeth Rhaglenni Ewropeaidd Cymru. Cymer newidiadau diwylliannol—fel y gwyddom—amser hir i ddigwydd ac nid oes llawer o amser ar ôl ar gyfer y cynlluniau strwythurol hyn. Wyneba Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru her fawr. Codais bryderon yr wythnos diwethaf am ei gallu i gyflwyno amcan y ddogfen raglennu. Parha hynny i fod yn wir mewn perthynas â'r cynlluniau hyn. Bu Amcan 1 yn amlwg ar yr agenda a hynny'n briodol, ond beirniadwyd Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru serch hynny—o bob cwr, mae'n deg dweud—

Objective 1 schemes. I am concerned that the administration and implementation of additional schemes, such as those that we are debating today, will end in further confusion and, ultimately, frustration. That runs the risk of turning away the innovators that can come forward with positive schemes from all sectors: the public sector, the private sector and the voluntary sector.

4:10 p.m.

One of the benefits of LEADER is that the innovation it endeavours to foster results in the pilot schemes that it sometimes delivers, which can be expanded on a much larger scale elsewhere through other structural programmes as well as independently funded programmes. If we are to bring new people, new organisations and new thinking to make use of structural funds, particularly in relation to those pilot schemes, ease of process is essential. I welcome the sharing of innovative schemes through the dedicated LEADER website, which is also documented in the single programming document. This initiative should be adopted for other structural funds programmes to kick-start new thinking. I hope that the Minister will reflect on that. The WEFO website has been hailed by many as a success. On the other hand, many more have hailed it as confusing. As soon as the fast-track schemes have drawn down funds, and there is real evidence that they are making a difference, I hope that we will endeavour to communicate that to foster thinking so that all partners involved from the three sectors can use that as a springboard to develop their own thinking.

The integration of schemes must be incorporated into all structural funds, which I was pleased to note is contained in the document. A number of debaters have highlighted that today. It is easier said than done, and the implementing agencies have massive challenges ahead of them. There are regulations and monitoring, and the Assembly and its agencies can put pressure

ynglŷn â'r broses gwneud cais a'r diffyg cymorth wrth geisio datblygu'r cynlluniau Amcan 1. Yr wyf yn pryderu y daw gwaith gweinyddu a gweithredu'r cynlluniau ychwanegol, megis y rheini a ddadleuwn heddiw, i ben gyda dryswch pellach a rhwystredigaeth, yn y pen draw. Mae hynny'n arwain at y perygl o wrthod yr arloeswyr a all gyflwyno cynlluniau cadarnhaol o bob sector: y sector cyhoeddus, y sector preifat a'r sector gwirfoddol.

Un o fanteisiau LEADER yw bod yr arloesedd y ceisia ei hyrwyddo yn arwain at y cynlluniau peilot a gyflwynir ganddi ar adegau, y gellir eu heangu ar raddfa llawer mwy mewn man arall drwy raglenni strwythurol eraill ynghyd â rhaglenni a ariennir yn annibynnol. Os ydym am wneud i bobl newydd, sefydliadau newydd a syniadau newydd ddefnyddio'r cronfeydd strwythurol, mewn perthynas â'r cynlluniau peilot hynny yn benodol, mae'n hanfodol bod y broses yn hawdd. Croesawaf y gwaith o rannu cynlluniau arloesol drwy wefan LEADER benodedig, a nodir yn y ddogfen raglennu sengl hefyd. Dylid mabwysiadu'r fenter hon ar gyfer rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol eraill er mwyn rhoi hwb cychwynol i syniadau newydd. Gobeithio y bydd y Gweinidog yn myfyrio ar hynny. Mae llawer wedi dweud bod gwefan Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru yn llwyddiant. Ar y llaw arall, mae llawer mwy wedi dweud ei bod yn eu drysu. Cyn gynted ag y bo'r cynlluniau dull-carlam wedi denu'r arian, ac y ceir tystiolaeth go iawn y gwnânt wahaniaeth, gobeithio y ceisiwn gyfleu hynny er mwyn hyrwyddo syniadau fel y gall pob partner a gymer ran o'r tri sector ddefnyddio hynny fel sbringfwrdd i ddatblygu eu syniadau eu hunain.

Mae'n rhaid ymgorffori integreiddio'r cynlluniau drwy bob un o'r cronfeydd strwythurol, ac yr oedd yn dda gennyf nodi y caiff ei gynnwys yn y ddogfen. Amlygwyd hynny gan nifer o ddadleuwyr heddiw. Mae'n haws dweud na gwneud, ac wyneba'r asiantaethau gweithredu heriau mawr. Ceir rheoliadau a monitro, a gall y Cynulliad a'i asiantaethau bwysu a chynig cymorth.

and offer support. We should also call on the European Commission to simplify the process because we are often held back when we are trying to support no matter if it will be unsuccessful, as it is at the moment. I welcome the document on INTERREG. Implementation will, of course, be posed with different challenges on the INTERREG document because there is not a natural centre to all the collective local authorities that are covered. Gwynedd, Anglesey, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and parts of Conwy and Denbighshire are covered. That will naturally create challenges, but I am confident that, with the right support from the right people, we can achieve it. In relation to the URBAN II document, I welcome the support that Wrexham will receive from it, but I also regret that Barry is not included, as well as some of the more deprived parts of south Wales.

We will support amendment 1 and 3 tabled in the name of Jocelyn Davies. We will reject amendment 2 because we feel that operating some initiatives on an all-Wales basis can bring together the team-Wales approach in a way that has been adopted in other agencies far more productively.

Richard Edwards: I will confine my comments to the LEADER+ single programming document. I also take this opportunity to thank the LEADER groups in Pembrokeshire: the South Pembrokeshire Action for Rural Communities, and Menter Preseli in the north of the county, for all the hard work that they have accomplished over the years.

I will focus briefly on the selection criteria for the new local action groups, and flag up my concern, which is shared by others in Pembrokeshire, about the extent to which some of the new LEADER groups—there is no need to mention any names—will be proactive in promoting community involvement. The SPD talks of the power of communities as a development base, when provided with proper support. It also says that community development based on a grass-roots approach is a long-term process that requires ongoing commitment from local

Dylem alw ar y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd hefyd i symleiddio'r broses oherwydd cawn ein dal yn ôl yn aml pan geisiwn roi cymorth hyd yn oed os bydd yn aflwyddiannus—fel y mae ar hyn o bryd. Croesawaf y ddogfen ar INTERREG. Rhydd y gwaith gweithredu heriau gwahanol ar y ddogfen INTERREG, wrth gwrs, gan nad oes canolbwynt naturiol i bob un o'r awdurdodau lleol a gwmpesir ar y cyd. Cwmpesir Gwynedd, Ynys Môn, Sir Gaerfyrddin, Sir Benfro a rhannau o Gonwy a Sir Ddinbych. Mae'n naturiol y crea hynny heriau, ond yr wyf yn hyderus y gallwn ei gyflawni, gyda'r cymorth cywir gan y bobl gywir. Mewn perthynas â'r ddogfen URBAN II, croesawaf y cymorth a gaiff Wrecsam oddi wrthi, ond gresynaf hefyd na chaiff Y Barri ei chynnwys, ynghyd â rhai o'r rhannau mwyaf diffreintiedig o dde Cymru.

Cefnogwn welliant 1 a 3 a gyflwynwyd yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwrthodwn welliant 2 oherwydd y credwn y gall gweithredu rhai mentrau ar sail Cymru gyfan ddod â'r ymagwedd tîm-Cymru at ei gilydd mewn ffordd a fabwysiadwyd gan asiantaethau eraill mewn ffordd llawer mwy cynhyrchiol.

Richard Edwards: Cyfyngaf fy sylwadau i'r ddogfen raglennu sengl LEADER+. Cymeraf y cyfle hwn hefyd i ddiolch i'r grwpiau LEADER yn Sir Benfro: Grŵp Gweithredu De Sir Benfro dros Cymunedau Gwledig, a Menter Preseli yng ngogledd y sir, am yr holl waith caled a gyflawnasant dros y blynyddoedd.

Canolbwyntiaf yn fyr ar y meini prawf dethol ar gyfer y grwpiau gweithredu lleol newydd, a nodaf fy mhryder, a rennir gan eraill yn Sir Benfro, am y graddau y bydd rhai grwpiau LEADER newydd—nid oes angen crybwyll enwau—yn rhagweithiol wrth hyrwyddo cyfranogiad cymunedol. Mae'r ddogfen raglennu sengl yn crybwyll pŵer y cymunedau fel sail i ddatblygu, pan roddir y cymorth priodol iddynt. Noda hefyd fod datblygu cymunedol yn seiliedig ar ymagwedd gwerin gwlad yn broses tymor hir sydd angen ymrwymiad parhaus gan y

action groups if it is to succeed.

The section on selection criteria laudably indicates that it is important that applicants are able to demonstrate true partnership and avoid domination by a few organisations, and that relevant community groups should be actively engaged in the planning, management and delivery of LEADER+. I hope that the Welsh European Funding Office will be as good as its word in applying these conditions, because, in Pembrokeshire, the Objective 1 local partnership, in which the county council is the lead body, excluded communities, or at least community councils, from its board on the grounds that they were not statutory bodies. I am being serious. That was done despite clear guidance to the contrary from WEFO; they would not take my word for it.

The point, although obvious, needs to be emphasised that where local authorities act as lead bodies, their role must be that of an equal partner facilitating on behalf of the entire community, not dictating to it or excluding it altogether. To be fair, things have improved in Pembrokeshire. The LEADER management boards must be as wide-ranging as possible to ensure full community engagement and empowerment. We do not want so-called independent cabals operating a closed shop.

Elin Jones: Croesawaf y drafodaeth bwysig hon ar gynlluniau INTERREG, LEADER ac URBAN. Hoffwn siarad yn benodol ar y cynllun LEADER+. Mae cyfraniad LEADER at ddatblygu gwledig yng Nghymru wedi bod yn allweddol dros y 12 mlynedd diwethaf. Galluogodd ddatblygiad cynlluniau ar lawr gwlad a rhoi cyfle i bobl arloesi. Ar ddechrau'r 1990au, adnabu grwp LEADER Antur Teifi bwysigrwydd ychwanegu gwerth at gynnyrch bwyd lleol. Yr oedd hynny flynyddoedd cyn y clywyd sôn am y sector bwyd-amaeth. Gwelsom grwpiau LEADER eraill yn arloesi wrth ddatblygu cynhyrchion, megis Cymad â chig rosé Llyn, ac Antur Cwm Taf Tywi â chig oen wedi'i halltu. Mae

grwpiau gweithredu lleol os am fod yn llwyddiannus.

Noda'r adran am feini prawf dethol mewn ffordd ganmoladwy ei bod yn bwysig y gall ymgeiswyr ddangos partneriaeth go iawn ac osgoi cael eu llywodraethu gan lond drwn o sefydliadau, ac y dylai'r grwpiau cymunedol perthnasol gymryd rhan weithgar wrth gynllunio, rheoli a chyflwyno LEADER+. Gobeithio y bydd Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru yn driw i'w gair wrth gymhwyso'r amodau hyn, oherwydd, mae partneriaeth leol Amcan 1 yn Sir Benfro, gyda'r cyngor sir yn gorff arweiniol, wedi allgáu cymunedau, neu'r cyngorau cymunedol o leiaf, o'i fwrdd gan nad oeddent yn gyrrff statudol. Yr wyf o ddifrif. Gwnaethpwyd hynny er gwaethaf arweiniad clir i'r gwrthwyneb gan Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru; ni dderbyniasent fy ngair i.

Er ei fod yn amlwg, mae angen pwysleisio'r pwynt, lle y gweithreda'r awdurdodau lleol fel cyrff arweiniol, rhaid bod eu rôl yn un o bartner cyfartal yn hwyluso ar ran y gymuned gyfan, gan beidio â rhoi gorchmynion iddi neu ei hallgáu'n llwyr. I fod yn deg, mae pethau wedi gwella yn Sir Benfro. Rhaid i'r byrddau rheoli LEADER fod mor eang â phosibl er mwyn sicrhau bod y gymuned yn ymgymryd â hwy yn llawn ac yn cael awdurdod llawn. Ni ddymunwn weld cabalau annibynnol fel y'u gelwir yn gweithredu siop gaeëdig.

Elin Jones: I welcome this important debate on the INTERREG, LEADER and URBAN schemes. I would like to speak specifically on the LEADER+ scheme. LEADER has made a crucial contribution to rural development over the past 12 years. It has enabled the development of schemes on the ground and has allowed people the opportunity to be innovative. At the beginning of the 1990s, the Antur Teifi LEADER group identified the importance of adding value to local food produce. That was years before any talk of the agri-food sector. We have seen innovation by other LEADER groups in their development of products, such as Cymad with the Llyn rosé meat, and

grwpiau LEADER hefyd wedi rhoi arweiniad ar gynlluniau twristiaeth ddiwylliannol a thwristiaeth amgylcheddol.

Antur Cwm Taf Tywi with saltmarsh lamb. LEADER groups have also taken a lead on cultural tourism and environmental tourism schemes.

Tra'i bod yn bwysig bod LEADER+ yn cydweithredu â'r strwythurau sydd yn bodoli i reoli a rhedeg Amcanion 1 a 2, mae hefyd yn bwysig bod grwpiau LEADER yn rhydd i arloesi ac i weithredu cynlluniau blaengar. Golyga hynny y dylai rhaglenni prif ffrwd ymhen 10 mlynedd gael eu treialu gan grwpiau LEADER yn ystod y blynyddoedd nesaf. Mae'r gallu i arloesi yn dibynnu ar sicrwydd ariannol. Un peth sydd wedi dal grwpiau LEADER yn ôl yn ystod y pum mlynedd diwethaf yw'r ffaith eu bod yn chwilio am ddarnau mân o arian cyfatebol yn dragwyddol, ac yn gwastraffu llawer o egni wrth hel taliadau i sicrhau eu llif arian. Byddai ailgyflwyno'r system *global grants*, drwy Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru, yn rhoi mwy o sicrwydd ariannol i'r grwpiau hynny sydd, wedi'r cwbl, yn fentrau gwirfoddol a chymunedol ar y cyfan. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed y Gweinidog yn cadarnhau y prynhawn yma y bydd system o'r fath yn gweithredu fel rhan o LEADER+.

While it is important that LEADER+ collaborates with the structures that exist to manage and operate Objectives 1 and 2, it is also important that LEADER groups are free to be innovative and to implement enterprising schemes. That means that mainstream programmes 10 years hence should be trialled by LEADER groups in the next few years. The ability to be innovative depends on financial security. One thing that has held LEADER groups back during the past five years is the fact that they are forever looking for small amounts of match funding, and are expending a great deal of energy in chasing payments to secure their cash flow. Reintroducing the global grants system, through the Welsh Development Agency, would give greater financial security to those groups that are, after all, voluntary and community enterprises on the whole. I was pleased to hear the Minister confirm this afternoon that this kind of system will be implemented under LEADER+.

Trof at welliant 2 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Bydd sawl agwedd ar LEADER+ yn wahanol iawn i raglenni LEADER blaenorol. Mae pob ardal wledig yn gymwys i wneud cais cystadleuol i weithredu cynllun LEADER, heb fod unrhyw orfodaeth arnynt i ystyried cefnogi'r ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Mae gennyf amheuan ynglŷn â hyn, gan fod ein hardaloedd gwledig yn amrywio'n sylweddol o ran cyfleoedd economaidd.

I turn to amendment 2 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Many aspects of LEADER+ will be very different to previous LEADER programmes. All rural areas are eligible to make a competitive bid to run a LEADER scheme, without having to consider supporting the most deprived areas. I have doubts about this, as our rural areas vary considerably in terms of economic opportunities.

4:20 p.m.

Clywais y dadleuon y prynhawn yma gan rai sydd yn croesawu'r ffaith y bydd pob ardal yn gymwys i wneud cais i fod yn rhan o grwp LEADER. Fodd bynnag, credaf y dylem fod yn ofalus ein bod yn gallu targedu'r ardaloedd mwyaf haeddiannol a difreintiedig yn y gweithgaredd hwn o dan LEADER+ hefyd. Cydnabyddaf, o dan reolau Ewropeaidd LEADER+, fel y soniodd y Gweinidog, na ellir gwahaniaethu rhwng ardaloedd gwledig difreintiedig a'r rhai mwyaf breintiedig. Fodd bynnag, dylid

I have heard the arguments this afternoon by those who welcome the fact that every area will be eligible to submit a bid to become part of a LEADER group. However, I believe that we should ensure that we can target the most deserving and deprived areas in this activity under LEADER+ also. I acknowledge that, under the European rules of LEADER+, as the Minister mentioned, you cannot differentiate between deprived rural areas and the most privileged. However, it should be ensured that, under the LEADER

sicrhau, o fewn rhaglenni grwpiau LEADER, y gwneir pob ymdrech i dargedu cynlluniau i'r ardaloedd mwyaf difreintiedig. Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed bod y Gweinidog yn cydnabod ysbryd gwelliant 2 ac y bydd yn ymchwilio ymhellach i ba mor ymarferol yw gweithredu'r egwyddor y tu ôl i'r gwelliant.

Mae'r rhaglen LEADER+ yn benodol ar gyfer datblygu gwledig. Un o brif broblemau ardaloedd gwledig dros y blynyddoedd, ac yn gynyddol felly dros y blynyddoedd diweddar, yw'r llif o bobl ifanc sydd yn gadael ein cymunedau cefn gwlad oherwydd diffyg cyfleon gwaith a gyrfa. Ychydig iawn o dargedu rhaglenni economaidd at bobl ifanc sydd yn digwydd. Ni chafodd pobl ifanc fawr o sylw o dan raglen Amcan 1, a dim ond ychydig mwy a gawsant dan Amcan 2. Hoffwn weld LEADER+ yn blaenoriaethu targedu pobl ifanc ac yn creu rhaglenni arloesol a fydd yn mynd i'r afael â chreu cyfleon gwaith a gyrfa i'r garfan hon o'r boblogaeth. Byddai hynny yn ffordd arbennig y gallai rhaglen LEADER+ ychwanegu gwerth at raglenni economaidd prif ffrwd.

Pwynt braidd yn bryfoclyd i gloi. Mae unrhyw gynlluniau datblygu economi a busnes yng nghefn gwlad yn fach o ran natur, ac y maent yn creu 10, 20 neu efallai 50 o swyddi. Fodd bynnag, gwnant gyfraniad enfawr i'r cymunedau gwledig hynny. Mae'n gynyddol amlwg i mi mai dim ond cynlluniau mawr trefol sydd yn creu sawl cant o swyddi sydd yn haeddu datganiad ar lawr y Cynulliad. Er bod y cynlluniau hynny'n bwysig ac i'w croesawu ar gyfer cymunedau trefol, methir â chydabod datblygiadau pwysig yng nghefn gwlad sydd yn creu gwaith ar gyfer 20 neu 50 o bobl. Deallaf angen y Llywodraeth glymblaid i fynd am y penawdau, ond pryd y bydd y Cabinet, a'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd yn benodol, yn gwneud datganiad ar lawr y Cynulliad ynglŷn â chreu swyddi—degau ohonynt, o bosibl, yn hytrach na channoedd—sydd yn bwysig iawn i ardaloedd cefn gwlad Cymru?

The First Minister *rose*—

group programmes, every effort is made to target schemes at the most deprived areas. I was pleased to hear that the Minister acknowledges the spirit of amendment 2 and that he will undertake to research further into the practicality of implementing the principle behind the amendment.

The LEADER+ programme is specifically for rural development. One of the main problems of rural areas over the years, and increasingly so over recent years, is the out-migration of young people from our rural communities due to lack of employment and career opportunities. Very little is done to target economic programmes at young people. Young people received almost no attention under the Objective 1 programme, and they only received a little more under Objective 2. I would like LEADER+ to prioritise the targeting of young people and creating innovative programmes that will address the need to create employment and career opportunities for this section of the population. That would be a specific way in which the LEADER+ programme could add value to mainstream economic programmes.

A slightly contentious point to conclude. Any schemes to develop the economy and business in rural areas are small by nature, and they create 10, 20 or perhaps 50 jobs. However, they make an enormous contribution to those rural communities. It is increasingly evident to me that only large urban schemes that create many hundreds of jobs deserve a statement on the floor of the Assembly. Although those schemes are important for urban communities and should be welcomed, there is a failure to acknowledge important developments in rural areas that create jobs for 20 or 50 people. I understand the need of the coalition Government to seek headlines, but when will the Cabinet, and the Minister for Economic Development in particular, make a statement on the floor of the Assembly regarding the creation of jobs—tens of them, possibly, rather than hundreds—that are very important to the rural areas of Wales?

Prif Weinidog Cymru *a gododd*—

Y Llywydd: Mae Elin Jones wedi eistedd i lawr.

The Presiding Officer: Elin Jones has sat down.

Karen Sinclair: I will speak on URBAN II, as the majority of wards in that submission are in my constituency. As Mike German articulated, this successful submission by Wrexham County Borough Council is the culmination of a huge effort and commitment by the council to the regeneration of the west part of Wrexham. It is a particular pleasure to work with Shân Wilkinson, the leader of Wrexham County Borough Council, and with the council's economic development department. I take on board Janet's earlier comments about flood moneys impacting, but, if it is any reassurance, that was not articulated yesterday when I spoke to Wrexham County Borough Council. Therefore, it obviously does not see it as too much of a concern at this point. However, we must keep that in mind.

Karen Sinclair: Siaradaf ar URBAN II, gan fod mwyafrif y wardiau yn y cyflwyniad hwnnw yn fy etholaeth i. Fel y dywedodd Mike German, mae'r cyflwyniad llwyddiannus gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam yn ganlyniad ymdrech ac ymrwymiad anferthol gan y cyngor i adfer rhan orllewinol Wrecsam. Mae'n bleser arbennig cydweithio â Shân Wilkinson, arweinydd Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam, ac ag adran datblygu economaidd y cyngor. Derbyniaf sylwadau cynharach Janet am effaith arian y llifogydd, ond, os bydd hyn yn tawelu'ch meddwl mewn unrhyw ffordd, ni ddywedwyd hynny ddoe pan siaradais â Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam. Felly, mae'n amlwg nad ystyria ei fod yn bryder mawr ar hyn o bryd. Fodd bynnag, rhaid inni gadw hynny mewn cof.

The area of Wrexham that is being discussed today has borne the brunt of heavy industrial decline. I have lived in the area, and therefore know it very well. The whole area was dependent on heavy industry such as steel and coal. The metamorphosis seen in many other areas has, sadly, largely passed by this part of Wrexham. There are many industrial scars in this part of my constituency, the largest ones being Brymbo and Plas Power. Mike German visited those sites recently, and I was pleased to accompany him to show him the work that needs to be done.

Ardal Wrecsam a drafodir heddiw a ddiwedfodd y dirywiad gwaethaf mewn diwydiant trwm. Bùm yn byw yn yr ardal, ac felly yr wyf yn ei hadnabod yn dda. Yr oedd yr ardal gyfan yn dibynnu at ddiwydiant trwm megis dur a glo. Aeth y metamorffosis a welwyd mewn llawer o ardaloedd eraill heibio'r rhan hon o Wrecsam, yn anffodus. Ceir llawer o greithiau diwydiannol yn y rhan hon o'm hetholaeth, a Brymbo a Phlas Power yw'r rhai mwyaf. Ymwelodd Mike German â'r safleoedd hynny yn ddiweddar, a bu'n dda gennyf fynd gydag ef er mwyn dangos y gwaith sydd angen ei wneud iddo.

Working in conjunction with other innovative ventures, URBAN II is the opportunity to energise and reinvigorate these areas, and I welcome it for those reasons. Priorities have been set to begin this regeneration. They are ambitious and exciting, they embrace business creation and development by participation—that is important—and training and community empowerment. Much work needs to be done in this area to reinstate pride and aspiration, but I am confident that the people of Wrexham west are more than ready to take up the challenge and the opportunities that URBAN II will provide for them.

Gan weithio ar y cyd â mentrau arloesol eraill, URBAN II yw'r cyfle i sbarduno ac adfywio'r ardaloedd hyn, ac fe'i croesawaf am y rhesymau hynny. Gosodwyd blaenoriaethau er mwyn dechrau'r gwaith adfywio hwn. Maent yn uchelgeisiol ac yn gyffrous, croesawant greu a datblygu busnes drwy gyfranogiad—mae hynny'n bwysig—a hyfforddiant ac awdurdodi'r gymuned. Mae angen gwneud llawer o waith yn yr ardal hon i adfer balchder a dyheadau, ond yr wyf yn hyderus bod pobl Wrecsam yn fwy na pharod i ymgymryd â'r her a'r cyfleoedd a ddarpara URBAN II ar eu cyfer.

The clear vision of the priorities set out in this comprehensive document will give the long-awaited opportunity that has been so desperately needed in this area. I am confident that Wrexham will grasp this opportunity with both hands to bring the greatest chance for regeneration that we have seen in this targeted area. The reinstatement and the development at the old steelworks site and the Plas Power site are imperative. I am determined that this much-needed work will breathe new energy into this area, and in conjunction with URBAN II will revitalise the area, attracting new business and creating the opportunity for indigenous businesses to evolve and thrive.

However, new business will not evolve without a great deal of work and energy, without training opportunities or without decent childcare, which is so often missing in these urban villages, which are quite isolated. It will not work without collaborating with other agencies, not least Wrexham's university and further education establishment, both of which are excellent. It will not evolve without the vision, the commitment and the funding. In close conjunction with the other initiatives in the area, such as local regeneration funding and the People in Communities programme, I am confident that we will see new energy and new economic activity in the communities here, and I commend this comprehensive submission.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yr wyf yn falch ein bod yn trafod yr arian sydd yn cael ei glustnodi o dan y cynlluniau hyn heddiw. Trafodaf y cynllun INTERREG yn fyr, ond yn gyntaf talaf deyrnged arbennig i Menter Môn sydd wedi bod yn gyfrifol am y rhaglen LEADER II hyd yn hyn. Fel y soniodd Elin am ardaloedd eraill yng Nghymru, bu cynllun LEADER Môn yn un arloesol, a thalaf deyrnged iddynt am eu gwaith arloesol mewn sawl maes.

Ar INTERREG, mae gennym brofiad yng ngorllewin Cymru, ac yn fy etholaeth i yn benodol, o'r ffordd yr ydym wedi gallu defnyddio arian INTERREG II rhwng 1994

Rhydd y weledigaeth glir o'r blaenoriaethau a nodir yn y ddogfen gynhwysfawr hon, y cyfle hirddisgwyliedig y bu ei angen yn ddybryd yn yr ardal hon. Yr wyf yn hyderus y manteisia Wrecsam ar y cyfle hwn yn frwdfrydig er mwyn dod â'r cyfle mwyaf ar gyfer adfywio'r ardal a welsom yn yr ardal hon a dargedir. Mae'n hanfodol adfer a datblygu safle yr hen weithiau dur a safle Plas Power. Yr wyf yn benderfynol y rhydd y gwaith hwn y mae angen dybryd amdano anadl einioes yn ôl yn yr ardal hon, ac y bydd yn adfywio'r ardal ar y cyd ag URBAN II, gan ddenu busnesau newydd a chreu'r cyfle i fusnesau cynhenid ddatblygu a ffynnu.

Fodd bynnag, ni ddatblyga busnesau newydd heb lawer iawn o waith ac egni, heb gyfleoedd hyfforddi na heb ofal plant boddhaol, sydd yn aml yn eisiau yn y pentrefi gwledig hyn, sydd yn eithaf anghysbell. Ni weithia heb gydweithredu ag asiantaethau eraill, yn enwedig prifysgol a sefydliad addysg bellach Wrecsam, y mae'r ddau ohonynt yn ardderchog. Ni ddatblyga heb y weledigaeth, yr ymrwymiad a'r arian. Mewn cydweithrediad agos â'r mentrau eraill a geir yn yr ardal, megis y rhaglen cyllido adfywio lleol a'r rhaglen Pobl mewn Cymunedau, yr wyf yn hyderus y gwelwn egni a gweithgarwch economaidd newydd yn y cymunedau yma, a chymeradwyaf y cyflwyniad cynhwysfawr hwn.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: I am glad that we are discussing the money that is being earmarked under these programmes today. I will briefly discuss the INTERREG programme, but first I pay tribute to Menter Môn, which has been responsible for the LEADER II programme so far. As Elin mentioned about other areas in Wales, the Môn LEADER programme has been innovative, and I pay tribute to them for their innovative work in several fields.

On INTERREG, we have experience in west Wales, and in my constituency in particular, of the way in which we have been able to use INTERREG II money between 1994 and

ac 1999. Gobeithiaf y bydd ein profiad o redeg y cynllun hwnnw o gymorth inni wrth inni symud tuag at INTERREG III. Yn Ynys Môn, yn fy etholaeth i, yr oedd pencadlys y cynllun gwreiddiol rhwng 1994 ac 1999. Rhaid cofio bod y cynllun hwn, pan y'i cyflwynwyd yn 1994, yn arloesol, oherwydd mai dyma'r cynllun cyntaf yn Ewrop rhwng dwy wlad â ffin arforol. Y mae hynny yn rhywbeth y gallwn ymfalchïo ynddo.

O ystyried y math o gynlluniau yr ydym wedi gallu eu gweithredu o dan INTERREG, gwelsom pa mor amrywiol y gall y rhaglen honno fod. Ceir amrywiaeth o brosiectau mewn meysydd fel hyfforddiant, grantiau datblygu economaidd i wella'r amgylchedd, twristiaeth, a sicrhau bod mwy o ddeialog rhwng Cymru ac Iwerddon—ein bod yn edrych i'r gorllewin yn ogystal ag i'r dwyrain am hwb a datblygu economaidd.

Un cynllun penodol a elwodd o'r cysylltiadau â'r Iwerddon o dan INTERREG yw marina Caergybi. Bydd 100 o angorfeydd yn y marina yn barod erbyn mis Ebrill 2001. Mae'r cysylltiad y mae'r rhai sydd yn datblygu'r marina wedi ei wneud gyda'r marina yn Arklow yn Iwerddon wedi bod yn allweddol i'r datblygiad. Maent hefyd wedi gwneud cysylltiadau gyda'r cyfeillion sydd yn gweithredu'r marina yn Dun Laoghaire a gwelsom bwysigrwydd defnyddio INTERREG i hybu twristiaeth. Clywsom yn gynharach am yr angen i ddatblygu twristiaeth rhwng y gwledydd Celtaidd.

4:30 p.m.

Gwn o brofiad fod y cynllun wedi gwella cysylltiadau rhwng pobl sydd yn gweithio mewn meysydd arbennig yng Nghymru ac Iwerddon. Gwelsom ef, er enghraifft, yn cael ei ddefnyddio gan grwpiau o ffermwyr ifanc, gwasanaethau gwirfoddol a grwpiau o wragedd fferm sydd â diddordeb mewn datblygu twristiaeth.

Un siom ynglŷn â dogfen raglennu sengl INTERREG III yw nad oes sôn ynddi am y diwydiant ffilm. Mae llawer o botential i wella ein darpariaeth ar gyfer y diwydiant ffilm. Byddai wedi bod yn braf gweld hyn

1999. I hope that our experience of running that programme will help us as we move towards INTERREG III. The programme's original headquarters between 1994 and 1999 were in Anglesey, which is in my constituency. We must remember that this programme, when it was introduced in 1994, was pioneering, as it was the first programme in Europe between two countries with a maritime border. That is something of which we can be proud.

Considering the kind of schemes that we have been able to operate under INTERREG, we have seen how varied that programme can be. There are a variety of projects in fields such as training, economic development grants to improve the environment, tourism and ensuring that there is greater dialogue between Wales and Ireland—that we look to the west as well as to the east for a boost and economic development.

One specific scheme that benefited from the contacts with Ireland under INTERREG is Holyhead marina. Some 100 moorings will be ready in the marina by April 2001. The contact that the marina developers have made with the marina in Arklow in Ireland has been vital to the development. They have also made contacts with those operating the marina in Dun Laoghaire and we have seen the importance of using INTERREG to promote tourism. We heard earlier about the need to develop tourism between the Celtic countries.

I know from experience that the scheme has improved links between people who work in certain areas of Wales and Ireland. We saw it, for example, being used by groups of young farmers, voluntary groups and groups of farm wives with an interest in developing tourism.

One disappointment concerning the INTERREG III single programming document is that it makes no mention of the film industry. There is much potential for improving our provision for the film

yng nghynllun INTERREG. Gwelsom Iwerddon yn elwa'n sylweddol o ffilm yn y blynyddoedd diweddar, ac mae modd i ni ddysgu gwers ganddynt drwy gynllun INTERREG. Mae hyn yn wir hefyd am ddysgu Cymraeg a Gwyddeleg i oedolion. Dyna rywbeth arall y byddwn wedi dymuno ei weld yn y cynllun.

Un o'r problemau yr ydym wedi'u gweld gyda chynllun INTERREG, sydd yn debyg i'r hyn a brofwyd gydag Amcan 1—ond ar raddfa lai oherwydd bod y symiau'n llai—yw cael hyd i arian cyfatebol digonol. Gwyddom y bydd modd inni gael gwell canran o brosiectau'r cynllun hwn oherwydd mai mewn ardal Amcan 1 yr ydym ni. Er hynny, mae angen edrych ar y mudiadau—mudiadau gwirfoddol weithiau—sydd yn methu â chael hyd i'r arian cyfatebol.

Mae hynny'n arwain at y ffaith mai dim ond 80 y cant o arian INTERREG a glustnodwyd ar gyfer Cymru a gafodd ei wario. Yn naturiol, gwariasom fwy mewn rhai meysydd: er enghraifft, 93 y cant mewn addysg a hyfforddiant, ond dim ond 65 y cant o'r arian ar gyfer prosiectau trafniadaeth a ddefnyddiwyd. Mae'n amlwg bod lle i wella.

Un mater arall y dylwn gyfeirio ato yw bod nifer o gyfeillion a oedd yn gweithredu cynllun INTERREG yng Nghymru yn dweud bod gennym fwy o fiwrocratiaeth ynghlwm â'r cynllun nag a oedd gan eu cyfeillion yn Iwerddon. Mae gwers inni yno ar sut i fanteisio ar y cynllun yn well.

Gallem ddysgu o'r anawsterau a gawsom ag INTERREG II a gallem sicrhau bod cynllun INTERREG III, a fydd yn cynnwys cronfa fwy sylweddol, yn cael ei ddefnyddio'n fwy effeithiol. Dysgu'r wers a symud ymlaen y dylem ei wneud.

Brian Gibbons: I am pleased that there is at least lukewarm support for this aspect of the structural programme here in Wales. Generally, our attitude towards the structural funds is such that, if there were an olympic

industry. It would have been good to see that included in the INTERREG scheme. We have seen Ireland profiting substantially from film over the past few years, and we have a lot to learn from them through the INTERREG scheme. This is also true about teaching Welsh and Gaelic to adults. That is something else that I would have liked to see in the scheme.

One of the problems that we have seen with the INTERREG scheme, which is similar to that experienced with Objective 1—but on a smaller scale because the sums are smaller—was getting hold of sufficient match funding. We know it will be possible for us to get a better percentage of this scheme's projects because we are in an Objective 1 area. However we need to look at the organisations—some of them voluntary organisations—which cannot find match funding.

That is why only 80 per cent of the INTERREG funding that was earmarked for Wales was spent. Naturally, we spent more in some areas: for example, 93 per cent in education and training, but only 65 per cent of the money for transport projects was used. It is clear that there is room for improvement.

One other matter that I should refer to is that a number of colleagues who were implementing the INTERREG scheme in Wales said that we had more bureaucracy tied up with the scheme than their counterparts in Ireland. That should be a lesson to us on how to more effectively exploit this scheme.

We could learn from the difficulties that we had with INTERREG II and we could ensure that the INTERREG III scheme, which will include more substantial funding, is used more effectively. We should learn the lesson and move forward.

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod cefnogaeth glaeaf o leiaf i'r agwedd hon ar y rhaglen strwythurol yma yng Nghymru. Ar y cyfan, ein hagwedd tuag at y cronfeydd strwythurol yw, petai cystadleuaeth

competition for making pigs' ears out of silk purses, the opposition parties in the Assembly would be well placed for a gold medal. The response has been so negative and pessimistic that it is undermining the central vision and dynamism that is essential to drive all the Objective 1 programmes forward. That includes the range of programmes that we are discussing here today.

Alun Cairns: Bearing in mind the experiences that all partners have had with the Objective 1 programme, do you not accept that it is inevitable that we, as opposition parties, might be negative in relation to these documents?

Brian Gibbons: I will come to that.

Let us look at the role that the media in Wales has played in this Objective 1 programme and structural funds generally. Whenever there seemed to be any problems with the funds, there was nothing but the flowing of tears, wailing in the willows, and gnashing of teeth. However, when there is good news, it scarcely merits a single line in the Welsh media. For example, after the second roll-out of the Objective 1 approval at the beginning of this month, we searched the first 10 days of *Welsh Mirror* and *The Western Mail* for a reference to it: not a single line.

Glyn Davies *rose*—

Brian Gibbons: No, I need to go on, Glyn.

It seems that, whenever there is good news, it does not flicker the least interest in newsworthiness on the Richter scale of the Welsh media. As Val Feld said a number of times in this Chamber, this negativism and pessimism seems to pervade the private sector also.

David Davies *rose*—

Brian Gibbons: I do not have time for an intervention, David.

olympaidd am roi rhywbeth da mewn goleuni gwael, byddai'r gwrthbleidiau yn y Cynulliad mewn sefyllfa dda i gael medal aur. Bu'r ymateb mor negyddol a phesimistaidd fel ei fod yn tanseilio gweledigaeth a deinamigrwydd canolog sydd yn hanfodol i arwain pob un o'r rhaglenni Amcan 1 yn eu blaenau. Mae hynny'n cynnwys yr amrywiaeth o raglenni a drafodwn yma heddiw.

Alun Cairns: Gan gofio profiadau pob partner gyda'r rhaglen Amcan 1, oni dderbyniwch ei bod yn anochel y gallem ni, y gwrthbleidiau, fod yn negyddol mewn perthynas â'r dogfennau hyn?

Brian Gibbons: Dof at hynny.

Gadewch inni edrych ar y rôl y chwaraeodd y cyfryngau yng Nghymru yn y rhaglen Amcan 1 hon a'r cronfeydd strwythurol yn gyffredinol. Pryd bynnag yr ymddangoswyd bod problemau gyda'r cronfeydd, bu dim byd ond dagrau, llefain yn yr helyg, a rhincian dannedd. Fodd bynnag, pan geir newyddion da, prin ei fod yn haeddu un llinell yn y cyfryngau Cymreig. Er enghraifft, ar ôl ail gam y gymeradwyaeth Amcan 1 ddechrau'r mis hwn, chwiliasom 10 diwrnod cyntaf y *Welsh Mirror* a *The Western Mail* am gyfeiriad ati: dim un llinell.

Glyn Davies *a gododd*—

Brian Gibbons: Na, mae angen imi fynd ymlaen, Glyn.

Pryd bynnag y ceir newyddion da, ymddengys nad yw'n ennyn y diddordeb lleiaf o ran cael sylw yn y newyddion ar raddfa Richter y cyfryngau Cymreig. Fel y dywedodd Val Feld droeon yn y Siambr hon, ymddengys fod y negyddiaeth a'r besimistiaeth hon yn treiddio i'r sector preifat hefyd.

David Davies *a gododd*—

Brian Gibbons: Nid oes amser gennyf am ymyriad, David.

In the last few weeks, I attended a meeting in which a leading south Wales business person—to repeat again what Alun Cairns suggested—bemoaned the lack of private sector involvement. He stated that if this was taking place in Ireland, it would be up and running and half way around the track by now. We know that in the United Kingdom, Wales is performing every bit as well as any other region that is entitled to Objective 1 funding. However, I decided to look to see how well Ireland, as the super trooper of Objective 1 performance, is getting on. In Ireland, in the Border, Midland and Western region, which is the Objective 1 area, the complement document has not yet been approved, one month after ours in Wales has been approved. Therefore, while people continually look to other places against which to measure our performance, they fail to acknowledge that Wales is performing as well as other parts of the United Kingdom, and even as well as Ireland, to which people continually point as an example of good experience.

Alun Cairns mentioned the WEFO website and commented that it is not a wonderful work of art. However, if people looked at the websites of other Objective 1 areas, they would find that they do not compare to the WEFO site.

Elin Jones *rose*—

Glyn Davies: What has she got that we have not?

The Presiding Officer: Order. Members choose when to give way. It is a matter for them if they do not give way to some Members, but give way to others. It is not a matter for me.

Elin Jones: Objective 1 has been debated on several occasions in this Chamber. I wondered whether the speaker intended to talk about the LEADER+, INTERREG or URBAN initiatives?

Brian Gibbons: Yes. That is why I

Yn yr ychydig wythnosau diwethaf, mynychais gyfarfod lle y cwynodd person busnes blaenllaw o dde Cymru—er mwyn ailadrodd eto yr hyn a awgrymodd Alun Cairns—am ddiffyg cyfranogiad y sector preifat. Nododd y byddai hyn ar waith a hanner ffordd i gael ei orffen erbyn hyn, pe digwyddai yn Iwerddon. Gwyddom fod Cymru yn perfformio cystal ag unrhyw ardal arall yn y Deyrnas Unedig sydd yn gymwys i gael arian Amcan 1. Fodd bynnag, penderfynais edrych i weld pa mor dda y mae Iwerddon yn perfformio, fel yr arloeswr o ran perfformiad Amcan 1. Yn Iwerddon, yn ardal y Gororau, y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, sef ardal Amcan 1, ni chymeradwyd y ddogfen ategol eto, fis ar ôl i'n dogfen ni yng Nghymru gael ei chymeradwyo. Felly, er bod pobl yn edrych yn barhaus i fannau eraill er mwyn mesur ein perfformiad yn eu herbyn, methant â chydabod bod Cymru yn perfformio cystal â rhannau eraill o'r Deyrnas Unedig, a hyd yn oed cystal ag Iwerddon, yr edrycha pobl arni yn barhaus fel enghraifft o brofiad da.

Soniodd Alun Cairns am wefan Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru a dywedodd nad celfyddyd ragorol mohoni. Fodd bynnag, pe edrychai pobl ar wefannau ardaloedd Amcan 1 eraill, darganfyddent nad ydynt yn cymharu â gwefan Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru.

Elin Jones *a gododd*—

Glyn Davies: Beth sydd ganddi hi nad yw gennym ni?

Y Llywydd: Trefn. Dewisa Aelodau pryd i ildio. Mater iddynt hwy ydyw os na ildiant i rai Aelodau, ond ildiant i eraill. Nid mater i minnau ydyw.

Elin Jones: Dadleuwyd Amcan 1 ar nifer o achlysuron yn y Siambr hon. Tybed a oedd y llefarydd yn bwriadu siarad am y mentrau LEADER+, INTERREG neu URBAN?

Brian Gibbons: Oeddwn. Dyna pam y

mentioned that all the structural fund programmes have been bedevilled by negativism. The initiatives that you mentioned are small programmes and if the same attitude is adopted towards them as has been adopted towards the bigger programmes, they will have no chance of success. Nothing in any human institution is perfect. There are problems. However, I wish that people would acknowledge our success when we perform better than other areas. Let us work to make things better, but please let us not get into this death wish and negativism that has permeated structural fund programmes up until now.

Peter Rogers: We must set the LEADER+ programme in its broader policy context. It forms part of several other areas, including rural and sustainable development. As Alun Cairns rightly said, the problem rests in the implementation of the programme. This is an important point, because as things stand, there are serious inconsistencies in the coalition's approach to policy. If left unchecked, these inconsistencies will undermine the success of the various European projects.

Planning is an important area where the coalition is letting people down. The planning system imposes prohibitive costs on the very businesses that the coalition says it wants to encourage. Projects that have the support of local people and even local planning authorities are called in on what appear to be spurious grounds.

Businesses are willing to make the investment. They want to work in partnership with communities to ensure economic and social regeneration, but this Government will not let them. For example, wind power is a means of bringing alternative sources of income to farms, in addition to being a clean and efficient source of energy. Yet, it takes about three years for applications to be considered and only 20 per cent of them succeed.

We must consider another tension in the context of European funding as a whole. While I welcome the money that is coming

crybwyllais fod pob un o'r rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol wedi'u plagio gan negyddiaeth. Rhaglenni bach yw'r mentrau a grybwyllasoch a phe mabwysiadwyd yr un ymagwedd tuag atynt fel y mabwysiadwyd tuag at y rhaglenni mwy, ni fydd unrhyw gyfle ganddynt i lwyddo. Nid oes dim mewn sefydliad dynol sydd yn berffaith. Ceir problemau. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn pe bai pobl yn cydnabod ein llwyddiant pan berfformiwn yn well nag ardaloedd eraill. Gadewch inni weithio i wella pethau, ond peidio â gadael inni gael ein tynnu i'r agwedd brudd a negyddol hon sydd wedi treiddio drwy'r rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol hyd yma.

Peter Rogers: Rhaid inni osod y rhaglen LEADER+ yn ei chyd-destun polisi ehangach. Llunia ran o nifer o feysydd eraill, gan gynnwys datblygu gwledig a chynaliadwy. Fel y dywedodd Alun Cairns, a hynny'n gywir, erys y broblem gyda gweithredu'r rhaglen. Mae hwn yn bwynt pwysig, oherwydd fel y saif pethau, ceir anghysondebau difrifol yn ymagwedd y glymblaid tuag at bolisi. Os na rwystrir hyn, tansellia'r anghysondebau hyn lwyddiant yr amrywiol brosiectau Ewropeaidd.

Mae cynllunio yn faes pwysig lle y mae'r glymblaid yn siomi pobl. Gosoda'r system gynllunio gostau gwaharddol ar yr union fusnesau y dywed y glymblaid y dymuna eu hannog. Caiff y prosiectau a gefnogir gan bobl leol a hyd yn oed awdurdodau cynllunio lleol eu galw i mewn am resymau sydd yn ymddangos yn annilys.

Mae busnesau yn fodlon gwneud y buddsoddiad. Dymunant weithio mewn partneriaeth â'r cymunedau i sicrhau adfywiad economaidd a chymdeithasol, ond ni adawa'r Llywodraeth hon iddynt wneud hyn. Er enghraifft, mae pŵer gwynt yn ffordd o ddod â ffynonellau eraill o incwm i ffermydd, yn ogystal â bod yn ffrhonnell ynni glân ac effeithlon. Er hynny, cymer tua thair blynedd i ystyried y ceisiadau a dim ond 20 y cant ohonynt sydd yn llwyddiannus.

Rhaid inni ystyried tensiwn arall yng nghyd-destun arian Ewropeaidd yn gyffredinol. Er fy mod yn croesawu'r ffaith fod arian yn dod

into Wales, we must face up to another harsh reality. We must take account of the fact that we are being impeded by a range of additional European regulations which interfere with Wales's ability to regenerate. In particular, we are faced with the prospect of a range of new environmental dictats. Regulations such as the Habitats Directive place constraints on developing rural areas, which the coalition says that it will help.

4:40 p.m.

If the current climate of giving in to anything that the green willy—sorry, welly—brigade says continues, then we will not regenerate these areas. We cannot build a sustainable economy on bird watching alone. We need long-term jobs for a long-term future.

The coalition must face up to the inherent tensions that exist in trying to make these projects work. On the one hand, there is inconsistency in the coalition's policy and, on the other hand, there is the danger of the red tape passed on to us by Brussels. We cannot allow warm words to be substitutes for action. We must focus on the delivery of these projects. We must ensure that the coalition becomes consistent in its policies, which will support this programme.

Mick Bates: It was interesting to hear that. [*Laughter.*] However, I want to respond to Brian Gibbons's earlier comments, because there can be few people who possess as much enthusiasm for this process as I do and I believe that this is good news for Wales. Given that we already have a massive Objective 1 programme and that 75 per cent of Wales is covered by Objectives 1 and 2, we could easily have forgotten about community initiatives. That is something that is close to my heart, as I have worked with community initiatives for many years. I strongly believe that community initiatives are sustainable and bring great advantages to our communities.

These initiatives represent an additional bonus for economic development in Wales. URBAN, for example, has twice its previous

i Gymru, rhaid inni wynebu realiti caled arall. Rhaid inni ystyried y ffaith y cawn ein rhwystro gan amrywiaeth o reoliadau Ewropeaidd ychwanegol sydd yn ymyrryd â gallu Cymru i adfywio. Fe'n hwynebir yn benodol gyda'r posibilrwydd o amrywiaeth o orchmynion amgylcheddol newydd. Mae rheoliadau megis y Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd yn gosod cyfyngiadau ar ddatblygu ardaloedd gwledig, y dywed y glymblaid y bydd yn eu helpu.

Os parha'r sefyllfa bresennol o ildio i unrhyw beth a ddyweda byddin y wilis—welis gwyrdd, mae'n ddrwg gennyf—yna nid adferwn yr ardaloedd hynny. Ni allwn adeiladu economi gynaliadwy ar wyllo adar yn unig. Mae angen swyddi tymor hir ar gyfer dyfodol tymor hir.

Rhaid i'r glymblaid wynebu'r tensiynau cynhenid sydd yn bodoli wrth geisio sicrhau bod y prosiectau hyn yn gweithio. Ar un llaw, ceir anghysondeb ym mholisi'r glymblaid ac, ar y llaw arall, mae perygl o fiwrocratiaeth a drosglwyddir inni gan Frwsel. Ni allwn ganiatáu i eiriau cynnes gymryd lle gweithrediadau. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar gyflwyno'r prosiectau hyn. Rhaid inni sicrhau bod polisïau'r glymblaid yn gyson, a fydd yn cefnogi'r rhaglen hon.

Mike Bates: Bu'n ddi-ddorol clywed hynny. [*Chwerthin.*] Fodd bynnag, dymunaf ymateb i sylwadau cynharach Brian Gibbons, gan mai prin yw'r bobl sydd mor frwdfrydig am y broses hon â mi a chredaf fod hyn yn newyddion da i Gymru. O ystyried bod rhaglen Amcan 1 enfawr gennym eisoes ac y cwmpesir 75 y cant o Gymru gan Amcanion 1 a 2, gallem fod wedi anghofio am y mentrau cymunedol yn hawdd. Dyna rywbeth sydd yn agos at fy nghalon, gan y gweithiais gyda mentrau cymunedol am nifer o flynyddoedd. Credaf yn gryf fod y mentrau cymunedol yn gynaliadwy ac yn dod â llawer o fanteision i'n cymunedau.

Cynrychiola'r mentrau hyn fonws ychwanegol ar gyfer datblygu economaidd yng Nghymru. Mae dwywaith ei dyraniad

budget allocation. That is good news, as we have already heard, for north-east Wales. INTERREG is an excellent initiative and has a budget that is three times the size of its previous programme. Last time, resources were split 10:1 in favour of Ireland. This time, they have been split almost 2:1 in favour of Wales. That is a real victory and good news for north-west and south-west Wales. The LEADER programme's budget has been sustained, despite strong challenges from England, because there are now LEADER programmes in all English rural areas. This is good news for rural Wales.

I want to refer to people's comments about the Objective 2 programme, which has been an equally successful process. However, I emphasise that I do not want east Wales to miss out on this process. I want east Wales to gain grant availability that is equal to that of west Wales. In particular, I would welcome an announcement that one day east Wales will receive tier 3 funding.

I commend the LEADER programme, in particular, because community development programmes are sustainable. I will mention the work of Menter Powys. Many references have been made to *menter* groups around Wales, and Menter Powys provided equally innovative work to assist community development. One thing that we should not forget as this process moves forward is that they too provided a voice for communities, one that was independent of statutory bodies.

In this process, it is important that people gain ownership of their bids. In this respect, we must ensure that WEFO, in particular, publicises all the available funding throughout rural Wales. Access is important and I hope that Farming Connect, which the partnership Government is setting up, will assist many farmers to receive assistance under these programmes.

Finally, I make a plea. One criticism of the LEADER initiative is that it was developed in isolation and that there was little co-

cyllideb blaenorol gan URBAN, er enghraifft. Mae hynny'n newyddion da i ogledd ddwyrain Cymru, fel y clywsom eisoes. Mae INTERREG yn fenter ardderchog ac mae ganddi gyllideb sydd deirgwaith cymaint â'i rhaglen flaenorol. Y tro diwethaf, rhannwyd yr adnoddau 10:1 o blaid Iwerddon. Y tro hwn, fe'u rhannwyd bron 2:1 o blaid Cymru. Mae honno'n fuddugoliaeth wirioneddol ac mae'n newyddion da i ogledd orllewin Cymru a de orllewin Cymru. Cynhaliwyd cyllideb y rhaglen LEADER, er gwaethaf heriau mawr o Loegr, gan fod rhaglenni LEADER bellach ym mhob ardal wledig yn Lloegr. Mae hynny'n newyddion da i Gymru wledig.

Dymunaf gyfeirio at sylwadau pobl am y rhaglen Amcan 2, a fu'n broses yr un mor llwyddiannus. Fodd bynnag, pwysleisiaf na ddymunaf i ddwyrain Cymru fod ar ei cholled o ran y broses hon. Dymunaf i ddwyrain Cymru allu cael grantiau sydd yn gyfartal â grantiau gorllewin Cymru. Byddwn yn croesawu yn arbennig gyhoeddiad y caiff dwyrain Cymru arian haen 3 rywbryd.

Cymeradwyaf y rhaglen LEADER, yn enwedig, gan fod rhaglenni datblygu cymunedol yn gynaliadwy. Crybwyllaf waith Menter Powys. Cyfeiriwyd sawl gwaith at grwpiau menter ledled Cymru, a darparodd Menter Powys waith yr un mor arloesol i gynorthwyo datblygu cymunedol. Un peth na ddylem ei anghofio wrth i'r broses hon symud ymlaen yw y darparasant hwy hefyd lais i'r cymunedau, llais a oedd yn annibynnol ar gyrff statudol.

Mae'n bwysig bod pobl yn cael perchnogaeth o'u cynigion yn y broses hon. Yn hyn o beth, rhaid inni sicrhau bod Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, yn arbennig, yn rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd i'r holl arian sydd ar gael ledled Cymru wledig. Mae mynediad yn bwysig a gobeithio y cynorthwya Cyswllt Ffermio, y mae'r Llywodraeth bartneriaeth yn ei sefydlu, lawer o ffermwyr i gael cymorth o dan y rhaglenni hyn.

Yn olaf, plediaf â chi. Un feirniadaeth o'r fenter LEADER yw y'i datblygwyd ar ei phen ei hun ac na chafwyd llawer o gyd-

ordination between different LEADER projects. Therein lies a lesson for us, particularly in east Wales, where we have Objective 2, Objective 3 and the rural development programme. These programmes should work in an integrated fashion so that we do not duplicate expenditure.

Alun Cairns: In Mick Bates's opening comments he said that he would like to tie his speech in with that of Brian Gibbons, who compared us with Ireland and other parts of Europe. Is it not right that we should be benchmarking ourselves with the best in Europe, not necessarily only one nation?

Mick Bates: I agree that the best practice is the way forward. In the documents you will see that the best practice, for example of LEADER, has been taken forward in the evaluation process. I am sure that that process will occur through the other monitoring committees.

I end by commenting on this process. It would be greatly beneficial to all these programmes, particularly in east Wales, that the monitoring committees work closely together. We could at least have joint evaluation of the programmes as they proceed so that we know where we are going. At the moment, it appears that the isolation of LEADER will be repeated not only in the monitoring process but also in the evaluation process. I would like to hear that there will be joint evaluation of these programmes so that as we proceed through these seven years we can ensure that we get the most effective spend and best value for our money.

Michael German: I thank everybody for their interventions, speeches and interesting points. I will try to pick up most of them, but I will collect some of them together under themes. Janet Ryder raised a point about match funding and local government budgets. I am informed that the partnership in Wrexham is working on identifying match funding for the area. The local government budgets can be enhanced by the use of the Assembly's local regeneration fund as match funding. Edwina Hart has already announced that that budget is available for these

drefnu rhwng y prosiectau LEADER gwahanol. Mae gwrs inni yno, yn enwedig yn nwyrain Cymru, lle mae Amcan 2, Amcan 3 a'r rhaglen datblygu gwledig gennym. Dylai'r rhaglenni hyn weithio mewn modd integredig fel na ddyblygwn wariant.

Alun Cairns: Yn sylwadau agoriadol Mick Bates, dywedodd yr hoffai gysylltu ei araith ag araith Brian Gibbons, â'n cymharodd ag Iwerddon a rhannau eraill o Ewrop. Onid yw'n briodol y dylem feincnodi'n hunain gyda'r gorau yn Ewrop, ac nid o reidrwydd ond gydag un genedl?

Mick Bates: Cytunaf mai'r arfer gorau yw'r ffordd ymlaen. Yn y dogfennau, fe welwch i'r arfer gorau, er enghraifft arfer gorau LEADER, gael ei datblygu yn y broses werthuso. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y broses honno yn digwydd drwy'r pwyllgorau monitro eraill.

Gorffennaf drwy roi sylwadau ar y broses hon. Byddai o fudd mawr i bob un o'r rhaglenni hyn, yn enwedig yn nwyrain Cymru, i'r pwyllgorau monitro gydweithio'n agos. Gallem o leiaf gael gwerthusiad ar y cyd o'r rhaglenni wrth iddynt fynd yn eu blaenau er mwyn inni wybod i ble yr awn. Ar hyn o bryd, ymddengys y caiff y ffaith bod LEADER ar ei phen ei hun ei ailadrodd nid yn unig yn y broses fonitro ond hefyd yn y broses werthuso. Hoffwn glywed y bydd gwerthusiad ar y cyd o'r rhaglenni hyn fel y gallwn sicrhau y cawn y gwariant mwyaf effeithiol a'r gwerth gorau am ein harian, wrth inni symud drwy'r saith mlynedd hyn.

Mike German: Diolch i bawb am eu hymyriadau, eu hareithiau a'u pwyntiau diddorol. Ceisiaf roi sylwadau ar y rhan fwyaf ohonynt, ond casglaf rai ohonynt ynghyd o dan themâu. Cododd Janet Ryder bwynt am arian cyfatebol a chyllidebau llywodraeth leol. Fe'm hysbysir bod y bartneriaeth yn Wrecsam yn gweithio i nodi arian cyfatebol ar gyfer yr ardal. Gellir cynyddu cyllidebau llywodraeth leol drwy ddefnyddio cronfa adfywio lleol y Cynulliad fel arian cyfatebol. Cyhoeddwyd eisoes gan Edwina Hart bod y gyllideb honno ar gael at

purposes and I am sure that there will be further announcements. Part of the partnership agreement was that we would provide £60 million of extra match funding per year. That would help all of the programmes to achieve the additional match funding that is required due to the growth in the programmes that we have in Wales. I would encourage the programmes to do that.

The URBAN programme is identified as targeting deprivation. That is why it targets the nine wards. It is about deprivation, whereas LEADER is about rurality. I am happy to talk to officials about Janet Ryder's point about INTERREG III and spatial planning. The issues of evaluation and monitoring have been well rehearsed by the Economic Development Committee, by myself and in previous Plenary debates. It is clear to me that we need to have continuous evaluation of where we are with these European programmes so that we can adjust and ensure that we are on direction for achieving the ambitions set out in the single programming documents. I hope that the Economic Development Committee's debates tomorrow and on Thursday and the development of the business support review will help the debate on this matter. There are some specific proposals to make, of which Committee members are aware.

Cohesion is an issue that has been raised significantly across the entire programme. I have taken that on board, and as soon as these programmes are up and underway we will have monitoring committees for them to ensure that we are all working together. The key direction in which we can bring people together is the national economic development strategy. What matters to us in Wales is to have a single strategy that sets out the vision for the future and the pathways towards that vision, towards which all the partnerships are working. I and the Economic Development Committee are working vigorously on having a document available early in the new year, which we hope will be substantive.

Alun Cairns: Would you accept that an

y dibenion hyn ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd cyhoeddiadau eraill. Rhan o'r cytundeb partneriaeth oedd y byddem yn darparu £60 miliwn o arian cyfatebol ychwanegol y flwyddyn. Byddai hynny'n helpu pob un o'r rhaglenni i gael yr arian cyfatebol ychwanegol sydd ei angen oherwydd y cynnydd yn y rhaglenni sydd gennym yng Nghymru. Anogwn y rhaglenni i wneud hynny.

Nodir bod y rhaglen URBAN yn targedu amddifadedd. Dyna pam ei bod yn targedu'r naw ward. Mae'n ymwneud ag amddifadedd, tra bod LEADER yn ymwneud â materion gwledig. Yr wyf yn fodlon siarad â swyddogion am bwynt Janet Ryder am INTERREG III a chynllunio gofodol. Trafodwyd materion gwerthuso a monitro yn fawr gan y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd, gennyf fi ac mewn dadleuon Cyfarfodydd Llawn blaenorol. Mae'n amlwg i mi fod angen inni werthuso'n barhaus ym mha le yr ydym gyda'r rhaglenni Ewropeaidd hyn fel y gallwn addasu a sicrhau ein bod ar y trywydd i gyflawni'r uchelgeisiau a nodir yn y dogfennau rhaglennu sengl. Gobeithio y bydd dadleuon y Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd yfory a dydd Iau a datblygiad yr arolygiad cymorth busnes yn helpu'r ddadl ar y mater hwn. Mae rhai cynigion penodol i'w gwneud, y mae aelodau'r Pwyllgor yn ymwybodol ohonynt.

Mae cydlynid yn fater a godwyd ar draws y rhaglen gyfan. Derbyniais hynny, a chyn gynted ag bydd y rhaglenni hyn yn eu lle, sefydlwn bwyllgorau monitro ar eu cyfer er mwyn sicrhau bod pob un ohonom yn cydweithio â'i gilydd. Y cyfeiriad allweddol lle gallwn ddod â phobl ynghyd yw'r strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol. Yr hyn sydd yn bwysig i ni yng Nghymru yw bod un strategaeth gennym sydd yn nodi'r weledigaeth ar gyfer y dyfodol a'r llwybrau tuag at y weledigaeth honno, y mae pob un o'r partneriaethau yn gweithio tuag ati. Yr wyf fi a'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd yn gweithio'n galed i gyhoeddi dogfen yn gynnar yn y flwyddyn newydd, a fydd yn sylweddol, gobeithio.

Alun Cairns: A fydddech yn derbyn bod yn

effective strategy must be truly dynamic and must adapt to the environment that it seeks to improve? One document that would reflect many others that we have had, be it the single programming document or 'Betterwales.com' is not a sufficiently effective strategy and there must be something more.

4:50 p.m.

Michael German: The most important thing about a national economic development strategy for Wales is that it must not just sit on a shelf gathering dust. It must be a dynamic document and must be reviewed. That is the whole purpose of the evaluation exercise, which, when it shapes and sees where we are going, informs the process of reviewing the national economic development strategy. It is a continuous circle. At the moment, we have not broken into that circle sufficiently well to set out our vision and direction. However, I agree with you that the evaluation process will make that document dynamic.

I wish to comment on some of WFO's roles, which you mentioned in your speech, Alun. It must interpret Commission spending rules. Some of the problems that have been identified quite consistently by Assembly Members, are not always within WFO's control or even within the control of the National Assembly. I agree that Commission rules require simplification. We should work towards achieving simplification on a partnership basis with the monitoring committees and through the Assembly.

I sympathise with Richard's point about community councils. They are the backbone of bottom-up development and growth in the development of our communities in Wales. It should be encouraged. I assure you that it is not the intention of the SPD nor is it mine that there should be a closed shop in Wales on European programmes. Some people will be well prepared because they have been in the business for many years. We should try to assist those people who are new to European

rhaid i strategaeth effeithiol fod yn wirioneddol ddeinamig a bod yn rhaid iddi ymaddasu i'r amgylchedd y ceisia ei wella? Nid yw un ddogfen a adlewyrchai lawer o ddogfennau eraill a gawsom, boed yn ddogfen raglennu sengl neu yn 'Gwellcymru.com', yn strategaeth ddigon effeithiol a rhaid cael rhywbeth mwy na hynny.

Michael German: Y peth pwysicaf am strategaeth datblygu economaidd cenedlaethol i Gymru yw na ddylai ond aros ar silff yn hel llwch. Rhaid iddi fod yn ddogfen ddeinamig a rhaid ei hadolygu. Dyna holl ddiben yr ymarfer gwerthuso, pan lunia a nodia i ble yr awn, sydd yn llywio'r broses o adolygu'r strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol. Mae'n gylch parhaus. Ar hyn o bryd, nid ydym wedi torri i mewn i'r cylch hwnnw yn ddigon da i nodi ein gweledigaeth a'n cyfeiriad. Fodd bynnag, cytunaf â chi y bydd y ddogfen honno'n ddeinamig oherwydd y broses werthuso.

Dymunaf wneud sylwadau am rai o rolau Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, a grybwyllwyd gennych yn eich araith, Alun. Rhaid iddi ddehongli rheolau gwario'r Comisiwn. Nid yw rhai o'r problemau, a nodwyd yn eithaf cyson gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad, bob amser o fewn rheolaeth Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru neu hyd yn oed o fewn rheolaeth y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Cytunaf fod angen symleiddio rheolau'r Comisiwn. Dylem weithio tuag at eu symleiddio ar sail bartneriaeth gyda'r pwyllgorau monitro a thrwy'r Cynulliad.

Cydymdeimlaf â phwynt Richard am y cynghorau cymunedol. Asgwrn cefn ydynt i ddatblygiad a thwf o'r gwaelod i fyny wrth ddatblygu ein cymunedau yng Nghymru. Dylid ei annog. Fe'ch sicrhaf nad fy mwriad i na bwriad y ddogfen raglennu sengl yw cael siop gaeedig yng Nghymru ynglŷn â'r rhaglenni Ewropeaidd. Bydd rhai pobl wedi paratoi'n dda oherwydd y buont yn ymwneud â hyn ers nifer o flynyddoedd. Dylem geisio gynorthwyo'r bobl hynny sydd yn newydd i'r

funding so that they can also benefit from it and new partners can be brought on board.

Elin, I am grateful for your support for the WDA's global grant approach and I also appreciate that you understand that we can support the spirit of the amendment, but we have a problem at present with the timing and negotiations with the European Commission. We have a big challenge, and the challenge of LEADER+ is innovation. We know that innovation must have a counterbalance, which may be to target deprived areas. Many deprived areas will be assisted through the target groups identified in chapter 4 of the SPD for LEADER+. Young people, for example, are a priority in that chapter and there are others: micro and small businesses, farming families, Welsh speakers, underemployed people, and women. All are identified in chapter 4, so there is targeting of groups there.

We need to look into jobs for rural areas. That is what this and the rural spatial planning of Objective 1 is about. The First Minister talked today about Invertek Drives Ltd and the 30 jobs there. The national economic development strategy, which is currently being developed, also needs to address this issue so that we have a clear hymn sheet from which we can sing. I agree that the ultimate aim is to see the mainstreaming of LEADER projects in the medium term. That is the purpose of the community initiatives. They should be mainstreamed so that we can learn from past experiences and pass on the information.

Ieuan, on the INTERREG II experience, I note what you said about film. As you know, the partnership agreement states that we should have a film strategy for Wales and that my colleague, Jenny Randerson, would bring such a document before you. However, you should note that Objective 1 can help to create the financial incentives that other Celtic areas already have. Perhaps INTERREG is a little too small to get the momentum that we need so that it can be

mater o arian Ewropeaidd fel y gallant fanteisio arno hefyd ac fel y gellir cwmpasu partneriaid newydd.

Elin, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich cefnogaeth am ymagwedd grantiau byd-eang Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a gwerthfawrogaf hefyd y deallwch y gallwn gefnogi naws y gwelliant, ond mae problem gennym ar hyn o bryd ynglŷn â'r amseru a'r trafodaethau â'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd. Wynebwn her fawr, ac arloesedd yw her LEADER+. Gwyddom fod yn rhaid gwrthbwyso arloesedd, sef targedu ardaloedd amddifad efallai. Cynorthwyr llawer o ardaloedd difreintiedig drwy'r grwpiau targed a nodir ym mhennod 4 y ddogfen raglennu sengl ar gyfer LEADER+. Mae pobl ifanc, er enghraifft, yn flaenoriaeth yn y bennod hon ac mae blaenoriaethau eraill: busnesau micro a bach, teuluoedd ffermio, Cymry Cymraeg, pobl a dangyflogir, a menywod. Nodir pob un ohonynt ym mhennod 4, ac felly targedir grwpiau yma.

Mae angen inni ymchwilio i swyddi ar gyfer ardaloedd gwledig. Dyna'r hyn y mae hyn a chynllunio gofodol gwledig Amcan 1 yn ymwneud ag ef. Siaradodd Prif Weinidog Cymru heddiw am Invertek Drives Ltd a'r 30 o swyddi a geir yno. Mae angen i'r strategaeth datblygu economaidd genedlaethol, a ddatblygir ar hyn o bryd, ymdrin â'r mater hwn fel bod gennym daflen emynau glir y gallwn ei defnyddio i ganu ohoni. Cytunaf mai'r prif nod yw gweld y prosiectau LEADER yn y prif ffrwd yn y tymor canolig. Dyna ddiben y mentrau cymunedol. Dylid eu rhoi yn y brif frwd fel y gallwn ddysgu o brofiadau yn y gorffennol a phasio'r wybodaeth ymlaen.

Ieuan, ynglŷn â'r profiad INTERREG II, nodaf yr hyn a ddywedwch ynglŷn â ffilm. Fel y gwyddoch, noda'r cytundeb partneriaeth y dylai fod gennym strategaeth ffilm ar gyfer Cymru ac y byddai fy nghyd-Aelod, Jenny Randerson, yn dod â dogfen o'r fath ger eich bron. Fodd bynnag, dylech nodi y gall Amcan 1 helpu i greu'r cymhellion ariannol sydd eisoes gan ardaloedd Celtaidd eraill. Efallai bod INTERREG ychydig yn rhy fach i gael y momentwm sydd ei angen

helpful. From Objective 1, we could look at Finance Wales, but film and languages can be funded under priority 2, measure 2 of INTERREG III which is the culture measure that is interpreted in a broader sense. I believe that the bureaucracy that we face in these matters will be best overcome by a single joint secretariat for the new programme and simplified procedures. I have to see that through.

Peter Rogers, I only have two words written down here: the first word begins with green and I do not want to repeat the second.

On WEFO, the issue of publicity and co-ordination is crucial because we need to ensure—this is a point that Richard made—that those inexperienced people who have not yet been involved in such programmes can get involved in the new programmes in an exciting way.

I hope that people throughout Wales will be encouraged to take up the new programmes that are available to them. We must build on the inclusive partnership approach to developing these programmes. That not only relates to the forthcoming negotiations, but to the implementation process itself. Each community initiative is distinct, but all our designs complement and add to the mainstream structural fund programmes. The resources available for each programme provide a real opportunity to take forward the individual aims and objectives, develop sustainable growth and provide the maximum possible benefits.

Over the next months, these documents will no doubt undergo a number of amendments and I will keep the Assembly informed of developments. You can see that we currently retain a degree of flexibility, which is only right at the beginning of a negotiating process. I hope that the Assembly will sign up to these drafts and allow us to move forward into the all-important next stage.

arnom er mwyn iddo fod yn ddefnyddiol. O Amcan 1, gallem edrych ar Gyllid Cymru, ond gellir ariannu ffilmiau ac ieithoedd o dan flaenoriaeth 2, mesur 2 o INTERREG III sef y mesur diwylliant a ddehonglir yn ehangach. Credaf y goresgynnir y fiwrocraatiaeth a wynebwn yn y materion hyn orau drwy un ysgrifenyddiaeth ar y cyd ar gyfer y rhaglen newydd a gweithdrefnau symlach. Rhaid imi weld hynny i'r diwedd.

Peter Rogers, dim ond dau air a ysgrifennais yma: dechreuau'r un cyntaf gyda gwyrdd ac nid wyf am ailadrodd yr ail air.

Ynglŷn â Swyddfa Cyllid Ewropeaidd Cymru, mae mater cyhoeddusrwydd a chyd-drefnu yn hanfodol gan fod rhaid inni sicrhau—dyma bwynt a wnaeth Richard—y gall y bobl ddibrofiad hynny nad ydynt wedi cymryd rhan mewn rhaglenni o'r fath eto gymryd rhan yn y rhaglenni newydd mewn ffordd gyffrous.

Gobeithiaf yr anogir pobl ledled Cymru i ymgymryd â'r rhaglenni newydd sydd ar gael iddynt. Rhaid inni ddatblygu'r ymagwedd bartneriaeth gynhwysol tuag at ddatblygu'r rhaglenni hyn. Mae hynny'n ymwneud nid yn unig â'r trafodaethau sydd i ddod, ond â'r broses weithredu ei hun. Mae pob menter gymunedol yn wahanol, ond mae pob un o'n cynlluniau yn cyflenwi ac yn ychwanegu at y rhaglenni cronfeydd strwythurol prif ffrwd. Darparu'r adnoddau sydd ar gael ar gyfer pob rhaglen gyfle gwirioneddol i symud ymlaen y nodau a'r amcanion unigol, datblygu twf cynaliadwy a darparu'r manteision mwyaf posibl.

Dros y misoedd nesaf, caiff y dogfennau hyn eu diwygio yn ddiamau a rhoddaf yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y datblygiadau i'r Cynulliad. Gallwch weld ein bod yn cadw rhywfaint o hyblygrwydd ar hyn o bryd, sydd ond yn briodol ar ddechrau proses negodi. Gobeithiaf y cytuna'r Cynulliad â'r dogfennau drafft hyn a chaniatáu inni symud ymlaen i'r cam nesaf holl bwysig.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 24, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 27.
Amendment 1: For 24, Abstain 0, Against 27.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Bourne, Nick
 Cairns, Alun
 Dafis, Cynog
 Davies, David
 Davies, Geraint
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Graham, William
 Hancock, Brian
 Jones, Ann
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Morgan, Jonathan
 Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wigley, Dafydd
 Williams, Phil

The following Members voted against:

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue
 Evans, Delyth
 Feld, Val
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Halford, Alison
 Hart, Edwina
 Humphreys, Christine
 Hutt, Jane
 Law, Peter
 Lewis, Huw
 Middlehurst, Tom
 Morgan, Rhodri
 Neagle, Lynne
 Randerson, Jenny
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 2: O blaid 16, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 35.
 Amendment 2: For 16, Abstain 0, Against 35.*

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

Dafis, Cynog
 Davies, Geraint
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Hancock, Brian
 Jarman, Pauline
 Jones, Elin
 Jones, Gareth
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wigley, Dafydd
 Williams, Phil

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

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue
 Evans, Delyth
 Feld, Val
 German, Michael
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Halford, Alison
 Hart, Edwina
 Humphreys, Christine
 Hutt, Jane
 Jones, Ann
 Law, Peter

Lewis, Huw
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment rejected.*

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Amendment 3: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Cairns, Alun
Chapman, Christine
Dafis, Cynog
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Geraint
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Edwards, Richard
Essex, Sue
Evans, Delyth
Feld, Val
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Humphreys, Christine
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny

Rogers, Peter
 Ryder, Janet
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Thomas, Owen John
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Wigley, Dafydd
 Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment adopted.*

Amended motion:

The National Assembly

i. takes note of the draft single programming documents for the LEADER+, INTERREG (Wales-Ireland programme) and URBAN community initiatives, laid in the Table Office on 7 November 2000; and

ii. Authorises the Minister for Economic Development to submit them to the European Commission later this month in accordance with the prescribed timetable, with such additions or amendments as are necessary to meet the Commission's requirements

iii. Welcomes the INTERREG IIIA Wales-Ireland initiative as an important opportunity to establish further collaboration within the economic and cultural fields between the two areas.

Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio:

Mae'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol

i. yn nodi'r dogfennau rhaglennu sengl drafft ar gyfer LEADER+, INTERREG (rhaglen Cymru-Iwerddon) a mentrau cymunedol URBAN, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 7 Tachwedd 2000; ac

ii. yn awdurdodi'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd i'w cyflwyno i'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn yn unol â'r amserlen benodedig, gan gynnwys unrhyw ychwanegiadau neu welliannau ag sydd yn angenrheidiol i fodloni gofynion y Comisiwn.

iii. yn croesawu menter Cymru-Iwerddon INTERREG IIIA fel cyfle pwysig i sefydlu cydweithrediad pellach rhwng y ddwy ardal mewn meysydd economaidd a diwylliannol.

*Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 52, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
 Amended motion: For 52, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Barrett, Lorraine
 Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Cairns, Alun
 Chapman, Christine
 Dafis, Cynog
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Geraint
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Edwards, Richard
 Essex, Sue

Evans, Delyth
Feld, Val
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Halford, Alison
Hancock, Brian
Hart, Edwina
Humphreys, Christine
Hutt, Jane
Jarman, Pauline
Jones, Ann
Jones, Elin
Jones, Gareth
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lewis, Huw
Lloyd, David
Middlehurst, Tom
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Rogers, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Wigley, Dafydd
Williams, Phil

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio.
Amended motion adopted.*

Y Llywydd: Dyna ddiwedd sesiwn heddiw. **The Presiding Officer:** That is the end of today's session. I thank Members for their co-operation.
Diolchaf i'r Aelodau am eu cydweithrediad.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 4.58 p.m.
The session ended at 4.58 p.m.*