



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
(Y Cofnod Swyddogol)**

**The National Assembly for Wales
(The Official Record)**

Dydd Mawrth, 18 Mai 2004

Tuesday, 18 May 2004

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Yn y golofn chwith, cofnodwyd y trafodion yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynnddi 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.*

**Ethol i'r Pwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal
Election to the Committee on Equality of Opportunity**

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I **Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair):** Cynigiau fod
propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 8.4 and 14.3, elects Mark Isherwood (Conservative) to its Committee on Equality of Opportunity in place of David Davies (Conservative). (NDM1955)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheolau Sefydlog Rhifau 8.4 a 14.3, yn ethol Mark Isherwood (Ceidwadwyr) i'w Bwyllgor Cyfle Cyfartal yn lle David Davies (Ceidwadwyr). (NDM1955)

*Cynnig (NDM1955): O blaid 32, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1955): For 32, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Gwyther, Christine
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Oedi o ran Trosglwyddo Gofal Delayed Transfers of Care

Q1 The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): Will the First Minister make a statement on delayed transfers of care in Wales? (OAQ35079)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): The latest census figures for delayed transfers of care are the lowest since May 2002, reflecting the Assembly Government's additional investment and the innovative ways in which health and social services organisations respond to the need to avoid hospital admissions, and to secure safe and timely transfers once treatment is complete. The latest figures show 934 cases of delayed transfer of care; if they were counted according to the same method used by the NHS in England, the figure would be 143.

Michael German: For two years, you and I and Jane Hutt sat around the same Cabinet table, where we wrestled with the issues of health and social services. We were able to agree—and still agree—on the new local health boards, and the stronger partnership between the health service and the local health boards. The rationale for establishing local health boards, to bring about closer communication, was right. However, you cannot expect 22 local health boards to undertake a full-scale review of the national health service; they are not responsible for the systemic problems facing the health service. Today, all Members have been given a 1,000 page document which contains local health board action plans. In some cases, it includes 22 answers to the same 22 problems. There is no all-Wales strategy, and no Welsh Assembly Government policy is reflected.

The majority of blocked beds are in Gwent, and the Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent local authority areas, rather than in Newport and

C1 Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar yr oedi o ran trosglwyddo gofal yng Nghymru? (OAQ35079)

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Y ffigurau diweddaraf o'r cyfrifiad ar oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yw'r rhai isaf er Mai 2002, gan adlewyrchu buddsoddiad ychwanegol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'r dulliau arloesol a ddefnyddia'r cyrff iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i ymateb i'r angen i osgoi derbyniadau i'r ysbyty, ac i drosglwyddo cleifion yn ddiogel ac yn amserol ar ôl cwblhau eu triniaeth. Mae'r ffigurau diweddaraf yn dangos 934 o achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal; pe caent eu cyfrif yn y dull a ddefnyddir gan y GIG yn Lloegr, y ffigur fyddai 143.

Michael German: Am ddwy flynedd, gwnaethoch chi a mi a Jane Hutt eistedd wrth yr un bwrdd Cabinet, lle ceisiasom fynd i'r afael â materion iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Yr oeddem yn gallu cytuno—ac yr ydym yn dal i gytuno—ar y byrddau iechyd lleol newydd, a'r bartneriaeth gryfach rhwng y gwasanaeth iechyd a'r byrddau iechyd lleol. Yr oedd y sail resymegol i sefydlu byrddau iechyd lleol, er mwyn cael cysylltiadau agosach, yn gywir. Er hynny, ni allwch ddisgwyl i 22 bwrdd iechyd lleol ymgymryd ag adolygiad llawn o'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol; nid hwy sy'n gyfrifol am y problemau systemig sy'n wynebu'r gwasanaeth iechyd. Heddiw, mae'r holl Aelodau wedi cael dogfen o 1,000 o dudalennau sy'n cynnwys cynlluniau gweithredu byrddau iechyd lleol. Mewn rhai achosion, mae'n cynnwys 22 ateb i'r un 22 o broblemau. Nid oes unrhyw strategaeth i Gymru gyfan, ac ni welir polisi o eiddo Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r gwelyau sydd wedi'u blocio yng Ngwent, ac yn ardaloedd awdurdodau lleol Tor-faen a Blaenau Gwent,

Monmouthshire. How is the NHS in Newport and Monmouthshire expected to solve bedblocking? When will your Government give a lead?

The First Minister: I mentioned that we encourage close working between social services departments—dealing with adult services in particular—and the NHS, to reduce delayed transfers of care. If you consider Wales's 22 local authorities, you implicitly set up a league table, where some authorities will come out at the top, some in the middle, and, sadly, some at the bottom. One of the roles of the Audit Commission, as the health service auditor, is to consider how the essence of good practice—or outstanding practice, in some areas—to be found among the authorities at the top of that league can be bottled. I have mentioned my visit to Wrexham, where I saw the practice that has been established there jointly with Cheshire; there is close co-operation between the Wrexham Maelor Hospital and the Countess of Chester Hospital. Other authorities need to learn from the Wrexham experience, so that they can put that into practice. Two of the authorities that you mentioned are not a long way from the top of the league table, but they need to learn from the benchmarking exercise. It is the role of the Audit Commission to bring that benchmarking exercise to the attention of those authorities not doing the job as well as they could.

Michael German: When we commissioned the Wanless report, it was my expectation that we would act upon its recommendations. Wanless made it clear, as did the Audit Commission recently, that we got the issue of capacity wrong. We thought that that was the big issue, but the Audit Commission says that evidence shows that high acute-bed occupancy is not the result of too few beds, but rather the inability to control admissions and timely discharges. The NHS in Wales is not, therefore, treating the right people in the right place at the right time by the right team. We got it wrong—you, me, and all other Members of the first Assembly. I am prepared to say sorry to the people of Wales for that; are you?

yn hytrach nag yng Nghasnewydd a sir Fynwy. Sut y disgwylir i'r GIG yng Nghasnewydd a sir Fynwy ddatrys problem blocio gwelyau? Pa bryd y gwnaiff eich Llywodraeth roi arweiniad?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cyfeiriais at y ffaith ein bod yn annog cydweithio clòs rhwng adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—wrth ymdrin â gwasanaethau i oedolion yn benodol—a'r GIG, er mwyn lleihau oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Os ystyriwch y 22 awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru, mae'n ddealliedig wrth wneud hynny eich bod yn gosod tabl cynghrair, lle y bydd rhai awdurdodau yn y pen uchaf, rhai yn y canol, a, gwaetha'r modd, rai ar y gwaelod. Un o rolau'r Comisiwn Archwilio, fel archwilydd y gwasanaeth iechyd, yw ystyried sut y gellir crisialu hanfod yr arferion da—neu'r arferion eithriadol o dda, mewn rhai ardaloedd—sydd i'w cael ymysg yr awdurdodau sydd ar ben y gynghrair honno. Yr wyf wedi sôn am fy ymweliad â Wrecsam, lle y gwelais yr arferion a oedd wedi'u sefydlu ar y cyd yn y fan honno gyda swydd Gaer; ceir cydweithredu clòs rhwng Ysbyty Wrecsam Maelor ac Ysbyty Iarlles Caer. Rhaid i awdurdodau eraill ddysgu oddi wrth profiad Wrecsam, fel y gallant roi hynny ar waith. Mae dau o'r awdurdodau y cyfeiriasoch atynt heb fod ymhell o ben y tabl cynghrair, ond rhaid iddynt ddysgu oddi wrth yr ymarfer meincnodi. Rôl y Comisiwn Archwilio yw dod â'r ymarfer meincnodi hwnnw at sylw'r awdurdodau hynny nad ydynt yn gwneud cystal ag y dylent.

Michael German: Pan wnaethom gomisiynu adroddiad Wanless, yr oeddwn yn disgwyl y byddem yn gweithredu ar sail ei argymhellion. Eglurodd Wanless, fel y gwnaeth y Comisiwn Archwilio'n ddiweddar, ein bod wedi camgymryd ar bwnc capasiti. Credasom mai hwnnw oedd y pwnc pwysig, ond dywed y Comisiwn Archwilio fod tystiolaeth yn dangos nad yw'r defnydd mawr ar welyau aciwt yn ganlyniad i brinder gwelyau, ond yn hytrach i'r anallu i reoli'r achosion a dderbynnir ac i ryddhau cleifion yn amserol. Felly, nid yw'r GIG yng Nghymru'n trin y bobl iawn yn y lle iawn ar yr adeg iawn gan ddefnyddio'r tîm iawn. Camgymerasom—chi, mi, a holl Aelodau eraill y Cynulliad cyntaf. Yr wyf yn barod i

ymddiheuro i bobl Cymru am hynny; a ydych chi?

The First Minister: You have to make what you think that you have got wrong clearer to the people of Wales, Mike. I find your comments off-beam, but you are welcome to make them wherever you will be campaigning, in saying that you have got it wrong.

Whenever you discuss the issue of the boundary between health and social care and delayed transfers of care, you will hear from practitioners on both sides that too many people with chronic conditions are being treated in acute beds, when those conditions can be managed by general practitioners and through other health service support without them occupying acute beds inappropriately. We all agree on that. The question is how do we achieve the situation which we would like, and not have people inappropriately in acute beds when they have chronic conditions. My recollection is that the number of such people is well over 50 per cent of those going into hospital. With better community-based treatment, those people would not have to go into hospital, and would be much better off, being treated at home.

Michael German: I am disappointed that you cannot say sorry; the people of Wales will also regret that you cannot do that. Two independent reports have been published in the last year, giving the same clear message and offering the same way forward. Instead of making excuses, hiding behind tonnes of paper from local health boards, and resorting to one-off initiatives, why cannot you acknowledge the mistakes and get on with the diagnosis and with dealing with the problems, as indicated by the Wanless report and the Audit Commission?

The First Minister: We have the diagnosis, and we have got the direction of travel right. I am sorry, but I do not understand your reference to hiding behind mounds of paper. No-one is doing anything of the sort. If we refused to disclose the contents of the local Wanless plans, I am sure that you would then accuse us of hiding the reports, instead of hiding behind them. Your words are meaningless, Mike. We have the direction of

Y Prif Weinidog: Rhaid ichi egluro'n well i bobl Cymru yr hyn yr ydych yn credu'ch bod wedi'i gamgymryd, Mike. Credaf eich bod yn methu'n arw yn eich sylwadau, ond mae croeso ichi eu gwneud ym mhle bynnag y byddwch yn ymgyrchu, wrth ddweud eich bod wedi camgymryd.

Pryd bynnag y trafodir mater y terfyn rhwng iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol ac oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, clywir gan ymarferwyr ar y ddwy ochr fod gormod o bobl a chanddynt anhwylderau cronig yn cael eu trin mewn gwelyau aciwt, pan fo modd i ymarferwyr cyffredinol a chynorthwywyr eraill yn y gwasanaeth iechyd ofalu am yr anhwylderau hynny, heb ddefnyddio gwelyau aciwt yn amhriodol. Yr ydym oll yn cytuno ar hynny. Y cwestiwn yw sut y cawn y sefyllfa yr ydym am ei gweld, a pheidio â chael rhai ag anhwylderau cronig mewn gwelyau aciwt pan nad yw hynny'n briodol. Yn ôl yr hyn a gofiau, rhai felly yw ymhell dros 50 y cant o'r rhai sy'n mynd i ysbyty. O gael gwell triniaeth yn y gymuned, ni fyddent yn gorfod mynd i'r ysbyty, a byddent yn llawer gwell eu byd, wrth gael eu trin gartref.

Michael German: Yr wyf yn siomedig na allwch ddweud ei bod yn ddrwg gennyh; bydd yn ofid i bobl Cymru hefyd na allwch wneud hynny. Cyhoeddwyd dau adroddiad annibynnol yn y flwyddyn a aeth heibio, gan gyfleu'r un neges glir a chynnig yr un ffordd ymlaen. Yn lle hel esgusion, a chuddio y tu ôl i domenni o bapur oddi wrth fyrddau iechyd lleol, a throi at fentrau achlysurol, pam na allwch gydnabod y camgymeriadau a mynd ymlaen â'r diagnosis a delio â'r problemau, fel y mae adroddiad Wanless a'r Comisiwn Archwilio yn dangos?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym wedi cael y diagnosis, ac yr ydym yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad iawn. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, ond ni ddeallaf eich cyfeiriad at guddio y tu ôl i domenni o bapur. Nid oes neb yn gwneud dim o'r fath. Pe byddem yn gwrthod datgelu cynnwys y cynlluniau Wanless lleol, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech yn ein cyhuddo wedyn o guddio'r adroddiadau, yn hytrach na chuddio y tu ôl iddynt. Mae'ch geiriau'n ddiystyr, Mike. Yr

travel right. In answer to your first supplementary I spoke about ensuring that, where there is good practice—and I mentioned Wrexham earlier—the laggard authorities understand what they are not doing that another authority with the same resources is doing, and implement that good practice as quickly as possible.

Janice Gregory: You mentioned good practice, and I am delighted that Wrexham has been recognised for that. However, will you join me in congratulating the Labour-led Bridgend County Borough Council on its partnership with Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust? In that area, we do not have any problems with delayed transfers of care.

The First Minister: I have seen many commendations of how health and social care services are organised in the Bridgend area. That is another example of an area where this has been sorted. The authority does not have any more resources; it is a matter of better management and co-ordination. It is the Audit Commission's job to draw up benchmarks, to identify good practice, and to show that to the authorities that are not demonstrating good practice. Those authorities must then give good reasons, to the commission and their local population, as to why they cannot do what is being done in areas such as Wrexham and Bridgend.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Yr ydych wedi sôn am y rhai sydd angen eu rhyddhau o'r ysbyty, ond mae ffactor arall i'w ystyried. Mewn 17 y cant o achosion, ni ddylai cleifion fod wedi mynd i'r ysbyty yn y lle cyntaf. A wnewch longyfarch Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili ar ei waith pwysig i sicrhau bod pobl yn cael eu rhyddhau o'r ysbyty—nid oes neb yn Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent yn disgwyl am arian o'r cyngor i gael ei ryddhau—ac i ateb y broblem o bobl yn mynd i'r ysbyty pan nad oes rhaid?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf wedi ateb y cwestiwn o'r safbwynt hwnnw. Mae'n bwysig nad yw pobl, yn enwedig y rhai sydd â chlefyd cronig, yn mynd i'r ysbyty a

ydym yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad iawn. Wrth ateb eich cwestiwn atodol cyntaf, soniais am sicrhau, lle y ceir arferion da—a chyfeiriais at Wrecsam yn gynharach—fod awdurdodau sydd ar ei hôl hi yn deall yr hyn nad ydynt hwy'n ei wneud ac a wneir gan awdurdodau eraill sydd â'r un adnoddau, a rhoi'r arferion da hynny ar waith cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Janice Gregory: Cyfeiriasoch at arferion da, ac yr wyf wrth fy modd bod Wrecsam wedi'i chydnabod am wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, a wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, sy'n cael ei arwain gan Lafur, ar ei bartneriaeth ag Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Bro Morgannwg? Yn yr ardal honno, nid oes gennym unrhyw broblemau o ran oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwelais lawer o ganmol ar y modd y trefnir gwasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yn ardal Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Dyna enghraifft arall o ardal y rhoddyd trefn arni. Nid oes ragor o adnoddau gan yr awdurdod hwnnw; mae'n fater o well rheoli a chydlynu. Gwaith y Comisiwn Archwilio yw tynnu meincnodau, canfod arferion da, a'u dangos i'r awdurdodau nad ydynt yn amlygu arferion da. Rhaid i'r awdurdodau hynny allu egluro wedyn, i'r comisiwn ac i'w poblogaeth leol, pam na allant wneud yr hyn a wneir mewn ardaloedd fel Wrecsam a Phen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: You have mentioned those who need to be discharged from hospital, but there is another factor to consider. In 17 per cent of cases, patients should not have been admitted to hospital in the first place. Will you congratulate Caerphilly County Borough Council on the important work that it has done not only in ensuring that people are discharged from hospital—no-one in Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust has to wait for money from the council in order to be discharged—but in addressing the problem of patients being admitted to hospital unnecessarily?

The First Minister: I have answered that question from that angle. It is important that people, particularly those with chronic conditions, do not go into hospital

chymryd gwelyau aciwt heb angen. Dywedais hynny bum munud yn ôl mewn ateb i Mike German. Mae'r ddwy agwedd yn bwysig. Nid wyf yn credu ei bod yn briodol, dair wythnos cyn yr etholiadau lleol, ein bod yn enwi awdurdodau lleol am ein bod am ganmol rhai o'n plaid ein hun. Dywedaf wrth Rhodri Glyn—*[Torri ar draws.]*

2.10 p.m.

Y Llywydd: Trefn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Pe baem yn enwi awdurdodau sydd wedi methu neu lwyddo, ni fyddai awdurdodau Plaid Cymru ar y brig bob tro.

Jonathan Morgan: In a recent meeting of the South East Wales Regional Committee, representatives of the Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust told us that two of the five local authorities within the Gwent area cited financial reasons as to why a substantial number of patients were delayed—that is, why they were in hospital beds and not in the relevant care setting for their condition. In a recent letter from Jane Hutt to the local authorities, the Minister says that there must not be any unreasonable delay and that what is reasonable will depend on the individual circumstances of each case, rather than the resource implications for local authorities. The Minister clearly states that the reasons given by the two local authorities are unreasonable. Is it not time that you got to grips with local authorities that are ignoring ministerial guidance and are not fulfilling their statutory obligations?

The First Minister: The £19.5 million of additional recurring money allocated to reduce delayed transfers of care was not universally welcomed when we made the announcement on how we were going to spend it. There have been some damascene conversions since then. It is important that that money was made available to local authorities, which should be making good use of it because it is intended to address a financial problem. We recognised that and gave them the additional £19.5 million. Not all authorities have got to grips with how to

unnecessarily and take up acute beds. I said that about five minutes ago in reply to Mike German. Both aspects are important. I do not think it appropriate, three weeks before the local elections, that we name local authorities in order to praise those ruled by our own party. I say to Rhodri Glyn—*[Interruption.]*

The Presiding Officer: Order.

The First Minister: If we were to name authorities that have failed or succeeded, Plaid Cymru authorities would not head the list each time.

Jonathan Morgan: Mewn cyfarfod diweddar o Bwyllgor Rhanbarth y De-ddwyrain, dywedodd cynrychiolwyr Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent wrthym fod dau o'r pum awdurdod lleol yn ardal Gwent wedi rhoi rhesymau ariannol am yr oedi wrth drosglwyddo nifer sylweddol o gleifion—hynny yw, pam yr oeddent mewn gwelyau ysbyty ac nid yn y lle priodol i ofalu am eu hanhwylder. Mewn llythyr diweddar oddi wrth Jane Hutt i'r awdurdodau lleol, dywed y Gweinidog na ddylid cael unrhyw oedi afresymol ac y bydd yr hyn sy'n rhesymol yn dibynnu ar yr amgylchiadau neilltuol ym mhob achos, yn hytrach na'r goblygiadau i awdurdodau lleol o ran adnoddau. Dywed y Gweinidog yn glir fod y rhesymau a roddwyd gan y ddau awdurdod lleol yn afresymol. Onid yw'n bryd ichi fynd i'r afael ag awdurdodau lleol sy'n anwybyddu cyfarwyddyd gweinidogol ac yn methu â chyflawni eu rhwymedigaethau statudol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid pawb a groesawodd y £19.5 miliwn o arian rheolaidd ychwanegol i leihau oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal pan gyhoeddassom sut yr oeddem am ei wario. Cafwyd rhai tröedigaethau ers hynny. Mae'n bwysig bod yr arian hwnnw wedi'i ddarparu i awdurdodau lleol, a ddylai wneud defnydd da ohono gan mai ei amcan yw ymdrin â phroblem ariannol. Cydnabuom hynny a rhoi'r £19.5 miliwn ychwanegol iddynt hwy. Nid yw'r holl awdurdodau wedi deall sut i wneud y defnydd gorau o'r £19.5 miliwn hwnnw er mwyn darparu gofal priodol pan fo

make the best use of that £19.5 million in order to provide appropriate care where necessary, which is not in an NHS bed costing more than £1,000 per week, but in a nursing home costing £500 per week or a residential care home costing £250 per week, or using a residential domiciliary package at whatever cost.

angen, sef nid mewn gwely yn y GIG sy'n costio mwy na £1,000 yr wythnos, ond mewn cartref nyrsio sy'n costio £500 yr wythnos neu mewn cartref gofal preswyl sy'n costio £250 yr wythnos, neu drwy ddefnyddio pecyn gofal yn y cartref am ba bynnag gost.

Cymorth Ariannol i Awdurdodau Lleol Financial Support for Local Authorities

Q2 Leighton Andrews: Will the First Minister make a statement on financial support for local authorities in Wales since the creation of the National Assembly? (OAQ35086)

C2 Leighton Andrews: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y cymorth ariannol i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru ers creu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol? (OAQ35086)

The First Minister: I am pleased that, on average, the rises in council tax in Wales this year, regardless of political parties, is the lowest since unitary authorities were set up in 1996-97.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch mai'r cynnydd a gafwyd yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru eleni, heb ystyried pleidiau gwleidyddol, yw'r isaf, ar gyfartaledd, ers sefydlu awdurdodau unedol yn 1996-97.

Leighton Andrews: Do you agree that this year Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council is receiving £84 million more than it received in 1999, and £95 million more than the last Conservative budget for Rhondda Cynon Taf? Do you also agree that projects in Rhondda Cynon Taf have received £40 million under Objective 1 and £15 million for Communities First? Does this not demonstrate that Labour's Welsh Assembly Government is actively contributing to economic regeneration in Rhondda Cynon Taf?

Leighton Andrews: A ydych yn cytuno bod Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf yn derbyn £84 miliwn yn fwy eleni nag a dderbyniodd yn 1999, a £95 miliwn yn fwy na chyllideb ddiwethaf y Ceidwadwyr ar gyfer Rhondda Cynon Taf? A ydych hefyd yn cytuno bod prosiectau yn Rhondda Cynon Taf wedi derbyn £40 miliwn o dan Amcan 1 a £15 miliwn ar gyfer Cymunedau yn Gyntaf? Onid yw hyn yn dangos bod Llywodraeth Lafur Cynulliad Cymru yn cyfrannu'n weithredol at adfywio economaidd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf?

The First Minister: Your last point is undoubtedly true. I will not confirm or deny, or comment on, your previous comments, except to say that I have no doubt that, during the last four years of the Conservative administration—not in the case of any particular council—it was short changing local government, and as a result council tax rose by an average 13 per cent a year between 1993 and 1997. Between 2000 and 2004, council tax in Wales rose by an average 8.1 per cent a year.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r pwynt olaf a wnaethoch yn sicr o fod yn wir. Ni wnaif gadarnhau na gwadu, na gwneud sylw am eich sylwadau blaenorol, heblaw dweud nad oes gennyf unrhyw amheuaeth nad oedd y weinyddiaeth Geidwadol, yn ystod ei phedair blynedd olaf, yn rhoi rhy ychydig i lywodraeth leol—nid yn achos unrhyw gyngor penodol—a bod y dreth gyngor, o ganlyniad, wedi codi 13 y cant y flwyddyn, ar gyfartaledd, rhwng 1993 a 1997. Rhwng 2000 a 2004, cododd y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru o 8.1 y cant y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ieuan Wyn Jones): First Minister, during the debate on

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Ieuan Wyn Jones): Brif Weinidog, yn ystod y ddadl ar

the Queen's Speech in 1997, Tony Blair said:

'Britain must change a situation in which unelected quangos spend more money than elected local government.'

Do you agree with him?

The First Minister: Preventing the growth of the quango state has been a major achievement of Tony Blair's administration and my administration, despite your problem in understanding what a local health board is.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Anything that is an unelected body, First Minister, is a quango—you know that and I know that, and it is no good trying to hide behind an arcane description. Is it not a scandal that, despite your comments about the Prime Minister, your Government is spending £4.8 billion through unelected quangos—1,000 people often meeting in secret—against £3.4 billion spent by local councillors who must face election next month? Carwyn Jones has told us that quangos should be brought under the wing of elected governments. How do you intend to do that?

The First Minister: You did not listen to my first answer, or rather you did not attempt to respond to it, but I knew what you were going to say, as this has been one of your themes. What you are saying in effect, Ieuan—and I am pleased that you are doing so—is that health expenditure under Labour has grown massively. You then go on to wrongly define local health boards as quangos. We do not choose the membership of local health boards. They are a bridge-making exercise between health and social services. Those boards consist of representatives, whom we do not choose, comprising of local doctors, midwives, pharmacists and other health professionals. We have an interest in them, but they are not quangos according to the normal definition of a quango. All you are saying is that we are spending much more money on health. Go around Wales telling everybody that Labour is spending massively more money on health.

Araith y Frenhines yn 1997, dywedodd Tony Blair:

Rhaid i Brydain newid sefyllfa lle y mae cwangos anetholedig yn gwario mwy o arian na llywodraeth leol etholedig.

A ydych yn cytuno ag ef?

Y Prif Weinidog: Atal twf y wladwriaeth gwango fu un o brif gyflawniadau gweinyddiaeth Tony Blair a'm gweinyddiaeth i, er gwaethaf yr anhawster sydd gennych wrth ddeall beth yw bwrdd iechyd lleol.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Cwango yw unrhyw beth nad yw'n gorff etholedig, Brif Weinidog—yr ydych chi'n gwybod hynny ac yr wyf fi'n gwybod hynny, ac nid oes diben i chi geisio cuddio y tu ôl i ddisgrifiad astrus. Onid yw'n sgandal, er gwaethaf eich sylwadau am y Prif Weinidog, fod eich Llywodraeth yn gwario £4.8 biliwn drwy gwangos anetholedig—1,000 o bobl sy'n aml yn cwrdd yn y dirgel—o'i gymharu â £3.4 biliwn a warir gan gynghorwyr lleol y mae'n rhaid iddynt wynebu etholiad y mis nesaf? Mae Carwyn Jones wedi dweud wrthym y dylid dwyn cwangos o dan adain llywodraethau etholedig. Sut yr ydych yn bwriadu gwneud hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni wrandawasoch ar fy ateb cyntaf, neu'n hytrach ni cheisiasoch ymateb iddo, ond gwyddwn beth yr oeddech am ei ddweud, gan fod hyn wedi bod yn un o'ch themâu. Yr hyn yr ydych yn ei ddweud i bob pwrpas, Ieuan—ac yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn gwneud hynny—yw bod y gwariant ar iechyd o dan Lafur wedi cynyddu'n aruthrol. Ewch ymlaen wedyn i gamddiffinio byrddau iechyd lleol fel cwangos. Nid nynt sy'n dewis aelodau byrddau iechyd lleol. Maent yn ddull o bontio rhwng iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae'r byrddau hynny'n cynnwys cynrychiolwyr, nad ydym yn eu dewis, sef meddygon lleol, bydwagedd, fferyllwyr a gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol eraill. Mae gennym fuddiant ynddynt, ond nid ydynt yn gwangos yn ôl y diffiniad arferol o gwango. Y cwbl yr ydych yn ei ddweud yw ein bod yn gwario llawer mwy o arian ar iechyd. Ewch o gwmpas Cymru gan ddweud wrth bawb fod Llafur yn

I will be delighted if that is your message, Ieuan. However, if you want to nit-pick over definitions of a quango—comparable only to St Thomas Aquinas’s how many angels dance on the head of a pin—the people of Wales will not be interested. Tell them that we are spending much more on health, and I will be delighted.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: That is waffle, First Minister. You know exactly what a quango is and the people of Wales know what it is. They are unelected bodies that are spending public money in secret. What will you do about it? When you were an opposition backbencher, you accused the Tories of cronyism because they were appointing their friends to quangos. You are doing exactly the same thing. When are you going to stop it?

The First Minister: That allegation is even more bizarre. You evidently have no answer to the previous question, so what is your actual question? You are getting wilder and wilder, Ieuan. Where is this cronyism? Let us have some names. Do not chuck smears around, Ieuan. If you have no argument, just sit down and do not bother. If you do have an argument that proves that we have appointed our friends to these quangos, let us have the list. Let us have the names. No more smears please; let us have grown-up politics.

gwario mwy o arian o lawer ar iechyd. Byddaf wrth fy modd os mai hynny yw eich neges, Ieuan. Fodd bynnag, os ydych am holhti blew wrth ddiffinio cwangos—mewn modd nad yw ond yn ail i ddiffiniad Tomos o Acwin o nifer yr angylion sy’n dawnsio ar flaen nodwydd—ni fydd gan bobl Cymru unrhyw ddiddordeb. Dywedwch wrthynt ein bod yn gwario llawer mwy ar iechyd, a byddaf wrth fy modd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Malu awyr yw hynny, Brif Weinidog. Gwyddoch yn union beth yw cwango ac mae pobl Cymru’n gwybod beth ydyw. Cyrff anetholedig ydynt sy’n gwario arian cyhoeddus yn y dirgel. Beth a wnewch am hynny? Pan oeddech yn feinciwr cefn yn yr wrthblaid, gwnaethoch gyhuddo’r Torïaid o ffrindgarwch am eu bod yn penodi eu ffrindiau i gwangos. Yr ydych chi’n gwneud yn union yr un peth. Pa bryd y rhowch y gorau iddo?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae’r cyhuddiad hwnnw’n rhyfeddach byth. Mae’n amlwg nad oes gennych ateb i’r cwestiwn blaenorol, felly pa gwestiwn yn union sydd gennych? Yr ydych yn mynd yn fwyfwy gwyllt, Ieuan. Ym mhle y gwelir y ffrindgarwch hwn? Gadewch inni gael rhai enwau. Peidiwch â thafu baw, Ieuan. Os nad oes gennych ddadl, eisteddwch a pheidiwch â thrafferthu. Os oes gennych ddadl sy’n profi ein bod wedi penodi ein ffrindiau i’r cwangos hyn, gadewch inni gael y rhestr. Gadewch inni gael yr enwau. Dim rhagor o daflu baw, os gwelwch yn dda; gadewch inni gael gwleidyddiaedd.

Bwydydd a Addaswyd yn Enynnol (Labelu) Genetically Modified Foods (Labelling)

Q3 Mick Bates: Will the First Minister make a statement on the labelling of genetically modified foods? (OAQ35104)

The First Minister: The Assembly Government and the Food Standards Agency Wales issued a joint consultation covering the traceability and labelling of GM food on 7 May 2004. That consultation closes on 28 June.

Mick Bates: Thank you for that information. However, we have already had the great

C3 Mick Bates: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar labelu bwydydd a addaswyd yn enynnol? (OAQ35104)

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ac Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd Cymru gyhoeddi ymgynghoriad ar y cyd yn ymwneud â labelu bwydydd GM a’r gallu i’w holrhain ar 7 Mai 2004. Daw’r ymgynghoriad hwnnw i ben ar 28 Mehefin.

Mick Bates: Diolch i chi am y wybodaeth honno. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym eisoes wedi

debate, in which 86 per cent of the population said that it did not want any GM food. As you know, the food labelling issue is complex at all levels of government, from the European level, the national level, down to the Assembly. Would it not be good for you to be as courageous as you were previously, by not supporting the planting of GM maize? Would it not also be good to state that the Government in Wales wants zero tolerance in terms of GM food, so that Welsh men, women and children know that the food they eat is safe and not contaminated by GM foods?

The First Minister: I was pleased to hear your reference to the fact that we have displayed courage on this issue of GM foods. We have progressed our policy on GM through to a successful conclusion, to the point where companies such as Bayer CropScience and Monsanto have given up on GM crop growing in Europe, largely because we took such a strong stance on this issue. I am pleased to have your commendation of that. With regard to labelling, it is a complex issue relating to adventitious content, which is tight at the moment. The issue is not whether GM is 0.9 per cent or more of the food that is on sale; my understanding is that it is much tighter than that, and food must be labelled as having adventitious GM content. If it is more than 0.9 per cent of any ingredient in the food—for example, more than 0.9 per cent of an egg—that must be placed on the label. Likewise, a little bit of flour or whatever with adventitious GM content of more than 0.9 per cent must also be put on the label. It is a pretty tight scheme, which only covers adventitious GM content, because the food is unlikely to have any planned GM content.

2.20 p.m.

Janet Davies: You mentioned 0.9 per cent, but it is technically possible to detect GM content at 0.3 per cent, and in future it will be possible to detect even lower levels. Will you put forward in the Government consultation that the level should be the lowest amount that can technically be detected, not 0.9 per cent?

cael y ddadl fawr, pan ddywedodd 86 y cant o'r boblogaeth nad oedd am gael unrhyw fwydydd a addaswyd yn enynnol. Fel y gwyddoch, mae labelu bwydydd yn fater cymhleth ar bob lefel o lywodraeth, ar y lefel Ewropeaidd, y lefel genedlaethol, ac ar lefel y Cynulliad. Oni fyddai'n beth da ichi fod yn ddewr fel y buoch o'r blaen, drwy beidio â chefnogi plannu indrawn GM? Onid da hefyd fyddai datgan nad yw'r Llywodraeth yng Nghymru'n barod i oddef dim o ran bwydydd GM, fel y caiff pawb yng Nghymru wybod bod y bwyd a fwyânt yn ddiogel ac nad yw wedi'i halogi gan fwydydd GM?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn falch o glywed eich cyfeiriad at y ffaith inni amlygu dewrder ar fater bwydydd GM. Yr ydym wedi dilyn ein polisi ar addasu genynnol i'w derfyn yn llwyddiannus, fel bod cwmnïau fel Bayer CropScience a Monsanto wedi rhoi'r gorau i'w bwriad i dyfu cnydau GM yn Ewrop, yn bennaf am ein bod ni wedi sefyll mor gadarn ar y mater hwn. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi ein canmol ar hynny. Gyda golwg ar labelu, mater cymhleth ydyw sy'n ymwneud â chynhwysion damweiniol, ac mae'r gofynion yn gaeth ar hyn o bryd. Nid a yw'r bwydydd sydd ar werth yn cynnwys 0.9 y cant neu ragor o ddeunydd GM yw'r mater dan sylw; yn ôl yr hyn yr wyf yn ei ddeall, mae'n gaethach na hynny, a rhaid labelu bwydydd os oes cynhwysion GM ynddynt ar ddamwain. Os yw'n fwy na 0.9 y cant o unrhyw gynhwysyn yn y bwyd—er enghraifft, mwy na 0.9 y cant o wŷy—rhaid nodi hynny ar y label. Yn yr un modd, os oes ychydig o flawd neu ba beth bynnag â chynnwys GM damweiniol o fwy na 0.9 y cant, rhaid nodi hynny ar y label hefyd. Mae'n gynllun eithaf caeth, sydd ond yn ymdrin â chynnwys GM damweiniol, gan fod y bwyd yn annhebygol o fod ag unrhyw gynnwys GM o fwriad.

Janet Davies: Soniasoch am 0.9 y cant, ond mae'n dechnegol bosibl darganfod cynnwys GM o 0.3 y cant, ac yn y dyfodol bydd modd darganfod lefelau is byth. A wnewch gynnig yn ymgynghoriad y Llywodraeth y dylai'r lefel fod yr isaf y gellir ei darganfod yn dechnegol, nid 0.9 y cant?

The First Minister: That kind of issue should emerge from the consultation; we should not put it into the consultation. We are organising it, and until it closes on 28 June, it is for you and others with strong concerns about practical traceability, impact on food, and how consumers regard food, to put those views into the consultation process.

William Graham: Will the First Minister outline progress towards an agreed legally enforceable definition of the term 'GM free'?

The First Minister: I will write to you on that. I am not aware of any difficulties on how you would be able to come to an acceptable definition, given the point that Janet made. There is a lower limit of what you can detect, which was regarded as 0.9 per cent of any individual ingredient, but it may now be technically possible to detect lower levels. Whatever the level is, it must be detectable, and I guess that you would use the lowest level of detectability as a definition. However, I will write to you on that after taking legal advice.

Y Prif Weinidog: Dylai mater o'r fath godi yn yr ymgynghoriad; ni ddylem ei gynnwys yn yr ymgynghoriad. Yr ydym ni'n ei drefnu, a hyd nes y daw i ben ar 28 Mehefin, eich lle chi ac eraill sydd â phryderon difrif ynghylch y gallu i olrhain, yr effaith ar fwyd, a barn defnyddwyr am fwyd, yw porthi'r safbwyntiau hynny i'r broses ymgynghori.

William Graham: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddisgrifio'r cynnydd a wnaed tuag at gytuno ar ddiffiniad o'r term 'rhydd oddi wrth addasu genynnol' y gellir ei orfodi'n gyfreithiol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ysgrifennaf atoch ynghylch hynny. Ni wn am unrhyw anawsterau o ran dyfeisio diffiniad derbynol, yng ngolwg y pwynt a wnaeth Janet. Mae terfyn isaf ar yr hyn y gellir ei ddarganfod, yr ystyriwyd ei fod yn 0.9 y cant o unrhyw gynhwysyn unigol, ond yn awr gallai fod yn bosibl darganfod lefelau is. Beth bynnag fo'r lefel, rhaid bod modd ei darganfod, ac mae'n debyg gennyf y defnyddid y lefel isaf y gellid ei darganfod i'w ddiffinio. Fodd bynnag, ysgrifennaf atoch ynghylch hynny ar ôl cymryd cyngor cyfreithiol.

Addysg Gymraeg Welsh-medium Education

Q4 Helen Mary Jones: Will the First Minister make a statement on Welsh-medium education? (OAQ35075)

The First Minister: I am delighted to announce that Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and Trinity College Carmarthen will be invited to work in partnership to deliver our brand new training programme for Welsh-medium early years practitioners. We have entered into discussions with them today to deliver this. The programme will train at least 150 Welsh-medium practitioners by the year 2006. We are fulfilling the targets set out in 'Iaith Pawb' for a network of support and quality training to enhance and extend early years Welsh-medium provision across Wales.

Helen Mary Jones: That is undoubtedly good news for early years education, but are

C4 Helen Mary Jones: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar addysg Gymraeg? (OAQ35075)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch iawn o gyhoeddi y gwahoddir Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin a Choleg y Drindod, Caerfyrddin i weithio ar y cyd i ddarparu ein rhaglen hyfforddi newydd sbon ar gyfer ymarferwyr cyfrwng Cymraeg y blynyddoedd cynnar. Yr ydym wedi dechrau trafodaethau â hwy heddiw i gyflawni hyn. Bydd y rhaglen yn hyfforddi o leiaf 150 o ymarferwyr cyfrwng Cymraeg erbyn y flwyddyn 2006. Yr ydym yn cyflawni'r targedau a nodwyd yn 'Iaith Pawb' ar gyfer rhwydwaith o gymorth a hyfforddiant o ansawdd da i wella ac ehangu'r ddarpariaeth cyfrwng Cymraeg ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar ledled Cymru.

Helen Mary Jones: Mae hynny'n sicr o fod yn newyddion da i addysg blynyddoedd

you aware of the grave concerns expressed by the Welsh Language Board about ELWa's failure, at a corporate level, to take seriously its responsibility for adopting a strategic approach to developing Welsh-medium education at a further education level? Will you, with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, take political responsibility for ensuring that this serious failure is put right? It is no good us putting investment into early years, if that is not followed through in a continuum, as the education Minister has said on many occasions.

The First Minister: You are being rather unfair to ELWa. It is driving forward real change in further education in this regard, as in others. It achieved its 2003-04 target of 9,000 Welsh-medium learners in FE, and is implementing a bilingual learning strategy for the post-16 sector, covering three strands: planning better provision, investing in learning resources and training practitioners.

Mark Isherwood: Noting that student teachers who train in Welsh schools generally subsequently work in Welsh schools, what measures will the First Minister propose to sustain sufficient numbers of Welsh-medium teachers in Welsh schools, when regulations introduced by the Department for Education and Skills in England mean that Welsh students who attend English teacher training colleges, which are often the closest to their homes when they live near the border, will now have to train wholly or mainly in English schools in order to achieve qualified teacher status?

The First Minister: I was not aware that they could not move back across the border for the purpose of doing teacher training and would therefore miss out. If you have individual examples of that happening in your area, near the border, I would be pleased to hear about them and the practical difficulties. I think that I understand what you are driving at, that it will restrict their choice of where they can go to teach because they will not have done the right teacher training. With a little more flexibility about where

cynnar, ond a wyddoch am y pryderon dybryd a fynegwyd gan Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg ynghylch methiant ELWa, ar lefel gorfforaethol, i gymryd o ddifrif ei gyfrifoldeb i ymdrin yn strategol â datblygu addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ar lefel addysg bellach? A wnewch chi, gyda'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes, ymgymryd â'r cyfrifoldeb gwleidyddol dros sicrhau y cywirir y diffyg difrifol hwn? Nid oes diben inni fuddsoddi yn y blynyddoedd cynnar os na ddilynir hynny i'r pen drwy gontinwmm, fel y mae'r Gweinidog dros addysg wedi dweud ar sawl achlysur.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych braid yn annheg ag ELWa. Mae'n ysgogi gwir newid mewn addysg bellach yn hyn o beth, ac mewn meysydd eraill. Cyrhaeddodd ei darged ar gyfer 2003-04 o sicrhau 9,000 o ddysgwyr cyfrwng Cymraeg mewn addysg bellach, ac mae'n rhoi strategaeth dysgu dwyieithog ar waith ar gyfer y sector ôl-16, sy'n ymdrin â thair elfen: cynllunio darpariaeth well, buddsoddi mewn adnoddau dysgu a hyfforddi ymarferwyr.

Mark Isherwood: Gan fod darpar athrawon sy'n hyfforddi mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru yn mynd ymlaen i weithio mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru fel arfer, pa gamau y gwnaiff y Prif Weinidog eu cynnig i gynnal nifer digonol o athrawon cyfrwng Cymraeg mewn ysgolion yng Nghymru, gan fod rheoliadau a gyflwynwyd gan yr Adran Addysg a Sgiliau yn Lloegr yn golygu y bydd myfyrwyr o Gymru sy'n mynd i golegau hyfforddi athrawon yn Lloegr, sef y rhai agosaf i'w cartrefi os ydynt yn byw ger y ffin, yn awr yn gorfod hyfforddi'n bennaf neu'n gyfan gwbl mewn ysgolion yn Lloegr er mwyn ennill statws athro cymwys?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni wyddwn na allent ddod yn ôl dros y ffin i ddilyn hyfforddiant athrawon ac y byddent felly ar eu colled. Os gallwch roi unrhyw enghreifftiau i ddangos bod hynny'n digwydd yn eich ardal, ger y ffin, byddwn yn falch o glywed amdanynt ac am yr anawsterau ymarferol. Credaf fy mod yn deall beth sydd gennych dan sylw, sef y bydd hyn yn cyfyngu ar eu dewis o ble y gallant ddysgu gan na fyddant wedi dilyn yr hyfforddiant athrawon iawn. O gael ychydig mwy o hyblygrwydd ynghylch lle y gallai

students might undertake teacher training, they would be able to choose, after finishing and receiving their teacher training diplomas and degrees, whether they wanted to teach on this side of the border or the other. I think that I understood the point that you made, but in case I have not, I would be grateful if you would put some practical examples in writing.

Peter Black: One issue raised in the quinquennial review of the Qualifications Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales was concern about the assessment of work-based learning through the medium of Welsh. How is your Government addressing that concern?

The First Minister: I am interested to know what problems ACCAC has in this regard. It is important that the widest possible range of work-based learning opportunities are available. For work-based training, that should also involve a reasonable diversity of choice, so that people in a Welsh-speaking environment can study their modules and NVQs at levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 through the medium of Welsh, as long as the numbers applying make it practical to devise the right course materials.

myfyrwyr ddilyn hyfforddiant athrawon, byddent yn gallu dewis, ar ôl cwblhau a derbyn eu diplomâu hyfforddiant athrawon a'u graddau, ym mhle yr oeddent am ddysgu, ai yr ochr hon i'r ffin neu'r llall. Credaf fy mod wedi deall y pwynt a wnaethoch, ond rhag ofn na wneuthum, byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe byddech yn ysgrifennu ataf gan roi rhai enghreifftiau ymarferol.

Peter Black: Un mater a godwyd yn adolygiad pum mlynedd Awdurdod Cymwysterau, Cwricwlwm ac Asesu Cymru oedd pryder ynghylch asesu dysgu sy'n seiliedig ar waith drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Sut y mae'ch Llywodraeth yn ymateb i'r pryder hwnnw?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae o ddiddordeb imi wybod pa broblemau a brofodd ACCAC yn hyn o beth. Mae'n bwysig sicrhau'r dewis ehangaf posibl o gyfleoedd ar gyfer dysgu sy'n seiliedig ar waith. Yn achos hyfforddiant sy'n seiliedig ar waith, dylai hynny hefyd gynnwys dewis gweddol amrywiol, fel y gall y rhai mewn amgylchedd cyfrwng Cymraeg astudio eu modiwlau ac NVQs ar lefelau 1, 2, 3 a 4 drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, cyhyd â bod y niferoedd sy'n ymgeisio yn peri ei fod yn ymarferol llunio'r defnyddiau cwrs priodol.

Cyflwr y Diwydiant Llaeth **The State of the Milk Industry**

Q5 Brynle Williams: Will the First Minister make a report on the state of the milk industry in Wales? (OAQ35082)

The First Minister: Our strategy is to assist the industry in adding value to milk in Wales by developing products that compete on quality rather than on price, and which are well-branded. We cannot intervene directly with regard to the price of milk, or what individual processor companies do, but we meet them and the industry regularly and we underline the importance that we attach to the milk sector and the milk processing sector. In the last three years, we have spent £10 million on the processing and marketing grant scheme, generating £27 million in total investment in the milk processing sector.

C5 Brynle Williams: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog adroddiad ar gyflwr y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru (OAQ35082)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ein strategaeth yw hybu gwaith y diwydiant o ychwanegu gwerth at laeth yng Nghymru drwy ddatblygu cynhyrchion sy'n gallu cystadlu ar sail ansawdd yn hytrach na phris, ac sydd wedi'u brandio'n dda. Ni allwn ymyrryd yn uniongyrchol ym mhpris llaeth, neu'r hyn a wnaiff cwmnïau prosesu neilltuol, ond yr ydym yn cwrdd â hwy a chyda'r diwydiant yn rheolaidd, ac yr ydym yn tynnu sylw at y pwys a roddwn ar y sector llaeth a'r sector prosesu llaeth. Yn y tair blynedd diwethaf, yr ydym wedi gwario £10 miliwn ar gynllun y grant prosesu a marchnata, gan greu cyfanswm o £27 miliwn o fuddsoddiad yn y sector prosesu llaeth.

Brynle Williams: Would you not agree that the milk industry in Wales is, I am sorry to say, in meltdown, with the price dropping considerably and major multiples taking control and operating a cartel? I am seriously concerned about the outcome, which will totally distort the agricultural community in Wales. Should we not be looking to intervene on the economic side?

The First Minister: I am not sure that it is right to assert that a cartel is operating. That may well be widely believed by those in the farming industry, because they will see themselves as price takers and see the biggest milk processors as price makers. Nevertheless, they must produce the evidence for that belief, and there is every avenue for doing so through the Office of Fair Trading if that allegation can be substantiated. I repeat that we know of no method of intervening to influence milk prices directly, but we realise that the milk sector is in trouble, and that most milk producers are producing at cost or at a loss. We are trying to work with everybody involved in the supply chain to promote stability by working with the processors to encourage high added-value milk processing in Wales along the lines that I mentioned earlier, which so far has produced £27 million in total investment but which needs to go further.

Carl Sargeant: Do you agree that this Labour Government has promoted and supported the milk industry by giving free milk to the young children of Wales? Do you also agree that Connah's Quay town council has received, and should receive, recognition for increasing the supply to all junior school pupils in Wales?

The First Minister: The figures indicate a 55 per cent increase in milk consumption by key stage 1 pupils and beyond, between the last academic year before we introduced the scheme in 2000-01 to the year following introduction. The latest indication, I am pleased to say, is that this upward trend is continuing. The free breakfast initiative currently being piloted should also increase demand for nice, healthy, pure Welsh milk among Welsh schoolchildren and inculcate

Brynle Williams: Oni chytunech fod y diwydiant llaeth yng Nghymru'n mynd â'i ben iddo, gwaetha'r modd, gan fod y pris yn gostwng yn sylweddol a'r siopau cadwyn yn cymryd yr awenau ac yn gweithredu cartél? Yr wyf yn pryderu'n fawr am y canlyniad, a fydd yn ystumio'r gymuned amaethyddol yng Nghymru'n llwyr. Oni ddylem geisio ymyrryd ar yr ochr economaidd?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn siŵr ei bod yn briodol haeru bod cartél ar waith. Efallai fod llawer yn y diwydiant ffermio'n credu hynny, gan eu bod yn eu hystyried eu hunain yn rhai sy'n cymryd y pris ac yn ystyried y busnesau prosesu llaeth mawr yn rhai sy'n pennu'r pris. Er hynny, rhaid iddynt ddangos tystiolaeth i ategu'r gred honno, ac mae pob cyfle i wneud hynny drwy'r Swyddfa Masnachu Teg os gellir profi'r cyhuddiad hwnnw. Dywedaf eto na wyddom am ddull o ymyrryd i ddylanwadu ar brisiau llaeth yn uniongyrchol, ond sylweddolwn fod y sector llaeth mewn trafferthion, a bod y rhan fwyaf o gynhyrchwyr llaeth yn cynhyrchu am y gost neu ar golled. Yr ydym yn ceisio gweithio gyda phawb sy'n gysylltiedig yn y gadwyn gyflenwi i hyrwyddo sefydlogrwydd drwy weithio gyda'r proseswyr i hybu prosesu sy'n ychwanegu llawer o werth at laeth yng Nghymru yn y modd a grybwyllais yn gynharach, sydd wedi creu cyfanswm o £27 miliwn o fuddsoddiad hyd yn hyn er bod angen iddo fynd ymhellach.

Carl Sargeant: A ydych yn cytuno bod y Llywodraeth Lafur hon wedi hybu a chefnogi'r diwydiant llaeth drwy roi llaeth am ddim i blant ifanc Cymru? A ydych hefyd yn cytuno bod cyngor tref Cei Connah wedi cael cydnabyddiaeth, fel y dylai, am gynyddu'r cyflenwad i'r holl ddisgyblion mewn ysgolion iau yng Nghymru?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r ffigurau'n dangos cynnydd o 55 y cant ym maint y llaeth a yfir gan ddisgyblion yng nghyfnod allweddol 1 a phlant hŷn na hynny, o'r flwyddyn academiaidd olaf cyn inni gyflwyno'r cynllun yn 2000-01 hyd at y flwyddyn ar ôl ei gyflwyno. Yr arwydd diweddaraf, yr wyf yn falch o ddweud, yw bod y cynnydd yn parhau. Mae'r fenter brechwastau am ddim, sy'n cael ei rhagbrofi ar hyn o bryd, hefyd yn debygol o greu mwy o alw am laeth pur, iach

the good habit of drinking plenty of milk early in life.

Mick Bates: It is great to hear Carl Sargeant praising free school milk. Of course, its introduction had nothing to do with the Labour Party; it was the Liberal Democrats who put the policy forward in the partnership Government. [*Interruption.*] Can we have a bit of hush, please? Thank you for the recognition, Mr Sargeant. However, First Minister, you identified all the key issues about the sustainability of the market in milk, and you rightly stated how great it is that free school milk is available at key stage 1 in schools. Surely, the rationale of the argument is that your Government will, therefore, extend free school milk to key stage 2. When will you do that?

The First Minister: We have no proposals to do that at the moment but, as I mentioned, it is encouraging to see the upward trend in milk consumption in schools and in the school environment, as it is important to inculcate a milk-drinking habit, either directly or on breakfast cereals via the free school breakfast pilot. Likewise, on farming, we continue to work well, through Farming Connect, by trying to advise dairy farmers as to how they can extend their profit beyond that made at the farm gate back into the farm rather than seeing the processors taking all the profits through having the low milk price that they currently enjoy.

Alun Ffred Jones: Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r straeon yn y wasg ynglŷn â'r peryglon i hufenfeydd ACC yn Llangadog, Caerdydd a Llandyrnog. Pa drafodaethau y mae'ch Llywodraeth wedi'u cynnal ag ACC Milk, a sut y byddwch yn sicrhau y bydd yr hufenfeydd hyn yn parhau i gynhyrchu yn sgîl unrhyw newid perchenogaeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cwestiwn masnachol i ACC Milk yw a yw am werthu un, dau neu'i dri hufenfa yng Nghymru, sydd yn Llandyrnog, Llangadog a Chaerdydd. Yr ydym yn gofyn i Gyfarwyddiaeth Fwyd y WDA i gadw golwg ar y sefyllfa ac i weithio

a blasus o Gymru ymysg plant ysgol yng Nghymru ac o fethrin yr arfer da o yfed digon o laeth yn gynnar yn eu hoes.

Mick Bates: Braf yw clywed Carl Sargeant yn canmol llaeth am ddim mewn ysgolion. Wrth gwrs, nid oedd a wnelo'r Blaid Lafur ddim â'i gyflwyno; y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol a hyrwyddodd y polisi hwn yn y Llywodraeth bartneriaeth. [*Torri ar draws.*] A gawn ychydig o dawelwch, os gwelwch yn dda? Diolch ichi am y gydnabyddiaeth, Mr Sargeant. Fodd bynnag, Brif Weinidog, nodasoch yr holl brif faterion sy'n ymwneud â chynaliadwyedd y farchnad laeth, ac yr oeddech yn iawn wrth ddweud mor braf ydyw bod llaeth ar gael am ddim yn yr ysgol yng nghyfnod allweddol 1. Felly, ar sail y ddadl honno, mae'n sicr y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn ymestyn llaeth am ddim yn yr ysgol i gyfnod allweddol 2. Pryd fyddwch yn gwneud hynny?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes gennym unrhyw fwiad i wneud hynny ar hyn o bryd ond, fel y dywedais, peth calonogol yw gweld bod mwy o laeth yn cael ei yfed mewn ysgolion ac yng nghyffiniau'r ysgol, gan ei bod yn bwysig meithrin yr arfer o yfed llaeth, un ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar ben grawnfwydydd brecwast drwy'r rhagbrawf ar frecwastau am ddim yn yr ysgol. Yn yr un modd, o ran ffermio, daliwn i weithio'n effeithiol, drwy Cyswllt Ffermio, drwy geisio cynghori ffermwyr llaeth ar y modd y gallant wneud mwy o elw ar ben yr hyn a wnânt wrth lidiart y fferm yn hytrach na gweld y proseswyr yn mynd â'r holl elw drwy gael y pris isel ar laeth y maent yn ei fwynhau ar hyn o bryd.

Alun Ffred Jones: You will be aware of the rumours circulating in the press about the fate of the ACC creameries at Llangadog, Cardiff and Llandyrnog. What discussions has your Government held with ACC Milk, and how will you ensure that production will continue at the creameries in the event of any change in ownership?

The First Minister: The decision whether to sell one, two or all three of its creameries in Wales, which are in Llandyrnog, Llangadog and Cardiff, is a commercial matter for ACC Milk. We are asking the WDA's Food Directorate to keep an eye on the situation

gyda'r cwmni i weld beth fydd ei benderfyniad. Fodd bynnag, penderfyniad masnachol i'r cwmni yw hyn, ac nid oes gennym ffordd o'i wahardd rhag gwerthu'r hufenfeydd os dyna'r hyn y mae'n ei benderfynu.

and to work alongside the company to see what its decision will be. However, this is a commercial decision for the company, and we have no way of preventing it from selling up should it decide to do so.

2.30 p.m.

Gwella Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus Improving Public Services

Q6 The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives (Nick Bourne): Will the First Minister update us on progress being made to improve public services in Wales? (OAQ35078)

The First Minister: Widespread progress continues to be made across the range of public services in Wales. I am sure, Nick, that you would wish to join me in extending congratulations to the four Welsh NHS trusts whose hospitals were listed last month as being among the top 40 in the country, following an independent survey by a leading independent hospital benchmarking authority. That is just one example of the many ways in which the quality of public services, which the Assembly Government considers to be so important, is being improved throughout Wales.

Nick Bourne: I have never had a problem with congratulating NHS professionals, and I congratulate them now. My concern is with how you are running the health service. I was astounded earlier to hear you taking credit for some supposed success of the NHS in Wales. Some modesty would have been more appropriate, as you have much to be modest about. The number of hospital beds has fallen by 3 per cent since 1999—those are official figures given to me by Jane Hutt—82,000 more people are on waiting lists than when you came to power in 1999, and bedblocking is costing the NHS £300,000 every day. It was not only the purser of the Titanic who was at fault, but the captain, and the direction in which the ship was heading. Is it not time that we had a change of policy?

The First Minister: Not only does your

C6 Arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru (Nick Bourne): A wnaiff y Prif Weinidig roi i ni'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud ar wella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru? (OAQ35078)

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwneir cynnydd mawr o hyd yn yr holl wasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn siŵr, Nick, y dymunech ymuno â mi i longyfarch y pedair ymddiriedolaeth GIG yng Nghymru y rhestrowyd eu hysbytai y mis diwethaf fel rhai a oedd ymysg y 40 gorau yn y wlad, ar ôl arolwg annibynnol gan un o'r prif awdurdodau annibynnol ar feincnodi ysbytai. Dim ond un enghraifft yw honno o'r llawer dull a modd y mae ansawdd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn rhoi cymaint o bwys arnynt, yn cael ei wella ledled Cymru.

Nick Bourne: Bùm yn barod erioed i longyfarch gweithwyr proffesiynol y GIG, ac fe'u llonyfarchaf yn awr. Yr hyn yr wyf yn pryderu amdano yw'r modd yr ydych yn rhedeg y gwasanaeth iechyd. Yr oedd yn syn gennyf eich clywed yn gynharach yn cymryd y clod am ryw lwyddiant tybiedig y GIG yng Nghymru. Buasai'n fwy priodol ichi fod yn wylaidd, gan fod gennych gymaint i fod yn wylaidd yn ei gylch. Mae nifer y gwelyau mewn ysbytai wedi gostwng o 3 y cant er 1999—fffigurau swyddogol yw'r rheini a roddwyd imi gan Jane Hutt—mae 82,000 yn fwy o bobl ar restrau aros nag a oedd pan ddaethoch i rym yn 1999, ac mae'r blocio ar welyau'n costio £300,000 i'r GIG bob diwrnod. Nid pyrser y Titanic yn unig a oedd ar fai, ond y capten, a'r cyfeiriad yr oedd y llong yn mynd iddo. Onid yw'n bryd inni gael newid polisi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid yw'ch arfer o fwrw

bringing out the weekly blame machine do you no credit, but, worse, it does nothing to indicate what ideas you may have hidden—well hidden—about improving the national health service's ability to continue to treat patients. I mentioned earlier the long-term investment that we have had to make to increase the intake of our medical schools by 89 per cent on what it was when the Conservatives left office. I also mentioned that the number of nurses emerging from nursing courses is up by 70 per cent on what it was when the Conservatives left us their catastrophic inheritance. We are doing our best to build for the future. That can take a long time to show itself, but it is already doing so. For example, as I mentioned, in-patient and out-patient long waits have fallen sharply following the introduction of the lead-in payments for the second offer guarantee. We hope that when the figures come in from that scheme, which started on 1 April, they will show further progress. Clearly, you do not want to recognise that.

Nick Bourne: The fact remains that waiting lists are much longer now than when you came into office. You said in 1998—50 years after the establishment of the NHS—that Nye Bevan would rotate in his grave if NHS waiting lists went up; they did, so he must have been revolving at quite some rate. You keep ignoring the fact that the position is far worse than when you came to power. You have never apologised to the people of Wales for that. What will you do about the parlous waiting list situation, for which you and the Minister for Health and Social Services are responsible?

The First Minister: You should recognise the huge achievements of the national health service in treating far more patients than ever before, and in doing that more efficiently. We are avoiding having people go into hospital who do not need to be in the acute sector by extending what we do via general practitioners and the primary care service. Ninety per cent of the contact that people have with the health service is with their GP or another primary care provider. Therefore, by extending what we do in the primary care

bai bob wythnos yn dod ag unrhyw glod i chi ac, yn waeth na hynny, wrth wneud hynny, nid ydych yn dangos y syniadau a allai fod ynghudd gennych—ymhell o'r golwg—am wella gallu'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol i barhau i drin cleifion. Cyfeiriais yn gynharach at y buddsoddi tymor hir y bu'n rhaid inni ymgymryd ag ef i gynyddu'r nifer a dderbynnir i'n hysgolion meddygol o 89 y cant o'i gymharu â'r hyn ydoedd pan aeth y Ceidwadwyr o lywodraeth. Dywedais hefyd fod nifer y nyrsys sy'n cwblhau cyrsiau nyrsio yn 70 y cant yn fwy na'r hyn ydoedd pan adawodd y Ceidwadwyr y fath sefyllfa drychinebus i ni. Yr ydym yn gwneud ein gorau i adeiladu ar gyfer y dyfodol. Gall hynny gymryd amser hir i ddwyn ffrwyth, ond mae eisoes yn gwneud hynny. Er enghraifft, fel y dywedais, bu gostyngiad sydyn yn nifer yr arosiadau hir gan gleifion mewnol ac allanol ar ôl cyflwyno'r taliadau rhagarweiniol ar gyfer gwarantu'r ail gynnig. Yr ydym yn gobeithio, pan geir y ffigurau o'r cynllun hwnnw, a ddechreuodd ar 1 Ebrill, y byddant yn dangos cynnydd pellach. Mae'n amlwg nad ydych am gydnabod hynny.

Nick Bourne: Er hynny, y gwir amdani yw bod rhestrau aros yn hwy o lawer yn awr nag yr oeddent pan ddaethoch i rym. Dywedasochn yn 1998—50 mlynedd ar ôl sefydlu'r GIG—y byddai Nye Bevan yn troi yn ei fedd os âi rhestrau aros y GIG yn hwy; gwnaethant hynny, felly mae'n sicr iddo fod yn troi'n eithaf cyflym. Yr ydych yn dal i anwybyddu'r ffaith bod y sefyllfa'n waeth o lawer yn awr na'r adeg y daethoch i rym. Nid ydych erioed wedi ymddiheuro i bobl Cymru am hynny. Pa beth a wnewch ynghylch sefyllfa enbyd y rhestrau aros, yr ydych chi a'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol yn gyfrifol amdani?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dylech gydnabod cyflawniadau aruthrol y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol wrth drin mwy o gleifion o lawer nag erioed o'r blaen, ac wrth wneud hynny'n fwy effeithlon. Yr ydym yn peri na fydd pobl yn mynd i'r ysbyty os nad oes angen iddynt fod yn y sector aciwt drwy ymestyn yr hyn a wnawn drwy feddygon teulu a'r gwasanaeth gofal sylfaenol. Mae 90 y cant o'r cysylltiad sydd gan bobl â'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn digwydd gyda'u meddyg teulu neu ddarparwr gofal sylfaenol arall. Gan hynny, drwy wneud

service, we are getting people treated more appropriately than they would be by being admitted to the secondary side of the health service. Some people need to be admitted to the secondary side—1 million people in Wales, a third of the population, were admitted to accident and emergency departments last year, and dealing with over 1 million out of the 3 million population of Wales is a remarkable achievement—and progress is being made on waiting lists. As it has shot your fox, Nick, you will not recognise the progress that has been made in the lead-in to the second offer guarantee scheme. Now that that scheme is fully operational, we are confident that further good progress will be made on long waits.

Nick Bourne: Having burned down the factory, it is easy to take credit for putting down the foundations to rebuild it, which is what you are doing. Waiting lists have become much worse under you, which is the point that I keep coming back to. To trade statistics, 10 per cent of Wales's population is on a waiting list. We will come back to that later on, in our debate on the Audit Commission's report—a damning report, as you know. However, I come back to the point that, if we are to get this right and rectify a situation in which more people have to have private care than ever did under the Conservatives, because they are being forced to do so, you need to change direction. Your postbag must be different from that of the other 59 Assembly Members: ours are dominated by letters from people who have to wait ages for routine operations and who have to go for private treatment.

The First Minister: There is no doubt who burned down the factory, Nick. We all know which party was responsible for that. We all know which party halved the number of family doctors in training in its final five years. We have rebuilt training numbers to where they were in the mid-1990s, before your Government halved them. We have had to increase the number of nurses in training, and intake into the health service is now 70 per cent higher than it was when you left office. We have had to expand places for doctors in our medical schools by 89 per cent

mwy yn y gwasanaeth gofal sylfaenol, yr ydym yn peri i bobl gael triniaeth fwy priodol nag a gaent drwy eu derbyn i ochr eilaidd y gwasanaeth iechyd. Mae rhai y mae'n rhaid eu derbyn i'r ochr eilaidd—cafodd 1 filiwn o bobl yng Nghymru, un rhan o dair o'r boblogaeth, eu derbyn i adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys y llynedd, ac mae delio â mwy nag 1 filiwn o'r 3 miliwn o boblogaeth yng Nghymru'n gyflawniad rhyfeddol—a gwneir cynnydd ar restrau aros. Gan fod hynny'n tanseilio'ch dadl, Nick, ni wnewch gydnabod y cynnydd a wnaed cyn cyflwyno cynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnydd. Gan fod y cynllun hwnnw'n llawn weithredol bellach, yr ydym yn ffyddiog y gwneir cynnydd da pellach ar yr arosiadau hir.

Nick Bourne: A chithau wedi llosgi'r gwaith i'r llawr, hawdd yw cymryd y clod am osod y sylfeini i'w ailgodi, a hynny yr ydych yn ei wneud. Mae rhestrau aros wedi mynd yn waeth o lawer o dan eich gofal chi, a dyna'r pwynt yr wyf yn dod yn ôl ato o hyd. Er mwyn ffeirio ystadegau, mae 10 y cant o boblogaeth Cymru ar restr aros. Deuwn yn ôl at hynny'n ddiweddarach, yn ein dadl ar adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio— adroddiad damniol, fel y gwyddoch. Fodd bynnag, deuaif yn ôl at y pwynt hwn, sef, os ydym i lwyddo a chywiro sefyllfa lle y mae mwy'n gorfod cael gofal preifat nag a'i cafodd erioed o dan y Ceidwadwyr, am eu bod yn cael eu gorfodi i wneud hynny, bydd rhaid ichi newid cyfeiriad. Rhaid bod y llythyrau a gewch chi'n wahanol i'r rhai y mae'r 59 arall o Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn eu cael: mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r rhai a gawn ni'n rhai oddi wrth bobl sy'n gorfod disgwyl am hydoedd am lawdriniaethau cyffredin ac sy'n gorfod cael triniaeth breifat.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth ynghylch pwy a losgodd y gwaith, Nick. Gwyddom oll pa blaid a fu'n gyfrifol am hynny. Gwyddom oll pa blaid a hanerodd nifer y meddygon teulu dan hyfforddiant yn ei phum mlynedd olaf. Yr ydym wedi adfer niferoedd y rhai dan hyfforddiant i'r hyn oeddent ganol y 1990au, cyn i'ch Llywodraeth eu haneru. Bu'n rhaid inni gynyddu nifer y nyrsys dan hyfforddiant, ac mae'r nifer a dderbynnir i'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn 70 y cant yn uwch bellach nag ydoedd pan aethoch o lywodraeth. Bu'n rhaid

since 1997, because you did not do so. When those doctors become available, as they are beginning to do, we can do the job that you signally failed to do during 18 years of catastrophic Tory rule, which was intended to demonstrate to the British public that the NHS could not work. People now realise that, with our additional injections of money and long-term investment, we can turn the super-tanker around. The results are clear for everyone to see in the reduced waiting lists figures that were published in late March, and I am confident that the situation will improve further, with the second offer guarantee scheme having come in on 1 April.

inni gynyddu nifer y lleoedd i feddygon yn ein hysgolion meddygol o 89 y cant er 1997, gan na wnaethoch chi hynny. Pan fydd y meddygon hynny ar gael, ac mae rhai ar gael yn awr, gallwn gyflawni'r gwaith y mae'n amlwg i chi fethu â'i wneud yn ystod y 18 mlynedd o lywodraeth drychinebus y Toriaid, gyda'r bwriad o ddangos i'r cyhoedd ym Mhrydain na allai'r GIG weithio. Bellach mae pobl yn sylweddoli, wedi inni chwistrellu arian a buddsoddiad tymor hir ychwanegol, fod modd inni weddnewid y sefyllfa. Mae'r canlyniadau'n amlwg i bawb gael eu gweld yn y ffigurau a oedd yn dangos gostyngiad yn y rhestrau aros a gyhoeddwyd ddiwedd Mawrth, ac yr wyf yn ffyddiog y bydd y sefyllfa'n gwella ymhellach, ar ôl cyflwyno cynllun gwarantu'r ail gynnig ar 1 Ebrill.

Lleoedd Parcio Coetsys (Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru) Coach Parking Provision (Wales Millennium Centre)

C7 Owen John Thomas: A yw'r Prif Weinidog wedi cael trafodaethau pellach gyda Chyngor Sir Caerdydd ynglŷn â chynyddu'r pum lle a ddarparwyd mewn cilfach parcio bysiau i wasanaethu Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru? (OAQ35087)

Q7 Owen John Thomas: Has the First Minister had further talks with Cardiff County Council with a view to increasing the provision of five spaces in a lay-by for coach parking to serve the Wales Millennium Centre? (OAQ35087)

Y Prif Weinidog: Nac ydwyf.

The First Minister: No.

Owen John Thomas: Efallai y dylwn fod wedi disgwyl hynny. Dyma'r pymthegfed tro i mi godi'r mater hwn yn y Siambr. Buddsoddiwyd miliynau o bunnoedd y Cynulliad yng nghanolfan y mileniwm, ac mae llwyddiant y sefydliad hwnnw'n bwysig i Gymru. A allwch ein sicrhau y byddwch, heb oedi ymhellach, yn cael trafodaethau gyda chyngor Caerdydd a chyrff eraill i sicrhau bod cyfundrefn drafnidiaeth integredig yn bodoli cyn i'r ganolfan agor ym mis Tachwedd?

Owen John Thomas: Maybe I should have expected that. This is the fifteenth time that I have raised this issue in the Chamber. Millions of pounds of Assembly money has been invested in the millennium centre, and the success of that institution is important to Wales. Can you assure us that you will, without further delay, have talks with Cardiff council and other organisations to ensure that an integrated transport system is in place before the centre opens in November?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid ni sy'n gyfrifol am y cyfleusterau parcio ym mae Caerdydd nac yn unrhyw le arall yng Nghymru. Mater i'r awdurdod lleol perthnasol yw hynny. Clywaf fod cyngor Caerdydd wedi sefydlu grŵp sy'n cynnwys pobl sy'n rhedeg cludiant cyhoeddus yn yr ardal a rhai o'n swyddogion, er mwyn sicrhau y bydd y cyfleusterau parcio a chludiant yn gweithio pan fydd canolfan y mileniwm yn agor. Fodd bynnag, nid ein

The First Minister: We are not responsible for the parking provision in Cardiff bay or anywhere else in Wales. That is a matter for the relevant local authority. I hear that Cardiff council has established a group that includes those in charge of public transport in the area and some of our officials, to ensure that the parking and transport facilities will be in place and will work when the millennium centre opens. However, this is

cyfrifoldeb ni yw hyn yn bennaf, ond cyfrifoldeb cyngor Caerdydd.

Lisa Francis: Some 500,000 visitors are expected in November for the opening of the WMC. You say that parking is not your Government's responsibility, and Alun Pugh has said that he will not answer questions or invent transport policy on the hoof. However, do you not think that it is your responsibility and that you should hold discussions with Cardiff council to ensure that Lloyd George Avenue will not be closed off to traffic on that weekend, which clashes with an important international rugby match? You cannot walk away from this. You need to get involved and discuss it with Cardiff council.

The First Minister: The council takes the lead on parking, because it is responsible for it. You cannot have two people in the lead on this issue. Our officials are assisting the council on this, and we are trying to work with Arriva, Cardiff Bus and other public transport providers. However, the primary responsibility for this clearly rests with the local authority in terms of organising parking arrangements and overseeing public transport arrangements.

2.40 p.m.

Datblygu Addysg Uwch Developing Higher Education

Q8 John Griffiths: Will the First Minister make a statement on progress in developing higher education in Wales? (OAQ35085)

The First Minister: The higher education sector has embraced the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Reaching Higher' strategy. There has already been significant progress—notably the merger between the University of Wales College of Medicine and Cardiff University, with the Government providing £15 million from the £45 million available for implementing 'Reaching Higher'. Other smaller-scale collaborations are also being taken forward by higher education institutions, and the sector is ensuring that it is putting foundations in place so that it can operate from a position of strength in the

primarily not our responsibility, but that of Cardiff council.

Lisa Francis: Disgwylir y bydd tua 500,000 yn ymweld ym mis Tachwedd ar gyfer agor Canolfan Mileniwm Cymru. Dywedwch nad yw parcio'n gyfrifoldeb i'ch Llywodraeth, a dywedodd Alun Pugh na wnaiff ateb cwestiynau neu ddyfeisio polisi trafniadaeth wrth fynd ymlaen. Er hynny, oni chredwch mai cyfrifoldeb i chi ydyw ac y dylech gynnal trafodaethau â chyngor Caerdydd i sicrhau na fydd traffig yn cael ei wahardd ar Rodfa Lloyd George y penwythnos hwnnw, pan gynhelir gêm rygbi ryngwladol bwysig hefyd? Ni allwch droi'ch cefn ar hyn. Rhaid ichi gymryd rhan a'i drafod gyda chyngor Caerdydd.

Y Prif Weinidog: Y cyngor sy'n arwain ar barcio, gan mai ef sy'n gyfrifol amdano. Ni ellir cael dau'n arwain ar y mater hwn. Mae ein swyddogion yn helpu'r cyngor yn y mater hwn ac yr ydym yn ceisio gweithio gydag Arriva, Cardiff Bus a darparwyr cludiant cyhoeddus eraill. Er hynny, mae'n amlwg mai'r awdurdod lleol sy'n bennaf cyfrifol am hyn o ran gwneud trefniadau parcio ac arolygu trefniadau ar gyfer cludiant cyhoeddus.

C8 John Griffiths: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud ar ddatblygu addysg uwch yng Nghymru? (OAQ35085)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r sector addysg uwch wedi derbyn strategaeth 'Ymgeisio yn Uwch' Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Bu cryn gynnydd eisoes—yn enwedig cyfuno Coleg Meddygaeth Prifysgol Cymru a Phrifysgol Caerdydd, drwy ddarparu £15 miliwn gan y Llywodraeth o'r £45 miliwn sydd ar gael i roi 'Ymgeisio yn Uwch' ar waith. Ceir cydweithio arall ar raddfa lai gan sefydliadau addysg uwch, ac mae'r sector yn sicrhau ei fod yn gosod sylfeini fel y bydd mewn lle da i weithredu yn y dyfodol.

future.

John Griffiths: The University of Wales, Newport is playing a major role in the development of higher education in Wales. It is leading the way in widening participation, establishing economic development links and achieving good research ratings. It is also, excitingly, planning a major relocation to Newport city centre. Will you join me in recognising that, and the fact that the university is now a full constituent part of the University of Wales, which was marked by an impressive celebration last weekend at the Caerleon campus?

The First Minister: I am sorry that I did not attend that celebration. However, I visited Blackwood Miners' Institute with Jeff Cuthbert on Friday to celebrate a collaborative exercise between the University of Wales, Newport, the University of Glamorgan, and the Workers' Educational Association, and their progress through partnership on widening access to education. It is a remarkable success story, and 150 people at the event had taken advantage of that access via the open door of the WEA through the Community University of the Valleys Partnership in places such as Tredegar. There were some remarkable stories of achievement and I congratulate the University of Wales, Newport on its part in widening access in that way.

David Davies: Mae 25 o bobl wedi colli eu swyddi yng Ngholeg Gwent ac mae cannoedd o fyfyrwyr yn wynebu problemau gyda'u cyrsiau. Nid yw'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes wedi siarad ag awdurdodau'r coleg. A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddelio gyda'r argyfwng mewn addysg yng ngogledd Gwent?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae Jane wedi gofyn i Shelia Drury, cadeirydd Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru, drafod gyda llywodraethwyr Coleg Gwent mewn modd addas. Caiff y coleg ei gyllido drwy ELWa. Felly, os oes problemau gweinyddol neu broblem o ran delio â chwestiwn llosg nad ydym yn ymwybodol ohono ar hyn o bryd, ELWa, fel y corff sy'n noddol colegau addysg bellach, ddylai ymdrin

John Griffiths: Mae Prifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd yn chwarae rhan o bwys wrth ddatblygu addysg uwch yng Nghymru. Mae'n arwain y ffordd o ran ehangu cyfranogiad, creu cysylltiadau ar gyfer datblygu economaidd a sicrhau safonau da yn ei hymchwil. Mae'n gyffrous ei bod hefyd yn bwriadu ail-leoli'n helaeth yng nghanol dinas Casnewydd. A wnewch ymuno â mi i gydnabod hynny, a'r ffaith bod y brifysgol bellach yn aelod llawn o Brifysgol Cymru, a nodwyd drwy ddatliad trawiadol y penwythnos diwethaf ar y campws yng Nghaerllion?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf na fûm yn y datliad hwnnw. Er hynny, ymwelais ag Institiwt y Glowyr yn y Coed Duon gyda Jeff Cuthbert ddydd Gwener i ddatlu gwaith a wnaed ar y cyd rhwng Prifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd, Prifysgol Morgannwg, a Mudiad Addysg y Gweithwyr, a'r cynnydd a wnaethant drwy bartneriaeth ar ehangu mynediad i addysg. Cafwyd llwyddiant rhyfeddol, ac yr oedd 150 a oedd yn y digwyddiad wedi manteisio ar y mynediad hwnnw drwy ddrws agored Mudiad Addysg y Gweithwyr drwy Bartneriaeth Prifysgol Gymunedol y Cymoedd mewn mannau fel Tredegar. Yr oedd rhai hanesion rhyfeddol am yr hyn a gyflawnwyd, a llongyfarchaf Brifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd ar y rhan a gymerodd mewn ehangu mynediad fel hyn.

David Davies: Twenty-five people have lost their jobs at Coleg Gwent and hundreds of students face problems with their courses. The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning has not spoken with the college authorities. Will the First Minister deal with the crisis in education in north Gwent?

The First Minister: Jane has asked Shelia Drury, the chair of Education and Learning Wales, to have the necessary discussions with the Coleg Gwent governors. The college is funded through ELWa. Therefore, if there are administrative problems or problems in dealing with a burning issue that we are not currently aware of, ELWa, as the sponsoring body for further education colleges, should

â'r mater. Dyna'r trywydd i'w ddilyn. Mae'r Gweinidog yn rhoi arweiniad i ELWa, ac yna mae ELWa yn rhoi arweiniad i weinyddwyr Coleg Gwent.

deal with the issue. That is the appropriate route to take. The Minister advises ELWa, and then ELWa advises the administrators at Coleg Gwent.

Gwasanaethau i Ddiodefwyr Lwpws Services for Lupus Sufferers

Q9 Janice Gregory: Will the First Minister make a statement on services for lupus sufferers in Wales? (OAQ35081)

C9 Janice Gregory: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad ar y gwasanaethau ar gyfer diodefwyr lwpws yng Nghymru? (OAQ35081)

The First Minister: The Assembly Government has a continuing good record in terms of funding lupus research projects. It is a distressing condition, although it affects only a relatively small number of people. The most recent research began on 1 October 2002 and is scheduled to last until around October 2005. It will consider the development of safe, effective and specific anti-inflammatory drugs, which will undoubtedly improve the wellbeing of lupus sufferers and those suffering from related conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad record dda o hyd o ran cyllido prosiectau ymchwil i lwpws. Anhwylder trallodus ydyw, er nad yw ond yn effeithio ar nifer gymharol fach. Dechreuodd yr ymchwil ddiweddaraf ar 1 Hydref 2002 ac mae i fod i barhau hyd tua Hydref 2005. Bydd yn ymdrin â datblygu cyffuriau gwrthlidiol diogel, effeithiol a phenodol, a fydd yn sicr o hybu lles y rhai sy'n dioddef gan lwpws a'r rhai sy'n dioddef gan anhwylderau cysylltiedig, fel arthritis gwynegol.

Janice Gregory: Thank you for your encouraging response. As I am sure you know, little is known about lupus. People usually only become aware of it when a family member, a friend or an acquaintance suffers from this debilitating condition. I applaud the funding that the Welsh Assembly Government is providing for lupus research. However, I have been told by professionals that lupus services in Wales are patchy at best and negative at worst. While I understand the connection with rheumatology, some lupus sufferers are being treated in not the best conditions in hospital rheumatology departments and clinics. Will you and the Minister for Health and Social Services continue to bring pressure to bear on the relevant authorities to provide services for lupus sufferers? As I said, this is a debilitating condition and pressure needs to be maintained in order to introduce better services.

Janice Gregory: Diolch i chi am eich ymateb calonogol. Fel y gwyddoch, yr wyf yn siŵr, ychydig a wyddys am lwpws. Fel arfer, ni ddaw pobl i wybod amdano ond pan fydd aelod o'u teulu, ffrind neu gydnabod yn dioddef gan yr anhwylder gwanychol hwn. Cymeradwyaf y cyllid y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n ei ddarparu ar gyfer ymchwil i lwpws. Er hynny, mae gweithwyr proffesiynol wedi dweud wrthyf fod gwasanaethau ar gyfer lwpws yng Nghymru'n rhai bylchog ar y gorau ac yn negyddol ar eu gwaethaf. Er fy mod yn deall y cysylltiad â rhewmatoleg, mae rhai sy'n dioddef gan lwpws nad ydynt yn cael eu trin yn yr amgylchiadau gorau mewn adrannau a chlinigau rhewmatoleg mewn ysbytai. A wnewch chi a'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol barhau i bwysu ar yr awdurdodau perthnasol i ddarparu gwasanaethau i rai sy'n dioddef gan lwpws? Fel y dywedais, anhwylder gwanychol yw hwn a rhaid pwysu o hyd er mwyn cyflwyno gwasanaethau gwell.

The First Minister: I am grateful to you for your question, and you are right to say that not much is known about this condition. I had

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i chi am eich cwestiwn, ac yr ydych yn iawn wrth ddweud na wyddys llawer am yr anhwylder

heard about the condition but, until you asked your question, I knew little about it. It is an extremely debilitating disease, and 90 per cent of sufferers are women. The disease is normally treated in rheumatology clinics, but, if there are problems with its treatment in these clinics, I will make inquiries, and either I or Jane Hutt will write to you.

David Melding: Do you agree that we have a special duty of care to people who suffer from relatively uncommon conditions? They can, across the board, find it difficult to access effective services. I am sure that many Members have dealt with constituents who have experienced lack of services because their condition is not common enough to justify comprehensive provision, particularly in their local area.

The First Minister: That point was well-made. Wales does not have a huge metropolitan centre with a huge hospital that has specialist departments for all manner of relatively rare conditions—this is true even in Cardiff—therefore, you will tend to find that specialist treatment is available in London, Birmingham or Bristol for patients from south Wales, or in Liverpool and Manchester for those from north Wales. The problem of dealing with relatively rare conditions is more acute in Wales. Should we try to deal with them within our hospital service, or should we send people to big metropolitan hospitals in big metropolises on the other side of the border?

Y Llywydd: Trosglwyddwyd cwestiwn 10 (OAQ35076) am ateb ysgrifenedig.

hwn. Yr oeddwn wedi clywed am yr anhwylder hwn ond, hyd nes y gofynasoch eich cwestiwn, ychydig a wyddwn amdano. Mae'n glefyd gwanychol iawn, a menywod yw 90 y cant o'r rhai sy'n dioddef ganddo. Trinnir y clefyd fel arfer mewn clinigau rheumatoleg, ond, os oes problemau o ran ei drin yn y clinigau hyn, gwnaf ymholiadau, a byddaf fi neu Jane Hutt yn ysgrifennu atoch.

David Melding: A ydych yn cytuno ein bod o dan ddyletswydd gofal arbennig tuag at y rhai sy'n dioddef gan anhwylderau cymharol anghyffredin? Yn gyffredinol, gallant ei chael yn anodd sicrhau gwasanaethau effeithiol. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod sawl Aelod wedi delio ag etholwyr a brofodd ddiffyg gwasanaethau am nad yw eu hanhwylder yn ddigon cyffredin i gyfiawnhau darpariaeth gynhwysfawr, yn enwedig yn eu hardal leol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaethoch bwynt da. Nid oes canolfan fetropolitan enfawr yng Nghymru a ynddi ysbyty anferth sydd ag adrannau arbenigol ar gyfer pob math o anhwylderau cymharol brin—mae hyn yn wir yng Nghaerdydd hyd yn oed—felly, gwelir bod y rhan fwyaf o'r triniaethau arbenigol ar gael yn Llundain, Birmingham neu Fryste yn achos cleifion o'r De, neu yn Lerpwl a Manceinion yn achos y rhai o'r Gogledd. Mae'r broblem o ddelio ag anhwylderau cymharol brin yn fwy difrifol yng Nghymru. A ddylem geisio delio â hwy yn ein gwasanaeth ysbytai ni, neu a ddylem anfon pobl i ysbytai metropolitan mawr mewn dinasoedd mawr y tu draw i'r ffin?

The Presiding Officer: Question 10 (OAQ35076) has been transferred for written answer.

Rhaglen Ddeddfwriaethol y Flwyddyn Nesaf Next Year's Legislative Programme

C11 Ieuan Wyn Jones: A yw'r Prif Weinidog wedi cynnal trafodaethau gydag Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru ynglyn â rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol y flwyddyn nesaf? (OAQ35077)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf wedi cael dwsinau o drafodaethau ar y pwnc hwn.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Fe wŷr y Prif Weinidog

Q11 Ieuan Wyn Jones: Has the First Minister had any discussions with the Secretary of State for Wales regarding the legislative programme for next year? (OAQ35077)

The First Minister: I have had dozens of discussions on this subject.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: The First Minister knows

fod Mesur preifat ar wahardd ysmegu wedi mynd drwy Dŷ'r Arglwyddi eleni. Yn ôl y darogan a glywsom, mae'n debyg na fydd y Mesur hwn yn llwyddo i fynd drwy Dŷ'r Cyffredin. Yr wyf yn siŵr fod y Prif Weinidog, fel minnau, yn croesawu'r ffaith y sefydlir pwyllgor ad hoc ambleidiol, gyda chytundeb y Cynulliad, i ystyried y sefyllfa. Pe bai'r pwyllgor hwn yn argymhell y dylid llunio deddfwriaeth, pa sicrwydd a gawsoch gan Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru y byddai'r Llywodraeth yn Llundain yn fodlon deddfu?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid oes modd cael sicrwydd gyda chwestiynau o'r math hwn. Yr ydych yn iawn i amlinellu'r sefyllfa. Derbyniodd y Cynulliad gynnig gwreiddiol Alun Pugh, a chodwyd hwnnw gan y Farwnes Finlay yn Nhŷ'r Arglwyddi. Mae'r Mesur wedi mynd drwy Dŷ'r Arglwyddi, ac yr ydym yn troedio tir newydd erbyn hyn wrth i Julie Morgan AS ei ddwyn gerbron fel Mesur Aelod preifat. Disgwylir trafod y Mesur yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ar 15 Hydref, ond nid oes llawer o obaith fod digon o amser i'w dderbyn. Os yw'r cynnig yn methu, yn unol â'r disgwyl, byddai bron yn awtomatig yn golygu ein bod ni yn gofyn i'r cynnig gael ei ailystyried fel Mesur i'w gynnig yn Araith nesaf y Frenhines.

Nick Bourne: This is an important issue, and my question relates to the legislative process. There may be a measure of agreement across the parties on certain legislative proposals. I am concerned that we are not perhaps getting into the game early enough and, if we were to start discussions with a relevant Government department at an earlier stage, we may succeed in securing a Bill with which all the parties agree and which would give us specific powers. Have you considered this?

The First Minister: I do not think that you could start discussions much earlier than we did in this case. The motion proposed by Alun Pugh, under Standing Order No. 31, was carried in January 2003. On 6 February 2003, we wrote to the Government to request that it include the proposal as a legislative bid. This was overtaken by the fact that the

that a private Bill that would prohibit smoking has completed its journey through the House of Lords this year. It is anticipated that the Bill will fail to pass through the House of Commons. I am sure that the First Minister would join me in welcoming the fact that, with the Assembly's agreement, a cross-party ad hoc committee will be established to consider the situation. If this committee were to conclude that legislation is necessary, what guarantee have you received from the Secretary of State for Wales that the Government in London would be prepared to legislate?

The First Minister: Matters such as this do not always come with a guarantee. You were right to refer to the background. The original motion proposed by Alun Pugh was carried by the Assembly, and it has since been taken up by Baroness Finlay in the House of Lords. The Bill has passed through the House of Lords, and new ground is now being broken in that it has been put forward by Julie Morgan MP to be included as a private Member's Bill. The House of Commons is due to discuss the Bill on 15 October, but there is little hope of there being sufficient time for it to be passed. If the Bill falls, as anticipated, it would almost automatically mean that we would request that the Bill be reconsidered for inclusion in the next Queen's Speech.

Nick Bourne: Mae hyn yn fater pwysig, ac mae fy nghwestiwn yn ymwneud â'r broses ddeddfu. Gellir cael rhywfaint o gytundeb cyd rhwng y pleidiau ar rai cynigion deddfwriaethol. Yr wyf yn bryderus nad ydym o bosibl yn cychwyn arni'n ddigon buan a, pe byddem yn dechrau trafodaethau gydag adran Lywodraeth berthnasol yn gynharach, y gallem lwyddo i sicrhau Mesur y bydd yr holl bleidiau'n cytuno arno ac a roddai bwerau penodol i ni. A ydych wedi ystyried hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ni chredaf y gellesid dechrau trafodaethau'n llawer cynt nag a wnaethom ni yn yr achos hwn. Derbyniwyd y cynnig a gynigiwyd gan Alun Pugh, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 31, yn Ionawr 2003. Ar 6 Chwefror 2003, ysgrifenasom at y Llywodraeth i ofyn iddi gynnwys y cynnig fel cais am ddeddfwriaeth. Achubwyd y

proposal was taken up by Baroness Finlay off her own bat and brought before the House of Lords. I wish to correct Ieuan Wyn Jones—it was not a ban on smoking, but a ban on smoking in public places. That is an important distinction.

blaen arno gan fod y Farwnes Finlay wedi ymgymryd â'r cynnig o'i phen a'i phastwn ei hun a'i ddwyn gerbron Tŷ'r Arglwyddi. Dymunaf gywiro Ieuan Wyn Jones—nid gwaharddiad ar ysmegu ydoedd, ond gwaharddiad ar ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Mae hwnnw'n wahaniaeth pwysig.

2.50 p.m.

I am not sure how early you can start. Importantly, if the consultation process is to work well, it cannot be a party-political or cross-party issue, but a matter of exploring the issues that may or may not enable us to follow the Republic of Ireland's path to ban smoking in public places. The successful introduction of such a ban would require a non-party political approach. If it is seen as a party-political issue, then it is dead in the water before you start.

Nid wyf yn sicr pa mor gynnar y gellir dechrau. Mae'n bwysig nodi, os yw'r broses ymgynghori i lwyddo, na all fod yn fater o wleidyddiaeth plaid neu'n fater trawsbleidiol, ond yn fater o ymchwilio i'r hyn a allai neu na allai ein galluogi i ddilyn llwybr Gweriniaeth Iwerddon i wahardd ysmegu mewn mannau cyhoeddus. Byddai'n rhaid wrth ddull gweithredu nad oedd yn ymwneud â gwleidyddiaeth plaid i gyflwyno gwaharddiad o'r fath yn llwyddiannus. Os caiff ei weld yn fater o wleidyddiaeth plaid, aiff i'r gwellt yn syth.

Cwestiwn Brys Urgent Question

The Presiding Officer: Before I call the leader of the Welsh Conservatives to ask his urgent question, I apologise to Members that the question does not appear on the agenda. Although it was accepted at midday, the formal question was not tabled until just before 2.00 p.m.. This is not convenient for Members, therefore, in future, I would be grateful if urgent questions could be tabled as soon as possible after permission is given, or at the latest by 15 minutes before the beginning of Plenary.

Y Llywydd: Cyn imi alw arweinydd Ceidwadwyr Cymru i ofyn y cwestiwn brys hwn, ymddiheuraf i Aelodau nad yw'r cwestiwn yn ymddangos ar yr agenda. Er iddo gael ei dderbyn am hanner dydd, ni chyflwynwyd y cwestiwn ffurfiol tan ychydig cyn 2.00 p.m.. Nid yw hyn yn gyfleus i Aelodau, felly, yn y dyfodol, byddwn yn ddiolchgar os gellid cyflwyno cwestiynau brys cyn gynted ag y bo modd ar ôl rhoi caniatâd, neu erbyn 15 munud cyn dechrau'r Cyfarfod Llawn fan bellaf.

Mid Wales Yarns

Nick Bourne: Will the Minister for Economic Development and Transport make a statement on the closure of Mid Wales Yarns Ltd in Llandrindod Wells? (EAQ35728)

Nick Bourne: A wnaiff y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth ddatganiad ar gau Mid Wales Yarns Cyf yn Llandrindod? (EAQ35728)

I apologise for the late tabling of my urgent question. The fault was mine; I thought that an e-mail was sufficient.

Ymddiheuraf am gyflwyno fy nghwestiwn brys yn hwyr. Myfi a oedd ar fai; tybiais fod neges e-bost yn ddigon.

The Minister for Economic Development and Transport (Andrew Davies): The

Y Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth (Andrew Davies): Daeth y

company first came to our attention in 2002 and since then, the Welsh Development Agency and the Assembly Government, through the Assembly investment grant, have provided assistance to the company. Unfortunately, our assistance was limited because of its location outside an assisted area and because of EU restrictions on aid for synthetic yarns. I understand from the WDA that its future was then reasonably secure. I was, therefore, extremely sorry to hear the announcement that the administrators had been called in to the company on Friday 14 May.

I regret that around 100 people are to be made redundant. The WDA is in discussions with the administrator and will be marketing the business and site to potential investors. As always when redundancies are announced, the Assembly Government and its Team Wales partners will work together to provide support for those workers who need assistance to secure alternative employment opportunities. Although Llandrindod Wells has the highest unemployment level in Powys, the county itself has one of the lowest unemployment claimant count levels in Wales, standing at 1.7 per cent. Therefore, we hope that the local labour market will be buoyant and that we will be able to help those affected into alternative employment. Clearly, we regret the company's announcement.

Nick Bourne: I thank the Minister for his statement. Some 109 members of staff have been issued with redundancy notices. Forty have been kept on to fulfil existing orders, but only on a short-term basis. The administrators have been called in because the company appears to be insolvent. Clearly, there are issues of wrongful trading and so on that may arise in relation to creditors. Do you have any information on pay that is owed to employees, accrued holiday pay and so on, and whether or not that will be paid to them in full as preferential creditors? That is of concern. From what you said, neither you nor the WDA were aware of the company's parlous situation. It seems that the employees were also unaware. Has that been explored further because there does not seem to have been any discussion between management and the workforce about the impending

cwmni i'n sylw gyntaf yn 2002 ac, ers hynny, mae Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, drwy grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad, wedi rhoi cymorth i'r cwmni. Gwaetha'r modd, yr oedd y cymorth a roesom yn gyfyngedig gan ei fod y tu allan i ardal a gynorthwyir ac oherwydd cyfyngiadau'r UE ar gymorth ar gyfer edafedd synthetig. Cefais wybod gan y WDA fod ei ddyfodol yn weddol sicr bryd hynny. Gan hynny, yr oedd yn ddrwg iawn gennyf glywed y cyhoeddiad bod y cwmni wedi'i roi o dan ofal y gweinyddwyr ddydd Gwener 14 Mai.

Mae'n ofid i mi y bydd tua 100 o bobl yn cael eu diswyddo. Mae'r WDA yn cynnal trafodaethau gyda'r gweinyddwr a bydd yn marchnata'r busnes a'r safle ymysg buddsoddwyr dichonol. Fel a ddigwydd bob amser pan gyhoeddir diswyddiadau, bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad a'i phartneriaid yn Nhîm Cymru yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i gynorthwyo'r gweithwyr hynny y mae arnynt angen cymorth i sicrhau cyfleoedd eraill i weithio. Er mai yn Llandrindod y ceir y lefel diweithdra uchaf ym Mhowys, y sir ei hun yw un o'r rhai sydd â'r lefel isaf o ran y nifer sy'n hawlio budd-dal diweithdra yng Nghymru, sef 1.7 y cant. Felly, gobeithiwn y bydd y farchnad lafur leol yn fywiog ac y byddwn yn gallu helpu'r rhai a effeithir i gael gwaith arall. Wrth gwrs, mae cyhoeddiad y cwmni'n destun gofid i ni.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am ei ddatganiad. Cyflwynwyd rhybuddion diswyddo i tua 109 o'r staff. Cadwyd 40 ohonynt i gyflenwi'r archebion presennol, ond dim ond dros y tymor byr. Rhoddwyd y cwmni o dan ofal y gweinyddwyr gan ei fod yn ymddangos ei fod yn ansolwent. Wrth gwrs, gallai materion godi ynghylch camfasnachu ac yn y blaen mewn cysylltiad â chredydwyr. A oes gennych unrhyw wybodaeth am gyflog sy'n ddyledus i weithwyr, cyflog gwyliau sy'n eiddo iddynt ac yn y blaen, ac a delir hynny'n llawn iddynt fel credydwyr ffafriedig? Mae hynny'n peri pryder. Yn ôl yr hyn a ddywedaso, ni wyddech chi na'r WDA am sefyllfa enbyd y cwmni. Ymddengys na wyddai'r gweithwyr ychwaith. A ymchwiliwyd ymhellach i hynny gan nad ymddengys fod unrhyw drafodaethau wedi bod rhwng y rheolwyr a'r gweithwyr

doom?

You are right about the Powys employment figures; they are reasonable, although that is somewhat disguised by the agricultural nature of the constituency and the fact that so many people are self-employed. That should be taken into account. You are also right that Llandrindod Wells has the highest unemployment level in the county and we should offer our thoughts to the families who have suffered from these redundancies and, indeed, to the whole community, which suffers from being outside an assisted area. It is some way from other towns, and job opportunities are currently few. What plans are in place to help with attracting new jobs to the town and area and to assist with re-skilling and re-training? One hundred and nine jobs in a town the size of Llandrindod Wells is a massive body blow. The equivalent in Cardiff would be well into the thousands—we are talking about 5,000 or 6,000 at least to have a proportional impact. On a broader front what plans are in place with agencies such as the WDA, the Wales Tourist Board and Powys County Council to attract jobs to the area? This is an ongoing problem, which is simply accentuated by this recent announcement. It is much regretted in the community, and is a massive blow to a town that has already suffered its fair share of job losses in recent years.

Andrew Davies: If I did not say so before, I regret it—all our thoughts are obviously with those who will be affected. As ever, being made redundant is a difficult situation to deal with. I do not know what is happening with regard to any back pay that is still owing. I have asked officials for an up-to-date report, because, as you rightly said, this announcement seems to have taken everybody, apart from the management, by surprise, particularly the workforce. As ever, with any significant redundancy, Team Wales—us and the devolved agencies, such as the WDA and ELWa—and Jobcentre Plus and others, have a good system for dealing with major job redundancy announcements. That will be put into operation, if the Team Wales partners have not already done so. I will come back to you on investment, as it is still early days with regard to the implications for Llandrindod Wells and for the wider

ynghylch y trychineb a oedd ar ddod?

Yr ydych yn iawn ynghylch y ffigurau cyflogaeth ar gyfer Powys; maent yn rhesymol, er bod hynny'n cael ei gelu rywfaint gan natur amaethyddol yr etholaeth a'r ffaith bod cynifer yn hunangyflogedig. Dylid ystyried hynny. Yr ydych hefyd yn iawn wrth ddweud mai yn Llandrindod y ceir y lefel diweithdra uchaf yn y sir ac y dylem estyn ein cydymdeimlad i'r teuluoedd sydd wedi dioddef oherwydd y diswyddiadau hyn ac, yn wir, i'r gymuned gyfan, sy'n dioddef gan ei bod y tu allan i ardal a gynorthwyr. Mae'n eithaf pell o drefi eraill, a phrin yw'r cyfleoedd gwaith ar hyn o bryd. Pa gynlluniau sydd ar waith i helpu i ddenu swyddi newydd i'r dref ac i'r ardal ac i helpu i ddysgu sgiliau newydd ac i ailhyfforddi? Mae colli 109 o swyddi mewn tref o faint Llandrindod yn ergyd fawr. Byddai hynny'n cyfateb i filoedd lawer yng Nghaerdydd—byddai'n rhaid colli o leiaf 5,000 neu 6,000 i gael effaith gyfatebol. Yn fwy cyffredinol, pa gynlluniau sydd ar waith gan asiantaethau fel y WDA, Bwrdd Croeso Cymru a Chyngor Sir Powys i ddenu swyddi newydd i'r ardal? Mae hon yn broblem barhaus, nad yw ond yn cael ei gwaethgu gan y cyhoeddiad diweddar hwn. Mae'n peri gofid mawr yn y gymuned, a rhoddodd ergyd fawr i dref sydd eisoes wedi cael ei chyfran o golledion swyddi yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf.

Andrew Davies: Os na ddywedais hynny o'r blaen, mae'n ofid i mi—yr ydym yn estyn ein cydymdeimlad i bawb a effeithir, wrth gwrs. Anodd bob amser yw delio â'r sefyllfa sy'n codi wrth golli swydd. Ni wn beth sy'n digwydd mewn cysylltiad ag unrhyw ôl-gyflog sy'n ddyledus o hyd. Yr wyf wedi gofyn i swyddogion am gael adroddiad ar y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf oherwydd, fel y dywedaso, ymddengys fod y cyhoeddiad hwn wedi dal pawb, heblaw'r rheolwyr, yn annisgwyl, yn enwedig y gweithwyr. Fel a ddigwydd pan ddiswyddir nifer sylweddol, mae gan Dîm Cymru—ni a'r asiantaethau datganoledig, fel y WDA ac ELWa—a Chanolfan Byd Gwaith ac eraill, system dda ar gyfer delio â chyhoeddiadau am ddiswyddo niferoedd mawr. Rhoddir honno ar waith, os nad yw partneriaid Tîm Cymru wedi gwneud hynny eisoes. Deuaf yn ôl atoch ynghylch buddsoddi, gan mai newydd

travel to work area. However, I know that significant investment has been made in the Metropole Hotel for example. A major upgrade has recently been undertaken there, with support from the WTB. Tourism is obviously one of the major industries in the area. However, I will write to you, Nick, to give you more details of existing investment in the area, and more details of our response to the announcement.

Jenny Randerson: I begin by expressing my sorrow, and that of the local Assembly Member, Kirsty Williams, at the news about Mid Wales Yarns Ltd. The information that I have, Minister, is that the company received £25,000 of Assembly investment grant money last year. In view of your comments this afternoon that you were unaware of problems, what follow-up takes place when a grant is provided to ensure that companies are progressing as you would expect? In addition, what is the situation with regard to reclaiming a grant from a company if the rules have not been entirely followed, which could, or could not be the case in this instance? This is a tremendous blow for Llandrindod Wells, as has already been said. The town has a significant unemployment problem, as well as a significant economic inactivity problem. Those are both issues of concern. You have referred, Minister, to the limited assistance available in the area, which is a problem that will become more acute, not only in Powys, but also in Cardiff, Flintshire, Newport and other areas from 2006 onwards. What are your plans—perhaps you can address this issue briefly this afternoon—to deal with this particular problem in the future? It is a problem that will become more acute in the next round of European funding, which will be restricted to the current Objective 1 areas.

Will you give an assurance, Minister, that Team Wales will do all that it can in this area? For a town the size of Llandrindod Wells, this is the equivalent of the Corus announcement. Everything was rightly thrown into helping those affected by the Corus redundancies, and we should do no

ddechrau ystyried y goblygiadau i Landrindod ac i'r ardal teithio i'r gwaith yr ydys. Er hynny, gwn fod buddsoddi helaeth wedi bod yn y Metropole Hotel, er enghraifft. Gwnaed gwelliannau helaeth yn y fan honno'n ddiweddar, gyda chymorth gan Fwrdd Croeso Cymru. Mae'n amlwg mai twristiaeth yw un o'r diwydiannau mwyaf yn yr ardal. Fodd bynnag, ysgrifennaf atoch, Nick, i roi mwy o fanylion i chi am y buddsoddi a geir yn yr ardal ar hyn o bryd, a mwy o fanylion am ein hymateb i'r cyhoeddiad.

Jenny Randerson: Dechreuaf drwy fynegi tristwch ar fy rhan fy hun ac ar ran yr Aelod lleol o'r Cynulliad, Kirsty Williams, ynghylch y newyddion mewn cysylltiad â Mid Wales Yarns Cyf. Yn ôl y wybodaeth sydd gennyf fi, Weinidog, cafodd y cwmni £25,000 ar ffurf grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad y llynedd. Yng ngolwg eich sylwadau y prynhawn yma i'r perwyl na wyddech fod problemau, pa gamau a gymerir os yw grant wedi'i roi i sicrhau bod cwmnïau'n mynd rhagddynt fel y disgwyliciech? Yn ogystal â hynny, beth yw'r sefyllfa o ran hawlio grant yn ôl gan gwmni os na ddilynwyd y rheolau'n union, sef yr hyn a allai fod wedi digwydd yn yr achos hwn? Mae hon yn ergyd fawr i Landrindod, fel y dywedwyd eisoes. Mae gan y dref gryn broblem o ran diweithdra, a chryn broblem hefyd o ran anweithgarwch economaidd. Mae'r ddau fater hynny'n peri pryder. Yr ydych wedi cyfeirio, Weinidog, at y cymorth cyfyngedig sydd ar gael yn yr ardal, ac mae honno'n broblem a fydd yn dwysáu, nid yn unig ym Mhowys, ond hefyd yng Nghaerdydd, sir y Fflint, Casnewydd ac ardaloedd eraill o 2006 ymlaen. Pa gynlluniau sydd gennych—efallai y gallwch ymdrin yn fyr â'r mater hwn y prynhawn yma—i ddelio â'r broblem benodol hon yn y dyfodol? Bydd yn broblem ddwysach yn y cylch cyllido Ewropeaidd nesaf, a gyfyngir i'r ardaloedd Amcan 1 presennol.

A wnewch roi sicrwydd, Weinidog, y gwnaiff Tîm Cymru bopeth a allo yn yr ardal hon? Yn achos tref o faint Llandrindod, mae hyn yn cyfateb i'r cyhoeddiad am Corus. Gwnaed pob ymdrech i helpu'r rhai yr oedd y diswyddo gan Corus yn effeithio arnynt, a hynny'n gwbl briodol, ac ni ddylem wneud

less for the people of Llandrindod Wells. Finally, will you be able to provide more information to the Economic Development and Transport Committee tomorrow, as many questions have already been asked that you are not yet in a position to answer?

3.00 p.m.

Andrew Davies: On your last point, I will report back to committee if there is any more material information to share in addition to what I have already announced. Although Powys is not in an assisted area, the Assembly investment grant scheme is able to operate there, but at a lower level. On the Assembly investment grant and regional selective assistance, if a grant is offered and a company takes it up, my officials monitor it to ensure that it satisfies the criteria on which it was granted. The Assembly investment grant, unlike RSA, is not necessarily given for job creation—it is mainly for capital investment. I will ask officials where we are in terms of grant payments, how much was paid, if any, and where we stand on reclaiming, from the administrators, any grant that we may have given.

The post-2006 agenda is an important issue. Attention is mostly focused on the future of structural funds, but assisted area status is crucial—from our point of view it is probably as important as structural funds. The First Minister and I have made the case forcefully in representations to the EU and the UK Government.

There was a similar situation with the closure of KTH. Your colleague, Mick Bates, will know that while we were unable to give any financial assistance in Llanidloes, we persuaded BT to bring forward its broadband enablement programme for the local exchange. We will do whatever we can, although it is not an assisted area, to help the local community to deal with this redundancy announcement.

Helen Mary Jones: I associate myself and Plaid Cymru—The Party of Wales with the Assembly's concern for the families of the workers made redundant in these

dim llai dros bobl Llandrindod. Yn olaf, a fyddwch yn gallu rhoi mwy o wybodaeth i'r Pwyllgor Datblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth yfory, gan fod llawer o gwestiynau wedi'u gofyn nad ydych eto mewn lle i'w hateb?

Andrew Davies: Ynghylch y pwynt diwethaf a wnaethoch, adroddaf yn ôl i'r pwyllgor os oes unrhyw wybodaeth berthnasol bellach i'w rhannu yn ychwanegol at yr hyn yr wyf wedi cyfeirio ato eisoes. Er nad yw Powys mewn ardal a gynorthwyir, gall cynllun grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad weithredu yno, ond ar lefel is. O ran grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad a chymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, os cynigir grant ac os yw cwmni'n ei dderbyn, mae fy swyddogion yn ei fonitro i sicrhau ei fod yn bodloni'r meini prawf a osodwyd wrth ei roi. Yn wahanol i gymorth rhanbarthol dewisol, ni roddir grant buddsoddi'r Cynulliad i greu swyddi o reidrwydd—mae ar gyfer buddsoddi cyfalaf yn bennaf. Holaf swyddogion ynghylch taliadau grant, pa faint a dalwyd, os rhywbeth, a'n gallu i hawlio'n ôl unrhyw grant y gallem fod wedi'i roi oddi wrth y gweinyddwyr.

Mae'r agenda ar ôl 2006 yn fater pwysig. Rhoddir y sylw pennaf i ddyfodol y cronfeydd strwythurol, ond mae statws ardal a gynorthwyir yn hollbwysig—o'n safbwynt ni, mae'n debyg ei fod cyn bwysiced â chronfeydd strwythurol. Mae'r Prif Weinidog a minnau wedi dadlau'n gryf ar hynny mewn sylwadau a gyflwynwyd i'r UE ac i Lywodraeth y DU.

Cododd sefyllfa debyg pan gaeodd KTH. Bydd eich cyd-Aelod, Mick Bates, yn gwybod, er na fu modd inni roi unrhyw gymorth ariannol yn Llanidloes, ein bod wedi dwyn perswâd ar BT i gyflwyno ei raglen ar gyfer sefydlu band eang ar gyfer y gyfnewidfa leol. Gwnawn yr hyn a allwn, er nad yw'n ardal a gynorthwyir, i helpu'r gymuned leol i ddelio â'r cyhoeddiad hwn am ddiswyddiadau.

Helen Mary Jones: Cysylltaf fy hun a Phlaid Cymru—The Party of Wales â phryder y Cynulliad dros deuluoedd y gweithwyr a ddiswyddwyd o dan yr amgylchiadau hyn.

circumstances. It is undoubtedly a serious blow to the community.

In your response to the original question, you talked about securing alternative employment. Will you acknowledge that the jobs available in Llandrindod Wells, as has been pointed out, are few and far between and are often lower-paid jobs in the service sector? They will not replace the quality jobs that have been lost. I understand that the administrator is considering selling the company as a going concern. Will you give an assurance that you and your officials will support the administrator if that is a viable option? It might be the best option in the long term—I hope that you agree—to re-employ some of those who have lost their jobs.

Do you share my regret that the Westminster Government continues to opt out of European legislation that would prevent redundancies being sprung on workers, like those at Mid Wales Yarns Ltd, and at least ensure that they had more knowledge and information earlier on? In the light of this and similar incidents in Wales over the last year, will you press central Government to review its position so that Welsh workers can enjoy the same level of protection as their colleagues on Europe's mainland?

Andrew Davies: As I said in my statement, the WDA is in discussion with the administrator to consider marketing the business as a going concern, if that is possible, and to consider alternative uses for the facility. As ever, we will do all that we can as Team Wales to respond to the needs of the community and the workforce.

On consultation, we have made it clear that the workforce should be consulted because, as employees, they have the biggest stake. As a Government, we always want fuller consultation so that if a company is in trouble, we are able to offer assistance or work with the stakeholders to help people into alternative employment. That has always been our position. A complete surprise such as this one makes it more difficult for everybody to deal with the situation.

Mae'n sicr yn ergyd ddifrifol i'r gymuned.

Yn eich ymateb i'r cwestiwn gwreiddiol, cyfeiriasoch at sicrhau gwaith arall. A wnewch gydnabod mai prin yw'r swyddi sydd ar gael yn Llandrindod, fel y nodwyd, a'u bod yn aml yn swyddi ar gyflog is yn y sector gwasanaethau? Ni fyddant yn cymryd lle'r swyddi o ansawdd da a gollwyd. Deallaf fod y gweinyddwr yn ystyried gwerthu'r cwmni fel busnes gweithredol. A wnewch roi sicrwydd y byddwch chi a'ch swyddogion yn cefnogi'r gweinyddwr os yw hynny'n ddewis dichonol? Efallai mai'r dewis gorau yn y tymor hir—yr wyf yn gobeithio y cytunwch—fydd ailgyflogi rhai o'r gweithwyr a gollodd eu swyddi.

A ydych yn rhannu fy ngofid bod y Llywodraeth yn San Steffan yn dal i ymeithrio o ddeddfwriaeth Ewropeaidd a fyddai'n atal diswyddo gweithwyr, fel y rhai yn Mid Wales Yarns Cyf, yn annisgwyl ac yn sicrhau o leiaf y caent fwy o ddysg a gwybodaeth yn gynharach? Yng ngolwg hynny a digwyddiadau tebyg yng Nghymru dros y flwyddyn a aeth heibio, a wnewch bwyso ar Lywodraeth ganolog i adolygu ei safbwynt fel y gall gweithwyr Cymru fwynhau'r un amddiffyniad ag y mae eu cydweithwyr ar dir mawr Ewrop?

Andrew Davies: Fel y dywedais yn fy natganiad, mae'r WDA mewn trafodaeth â'r gweinyddwr er mwyn ystyried marchnata'r busnes fel un gweithredol, os oes modd, ac i ystyried defnyddiau eraill i'r cyfleuster. Gwnawn bopeth a allwn fel Tîm Cymru, fel y gwnawn bob amser, i ymateb i anghenion y gymuned a'r gweithlu.

Ynghylch ymgynghori, yr ydym wedi egluro y dylid ymgynghori â'r gweithwyr oherwydd, fel gweithwyr, hwy sydd â'r gyfran fwyaf. Fel Llywodraeth, yr ydym bob amser am gael ymgynghori helaethach fel bod modd inni gynnig cymorth os yw cwmni mewn trafferthion neu weithio gyda'r rhanddeiliaid i helpu pobl i gael gwaith arall. Dyna ein safbwynt erioed. Mae rhywbeth cwbl annisgwyl fel hyn yn ei gwneud yn anos i bawb ddelio â'r sefyllfa.

Datganiad Busnes Business Statement

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I have just one point to make about this week's business, which is a point of clarification. For the benefit of Members, Alun Pugh's statement tomorrow on the notifiable transaction for the arts council collection plan is being made under Standing Order No. 21.16.

Business for the next three weeks is as is set out in the draft statement, which can be found on the Chamberweb under supporting documents. Following this morning's Business Committee meeting, the Deputy Presiding Officer determined that, under Standing Order No. 24.6, the Local Government (Whole Authority Analysis and Improvement Plans) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2004 need not be referred to a Subject Committee for extended consideration.

Y Llywydd: A oes gwrthwynebiad i'r datganiad busnes drafft? Gwelaf fod o leiaf 10. Felly, gofynnaf i'r Trefnydd gynnig y datganiad busnes yn ffurfiol.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales adopts the business statement.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Mae gennyf dri mater i'w codi, Drefnydd. Yn gyntaf, mae angen dadl ar y sefyllfa o ran dioddefwyr afiechyd meddwl. Mae adroddiadau fod cleifion yn derbyn cyffuriau gan nad oes cyfle iddynt weld cynghorwr. A yw Llywodraeth Cymru yn hapus â'r sefyllfa, gyda chyffuriau yn cael eu rhoi a fyddai'n ddiangen pe byddai cynghorwr i'w gael, a phan nad dyna'r driniaeth orau ar gyfer y claf?

Yn ail, y broblem gynnyddol o ran y cig anghyfreithlon sy'n dod drwy'n porthladdoedd, ac, yn ôl rhai adroddiadau, drwy faes awyr Caerdydd. Oni chredwch, Drefnydd, fod angen datganiad ar y modd y mae porthladdoedd a maes awyr Caerdydd yn

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Nid oes gennyf ond un pwynt i'w wneud am fusnes yr wythnos hon, a phwynt o eglurhad ydyw. Er budd Aelodau, mae'r datganiad gan Alun Pugh yfory ar y trafodiad hysbysadwy ar gyfer cynllun casglu cyngor y celfyddydau'n cael ei wneud o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 21.16.

Mae busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf fel y mae wedi'i nodi yn y datganiad drafft, y gellir ei weld ar we'r Siambr o dan ddogfennau ategol. Yn dilyn cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Busnes y bore yma, penderfynodd y Dirprwy Lywydd, o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.6, nad oes angen cyfeirio Gorchymyn Llywodraeth Leol (Dadansoddiadau Awdurdodau Cyfan a Chynlluniau Gwella) (Cymru) 2004 i Bwyllgor Pwnc i'w ystyried yn helaethach.

The Presiding Officer: Are there any objections to the draft business statement? I see that there are at least 10. Therefore I call the Business Minister to formally propose the business statement.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn derbyn y datganiad busnes.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I will raise three matters, Business Minister. First, a debate is needed on the plight of those suffering mental illness. There are reports that patients are being prescribed drugs because of the unavailability of counsellors. Is the Government of Wales happy with such a situation whereby drugs are being administered that would be unnecessary were a counsellor available, and when that is not the best treatment for the patient?

Secondly, the escalating problem of illegal meat imported through our ports, and, according to some reports, through Cardiff airport. Do you not think, Business Minister, that a statement is needed on how the ports and Cardiff airport are policed to ensure that

cael eu plismona i sicrhau nad yw'r cig anghyfreithlon yn dod i mewn? Gwyddom oll beth y gallai'r goblygiadau fod—mae amheumon o hyd i glwy'r traed a'r genau ddechrau yn y ffordd honno.

Thirdly, Business Minister, I ask for a statement on the future of regional rugby in the wake of the Celtic Warriors buyout and the implications, not only for the Celtic Warriors as a club, but also for regional rugby, which was heralded as the future of Welsh rugby? We have had a highly successful first season with Llanelli, especially, doing extremely well.

Brynle Williams: I object to today's business statement. The points raised today in *The Western Mail* highlight the problems relating to the importation of illegal bushmeat through Cardiff airport and various ports. This problem is further highlighted by the lack of bio-security in our ports and airports in the UK. There is no need to point out how much bio-security cost the nation two years ago. For those who do not know, I refer to the financial aspect of the foot and mouth disease outbreak. More concerning is the human disease that this illegal importation is likely to cause. This is extremely frightening, and for that reason, we need a statement.

I support the Liberal Democrats' calls for a debate on further education colleges across Wales, which are facing deficits and cuts because lecturers' pay parity is being funded by robbing core funding from the colleges' budgets. We need a debate on this issue as soon as possible.

I also strongly support Plaid's calls for a debate on mental health. One in four people will have some sort of mental health problem in their life. This means that there are millions of people in Britain who are either encountering problems themselves or know someone who is experiencing them. I urge you to schedule all of the above in forthcoming Chamber business.

3.10 p.m.

illegal meat does not enter this country? We all know what the consequences could be—there are still suspicions that this triggered the foot and mouth disease outbreak.

Yn drydydd, Drefnydd, gofynnaf am ddatganiad ar ddyfodol rygbi rhanbarthol yn sgîl prynu'r Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd a'r goblygiadau, nid yn unig mewn cysylltiad â'r Rhyfelwyr Celtaidd fel clwb, ond hefyd o ran rygbi rhanbarthol, y datganwyd mai ef oedd biau dyfodol rygbi yng Nghymru? Cawsom dymor cyntaf tra llwyddiannus a gwnaeth Llanelli yn arbennig o dda.

Brynle Williams: Gwrthwynebfaf y datganiad busnes heddiw. Mae'r pwyntiau a godwyd heddiw yn *The Western Mail* yn dangos y problemau a geir mewn cysylltiad â mewnfario cig anghyfreithlon drwy faes awyr Caerdydd a gwahanol borthladdoedd. Tynnir sylw pellach at y broblem hon gan y diffyg diogeledd biolegol yn ein porthladdoedd a'n meysydd awyr yn y DU. Nid oes angen nodi beth a gostiodd diogeledd biolegol i'r wlad ddwy flynedd yn ôl. Er mwyn y rhai na wyddant, yr wyf yn cyfeirio at yr agwedd ariannol ar yr achosion o glwy'r traed a'r genau. Yr hyn sy'n peri mwy o bryder yw'r afiechyd y mae'r mewnfario anghyfreithlon hwn yn debygol o'i achosi mewn pobl. Mae hyn yn frawychus iawn, ac oherwydd hynny y mae'n rhaid inni gael datganiad.

Ategfaf alwadau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol am ddadl ar golegau addysg bellach ledled Cymru, sy'n wynebu diffygion a thoriadau am fod paredd cyflogau'r darlithwyr yn cael ei gyllido drwy ddwyn cyllid craidd o gyllidebau'r colegau. Rhaid inni gael dadl ar y mater hwn cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Yr wyf hefyd yn taer gefnogi galwad Plaid Cymru am ddadl ar iechyd meddwl. Bydd un ym mhob pedwar yn profi rhyw fath o broblem iechyd meddwl yn ystod ei fywyd. Mae hynny'n golygu bod miliynau o bobl ym Mhrydain sydd un ai'n profi problemau eu hunain neu'n adnabod rhywun sy'n eu profi. Fe'ch anogaf i amserlennu pob un o'r uchod yn y busnes sydd i ddod yn y Siambr.

Peter Black: I underestimated Brynle and his ability to anticipate what I say before I have said it.

Business Minister, can we have a debate on further education? I raised this matter this morning, and the response that we had was that the Minister does not intend to schedule a debate as the only immediate issue relates to Coleg Gwent. If she believes that, then she is more out of touch than I thought. The evidence is that 13 of the 25 further education colleges in Wales predict an operating deficit for this financial year and Fforwm has warned that the situation may well deteriorate significantly unless Education and Learning Wales reviews next year's budget allocation for the sector. It predicts that, because of the financial situation, 175 jobs will be lost, 7,000 students will be turned away and approximately 800 part and full-time courses will fold. That warrants a debate, and I ask you to schedule one as soon as possible.

Carl Sargeant: As always, I support the business statement, as do all of my colleagues on this side of the Chamber. I look forward to the commission to review the voluntary sector scheme, which does a wonderful job in Wales. I also look forward to the debate on the child poverty report. I would like to debate the position of Assembly Members and that some may hold jobs in local government and in the Assembly. I would also like to debate the core funding of public services, as last week we heard opposition Members wanting to cut core funding to public services in order to reduce taxation on fuel.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): Rhodri Glyn and Brynle raised the issue of mental health services, I do not intend to make time for a statement on this at present. The press reporting on this issue is not fully informed, and 90 per cent of cases are treated wholly or primarily in the primary care sector. Many GPs across Wales—certainly all GP practices in north Wales—are linked to counselling services that people with mild to moderate depression can access. This is only

Peter Black: Yr wyf yn synied yn rhy isel am allu Brynle i ragweld yr hyn a ddywedaf.

Drefnydd, a gawn ddadl ar addysg bellach? Codais y mater hwn y bore yma, a'r ateb a gawsom oedd nad yw'r Gweinidog yn bwriadu amserlennu dadl gan nad yw hyn ond yn ymwneud yn uniongyrchol â Choleg Gwent. Os yw'n credu hynny, mae'n fwy allan ohoni nag a dybiais. Y dystiolaeth yw bod 13 o'r 25 o golegau addysg bellach yng Nghymru'n rhagweld diffyg gweithredol ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol hon ac mae Fforwm wedi rhybuddio y gallai'r sefyllfa ddirywio'n sylweddol os na wnaiff Dysgu ac Addysgu Cymru adolygu'r dyraniad ar gyfer y sector yng nghyllideb y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae'n rhagweld, oherwydd y sefyllfa ariannol, y collir 175 o swyddi, y gwrthodir 7,000 o fyfyrwyr ac y bydd tuag 800 o gyrsiau llawn amser a rhan amser yn dod i ben. Mae hynny'n teilyngu dadl, a gofynnaf ichi amserlennu un cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Carl Sargeant: Cefnogaf y datganiad busnes, fel y gwnaf bob amser, fel y mae pob un o'm cyd-Aelodau yr ochr hon i'r Siambr. Edrychaf ymlaen at y comisiwn i adolygu'r cynllun sector gwirfoddol, sy'n gwneud gwaith gwych yng Nghymru. Edrychaf ymlaen hefyd at y ddadl ar yr adroddiad ar dlodi ymysg plant. Hoffwn gael dadl ar sefyllfa Aelodau'r Cynulliad a'r ffaith y gallai rhai ohonynt ddal swyddi mewn llywodraeth leol ac yn y Cynulliad. Hoffwn gael dadl hefyd ar gyllid craidd gwasanaethau cyhoeddus, gan y clywsom yr wythnos diwethaf fod Aelodau'r wrthblaid yn dymuno torri ar gyllid craidd ar gyfer gwasanaethau cyhoeddus er mwyn lleihau trethu ar danwydd.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Gwnaeth Rhodri Glyn a Brynle godi mater gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl: ni fwriadaf neilltuo amser ar gyfer datganiad ar hyn ar hyn o bryd. Nid yw'r adroddiadau yn y wasg am hyn yn hollol wybodus, a chaiff 90 y cant o'r achosion eu trin yn bennaf neu'n gyfan gwbl yn y sector gofal sylfaenol. Mae llawer o feddygon teulu ledled Cymru—ac yn sicr yr holl bractisiau meddygon teulu yn y Gogledd—wedi'u cysylltu â gwasanaethau

one example of many schemes available in Wales. The Minister for Health and Social Services has already asked me to schedule time for a wider debate on mental health services, but Members will appreciate that I must consider that alongside other requests. However, I will consider it.

Rhodri Glyn and Brynle raised the issue of the importation of bushmeat through airports and ports, but, as you know, this is a non-devolved matter. The Minister has met with HM Customs and Excise staff at Cardiff international airport, and they did not raise these concerns at the meeting. The Minister will make inquiries and report back to the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee, if necessary.

Rhodri Glyn raised issues regarding the Welsh Rugby Union. I am sure that the First Minister and other Ministers will keep a close eye on developments—we all know how close an eye Rhodri Morgan keeps on rugby—but I will not allocate Government time to debate whether there should be four or five rugby sides, which teams rugby players should play for, or what competitions teams should play in. That would be inappropriate. This is a matter for the Welsh Rugby Union. If Plaid Cymru wants to table a debate during its own time, that is a matter for its party members.

Peter Black and Brynle raised issues on further education. The Government has no plans to schedule a debate on the funding of its FE institutions in Wales. The only immediate issue refers to Coleg Gwent, and the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning will make a statement on that to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee tomorrow morning. The committee will also consider the priorities for the budget planning round tomorrow, so Members will have an opportunity to make their comments then. All post-16 education, as you know, is the responsibility of ELWa and the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

cynghori y gall rhai ag iselder ysgafn neu ganolig eu defnyddio. Nid yw hynny ond yn enghraifft o sawl cynllun sydd ar gael yng Nghymru. Mae'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol eisoes wedi gofyn imi neilltuo amser ar gyfer dadl fwy cyffredinol ar wasanaethau iechyd meddwl, ond bydd Aelodau'n sylweddoli bod rhaid imi ystyried hynny ochr yn ochr â cheisiadau eraill. Er hynny, fe'i hystyriaf.

Gwnaeth Rhodri Glyn a Brynle godi mater mewnforio cig anghyfreithlon drwy feysydd awyr a phorthladdoedd, ond, fel y gwyddoch, nid yw'r mater hwn wedi'i ddatganoli. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi cwrdd â staff Tollau Tramor a Chartref EM ym maes awyr rhyngwladol Caerdydd, ac ni wnaethant fynegi'r pryderon hyn yn y cyfarfod. Bydd y Gweinidog yn gwneud ymholiadau ac yn adrodd yn ôl i Bwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad, os oes angen.

Gwnaeth Rhodri Glyn godi materion sy'n ymwneud ag Undeb Rygbi Cymru. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd y Prif Weinidog a Gweinidogion eraill yn cadw llygad barcud ar y datblygiadau—yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod bod Rhodri Morgan yn cadw golwg manwl iawn ar rygbi—ond ni neilltuoaf amser y Llywodraeth i drafod a ddylid cael pedwar neu bum tîm rygbi, pa dimau y dylai chwaraewyr rygbi chwarae drostynt, neu ym mha gystadlaethau y dylai timau chwarae. Byddai hynny'n amhriodol. Mae hyn yn fater i Undeb Rygbi Cymru. Os yw Plaid Cymru yn dymuno cyflwyno dadl yn ei hamser ei hun, mae hynny'n fater i'w haelodau.

Gwnaeth Peter Black a Brynle godi materion sy'n ymwneud ag addysg bellach. Nid oes gan y Llywodraeth unrhyw fwriad i amserlennu dadl ar gyllido ei sefydliadau addysg bellach yng Nghymru. Mae'r unig fater sydd wedi codi'n ymwneud â Choleg Gwent, a bydd y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes yn rhoi datganiad ar hynny i'r Pwyllgor Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes bore yfory. Bydd y pwyllgor hefyd yn ystyried y blaenoriaethau ar gyfer cylch cynllunio'r gyllideb yfory, felly caiff Aelodau gyfle i wneud eu sylwadau bryd hynny. Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r holl addysg ôl-16 yn gyfrifoldeb i ELWa a Chyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru.

I will take away Carl's comments on Members holding two positions and consider them.

Af â'r sylwadau a wnaeth Carl am Aelodau sy'n dal dwy swydd oddi yma a'u hystyried.

Cynnig: O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 23.

Motion: For 28, Abstain 0, Against 23.

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

Hart, Edwina
Davies, Andrew
Sinclair, Karen
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Davidson, Jane
Jones, Carwyn
Essex, Sue
Hutt, Jane
Law, Peter
Butler, Rosemary
Gregory, Janice
Gwyther, Christine
Jones, Ann
Griffiths, John
Gibbons, Brian
James, Irene
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Barrett, Lorraine
Lloyd, Val
Andrews, Leighton
Sargeant, Carl
Cuthbert, Jeff
Idris Jones, Denise
Chapman, Christine
Mewies, Sandy
Thomas, Gwenda

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

Derbyniwyd y cynnig.

Motion carried.

Pwynt o Drefn Point of Order

Jenny Randerson: I raise a point of order under Standing Order No. 6.9. Last week, on 12 May, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning made an oral statement announcing the allocation of amounts of capital money for school buildings. Also last week, I wrote to the Minister about education cuts in Cardiff. The Minister has replied, saying that she cannot give me a reply prior to the elections. The council says that the cuts are due to reductions in its budget, and are in part due to the financial allocation for asylum seekers. However, the Minister has previously told me that she has yet to table her special grant report for 2004-05 on this

Jenny Randerson: Codaf bwynt o drefn o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 6.9. Yr wythnos diwethaf, ar 12 Mai, gwnaeth y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes ddatganiad llafar yn cyhoeddi dyrannu symiau o arian cyfalaf ar gyfer adeiladau ysgol. Yr wythnos diwethaf hefyd, ysgrifennais at y Gweinidog ynghylch toriadau ar addysg yng Nghaerdydd. Mae'r Gweinidog wedi ateb, gan ddweud na all roi ateb i mi cyn yr etholiadau. Dywed y cyngor fod y toriadau'n ganlyniad i ostyngiadau yn ei gyllideb, a'u bod yn ganlyniad yn rhannol i'r dyraniad ariannol ar gyfer ceiswyr lloches. Er hynny, mae'r Gweinidog wedi dweud wrthyf o'r

issue. She has obviously, however, given an indication of what she intends to give Cardiff council, and it is on that basis that the council has announced the redundancies of 10 of the 17 teachers for the children of asylum seekers. That is the information that it is giving schools. Should the Minister not make her special grant report here prior to informing councils? Secondly, on Government *purdah*, why was the Minister able to make announcements on 12 May here about new capital money for school buildings but is unable to answer my letter of last week? Thirdly, and also on Government *purdah* prior to elections, why was Nick Raynsford, the UK Government Minister, able to give a substantive reply to a Liberal Democrat debate in the House of Commons on local income tax yesterday, whereas our Minister is failing to give us basic information by letter?

The Presiding Officer: I am grateful to you for giving me advance notice of this point of order so that I can respond. The concept of *purdah* is not one known to me. It is not a concept that relates to the Assembly as a parliamentary body. It is a matter for Ministers and Government, and, therefore, I cannot comment on the interesting differences to which you drew my attention in relation to Westminster and the Assembly. This is a Government matter and a Government convention, as far as I understand it, and does not apply to the Assembly itself as gathered here.

Regarding answering letters or questions, this again is a matter for Ministers. As I believe I said in reply to a point of order from Alun Ffred Jones last week, I am sure that Ministers will be as helpful as possible to Members at all times. However, Ministers and the public will have heard these exchanges and the points that have been made. All I can say is that, ultimately, in this democratic Assembly, and outside through elections, Ministers are politically accountable for the replies they choose to give. I do not believe that I can take the matter any further.

blaen nad yw eto wedi cyflwyno ei hadroddiad grant arbennig ar gyfer 2004-05 ar y mater hwn. Er hynny, mae'n amlwg ei bod wedi rhoi arwydd o'r hyn y mae'n bwriadu ei roi i gyngor Caerdydd, ac, ar y sail honno, cyhoeddodd y cyngor ei fod yn diswyddo 10 o'r 17 o athrawon ar gyfer plant ceiswyr lloches. Dyna'r wybodaeth y mae'n ei rhoi i ysgolion. Oni ddylai'r Gweinidog wneud ei hadroddiad grant arbennig yma cyn hysbysu cynghorau? Yn ail, ynghylch *purdah* y Llywodraeth, pam yr oedd y Gweinidog yn gallu gwneud cyhoeddiadau ar 12 Mai yma am arian cyfalaf newydd ar gyfer adeiladau ysgol ond yn analluog i ateb fy llythyr yr wythnos diwethaf? Yn drydydd, a hefyd ynghylch *purdah* y Llywodraeth cyn etholiadau, pam yr oedd Nick Raynsford, Gweinidog Llywodraeth y DU, yn gallu rhoi ateb sylweddol yn nadl y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin ar dreth incwm leol ddoe, tra bo ein Gweinidog ni'n methu â rhoi gwybodaeth sylfaenol i ni drwy lythyr?

Y Llywydd: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i chi am roi rhybudd ymlaen llaw i mi am y pwynt o drefn hwn fel y gallaf ymateb. Nid yw'r cysyniad o *purdah* yn un sy'n hysbys i mi. Nid yw'n gysyniad sy'n ymwneud â'r Cynulliad fel corff seneddol. Mae'n fater i Weinidogion a Llywodraeth, ac, felly, ni allaf wneud sylw am y gwahaniaethau diddorol y tynasoch fy sylw atynt mewn cysylltiad â San Steffan a'r Cynulliad. Mater i Lywodraeth ac arfer gan Lywodraeth yw hwn, hyd y deallaf, ac nid yw'n ymwneud â'r Cynulliad ei hun fel y mae wedi ymgynnull yma.

Ynghylch ateb llythyrau neu gwestiynau, mae hyn unwaith eto'n fater i Weinidogion. Fel y credaf imi ddweud mewn ateb i bwynt o drefn a gododd Alun Ffred Jones yr wythnos diwethaf, yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd Gweinidogion mor gymwynasgar ag y bo modd ag Aelodau bob amser. Fodd bynnag, bydd Gweinidogion a'r cyhoedd wedi clywed y geiriau a fu rhyngom a'r pwyntiau a wnaed. Y cwbl y gallaf ei ddweud yw bod Gweinidogion yn wleidyddol atebol yn y pen draw, yn y Cynulliad democrataidd hwn, a'r tu allan drwy etholiadau, am yr atebion y dewisant eu rhoi. Ni chredaf y gallaf fynd â'r mater ymhellach.

The First Minister: Further to this point of order, I will try to be as helpful as possible to Jenny Randerson and others who may be perplexed by what happens when purdah comes down when we are bound hand, foot and finger not to make information available that could possibly be construed by anyone as having an unfair bearing on different parties and candidates and on the election results. We and the civil service agreed on 17 May as the start date for purdah as regards the Assembly and its services. My understanding is that the Westminster Government agreed a date of 20 May. That is a matter of discussion between us and our civil service and the Westminster Government and its civil service. It produces a minor anomaly for a three-day period, but there is nothing more mysterious to it than that. Some of the implications of the earlier point that you made about Jane Davidson and letters relating to the children of asylum seekers were not good conclusions.

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning (Jane Davidson): Further to this point of order, and just to confirm, as I have done in correspondence, the special grant report comes to the Assembly every year. We debate the amount that goes to asylum seekers in the authorities supporting asylum seekers across Wales in a special grant report. That will come here in the normal way.

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwn, ceisiaf fod mor gymwynasgar ag y gallaf â Jenny Randerson ac eraill a allai fod mewn penbleth ynghylch yr hyn a ddigwydd pan ddechrau *purdah* a ninnau'n cael ein rhwymo i beidio â darparu gwybodaeth y gallai rhywun ei dehongli fel rhywbeth a gâi ddylanwad annheg ar wahanol bleidiau ac ymgeiswyr ac ar ganlyniadau'r etholiadau. Gwnaethom ni a'r gwasanaeth sifil gytuno ar 17 Mai fel dyddiad dechrau'r *purdah* o ran y Cynulliad a'i wasanaethau. Yr wyf yn deall bod Llywodraeth San Steffan wedi cytuno ar 20 Mai fel dyddiad. Mae hyn yn fater i'w drafod rhyngom a'n gwasanaeth sifil a rhwng Llywodraeth San Steffan a'i gwasanaeth sifil hi. Mae'n creu anghysondeb bach am gyfnod o dri diwrnod, ond nid oes dim ynddo sy'n fwy dirgel na hynny. Nid oedd rhai o oblygiadau'r pwynt a wnaethoch yn gynharach am Jane Davidson a llythyrau'n ymwneud â phlant ceiswyr lloches yn gasgliadau da.

Y Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes (Jane Davidson): Ymhellach i'r pwynt o drefn hwn, a dim ond i gadarnhau, fel y gwneuthum mewn llythyrau, y daw'r adroddiad grant arbennig gerbron y Cynulliad bob blwyddyn. Cawn ddadl ar y swm a aiff at geiswyr lloches yn yr awdurdodau sy'n cynorthwyo ceiswyr lloches ledled Cymru mewn adroddiad grant arbennig. Daw hynny yma yn y modd arferol.

Cynnig Cyfansawdd: Cymeradwyo Gorchmynion Composite Motion: Approval of Orders

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order No. 24.25:

1.a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 on the draft Order, the National Health Service Bodies and Local Authority

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 24.25, this motion is not subject to debate.

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25:

1. a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 11 Mai 2004 ar y Gorchymyn drafft, Rheoliadau Trefniadau Partneriaeth

- Partnership Arrangements (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004;* *Cyrff Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol ac Awdurdodau Lleol (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2004: ac*
- b) approves the National Health Service Bodies and Local Authority Partnership Arrangements (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with:* *b) yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Trefniadau Partneriaeth Cyrff Gwasanaeth Iechyd Gwladol ac Awdurdodau Lleol (Cymru) (Diwygio) 2004 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r*
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004; and* *i) Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Ebrill 2004; a'r*
- ii) regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004;* *ii) arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Ebrill 2004*
- 2.a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee laid in the Table Office, and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004 on the draft Order, the Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004;* *2. a) yn ystyried adroddiad y Pwyllgor Deddfau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 11 Mai 2004 ar y Gorchymyn drafft, Rheoliadau Cynhyrchion Cig (Cymru) 2004; ac*
- b) approves the Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 is made in accordance with:* *b) yn cymeradwyo bod Rheoliadau Cynhyrchion Cig (Cymru) 2004 yn cael eu gwneud yn unol â'r*
- i) the draft Order laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004;* *i) Gorchymyn drafft a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Ebrill 2004;*
- ii) regulatory appraisal laid in the Table Office on 28 April 2004; and* *ii) yr arfarniad rheoliadol a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ar 28 Ebrill 2004; a'r*
- iii) the memorandum of correction laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004. (NDM1952)* *iii) memorandwm cywiriadau a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 11 Mai 2004. (NDM1952)*

3.20 p.m.

*Cynnig (NDM1952): O blaid 48, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1952): For 48, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David

Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Rheoliadau Pleiddiaid (Lefelau Gweddillion Uchaf mewn Cnydau, Bwydydd a Phorthiant) (Cymru a Lloegr) (Diwygio Rhif 2) 2004
The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004

Y Llywydd: O dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 24.25, ni chynhelir dadl ar y cynnig hwn.

The Presiding Officer: Under Standing Order No. 24.25, this motion is not subject to debate.

The Business Minister (Karen Sinclair): I propose that

Y Trefnydd (Karen Sinclair): Cynigaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales, acting under Standing Order Nos. 24.25, 25.12 and 25.13:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, gan weithredu o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhifau 24.25, 25.12 a 25.13:

1. approves the draft the Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuff) (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004, a

1. yn cymeradwyo'r drafft o'r Rheoliadau Pleiddiaid (Lefelau Gweddillion Uchaf mewn Cnydau, Bwydydd a Phorthiant) (Cymru a Lloegr) (Diwygio Rhif 2) 2004, y

copy of which was laid in the Table Office, and e-mailed to Assembly Members, on 11 May 2004; and

gosodwyd copi ohonynt yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno, ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 11 Mai 2004; ac

2. notes the explanatory memorandum for this Order laid in the Table Office and e-mailed to Assembly Members on 11 May 2004. (NDM1953)

2. yn nodi'r memorandwm esboniadol ar gyfer y Gorchymyn hwn a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno ac a anfonwyd drwy'r e-bost at Aelodau'r Cynulliad ar 11 Mai 2004. (NDM1953)

*Cynnig (NDM1953): O blaid 50, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 0.
Motion (NDM1953): For 50, Abstain 0, Against 0.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Jonathan
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Owen John

Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd i'r Gadair am 3.22 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair at 3.22 p.m.*

**Adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio 'Trawsnewid Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
yng Nghymru'
The Audit Commission Report 'Transforming Health and Social Care in Wales'**

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies, amendment 2 in the name of Jonathan Morgan and amendments 3, 4 and 5 in the name of Kirsty Williams.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies, gwelliant 2 yn enw Jonathan Morgan, a gwelliannau 3, 4 a 5 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I propose that

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Cynigiau fod

the National Assembly for Wales

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

1. congratulates staff at all levels within the Welsh NHS on a year in which long waits for treatment have been rapidly reduced and access for patients has been greatly improved;

1. yn llongyfarch staff ar bob lefel o fewn GIG Cymru am flwyddyn pan gafwyd gostyngiad sydyn yn yr amseroedd aros hir ar gyfer triniaethau a phan gafwyd gwelliant mawr o ran mynediad i gleifion;

2. welcomes the endorsement given to the Welsh Assembly Government's health policies by the Audit Commission report, 'Transforming Health and Social Care in Wales';

2. yn croesawu'r gymeradwyaeth a roddwyd i bolisiau iechyd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gan adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, Trawsnewid Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru;

3. shares the view of the Audit Commission and the Wanless review that consensus represents the essential prerequisite for change in the health service; and

3. yn rhannu safbwynt y Comisiwn Archwilio ac adolygiad Wanless fod consensws yn hollol hanfodol ar gyfer newid yn y gwasanaeth iechyd; ac

4. notes that the next step in the reform process will be carried through by local Wanless action plans, submitted to the Assembly on 30 April, and intended to be debated in Plenary again before summer recess 2004. (NDM1956)

4. yn nodi y bydd cam nesaf y broses ddiwygio yn cael ei gyflawni gan gynlluniau gweithredu Wanless lleol, a gyflwynwyd i'r Cynulliad ar 30 Ebrill, ac y bwriedir eu trafod yn y Cyfarfod Llawn eto cyn toriad yr haf 2004. (NDM1956)

I welcome the opportunity to debate the Welsh Assembly Government's response to the Audit Commission report, 'Transforming Health and Social Care in Wales'. In doing so, I hope that all Assembly Members will join me in congratulating NHS staff at all levels. They are at the forefront of this

Croesawaf y cyfle hwn i gael dadl ar ymateb Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, 'Trawsnewid Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru'. Wrth wneud hynny, gobeithiaf y bydd holl Aelodau'r Cynulliad yn ymuno â mi i longyfarch staff y GIG ar bob lefel. Hwyl

agenda, and, as Derek Wanless said in his evidence to the Health and Social Services Committee last year, our staff and clinicians must be our ambassadors for change. I welcome the commission's report, as it endorses the strategic direction that I set out in 'Improving Health in Wales' in 2001, which is described by the commission as a courageous and essential move. The vision that I outlined provided for an ambitious agenda for change and improvement, so that the health of those with the poorest health would be brought up to the levels of those with the best, and the health and wellbeing of children would be improved. Services would be subject to radical redesign to make them fit for the next generation, performance would improve year on year through a major drive in performance management, innovation and universalising best practice, individuals and communities would be involved fully in decisions about their services, and there would be true joined-up working at local and national level as an essential plank of service renewal. This vision was endorsed by the Wanless review, which was published last summer, and the Audit Commission has recognised our full commitment to implementing the review's recommendations and our recognition that successful implementation is imperative.

I want to use this opportunity to report on our actions, which respond to the levers for change outlined. On engaging patients and involving the public, there is clear evidence of the involvement of individuals and communities throughout the implementation process. Involving people is one of the four underpinning themes, and the Wanless sub-group is developing measures to help people to take more responsibility for their own health, which is linked to Health Challenge Wales. We wanted people to become more involved in service redesign and development right from the beginning—and our patient panels and community health councils play an important role in that regard—and to use health and social care services more appropriately. Involving people is linked with speeding up responses to the challenges that we face. The Audit Commission endorses the

sydd ar ben yr agenda hon, ac, fel y dywedodd Derek Wanless yn ei dystiolaeth i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol y llynedd, rhaid i'n staff a'n gweithwyr clinigol fod yn genhadon dros newid. Croesawaf adroddiad y comisiwn, gan ei fod yn cymeradwyo'r cyfeiriad strategol a nodais yn 'Gwella Iechyd yng Nghymru' yn 2001, a alwyd gan y comisiwn yn gam eofn a hollbwysig. Yr oedd y weledigaeth a ddisgrifiais yn darparu ar gyfer agenda uchelgeisiol o blaid newid a gwella, fel y byddid yn peri i iechyd y rhai â'r iechyd gwaethaf fod cystal ag iechyd y rhai a chanddynt yr iechyd gorau, ac fel y byddid yn gwella iechyd a lles plant. Yr oedd gwasanaethau i'w hailgynllunio o'r bôn i'r brig i'w gwneud yn addas i'r genhedlaeth nesaf, byddai perfformiad yn gwella o'r naill flwyddyn i'r llall drwy ymgrych fawr i reoli perfformiad, drwy arloesi a thrwy ledaenu'r arferion gorau i bawb, byddai unigolion a chymunedau'n cymryd rhan lawn mewn penderfyniadau ar eu gwasanaethau, a byddai gweithio gwirioneddol gydgysylltiedig ar lefel leol a chenedlaethol fel modd hollbwysig i ddiwygio gwasanaethau. Cymeradwywyd y weledigaeth hon gan adolygiad Wanless, a gyhoeddwyd yr haf diwethaf, ac mae'r Comisiwn Archwilio wedi cydnabod ein hymrwymiad llwyr i weithredu argymhellion yr adolygiad a'n cydnabyddiaeth bod yn rhaid eu gweithredu'n llwyddiannus.

Dymunaf achub ar y cyfle hwn i adrodd ar y camau a gymerasom, sy'n ymateb i'r dulliau o newid a ddisgrifiwyd. Ynghylch cynnwys cleifion a'r cyhoedd, mae tystiolaeth bendant bod unigolion a chymunedau'n cymryd rhan drwy gydol y broses weithredu. Cynnwys pobl yw un o'r pedair thema sylfaenol, ac mae is-grŵp Wanless yn datblygu mesurau i helpu pobl i ymgymryd â mwy o gyfrifoldeb dros eu hiechyd eu hunain, ac mae hynny'n gysylltiedig â Her Iechyd Cymru. Yr oeddem am i bobl gymryd rhan yn y gwaith o ailgynllunio a datblygu gwasanaethau o'r dechrau—ac mae ein paneli cleifion a'n cynghorau iechyd cymuned yn chwarae rhan bwysig yn hynny o beth—ac am iddynt ddefnyddio gwasanaethau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yn fwy priodol. Mae cysylltiad rhwng cynnwys pobl ac ymateb yn gynt i'r heriau a wynebwn. Mae'r Comisiwn

principle set out in 'Improving Health in Wales' regarding the need to ensure consensus in service reconfiguration.

David Melding: I think that the Government's response today will be that the ship is on the right course. However, on page 37 of the report, in a section called 'Identifying and overcoming barriers to change', the Audit Commission criticises all political parties, though principally the Government, for not developing public opinion effectively on this issue and, therefore, not being able to reconfigure services as needed.

Jane Hutt: Achieving consensus is key to service reconfiguration, which has taken place. It includes the remodelling of mental health services in the Vale of Glamorgan, as you are well aware, David, with the closure of Sully Hospital. We worked together on that issue to engage users, carers and staff.

On the reprovision of services, we have seen remodelling of acute services in Neath Port Talbot, of primary care services in the Cynon valley, of rehabilitation services in Rhondda Cynon Taf and of hospital services in west Wales. We have also seen a reconfiguration of community hospital and rehabilitation services in north-east Wales and north-west Wales. This has been achieved as a result of engaging with people locally, across the political divide where possible. That is where consensus needs to be achieved. This work has involved extensive consultation and discussions with patients, carers and users, supported by our independent community health councils and backed by local health boards.

There is also evidence of the service responding to key challenges. Trusts are able to ring-fence certain beds. The new Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust ambulatory day surgery centre, developed with funding from the Assembly Government, is one of the largest and most modern in the UK, if not in Europe. It has allowed a marked expansion in the number of patients treated in this way, thus avoiding full hospital admission: the surgery

Archwilio'n cefnogi'r egwyddor a nodir yn 'Gwella Iechyd yng Nghymru' ynghylch yr angen i sicrhau consensws wrth ad-drefnu gwasanaethau.

David Melding: Credaf mai ymateb y Llywodraeth heddiw fydd dweud bod y llong ar y cwrs cywir. Fodd bynnag, ar dudalen 37 yr adroddiad, mewn adran o'r enw 'Nodi a goresgyn rhwystrau i newid', mae'r Comisiwn Archwilio'n beirnadu'r holl bleidiau gwleidyddol, ond y Llywodraeth yn bennaf, am beidio â meithrin y farn gyhoeddus ar y mater hwn yn effeithiol ac, felly, o fethu ag ad-drefnu'r gwasanaethau yn ôl yr angen.

Jane Hutt: Mae'n hollbwysig cael consensws wrth ad-drefnu gwasanaethau, a chafwyd hynny. Mae hynny'n cynnwys ailfodelu gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl ym Mro Morgannwg, fel y gwyddoch, David, ar ôl cau Ysbyty Sili. Bu inni weithio gyda'n gilydd ar y mater hwnnw er mwyn cynnwys defnyddwyr, gofalwyr a staff.

Ynghylch ailddarparu gwasanaethau, gwelsom ailfodelu gwasanaethau aciwt yng Nghastell-nedd Port Talbot, gwasanaethau gofal sylfaenol yng nghwm Cynon, gwasanaethau ailsefydlu yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a gwasanaethau ysbytai yn y Gorllewin. Yr ydym hefyd wedi gweld ad-drefnu gwasanaethau ysbytai cymunedol ac ailsefydlu yn y Gogledd-ddwyrain a'r Gogledd-orllewin. Cyflawnwyd hyn drwy ymwneud â phobl yn lleol, ar draws y bwlch gwleidyddol lle y bu modd. Dyna lle y mae'n rhaid cael consensws. Mae'r gwaith hwn wedi cynnwys ymgynghori helaeth a thrafodaethau â chleifion, gofalwyr a defnyddwyr, gyda chefnogaeth ein cynghorau iechyd cymuned annibynnol a'r byrddau iechyd lleol.

Mae tystiolaeth hefyd fod y gwasanaeth yn ymateb i heriau allweddol. Gall ymddiriedolaethau glustnodi gwelyau penodol. Canolfan llawdriniaethau dydd newydd Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Caerdydd a'r Fro, a ddatblygwyd gyda chyllid oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad, yw un o'r rhai mwyaf a mwyaf cyfoes yn y DU, os nad yn Ewrop. Bu'n fodd i drin mwy o lawer o gleifion fel hyn, fel nad oes rhaid eu derbyn

is either day-case surgery or involves a single night's stay in hospital. Equally, the new orthopaedic developments in Cardiff and Gwent will have protected elective capacity based on a similar model.

The third action is the strengthening of managerial capacity and addressing the lack of mechanisms to implement decisions. In 'Improving Health in Wales', I outlined my intention to strengthen capacity locally and nationally to deliver the change agenda. Local health boards are in place, and their executives have been successfully appointed. The Assembly's health and social care department is now integrated, with three regional offices.

The fourth action is the improvement of partnership working. As the Audit Commission recognises, Wales has significant advantages in the coterminosity between local authorities and local health boards, as this offers significant potential for effective joint working, which is being demonstrated through the production of health, social care and wellbeing strategies.

Tackling delayed transfers of care is the test of partnership and was at the forefront of our response to the Wanless review last year. Four million pounds was announced for LHBs, and local government now has the ring-fenced social care grant of £19.5 million. This money, along with our Assembly Government joint working special grant, is already helping to ensure that patients who would otherwise have been delayed, have been discharged.

Eleanor Burnham: To quote from the report:

'NHS Wales is not, therefore "treating the right people in the right place at the right time by the right team".'

Among the five barriers to change mentioned in the executive summary of the report are unresponsive service deliverers and commissioners. What are you doing about this? Despite all the money that has been invested, I have not seen much improvement

yn llawn i ysbyty: mae'r llawdriniaeth naill ai ar gyfer achosion dydd neu mae'n golygu aros dros nos mewn ysbyty. Yn yr un modd, bydd lleoedd wedi'u neilltuo ar gyfer llawdriniaeth ddewisol yn y datblygiadau orthopedig newydd yng Nghaerdydd a Gwent sy'n dilyn patrwm tebyg.

Y trydydd cam a gymerir yw ategu gallu rheolwyr ac ymdrin â'r diffyg o ran dulliau i roi penderfyniadau ar waith. Yn 'Gwella Iechyd yng Nghymru', disgrifiais fy mwriad i ategu gallu'n lleol ac yn genedlaethol i gyflawni'r agenda ar gyfer newid. Mae'r byrddau iechyd lleol wedi eu sefydlu, a llwyddwyd i benodi gweithredwyr ar eu cyfer. Mae adran iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol y Cynulliad wedi'i hintegreiddio bellach, ac mae ganddi dair swyddfa ranbarthol.

Y pedwerydd cam a gymerir yw gweithio'n well drwy bartneriaeth. Fel y cydnebydd y Comisiwn Archwilio, mae gan Gymru gryn fantais gan mai'r un yw ffiniau'r awdurdodau lleol a'r byrddau iechyd lleol, gan fod cyfle sylweddol drwy hynny i weithio ar y cyd yn effeithiol, a gwelir hynny drwy gynhyrchu strategaethau iechyd, gofal cymdeithasol a lles.

Mynd i'r afael ag oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yw'r prawf ar bartneriaeth ac yr oedd lle blaenllaw i hynny yn ein hymateb i adolygiad Wanless y llynedd. Cyhoeddwyd £4 miliwn ar gyfer BILlau, a bellach mae gan lywodraeth leol grant gofal cymdeithasol a glustnodwyd o £19.5 miliwn. Mae'r arian hwn, ynghyd â grant arbennig Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer gweithio ar y cyd, eisoes yn helpu i sicrhau y rhyddheir cleifion y byddai oedi yn eu cylch fel arall.

Eleanor Burnham: A dyfynnu o'r adroddiad:

'Nid yw GIG Cymru felly yn "trin y bobl iawn yn y lle iawn ar yr amser iawn gan y tîm iawn".'

Ymysg y pum rhwystr i newid a grybwyllir yng nghrynodeb gweithredol yr adroddiad, nodir darparwyr a chomisiynwyr gwasanaethau anymatebol. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud ynghylch hyn? Er yr holl arian a fuddsoddiwyd, ni welais lawer o welliannau

for constituents and patients in north Wales.

Jane Hutt: I am surprised that you have not taken note of the pioneering scheme in Conwy and Denbighshire, where elderly care assessment teams and multi-agency resource teams are arranging discharges as well as providing alternative community-based responses to avoid hospital admission. I urge you to go to see the work of these teams.

A scheme is under way in Merthyr Tydfil to provide intensive therapy services to people in their own homes following a stroke. Chronic disease management is key to this, as the report recognises. This service includes speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and dietetic sessions. Last year, the scheme served 80 people, to prevent their admission to hospital. A project in Bridgend aims to provide a service that will reduce the need for some people to be admitted to hospital in a mental health crisis, and to provide support to facilitate earlier planned hospital discharges. There is also a team that provides a rapid response service aimed at those with more urgent care needs than can be met in the short term. These schemes, funded by the Assembly's joint working grant as well as the delayed transfer grant, are making a difference at the sharp end. In Blaenau Gwent, a system is in place to enable senior nurses in community hospitals to fast-track access to medical loans for equipment to prevent delayed transfers of care.

3.30 p.m.

In terms of improving performance and accountability, I have set out the welcome news of improvement in our performance on waiting times. The performance sub-group of the Wanless implementation programme has set in train a comprehensive set of actions to ensure that best practice is applied across Wales to sustain whole system improvement across Wales. That includes issuing the balanced score card, which Derek Wanless endorsed, and developing an incentive strategy to reward good performance. The Audit Commission's report would be

ar gyfer etholwyr a chleifion yn y Gogledd.

Jane Hutt: Yr wyf yn synnu na wnaethoch sylwi ar y cynllun arloesol yng Nghonwy a sir Ddinbych, lle y mae timau asesu gofal yr henoed a thimau adnoddau amlasiantaethol yn trefnu i ryddhau cleifion yn ogystal â darparu ymatebion eraill yn y gymuned fel nad oes rhaid derbyn cleifion i ysbytai. Fe'ch anogaf i fynd i weld gwaith y timau hyn.

Mae cynllun yn mynd rhagddo ym Merthyr Tudful i ddarparu gwasanaethau therapi dwys i bobl yn eu cartrefi yn dilyn strôc. Mae rheoli clefydau cronig yn hollbwysig yn hyn o beth, fel y cydnebydd yr adroddiad. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn cynnwys therapi iaith a lleferydd, ffisiotherapi, therapi galwedigaethol a sesiynau deietegol. Y llynedd, bu'r cynllun o wasanaeth i 80 o bobl, fel nad oedd raid eu derbyn i ysbyty. Ceir prosiect ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr sy'n ceisio darparu gwasanaeth a fydd yn lleihau'r angen i rai pobl gael eu derbyn i ysbyty os ydynt yn profi argyfwng o ran iechyd meddwl, ac yn rhoi cymorth i hwyluso rhyddhau cleifion yn gynharach o'r ysbyty yn ôl cynllun. Ceir tîm hefyd sy'n darparu gwasanaeth ymateb cyflym ar gyfer rhai a chanddynt anghenion gofal brys na ellir eu diwallu yn y tymor byr. Mae'r cynlluniau hyn, a gyllidir drwy grant y Cynulliad ar gyfer gweithio ar y cyd yn ogystal â'r grant ar gyfer oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, yn gwneud gwahaniaeth yn y rheng flaen. Ym Mlaenau Gwent, mae cynllun ar waith i alluogi uwch nyrsys mewn ysbytai cymunedol i gael benthyciadau meddygol yn gynt ar gyfer offer i atal oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal.

Gyda golwg ar wella perfformiad ac atebolrwydd, yr wyf wedi nodi'r newyddion sydd i'w groesawu am y gwelliant yn ein perfformiad ar amseroedd aros. Mae is-grŵp perfformiad rhaglen weithredu Wanless wedi cychwyn set gynhwysfawr o gamau gweithredu i sicrhau y cymhwysir yr arferion gorau ledled Cymru er mwyn gwella'r system gyfan ledled Cymru. Mae hynny'n cynnwys cyhoeddi'r cerdyn sgorio cytbwys, a ategwyd gan Derek Wanless, a datblygu strategaeth anogaeth i roi gwobrau am berfformiad da. Byddai adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio

encouraged by the developments in relation to our service and financial frameworks and the advances made in our £16 million investment in the 'Informing Healthcare' and in 'Informing Social Care' strategies, which will have a major impact on performance improvement.

On funding the review, £30 million will be made available to assist the development of the Wanless local action plans, along with a £19 million capacity grant for local authorities, £12 million for the second offer scheme, as well as £10 million capital and £5 million recurrent revenue to support new orthopaedic service development in Newport and Cardiff, and much more. I have spent time putting in place the right building blocks, through national guidance and directions to local health boards and the partnership arrangements, to create the conditions to develop the plans and to build consensus at a local level. The success of this approach is clear in the Wanless local action plans, which came to the Assembly at the end of April. I have made those available so that you can see how much work is going on at a local level, and can embrace and endorse what happening in your constituencies to take the reform process forward, based on Assembly Government criteria and guidance. I have put in place a rigorous evaluation framework, and we will come back in June with a Government overview and response.

Last November, Derek Wanless came to the Health and Social Services Committee and he cautioned and advised Assembly Members to think like statesmen and stateswomen and put the interests of the next generation before party-political ones. Therefore, I am disappointed that all the amendments to this motion have been tabled with a common purpose—party-political point scoring in selective highlights of aspects of the Audit Commission report taken out of context. They fall far short of the response called for by Derek Wanless and endorsed by the Welsh Assembly Government, therefore, I will reject them.

The Audit Commission repeats and

wedi'i galonogi gan y datblygiadau mewn cysylltiad â'n fframweithiau gwasanaeth a chyllid a'r cynnydd a wnaed ar ein buddsoddiad o £16 miliwn yn y strategaethau 'Hysbysu Gofal Iechyd' a 'Hysbysu Gofal Cymdeithasol', a gaiff effaith fawr o ran gwella perfformiad.

Ynghylch cyllido'r adolygiad, darperir £30 miliwn i helpu i ddatblygu cynlluniau gweithredu lleol Wanless, ynghyd â grant o £19 miliwn ar gyfer capasiti i awdurdodau lleol, £12 miliwn ar gyfer cynllun yr ail gynnydd, yn ogystal â £10 miliwn o gyfalaf a £5 miliwn o gyllid refeniw rheolaidd i helpu i ddatblygu'r gwasanaethau orthopedig newydd yng Nghasnewydd a Chaerdydd, a llawer mwy. Yr wyf wedi treulio amser yn gosod y sylfeini cywir, drwy ganllawiau a chyfarwyddiadau cenedlaethol i fyrddau iechyd lleol a'r trefniadau partneriaeth, i greu'r amodau y mae eu hangen i ddatblygu'r cynlluniau a chreu consensws ar lefel leol. Mae llwyddiant y dull gweithredu hwn i'w weld yn amlwg yng nghynlluniau gweithredu lleol Wanless, a ddaeth i'r Cynulliad ddiwedd Ebrill. Yr wyf wedi darparu'r rhain fel y gallwch weld cymaint o waith sy'n mynd ymlaen ar lefel leol, a chroesawu a chefnogi'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn eich etholaethau i hyrwyddo'r broses ddiwygio, ar sail meini prawf a chanllawiau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Yr wyf wedi sefydlu fframwaith cadarn ar gyfer gwerthuso, a deugn yn ôl ym mis Mehefin ag arolwg ac ymateb gan y Llywodraeth.

Fis Tachwedd diwethaf, daeth Derek Wanless i'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a rhybuddiodd a chynghorodd Aelodau'r Cynulliad i feddwl fel gwladweinwyr a rhoi buddiannau'r genhedlaeth nesaf o flaen buddiannau plaid. Gan hynny, yr wyf yn siomedig bod yr holl welliannau i'r cynnydd hwn wedi'u cyflwyno ag un pwrpas—sgorio pwyntiau dros bleidiau gwleidyddol drwy ddethol sylwadau ar rai agweddau yn adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio a'u tynnu o'u cyd-destun. Maent ymhell iawn o'r ymateb y galwodd Derek Wanless amdano ac a gefnogwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, felly byddaf yn eu gwrthod.

Mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn

reinforces the strategic direction that I set out in 'Improving Health in Wales', which was endorsed by Derek Wanless in his review. Let us move along this journey of reform together. The report confirms that the Welsh Assembly Government is responding promptly to the Wanless review, setting in train a comprehensive implementation programme, which is on target. There is tremendous affection and support for our health service. We need to make that support the engine of reform, because the changes that we need to make are ones that will improve the services that we all have in the future.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Before I call Rhodri Glyn Thomas, 14 Members wish to speak and we only have 50 minutes left for this debate. I do not wish to impose a time limit, but some Members will not be able to speak. I would be grateful if Members would limit themselves to five minutes. I will allow an extra minute if interventions are taken.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Cynigiaf welliant 1 yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Dileu popeth ar ôl 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' ac ychwanegu:

1. yn mynegi diolch i staff y GIG yng Nghymru am eu hymroddiad cyson i ddarparu gwasanaeth effeithiol a gwerthfawr o dan amodau anodd;

2. yn nodi canfyddiadau adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, 'Trawsnewid Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru', ac yn cytuno â barn y Comisiwn Archwilio ac adolygiad Wanless nad yw'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru yn gynaliadwy ar hyn o bryd, ac er bod y ddau adroddiad yn cydnabod y cynnydd mewn cyllid maent yn dod i'r casgliad bod y gwario ar iechyd wedi bod yn annigonol ac yn aneffeithiol, heb ddigon o ganlyniadau gwirioneddol;

3. yn galw ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i sefydlu cynllun cenedlaethol a fydd yn cynnig cyfeiriad strategol ar gyfer gwelliannau o fewn y gwasanaeth iechyd.

Credaf fod y Siambr i gyd yn rhyfeddu at

ailadrodd ac yn ategu'r cyfeiriad strategol a nodais yn 'Gwella Iechyd yng Nghymru', a gefnogwyd gan Derek Wanless yn ei adolygiad. Gadewch inni fynd ymlaen ar y ffordd i ddiwygio gyda'n gilydd. Mae'r adroddiad yn cadarnhau bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ymateb yn brydlon i adolygiad Wanless, a'i bod wedi sefydlu rhaglen gynhwysfawr i'w weithredu, sy'n mynd rhagddi'n dda. Mae hoffter mawr o'n gwasanaeth iechyd a chefnogaeth aruthrol iddo. Rhaid inni droi'r gefnogaeth honno'n ysgogiad i ddiwygio, gan y bydd y newidiadau y mae'n rhaid inni eu gwneud yn gwella'r gwasanaethau ar gyfer pawb yn y dyfodol.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Cyn imi alw Rhodri Glyn Thomas, mae 14 Aelod yn dymuno siarad ac nid oes gennym ond 50 munud yn weddill ar gyfer y ddaul hon. Ni ddymunaf osod terfyn amser, ond mae rhai Aelodau na fydd modd iddynt siarad. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai Aelodau'n eu cyfyngu eu hunain i bum munud. Caniatâf funud ychwanegol os derbynir ymyriadau.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: I propose amendment 1 in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Delete all after 'National Assembly for Wales' and insert:

1. expresses gratitude to staff within the Welsh NHS for their continued dedication towards providing an effective and valued service under difficult conditions;

2. notes the findings of the Audit Commission report, 'Transforming Health and Social Care in Wales', and shares the view of the Audit Commission and the Wanless review that the health service in Wales is currently unsustainable, and while both reports acknowledge increased funding they conclude that health spending has been inefficient and ineffective with insufficient real outcomes;

3. calls upon the Assembly Government to establish a national plan that will offer a strategic direction for improvement within the health service.

I think that the entire Chamber is stunned by

araith y Gweinidog. Mae'n ymddangos ei bod wedi darllen adroddiad gwahanol i'r gweddill ohonom. Mae Eleanor Burnham a David Melding eisoes wedi dyfynnu o'r adroddiad, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd llawer o Aelodau eraill eisiau dyfynnu'n uniongyrchol o'r adroddiad.

Ar ddiwedd ei haraith, dywedodd y Gweinidog fod y gwrthbleidiau yn ceisio sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol. Pwy, felly, oedd yn gyfrifol am lunio'r cynnig hwn, sy'n croesawu'r gymeradwyaeth a roddwyd i bolisiau iechyd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gan adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio? Ar ôl gweld y cynnig, bu i mi ail-darllen yr adroddiad gan feddwl fy mod wedi methu rhywbeth, ond yr unig ran a lwyddais i'w chanfod a oedd yn canmol y Llywodraeth a'r Gweinidog mewn unrhyw ffordd oedd y gydnabyddiaeth y gallai'r cynllun ail gynnig, ar ôl 18 mis, fynd i'r afael ag un broblem benodol o fewn y gwasanaeth iechyd. Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni fod yn glir am yr adroddiad hwn, Weinidog. Mae'r adroddiad yn sôn am system, o dan eich goruchwyliaeth chithau, sy'n gosod yr adnoddau anghywir yn y lleoedd anghywir am y rhesymau anghywir. Os yw hynny'n gymeradwyaeth o bolisiau'r Llywodraeth, mae tu hwnt i'm dealltwriaeth. Soniwch hefyd am yr arian sydd wedi cael ei fuddsoddi yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Mae'r adroddiad yn datgan yn benodol nad faint o arian sy'n cael ei fuddsoddi yw'r pwynt, ond sut y mae'r arian hwnnw yn cael ei fuddsoddi.

Mae'r adroddiad yn datgan yn glir fod y buddsoddiad yn wael, a bod y canlyniadau sy'n deillio o'r buddsoddiad hefyd yn wael—mae'r sefyllfa yn llawer gwaeth nac yw yn Lloegr. Gwn, Weinidog, nad ydych yn hoff o gymhariaethau â Lloegr, ac, yn eich sefyllfa chithau, ni fyddwn innau chwaith. Mae pob rhanbarth yn Lloegr yn perfformio llawer yn well na Chymru o ran rheoli'r gwasanaeth iechyd.

Mae'r adroddiad yn datgan ac yn annog y gymhariaeth honno, ac yn gofyn cwestiwn penodol i chi, Weinidog. Pam nad ydych yn medru delio gyda phroblemau iechyd Cymru yn y modd y mae rhanbarthau fel gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr wedi'i wneud? Mae'r ardal

the Minister's speech. It appears that she has read a different report from the rest of us. Eleanor Burnham and David Melding have already quoted from the report, and I am sure that many other Members will wish to quote directly from the report.

At the end of her speech, the Minister said that the opposition parties were trying to score political points. Who, then, was responsible for drafting this motion, which welcomes the endorsement given to the Welsh Assembly Government's health policies by the Audit Commission's report? Having seen the motion, I re-read the report, thinking that I had missed something, but the only section that I could find that endorsed the Government and the Minister in any way was the acknowledgement that the second offer scheme, after 18 months, may deal with one particular problem in the health service. However, let us be clear about this report, Minister. The report describes a system, under your supervision, which places the wrong resources in the wrong places for the wrong reasons. If that is an endorsement of the Government's policies, it is beyond my understanding. You also mention the investment in the health service in Wales. The report states specifically that the problem is not how much is being invested, but how that investment is made.

The report states clearly that the investment is poor, and that the outputs of that investment are also poor—the situation is much worse than it is in England. I know, Minister, that you do not like comparisons with England, and, in your situation, neither would I. Every region in England is performing far better than Wales in terms of managing the health service.

The report makes and encourages that comparison, and asks you a specific question, Minister. Why can you not deal with the health problems in Wales in the way that regions such as the north-east of England have dealt with them? That area suffers from

honno'n dioddef o'r un problemau o ran lefelau uchel o afiechydon. Mae gogledd-ddwyrain Lloegr yn llwyddo. Pam nad ydych chithau, a Llywodraeth Cymru, yn gallu mynd i'r afael â'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru?

Carl Sargeant: You mentioned comparisons between England and Wales. The reality is that six out of the top 10 authorities in the UK are in Wales. We should be proud of that, and you should not talk Wales down.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Had you read the report, Carl, you would know that it states that you cannot use historic levels of ill health in Wales as an excuse for not dealing with the problem. It also states that the health system in Wales is not dealing with the problem and that we are not getting outcomes from the investment. Those comparisons are important. We are not criticising the health professionals; we are criticising the Government and the Minister on their handling of the situation.

Brian Gibbons: Notwithstanding what the Audit Commission has said, are you aware that the *British Medical Journal*, at the beginning of this month, stated that there are serious differences between the morbidity patterns of Wales and those of the regions in the rest of the United Kingdom, with Wales having a significantly higher burden of morbidity? Those were the comments of Margaret Whitehead, one of the most eminent authorities on patterns of health inequality in the United Kingdom.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Brian, it is difficult to ignore the Audit Commission's report, because that is what we are discussing this afternoon. You said, 'notwithstanding what the Audit Commission said', but that is what we are discussing, and its conclusions are clear. I will make two points, and I am sure others will make further specific points, that arise from the report. There is a call for clear direction from the centre—from the Government, Minister. You continually use a hands-off approach, telling the local health boards to respond to Wanless. It is your job to give that direction, and that is why we are calling for a national plan, with a clear strategy, so that everybody knows where you

the same problems in terms of high levels of ill health and disease. The north-east of England is succeeding. Why cannot you, and the Government of Wales, deal with the situation in Wales?

Carl Sargeant: Cyfeiriasoch at gymariaethau rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Y gwir yw bod chwech o'r 10 awdurdod gorau yn y DU yng Nghymru. Dylem ymfalchïo yn hynny, ac ni ddylech fychanu Cymru.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Pe byddech wedi darllen yr adroddiad, Carl, gwyddech ei fod yn datgan na ellir defnyddio'r lefelau hanesyddol o iechyd gwael yng Nghymru yn esgus i beidio â delio â'r broblem. Dywed hefyd nad yw'r system iechyd yng Nghymru'n delio â'r broblem ac nad ydym yn cael canlyniadau yn sgîl y buddsoddi. Mae'r cymariaethau hynny'n bwysig. Nid ydym yn beirniadu'r gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol; yr ydym yn beirniadu'r Llywodraeth a'r Gweinidog am y modd y maent wedi trin y sefyllfa.

Brian Gibbons: Er gwaethaf yr hyn a ddywedodd y Comisiwn Archwilio, a wyddoch fod y *British Medical Journal* wedi datgan, ddechrau'r mis hwn, fod gwahaniaethau dirfawr rhwng y patrymau afiachusrwydd yng Nghymru a'r rhai yn rhanbarthau gweddill y Deyrnas Unedig, a bod baich mwy o lawer o ran afiachusrwydd yng Nghymru? Margaret Whitehead, un o'r awdurdodau amlycaf ar batrymau anghydraddoldeb iechyd yn y Deyrnas Unedig, a ddywedodd hynny.

Rhodri Glyn Thomas: Brian, anodd yw anwybyddu adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, gan mai hwnnw yr ydym yn ei drafod y prynhawn yma. Dywedasoch, 'er gwaethaf yr hyn a ddywedodd y Comisiwn Archwilio', ond hynny yr ydym yn ei drafod, ac mae ei gasgliadau'n glir. Gwnaf ddau bwynt, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd eraill yn gwneud pwyntiau penodol pellach, sy'n codi o'r adroddiad. Mae galwad am gyfarwyddo pendant o'r canol—gan y Llywodraeth, Weinidog. Yr ydych bob amser yn ymdrin â hyn yn anuniongyrchol, gan ddweud wrth y byrddau iechyd lleol am ymateb i Wanless. Eich gwaith chi yw rhoi'r cyfarwyddiadau hynny, a dyna pam yr ydym yn galw am

are trying to take the health service in Wales. When you do that, Minister, you will get consensus. When you tell us what your response to Wanless is, and what direction you are giving to the health service in Wales, then we will consider that, and, if it is acceptable, we are prepared to support it. You will get consensus when you tell us exactly what you intend to do as a Minister. The fact is that you have created a culture and a mentality in Wales that suggests that the health service in Wales cannot be turned around. It can—a turnaround is happening in regions of England. The report tells us clearly that it should be happening in Wales. It is not, and that is the Government's fault, and your fault, Minister.

gynllun cenedlaethol, gyda strategaeth eglur, fel y caiff pawb wybod i ba gyfeiriad yr ydych yn ceisio mynd â'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Pan wnewch hynny, Weinidog, cewch gonsensws. Pan ddywedwch wrthym beth yw'ch ymateb i Wanless, a pha gyfarwyddiadau yr ydych yn eu rhoi i'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru, ystyriwn hynny, ac, os yw'n dderbyniol, yr ydym yn barod i'w gefnogi. Cewch gonsensws pan ddywedwch wrthym beth yn union yr ydych yn bwriadu'i wneud fel Gweinidog. Y gwir yw eich bod wedi creu dull o weithredu a meddylfryd yng Nghymru sy'n awgrymu na ellir gweddnewid y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Gellir gwneud hynny—mae hynny'n digwydd mewn rhanbarthau yn Lloegr. Dywed yr adroddiad wrthym yn glir y dylai ddigwydd yng Nghymru. Nid ydyw, a bai'r Llywodraeth yw hynny, a'ch bai chi, Weinidog.

Jonathan Morgan: I propose amendment 2. Delete all after 'National Assembly for Wales' and replace with:

1. express gratitude to the staff of NHS Wales for their continued dedication under exceptionally difficult circumstances for which the Welsh Assembly Government must accept responsibility;

2. joins with the Audit Commission and the review of health and social care advised upon by Derek Wanless in condemning the Minister for Health and Social Services for her abysmal five-year record of mismanagement of NHS Wales;

3. notes that waiting lists under this administration are double that under the last Conservative Government; and

4. calls on the Labour Assembly administration to acknowledge responsibility for creating the worst health service in Europe.

In proposing my amendment, I will give two sets of congratulations. First, we congratulate NHS staff. Whenever we debate these matters, the Government says that we are

Jonathan Morgan: Cynigiaf welliant 2. Dileu popeth ar ôl 'Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru' ac yn ei le rhoi:

1. yn mynegi diolch i staff GIG Cymru am eu hymroddiad cyson o dan amodau anodd eithriadol, y mae'n rhaid i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru dderbyn cyfrifoldeb amdanynt;

2. yn cyd-fynd â'r Comisiwn Archwilio a'r Adolygiad o Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol a gynghorwyd gan Derek Wanless, o ran beirniadu'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol am gamreoli GIG Cymru yn affwysol dros gyfnod o bum mlynedd;

3. yn nodi bod rhestrau aros wedi dyblu yn ystod cyfnod y weinyddiaeth hon, o gymharu â'r hyn oeddent dan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf; ac

4. yn galw ar weinyddiaeth Lafur y Cynulliad i gydnabod mai hi sy'n gyfrifol am greu'r gwasanaeth iechyd gwaethaf yn Ewrop.

Wrth gynnig fy ngwelliant, rhoddaf ddau longyfarchiad. Yn gyntaf, llongyfarchwn staff y GIG. Pryd bynnag y trafodwn y materion hyn, dywed y Llywodraeth ein bod

seeking to undermine the staff of the NHS. Nothing could be further from the truth.

3.40 p.m.

We know that the excellent staff who work in the NHS do so under difficult circumstances, in a health service that is driven by an interfering Minister, who uses targets that get in the way of clinical judgment. Secondly, I congratulate the Government for putting the most incredible amount of gloss on this report. It is an astounding triumph of spin over substance. Thank goodness I have a sense of humour—you need a sense of humour to read the Government's motion and learn that the Government is using this report as some sort of endorsement of Government practice and policy. Nothing could be further from the truth.

This report drives a coach and horses through the Government's policy and strategic approach over the last five years. In its criticisms, it clearly says that money is wasted, patients do not receive an effective service, staff are let down, and we do not have the strategic approach that Wanless and the Audit Commission endorse. It is laughable that a Minister can state that a report that underlines the dire circumstances in which the NHS finds itself, is somehow an endorsement of Government policy. It is interesting when a Minister stands at the front of the Chamber desperately trying to get through a speech written by civil servants—knowing full well that this is probably the worst report on the state of the NHS that we have had in five years—and to see that troubled Minister sit down and not one Member of her party cheering in support. It reminds me of the Labour backbenchers in London sitting behind the Prime Minister during question time, stony faced, terrified to move, not willing to cheer because they know that he is in trouble. That is what we have here today—an incompetent health Minister who is in trouble, and who has presided over the decline of the NHS in Wales. Under her, staff morale has collapsed and the number of beds in Wales has fallen by over 3 per cent. The people of Wales know that the health service is not delivering what the Labour Party promised.

yn ceisio tanseilio staff y GIG. Dim o'r fath beth.

Gwyddom fod y staff rhagorol sy'n gweithio yn y GIG yn gwneud hynny o dan amgylchiadau anodd, mewn gwasanaeth iechyd sy'n cael ei redeg gan Weinidog ymyrgar, sy'n defnyddio targedau sy'n amharu ar farn glinigol. Yn ail, llongyfarchaf y Llywodraeth ar gamliwio'r adroddiad hwn yn y modd rhyfeddaf. Mae'n syn gweld sbin yn mynd yn drech na sylwedd yn y fath fodd. Diolch byth, mae gennyf synnwyr digrifwch—rhaid ichi wrth synnwyr digrifwch i ddarllen cynnig y Llywodraeth a deall bod y Llywodraeth yn defnyddio'r adroddiad hwn fel rhyw fath o gymeradwyaeth i ymarfer a pholisi'r Llywodraeth. Nid yw'n ddim o'r fath beth.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn gyrru ceffyl a throl drwy bolisi a strategaeth y Llywodraeth dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf. Yn ei feirniadaethau, dywed yn bendant fod arian yn cael ei wastraffu, nad yw cleifion yn cael gwasanaeth effeithiol, fod staff yn cael cam, ac nad ydym yn meddu ar y strategaeth y mae Wanless a'r Comisiwn Archwilio'n ei chymeradwyo. Peth chwerthinllyd yw y gall y Gweinidog ddatgan bod adroddiad sy'n amlygu'r amgylchiadau ofnadwy a geir yn y GIG, yn un sydd, rywsut neu'i gilydd, yn cymeradwyo polisi Llywodraeth. Diddorol yw gweld Gweinidog yn sefyll ymlaen y Siambr gan ymdrechu'n daer i ddarllen araith a ysgrifennwyd gan weision sifil—gan wybod yn iawn mai hwn yw'r adroddiad gwaethaf a gawsom ar gyflwr y GIG mewn pum mlynedd, yn ôl pob tebyg—a gweld y Gweinidog pryderus hwnnw'n eistedd a dim un Aelod o'i phlaid yn bloeddio ei gefnogaeth. Mae'n fy atgoffa o'r meincwyr cefn Llafur yn Llundain sy'n eistedd y tu ôl i'r Prif Weinidog yn ystod y sesiwn cwestiynau, yn ddi-wên, wedi'u parlysu gan ofn, yn amharod i floeddio cymeradwyaeth gan y gwyddant ei fod mewn trafferthion. Dyna sydd gennym yma heddiw—Gweinidog iechyd analluog sydd mewn trafferthion, a fu wrth y llyw yn ystod dirywiad y GIG yng Nghymru. O dan ei goruchwyliaeth hi, mae'r staff wedi digalonni ac mae nifer y gwelyau yng Nghymru wedi gostwng o fwy na 3 y

cant. Gŵyr pobl Cymru nad yw'r gwasanaeth iechyd yn cyflawni'r hyn a addawodd y Blaid Lafur.

The report is clear on finance. It says that

Mae'r adroddiad yn glir ynghylch cyllid. Dywed

'increasingly the issue is that the money is not being used effectively'.

'yn gynyddol, y ffaith yw nad yw'r arian yn cael ei ddefnyddio'n effeithiol'.

That says that you are wasting taxpayers' money. You are throwing money at a problem without effectively reforming the service. The Audit Commission's report is clear on that. How on earth can the people of Wales trust the Labour Party when it says that we need to reform the health service in Wales?

Dywed eich bod yn gwastraffu arian y trethdalwyr. Yr ydych yn taflu arian at broblem heb ddiwygio'r gwasanaeth yn effeithiol. Mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn glir ynghylch hynny. Sut ar y ddaear y gall pobl Cymru ymddiried yn y Blaid Lafur pan ddywed fod rhaid inni ddiwygio'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru?

The report also contradicts the usual line spun by the Government that because we are sicker in Wales we cannot sort out health service problems. It clearly states in the report that the whole system of health and social care is not organised to the best effect. It drives a coach and horses through the Government's argument that because the nation is sicker, people must put up with a second- or third-rate health service. The Government spin doctors must now revise their rebuttals for when reports of this nature are published in the future.

Mae'r adroddiad hefyd yn gwrth-ddweud y ddadl a glywn fel arfer gan y Llywodraeth i'r perwyl na allwn ddatrys problemau'r gwasanaeth iechyd am fod mwy o salwch yng Nghymru. Dywedir yn glir yn yr adroddiad fod yr holl system iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol heb ei threfnu yn y modd mwyaf effeithiol. Mae'n gyrru ceffyl a throl drwy ddadl y Llywodraeth i'r perwyl bod rhaid i bobl oddef gwasanaeth eilradd neu drydedd radd am fod y genedl yn salach. Bellach bydd yn rhaid i ddewinoedd delwedd y Llywodraeth ailfeddwl ynghylch eu gwrthbrofion pan gyhoeddir adroddiadau o'r natur hon yn y dyfodol.

It is clear that we need a strategic approach. Twenty-two local Wanless action plans will not deliver an all-Wales strategic approach. Wanless did not call for 22 local action plans and neither does this report.

Mae'n amlwg bod arnom angen dull gweithredu strategol. Ni fydd 22 o gynlluniau gweithredu Wanless lleol yn sicrhau strategaeth ar gyfer Cymru gyfan. Ni alwodd Wanless am 22 o gynlluniau gweithredu lleol ac nid yw'r adroddiad hwn ychwaith.

Brian Gibbons: Was it not a key recommendation in the Wanless report, if you care to read it properly, that the way forward on this was to devise integrated local solutions, not to centralise the NHS as the Conservatives propose to do? Local health boards deliver integrated local solutions.

Brian Gibbons: Onid un o'r prif argymhellion yn adroddiad Wanless, os ewch i'r drafferth i'w ddarllen yn iawn, oedd mai'r ffordd i fynd ynghylch hyn oedd dyfeisio atebion lleol integredig, nid canoli'r GIG fel y mae'r Ceidwadwyr yn bwriadu'i wneud? Mae byrddau iechyd lleol yn sicrhau atebion lleol integredig.

Jonathan Morgan: There is the term 'integrated'. How on earth will you integrate 22 local Wanless action plans? We need a

Jonathan Morgan: Dyna'r gair 'integredig'. Sut ar y ddaear y byddwch yn integreiddio 22 o gynlluniau gweithredu Wanless lleol?

national strategic approach. We have a philosophical problem in that the Minister likes to interfere. You cannot interfere in the day-to-day running of the health service on the one hand, and have a strategic approach as a Minister on the other. You do one or the other. Having local Wanless action plans, local this and local that, and none of them linked between one local health board and another, demonstrates the extent to which we have a Minister who sees her role as running the health service. That is what we see in this debate. [ASSEMBLY MEMBERS: 'Read the report.'] I have read Wanless and the Audit Commission report; clearly, most Labour Members have not.

In conclusion, the Minister should consider that, on page 18, the report states that there is

'now widespread demand from professional advisory bodies to concentrate medical workforce in fewer, although larger, acute hospitals.'

That means hospital closures. Minister, have you considered this section of the report? It is linked to reconfiguration, but what consideration have you given to which hospitals may have to close? What will that mean to staff, and what will it mean for the delivery of patient care? The bottom line, Minister, is that you have failed over the past five years. It is now down to the First Minister.

Michael German: I propose the following amendments in the name of Kirsty Williams. Amendment 3: delete the full stop at the end of point 2 and insert:

including that the NHS in Wales is not 'treating the right people in the right place at the right time by the right team', that beds in the acute sector are 'unnecessarily occupied by people who are fit to go elsewhere', and that the implementation of Wanless 'will necessitate the closure or re-designation of some hospitals'.

I propose amendment 4. Delete point 4.

Rhaid inni gael strategaeth genedlaethol. Mae gennym broblem athronyddol i'r graddau bod y Gweinidog yn hoffi ymyrryd. Ni allwch ymyrryd yn y gwaith o redeg y gwasanaeth iechyd o ddydd i ddydd ar y naill law, a meddu ar strategaeth fel Gweinidog ar y llaw arall. Rhaid gwneud y naill beth neu'r llall. Mae cael cynlluniau gweithredu Wanless lleol, a'r naill beth lleol a'r llall, a dim un ohonynt wedi'i gysylltu rhwng un bwrdd iechyd lleol a'r llall, yn dangos y graddau y mae'r Gweinidog yn credu mai ei rôl hi yw rhedeg y gwasanaeth iechyd. Dyna'r hyn a welwn yn y ddadl hon. [AELODAU'R CYNULLIAD: 'Darllenwch yr adroddiad.'] Yr wyf wedi darllen adroddiad Wanless ac un y Comisiwn Archwilio; mae'n amlwg bod y rhan fwyaf o'r Aelodau Llafur heb wneud hynny.

I derfynu, dylai'r Gweinidog ystyried bod yr adroddiad yn dweud, ar dudalen 18,

'[b]ellach ceir galw eang gan gyrrff ymgynghorol proffesiynol i ganolbwyntio ar y gweithlu meddygol mewn llai o ysbytai aciwt, mewn ysbytai aciwt mwy o faint.'

Mae hynny'n golygu cau ysbytai. Weinidog, a ydych wedi ystyried y rhan hon o'r adroddiad? Mae'n ymwneud ag ad-drefnu, ond a ydych wedi ystyried pa ysbytai a allai orfod cau? Beth y bydd hynny'n ei olygu i staff, a beth fydd ei effaith ar ddarparu gofal am gleifion? Diwedd y gân, Weinidog, yw eich bod wedi methu dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf. Mater i'r Prif Weinidog ydyw'n awr.

Michael German: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Kirsty Williams. Gwelliant 3: dileu'r atalnod llawn ar ddiwedd pwynt 2 ac ychwanegu:

gan gynnwys y ffaith nad yw'r GIG yng Nghymru 'yn trin y bobl iawn yn y lle iawn ar yr amser iawn gan y tîm iawn', bod gwelyau yn y sector aciwt yn cael eu 'llenwi'n ddiangen gan bobl sy'n ddiagon iach i fynd i rywle arall', ac y bydd gweithredu argymhellion Wanless yn golygu 'y bydd rhaid cau neu ailddynodi rhai ysbytai'.

Cynigiaf welliant 4. Dileu pwynt bwled 4.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

notes that the report highlights that resources are not being used effectively and that continuously funding initiatives is not the solution, reinforcing the need for a strategic response from the Minister to the Wanless review.

It is clear from what we have heard so far that the NHS and social services undoubtedly provide the greatest challenge for the National Assembly. The problems with the service are markedly worse than they have ever been, and are markedly worse than those in England. Tens of thousands of people across Wales are affected markedly for the worse as a result. It is for these reasons that I am disappointed by the Labour Government's motion. Apparently, according to the second bullet point of the motion, the Government believes that there are no problems with Government policy. It is hard not to describe that simply as complacency. Even worse than that, the fourth bullet point apparently says that all future progress is down to the 22 local health boards. It is almost as if the Government is washing its hands of the problem. There is nothing in the motion about the need for all-Wales strategic planning—a point that Jonathan has just made—or even about the Welsh Assembly Government needing to take a lead. Leadership is a major thread running through the Audit Commission document. I remind the Minister that, on page 25, it says that, within the NHS

'both managerially and clinically, there is a body of opinion that sees central support and drive from the Assembly as a fundamental requirement for the scale of change which is needed.'

Plaid Cymru's amendment recognises the need for that strategic planning, and we will therefore support it. It is far too early to start noting 22 disparate local health board plans. I would be surprised if everyone in the Chamber had read all 1,000 pages fully, let alone analysed the contrasting policies and proposals for action. That is why we believe these should be taken out of the debate

Cynigiau welliant 5. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn nodi bod yr adroddiad yn tynnu sylw at y ffaith nad yw adnoddau'n cael eu defnyddio'n effeithiol ac nad parhau i roi cyllid i wahanol fentrau yw'r ateb, sy'n cadarnhau'r angen am ymateb strategol gan y Gweinidog i adolygiad Wanless.

Mae'n amlwg o'r hyn a glywsom hyd yma mai'r GIG a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol yw'r her fwyaf i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn ddi-os. Mae problemau'r gwasanaeth yn waeth o lawer nag y buont erioed, ac maent yn waeth o lawer na'r rhai yn Lloegr. Mae degau o filoedd o bobl ledled Cymru'n ei chael yn waeth o lawer o ganlyniad. Hynny sy'n peri imi fod yn siomedig yng nghynnig y Llywodraeth Lafur. Ymddengys, yn ôl ail bwynt bwled y cynnig, nad yw'r Llywodraeth yn credu bod unrhyw broblemau ynghylch ei pholisi. Anodd ymatal rhag galw hynny'n ddifaterwch. Yn waeth byth na hynny, ymddengys fod y pedwerydd pwynt bwled yn dweud mai cyfrifoldeb i'r 22 o fyrddau iechyd lleol yw'r cynnydd a wneir yn y dyfodol. Mae bron fel petai'r Llywodraeth yn golchi ei dwylo o'r broblem. Nid oes dim yn y cynnig am yr angen am gynlluniau strategol ar gyfer Cymru gyfan—pwynt y mae Jonathan newydd ei wneud—neu hyd yn oed am yr angen i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru roi arweiniad. Mae arweinyddiaeth yn thema bwysig yn nogfen y Comisiwn Archwilio drwyddi draw. Yr wyf yn atgoffa'r Gweinidog ei fod yn dweud, ar dudalen 25, wrth sôn am y GIG, fod

'rhaf pobl o fewn y GIG, yn rheolaethol ac yn glinigol, o'r farn bod cymorth ac ysgogiad canolog gan y Cynulliad yn ofyniad sylfaenol o ran graddfa'r newid sydd ei angen.'

Mae gwelliant Plaid Cymru'n cydnabod yr angen am y cynllunio strategol hwnnw, ac felly byddwn yn ei gefnogi. Mae'n rhy fuan o lawer i ddechrau nodi 22 o gynlluniau gwahanol o eiddo'r byrddau iechyd lleol. Byddai'n syn gennyf glywed bod pawb yn y Siambr wedi darllen pob un o'r 1,000 o dudalennau'n drylwyr, heb sôn am ddadansoddi'r gwahanol bolisiau a chynigion

altogether. I am sure, however, that the Minister will have noted that Torfaen's plan does not even have the agreement of the Torfaen local authority. In place of this approach, we need strategic leadership from the Minister across Wales. You cannot expect 22 local health boards to have one answer to those problems that are affecting the whole of Wales. Powys, for example, does not even have a district general hospital. Patients from Powys travel to Shrewsbury, Hereford, Abergavenny, Swansea, Cardiff and Aberystwyth, among others, for services. You cannot expect Powys Local Health Board alone to direct how those hospitals are run.

Throughout south Wales, patients use the specialist services available in Cardiff. The same is true of north Wales patients with regard to Liverpool. However, we cannot expect problems to be solved in Cardiff or Liverpool alone. Therefore, the need for an all-Wales strategy is clear—as it has been since July, when Derek Wanless reported. Ten months have gone by, and the Government has not yet given us that strategy. Instead, we have to put up with 30 different initiatives, each with a package of money and, of course, a press release. It is interesting to note what the Audit Commission says on this matter:

'Continually funding 'initiatives' to treat the symptoms rather than a root and branch solution to the problem will not only fail to tackle the problem. By failing to use resources effectively, it may even exacerbate the symptoms by creating even more inefficiently used resources in the acute sector in ways which can imbalance the system even further.'

Wales needs a new lead, and not new small initiatives.

We must accept that the debate has moved on in the last year. Last year, we were all talking about building capacity in the NHS. Last year's election campaign was fought on an auction of more doctors, nurses and hospital

ar gyfer gweithredu. Dyna pam y credwn na ddylid ymdrin â'r rhain yn y ddadl o gwbl. Yr wyf yn siŵr, er hynny, y bydd y Gweinidog wedi nodi nad yw cynllun Torfaen hyd yn oed wedi derbyn sêl bendith awdurdod lleol Torfaen. Yn lle'r dull gweithredu hwn, rhaid inni gael arweiniad strategol gan y Gweinidog drwy Gymru. Ni allwch ddisgwyl i 22 o fyrdau iechyd lleol gael un ateb i'r problemau hynny sy'n effeithio ar Gymru gyfan. Er enghraifft, nid oes ysbyty dosbarth cyffredinol ym Mhowys. Mae cleifion o Bowys yn mynd i Amwythig, Henffordd, y Fenni, Abertawe, Caerdydd ac Aberystwyth, a manau eraill, i gael gwasanaethau. Ni allwch ddisgwyl i Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Powys ar ei ben ei hun ddweud sut y mae'r ysbytai hynny i'w rhedeg.

Mae cleifion o bob rhan o'r De'n defnyddio'r gwasanaethau arbenigol sydd ar gael yng Nghaerdydd. Mae'r un peth yn wir am gleifion yn y Gogledd sy'n troi at Lerpwl. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn ddisgwyl i broblemau gael eu datrys yng Nghaerdydd neu Lerpwl yn unig. Felly, mae'r angen am strategaeth i Gymru gyfan yn amlwg—fel y bu er mis Gorffennaf, pan adroddodd Derek Wanless. Aeth 10 mis heibio, ac nid yw'r Llywodraeth wedi rhoi'r strategaeth honno inni eto. Yn hytrach, yr ydym yn gorfod dygymod â 30 o wahanol fentrau, bob un â'i phegyn o arian ac, wrth gwrs, datganiad i'r wasg. Diddorol yw nodi beth a ddywed y Comisiwn Archwilio am y mater hwn:

'Bydd parhau i ariannu 'mentrau' er mwyn ymdrin â'r symptomau yn hytrach na datrysiaid gwraidd a brig i'r broblem nid yn unig yn methu â mynd i'r afael â'r broblem. Drwy fethu â defnyddio adnoddau yn effeithiol, gallai hyd yn oed waethygu'r symptomau drwy greu hyd yn oed fwy o adnoddau a gaiff eu defnyddio mewn modd aneffeithlon yn y sector aciwt mewn ffyrdd a allai anghydbwyso'r system ymhellach.'

Mae ar Gymru angen arweiniad newydd, nid mentrau bach newydd.

Rhaid inni dderbyn bod y ddadl wedi symud ymlaen yn y flwyddyn a aeth heibio. Y llynedd, buom yn sôn am ddatblygu capasiti yn y GIG. Yr oedd yr ymgyrch etholiad y llynedd yn seiliedig ar arwerthiant o fwy o

beds, with all political parties arguing for increased capacity. Wanless, however, should have ended that auction, and the Audit Commission report reinforces the Wanless review on the issue of capacity. Too little capacity is not the problem but, rather, existing capacity is under chronic and unnecessary pressure. Once again, the Audit Commission report is clear:

‘The evidence ... also shows that high acute bed occupancy is not the result of too few beds but rather the inability to control admissions and timely discharges. NHS Wales is not, therefore ‘treating the right people in the right place at the right time by the right team’.’

Wales has more beds per capita than England but admits more patients who should not be in them. Delayed discharges block a quarter of Welsh beds, and patients who could have remained outside the acute sector now occupy 17 per cent of Welsh beds. As I said earlier, I accept my responsibility for misunderstanding that problem. During my two years in Government, discussion around the Cabinet table was about capacity when it should have been about providing the services differently. I apologised for that earlier—

3.50 p.m.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time has run out. I call Brian Gibbons.

Brian Gibbons: I am not on the list.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: You are on this list. I therefore call Christine Gwyther.

Brian Gibbons *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. If you are not on the list, please do not waste time, as we are short of time.

Christine Gwyther: We must be careful that

feddygon, nyrsys a gwelyau ysbyty, ac yr oedd yr holl bleidiau gwleidyddol yn dadlau dros gynyddu'r capasiti. Fodd bynnag, dylai adroddiad Wanless fod wedi rhoi pen ar yr arwerthiant hwnnw, ac mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn ategu barn adolygiad Wanless ar fater capasiti. Nid prinder capasiti yw'r broblem ond, yn hytrach, y ffaith bod y capasiti presennol o dan bwysau cronig a diangen. Unwaith eto, mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn glir:

‘Dengys y dystiolaeth ... hefyd nad canlyniad prinder gwelyau yw'r rheswm dros y nifer uchel o gleifion sy'n llenwi gwelyau aciwt ond yn hytrach, yr anallu i reoli'r broses o dderbyn cleifion a'u rhyddhau yn brydlon. Nid yw GIG Cymru felly yn ‘trin y bobl iawn yn y lle iawn ar yr amser iawn gan y tîm iawn’.’

Mae gan Gymru fwy o welyau y pen nag sydd gan Loegr ond mae'n derbyn mwy o gleifion yn ddiangen. Mae oedi wrth ryddhau cleifion yn arwain at flocio chwarter y gwelyau yng Nghymru, ac mae cleifion a allai fod wedi aros y tu allan i'r sector aciwt bellach yn defnyddio 17 y cant o'r gwelyau yng Nghymru. Fel y dywedais yn gynharach, yr wyf yn derbyn fy nghyfrifoldeb am gamddeall y broblem honno. Yn ystod y ddwy flynedd y bûm mewn Llywodraeth, yr oedd y trafod wrth fwrdd y Cabinet yn ymwneud â chapasiti tra dylai fod wedi ymwneud â darparu'r gwasanaethau'n wahanol. Ymddiheurais am hynny'n gynharach—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae'ch amser ar ben. Galwaf Brian Gibbons.

Brian Gibbons: Nid wyf ar y rhestr.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr ydych ar y rhestr hon. Gan hynny, galwaf Christine Gwyther.

Brian Gibbons *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Os nad ydych ar y rhestr, peidiwch â gwastraffu'r amser prin sydd gennym, os gwelwch yn dda.

Christine Gwyther: Rhaid inni ofalu na fydd

this debate does not become polarised and that the terminology does not become muddled. The Audit Commission's report talks a great deal about waiting times and waiting lists, and it seems that the two become muddled now and again. My experience is that patients care, rightly, about the length of time that they have to wait for an appointment or an operation. The length of the waiting list is irrelevant to the individual. If we are being logical, if longer waiting lists mean that more people are going through the system and getting their operations, that is not necessarily a bad thing, as long as people are being seen within as short a time as possible. The latest waiting-time figures at the end of March 2004 showed a dramatic fall in the amount of time that people are waiting. That is what matters to my constituents.

The Audit Commission made it clear in its introduction to the report that this is not a critique of the health service or of health policy. It is important that opposition Members remember that, as they are trying to pretend that the paper condemns policy or the Minister. That stretches and distorts the truth almost to breaking point. However, the paper recognises that underperformance in the system needs to be understood, which is why it is such a valuable document, not only for us as Assembly Members but also for the Government. I am sure that Jane Hutt would endorse and welcome that. It talks about a historically inefficient configuration. Jane Hutt is dealing with that. It says that underperformance can be related to inefficiencies in joint working between health and social services. Jane Hutt is dealing with that. We are told that a quarter of our beds are taken by people who do not need or who do not want them. The Welsh Assembly Government announced £20 million recently for local councils to tackle delayed transfers of care, and other Members have spoken about that. The Welsh Assembly Government is dealing with the matter, and the Assembly expects its local authority partners, with this extra funding, to play their part in dealing with it also.

pegynu yn y ddadl hon ac na ddrysiir ynghylch y derminoleg. Mae llawer o sôn yn adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio am amseroedd aros a rhestrau aros, ac ymddengys fod cymysgu rhwng y ddau ar adegau. O'm profiad i, mae cleifion yn poeni, yn briodol, ynghylch yr amser maent yn gorfod disgwyl i gael apwyntiad neu lawdriniaeth. Mae hyd y rhestr aros yn amherthnasol i'r unigolyn. O fod yn rhesymegol, os yw rhestrau aros hwy yn golygu bod mwy o bobl yn mynd drwy'r system ac yn cael llawdriniaeth, nid yw hynny'n beth drwg o reidrwydd, ar yr amod y caiff pobl sylw o fewn cyfnod mor fyr ag y bo modd. Yr oedd y ffigurau diweddaraf am amseroedd aros ar ddiwedd Mawrth 2004 yn dangos gostyngiad trawiadol yn yr amser y mae pobl yn disgwyl. Dyna sydd o bwys gan fy etholwyr i.

Eglurodd y Comisiwn Archwilio yn ei ragymadrodd i'r adroddiad nad yw hyn yn feirniadaeth ar y gwasanaeth iechyd nac ar bolisi iechyd. Mae'n bwysig i Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau gofio hynny, gan eu bod yn ceisio cymryd arnynt fod y papur yn condemnio polisi neu'r Gweinidog. Mae hynny'n camliwio'r gwirionedd i'r eithaf. Fodd bynnag, mae'r papur yn cydnabod bod rhaid deall y tanberfformiad yn y system, a dyna pam y mae'n ddogfen mor werthfawr, nid yn unig i ni fel Aelodau'r Cynulliad ond hefyd i'r Llywodraeth. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Jane Hutt yn ategu ac yn croesawu hynny. Mae'n sôn am drefniant a fu'n aneffeithlon yn y gorffennol. Mae Jane Hutt yn delio â hynny. Dywed y ddogfen y gall tanberfformiad fod yn gysylltiedig ag aneffeithlonrwydd yn y cydweithio rhwng iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Mae Jane Hutt yn delio â hynny. Dywedir wrthym fod chwarter o'n gwelyau'n cael eu defnyddio gan rai nad oes arnynt eu hangen na'u heisiau. Gwnaeth Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru gyhoeddi £20 miliwn yn ddiweddar i gynghorau lleol gael mynd i'r afael ag oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, ac mae Aelodau eraill wedi sôn am hynny. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n delio â'r mater, ac mae'r Cynulliad yn disgwyl i'w bartneriaid mewn awdurdodau lleol chwarae eu rhan wrth ddelio â hyn hefyd, gyda'r cyllid ychwanegol hwn.

Some opposition Members have criticised Jane Hutt for being too consensual. They have implied that consensus is a soft option, which, in my experience, it is not. It is a difficult, often painful option, but it is the best way to deliver real results. Some current issues in my constituency might amplify that, for example, the re-provision of mental health services from St David's Hospital in Carmarthen to a mental health unit in Withybush General Hospital in Haverfordwest. Although some consultation was carried out on the design of the building, when it opened, several of the beds had already been removed, so that the capital and revenue funding could be used for more community-based services. The model used for the re-provision was already obsolete in my opinion, because it had not been built around real and dynamic consensus. We have moved on locally and nationally since then.

We are also re-providing Tenby Cottage Hospital services in a new hospital, with full and proper community involvement. This has come about by Welsh Assembly Government intervention, after decades of wrangling. Jane Hutt has been to Tenby on several occasions to face my constituents and me on the ground. The dilemma was that health professionals were coming at the Tenby problem from one angle and my constituents were coming at it from another. Jane Hutt was faced with, and measured up to, the difficult task of achieving consensus. Therefore, it was not a soft option by any means.

However, the final product will be consumer-proofed to the highest standard. The communities of south-east Pembrokeshire have taken hold of this project, and they will ensure that there is no waste, that the project comes in on time and in budget, and that it delivers what we want. The same goes for the South Pembrokeshire Hospital project in Pembroke Dock. I am sad to report that this is again being used as a political football, not by Assembly Members, but by people fighting local council elections. I would like the Minister, if she can, to assure my

Mae rhai o Aelodau'r wrthblaid wedi beirniadu Jane Hutt am fod yn rhy gydsyniol. Maent wedi lled-awgrymu bod consensws yn ddewis hawdd, ac nid ydyw, yn fy mhrofiad i. Mae'n ddewis anodd, sy'n aml yn boenus, ond hwnnw yw'r modd gorau i sicrhau canlyniadau go iawn. Gallai rhai materion yn fy etholaeth i ar hyn o bryd ategu hynny, er enghraifft, symud gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl o Ysbyty Dewi Sant yng Nghaerfyrddin i uned iechyd meddwl yn Ysbyty Cyffredinol Llwynhelyg yn Hwlfordd. Er y bu peth ymgynghori ynghylch cynllun yr adeilad, pan agorwyd ef, yr oedd nifer o'r gwelyau wedi'u cymryd oddi yno'n barod, fel y gellid defnyddio'r cyllid cyfalaf a refeniw ar gyfer mwy o wasanaethau yn y gymuned. Yr oedd y model a ddefnyddiwyd ar gyfer ailddarparu eisoes yn hen ffasiwn, yn fy marn i, gan nad oedd yn seiliedig ar gonsensws deinamig a dilys. Yr ydym wedi symud ymlaen yn lleol ac yn genedlaethol ers hynny.

Yr ydym hefyd yn ailddarparu'r gwasanaethau a fu yn Ysbyty'r Bwthyn Dinbych-y-pysgod mewn ysbyty newydd, gyda chyfranogiad llawn a phriodol gan y gymuned. Digwyddodd hynny drwy ymyrryd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, ar ôl degawdau o gweryla. Bu Jane Hutt yn Ninbych-y-pysgod ar sawl achlysur i gwrdd â'm hetholwyr a minnau yn y fan a'r lle. Cododd y cyfyng-gyngor hwn gan fod gweithwyr iechyd proffesiynol yn edrych ar y broblem yn Ninbych-y-pysgod o un safbwynt a'm hetholwyr yn edrych arno o safbwynt arall. Cafodd Jane Hutt y dasg anodd o sicrhau consensws, a llwyddodd i'w chyflawni. Gan hynny, nid oedd yn ddewis hawdd o bell ffordd.

Fodd bynnag, bydd y defnyddwyr yn mynnu cael y safonau uchaf yn yr ysbyty ar ôl ei gwblhau. Mae cymunedau de-ddwyrain sir Benfro wedi arddel y prosiect hwn, a byddant yn sicrhau na cheir gwastraff, y caiff ei gwblhau'n brydlon ac yn unol â'r gyllideb, ac y bydd yn cyflawni'r hyn y mae arnom ei angen. Mae'r un peth yn wir am brosiect Ysbyty De Sir Benfro yn Noc Penfro. Mae'n ofid imi ddweud bod hwn eto'n cael ei ddefnyddio fel pêl wleidyddol, nid gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad, ond gan rai sy'n ymladd etholiadau cyngor lleol. Byddai'n dda

constituents that this project is going to plan, as is the Tenby project.

David Lloyd: As an NHS staff worker, I am well aware of the tremendous commitment of nurses, doctors, surgeons, physiotherapists, and all the rest, in the face of often overwhelming workloads. Given that, historically, we are operating less than half the European average number of doctors and beds, the clinical view is obvious—we need more services to do the job.

In 2000, we had the emergency pressures taskforce; in 2002, the NHS manager, Paul Williams, produced his excellent report, ‘A Question of Balance’; last year, the banker, Derek Wanless, published his report; now the auditors have produced their report. They all have roughly the same message: the current position is unsustainable and we need a whole-systems approach. Otherwise, you have bottlenecks between health, social services, GPs, community services, and the independent care homes sector. You have delayed discharges, patients in the wrong place at the wrong time, treated by the wrong team, and a system that is out of balance.

We need service development, therefore, that is skewed towards the community, primary care, and social services side. We need services on the ground to treat people where they are, without recourse to hospital, whether those are care services, counselling services, community physiotherapy, occupational therapy or drugs and alcohol services. New community services need to be developed, and existing services need to be carried out by different health and social care workers where that is appropriate. For example, assessments, traditionally carried out by social workers, can be carried out by specialised nurse managers where appropriate.

Care home beds and discharge need to be managed as part of a whole package,

gennyf pe bai'r Gweinidog yn rhoi sicrwydd i fy etholwyr, os gall, fod y prosiect hwn yn mynd rhagddo'n ôl y bwriad, fel y mae'r prosiect yn Ninbych-y-pysgod.

David Lloyd: A minnau'n un o staff y GIG, gwn yn iawn am ymrwymiad arruthrol y nyrsys, y meddygon, y llawfeddygon, a phawb arall, yn wyneb beichiau gwaith sy'n aml yn llethol. Gan ein bod wedi arfer gweithredu gyda llai na hanner y nifer o feddygon a gwelyau a geir yn Ewrop ar gyfartaledd, mae barn y clinigwyr yn amlwg—mae arnom angen rhagor o wasanaethau i wneud y gwaith.

Yn 2000, cawsom y tasglu pwysau argyfwng; yn 2002, gwnaeth rheolwr y GIG, Paul Williams, gynhyrchu ei adroddiad rhagorol, ‘Cadw Cydbwysedd’; y llynedd, gwnaeth y banciwr, Derek Wanless, gyhoeddi ei adroddiad ef; bellach mae'r archwilwyr wedi cynhyrchu eu hadroddiad hwy. Yr un yw'r neges gan bob ohonynt yn fras: mae'r sefyllfa bresennol yn anghynaliadwy ac mae arnom angen dull gweithredu sy'n gofalu am yr holl systemau. Fel arall, ceir tagfeydd rhwng iechyd, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, meddygon teulu, gwasanaethau cymunedol, a sector y cartrefi gofal annibynnol. Ceir oedi wrth ryddhau cleifion, cleifion sydd yn y lle anghywir ar yr adeg anghywir, ac yn cael eu trin gan y tîm anghywir, a system anghytbwys.

Rhaid datblygu gwasanaethau, felly, sydd â'u gogwydd tuag at y gymuned, gofal sylfaenol, a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol. Rhaid inni gael gwasanaethau lleol i drin pobl yn y fan a'r lle, heb orfod eu hanfon i ysbyty, pa un a ydynt yn wasanaethau gofal, yn wasanaethau cynghori, yn ffisiotherapi cymunedol, yn therapi galwedigaethol neu'n wasanaethau sy'n ymwneud â chyffuriau ac alcohol. Rhaid datblygu gwasanaethau cymunedol newydd, a rhaid i'r gwasanaethau presennol gael eu darparu gan weithwyr iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol gwahanol lle bo hynny'n briodol. Er enghraifft, gallai rheolwyr nyrsio arbenigol gyflawni asesiadau, a wneir fel arfer gan weithwyr cymdeithasol, lle bo hynny'n briodol.

Rhaid rheoli gwelyau mewn cartrefi gofal a threfnu i ryddhau cleifion fel rhan o becyn

involving health, social services and the private sector all working together without fear or prejudice. That needs firm leadership. Again, health visitors and social workers working together from different sectors undertake roughly the same role most of the time, and should be enabled to exchange roles where that is appropriate. Underpinning all this is the need for comprehensive information technology development and computers that can talk together in health, pharmacy, dentistry, hospitals, social services and all other areas for that whole-systems approach. Our computers cannot talk to one another now.

As Derek Wanless said, we need to concentrate on health promotion and preventing illness in the first place. Let us tackle smoking and get the ban on smoking in public buildings sorted. It is working in Ireland. Some 100,000 New Yorkers have stopped smoking in the year since the ban was introduced in New York. Peter Hain blames the Welsh Assembly Government for the lack of progress. It is not going to be our one annual Welsh Bill in the Queen's Speech. So come on, Minister, get serious about health promotion, and vigorously pursue this Assembly resolution on smoking now.

New ways of working and the development of community services are required. Dentistry is all but forgotten. On community physiotherapy and occupational therapy, let us get people fitter and stop them going to hospital in the first place and enable their early discharge without fear of readmission. There is so much to do, and so little time in which to do it. We have the longest waiting lists in Europe. In Swansea, 625 people are waiting over 18 months for surgery today. That is nearly half of the Welsh total and 10 times the total for the whole of England. The current system is unsustainable, and in no way is the report an endorsement. We need to urgently reconfigure our health services to work across all systems, and to get all systems back in balance.

cyfan, fel bod iechyd, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r sector preifat i gyd yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd heb nac ofn na rhagfarn. Mae hynny'n gofyn arweiniad cadarn. Yma eto, mae ymwelwyr iechyd a gweithwyr cymdeithasol sydd mewn sectorau gwahanol yn cyflawni'r un rôl yn fras y rhan fwyaf o'r amser, a dylid eu galluogi i gyfnewid rolau os yw hynny'n briodol. Yn sail i hyn i gyd y mae'r angen i ddatblygu technoleg gwybodaeth mewn modd cynhwysfawr ac i gael cyfrifiaduron sy'n gallu cysylltu â'i gilydd ym meysydd iechyd, fferylliaeth, deintyddiaeth, ysbytai, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r holl feysydd eraill er mwyn cael dull gweithredu sy'n cynnwys systemau cyfan. Ni all ein cyfrifiaduron gysylltu â'i gilydd ar hyn o bryd.

Fel y dywedodd Derek Wanless, rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar hybu iechyd ac atal salwch yn y lle cyntaf. Gadewch inni ymladd yn erbyn ysmegu a sicrhau bod ysmegu mewn adeiladau cyhoeddus yn cael ei wahardd. Mae'n gweithio yn Iwerddon. Mae tua 100,000 o bobl Efrog Newydd wedi rhoi'r gorau i ysmegu yn y flwyddyn ers cyflwyno'r gwaharddiad yno. Mae Peter Hain yn rhoi'r bai ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru am y diffyg cynnydd. Nid hwnnw fydd ein hunig Fesur blynyddol yn Araith y Frenhines. Felly dewch ymlaen, Weinidog, byddwch o ddifrif ynghylch hybu iechyd, ac ewch ati'n egniol yn awr ynghylch y penderfyniad hwn gan y Cynulliad.

Mae angen dulliau newydd o weithio a rhaid datblygu gwasanaethau cymunedol. Mae deintyddiaeth wedi mynd yn angof bron. Ynghylch ffisiotherapi cymunedol a therapi galwedigaethol, gadewch inni beri i bobl fod yn fwy heini a'u hatal rhag mynd i ysbyty yn y lle cyntaf a hwyluso eu rhyddhau'n gynnar heb yr ofn y cânt eu hanfon yn ôl i'r ysbyty. Mae cymaint i'w gyflawni mewn cyn lleied o amser. Gennym ni y mae'r rhestrau aros hwyaf yn Ewrop. Yn Abertawe, mae 625 o bobl yn disgwyl yn hwy na 18 mis am lawdriniaeth heddiw. Dyna bron hanner y cyfanswm yng Nghymru a 10 gwaith y cyfanswm ar gyfer Lloegr gyfan. Mae'r system bresennol yn anghynaliadwy, ac ni ellir ystyried yr adroddiad yn gymeradwyaeth ar unrhyw gyfrif. Rhaid inni ad-drefnu ein

gwasanatehau iechyd ar fyrder er mwyn cynnwys yr holl systemau yn ein gwaith ac adfer eu cydbwysedd.

Eleanor Burnham: Do you not believe that we should be looking more at the quality of the care provided, rather than being obsessed with numbers and targets?

Eleanor Burnham: A ydych yn credu y dylem roi mwy o ystyriaeth i ansawdd y gofal a ddarperir, yn hytrach na bod ag obsesiwn â rhifau a thargedau?

David Lloyd: Quality and working together come together. We need to reconfigure our services with new ways of working and a new balance between the acute, community, social services and independent sectors and, where appropriate, new services in the community, so that GPs have ways of dealing with people other than just sending them to hospital. That requires a national plan and strong leadership nationally.

David Lloyd: Mae ansawdd a chydweithio'n cyd-fynd. Rhaid inni ad-drefnu ein gwasanaethau drwy gael dulliau newydd o weithio a chydbwysedd newydd rhwng y sector aciwt, y sector cymunedol, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a'r sector annibynnol ac, os yw'n briodol, â gwasanaethau newydd yn y gymuned, fel y bydd gan feddygon teulu fodd i ddelio â phobl heblaw eu hanfon i ysbyty. Mae hynny'n gofyn cynllun cenedlaethol ac arweiniad cadarn yn genedlaethol.

4.00 p.m.

To conclude, when I started out as a GP in Swansea 20 years ago, we shared a consultant cardiologist with Neath. At that time, there were 31 consultant cardiologists for the districts of south-east Thames and north-east Thames in London. A few years ago, there were 31 consultant cardiologists in Wales when there should have been 62 on a pro rata basis with the level of provision in England—Wales had a higher level of ischaemic heart disease at the time. The British Cardiac Society estimates that Wales should have 165 consultant cardiologists in order to deliver Government recommendations—it has only 45. We have some of the longest waiting lists in Europe, and the quality of social services in some areas is at a dangerous level. We are all aware of the adverse joint-reviews. Dentistry is non-existent in many places and community services must be developed. We need counselling services so that we can prescribe fewer anti-depressants, and we need eating disorder clinics. This report is not an endorsement of the Minister's actions. An NHS manager produced a report called 'A Question of Balance', the banker Derek Wanless produced a report, and now the auditors have spoken. I ask the Minister to do something and to at least implement 'A Question of Balance' in full.

I derfynu, pan ddechreuais weithio fel meddyg teulu yn Abertawe 20 mlynedd yn ôl, yr oeddem yn rhannu cardiologydd ymgynghorol â Chastell-nedd. Bryd hynny, yr oedd 31 o gardiolegwyr ymgynghorol ar gyfer ardaloedd de-ddwyrain Tafwys a gogledd-ddwyrain Tafwys yn Llundain. Ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl, yr oedd 31 o gardiolegwyr ymgynghorol yng Nghymru ond, ar sail y ddarpariaeth fesul pen yn Lloegr, dylai fod gennym 62—yr oedd lefel uwch o isgemia'r galon yng Nghymru ar y pryd. Mae Cymdeithas Gardiaidd Prydain yn amcangyfrif y dylid cael 165 o gardiolegwyr ymgynghorol yng Nghymru er mwyn cyflawni argymhellion y Llywodraeth—nid oes yma ond 45. Gennym ni y mae rhai o'r rhestrau aros hwyaf yn Ewrop, ac mae ansawdd y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol mewn rhai ardaloedd ar lefel beryglus. Gwyddom oll am natur anffafriol yr adolygiadau ar y cyd. Nid oes deintyddion o gwbl mewn sawl man a rhaid datblygu gwasanaethau cymunedol. Rhaid inni gael gwasanaethau cynghori fel y gallwn ragnodi llai o gyffuriau gwrthiselde,r ac mae arnom angen clinigau i drin anhwylderau bwyta. Nid yw'r adroddiad hwn yn cymeradwyo'r camau a gymerodd y Gweinidog. Cynhyrchodd un o reolwyr y GIG adroddiad o'r enw 'Cadw Cydbwysedd', cynhyrchodd y banciwr Derek Wanless

adroddiad, a bellach mae'r archwilwyr wedi rhoi eu barn. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog wneud rhywbeth ac o leiaf i roi argymhellion 'Cadw Cydbwysedd' ar waith yn llawn.

Jeff Cuthbert: I welcome this opportunity to discuss the Audit Commission's report and the role that Wanless action plans have in continuing to deliver improvements in the NHS in Wales. The Audit Commission and Wanless are right to state that whole-system working is the essential component in the redesign and reconfiguration of healthcare services in Wales. This was clearly the core of the Assembly Government's plans when, in March, it announced an additional £30 million to implement Wanless. I am pleased to note that health services in Caerphilly have been allocated £5.25 million. As the Audit Commission report notes, capacity shortfalls were created by a history of erratic spending levels and, since 1999, NHS expenditure has increased hugely. However, neither I nor the Assembly Government have said that money alone will solve all our ills. The Labour Assembly Government's approach has always involved investment twinned with sustained reform and long-term planning and improvement. However, it would be churlish not to recognise the fact that the Assembly has almost doubled the investment in the health service in Wales.

The effective implementation of Wanless local action plans must now take centre stage, and delivering a health service that is fit for purpose remains our key strategy. Each action plan is a clear sign that the process has now moved on. The Audit Commission report does not take into account the recent progress on waiting times or the impact of the 22 Wanless action plans and their content. It is important that we bear such matters in mind when we read it. The action plans must now be our focus, as they will deliver a Welsh health service that is in tune with local needs through enhanced service provision in safe local settings. They will be accompanied by a more strategic and planned use of the acute sector. We must focus on those priorities if we are to remain committed to the Wanless agenda. One aspect of

Jeff Cuthbert: Croesawaf y cyfle hwn i drafod adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio a'r rôl sydd gan gynlluniau gweithredu Wanless wrth barhau i sicrhau gwelliannau yn y GIG yng Nghymru. Mae'r Comisiwn Archwilio a Wanless yn iawn wrth ddweud ei bod yn hollbwysig bod pob system yn cydweithio wrth ailgynllunio ac ad-drefnu gwasanaethau gofal iechyd yng Nghymru. Mae'n amlwg mai hynny oedd wrth wraidd cynlluniau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad pan gyhoeddodd ym mis Mawrth ei bod yn darparu £30 miliwn ychwanegol i roi argymhellion Wanless ar waith. Mae'n dda gennyf nodi bod £5.25 miliwn wedi'i ddyrannu i wasanaethau iechyd yng Nghaerffili. Fel y noda adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, crëwyd diffygion o ran capasiti o ganlyniad i lefelau gwario afreolaidd dros amser ac, er 1999, bu cynnydd aruthrol yng ngwariant y GIG. Er hynny, nid wyf fi na Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi dweud y bydd arian yn datrys ein holl broblemau ar ei ben ei hun. Yr hyn a wnaeth Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad erioed yw cyplysu buddsoddi â diwygio parhaus a chynllunio a gwella ar gyfer y tymor hir. Er hynny, peth anfoesgar fyddai peidio â chydabod bod y Cynulliad bron wedi dyblu'r arian a fuddsoddir yn y gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru.

Dylid rhoi'r sylw pennaf yn awr i roi cynlluniau gweithredu lleol Wanless ar waith yn effeithiol, a'n prif strategaeth o hyd yw sicrhau gwasanaeth iechyd sy'n addas i'w ddiben. Mae pob cynllun gweithredu'n arwydd pendant bod y broses wedi symud ymlaen bellach. Nid yw adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn ystyried y cynnydd a wnaed yn ddiweddar ar amseroedd aros nac effaith y 22 o gynlluniau gweithredu Wanless a'u cynnwys. Mae'n bwysig inni gofio materion o'r fath wrth ei ddarllen. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio'n awr ar y cynlluniau gweithredu, gan y byddant yn sicrhau gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru sy'n gyson ag anghenion lleol drwy ddarparu gwasanaethau gwell mewn mannau lleol diogel. Byddant yn mynd law yn llaw â defnydd mwy strategol a threfnus o'r sector

Caerphilly's local action plan best illustrates how we are delivering on the promise of providing local solutions to local problems. The local health board, in partnership with key stakeholders, has developed a rapid response team of eight specialist nurses who provide an immediate response to referrals between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. every day. The successful pilot scheme means that the service will now be extended across the borough, enabling more people to receive high-quality, community-based treatment and helping to shift the emphasis away from the acute sector.

The Assembly Government has also assisted with the allocation of over £1 million to services in Caerphilly to tackle issues such as delayed transfers of care. The Assembly's approval of a new hospital for Caerphilly borough is excellent news. Increasing capacity is a clear means of enabling long-term reconfiguration. However, the local health board is well aware that the success of Caerphilly's new hospital depends upon the effective remodelling of community and social care services. This is a time of great change for the NHS and its staff. Therefore, we must now focus all our energy on promoting the local action plans, which will deliver clear benefits to our local communities.

David Melding: The Government has given a predictable response, stating that the direction of travel is correct—that is the correct response as far as the Government is concerned. I wonder what would have happened had Jane Hutt been in charge of the inquiry into the sinking of the Titanic. She probably would have concluded that the ship was on the right course and was bound to arrive in New York, but that there was an unfortunate accident on the way and that we should not dwell on such occasional failures. The Government's line is not credible. To quote the auditor's letter, there is

'an inefficient configuration of services ... the current situation is a manifestation of deep-seated system problems—national, local, political, managerial and clinical'.

aciwt. Rhaid inni ganolbwyntio ar y blaenoriaethau hynny os ydym i ymrwymo'n barhaus i agenda Wanless. Mae un agwedd ar gynllun gweithredu lleol Caerffili sy'n amlygu orau sut yr ydym yn cyflawni'r addewid i gynnig atebion lleol i broblemau lleol. Mae'r bwrdd iechyd lleol, ar y cyd â'r prif randdeiliaid, wedi datblygu tîm ymateb cyflym sy'n cynnwys wyth nyrs arbenigol sy'n ymateb ar unwaith i atgyfeiriadau rhwng 7 a.m. ac 11 a.m. bob diwrnod. Yn sgîl llwyddiant y cynllun peilot, bydd y gwasanaeth yn cael ei ymestyn drwy'r fwrdeistref, fel y gall mwy o bobl gael triniaeth o ansawdd da yn y gymuned ac fel y symudir y pwyslais oddi wrth y sector aciwt.

Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi rhoi cymorth hefyd drwy ddyrannu mwy na £1 filiwn i wasanaethau yng Nghaerffili er mwyn mynd i'r afael â materion fel oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Newydd rhagorol yw bod y Cynulliad wedi cymeradwyo ysbyty newydd ar gyfer bwrdeistref Caerffili. Mae cynyddu capasiti'n un modd amlwg i hwyluso ad-drefnu yn y tymor hir. Er hynny, mae'r bwrdd iechyd lleol yn ymwybodol iawn bod llwyddiant yr ysbyty newydd yng Nghaerffili'n dibynnu ar y gallu i ailfodelu gwasanaethau cymunedol a gofal cymdeithasol yn effeithiol. Mae hon yn adeg o newid mawr i'r GIG a'i staff. Gan hynny, rhaid inni wneud pob ymdrech yn awr i hyrwyddo'r cynlluniau gweithredu lleol, a ddaw â buddion pendant i'n cymunedau lleol.

David Melding: Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi ymateb fel y disgwyliid, gan ddweud ei bod yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad iawn—dyna'r ymateb cywir yng ngolwg y Llywodraeth. Yr wyf yn meddwl tybed beth a ddigwyddasai pe buasai Jane Hutt yn arolygu'r ymchwiliad i suddo'r Titanic. Mae'n debyg y byddai wedi dod i'r casgliad bod y llong yn dilyn y cwrs cywir a'i bod yn sicr o gyrraedd Efrog Newydd, ond bod damwain anffodus wedi digwydd ar y ffordd ac na ddylem boeni am fethiannau achlysurol o'r fath. Nid yw safbwynt y Llywodraeth yn gredadwy. A dyfynnu o lythyr yr archwiliwr, mae

trefniant y gwasanaethau yn aneffeithlon ... mae'r sefyllfa bresennol yn amlygu problemau sylfaenol gyda'r systemau—yn genedlaethol, lleol, gwleidyddol, rheolaethol

Yet the Minister concludes that she is going in the right direction.

David Davies: Do you agree that if Jane Hutt been a director of the White Star Line, no doubt Rhodri Morgan would have been captain of the Titanic, issuing instructions on what to do with the deckchairs as the ship went down?

David Melding: I agree.

Let us not forget that the Audit Commission's report was published on the same day as the report on the NHS in England, which was largely positive. I do not want to belabour the point, but comparisons with England are quite legitimate, because we should be seeking an NHS that performs better than the NHS in Britain as a whole. Reference has been made to the last tranche of waiting list figures. In fairness, waiting lists have fallen. However, there is much debate about the significance of that. The Minister trumpets this as a great success, while ignoring the past five years of poor performance. The BMA's consultant committee in Wales has said that our waiting lists are among the worst in western Europe.

We have a poor record of using private finance initiatives. I hope that the Minister will read Jon Owen Jones's letter in today's edition of *The Western Mail*, which urges the use of PFI. Compared with England, we are doing badly and, compared with Scotland, we are doing much worse. Jon Owen Jones quotes a change of view within Plaid Cymru, and I hope that this is sustained.

The Government has said that the new primary-care-led NHS will somehow transform the situation through the work of local health boards. Part of the propaganda is to tell us that almost nine out of 10 treatments are carried out in the primary sector. Are we to believe that this is something new? Has this not always been the pattern of NHS care? However, this is now presented as a factor

a chlinigol.

Ac eto, daw'r Gweinidog i'r casgliad ei bod yn mynd i'r cyfeiriad iawn.

David Davies: A ydych yn cytuno, pe buasai Jane Hutt yn un o gyfarwyddwyr y White Star Line, y buasai Rhodri Morgan yn sicr o fod yn gapten y Titanic, ac y byddai'n rhoi gorchmynion ynghylch yr hyn y dylid ei wneud â'r cadeiriau cyntaf wrth i'r llong suddo?

David Melding: Yr wyf yn cytuno.

Ni ddylem anghofio bod adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio wedi'i gyhoeddi ar yr un diwrnod â'r adroddiad ar y GIG yn Lloegr, a oedd yn un cadarnhaol gan mwyaf. Nid wyf am orbwysleio'r pwynt, ond mae cymariaethau â Lloegr yn gwbl ddilys, gan y dylem geisio GIG sy'n perfformio'n well na'r GIG ym Mhrydain gyfan. Cyfeiriwyd at y set ddiwethaf o ffigurau ar restrau aros. Er tegwch, mae rhestrau aros yn fyrrach. Er hynny, mae llawer o drafod ynghylch arwyddocâd hynny. Mae'r Gweinidog yn datgan bod hyn yn lwyddiant mawr, gan anwybyddu'r perfformiad gwael dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf. Mae pwyllgor ymgynghorol Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yng Nghymru wedi dweud bod ein rhestrau aros ni ymysg y rhai gwaethaf yng ngorllewin Ewrop.

Mae gennym record wael o ran defnyddio mentrau cyllid preifat. Gobeithiaf y gwnaiff y Gweinidog ddarllen llythyr Jon Owen Jones yn *The Western Mail* heddiw, sy'n cymhell defnyddio PFI. O'n cymharu â Lloegr, yr ydym yn gwneud yn wael ac, o'n cymharu â'r Alban, yr ydym yn gwneud yn llawer gwaeth. Mae Jon Owen Jones yn cyfeirio at newid barn ym Mhlaid Cymru, ac yr wyf yn gobeithio y delir at hynny.

Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi dweud y bydd y GIG newydd, sy'n cael ei arwain gan ofal sylfaenol, yn gweddnewid y sefyllfa rywsut drwy waith byrddau iechyd lleol. Un agwedd ar y propaganda yw dweud wrthym fod ymron i naw o bob 10 o driniaethau'n cael eu gwneud yn y sector gofal sylfaenol. A ydym i fod i feddwl bod hynny'n rhywbeth newydd? Onid dyna'r patrwm gofal y mae'r GIG yn ei

that will mitigate poor acute services. The Audit Commission's findings in this area are deeply disturbing for the Government. The report says that LHBs are

'new organisations, have limited resources and an extremely challenging agenda which ... they are not always tackling on a health community ... basis'.

The report goes on to say that

'Planning on a regional basis as proposed in the implementation process will be difficult to manage. The number of sub-groups centrally and 22 LHB solutions locally is potentially complex and both the regional office and the LHBs will need considerable support.'

The auditor is not saying that LHBs in their present form are what we need to deliver a strategically coherent NHS.

The auditor's findings are disturbing for all parties in the National Assembly and for all involved in the NHS, which effectively means everyone, because we are all either patients or potential patients. I will again quote the report:

'In the past 10 years there has been significant change to healthcare in Wales (eg mergers, the abolition of the health authorities, etc) but little of the reconfiguration necessary to drive improvement and change....This reflects the reality of local public and political opinion.... The history of local consultations and change in the NHS suggests that public fear about losing access to local emergency services overrides the reality of poor access to elective services and carries greater political weight.'

We are all guilty. I found Mike German's earlier admission refreshing, and I would like to admit that, four years ago, I concentrated too much on the aspect of preventing change and reconfiguring services. To conclude, Jane Hutt has been to NHS performance in Wales

ddilyn erioed? Er hynny, cyflwynir hyn bellach fel ffactor a fydd yn gwneud iawn am wasanaethau aciwt gwael. Mae canfyddiadau'r Comisiwn Archwilio yn y maes hwn yn rhai annifyr iawn i'r Llywodraeth. Dywed yr adroddiad fod BILlau yn

'sefydliadau newydd, ag adnoddau prin ac agenda heriol iawn nad ydynt ... yn mynd i'r afael â hi bob amser ar sail cymuned iechyd.'

Aiff yr adroddiad ymlaen i ddweud

'Bydd cynllunio ar sail ranbarthol fel yr argymhellwyd yn y broses weithredu yn anodd i'w reoli. Mae nifer yr is-grwpiau canolog a'r 22 BILl yn lleol yn gymhleth o bosibl a bydd angen cryn gymorth ar y swyddfeydd rhanbarthol a'r BILl.'

Nid yw'r archwilydd yn dweud mai'r BILlau ar eu ffurf bresennol yw'r hyn y mae arnom ei angen i sicrhau GIG sy'n strategol gydlynol.

Mae canfyddiadau'r archwilydd yn rhai annifyr i'r holl bleidiau yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ac i bob un sy'n gysylltiedig â'r GIG, sef pawb, i bob pwrpas, gan ein bod oll un ai'n gleifion neu'n gleifion dichonol. Dyfynnaf o'r adroddiad eto:

'Yn ystod y 10 mlynedd diwethaf bu newid sylweddol i ofal iechyd yng Nghymru (e.e. prosesau uno, diddymu Awdurdodau Iechyd, ac ati) ond prin fu'r gwaith ailgyflunio yr oedd ei angen i lywio gwelliant a newid.... Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu realiti barn gyhoeddus a gwleidyddol leol....Mae hanes ymgynghoriadau lleol a newid yn y GIG yn awgrymu bod ofn y cyhoedd o golli mynediad i wasanaethau brys lleol yn trechu'r realiti sef mynediad gwael i wasanaethau dewisol ac yn bwysicach o'r safbwynt gwleidyddol.'

Yr ydym oll yn euog. Yr oedd yn braf clywed cyfaddefiad Mike German yn gynharach, a charwn i gyfaddef i mi ganolbwyntio'n ormodol, bedair blynedd yn ôl, ar atal newid ac ad-drefnu gwasanaethau. I derfynu, bu Jane Hutt i berfformiad y GIG yng Nghymru

what General Haig was to the preservation of life on the western front. We are being forced over the top to defend a weak strategy. It is no longer good enough to say 'one more heave'; we need to rethink the fundamentals.

4.10 p.m.

Sandy Mewies: I wonder whether the Wanless action plan for Monmouthshire has a treatment for brass neck. Perhaps it has one for amnesiacs, because some Members seem to have forgotten which party closed 70 hospitals and cut dental and training places. That is total amnesia and it is such a shame that the Conservatives cannot look forward to the future with confidence in what we are doing.

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

Sandy Mewies: I will not take an intervention because the Deputy Presiding Officer has been clear about the time limit for this debate.

It is important that, instead of scoring points, some of us should make realistic points about the future. First, we should remember that this Labour Government takes seriously its responsibilities on health and social care. After all, the Welsh Assembly Government instigated the Wanless review. Many of its conclusions were reconfirmed by the Audit Commission's report. The Audit Commission's work must be considered carefully, and any reliable evidence put forward will be listened to. However, since this report was researched and written, much progress has been made in tackling the issues highlighted. There are some generalities in the report and some issues are omitted. For example, no mention is made of the three north Wales hospitals that recently topped a Wales-wide survey for patient care. The North West Wales NHS Trust rates at the top, with Ysbyty Glan Clwyd and Ysbyty Maelor in Wrexham coming second and third respectively. The Wrexham rating is particularly pleasing, as the hospital was previously in eighth position.

yr hyn ydoedd y Cadfridog Haig i'r ymgais i ddiogelu bywydau ar ffrynt y gorllewin. Cawn ein gorfodi i fynd i dir neb i amddiffyn strategaeth wan. Nid digon bellach yw dweud 'rhowch un hyrddiad eto'; rhaid inni ailystyried yr hanfodion.

Sandy Mewies: Tybed a yw cynllun gweithredu Wanless i sir Fynwy yn argymell triniaeth ar gyfer haerllugrwydd. Efallai ei fod yn argymell un ar gyfer anghofusrwydd, gan ei bod yn ymddangos bod rhai Aelodau wedi anghofio pa blaid a gaeodd 70 o ysbytai a thorri ar wasanaethau deintyddion a'u lleoedd hyfforddi. Mae hynny'n gwbl anghofus ac mae'n drueni mawr na all y Ceidwadwyr edrych ymlaen i'r dyfodol gan fod yn ffyddiog yn yr hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Sandy Mewies: Ni dderbyniaf ymyriad gan fod y Dirprwy Lywydd wedi bod yn glir ynghylch y cyfyngiad amser ar y ddadl hon.

Mae'n bwysig fod rhai ohonom, yn hytrach na sgorio pwyntiau, yn gwneud pwyntiau ymarferol ynghylch y dyfodol. Yn gyntaf, dylem gofio bod y Llywodraeth Lafur hon o ddifrif ynghylch ei chyfrifoldebau ar iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol. Wedi'r cwbl, Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a sefydlodd adolygiad Wanless. Ategwyd llawer o'i gasgliadau yn adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio. Rhaid ystyried gwaith y Comisiwn Archwilio yn ofalus, a gwrandewir ar unrhyw dystiolaeth ddibynadwy a gyflwynir. Fodd bynnag, ers gwneud y gwaith ymchwil a drafftio'r adroddiad hwn, gwnaed llawer o gynnydd wrth ymdrin â'r materion y tynnir sylw atynt. Mae peth cyffredinoli yn yr adroddiad ac mae rhai materion wedi'u hepgor. Er enghraifft, nid oes sôn am y tri ysbyty yn y Gogledd a oedd yn orau mewn arolwg o ofal cleifion ledled Cymru. Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gogledd-orllewin Cymru yw'r orau, ac mae Ysbyty Glan Clwyd yn ail ac Ysbyty Maelor yn Wrecsam yn drydydd. Mae'r farn am ysbyty Wrecsam yn arbennig o foddhaol, gan y bu yn yr wythfed safle o'r blaen.

A Member mentioned consultants. I was recently referred to a consultant, who praised the consultant contract as being key in attracting staff to north-east Wales. He said that it would also be key in keeping them there. I am not complacent when I consider the report's content or when I have cases concerning people who have had to face long waiting times and unacceptable treatment. That is just as unacceptable to me as to any other Assembly Member; it is also of grave concern to individuals and their families. However, the way to deal with such issues is not through point-scoring, jeering and shouting, but through joined-up working, as advocated by the Welsh Assembly Government and in which local government, hospital trusts and local health boards work together with the voluntary sector and other agencies to make genuine improvements.

I was quite concerned about what Mike German said about all these plans and local health boards because I thought devolution was about looking at local solutions to local problems. Which local health plan could we impose everywhere?

Michael German: Will you take an intervention?

Sandy Mewies: No, I have already said that I will not.

This partnership approach forms the fundamental tenet of Flintshire Local Health Board's Wanless action plan. It has accepted the challenge to review and modernise service delivery, as well as the need to develop local capacity to deliver the Wanless principles. I concur with some of the Audit Commission's report. There is a tradition in Wales of thinking that hospital treatment is best, when treatment at home would often be much more successful and less traumatic. We need to get people out of the system quicker and there is a need to reconfigure the acute service, about which there is currently a wide-reaching discussion. However, if we are to deliver, we need to build up capacity in the

Cyfeiriodd Aelod at ymgynghorwyr. Fe'm cyfeiriwyd at ymgynghorydd yn ddiweddar, a chanmolodd y contract ar gyfer ymgynghorwyr fel rhywbeth a oedd yn hollbwysig i ddenu staff i'r Gogledd-ddwyrain. Dywedodd y byddai'n hollbwysig hefyd wrth eu cadw yno. Nid wyf yn ddifater wrth ystyried cynnwys yr adroddiad neu pan glywaf am achosion sy'n ymwneud â rhai a orfu wynebu amseroedd aros hir a thriniaeth annerbyniol. Mae hynny yr un mor annerbyniol i mi ag ydyw i unrhyw Aelod arall o'r Cynulliad; mae hefyd yn peri pryder mawr i unigolion a'u teuluoedd. Fodd bynnag, nid drwy sgorio pwyntiau, hwtian a gweiddi y mae ymdrin â materion o'r fath, ond drwy weithio cydgyssylltiedig, fel y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn ei argymhell, lle y mae llywodraeth leol, ymddiriedolaethau ysbytai a byrddau iechyd lleol yn gweithio ar y cyd â'r sector gwirfoddol ac asiantaethau eraill i sicrhau gwelliannau gwirioneddol.

Yr oeddwn braidd yn bryderus ynghylch yr hyn a ddywedodd Mike German am yr holl gynlluniau a byrddau iechyd lleol gan fy mod yn tybio bod datganoli'n ymwneud ag ystyried atebion lleol i broblemau lleol. Pa gynllun iechyd lleol y gallem ei orfodi ym mhobman?

Michael German: A wnewch chi dderbyn ymyriad?

Sandy Mewies: Na wna, gan yr wyf eisoes wedi dweud na wnawn.

Gweithredu mewn partneriaeth fel hyn yw egwyddor sylfaenol y cynllun gweithredu Wanless o eiddo Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir y Fflint. Mae wedi ymateb i'r her i adolygu a moderneiddio'r dull o ddarparu gwasanaethau, yn ogystal â'r angen i ddatblygu capasiti lleol er mwyn cyflawni egwyddorion Wanless. Yr wyf yn cyd-fynd â rhywfaint o'r hyn sydd yn adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio. Mae hen syniad yng Nghymru mai triniaeth mewn ysbytai sydd orau, tra byddai triniaeth gartref yn llawer mwy llwyddiannus yn aml ac yn llai trawmatig. Rhaid inni beri i bobl adael y system yn gyflymach ac mae angen ad-drefnu'r gwasanaeth aciwt, ac mae

primary, community, social and voluntary care networks.

Interestingly, some areas of Flintshire greatly reflect other parts of Wales, where health is poor compared with health in the UK as a whole. Some people may not believe that, but I do, because I have seen it in practice. Put simply, debilitating and chronic ill health is more of a problem here as a result of the prevailing socio-economic factors, but the Audit Commission pays little heed to that.

The Flintshire Wanless action plan has given careful thought to delayed transfers of care and has built on some of the excellent work that it has already undertaken in the county. It has also worked closely with the local authority. Proposals include funding two nurses who will give clinical support to residential homes—which, I am sure that you will all agree, is much-needed—24-hour palliative care nursing in the community, and community nurse clinics.

We should not, of course, forget the important part that GPs play in that process, and I agree with much of what Dai Lloyd said in that regard.

Jenny Randerson: I have here the Cardiff Local Health Board's response to the Wanless review. It contains some good proposals, and yes, Sandy, some excellent local solutions for local problems. However, it considers the problems from a Cardiff perspective, and it is not a strategy for Wales. In some ways, what happens at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff affects the whole of Wales, and should be part of an all-Wales strategy. When orthopaedic operations go wrong in other parts of Wales, patients are sent to Cardiff. Patients travel from all over Wales for specialist services, and it is that interaction that is one of the causes of the problems that Cardiff faces, with some of the longest waiting lists in Europe. I mentioned last week a four-year wait of which a patient

trafodaethau pellgyrhaeddol ynghylch hynny yn mynd rhagddynt. Fodd bynnag, os ydym i fynd â'r maen i'r wal, rhaid inni ddatblygu capasiti yn rhwydweithiau gofal sylfaenol, cymunedol, cymdeithasol a gwirfoddol.

Mae'n ddiddorol bod rhai ardaloedd yn sir y Fflint yn debyg iawn i rannau eraill o Gymru, lle y mae iechyd yn wael o'i gymharu ag iechyd yn y DU gyfan. Mae rhai, yn wahanol i mi, na chredant hynny, o bosibl, ond yr wyf fi wedi'i weld â'm llygaid fy hun. A'i roi'n syml, mae iechyd gwael gwanychol a chronig yn fwy o broblem yma oherwydd y prif ffactorau economaidd-gymdeithasol, ond ychydig o sylw y mae'r Comisiwn Archwilio'n ei roi i hynny.

Ymdrinnir yn fanwl yng nghynllun gweithredu Wanless sir y Fflint ag oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, ac mae wedi adeiladu ar sail rhywfaint o'r gwaith rhagorol a wnaed eisoes yn y sir. Mae wedi cydweithio'n agos hefyd â'r awdurdod lleol. Ymhlith y cynigion y mae bwriad i gyllido dwy nyrs a fydd yn rhoi cymorth clinigol i gartrefi preswyl—y mae mawr angen amdano, yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch oll yn cytuno—gofal nyrsio lliniarol ddydd a nos yn y gymuned, a chlinigau nyrsys cymunedol.

Wrth gwrs, ni ddylem anghofio'r rhan bwysig y mae meddygon teulu'n ei chwarae yn y broses honno, a chytunaf â llawer o'r hyn a ddywedodd Dai Lloyd yn hynny o beth.

Jenny Randerson: Mae gennyf yma gopi o ymateb Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Caerdydd i adolygiad Wanless. Mae ynddo rai cynigion da, ac oes, Sandy, mae ynddo rai atebion lleol ardderchog i broblemau lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae'n ystyried y problemau o safbwynt Caerdydd, ac nid strategaeth ar gyfer Cymru ydyw. Ar rai ystyron, mae'r hyn a ddigwydd yn Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru yng Nghaerdydd yn effeithio ar Gymru gyfan, a dylai fod yn rhan o strategaeth ar gyfer Cymru gyfan. Pan aiff llawdriniaethau orthopedig o chwith mewn rhannau eraill o Gymru, anfonir cleifion i Gaerdydd. Mae cleifion yn dod o bob rhan o Gymru i gael gwasanaethau arbenigol, a'r rhyngweithio hwnnw yw un ffactor sy'n achosi'r problemau y mae Caerdydd yn eu hwynebu, a chanddi rai o'r

has been informed for an out-patient appointment with an orthopaedic consultant. Cardiff is a capital city, and it has a capital's problems. All kinds of vulnerable people come to Cardiff, and they are people with all kinds of health problems, including mental illness, alcoholism and drug addiction. There are a large number of asylum seekers in Cardiff and many students. Those groups have specific needs, but Cardiff is not properly funded to meet those needs.

Cardiff is a capital city, and it must take a capital's responsibility. I have outlined the strategic role that the University Hospital of Wales should be taking throughout Wales. Someone must provide that leadership, and the integration of Cardiff's local health plans with those of the rest of Wales must take place. Cardiff Local Health Board, however good it is, cannot do that alone. I remind Members that the Audit Commission's report identifies six barriers to change, and one of them is ineffective partnerships. It is the job of Government to strengthen those partnerships and ensure that they work. The Audit Commission's report is really Wanless II. It reiterates that the NHS in Wales is unsustainable and desperately in need of change. That case is overwhelming. The deficit in the Welsh NHS has more than doubled between 1999 and 2003. There are problems in managing admissions, reducing waiting times and waiting lists and delayed transfers of care. Service delivery is often disjointed and patients do not experience a seamless service.

As the Audit Commission's report, and the Wanless report before it, make clear, the health system in Wales is not best structured. Increased resources and initiatives are being used to treat the symptoms and not the underlying cause. The medicine, if I can put it this way, is being applied haphazardly: Dr Hutt is rushing around trying one drug after another in a desperate attempt to fix the problem, and no-one is seeing their course of

rhestrau aros hwyaf yn Ewrop. Cyfeiriais yr wythnos diwethaf at y ffaith bod claf wedi'i hysbysu y bydd yn gorfod disgwyl am bedair blynedd i gael gweld ymgynghorydd orthopedig fel claf allanol. Prifddinas yw Caerdydd, a phroblemau prifddinas sydd ganddi. Daw pob math o bobl hyglwyf i Gaerdydd, ac mae ganddynt bob math o broblemau iechyd, gan gynnwys salwch meddwl, alcoholiaeth a dibyniaeth ar gyffuriau. Mae nifer fawr o geiswyr lloches yng Nghaerdydd a llawer o fyfyrwyr. Mae anghenion penodol gan y grwpiau hynny, ond ni chaiff Caerdydd ei chyllido'n briodol i ddiwallu'r anghenion hynny.

Prifddinas yw Caerdydd, a rhaid iddi dderbyn y cyfrifoldeb sydd gan brifddinas. Yr wyf wedi disgrifio'r rôl strategol y dylai Ysbyty Athrofaol Cymru ei chwarae ledled Cymru. Rhaid i rywun gynnig yr arweiniad hwnnw, a rhaid integreiddio cynlluniau iechyd lleol Caerdydd â rhai gweddill Cymru. Ni waeth pa mor dda yw Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Caerdydd, ni all wneud hynny ar ei ben ei hun. Yr wyf yn atgoffa Aelodau bod adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio'n nodi chwe rhwystr i newid, ac un ohonynt yw partneriaethau aneffeithiol. Gwaith Llywodraeth yw cryfhau'r partneriaethau hynny a sicrhau eu bod yn gweithio. Adroddiad Wanless II yw adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, mewn gwirionedd. Mae'n ailddatgan bod y GIG yng Nghymru'n anghynaliadwy a bod taer angen ei newid. Mae'r ddadl honno'n un ysgubol. Rhwng 1999 a 2003, cynyddodd y diffyg yn y GIG yng Nghymru i fwy na dwywaith ei faint cyn hynny. Mae problemau o ran rheoli'r achosion a dderbynnir, lleihau amseroedd aros a rhestrau aros ac oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Mae'r dull o ddarparu gwasanaethau'n ddigyswllt yn aml ac nid yw cleifion yn cael gwasanaeth di-dor.

Fel yr eglura adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, ac adroddiad Wanless cyn hynny, nid yw'r system iechyd yng Nghymru wedi'i threfnu cystal ag y gellid. Defnyddir mwy o adnoddau a mentrau i drin y symptomau yn hytrach na'r achos sylfaenol. Mae'r feddyginiaeth, os caf ei roi fel hyn, yn cael ei rhoi ar hap: mae Dr Hutt yn rhuthro o gwmpas gan roi cynnig ar y naill gyffur ar ôl y llall gan ymdrechu'n daer i ddatrys y

antibiotics through to the end. That means that more and more resources are being attracted to the acute sector, at the expense of the non-acute sector. The Audit Commission's report reinforces the Wanless review on the issue of capacity. Too little capacity is not the problem—existing capacity is under chronic and unnecessary pressure. The Wanless review stated that Wales does not get what it should out of its health spending. The Audit Commission's report reiterates that. Money is not being used effectively and changing that is not just about better management or more staff and equipment. It is about how services are structured and where they are sited.

The Assembly Government has not shown any sign that it has grasped the magnitude of the Wanless recommendations. That is highlighted in point 2 of the Government's motion. It claims that the Audit Commission report endorses 'the Welsh Assembly Government's health policies'. Minister, if that is an endorsement, then I have just been canvassing in Cardiff in endorsement of Russell Goodway and his cabinet. *[Laughter.]* The Labour Assembly Government just does not get it. Wanless was damning and the Audit Commission's report is also damning of current services. One reason that we cannot vote for the Government's motion unamended is that point 2, once again, reveals the Minister's carry-on-regardless attitude. The Welsh Liberal Democrats believe that there must be a strategic response from the Minister.

4.20 p.m.

Val Lloyd: I am sure that it was not a surprise to any of us that this report describes the challenge of reforming the NHS in Wales and developing a modern sustainable system as a daunting task. There is no doubt that comprehensive reform and a refocusing of services is necessary, but it is already under way. We have heard excellent examples of that today. Credit must go to the staff in NHS Wales, the local health boards, and local government, who are delivering these reforms.

problem, ac nid oes neb yn dilyn y driniaeth i'r pen. Oherwydd hynny, mae mwy a mwy o adnoddau'n cael eu tynnu i'r sector aciwt, ar draul y sector anaciwt. Mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio'n ategu barn adolygiad Wanless ar fater capasiti. Nid prinder capasiti yw'r broblem—mae'r capasiti presennol o dan bwysau cronig a diangen. Dywedodd adolygiad Wanless nad yw Cymru'n cael yr hyn a ddylai o'i gwariant ar iechyd. Mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio'n ailddatgan hynny. Ni ddefnyddir arian yn effeithiol ac nid gwell rheoli neu ragor o staff ac offer yw'r unig fodd i newid hynny. Mae'n ymwneud â threfn gwasanaethau a'u lleoliad.

Nid yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi dangos unrhyw arwydd ei bod yn deall maintioli argymhellion Wanless. Amlygir hynny ym mhwynt 2 yng nghynnig y Llywodraeth. Mae'n honni bod adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio yn cymeradwyo 'polisiau iechyd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'. Weinidog, os mai cymeradwyaeth yw hwnnw, yr wyf fi newydd fod yn canfasio yng Nghaerdydd gan gymeradwyo Russell Goodway a'i gabinet. *[Chwerthin.]* Nid yw Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad yn deall hyn o gwbl. Yr oedd adroddiad Wanless yn un damniol ac mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio hefyd yn ddamniol ynghylch y gwasanaethau presennol. Un rheswm na allwn bleidleisio dros gynnig y Llywodraeth heb ei ddiwygio yw bod pwynt 2, unwaith eto, yn dangos ymagwedd ddi-hid y Gweinidog. Mae Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru'n credu bod rhaid cael ymateb strategol gan y Gweinidog.

Val Lloyd: Yr wyf yn siŵr nad oedd yn peri syndod i'r un ohonom fod yr adroddiad hwn yn galw'r her o ddiwygio'r GIG yng Nghymru a datblygu system gynaliadwy fodern yn dasg hynod anodd. Nid oes dwywaith nad oes angen diwygio cynhwysfawr a gweddnewid gwasanaethau, ond mae hynny'n digwydd eisoes. Clywsom am enghreifftiau rhagorol o hynny heddiw. Rhaid rhoi'r clod i'r staff yn GIG Cymru, y byrddau iechyd lleol, a llywodraeth leol, sy'n cyflawni'r diwygiadau hyn.

The Audit Commission's report recognises the match between the recommendations of the Wanless review and the vision described in 'Wales: A Better Country', which emphasises empowering the patient and the need for effective joined-up working in health and social care. Put broadly, that means NHS Wales and local government working together, so I was surprised that I had to get to page 22 of the report before the words 'local government' appeared, and then it was only a passing mention in a diagram, albeit a virtuous one. Joint working—a key theme that underpins the entire health and social services agenda—was not a key theme of this report. When it was mentioned, the emphasis was on joint working in the NHS. That is important, but the report did not mention joint working with other partner organisations. Surely, joint working is a key element, and local government is at the heart of that. Tackling problems on a partnership basis must be a key driver for change, and partnerships at a grass-roots level between local government, the LHBs and local stakeholders are the foundations of the Wanless agenda. The local action plans have now been submitted and were developed involving the community—as Derek Wanless advocates—in order to properly account for the differing needs of the regions of Wales.

Last year, the NHS in Wales treated more people than ever before. However, it is important to remember that nine out of 10 contacts with the NHS are with general practitioners. That highlights the need to review primary care systems. Following on from that comes the necessity to develop an improved range of intermediate services, and we have heard of some excellent examples that prove that that is well under way. In Swansea, I have had the opportunity of visiting at least two such schemes. I visited the community rehabilitation and enablement support team, which was developed in joint partnership between social services, the Swansea NHS Trust and Swansea Local Health Board. It is a multidisciplinary team, which works together to bring about the speedy rehabilitation of people aged over 65 who need an intensive, but short-term,

Mae adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio'n cydnabod y gyfatebiaeth rhwng yr argymhellion yn adolygiad Wanless a'r weledigaeth a ddisgrifir yn 'Cymru: Gwlad Well', sy'n rhoi pwys ar alluogi'r claf a'r angen am weithio cydgysylltiedig effeithiol mewn iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol. Yn fras, mae hynny'n golygu cydweithio rhwng GIG Cymru a llywodraeth leol, felly yr oeddwn yn synnu bod rhaid imi fynd mor bell â thudalen 22 yn yr adroddiad cyn gweld y geiriau 'llywodraeth leol', ac yr oedd hynny ddim ond yn rhan o ddiagram, er ei fod yn un rhinweddol. Er bod cydweithio'n thema allweddol sydd wrth wraidd yr agenda iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, nid oedd yn thema allweddol yn yr adroddiad hwn. Pan gyfeiriwyd ato, yr oedd y pwyslais ar gydweithio yn y GIG. Mae hynny'n bwysig, ond nid oedd yr adroddiad yn sôn am weithio ar y cyd â chyrff eraill sy'n bartneriaid. Mae gweithio ar y cyd yn sicr o fod yn elfen allweddol, ac mae i lywodraeth leol ran ganolog yn hynny. Mae ymdrin â phroblemau drwy bartneriaeth yn sicr o fod yn fodd i ysgogi newid, a phartneriaethau ar lefel leol rhwng llywodraeth leol, y BILlau a rhanddeiliaid lleol sydd wrth wraidd agenda Wanless. Mae'r cynlluniau gweithredu lleol wedi'u cyflwyno bellach ac fe'u datblygwyd drwy gynnwys y gymuned—fel y mae Derek Wanless yn argymhell—er mwyn rhoi sylw priodol i'r gwahanol anghenion yn rhanbarthau Cymru.

Y llynedd, gwnaeth y GIG yng Nghymru drin mwy o bobl nag erioed o'r blaen. Er hynny, pwysig yw cofio bod naw o bob 10 o'r cysylltiadau â'r GIG yn digwydd gydag ymarferwyr cyffredinol. Mae hynny'n amlygu'r angen i adolygu systemau gofal sylfaenol. Yn sgîl hynny, mae angen datblygu gwell amrediad o wasanaethau canolradd, a chlywsom am rai enghreifftiau rhagorol sy'n dangos bod y gwaith hwnnw wedi hen ddechrau. Yn Abertawe, cefais gyfle i ymweld ag o leiaf ddau gynllun perthnasol. Ymwelais â'r tîm cymorth ailsefydlu a galluogi cymunedol, a ddatblygwyd ar y cyd rhwng gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Abertawe a Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Abertawe. Tîm amlddisgyblaethol ydyw, ac mae ei aelodau'n cydweithio i beri adferiad buan ymysg rhai dros 65 oed y mae arnynt angen rhaglen

programme of specialist assistance. Its key aim is to enable people to remain at home and to prevent their admission to hospital or residential care. I also visited the responsive enablement and care at home team, which facilitates discharge and prevents delayed transfers of care. These are examples of policy in action. They are not rhetoric, but policy in action on the ground. The community rehabilitation and enablement support team has been operational for three years or more. These teams not only free up places in secondary care, but improve quality of life for the users of their services.

Derek Wanless has said that we must put the interests of the next generation before cheap political point scoring. Consensus has been built locally, and we have heard fine examples of that from previous speakers, but I would like to see that consensus followed here.

David Davies: It never fails to amaze me how Labour Members continue to explain away their monumental failure to deliver on their manifesto promises by putting the blame on a Government that left office over seven years ago. One of their speakers came out with this tired old figure of 70 hospital closures. It has been explained before, and we will explain again, that hospital closures are a part of life—they are closed, refurbished, opened up again, and sometimes are replaced by other hospitals.

In my constituency, the Monmouth community hospital will shortly close. You will not see me signing petitions calling for it to stay open, and neither will you see me making political points or political capital out of it, because it is closing so that a new, all-in-one health facility can open in its place. Hospital closures are a part of life, and we do not make political points out of it—I certainly do not, anyway, because I am not a member of the Liberal Democrat Party, but that is another story.

Labour Members must realise that talking about their failure to tackle the waiting list problem is not a matter of point scoring, but of fact. I have a letter here from a gentleman who lives on the Kymin, which, for those who do not know Monmouthshire, is right on

gymorth arbenigol sy'n ddwys ond yn parhau am gyfnod byr. Ei brif amcan yw galluogi pobl i aros yn eu cartrefi ac atal eu derbyn i ysbyty neu ofal preswyl. Ymwelais hefyd â'r tîm galluogi ymatebol a gofal yn y cartref, sy'n hwyluso rhyddhau cleifion ac yn atal oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Dyma enghreifftiau o bolisi ar waith. Nid rhethreg ydynt, ond polisi sydd ar waith yn lleol. Bu'r tîm cymorth ailsefydlu a galluogi cymunedol ar waith ers tair blynedd a rhagor. Mae'r timau hyn yn rhyddhau lleoedd mewn gofal eilaidd, a hefyd yn gwella ansawdd bywyd defnyddwyr eu gwasanaethau.

Mae Derek Wanless wedi dweud bod rhaid inni roi buddiannau'r genhedlaeth nesaf o flaen sgorio pwyntiau gwleidyddol rhad. Crëwyd consensws yn lleol, a chlywsom am enghreifftiau gwych o hynny gan siaradwyr blaenorol, ond carwn weld y consensws hwnnw'n cael ei ddilyn yma.

David Davies: Ni fyddaf byth yn peidio â rhyfeddu at y modd y mae Aelodau Llafur yn dal i geisio esgusodi eu methiant alaethus i gyflawni eu haddewidion maniffesto drwy roi'r bai ar Lywodraeth y daeth ei goruchwyliaeth i ben fwy na saith mlynedd yn ôl. Gwnaeth un o'u siaradwyr godi'r ystrydeb am gau 70 o ysbytai. Fe'i heglurwyd o'r blaen, ac fe'i heglurwn eto, fod ysbytai'n sicr o gau o bryd i'w gilydd—cânt eu cau, eu hadnewyddu a'u hailagor ac weithiau codir ysbytai eraill yn eu lle.

Yn fy etholaeth i, bydd ysbyty cymunedol Trefynwy yn cau cyn hir. Ni'm gwelir yn llofnodi deisebau o blaid ei gadw'n agored, ac ni'm gwelir ychwaith yn gwneud pwyntiau gwleidyddol neu'n ceisio elw gwleidyddol ar sail hynny, gan ei fod yn cau fel y gellir agor cyfleuster iechyd newydd cynhwysfawr yn ei le. Mae cau ysbytai'n rhan o fywyd, ac ni wnawn bwyntiau gwleidyddol ar ei sail—nid wyf fi'n sicr, gan nad wyf yn aelod o Blaid y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ond stori arall yw honno.

Rhaid i Aelodau Llafur sylweddoli nad mater o sgorio pwyntiau yw sôn am eu methiant i fynd i'r afael â phroblem y rhestrau aros, ond mater o ffaith. Mae gennyf lythyr yma oddi wrth ŵr bonheddig sy'n byw ar y Kymin, sydd, er mwyn y rhai nad adwaenant sir

the border. Part of it is in Wales and part in England. Let me just read you one sentence.

'In Wales, one of the targets from the Welsh Assembly Government for health services, is to ensure that nobody waits more than 18 months for treatment.'

It goes on to say that private sector contracts agreed in England are to assist English hospitals to meet a six-month waiting time target. So there you have it in black and white from the Monmouthshire Local Health Board, which wrote this letter at the behest of our Minister for Health and Social Services, Jane Hutt. The fact is that, in England, the waiting target is six months, and in Wales it is 18 months. The NHS in Wales is certainly not the envy of the world; it is not the envy of anyone who lives the other side of the border.

I am particularly concerned for osteoporosis sufferers in Monmouthshire because, after 18 months, we still do not have an osteoporosis specialist in the county. It is disgraceful that people have to travel many miles and/or go private to receive the treatment that they need. None of them are receiving Forsteo, which, I understand, the National Institute for Clinical Excellence is currently considering. In the latest bulletin for April, there is no mention of osteoporosis, despite the desperate need of some sufferers. It does mention, however, insomnia and the drugs that will be prescribed for that. I recommend that doctors simply advise people to log on to the website and look at the press releases being issued by Jane Hutt.

In conclusion, there is no way that you can have a 1945-style welfare state or a 1948 national health service today. We need to change the system. Those are not my words: they are the words of Tony Blair, the leader of the Labour Party, and I suggest, Minister, that you take note, stand up and start listening to what your own leader is saying, and follow what is being done in England. We cannot continue with the present situation, and if you

Fynwy, ar y ffin yn union. Mae rhan ohono yng Nghymru a rhan ohono yn Lloegr. Gadewch imi ddarllen un frawddeg i chi:

Yng Nghymru, un o'r targedau a roddodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wasanaethau iechyd yw y dylent sicrhau na fydd neb yn disgwyl yn hwy na 18 mis i gael triniaeth.

Aiff ymlaen i ddweud mai bwriad y contractau a wnaed â'r sector preifat yn Lloegr yw helpu ysbytai yn Lloegr i gyrraedd targed o chwe mis ar gyfer amseroedd aros. Felly dyna chi wedi'i gael ar ddu a gwyn gan Fwrdd Iechyd Lleol Sir Fynwy, a ysgrifennodd y llythyr hwn ar gais ein Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, Jane Hutt. Y gwir yw mai chwe mis yw'r targed ar gyfer aros yn Lloegr, a 18 mis yng Nghymru. Yn sicr, nid yw'r GIG yng Nghymru'n destun cenfigen i'r byd; nid yw'n destun cenfigen i neb sy'n byw yr ochr draw i'r ffin.

Yr wyf yn arbennig o bryderus ynghylch y rhai sy'n dioddef gan osteoporosis yn sir Fynwy gan fod 18 mis wedi mynd heibio, ac nid ydym byth wedi cael arbenigwr ar osteoporosis yn y sir. Mae'n beth gwarthus bod pobl yn gorfod teithio filltiroedd lawer ac/neu'n gorfod cael y driniaeth y mae arnynt ei hangen yn breifat. Nid yw'r un ohonynt yn cael Forsteo, sef yr hyn y mae'r Sefydliad Rhagoriaeth Glinigol Genedlaethol yn ei ystyried ar hyn o bryd, yr wyf yn deall. Yn y bwletin diweddaraf ar gyfer mis Ebrill, nid oes sôn am osteoporosis, er gwaethaf anghenion dybryd rhai o'r dioddefwyr. Mae'n sôn, er hynny, am ddiffyg cwsg a'r cyffuriau a ragnodir ar gyfer hynny. Argymhellaf mai'r cwbl y dylai meddygon ei wneud yw cynghori pobl i fynd at y wefan ac edrych ar y datganiadau i'r wasg sy'n cael eu cyhoeddi gan Jane Hutt.

I derfynu, ni ellir cael gwladwriaeth les yn null 1945 neu wasanaeth iechyd gwladol yn null 1948 heddiw. Rhaid inni newid y system. Nid myfi biau'r geiriau hynny: geiriau Tony Blair, arweinydd y Blaid Lafur, ydynt, ac yr wyf yn awgrymu, Weinidog, y dylech eu nodi a sefyll ar eich traed a gwrando ar yr hyn a ddywed eich arweinydd eich hun, a dilyn yr hyn a wneir yn Lloegr. Ni allwn barhau â'r sefyllfa bresennol, ac os na

cannot change it, Minister, and reduce waiting lists, then it is time for you to go.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Yet again, we have heard the Government seeking to defend the indefensible. A number of Labour speakers, including the Minister, failed to accept responsibility for the real problems that currently face the health service in Wales. I will refer to two statements in the report that show the depth of the problems facing the NHS in Wales. The first of these is quite a criticism, as it states that the failure to change may damage devolution itself, and Wales's ability to deal with devolution effectively. The second statement is that,

'the English NHS, according to the Wanless Review and other reviews, is outperforming Wales.'

Those are severe criticisms of the Government's approach to the health service in Wales. I will contrast that approach bluntly with the truth: what we have from the Government is not an acceptance of the depth of the problem, but a nauseatingly complacent and self-congratulatory tone, as seen in the motion before us today. Where is the taking of responsibility for the problems facing the health service? Why does the Minister not accept that she is responsible for the problems that the NHS in Wales faces? 'Oh no, it is nothing to do with me', she says; it is always somebody else's problem. Sometimes, the Government accuses opposition politicians of creating the problems in the NHS. However, I have a list of no less than five Welsh Labour MPs who, in the last four years, have criticised this Government even more than opposition politicians have. Gareth Thomas said that:

'We need to insist on detailed scrutiny of where all this extra money is going.'

4.30 p.m.

Also, Kim Howells, in a letter to the Minister—and what a letter that was—

allwch ei newid, Weinidog, a lleihau'r rhestrau aros, mae'n bryd ichi fynd.

Ieuan Wyn Jones: Unwaith eto, clywsom y Llywodraeth yn ceisio esgusodi rhywbeth na ellir ei esgusodi. Mae nifer o siaradwyr Llafur, gan gynnwys y Gweinidog, wedi methu â derbyn cyfrifoldeb am y problemau sylweddol sy'n wynebu'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd. Cyfeiriai at ddau osodiad yn yr adroddiad sy'n dangos graddau'r problemau sy'n wynebu'r GIG yng Nghymru. Mae'r cyntaf ohonynt yn gryn feirniadaeth, gan ei fod yn datgan y gallai'r methiant i newid beri niwed i ddatganoli ei hun, ac i allu Cymru i ddelio'n effeithiol â datganoli. Yr ail ddatganiad yw bod

'GIG Lloegr, yn ôl Adolygiad Wanless ac adolygiadau eraill, yn rhagori ar Gymru.'

Beirniadaethau hallt yw'r rhain ar ddull y Llywodraeth o ymdrin â'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Gwrthyferbynnaf hynny'n blwmp ac yn blaen â'r gwirionedd: nid parodrwydd i dderbyn graddau'r problem a gawsom gan y Llywodraeth, ond difaterwch cyfogyd a goslef hunanglodforus, fel y gwelir yn y cynnig sydd ger ein bron heddiw. Ym mhle y gwelir parodrwydd i dderbyn cyfrifoldeb am y problemau sy'n wynebu'r gwasanaeth iechyd? Pam na wnaiff y Gweinidog dderbyn mai hi sy'n gyfrifol am y problemau y mae'r GIG yng Nghymru yn eu hwynebu? 'O na, nid oes a wnelo hynny ddim â mi,' meddai hi; problem rhywun arall ydyw bob amser. Weithiau, mae'r Llywodraeth yn cyhuddo gwleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau o greu'r problemau yn y GIG. Fodd bynnag, mae gennyf restr o ddim llai na phum AS Llafur o Gymru sydd wedi beirniadu'r Llywodraeth hon yn fwy hyd yn oed na gwleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau yn y pedair blynedd diwethaf. Dywedodd Gareth Thomas:

Rhaid inni fynnu y ceir craffu manwl i weld i ble y mae'r holl arian ychwanegol hwn yn mynd.

Hefyd, mewn llythyr oddi wrtho at y Gweinidog—ac am lythyr oedd hwnnw—

complained, in relation to the need for improved healthcare provision in Wales, that improvement is badly needed but is slow in coming. Therefore, it is not opposition politicians but Welsh Labour Members of Parliament—two of whom are former Ministers and one of whom is currently a Minister—who are attacking this Government for its failure to deliver on health.

What problems are identified in this report? As we have heard, one in four hospital beds in Wales is blocked as a result of delayed transfers and discharges. That means that one in four hospital beds in Wales is blocked. In addition, almost one in five of all beds are occupied by patients who should not be in hospital. They should not be in the acute sector, they should be treated in other parts of the health service. Why are such patients in hospital, five years after the establishment of the National Assembly?

Jenny Randerson made the point that the NHS deficit has shot up to over £100 million. Wanless says that our trusts should not be on deficit budgeting. There is now a £100 million deficit. The Government's answer has not been to bring forward a comprehensive plan that we could all buy into. Every Labour speaker today has spoken of consensus. How can you have consensus around failure? Let us have consensus around success. We assure the Minister that, if she is prepared to come before us and say, 'I will go away and draw up an action plan that will reform the health service in Wales' and to set out her programme, we will listen to it, and if we can buy into it, we will do so. We cannot, however, have 22 local plans, which are totally uncoordinated, and which mean the service going off in different directions.

I agree with many of the points made today about point scoring. Let us have a real debate, but let us also have a proper plan in place. I ask the Minister, in responding to this debate, to accept responsibility and to come up with a plan. We will judge her on that basis.

cwynodd Kim Howells, mewn cysylltiad â'r angen am well darpariaeth o ofal iechyd yng Nghymru, fod taer angen gwelliant ond mai yn araf y mae hynny'n digwydd. Felly, nid gwleidyddion y gwrthbleidiau ond Aelodau Seneddol Llafur—y mae dau ohonynt yn gyn-Weinidogion ac un ohonynt yn Weinidog ar hyn o bryd—sy'n beirniadu'r Llywodraeth hon am ei methiant i fynd â'r maen i'r wal ar iechyd.

Pa broblemau a nodir yn yr adroddiad hwn? Fel y clywsom, mae un ym mhob pedwar o'r gwelyau mewn ysbytai yng Nghymru wedi'i flocio o ganlyniad i oedi wrth drosglwyddo a rhyddhau cleifion. Mae un ym mhob pedwar o'r gwelyau mewn ysbytai yng Nghymru wedi'i flocio oherwydd hynny. Yn ogystal, mae ymron i un o bob pump o'r holl welyau'n cael ei ddefnyddio gan gleifion na ddylent fod mewn ysbyty. Ni ddylent fod yn y sector aciwt, dylent gael eu trin mewn rhannau eraill o'r gwasanaeth iechyd. Pam y mae cleifion o'r fath yn yr ysbyty, bum mlynedd wedi sefydlu'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol?

Jenny Randerson a wnaeth y pwynt bod diffyg y GIG wedi codi'n syfrdanol i fwy na £100 miliwn. Dywed Wanless na ddylai ein hymddiriedolaethau gyllidebu ar sail diffyg. Bellach ceir diffyg o £100 miliwn. Nid dwyn cynllun cynhwysfawr gerbron y gallem oll gytuno arno a wnaeth y Llywodraeth mewn ymateb i hyn. Mae pob siaradwr Llafur heddiw wedi sôn am gonsensws. Sut y gellir cael consensws ynghylch methiant? Gadewch inni gael consensws ynghylch llwyddiant. Sicrhawn y Gweinidog, os yw'n barod i ddod ger ein bron heddiw a dweud, 'Af oddi yma a pharatoi cynllun gweithredu a fydd yn diwygio'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru', ac i nodi ei rhaglen, y gwnawn wrando arni, ac os gallwn gytuno arni, gwnawn hynny. Fodd bynnag, ni allwn gael 22 o gynlluniau lleol, sydd heb eu cydlynu o gwbl, ac sydd yn golygu yr aiff y gwasanaeth i wahanol gyfeiriadau.

Cytunaf â llawer o'r pwyntiau a wnaed heddiw am sgorio pwyntiau. Gadewch inni gael dadl go iawn, ond gadewch inni beri bod cynllun iawn ar waith hefyd. Gofynnaf i'r Gweinidog dderbyn cyfrifoldeb, wrth ymateb i'r ddadl hon, a dyfeisio cynllun. Fe'i barnwn

ar y sail honno.

The Minister for Health and Social Services (Jane Hutt): I had hoped for a more constructive debate this afternoon, but perhaps that was a lot to ask for. I welcome the Audit Commission report, because I welcome any opportunity to take forward the debate on reforming health and social care in Wales. We have nearly doubled investment in health in Wales since 1999. We have always known that simply increasing the money would not be the whole answer, not only in terms of tackling the serious levels of ill health that we face, but also in terms of the new directions that we need to take in managing the health service in Wales. We have never questioned the scale of the task that we have to undertake. There has been real progress at the sharp end, but we know that there is more to do. That is why we asked Derek Wanless to take a closer look at how the system works. The Wanless review gave us strong signals, which the Audit Commission report endorses, about local decision making, focusing on joint working—not just between health and social care, but multi-disciplinary team working between doctors, hospitals, social services and therapists—improving how we manage patient care, and innovation and a new way of looking at problems.

I responded immediately to the Wanless programme in July last year with £4 million for delayed transfers of care. I also indicated, when I came before the Assembly, and to the Health and Social Services Committee, that we would ask our local health boards to produce local action plans in partnership with their local authorities and to deliver those in the context of guidance from the Welsh Assembly Government on health and social care policies and evaluation criteria, to ensure that those local action plans are strategic.

I welcome that Jenny said that she was glad to read the Wanless local action plan for Cardiff and to see the proposals that are coming through, the strategic approach and the partnership working. I am sure that those

Y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Jane Hutt): Yr oeddwn wedi gobeithio y ceid dadl fwy adeiladol y prynhawn yma, ond efallai fod hynny'n llawer i'w ofyn. Croesawaf adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, gan fy mod yn croesawu unrhyw gyfle i barhau â'r ddadl ar ddiwygio iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Yr ydym wedi bron â dyblu'r buddsoddiad mewn iechyd yng Nghymru er 1999. Gwyddom erioed nad rhoi mwy o arian fyddai'r unig ateb, nid yn unig o ran mynd i'r afael â'r lefelau difrifol o iechyd gwael a wynebwn, ond hefyd o ran y cyfeiriadau newydd y mae'n rhaid inni fynd iddynt wrth drefnu'r gwasanaeth iechyd yng Nghymru. Nid ydym erioed wedi amau maint y dasg y mae'n rhaid inni ei chyflawni. Cafwyd gwir gynnydd yn y pen blaen, ond gwyddom fod rhagor i'w wneud. Dyna pam yr ydym wedi gofyn i Derek Wanless edrych yn fanylach ar weithrediad y system. Gwnaeth adolygiad Wanless gyfleu negeseuon pendant i ni, a ategir yn adroddiad y Comisiwn Archwilio, am benderfynu'n lleol, canolbwyntio ar weithio ar y cyd—nid yn unig rhwng iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, ond drwy waith mewn timau amlddisgyblaethol rhwng meddygon, ysbytai, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol a therapyddion—gwella'n dull o drefnu gofal am gleifion, ac arloesi a dull newydd o ystyried problemau.

Ymatebais ar unwaith i raglen Wanless ym mis Gorffennaf y llynedd drwy roi £4 miliwn ar gyfer oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Dywedais hefyd, pan ddeuthum gerbron y Cynulliad, ac wrth y Pwyllgor Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, y gofynnem i'n byrddau iechyd lleol gynhyrchu cynlluniau gweithredu lleol ar y cyd â'u hawdurdodau lleol a'u rhoi ar waith yng nghyd-destun canllawiau gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar bolisïau iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol a meini prawf ar gyfer gwerthuso, i sicrhau bod y cynlluniau gweithredu lleol hynny'n strategol.

Mae'n dda gennyf fod Jenny wedi dweud ei bod yn falch o ddarllen y cynllun gweithredu lleol Wanless ar gyfer Caerdydd a gweld y cynigion sy'n cael eu cyflwyno, y dull gweithredu strategol a'r gweithio mewn

Members who give time to this will feel the same. This is about supporting the work that has been done locally, by your local health boards, in partnership with local government, patients and communities. Are you going to undermine the weeks of work that have been done at a local level, with Welsh Assembly guidance?

Among the Wanless report's key themes were not only ensuring partnership and joint working, but health prevention. We now have a prevention programme, which is part of Health Challenge Wales. Derek Wanless said in his most recent report to the Chancellor, Dai, that unless the health service fully engaged with the public health agenda, the situation will not change. That is why we are taking forward the improving health agenda and a consensus approach, as you described, Christine, in terms of the work that we did together in Tenby. We could give examples of that from across Wales, if we had more time today. That was about listening to people and taking on their concerns, but also knowing that we had a twenty-first century agenda that we wanted to work through with them. I assure you that the South Pembrokeshire Hospital developments will go forward, because they were developed in partnership and consultation, which is the key way forward.

We have our financial plan for delivering service change. We need to have that range of evidence in terms of reconfiguration. Jeff talked about the work that is being done by the local health board in his area. As a result of that, radical plans are coming out for a new facility, which will mean changes to existing services. At the regional committee meeting, Mike, you could not fail to be impressed by the quality of the evidence from the local health board, which is now delivering a dramatic reduction in delayed transfers of care. In answer to his first question today, the First Minister spoke of the reduction in delayed transfers of care in that community. I take issue with the Audit Commission in that it has come up with another definition of delayed transfers of care, which it did not discuss with us, in

partneriaeth. Yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd yr Aelodau hynny sy'n neilltuo amser i wneud hynny'n teimlo yr un fath. Mae hyn yn ymwneud â chefnogi gwaith a wnaed yn lleol, gan eich byrddau iechyd lleol, mewn partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol, cleifion a chymunedau. A ydych am danseilio'r wythnosau o waith a wnaed yn lleol, gan ddilyn canllawiau Cynulliad Cymru?

Un o'r prif themâu yn adroddiad Wanless, yn ogystal â sicrhau partneriaethau a gweithio ar y cyd, oedd atal iechyd gwael. Mae gennym raglen atal bellach sydd yn rhan o Her Iechyd Cymru. Dywedodd Derek Wanless, yn ei adroddiad diweddaraf i'r Canghellor, Dai, na wnaiff y sefyllfa newid os na wnaiff y gwasanaeth iechyd ymgymryd â'r agenda gyfan ar iechyd cyhoeddus. Dyna pam yr ydym yn bwrw ymlaen â'r agenda ar wella iechyd a dull gweithredu drwy gonsensws, fel y gwnaethoch chi ddisgrifio, Christine, yng nghyd-destun y gwaith a wnaethom gyda'n gilydd yn Ninbych-y-pysgod. Gallem gynnig enghreifftiau o hynny o bob rhan o Gymru, pe byddai gennym fwy o amser heddiw. Yr oedd hynny'n ymwneud â gwrando ar bobl ac ystyried eu pryderon, gan wybod hefyd fod gennym agenda ar gyfer yr unfed ganrif ar hugain yr oeddem am ei dilyn gyda hwy. Fe'ch sicrhaf y bydd y datblygiadau yn Ysbyty De Sir Benfro yn mynd rhagddynt, gan eu bod wedi'u datblygu drwy bartneriaeth ac ymgynghori, a honno yw'r ffordd y dylid ei dilyn.

Mae gennym gynllun cyllidol ar gyfer newid gwasanaethau. Rhaid inni gael tystiolaeth o'r fath yng nghyd-destun ad-drefnu. Soniodd Jeff am y gwaith a wnaiff y bwrdd iechyd lleol yn ei ardal. O ganlyniad i hynny, ceir cynlluniau radical ar gyfer cyfleuster newydd, a bydd hynny'n golygu newidiadau i'r gwasanaethau presennol. Yng nghyfarfod y pwyllgor rhanbarth, Mike, fe'ch trawyd gan ansawdd y dystiolaeth oddi wrth y bwrdd iechyd lleol, sydd bellach yn sicrhau gostyngiad trawiadol yn nifer yr achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal. Wrth ateb ei gwestiwn cyntaf heddiw, soniodd y Prif Weinidog am y gostyngiad yn nifer yr achosion o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal yn y gymuned honno. Anghytunaf â'r Comisiwn Archwilio am iddo ddyfeisio diffiniad arall o oedi wrth drosglwyddo gofal, na wnaeth ei

relation to delays within hospitals. We are talking about the delays in transfer from hospital care to the community. We are reducing those as a result of the £4 million investment that I announced last July, and the £19.5 million ring-fenced funding to local authorities.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: You have 15 seconds left.

Jane Hutt: I will just mention the pressures that are on the service and how we are dealing with this. There are daily pressures. One million people attend accident and emergency departments every year. We are now developing an emergency care services project—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You are out of time; I call for a vote. If amendment 1 is carried, amendments 2, 3 and 4 will fall.

drafnod gyda ni, mewn cysylltiad ag oedi mewn ysbytai. Yr ydym yn sôn am oedi wrth drosglwyddo o ofal ysbyty i'r gymuned. Yr ydym yn lleihau nifer yr achosion hynny o ganlyniad i'r £4 miliwn o fuddsoddiad a gyhoeddais fis Gorffennaf diwethaf, a'r £19.5 miliwn o gyllid a glustnodwyd ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae gennych 15 eiliad ar ôl.

Jane Hutt: Ni wnaaf ond sôn am y pwysau sydd ar y gwasanaeth a'r modd yr ydym yn delio â hynny. Mae pwysau o ddydd i ddydd. Mae 1 filiwn o bobl yn dod i adrannau damweiniau ac achosion brys bob blwyddyn. Yn awr, yr ydym yn datblygu prosiect ar wasanaethau gofal brys—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae'ch amser ar ben; galwaf am bleidlais. Os derbynir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliannau 2, 3 a 4 yn methu.

Gwelliant 1: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 28.

Amendment 1: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 28.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Gwelliant 2: O blaid 18, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 33.
Amendment 2: For 18, Abstain 0, Against 33.

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

Bourne, Nick
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
German, Michael
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Randerson, Jenny
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Gwelliant 3: O blaid 15, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 36.
Amendment 3: For 15, Abstain 0, Against 36.

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Laura Anne
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice

Randerson, Jenny
Williams, Brynle

Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, David
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Ryder, Janet
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 23, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 28.
Amendment 4: For 23, Abstain 0, Against 28.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

4.40 p.m.

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 24, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 28.
Amendment 5: For 24, Abstain 0, Against 28.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan
Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Cynnig (NDM1956): O blaid 28, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 24.
Motion (NDM1956): For 28, Abstain 0, Against 24.*

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Gibbons, Brian
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Bourne, Nick
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Davies, Janet
Davies, Jocelyn
Francis, Lisa
German, Michael
Graham, William
Isherwood, Mark
Jones, Alun Ffred
Jones, Helen Mary
Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Lloyd, David
Melding, David
Morgan, Jonathan

Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Mewies, Sandy
Morgan, Rhodri
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda

Randerson, Jenny
Ryder, Janet
Thomas, Owen John
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
Williams, Brynle

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

Dadl Plaid Leiafrifol (Plaid Geidwadol Cymru) Minority Party Debate (The Welsh Conservative Party)

Setliad Llywodraeth Leol The Local Government Settlement

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I have selected amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair, amendments 2 and 3 in the name of Jocelyn Davies and amendments 4, 5, and 6 in the name of Kirsty Williams.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Yr wyf wedi dethol gwelliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair, gwelliant 2 a 3 yn enw Jocelyn Davies a gwelliannau 4, 5 a 6 yn enw Kirsty Williams.

Glyn Davies: I propose that

Glyn Davies: Cynigiaf fod

the National Assembly for Wales deplores the 2004-05 local government settlement from the Welsh Assembly Government, which has forced local authorities to increase council tax way above the rate of inflation. (NDM1954)

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn gresynu at Setliad Llywodraeth Leol 2004/05 gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, sydd wedi gorfodi Awdurdodau Lleol i godi'r Dreth Gyngor ymhell uwchlaw'r gyfradd chwyddiant. (NDM1954)

We have tabled this motion because of public concern regarding the unacceptably high levels of council tax. I am sure that we have all read letters in our local newspapers from people who are deeply concerned about this issue. I have held a number of public meetings on the Richard commission report, which were dominated by those who wanted to explain their concern regarding increasing levels of council tax. This has done a lot of damage to the Assembly's credibility—people still see the Assembly and the Government as being one and the same—and to all of us. We believe that council tax levels are much too high. During the year that council tax was introduced, 1993-94, the average level was £328 per authority; it is now £887. Since Labour came to power in 1997, it has risen by 79 per cent, which is well above inflation, and it is higher in Wales than in any other part of the UK. You can tell when the First Minister is concerned about something that will cause him serious

Cyflwynasom y cynnig hwn oherwydd pryder y cyhoedd ynghylch lefelau annerbyniol o uchel y dreth gyngor. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod pob un ohonom wedi darllen llythyrau yn ein papurau newydd lleol oddi wrth rai sy'n pryderu'n ddwys ynghylch y mater hwn. Yr wyf wedi cynnal sawl cyfarfod cyhoeddus ar adroddiad comisiwn Richard, a'r rhai uchaf eu cloch ynddynt oedd y rhai a oedd am egluro eu pryder ynghylch lefelau cynyddol y dreth gyngor. Mae hyn wedi gwneud llawer o ddrwg i hygrededd y Cynulliad—mae pobl yn dal i ystyried mai'r un peth yw'r Cynulliad a'r Llywodraeth—ac i bob un ohonom ni. Credwn fod lefelau'r dreth gyngor yn llawer rhy uchel. Yn ystod y flwyddyn y cyflwynwyd y dreth gyngor, 1993-94, y lefel gyfartalog oedd £328 yr awdurdod; mae bellach yn £887. Ers i Lafur ddod i rym yn 1997, cododd o 79 y cant, sydd ymhell uwchlaw chwyddiant, ac mae'n uwch yng Nghymru nag yn yr un rhan arall o'r DU.

embarrassment. Today, Leighton Andrews asked a question about the amount of money that had been given to local authorities. The First Minister completely ignored the question because he became quite excited by a point that he believes is relevant, namely that the percentage increase during the first three years of council tax under the Conservative Government was higher than it has been since. He completely ignored contemporary inflation levels, which are important, and the adjustments made when a new form of taxation is introduced.

Peter Law: Glyn has perhaps made the same point, but, since 2004, the average increase in council tax under this administration is 8 per cent, while it was 13 per cent between 1993 and 1997 under the Conservatives. The figures do not lie. Some of us affectionately refer to you as 'farmer poll tax', and we all know that it was the Conservatives who introduced council tax following the disastrous poll tax, about which everyone was up in arms and for which they condemned the Conservatives.

Glyn Davies: I apologise for not taking your intervention sooner, Peter, because I have already given you the answer, and you will have to look at the Record of Proceedings to see what was a good answer to your spurious point. It is a point that excites the First Minister and clearly excites you; you probably discussed it at your group party meeting this morning, as some sort of defence for the Government's unacceptable performance.

The reality is that people are reaching the stage where they cannot afford to pay this tax. The benefits system is meant to help those who cannot pay, but we all know that, for whatever reason, a huge number of the poorest people are not taking advantage of the benefits available to them. The upshot is that these people are suffering as a result of the high level of council tax. It is important to understand why the tax is now at such a high level. I would be the first to concede that the Government has given local authorities a huge amount of extra money. If the First

Hawdd gweld pan yw'r Prif Weinidog yn pryderu ynghylch rhywbeth a fydd yn peri annifyrrwch mawr iddo. Heddiw, gwnaeth Leighton Andrews ofyn cwestiwn ynghylch y swm o arian a roddwyd i awdurdodau lleol. Anwybyddodd y Prif Weinidog y cwestiwn yn gyfan gwbl gan ei fod wedi cynhyrfu ynghylch pwynt y mae'n credu ei fod yn berthnasol, sef bod canran y cynnydd yn ystod tair blynedd cyntaf y dreth gyngor o dan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol yn uwch nag y bu ers hynny. Llwyd anwybyddodd y lefelau chwyddiant ar y pryd, sy'n bwysig, a'r newidiadau a wneir pan gyflwynir math newydd o drethu.

Peter Law: Mae Glyn wedi gwneud yr un pwynt, efallai, ond, er 2004, y cynnydd cyfartalog yn y dreth gyngor o dan y weinyddiaeth hon yw 8 y cant, tra oedd yn 13 y cant rhwng 1993 a 1997 o dan y Ceidwadwyr. Nid yw'r ffigurau'n dweud celwydd. Mae rhai ohonom yn cyfeirio'n annwyl atoch fel 'ffermwr treth y pen', a gwyddom oll mai'r Ceidwadwyr a gyflwynodd y dreth gyngor ar ôl trychineb treth y pen, a oedd wedi codi gwrychyn pawb a pheri iddynt gondemnio'r Ceidwadwyr.

Glyn Davies: Ymddiheuraf am beidio â derbyn ymyriad gennyh yn gynharach, Peter, gan fy mod eisoes wedi rhoi'r ateb i chi, a bydd yn rhaid ichi ddarllen Cofnod y Trafodion i weld yr hyn a oedd yn ateb da i'r pwynt annilys a wnaethoch. Mae'n bwyt sy'n cynhyrfu'r Prif Weinidog ac mae'n amlwg ei fod yn eich cynhyrfu chi; mae'n debyg eich bod wedi'i drafod yng nghyfarfod eich grŵp plaid y bore yma, fel rhyw fath o esgus dros berfformiad annerbyniol y Llywodraeth.

Y gwir yw bod pobl yn cyrraedd man lle na allant fforddio talu'r dreth hon. Mae'r system fudd-daliadau i fod i helpu'r rhai na allant dalu, ond yr ydym oll yn gwybod bod nifer fawr iawn o'r rhai tlotaf nad ydynt yn manteisio, am ba bynnag reswm, ar y budd-daliadau sydd ar gael iddynt. Oherwydd hynny, maent yn dioddef o ganlyniad i lefel uchel y dreth gyngor. Mae'n bwysig deall pam y mae'r dreth ar lefel mor uchel yn awr. Myfi fyddai'r cyntaf i dderbyn bod y Llywodraeth wedi rhoi swm enfawr o arian ychwanegol i awdurdodau lleol. Pe byddai'r

Minister had answered Leighton's question, this would have been obvious. However, the problem is that the Government takes back a lot of this money before it reaches councils. Last year's increase in national insurance had a huge effect on councils' budgets. The £5 billion taken by the Chancellor from the pension fund has led local authorities to face massive expense, and the underfunding, or temporary funding, of Assembly initiatives has also forced council tax increases. The blame lies with the Government, not with local authorities. I have heard the First Minister say that the level of council tax is a matter for local authorities, and this is what he said in answer to my question on this subject in February. However, we know that local authorities are only responsible to a certain degree. High levels of council are the result of the way in which the Government is managing its affairs.

Where do we go from here? We know that the Minister has signed a letter of agreement with Sir Harry Jones on behalf of the WLGA, which says that there will be no underfunding in future. I welcome this statement and believe that it should apply to this year as well. Harry Jones should not have signed the letter at this time, as it is rather improper. We must hold the Government to this promise. The two parties with a chance of forming a government at a United Kingdom level are the Labour Party, as the incumbent, and the Conservative Party, in whose favour the pendulum is swinging strongly. There is serious possibility that we will have to deal with this issue next June, unless the Prime Minister has to leave office before then. This issue involves a number of open questions. There is ongoing debate about the balance of funding and how it should be dealt with. The Conservatives and Labour would like to see a change in the 80:20 split, whereby only 20 per cent of local government funding is raised locally. I contend that the way in which council tax has risen to its current level makes it difficult to change this split as we would like. I am sure that there will be many difficult discussions on this subject.

Brian Gibbons: In what way would you like to change the 80:20 split? The key element of central Government support is to address the

Prif Weinidog wedi ateb y cwestiwn a ofynnodd Leighton, buasai hynny'n amlwg. Er hynny, y broblem yw bod y Llywodraeth yn cymryd yn ôl llawer o'r arian hwn cyn iddo gyrraedd cynghorau. Mae'r cynnydd a gafwyd y llynedd mewn yswiriant gwladol wedi cael effaith aruthrol ar gyllidebau cynghorau. Am fod y Canghellor wedi cymryd £5 biliwn o'r gronfa bensiw, mae awdurdodau lleol wedi wynebu cost enfawr, ac mae'r tanariannu, neu'r ariannu dros dro, ar fentrau'r Cynulliad wedi peri cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor hefyd. Ar y Llywodraeth y mae'r bai, nid ar awdurdodau lleol. Clywais y Prif Weinidog yn dweud mai mater i awdurdodau lleol yw lefel y dreth gyngor, a dyna a ddywedodd mewn ateb i'm cwestiwn ar y pwnc hwn ym mis Chwefror. Fodd bynnag, gwyddom nad yw awdurdodau lleol ond yn gyfrifol i ryw raddau. Mae lefelau uchel y dreth gyngor yn ganlyniad i'r modd y mae'r Llywodraeth yn trefnu ei busnes.

I ble'r awn oddi yma? Gwyddom fod y Gweinidog wedi llofnodi llythyr cytundeb â Syr Harry Jones ar ran CLILC, a ddywed na fydd tanariannu yn y dyfodol. Croesawaf y datganiad hwn a chredaf y dylid ei gymhwyso at y flwyddyn hon hefyd. Ni ddylai Harry Jones fod wedi llofnodi'r llythyr ar yr adeg hon, gan fod hynny braidd yn amhriodol. Rhaid inni ddal y Llywodraeth at yr addewid hon. Y ddwy blaid sydd â chyfle i ffurfio llywodraeth ar lefel y Deyrnas Unedig yw'r Blaid Lafur, fel yr un sydd mewn grym yn awr, a'r Blaid Geidwadol, y ceir gogwydd cryf tuag ati'n awr. Mae gwir bosibilrwydd y byddwn yn gorfod delio â'r mater hwn fis Mehefin nesaf, os na fydd y Prif Weinidog yn gorfod gadael llywodraeth cyn hynny. Mae'r mater hwn yn ymwneud â sawl cwestiwn agored. Ceir dadl ar hyn o bryd ynghylch cydbwysedd y cyllido a'r modd y dylid ymdrin ag ef. Byddai'r Ceidwadwyr a Llafur yn hoffi gweld newid y rhaniad 80:20, sy'n golygu mai dim ond 20 y cant o gyllid llywodraeth leol a godir yn lleol. Dadleuaf y bydd yn anodd newid y rhaniad hwn fel y dymunem oherwydd y cynnydd a fu yn y dreth gyngor. Yr wyf yn siŵr y ceir sawl trafodaeth astrus ar y pwnc hwn.

Brian Gibbons: Ym mha fodd y carech newid y rhaniad 80:20? Y brif elfen yn y cymorth oddi wrth Lywodraeth ganolog yw

inequality in provision for social need. A consequence of doing this is the introduction of the gearing effect, which equally penalises the local authorities with the greatest need. In view of your negative motion, I would be interested to hear some positive comments about how you intend to address this problem.

Glyn Davies: I seem to be taking interventions from Members who have not listened to what I have said. I said that this is a serious debate in which both our parties are taking part. It involves open questions, and policy decisions have not yet been made by your party or by mine. The debate is ongoing in the Assembly and in Westminster. I can tell you that the answer is not a local income tax, as this would be a grave mistake. However, I accept that if there are continual rises in council tax, as is currently the case, the integrity of council tax will certainly be weakened. The Government must put a stop to these great increases.

4.50 p.m.

We support council tax; no-one likes tax, but this seems to be a perfectly reasonable way to fund local government. Council tax is a straightforward tax to collect, with a collection rate of 96.4 per cent. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy tells us that the collection rate for income tax is around 84 per cent. It is clear that we would be introducing more of a dishonesty charter if we moved to a local income tax instead of the current system of council tax, which is a better system.

Members of the Environment, Planning and Countryside Committee will know of the impact created by the sudden introduction of a new system, and the devastating effect that such a change can have. The impact of a change to local income tax would be devastating for services in this country and no Government, or any party that is serious about the prospect of government, would contemplate introducing this tax, because of such a danger. Again, we have the figures for the likely impact on income tax itself. The

honno i ymdrin â'r ddarpariaeth anghyfartal ar gyfer anghenion cymdeithasol. Un o ganlyniadau hynny yw cyflwyno'r effaith gerio, sy'n cosbi'r awdurdodau lleol mwyaf anghenus yn yr un modd. Gan eich bod wedi cyflwyno cynnig negyddol, byddai o ddiddordeb gennyf glywed rhai sylwadau cadarnhaol am y modd y bwriadwch ymdrin â'r broblem hon.

Glyn Davies: Ymddengys fy mod yn derbyn ymyriadau gan Aelodau sydd heb wrando ar yr hyn a ddywedais. Dywedais mai dadl ddifrifol yw hon y mae ein dwy blaid yn cymryd rhan ynddi. Mae'n ymwneud â chwestiynau agored, ac nid yw'ch plaid chi na'm plaid i wedi penderfynu ar bolisi eto. Mae'r dadl yn mynd rhagddi yn y Cynulliad ac yn San Steffan. Gallaf ddweud wrthyhch nad treth incwm leol yw'r ateb, gan y byddai hynny'n gamgymeriad mawr. Er hynny, yr wyf yn derbyn, os bydd y dreth gyngor yn codi'n barhaus, fel a ddigwydd ar hyn o bryd, fod egwyddor y dreth gyngor yn sicr o gael ei gwanhau. Rhaid i'r Llywodraeth roi pen ar y codiadau mawr hyn.

Yr ydym o blaid y dreth gyngor; nid oes neb sy'n hoffi trethi, ond mae'n ymddangos yn ffordd gwbl resymol o gyllido llywodraeth leol. Mae casglu'r dreth gyngor yn waith syml, ac fe'i cesglir ar gyfradd o 96.4 y cant. Dywed Sefydliad Siartredig Cyllid Cyhoeddus a Chyfrifyddiaeth wrthym mai'r gyfradd gasglu ar gyfer treth incwm yw tua 84 y cant. Mae'n amlwg y byddem yn rhoi mwy o gyfle i anonestrwydd pe baem yn symud at dreth incwm leol yn hytrach na chadw system bresennol y dreth gyngor, sy'n system well.

Gŵyr aelodau Pwyllgor yr Amgylchedd, Cynllunio a Chefn Gwlad am yr effaith a geir o gyflwyno system newydd yn sydyn, a'r effaith ddinistriol a all ddod yn sgîl newid o'r fath. Byddai newid i dreth incwm leol yn cael effaith ddinistriol ar wasanaethau yn y wlad hon ac ni fyddai'r un Llywodraeth, neu unrhyw blaid sydd â gwir obaith o ffurfio llywodraeth, yn ystyried cyflwyno'r dreth hon, oherwydd perygl o'r fath. Mae gennym ffigurau hefyd am yr effaith debygol ar dreth incwm ei hun. Mae'r pleidiau eraill yn cyfrifo

other parties' calculations fall short of 4 per cent on the basic and higher rates. That would have a significant effect on tax avoidance. Clearly, as income tax rises, people will want to pay less in tax. We saw that when income tax levels decreased from the punitively high levels of the 1970s and 1980s. That has not been factored in. It would also encourage skilled people to leave this country for countries where there is not such a punitive level of tax on income. Those are the sort of problems that would accompany income tax rises—

Peter Black rose—

Glyn Davies: Sorry, Peter, I do not have time to take an intervention.

Local income tax is an issue for the academics, the birds and the parties with no chance of being in power. I can hear Mike German sniggering: Mike, if you were to have a chat with your Liberal Democrat colleagues in Scotland, they would give you the same argument. They support council taxes because they have a prospect of gaining power in Scotland. You have no such prospect at Westminster or here, which is why you can come up with these fairy stories that sound good on the surface and attract votes.

We tabled this motion because this issue needs to be raised. The people of Wales care deeply about this matter. We want to place the blame firmly where it belongs—on the Government in this Assembly. We want the council tax payers of Wales, and of Britain next year, to punish the Government in the way that that is done in a democracy.

The Finance Minister (Sue Essex): I propose amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair. Delete all after '*National Assembly for Wales*' and replace with:

notes that the rate of increase in council tax in Wales since 1999 has been significantly less than under the last Conservative Government. It reaffirms the support it gave for the local government settlement for 2004-05 which was agreed on 10 December 2003, recognising that this was a fair settlement

y byddai'n llai na 4 y cant ar ben y cyfraddau sylfaenol ac uwch. Câi hynny effaith sylweddol o ran osgoi treth. Wrth i dreth incwm godi, mae'n amlwg y bydd pobl am dalu llai ar ffurf treth. Gwelsom hynny pan ddisgynodd lefelau treth incwm o'r lefelau gormodol a gafwyd yn y 1970au a'r 1980au. Nid yw hynny wedi'i ystyried. Byddai hefyd yn cymell pobl fedrus i adael y wlad hon a mynd i wledydd lle na cheir y fath lefel ormodol o dreth ar incwm. Dyna'r math o broblemau a geid wrth gynyddu treth incwm—

Peter Black a gododd—

Glyn Davies: Mae'n ddrwg gennyf, Peter, nid oes gennyf ddigon o amser i dderbyn myiriad.

Mae treth incwm leol yn fater i academyddion, i falwyr awyr ac i'r pleidiau nad oes ganddynt obaith o fod mewn grym. Gallaf glywed Mike German yn piffian chwerthin: Mike, pe caech sgwrs â'ch cyd-aelodau o Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn yr Alban, gwelech mai'r un fyddai eu dadl hwythau. Maent o blaid trethi cyngor gan fod ganddynt obaith o ennill grym yn yr Alban. Nid oes gobaith o'r fath i chi yn San Steffan nac yma, a dyna pam y gallwch ddyfeisio'r dychmygion hyn sy'n swnio'n iawn ar y dechrau ac yn denu pleidleisiau.

Cyflwynasom y cynnig hwn gan fod angen codi'r mater hwn. Mae pobl Cymru'n poeni'n ddirfawr am y mater hwn. Yr ydym am roi'r bai lle y mae i fod—ar y Llywodraeth yn y Cynulliad hwn. Yr ydym am weld talwyr y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru, a rhai Prydain y flwyddyn nesaf, yn cosbi'r Llywodraeth fel y gwneir mewn democratiaeth.

Y Gweinidog Cyllid (Sue Essex): Cynigiad welliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair. Dileu popeth ar ôl '*Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru*' ac yn ei le rhoi:

yn nodi bod cyfradd y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru ers 1999 wedi bod yn sylweddol is na'r gyfradd o dan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf. Mae'n ailddatgan y cymorth a roddodd i'r setliad llywodraeth leol ar gyfer 2004-2005 y cytunwyd arno ar 10 Rhagfyr 2003, gan

which responded to the needs identified by local government and the priorities of the Assembly.

The 2004-05 local government settlement provided local authorities in Wales with an average increase of 5.2 per cent after adjusting for transfers. That is a fair settlement and was more than double the rate of inflation. It responded to the needs identified by local government and the Assembly's priorities. That is reflected by the fact that average council tax rises in Wales for county councils this financial year was 4.5 per cent, excluding the police precept. Indeed, the overall rise this year was the lowest since the introduction of council tax. It is for local councils to set their own council tax and I recognise that any rise above inflation for those on low incomes is a concern. However, there are well-publicised benefits available to help limit the impact of the rises on the most vulnerable members of society and we encourage the take-up of such benefits.

It should be remembered that council tax contributes only around 20 per cent of local government funding in Wales. The Assembly provides the other 80 per cent. That is more than in England, where the level of central Government funding averages around 75 per cent. Therefore, how do we calculate what that 80 per cent comprises and what the sum should be? It is important that everyone here understands that an agreed partnership approach operates each year to identify expenditure pressures in local government. Each year, local government, working closely with the Assembly Government, prepares a shared analysis of expenditure needs. That analysis informs the budget process in the Assembly and the Assembly Government. It is considered openly by Assembly Members from all political parties at the consultative forum on finance. It is that process that informs us of the potential costs of new responsibilities placed on local government and provides information on pressures of pay and pensions. You can see therefore that, over that period of time, there is an open process of which the Assembly

gydnabod bod hwn yn setliad teg a oedd yn ymateb i'r anghenion a nodwyd gan lywodraeth leol ac i flaenoriaethau'r Cynulliad.

Mae'r setliad llywodraeth leol ar gyfer 2004-05 wedi rhoi cynnydd cyfartalog o 5.2 y cant i awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru ar ôl cymhwyso ar gyfer trosglwyddiadau. Mae hwnnw'n setliad teg ac yr oedd yn fwy na dwywaith cyfradd chwyddiant. Yr oedd yn ymateb i'r anghenion a nododd llywodraeth leol ac i flaenoriaethau'r Cynulliad. Adlewyrchir hynny yn y ffaith mai'r cynnydd cyfartalog yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru ar gyfer cynghorau sir yn y flwyddyn ariannol hon oedd 4.5 y cant, heb gynnwys praesept yr heddlu. Yn wir, y cynnydd cyffredinol a gafwyd eleni oedd yr isaf ers cyflwyno'r dreth gyngor. Mater i gynghorau lleol yw pennu eu treth gyngor eu hunain a derbynaf fod unrhyw gynnydd uwchlaw chwyddiant yn peri pryder i'r rhai sydd ar incwm isel. Er hynny, mae budd-daliadau ar gael, sydd wedi'u hysbysebu'n dda, i helpu i gyfyngu ar effaith y codiadau ar aelodau mwyaf hyglwyf cymdeithas ac yr ydym yn eu hannog i dderbyn budd-daliadau o'r fath.

Dylid cofio nad yw'r dreth gyngor ond yn cyfrannu tua 20 y cant o gyllid llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru. Y Cynulliad sy'n darparu'r 80 y cant arall. Mae hynny'n fwy nag yn Lloegr, lle y mae lefel y cyllid oddi wrth Lywodraeth ganolog tua 75 y cant ar gyfartaledd. Felly, sut y cyfrifwn yr hyn y bydd yr 80 y cant hwnnw'n ei gynnwys a pha swm y dylid ei roi? Mae'n bwysig i bawb yma ddeall ein bod yn gweithredu'n gytûn drwy bartneriaeth bob blwyddyn i ganfod y pwysau ar wariant llywodraeth leol. Bob blwyddyn, mae llywodraeth leol, gan gydweithio'n agos â Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, yn paratoi dadansoddiad ar y cyd o anghenion gwariant. Y dadansoddiad hwnnw sy'n goleuo proses y gyllideb yn y Cynulliad ac yn Llywodraeth y Cynulliad. Fe'i hystyrir yn agored gan Aelodau'r Cynulliad o bob plaid wleidyddol yn y fforwm ymgynghorol ar gyllid. Y broses honno sy'n ein hysbysu am y costau a allai godi yn sgîl cyfrifoldebau newydd a osodir ar lywodraeth leol ac yn darparu gwybodaeth am bwysau o ran cyflogau a phensiynau. Gallwch weld, felly, fod proses agored, dros

and local authority members are part.

I do not pretend that as Finance Minister I will automatically fund 100 per cent of every bid made by local government. No finance minister could ever be committed to such an arrangement. There are costs that local authorities absorb as managed organisations. Equally, there are occasions when we fund unidentified pressure over and above its eventual cost. Last year, the uplift that we put in for teachers' pay was more than the actual pay settlement. As you will all remember, we pulled the local government settlement forward to before Christmas and salary and pay rises were not agreed until March, and the uplift that we paid was more than the actual pay settlement. We do not claw that back—we have a mature relationship with local government, in which we both recognise that there is inevitably an element of swings and roundabouts in funding.

Since the establishment of the Assembly, local government in Wales has seen the funding provided increase by 37 per cent, amounting to 24 per cent in real terms over that period. This sustained investment in local government, over and above inflation, has meant that council tax rises over that period have been lower than in England, and lower than in the period following its introduction by the Conservative Government in the early to mid 1990s. Over the last five years, the rise in council tax has averaged 9.5 per cent per annum, which compares with 13.7 per cent per annum in the period from 1993 to 1997. I do not like to take you back to that time, but that was the period of the Conservative Government. It would not be appropriate for me in the circumstances to discuss the settlements for individual authorities, but it is inevitable that in any single year, the distribution of the overall settlement delivers fluctuations for individual authorities. Local government accepts those fluctuations and they are a necessary aspect of a distribution formula that is based on independent indications of need to spend.

y cyfnod hwnnw, y mae'r Cynulliad ac aelodau awdurdodau lleol yn rhan ohoni.

Ni chymeraf arnaf fel Gweinidog Cyllid y byddaf yn rhoi cyllid yn awtomatig i dalu'n llawn am bob cais gan lywodraeth leol. Ni allai'r un gweinidog cyllid ymrwymo i drefniant o'r fath. Ceir costau y mae awdurdodau lleol yn cymryd y cyfrifoldeb amdanynt fel cyrff rheoledig. Yn yr un modd, ceir adegau yr ydym ni'n cyllido ar gyfer pwysau sydd heb eu nodi gan roi swm sy'n fwy na'r hyn y mae'n ei gostio yn y pen draw. Y llynedd, yr oedd y swm ychwanegol a roesom ar gyfer cyflogau athrawon yn fwy na'r setliad cyflog ei hun. Fel y cofiwch, daethom â setliad llywodraeth leol ymlaen a'i drafod cyn y Nadolig ac ni chytunwyd ar godiadau mewn cyflogau a thaliadau tan fis Mawrth, ac yr oedd y swm ychwanegol a roesom yn fwy na'r setliad cyflogau ei hun. Nid ydym yn adfachu hwnnw—mae gennym berthynas aeddfed â llywodraeth leol, lle y mae'r ddwy ochr yn cydnabod ei bod yn anorfod y bydd rhywfaint o golli ac ennill wrth gyllido.

Ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad, mae llywodraeth leol yng Nghymru wedi gweld cynnydd o 37 y cant yn y cyllid a ddarperir, ac mae hynny'n cyfateb i 24 y cant yn ôl ei wir werth dros y cyfnod hwnnw. Mae'r buddsoddi parhaus hwn mewn llywodraeth leol, uwchlaw chwyddiant, wedi golygu bod y codiadau yn y dreth gyngor dros y cyfnod hwnnw wedi bod yn llai nag yn Lloegr, ac yn llai nag yn y cyfnod ar ôl ei chyflwyno gan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol rhwng dechrau a chanol y 1990au. Dros y pum mlynedd diwethaf, mae'r dreth gyngor wedi codi o 9.5 y cant y flwyddyn ar gyfartaledd, o'i gymharu â chynnydd o 13.7 y cant y flwyddyn yn y cyfnod o 1993 i 1997. Nid wyf yn hoffi mynd â chi'n ôl i'r cyfnod hwnnw, ond hwnnw oedd cyfnod y Llywodraeth Geidwadol. Ni fyddai'n briodol o dan yr amgylchiadau imi drafod y setliadau ar gyfer awdurdodau unigol, ond mae'n anorfod y bydd y modd y dosrannir y setliad cyffredinol mewn unrhyw flwyddyn yn peri amrywiadau i awdurdodau unigol. Mae llywodraeth leol yn derbyn yr amrywiadau hynny ac maent yn agwedd angenrheidiol ar fformiwla ddosrannu sy'n seiliedig ar anghenion gwario a nodir yn annibynnol.

We have delivered on our commitment to fund local government for its responsibilities for this year, and we are working with local government to identify the inescapable pressure on 2005-06 and beyond, so the budget in the next three years will provide local government with a firm basis on which it can plan. That will be the first step in moving towards three-year settlements that will provide local councils with the certainty and stability they desire to plan effectively and efficiently. However, with that comes the responsibility to deliver on our agreed priorities and on the key services for which local government is responsible. Another sign of our partnership with local government is the protocol on grants. Through this protocol, we will review grants periodically with a view to determining whether they should continue as hypothecated funding outside the settlement.

This Government remains committed to reducing control in the number and amount of funding that is put through the hypothecated grant. However, we recognise that, in certain instances, there will be good reason why funding should be provided in grant form, such as where an initiative is demand-led, and it is unreasonable to expect authorities to take on the funding risks, or where the Assembly is taking responsibility for funding a particular initiative that has a distinct basis of distribution. For example, the funding for concessionary fares was taken out of the settlement at the request of local government, and replaced by a grant based on actual spend.

I now turn to the Liberal Democrat amendments, which yet again raise the issue of local income tax. As we have already made clear, the future of council tax—whether it should be replaced, and with what—is one of the range of issues being addressed in the review of balance of funding, led by Nick Raynsford. I will be making details of the outcome of the consultation of the review in Wales available in due course. At that time, I will be happy to debate the merits of a system of local income tax. Now is not an appropriate time to do so,

Yr ydym wedi cyflawni ein hymrwymiad i gyllido llywodraeth leol ar gyfer ei chyfrifoldebau am eleni, ac yr ydym yn gweithio gyda llywodraeth leol i ganfod y pwysau anorfod a geir yn 2005-06 ac wedyn, fel y bydd y gyllideb yn y tair blynedd nesaf yn cynnig sylfaen gadarn i lywodraeth leol fel y gall gynllunio. Hwnnw fydd y cam cyntaf tuag at setliadau tair blynedd a fydd yn cynnig i gynghorau lleol y sicrwydd a'r sefydlogrwydd y maent yn eu dymuno er mwyn gallu cynllunio'n effeithiol ac yn effeithlon. Fodd bynnag, law yn llaw â hynny y mae'r cyfrifoldeb i ymateb i'r blaenoriaethau yr ydym wedi cytuno arnynt ac i ddarparu'r gwasanaethau hollbwysig y mae llywodraeth leol yn gyfrifol amdanynt. Un arwydd arall o'n partneriaeth â llywodraeth leol yw'r protocol ar grantiau. Drwy'r protocol hwn, byddwn yn adolygu grantiau o bryd i'w gilydd gyda golwg ar benderfynu a ddylent barhau fel cyllid a glustnodwyd y tu allan i'r setliad.

Mae'r Llywodraeth hon wedi ymrwymo o hyd i leihau'r rheolaeth ar nifer a maint yr eitemau cyllid a roddir drwy'r grant a glustnodwyd. Er hynny, cydnabyddwn y bydd rheswm da, mewn rhai achosion, dros ddarparu cyllid ar ffurf grant, ac enghreifftiau o hynny yw pan fo menter yn cael ei harwain gan y galw, a'i bod yn afresymol disgwyl i awdurdodau dderbyn y risgiau o ran cyllido, neu pan fo'r Cynulliad yn ymgymryd â chyfrifoldeb dros fenter benodol sy'n cael ei dosbarthu yn ôl dull neilltuol. Er enghraifft, tynnwyd y cyllid ar gyfer tocynnau rhad o'r setliad ar gais llywodraeth leol, a rhoddwyd grant yn ei le a oedd yn seiliedig ar yr union swm a wariwyd.

Trof yn awr at welliannau'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, sydd unwaith eto'n codi mater treth incwm leol. Fel yr ydym eisoes wedi egluro, dyfodol y dreth gyngor—a ddylid cael rhywbeth yn ei lle ac, os felly, beth—yw un o'r amryw o faterion sy'n derbyn sylw yn yr adolygiad o'r cydbwysedd cyllido sy'n cael ei arwain gan Nick Raynsford. Byddaf yn darparu manylion am ganlyniad yr ymgynghori o dan yr adolygiad yng Nghymru gyda hyn. Bryd hynny, byddaf yn falch o drafod rhinweddau system treth incwm leol. Nid yw'n briodol gwneud hynny

particularly in the absence of any details. These amendments reflect a one-sided and rather naive view of the issue, which reinforces the need for proper debate on the outcome of the consultation, and I look forward to that. In the meantime, I reiterate that the 2004-05 settlement was a fair deal for local authorities, and that is reflected in the lower council tax rises this year. I end by reminding everyone that council tax rises in Wales since 1999, under a Labour Government, have been significantly less than under the last Conservative Government—so much for the swing of the pendulum.

5.00 p.m.

David Lloyd: Cynigiau y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Jocelyn Davies. Gwelliant 2: ychwanegu'r gair 'rhai' ar ôl 'gorfodi'.

Cynigiau gwelliant 3: Ychwanegu pwynt newydd:

yn cydnabod bod y dreth gyngor yn rhoi pwysau afresymol ar y rheini sydd ar incwm sefydlog ac isel fel pensïynwyr, ac y dylid ei chyfnewid am dreth incwm leol, fel rhan o'r system drethu decach a chynyddol sy'n seiliedig ar allu pobl i dalu.

Dyma gyfle arall i feirniadu annhegwch y dreth gyngor, ac i ailgynnal y ddadl ar setliad llywodraeth leol—dadl a gafwyd ar 10 Rhagfyr 2003. Bu inni bleidleisio yn erbyn y setliad yr adeg honno am ei fod yn annigonol, ac yr ydym yn dal i gredu hynny. Yr wyf yn gynghorydd sir yn Abertawe, ac yr ydym oll yn gwybod am y pwysau anferth ar gyllid llywodraeth leol o ran anghenion tai, addysg, gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, ffyrdd, casglu sbwriel ac ati. Fel y dywedodd y Gweinidog, daw 80 y cant o arian llywodraeth leol o'r Cynulliad a bloc Barnett, a dim ond 20 y cant a gesglir yn lleol drwy'r dreth gyngor.

Y darlun mawr yn hynny o beth yw, oherwydd diffygion Barnett, nad oes digon o arian ar gael yn ein bloc i Gymru. Rhaid i ni newid Barnett i fod yn seiliedig ar anghenion, a fyddai'n golygu £800 miliwn yn ychwanegol i Gymru bob blwyddyn, â bloc

ar hyn o bryd, yn enwedig gan nad oes unrhyw fanylion ar gael. Mae'r gwelliannau hyn yn arwydd o olwg unochrog a naif braidd ar y mater hwn, ac mae hynny'n amlygu'r angen am ddadl iawn ar ganlyniad yr ymgynghori, ac edrychaf ymlaen at hynny. Yn y cyfamser, dywedaf eto fod y setliad ar gyfer 2004-05 yn fargen deg i awdurdodau lleol, ac adlewyrchir hynny yn y codiadau is yn y dreth gyngor a gafwyd eleni. Terfynaf drwy atgoffa pawb bod y codiadau yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru er 1999, o dan Lywodraeth Lafur, wedi bod yn is o lawer nag y buont o dan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf—naw wfft i'r gogwydd.

David Lloyd: I propose the following amendments in the name of Jocelyn Davies. Amendment 2: insert the word 'some' after 'forced'.

I propose amendment 3. Add as a new point:

recognises that council tax places a disproportionate burden on those on fixed and low incomes such as pensioners, and should be replaced with a local income tax, as part of a fairer progressive taxation system that is based on the ability to pay.

This is another opportunity to criticise the unfairness of council tax, and to revisit the debate on the local government settlement—a debate held on 10 December 2003. We voted against the settlement then because it was insufficient, and we still believe that. I am a county councillor in Swansea, and we all know about the great pressure on local government budgets in terms of housing needs, education, social services, roads, refuse collection and so on. As the Minister said, 80 per cent of local government funding comes from the Assembly and the Barnett block, and only 20 per cent is raised locally through council tax.

The big picture in all of this is that because of deficiencies in Barnett there is not enough money in the Welsh block. We must change Barnett to be based on needs, which would mean an additional £800 million for Wales every year, with the local government block

llywodraeth leol yn cael rhan deilwng o'r cynnydd hwnnw.

Brian Gibbons: I am pleased that you raised the Barnett issue because, surely, one lesson of local government finance is that if you have a situation in which the formula is imperfect, you will get an unfairer distribution of resources, and the council tax is a classic example of that. How can you guarantee that your reformed Barnett formula will deliver fairness any more than the local government formula delivers fairness?

David Lloyd: A needs-based formula always produces more money if you have more needs. We have seen that with Townsend; for Townsend, read Barnett. You agree with Townsend in health, why not have a needs-based Barnett?

Gyda'r pwysau cynyddol i ariannu gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, plant mewn gofal, cronfa bensiwn llywodraeth leol, a mentrau'r Llywodraeth, fel cytundeb llwyth gwaith athrawon, mae'r dreth gyngor wedi codi dros y blynnydoedd. Fodd bynnag, mae cynghorau o leiaf yn gallu codi treth, yn wahanol i'r Cynulliad. Yn Abertawe, mae'r dreth gyngor wedi cynyddu 83 y cant ers 1997, ond dim ond cynnydd o 27 y cant a fu mewn pensiynau pobl hŷn yn yr un cyfnod. Wrth gwrs, bu llai o gynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yng nghynghorau Plaid Cymru.

Leighton Andrews: Dai, you asserted that there was a lower increase in Plaid-Cymru-run councils. Would you not like to confirm that the increase in Plaid-Cymru-run Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council is double the increase seen in Labour-run Cardiff County Council?

David Lloyd: If you look at figures across the piste, when Labour runs local authorities, the increases are in double figures and when Plaid Cymru runs them—as can be seen after 1999—they are in single figures. Compare like with like; take a lesson on statistics, Leighton.

receiving a fair share of that increase.

Brian Gibbons: Yr wyf yn falch eich bod wedi codi mater Barnett oherwydd, yn sicr, un o'r gwersi a ddysgir o gyllid llywodraeth leol yw, os yw'r fformiwla'n amherffaith, y ceir dosrannu llai teg ar adnoddau, ac mae'r dreth gyngor yn enghraifft ragorol o hynny. Sut y gallwch warantu y byddai fformiwla Barnett ddiwygiedig yn sicrhau tegwch, yn fwy nag y mae fformiwla llywodraeth leol yn sicrhau tegwch?

David Lloyd: Mae fformiwla sy'n seiliedig ar anghenion yn sicr o ddod â mwy o arian os yw'ch anghenion yn fwy. Gwelsom hynny yn achos fformiwla Townsend; yn lle Townsend, rhowch Barnett. Yr ydych yn cytuno â fformiwla Townsend ym maes ieched, felly pam na ddylid cael fformiwla Barnett sy'n seiliedig ar anghenion?

With the increasing pressure to fund social services, children in care, the local government pension fund, and Government initiatives such as the teachers' workload agreement, council tax has soared over the years. However, councils are at least able to raise tax, unlike the Assembly. In Swansea, council tax has increased 83 per cent since 1997, but there has only been an increase of 27 per cent in pensions for older people during the same period. Of course, the increase in council tax has been smaller in Plaid Cymru-controlled councils.

Leighton Andrews: Dai, yr ydych yn honni bod llai o gynnydd wedi bod mewn cynghorau sy'n cael eu rhedeg gan Plaid Cymru. Oni hoffech gadarnhau bod y cynnydd yng Nghyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf yn ddwywaith yr hyn a welir yng Nghyngor Sir Caerdydd, sy'n cael ei redeg gan Lafur?

David Lloyd: Os edrychwch ar gyfartaledd y ffigurau, gwelwch fod y codiadau ar ffurf ffigurau dwbl pan yw Llafur yn rhedeg awdurdodau lleol, a'u bod ar ffurf ffigurau sengl pan yw Plaid Cymru'n eu rhedeg—fel y gellir gweld er 1999. Cymharwch debyg â'i debyg; mynnwch wers mewn ystadegaeth, Leighton.

I will turn my attention back to the Tories. You are trying to get me off one of my favourite themes.

Trof fy sylw yn ôl at y Torïaid. Yr ydych yn ceisio fy nhynnu oddi wrth un o'm hoff themâu.

O wrando ar y Ceidwadwyr yn taranu y prynhawn yma, byddech yn meddwl mai rhyw blaid arall a ddyfeisiodd y dreth gyngor, ond syniad y Ceidwadwyr ydoedd. Dim ond parhau â syniad Torïaidd y mae Llafur Newydd. Mae'r dreth gyngor yn annheg ond nid dyma'r unig dreth annheg a fathwyd gan y Torïaid. Cofiw'n dreth y pen—syniad gwallgof arall.

Having listened to the Conservatives' tirade this afternoon, you would think that some other party had invented council tax, but it was a Conservative idea. New Labour is only perservering with a Tory idea. Council tax is unfair, but this is not the only unfair tax that the Tories invented. We remember the poll tax—another insane idea.

Mae'r dreth gyngor yn aml yn annheg: nid yw maint eich tŷ yn adlewyrchu eich gallu i dalu treth. Gwelwn bensynwyr mewn tai â'u gwerth yn carlamu i fyny, nad ydynt wedi gweld newid yn eu pensiynau o gwbl. Fel plaid, credwn y dylid diddymu'r dreth gyngor a chael treth incwm leol yn ei lle, a fyddai'n adlewyrchu'r gallu i dalu. Yr oedd erthygl yn y *Municipal Journal* yn Hydref 2003 yn datgan bod y bobl dlotaf yn talu dros dair gwaith yn fwy o'u hincwm mewn treth gyngor na'r bobl fwyaf cyfoethog. Gyda'r dreth gyngor yn saethu i fyny, ein pobl hŷn ar incwm sefydlog sy'n dioddef waethaf, a hynny am fod gwerth eu tai yn saethu i fyny. Rhaid cael treth incwm leol er tegwch ac er cyfiawnder.

Council tax is often unfair: the size of your house does not reflect your ability to pay tax. We see pensioners in houses with rapidly increasing values, who have not seen any change in their pensions. As a party, we believe that council tax should be abolished and replaced with a local income tax, which would reflect people's ability to pay. There was an article in the *Municipal Journal* in October 2003 that stated that the poorest people spend three times more of their income on council tax than the richest. With council tax rocketing, it is older people on fixed incomes who suffer most, because house values have shot up. We must have a local income tax for the sake of fairness and justice.

Er y pwysau cyllidebol, mae rhai esiamplau clodwiw o berfformiadau gwych gan ein cynghorau lleol yn darparu gwasanaethau o safon arbennig ac yn gweinyddu'r cyllid yn ddoeth a chyda llai o gynnydd yn y dreth gyngor. Sôn yr wyf am gynghorau Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerffili, Gwynedd ac unrhyw gyngor arall a gaiff ei redeg gan Blaid Cymru wedi 10 Mehefin. Cefnogwch y gwelliannau.

Despite budgetary pressures, there are some notable examples of excellent performances by our local councils in delivering high quality services and administering funding sensibly wisely and with a smaller increase in the council tax. I am talking about the councils of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Caerphilly, Gwynedd and any other council that will be Plaid Cymru-run after 10 June. Support the amendments.

Michael German: I propose the following amendments in the name of Kirsty Williams. Amendment 4: add a new point at the end of the motion:

Michael German: Cynigiaf y gwelliannau canlynol yn enw Kirsty Williams. Gwelliant 4: ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

believes that council tax is neither a buoyant nor progressive method of taxation, hitting hardest those least able to afford it.

yn credu nad yw'r dreth gyngor yn ddull hyblyg na chynyddol o godi trethi, ac mai'r rhai lleiaf tebygol o allu ei fforddio sy'n cael yr ergyd drymaf.

I propose amendment 5. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

Cynigiaf welliant 5. Ychwanegu pwynt ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

believes that the introduction of the fairer and more transparent system of a local income tax in place of the council tax would reduce bureaucracy and cut the tax burden for some of the poorest people in Wales.

I propose amendment 6. Add a new point at the end of the motion:

believes that the proportion of local council resources raised locally should increase significantly and notes that such an increase cannot occur with a property based tax.

On hearing Glyn Davies this afternoon, I thought, 'I've heard of Tory complaints about looking back seven years, but he has a shorter political memory than 12 months'. I am always surprised by the Conservatives' thinking in these matters. I am also worried that he poses the question of where we go from here, but does not follow it with an answer. In reality, he asks two questions, both of which are paradoxes. First, he wants to alter the 80:20 split, and Brian Gibbons quite rightly asked him about the gearing affect and how he would deal with it. Secondly, he says that he wants more opportunity for local councils to raise their taxes to match their desired spending levels, which means more local tax raising. However, the problem is that council tax is based on property, which makes it, by its nature, a regressive tax. If you want to make more of a regressive tax, it will not work because you will cause more unfairness for people.

David Melding: May I suggest that an alternative to the council tax would be for you to tax your own Members for not turning up to support you?

Michael German: They have heard the arguments already, and I am about to give you the arguments that will help you reach a sane solution on an issue for which you do not have a policy. Let us be clear about the Conservatives: they have come to the Chamber with a rant motion and without any alternatives whatsoever. At least with the

yn credu y byddai cyflwyno system dreth incwm leol decach a mwy tryloyw yn lle'r dreth gyngor yn lleihau biwrocratiaeth ac yn gostwng y baich trethi ar rai o'r bobl dlotaf yng Nghymru.

Cynigiaf welliant 6. Ychwanegu pwynt newydd ar ddiwedd y cynnig:

yn credu y dylai'r gyfran o adnoddau'r cynghorau lleol sy'n cael ei chodi'n lleol gynyddu'n sylweddol ac yn nodi na all cynnydd o'r fath ddigwydd drwy godi treth ar eiddo.

Wrth wrando ar Glyn Davies y prynhawn yma, meddyliais, 'Yr wyf wedi clywed cwynion gan y Torïaid am y rhai sy'n bwrw golwg yn ôl dros saith mlynedd, ond mae ei gof ef am wleidyddiaeth yn fyrrach na 12 mis'. Yr wyf bob amser yn synnu at syniadau'r Ceidwadwyr am y materion hyn. Yr wyf hefyd yn poeni am y ffaith ei fod yn holi i lle yr awn oddi yma, ond nad yw'n rhoi ateb i hynny. Mewn gwirionedd, mae'n gofyn dau gwestiwn, a'r ddau ohonynt yn baradocsau. Yn gyntaf, mae am newid y rhaniad 80:20, a gwnaeth Brian Gibbons ei holi'n gwbl briodol am yr effaith gerio a'r modd y deliai â hynny. Yn ail, dywed ei fod am i gynghorau lleol gael mwy o gyfle i godi trethi i gyd-fynd â'r lefelau gwario y maent yn eu dymuno, ac mae hynny'n golygu codi mwy o dreth yn lleol. Fodd bynnag, y broblem yw bod y dreth gyngor yn seiliedig ar eiddo, sy'n peri ei bod yn dreth atchweliadol o'i hanfod. Os ydych am gael mwy o dreth atchweliadol, ni wnaiff hynny weithio gan y byddwch yn peri mwy o annhegwch i bobl.

David Melding: A gaf awgrymu mai un dewis yn lle'r dreth gyngor fyddai i chi godi treth ar eich Aelodau eich hun am beidio â dod yma i'ch cefnogi?

Michael German: Maent hwy wedi clywed y dadleuon yn barod, ac yr wyf ar fin cyflwyno'r dadleuon i chi fel y cewch gymorth i gael ateb call ar fater nad oes gennych bolisi arno. Gadewch inni ddeall hyn am y Ceidwadwyr: daethant i'r Siambr â chynnig ymfflamychol heb roi unrhyw ddewisiadau eraill o gwbl. Yn achos y Blaid

Labour Party you get, 'let's wait and see what the result of a consultation is'. That does not sound to me like a policy, but at least it is halfway to a policy. It is not the Conservative Party's approach, however: it has no policy except to say that it prefers an unfair tax that it would make even more unfair by forcing more payments from people. 'Make the poor pay more,' is what we have heard from the Conservatives. Remember, making the poor pay more means a solution that is fine for the rich but not for the poor.

Glyn Davies: How can you justify your 'make the poor pay more' allegation when the basis of all that I have said here over recent months on this issue, and which I have said today, is that we do not want council tax to go up and we do not want the poor to pay more? That is what Labour wants.

Michael German: You cannot have the penny and the bun. If you want a council tax system, under which the poor clearly pay more—just look at the CIPFA figures, which you have already quoted—then you cannot ask to have more of the cake taken by council tax. If you want to alter the gearing, then you will just be asking the poor to pay more. That is the reality. Either you want local money, or you want central money. If you want more from Government here, then the gearing alters. The Conservatives' dilemma is that you want to take power away from local councils and invest it in the centre. One way or another, you must solve that dilemma. That was the dilemma that Michael Howard faced—remember, he introduced the poll tax. Peter was right; he introduced the poll tax, and look at the consequences and the concern that it caused. What did he do? He turned around quickly and said, 'let's have a council tax. That's a way out of it'. Michael Howard's record is one of unfair taxation, and not low taxation. He produced unfair taxation. He showed his true colours by inventing two most unfair taxes: the council tax and the poll tax. No matter how far you want to shift the blame, it is your party which introduced this tax and it is clear that, from the beginning, it was unfair and regressive, and it could only get worse—and get worse it has.

Lafur, o leiaf y ceir, 'gadewch inni ddisgwyl a gweld canlyniad yr ymgynghoriad'. Nid yw hynny'n swnio'n debyg i bolisi i mi, ond o leiaf y mae'n hanner ffordd tuag at bolisi. Nid felly y mae'r Blaid Geidwadol yn edrych ar hyn, fodd bynnag: nid oes ganddi bolisi heblaw ei bod yn well ganddi annheg a wnâi'n annhecach byth drwy orfodi pobl i dalu mwy. 'Parwch i'r tlawd dalu rhagor,' yw'r hyn a glywsom gan y Ceidwadwyr. Cofiwch, mae peri i'r tlawd dalu rhagor yn ateb sy'n iawn i'r cyfoethog ond nid i'r tlawd.

Glyn Davies: Sut y gallwch gyfiawnhau'ch honiad ynghylch peri 'i'r tlawd dalu rhagor' gan fod y cwbl yr wyf wedi'i ddweud yma heddiw a thros y misoedd diwethaf ar y mater hwn yn seiliedig ar y ffaith nad ydym am weld y dreth gyngor yn codi ac nad ydym am weld y tlawd yn talu rhagor? Llafur sydd am weld hynny.

Michael German: Ni allwch ei chael bob ffordd. Os ydych am gael system dreth gyngor, lle y mae'n amlwg bod y tlawd yn talu mwy—nid oes ond rhaid ichi weld ffigurau Sefydliad Siartredig Cyllid Cyhoeddus a Chyfrifyddiaeth, yr ydych eisoes wedi dyfynnu ohonynt—ni allwch ofyn am gael cyfran fwy drwy'r dreth gyngor. Os ydych am newid y gerio, y cwbl a wnewch fydd gofyn i'r tlawd dalu rhagor. Dyna'r gwir. Un ai yr ydych am gael arian lleol, neu yr ydych am gael arian canolog. Os ydych am gael mwy gan y Llywodraeth yma, bydd y gerio'n newid. Y cyfyng-gyngor y mae'r Ceidwadwyr ynddo yw eich bod am gymryd grym oddi wrth gynghorau lleol a'i roi i'r canol. Rywfodd neu'i gilydd, bydd yn rhaid ichi ddod o'r cyfyng-gyngor hwnnw. Hwnnw oedd y cyfyng-gyngor yr oedd Michael Howard ynddo—cofiwch, ef a gyflwynodd dreth y pen. Yr oedd Peter yn iawn; ef a gyflwynodd dreth y pen, ac edrychwch ar y canlyniadau a'r pryder a achosodd hynny. Beth a wnaeth? Trodd ar ei sawdl yn gyflym a dweud, 'gadewch inni gael treth gyngor. Dyna un ffordd allan ohoni'. Gosod trethi annheg fu hanes Michael Howard, nid gosod trethi isel. Creodd drethu annheg. Dangosodd ei wir liwiau drwy ddyfeisio dwy dreth dra annheg: y dreth gyngor a threth y pen. Ni waeth pa mor bell yr ydych yn dymuno bwrw'r bai,

eich plaid chi a gyflwynodd y dreth hon ac yr oedd yn amlwg, o'r dechrau, ei bod yn annheg ac yn atchweliadol, ac na allai ond gwaethygu—a dyna a wnaeth.

You can attack the unfair council tax system, if you like. The only fair alternative is to have a tax that is based on the ability to pay and is fair to the people who pay it. That is why local income tax would be the fair tax, because it is easy to collect and would save £650 million in terms of collection. Remember that there is £62 million of uncollected council tax in Wales, which all who pay council tax are now paying for. How unfair is that?

Cewch feirniadu'r system dreth gyngor annheg, os dymunwch. Yr unig ddewis teg y gellir ei gael yn ei lle yw treth sy'n seiliedig ar y gallu i dalu ac sy'n deg â'r rhai sy'n ei thalu. Dyna pam y byddai treth incwm leol yn dreth deg, gan y byddai'n hawdd ei chasglu ac yn arbed £650 miliwn ar gostau casglu. Cofiwch fod £62 miliwn o dreth gyngor sydd heb ei chasglu yng Nghymru, a bod pawb sy'n talu'r dreth gyngor yn talu am hynny'n awr. Pa mor deg yw hynny?

5.10 p.m.

William Graham: Assembly finance Ministers come before Plenary to explain, time after time, how 'good' local government settlements have been under a Labour administration. The 2003-04 settlement of 8.7 per cent led to average council tax increases of nearly 10 per cent, and the 2004-05 settlement of 5 per cent has led to increases of 6 per cent. Therefore, good Labour settlements lead to council tax increases that are 20 per cent higher than the Ministers' forecasts.

William Graham: Daw Gweinidogion cyllid y Cynulliad gerbron y Cyfarfod Llawn, dro ar ôl tro, i egluro mor 'dda' y bu'r setliadau llywodraeth leol o dan weinyddiaeth Lafur. Arweinodd setliad 2003-04 o 8.7 y cant at gynnydd cyfartalog yn y dreth gyngor o ymron i 10 y cant, ac mae setliad ar 2004-05 o 5 y cant wedi arwain at godiadau o 6 y cant. Felly, mae setliadau da gan Lafur yn arwain at godiadau yn y dreth gyngor sy'n 20 y cant yn fwy na'r hyn a ragwelwyd gan y Gweinidogion.

The facts are clear: in 1993-94 the average council tax bill was £330. When Labour came to office in 1997, it had risen to £500. In the years that Labour has been in office, it has risen to £887. Therefore, in 10 years, council tax levels in Wales have increased by 169 per cent. The facts contradict Labour's amendment 1.

Mae'r ffeithiau'n glir: yn 1993-94, cyfartaledd bil y dreth gyngor oedd £330. Erbyn i Lafur ddod i rym yn 1997, yr oedd wedi codi i £500. Yn ystod y blynyddoedd y bu Llafur mewn grym, mae wedi codi i £887. Felly, o fewn 10 mlynedd, mae lefelau'r dreth gyngor yng Nghymru wedi codi o 169 y cant. Mae'r ffeithiau'n gwrth-ddweud gwelliant 1 Llafur.

Labour also forgets the recently published report by the Bevan Foundation—hardly a Conservative-funded think tank—which warns that Wales's economy could be devastated by Gordon Brown's plans to introduce regional pay.

Mae Llafur hefyd yn anghofio'r adroddiad a gyhoeddwyd yn ddiweddar gan Sefydliad Bevan—sydd ymhell o fod yn bwyllgor ystyried a gyllidir gan y Ceidwadwyr—sy'n rhybuddio y gallai economi Cymru gael ei dinistrio gan fwriad Gordon Brown i gyflwyno cyflogau rhanbarthol.

Peter Law: Do you accept, despite this wild propaganda that we are listening to from the Tory benches this afternoon, that, since the Assembly Government came into being in 1999, the Welsh Local Government

Peter Law: A ydych yn derbyn, er gwaethaf y propaganda gwyllt a glywn o feinciau'r Toriaid y prynhawn yma, fod Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru wedi cydnabod, ers i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ddod i fodolaeth yn

Association acknowledges that local government has continually received the fairest and best settlements? It has received record increases, which have been fair. Your colleague, Glyn Davies, spoke earlier of a dishonesty charter—the Tory Party has 18 years' credit for that.

William Graham: Sir Harry Jones, the retiring leader of the Welsh Local Government Association, said that, although the Welsh Assembly Government provided additional support for local government in its finance settlement, it did not go as far as local authorities argued was necessary. I see that no rejoinder to that is forthcoming from Peter.

Public spending in the UK has averaged about 43 per cent of gross domestic product over the past 40 years. Under Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Government, it was 48 per cent of gross domestic product. At the beginning of the Labour administration in 1997, the level dropped to a lower figure. Labour's preferred spending levels are about 42 per cent of GDP, which puts the Government's plans not only below the four-decade average, but well below the average for Conservative Governments. The facts are clear: there were lower council tax increases under Conservative Governments, and public spending was at a higher percentage of GDP.

Under the latest settlement, Newport will receive about £85 for every £100 from the Welsh Assembly Government. Balances have been raided and are at the absolute minimum, as recommended by the Audit Commission, and yet we still have an increase in council tax. We have 92 partnership boards to support, but money is not following new responsibilities, and council tax continues to increase.

In Cardiff, I understand, the local authority disputes some community care groups' funds. These are large sums of money that are vital for some of the most dependent members of our society.

We are given promises but the reality is that,

1999, fod llywodraeth leol wedi cael y setliadau tecaf a gorau? Cafodd y codiadau mwyaf erioed, a buont yn rhai teg. Cyfeiriodd eich cyd-Aelod, Glyn Davies, yn gynharach at y cyfle i anonestrywydd—mae'r clod am hynny i'r Blaid Doriaidd dros 18 mlynedd.

William Graham: Yn ôl Syr Harry Jones, sy'n ymddeol fel arweinydd Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, er bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi rhoi cymorth ychwanegol i lywodraeth leol yn ei setliad cyllid, nid aeth mor bell ag yr oedd awdurdodau lleol wedi dadlau y dylai. Gwelaf nad oes gan Peter ateb i'w roi i hynny.

Ar gyfartaledd, mae gwariant cyhoeddus yn y DU wedi cymryd tua 43 y cant o'r cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth dros y 40 mlynedd diwethaf. O dan Lywodraeth Geidwadol Margaret Thatcher, yr oedd yn 48 y cant o'r cynnyrch mewnwladol crynswth. Ar ddechrau'r weinyddiaeth Lafur yn 1997, gostyngodd y lefel. Y lefelau gwario sydd orau gan Lafur yw tua 42 y cant o'r CMC, fel bod cynlluniau'r Llywodraeth nid yn unig yn is na'r cyfartaledd dros y pedwar degawd, ond yn is na'r cyfartaledd ar gyfer Llywodraethau Ceidwadol. Mae'r ffeithiau'n glir: bu llai o gynnydd yn y dreth gyngor o dan Lywodraethau Ceidwadol, ac yr oedd gwariant cyhoeddus yn cymryd canran fwy o'r CMC.

O dan y setliad diwethaf, bydd Casnewydd yn cael tua £85 am bob £100 oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Aed i'r cronfeydd wrth gefn ac maent ar eu hisaf posibl, fel y mae'r Comisiwn Archwilio wedi argymhell, ac eto cawsom gynnydd yn y dreth gyngor. Mae gennym 92 o fyrddau partneriaeth i'w cynnal, ond ni ddaw arian gyda chyfrifoldebau newydd, ac mae'r dreth gyngor yn dal i godi.

Yr wyf yn deall bod yr awdurdod lleol yng Nghaerdydd yn anghytuno ar y cyllid ar gyfer rhai grwpiau gofal cymunedol. Symiau mawr o arian yw'r rhain ac maent yn hollbwysig i rai o'r aelodau mwyaf dibynnol o'n cymdeithas.

Rhoddir addewidion i ni ond y gwir yw bod

year after year, increases are deemed necessary by local authorities, whatever their persuasion, across Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government designed the funding mechanism to placate its own people, and it has led to tremendous and unnecessary increases in taxation in places such as Monmouthshire, Powys and Anglesey.

On the point made by Mike German—who, unfortunately, has left the Chamber, but I will respond to it anyway—what could be more progressive than a tax that is based on capital value, with the lowest prices in band A, and the highest in band H, or band I, which is to be introduced? What could be more progressive than taxation on capital value?

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I still have a dozen speakers. I would welcome succinct speeches, not a second over five minutes.

Brian Gibbons: Is this not a helpful motion, telling us that the Conservatives do not like increases in council taxes that are above inflation? However, as Glyn's speech epitomised, which other Members have said, they offer no solution. Does the Tory Party express any sense of ownership for the council tax of which it is so critical? No. Does it display the faintest sense of regret for the fact that it has set in place the mechanisms that produced penal levels of council tax for the communities least able to afford it? No. Consequently, no-one in Wales can seriously believe that this motion is anything but a cynical exercise in naked political opportunism.

The council tax system that we have inherited has a serious effect on social justice in Wales. It is a typical example of Conservative philosophy and actions, where those who have the most get the most, and those who have the least get the least. This is Toryism in action. No-one should be fooled by Glyn Davies's avuncular geniality at the lectern. This is Toryism—taking from the people who most need it.

Glyn Davies: You attack the council tax outright. Will you remove the council tax? I

awdurdodau lleol ledled Cymru, o ba bynnag liw gwleidyddol, yn barnu bod angen cynnydd o'r naill flwyddyn i'r llall. Dyfeisiodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru y dull cyllido i dawelu ei phobl ei hun, ac mae hyn wedi arwain at godiadau enfawr a diangen mewn trethi mewn lleoedd fel sir Fynwy, Powys ac Ynys Môn.

Ynghylch y pwynt a wnaeth Mike German—sydd wedi gadael y Siambr, gwaetha'r modd, ond ymatebaf iddo beth bynnag—pa beth mwy cynyddgar y gellid ei gael na threth sy'n seiliedig ar werth cyfalaf, a'r prisiau isaf ym mand A, a'r uchaf ym mand H, neu fand I, sydd i'w gyflwyno? Pa beth a allai fod yn fwy cynyddgar na threth ar werth cyfalaf?

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Mae dwsin o siaradwyr ar ôl o hyd. Byddwn yn falch o gael areithiau cryno, na fyddant yr un eiliad yn hwy na phum munud.

Brian Gibbons: Onid yw hwn yn gynnig buddiol, gan ei fod yn dweud wrthym nad yw'r Ceidwadwyr yn hoffi codiadau mewn trethi cyngor sydd uwchlaw chwyddiant? Fodd bynnag, fel y dangosodd araith Glyn, ac fel y dywedodd Aelodau eraill, nid ydynt yn cynnig ateb. A yw'r Blaid Doriaidd yn arddel y dreth gyngor y mae mor feirniadol ohoni? Nac ydyw. A yw'n amlygu'r gofid lleiaf am y ffaith ei bod wedi rhoi mecanweithiau ar waith a gododd lefelau gormodol o'r dreth gyngor ar y cymunedau a oedd yn lleiaf galluog i'w fforddio? Nac ydyw. O ganlyniad, ni all neb yng Nghymru gredu o ddifrif nad yw'r cynnig hwn yn ddim amgen na chyflegarwch gwleidyddol sinigaidd a noeth.

Mae'r system dreth gyngor a ddaeth i'n rhan yn cael effaith ddifrifol ar gyfiawnder cymdeithasol yng Nghymru. Mae'n enghraifft nodweddiadol o athroniaeth a gweithredoedd y Ceidwadwyr, lle y mae'r rhai a chanddynt fwyaf yn cael y mwyaf, a'r rhai a chanddynt leiaf yn cael y lleiaf. Dyma Doriaeth ar waith. Ni ddylai neb gael ei dwyllo gan sirioldeb ewythrol Glyn Davies wrth y ddarllenfa. Toriaeth yw hyn—cymryd oddi wrth y rhai mwyaf anghenus.

Glyn Davies: Yr ydych yn beirniadu'r dreth gyngor ar ei phen. A wnewch ddileu'r dreth

did not know that the Labour Party had made up its mind about this. Will you condemn the Labour Party if it subsequently decides to continue with the council tax after its review?

Brian Gibbons: Wait to hear what I have to say.

Since the Assembly's establishment, Welsh Labour has been the only party that has shown any real commitment to getting a fairer system and funding mechanism in place. In doing so, we have had no support from the Conservatives, the Liberal Democrats or Plaid Cymru, which time and again pretends to be on the side of social justice. Under Peter Law we began a process of trying to get a fairer funding formula in place that was in line with social need across Wales. We have a situation now where up to 25 per cent of the formula is allocated on factors that may be related to social need. The Labour-led Welsh Assembly Government has also established the £20 million deprivation fund with inflation increases, directed at local authorities in the greatest need with the highest council tax. Those policies were opposed by all Assembly opposition parties—with particular vengeance by the Conservative Party.

Peter Black: Do you accept that, when the changes in the funding formula to which you refer were introduced, you were in partnership with the Liberal Democrats, and that therefore you had our support?

Brian Gibbons: We had your support once, but you have also failed to support subsequent Assembly budgets, including the decision to index the £20 million deprivation fund. That is typical of the Liberal Democrats—if it suits you, you will vote one way, and if it does not suit you, you will vote the other way.

Peter Law: Would you remind our Labour friends here who the Liberal Democrats voted against in 1999 when I was responsible for the local government settlement—it was the poor people in Rhondda Cynon Taf, Neath Port Talbot and Blaenau Gwent. Do you

gyngor? Ni wyddwn fod y Blaid Lafur wedi penderfynu ar hyn. A wnewch gollfarnu'r Blaid Lafur os bydd yn penderfynu parhau â'r dreth gyngor ar ôl ei hymgyngoriad?

Brian Gibbons: Arhoswch i glywed beth sydd gennyf i'w ddweud.

Ers sefydlu'r Cynulliad, Llafur Cymru yw'r unig blaid a amlygodd unrhyw wir ymrwymiad i gael system a dull cyllido tecach. Wrth wneud hynny, ni chawsom unrhyw gefnogaeth gan y Ceidwadwyr, y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol neu Blaid Cymru, sy'n cymryd arni dro ar ôl tro ei bod o blaid cyfiawnder cymdeithasol. O dan Peter Law gwnaethom ddechrau proses o geisio cael fformiwla gyllido decach a oedd yn unol ag anghenion cymdeithasol ledled Cymru. Yr ydym mewn sefyllfa bellach lle y caiff 25 y cant o'r fformiwla ei ddyrannu yn ôl ffactorau a allai fod yn gysylltiedig ag anghenion cymdeithasol. Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, sy'n cael ei harwain gan Lafur, wedi sefydlu cronfa amddifadedd werth £20 miliwn hefyd, sy'n cynyddu yn ôl chwyddiant, ar gyfer awdurdodau lleol sydd â'r anghenion mwyaf a'r dreth gyngor uchaf. Gwnaeth yr holl wrthbleidiau yn y Cynulliad wrthwynebu'r polisiau hynny—ac yr oedd y Blaid Geidwadol yn arbennig o groch yn ei gwrthwynebiad.

Peter Black: A ydych yn derbyn eich bod mewn partneriaeth â'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol pan gyflwynwyd y newidiadau i'r fformiwla gyllido y cyfeiriwch atynt ac, felly, ein bod yn eich cefnogi?

Brian Gibbons: Cawsom gefnogaeth gennych unwaith, ond yr ydych hefyd wedi methu â chefnogi cyllidebau Cynulliad ar ôl hynny, gan gynnwys y penderfyniad i fynegrifo'r gronfa amddifadedd o £20 miliwn. Mae hynny'n nodweddiadol o'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol—os yw'n gyfleus i chi, gwnewch bleidleisio un ffordd, os nad ydyw, gwnewch bleidleisio'r ffordd arall.

Peter Law: A wnewch atgoffa ein ffrindiau Llafur yma yn erbyn pwy y gwnaeth y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol bleidleisio yn 1999 pan oeddwn i'n gyfrifol am y setliad llywodraeth leol—pobl dlawd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf, Castell-nedd Port Talbot a

remember that? They would not give them extra money to tackle deprivation. That is what the Liberal Democrats did, and we will never forgive them.

Brian Gibbons: As time is pressing—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. You have two minutes left—the clock is wrong.

Brian Gibbons: The Labour-led Welsh Assembly Government is the only party in the Assembly that has made any serious attempt to deliver a social justice agenda on council tax. However, despite those efforts, we must recognise that the present situation is probably irredeemable, and that no matter how much we tinker around the edges of the system we will probably not deliver a fundamental change in the allocation of local government finance that is consistent with the priorities of this Labour-led administration. In this context, I congratulate Sue Essex on the fundamental review of local government finance that she has established. Welsh Labour is taking the lead again and trying to find practical solutions to real problems that the most needy communities in Wales face.

5.20 p.m.

We cannot finish a debate such as this without referring to the campaign launched by the Assembly with the Department for Work and Pensions and the Welsh Local Government Association to increase the uptake of council tax and housing benefit, which is crucial. We should also not forget the additional £100 that Gordon Brown gave in his last budget to pensioners to deal with council tax increases. Labour is delivering for Wales. [*Applause.*]

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I ask Members to refrain from applauding. It is not out of order to applaud occasionally, but it has happened four or five times today. I know that elections are taking place soon, but we should conduct our business as if the elections are nothing to do with us.

Brynle Williams: I support the motion tabled in the name of Jonathan Morgan and

Blaenau Gwent. A ydych yn cofio hynny? Ni wnaent roi arian ychwanegol iddynt i fynd i'r afael ag amddifadedd. Dyna a wnaeth y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, ac ni wnawn byth faddau iddynt.

Brian Gibbons: Gan fod amser yn pwysu—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae gennych ddau funud ar ôl—mae'r cloc yn anghywir.

Brian Gibbons: Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o dan arweiniad Llafur yw'r unig blaidd yn y Cynulliad a ymdrechodd o ddifrif i gymhwyso cyfiawnder cymdeithasol at y dreth gyngor. Fodd bynnag, er gwaethaf yr ymdrechion hynny, rhaid inni gydnabod bod y sefyllfa bresennol y tu hwnt i adferiad, yn ôl pob tebyg, ac er cymaint y gallem geisio ailwampio'r system, ei bod yn debygol na sicrhawn newid sylfaenol yn y modd y dyrennir cyllid llywodraeth leol sy'n gyson â blaenoriaethau'r weinyddiaeth Lafur hon. Yn y cyd-destun hwn, llongyfarchaf Sue Essex ar yr adolygiad sylfaenol o gyllid llywodraeth leol a sefydlwyd ganddi. Mae Llafur Cymru yn arwain eto ac yn ceisio canfod atebion ymarferol i'r gwir broblemau y mae'r cymunedau mwyaf anghenus yng Nghymu yn eu hwynebu.

Ni allwn orffen dadl fel hon heb gyfeirio at yr ymgyrch a lansiwyd gan y Cynulliad gyda'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i gynyddu'r nifer sy'n derbyn budd-dal y dreth gyngor a'r budd-dal tai, sy'n hollbwysig. Ni ddylem anghofio ychwaith am y £100 ychwanegol a roddodd Gordon Brown yn ei gyllideb ddiwethaf i bensiynwyr i ddelio â chynnydd yn y dreth gyngor. Mae Llafur yn mynd â'r maen i'r wal dros Gymru. [*Cymeradwyaeth.*]

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Gofynnaf i Aelodau ymatal rhag cymeradwyo. Nid yw allan o drefn os rhoddir cymeradwyaeth yn achlysurol, ond digwyddodd bedair neu bum gwaith heddiw. Gwn y bydd etholiadau cyn hir, ond dylem gynnal ein busnes fel pe na fyddai'r etholiadau'n ymwneud â ni.

Brynle Williams: Cefnogaf y cynnig a gyflwynwyd yn enw Jonathan Morgan a

reject all the amendments tabled by other party groups. I am sure that all Members have heard the saying 'there is no such thing as a free lunch'. [*Laughter.*] I take the point. However, there is no such thing as a free bus pass either, contrary to the belief of my friend, Carl Sargeant, who always states that he is the elected Member for Delyn. He is living in cloud-cuckoo-land. He talks about children learning in new school buildings. Has he heard about Argoed High School and the disastrous state of its buildings? Is he aware that, according to Flintshire County Council figures, published three years ago, the cost of dealing with the backlog of urgent maintenance and repairs to the county's school buildings has risen to £15.5 million?

Carl Sargeant: I am the directly elected Member for Alyn and Deeside and Argoed High School is in Delyn. Therefore, you have the wrong Member and the wrong constituency. If you wish to discuss schools and school funding, I remind you that the Tories raped and pillaged the education funding system while in Government. Answer that, Brynle.

Brynle Williams: The situation has worsened since. I am sure that you will share the concern that I felt when I read a story in the *Flintshire Evening Leader* on 14 May about the state of buildings at Argoed High School, where electric cables hang loosely from a ceiling, radiators lie in tatters and pipes are left uncovered. There was also a photograph. This is placing the lives of children and teachers in jeopardy.

Sandy Mewies: I am the Assembly Member for Delyn. I visited that school, not, as has been stated, to respond to a campaign that people might be running, but as part of my visits to schools. We must remember that Flintshire is one of the few areas that has had two new schools built recently. One has been built in my consistency, with £3.6 million planned—[*Interruption.*] If you believe everything that you read in the papers, you will believe what they say about fuel protestors and what they think. There is a

gwrthod yr holl welliannau a gyflwynwyd gan grwpiau plaid eraill. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod yr holl Aelodau wedi clywed y dywedriad 'nid oes y fath beth â chinio am ddim'. [*Chwerthin.*] Yr wyf yn derbyn y pwynt hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, nid oes y fath beth ychwaith â thocyn bws am ddim, yn groes i gred fy nghyfaill, Carl Sargeant, sydd bob amser yn dweud mai ef yw'r Aelod etholedig dros Ddelyn. Mae â'i ben yn y cymylau. Mae'n sôn am blant yn dysgu mewn adeiladau ysgol newydd. A glywodd am Ysgol Uwchradd Argoed a chyflwr trychinebus yr adeiladau yn y fan honno? A yw'n gwybod, yn ôl y ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd gan Gyngor Sir y Fflint dair blynedd yn ôl, fod y gost o ddelio â'r ôl-groniad o waith atgyweirio a chynnal a chadw brys ar adeiladau ysgol y sir wedi codi i £15.5 miliwn?

Carl Sargeant: Myfi yw'r Aelod a etholwyd yn uniongyrchol dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy ac mae Ysgol Uwchradd Argoed yn Nelyn. Felly, yr ydych wedi camgymryd yr Aelod a'r etholaeth. Os dymunwch drafod ysgolion a chyllid ysgolion, yr wyf yn eich atgoffa bod y Torïaid wedi ysbeilio'r system gyllido addysg pan oeddent mewn Llywodraeth. Atebwch hynny, Brynle.

Brynle Williams: Mae'r sefyllfa wedi gwaethygu ers hynny. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch yn rhannu'r pryder a deimlais pan ddarllenais stori yn y *Flintshire Evening Leader* ar 14 Mai am gyflwr adeiladau yn Ysgol Uwchradd Argoed, lle y mae ceblau trydan yn hongian yn rhydd o'r nenfwd, lle y mae gwresogyddion yn ddarnau a lle y mae pibellau heb eu gorchuddio. Yr oedd llun hefyd. Mae hyn yn peryglu bywydau plant ac athrawon.

Sandy Mewies: Myfi yw'r Aelod Cynulliad dros Ddelyn. Ymwelais â'r ysgol honno, nid, fel y dywedwyd, i ymateb i ymgyrch y gallai rhai fod yn ei rhedeg, ond fel rhan o'm hymweliadau ag ysgolion. Rhaid inni gofio mai sir y Fflint yw un o'r ychydig ardaloedd lle y codwyd dwy ysgol newydd yn ddiweddar. Codwyd un yn fy etholaeth i, ac mae bwriad i wario £3.6 miliwn—[*Torri ar draws.*] Os credwch bopeth a ddarllenwch yn y papurau newydd, credwch yr hyn a ddywedant am brotestwyr tanwydd a'r hyn y

long list—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. This is an intervention, not a speech.

Mark Isherwood *rose*—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. I cannot call everyone. Order will be maintained in the Chamber while I am in the Chair. I remind Members that they cannot make an intervention on an intervention.

Brynle Williams: Does Carl realise that council tax payers in Wales pay for their bus passes through their council tax? We are told, hot off the press today, that there is a crisis in the number of consultants in key medical specialisms, which means that patients in Wales are waiting twice as long as patients in England. Welcome to the real world, Carl. This is the reality, not your dreams.

I am sure that Members would agree that the people of Wales do not mind paying sensible levels of council tax as long as they have excellent services in return. However, council tax levels are not sensible. Council tax in Flintshire has increased by 70 per cent under Labour.

How can the Assembly Government introduce initiative after initiative, take the credit for them, and then impose them on local authorities in Wales without providing adequate funding? This is what it does, and it does it often and successfully. However, the people of Wales are not stupid; they can see that the initiatives are only trying to make the Government appear more approachable and more switched on. Well, I am sorry to say that this has not worked.

Since 1995, council tax in our capital city has doubled. The average council tax payer in Cardiff is now paying £1,100, compared with £525 in 1995. This shows that the National Assembly does not fund local councils adequately. I was shocked to read amendment 1 in the name of Karen Sinclair. Has she not read in the press of the dramatic and drastic increases in council tax in Wales over recent years, since Labour has been in

maent yn ei feddwl. Mae rhestr hir—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ymyriad yw hwn, nid arraith.

Mark Isherwood *a gododd*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Ni allaf alw pawb. Cedwir trefn yn y Siambr tra wyf fi yn y Gadair. Yr wyf yn atgoffa Aelodau na chânt ymyrryd yn ystod ymyriad.

Brynle Williams: A yw Carl yn sylweddoli mai talwyr y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru sy'n talu am eu tocynnau bws drwy'r dreth gyngor? Dywedir wrthym yn y wasg heddiw fod argyfwng o ran nifer yr ymgynghorwyr mewn arbenigaethau meddygol hollbwysig, ac oherwydd hynny mae cleifion yng Nghymru'n disgwyl ddwywaith yn hwy na chleifion yn Lloegr. Croeso i'r byd go iawn, Carl. Dyma'r gwir, nid eich breuddwydion chi.

Yr wyf yn siŵr y cytunai Aelodau fod pobl Cymru'n fodlon talu lefelau synhwyrol o'r dreth gyngor ar yr amod y cânt wasanaethau rhagorol yn gyfnewid am hynny. Fodd bynnag, nid yw lefelau'r dreth gyngor yn synhwyrol. Mae'r dreth gyngor yn sir y Fflint wedi codi o 70 y cant o dan Lafur.

Sut y gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad gyflwyno'r naill fenter ar ôl y llall, cymryd y clod amdanynt, ac wedyn eu gorfodi ar awdurdodau lleol yng Nghymru heb roi digon o gyllid? Dyna a wnaiff, a hynny'n aml ac yn llwyddiannus. Fodd bynnag, mae pobl Cymru'n ddigon call; gallant weld nad yw'r mentrau'n ddim ond ymgais i beri i'r Llywodraeth ymddangos yn agosach atynt ac yn fwy effro. Wel, mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud nad yw hynny wedi llwyddo.

Er 1995, mae'r dreth gyngor yn ein prifddinas wedi dyblu. Mae talwyr y dreth gyngor yng Nghaerdydd bellach yn talu £1,100, ar gyfartaledd, o'i gymharu â £525 yn 1995. Dengys hyn nad yw'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn rhoi digon o gyllid i gynghorau lleol. Yr oedd yn syn gennyf ddarllen gwelliant 1 yn enw Karen Sinclair. Onid yw wedi darllen yn y wasg am y codiadau trawiadol a brawychus yn y dreth

power? Indeed, the leader of Cardiff County Council is on record as saying that the blame for such increases in council tax lies firmly with the Labour Party. This year's local authority settlement was poor. We cannot expect to have well-run local authorities without funding them appropriately.

I am surprised that Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats support the introduction of a local income tax. A *South Wales Echo* journalist—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Your time has come to an end. I call Alun Ffred Jones.

Alun Ffred Jones: Hoffwn rannu gair o brofiad â'r Torïaid. Yn 1996-97, ar ôl ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol, yr oedd rhaid cynyddu'r dreth gyngor 23 y cant yng Ngwynedd. Dilynwyd patrwm tebyg ar draws Cymru. Deilliodd y dreth gyngor o lanastr treth y pen, a'r lefel isel gychwynnol oedd yn gyfrifol am y codiadau yn y blynyddoedd cynnar. Ers hynny, mae'r dreth gyngor wedi codi 85 y cant ar gyfartaledd yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn falch o ddweud bod y dreth yng Ngwynedd wedi codi tua 70 y cant, 15 y cant yn is na'r cyfartaledd hwnnw. Mae hon yn enghraifft arall o reolaeth ariannol gadarn y cyngor. Dyna sut y disgrifiwyd rheolaeth ariannol Gwynedd gan y Comisiwn Archwilio, a dywedodd ei bod gyda'r gorau yng Nghymru.

Ni allwn osgoi'r ffaith bod y dreth hon yn sylfaenol annheg ac yn mynd yn fwyfwy annheg. Ar ôl ailfandio tai ac eiddo, bydd y dreth gyngor yn troi'n gosb ar deuluoedd, hen ac ifanc, tlawd a chyfoethog, a hynny dim ond oherwydd eu bod yn byw mewn ardaloedd lle y bu cynnydd afresymol ym mhrisiau tai. Bydd y dreth gyngor yn help i yrru pobl, yn enwedig rhai sy'n derbyn cyflogau cyffredin, o'r pentrefi glan môr ac o ardaloedd cefn gwlad a threfol. Nid oes diben sôn am gymunedau cynaliadwy os yw'r system drethiannol yn rhagfarnu yn erbyn carfannau arbennig o bobl.

Y farchnad dai sy'n creu'r annhegwch hwn, ac mae prisiau tai yn codi'n afresymol

gyngor yng Nghymru dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, ers i Lafur fod mewn grym? Yn wir, mae arweinydd Cyngor Sir Caerdydd wedi dweud ar goedd mai'r Blaid Lafur sydd ar fai am godiadau o'r fath yn y dreth gyngor. Yr oedd y setliad llywodraeth leol ar gyfer eleni'n un gwael. Ni allwn ddisgwyl cael awdurdodau lleol sy'n cael eu rhedeg yn dda os na fyddwn yn eu cyllido'n briodol.

Yr wyf yn synnu bod Plaid Cymru a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol o blaid cyflwyno treth incwm leol. Mae un o newyddiadurwyr y *South Wales Echo*—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. Mae'ch amser wedi dod i ben. Galwaf Alun Ffred Jones.

Alun Ffred Jones: Speaking from my own experience, I wish to tell the Tories that, in 1996-97, following local government reorganisation, a 23 per cent increase in council tax was required in Gwynedd. A similar pattern was seen throughout Wales. Council tax emanated from the disaster that was poll tax, and the increases seen in the first few years were caused by the initial charges being set at too low a level. Council tax in Wales has since increased 85 per cent on average. I am glad to say that the tax in Gwynedd has increased by approximately 70 per cent, 15 per cent less than the national average. This is another example of firm financial management in Gwynedd, as described by the Audit Commission, which also said that it was among the best in Wales.

We cannot ignore the fact that this tax is fundamentally unfair and is becoming increasingly so. Following the rebanding of homes and property, council tax will penalise families, young and old, rich and poor, simply because they happen to live in areas where house prices have increased out of all proportion. Council tax will therefore help to drive people, especially those on modest incomes, from coastal villages and from rural and urban areas. There is no point in talking about sustainable communities if the taxation system discriminates against certain groups of people.

This inequity has been caused by the housing market, and the excessive increases in house

oherwydd pwysau o'r tu allan, nid amgylchiadau lleol. I wneud y sefyllfa'n waeth, mae Gordon Brown—cyfaill y bobl gyffredin, os nad cyfaill Tony Blair—yn bwriadu rhoi manteision trethiannol pellach i bobl sydd â chynllun pensiwn preifat. Bydd y rhain, ar ôl 2006, yn gallu prynu tai, ail gartrefi neu dai haf fel rhan o bortffolio eu cynllun pensiwn preifat. Dyma yw blaenoriaeth y Plaid Lafur bellach. Mae'r syniad o farchnad lle mae prisiau wedi cynyddu 50 y cant mewn blwyddyn, fel sydd wedi digwydd yng Ngwynedd, yn cael y fath hwb trethiannol yn wallgof. Bydd hyn yn ei gwneud yn anoddach byth i bobl ifanc gael cartrefi yn eu cymunedau. Nid oes dadl bod angen diwygio trefn gyfredol y dreth gyngor. Mae hynny'n cael ei dderbyn yn gyffredinol bellach. Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid diffinio'n gliriach beth yw cyfrifoldeb llywodraeth leol a beth yw cyfrifoldeb Llywodraeth ganolog. Un cam pwysig yn hynny o beth fyddai gweithredu argymhellion comisiwn Richard.

prices are the result of external pressure, not local demand. To make things worse, Gordon Brown—friend of the people, if not the friend of Tony Blair—intends to give further tax benefits to those who have a private pension scheme. These people, after 2006, will be able to buy houses, second homes or holiday homes, as part of their private pension portfolio. It seems that this is now the Labour Party's priority. The very idea of a market that has seen prices rise 50 per cent in a year, as has happened in Gwynedd, being given a further tax boost is crazy. This will make it even more difficult for young people to find housing in their communities. There is no doubt that the current council tax system needs to be reviewed. That is generally accepted. However, we need to define more clearly what is the responsibility of local government and what is the responsibility of central Government. One important step in that direction would be to implement the Richard commission's recommendations.

5.30 p.m.

Mae angen ail-gysylltu lefel y dreth leol â'r gwasanaethau a ddarperir i'r cyhoedd. Fel arall, mae'r cyfan yn mynd ar goll mewn dadl ddi-ddiwedd rhwng Llywodraeth ganolog a llywodraeth leol. Yr hyn sy'n amlwg yw bod cynghorau o dan reolaeth Plaid Cymru wedi arddangos rheolaeth ariannol gadarn ar draws y pedair neu bum mlynedd diwethaf. Yn yr ardaloedd hynny, y mae codiadau yn y dreth gyngor wedi bod yn is nac ymhlith eu cymdogion ar gyfartaledd.

We need to re-establish the link between the level of local taxation and the services provided to the public. Otherwise, this all gets lost in an endless debate between central Government and local government. What is clear is that Plaid-Cymru-run councils have shown firm financial management for the past four or five years. In those areas, council tax increases have, on average, been lower than in neighbouring areas.

Nick Bourne: It is pleasant to see so many Liberal Democrats here. I am pleased that they have returned to the Chamber to hear my speech, given that they are usually missing for their leader's speech, as they were today. I am happy to be able to edify them on this occasion.

Nick Bourne: Braf yw gweld cynifer o Ddemocratiaid Rhyddfrydol yma. Yr wyf yn falch eu bod wedi dod yn ôl i'r Siambr i glywed fy araith, gan na fyddant yn eu lle fel arfer ar gyfer araith eu harweinydd, fel yr oeddent heddiw. Bydd yn dda gennyf eu goleuo ar yr achlysur hwn.

For a party that had not plans to raise tax at all, and I quote from the Labour manifesto, 66 tax rises is quite a stunning record—

O blaid nad oedd ganddi unrhyw fwriad i godi mwy o dreth o gwbl, a dyfynnaf o fanifesto Llafur, mae 66 o godiadau mewn treth yn record eithaf syfrdanol—

Brian Gibbons: Will you give way?

Brian Gibbons: A wnewch ildio?

Nick Bourne: No. We have had two interventions from you as well as a speech.

Nick Bourne: Na wnaf. Cawsom ddau ymyriad gennyh yn ogystal ag araith. Mae

You may be in danger of becoming this debate, so just simmer down.

Of course, the First Minister is happy with tax increases and stealth taxes in particular. In 1999, he told BBC's *On the Record* that if people did not notice, then all credit to them. I wish to inform the First Minister that people have noticed. Council tax has increased by 79 per cent in Wales under Labour. That is an average of almost £400 since 1997. Quite how that is meant to help the poor in Wales escapes me.

Since 1999, it has risen by 47 per cent: that is £285.

Janet Davies: During the last Conservative Government, the poll tax was in operation. Do you agree that only a Conservative Government would charge the Duke of Westminster the same as someone on low wages?

Nick Bourne: That is disappointing, Janet, because you are usually a serious politician. I am sure that your researchers have armed you with facts, but, on this occasion, the people of Wales care about what is happening now—what is falling through their letterboxes. That is what they care about in my area and in yours. We do not need any lessons in history. Incidentally, it is easy for Plaid Cymru to preach about tax increases and so on, but we know that, along with the Liberal Democrats, they will never be in power, and so will never have to face these responsibilities.

While we have had massive increases in council tax, pensions have not increased by that much. We remember Gordon Brown's 10p increase on the state pension. That was terribly helpful in dealing with these massive increases of £400 that I have mentioned. In fairness, some Labour councillors have noticed; Russell Goodway—not generally a hero of the Welsh Conservatives—has noticed. He said that

'You cannot escape the fact that it has been the plan of the Government since 1997 to shift the burden from direct tax to council

peryl y gallech ddod yn destun i'r ddadl hon, felly ymdawelwch.

Wrth gwrs, mae'r Prif Weinidog yn fodlon ar godiadau mewn trethi a threthi llechwraidd yn enwedig. Yn 1999, dywedodd ar raglen *On the Record* y BBC y dylid rhoi pob clod iddynt os nad oedd pobl yn sylwi. Dymunaf hysbysu'r Prif Weinidog bod pobl wedi sylwi. Mae'r dreth gyngor wedi codi o 79 y cant yng Nghymru o dan Lafur. Mae hynny'n £400 bron er 1997. Ni allaf ddeall sut yn union y mae hynny i fod i helpu'r tlodion yng Nghymru.

Er 1999, mae wedi codi o 47 y cant: dyna £285.

Janet Davies: Yn ystod y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf, yr oedd treth y pen ar waith. A ydych yn cytuno mai dim ond Llywodraeth Geidwadol a godai'r un swm ar Ddug Westminster ag ar rywun sy'n derbyn cyflog isel?

Nick Bourne: Mae hynny'n siomedig, Janet, gan mai gwleidydd difrif ydych fel arfer. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod eich ymchwilyr wedi'ch arfogi â ffeithiau, ond, y tro hwn, mae pobl Cymru'n poeni am yr hyn sy'n digwydd yn awr—yr hyn sy'n dod drwy eu twll llythyrau. Am hynny y maent yn poeni yn fy ardal i ac yn eich ardal chi. Nid oes arnom angen unrhyw wersi hanes. Gyda llaw, mae'n ddigon hawdd i Blaid Cymru bregethu ynghylch codiadau mewn trethi ac yn y blaen, ond gwyddom na fyddant hwy na'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol byth mewn grym, ac felly ni fyddant byth yn gorfod wynebu'r cyfrifoldebau hyn.

Tra cawsom godiadau enfawr yn y dreth gyngor, nid yw pensiynau wedi codi cymaint â hynny. Cofiw'n am y 10c a roddodd Gordon Brown ar ben y pensiwn gwladol. Yr oedd hynny o gymorth mawr i ddelio â'r codiadau enfawr hyn o £400 y cyfeiriais atynt. Er tegwch, mae rhai cynghorwyr Llafur wedi sylwi; mae Russell Goodway—nad yw fel arfer yn un o arwyr Ceidwadwyr Cymru—wedi sylwi. Dywedodd

Ni allwch anwybyddu'r ffaith mai bwriad y Llywodraeth er 1997 yw symud y baich o drethi uniongyrchol i'r dreth gyngor.

tax.'

Indeed, Cardiff County Council's newsletter, *Capital Times*, states:

'The council is required to meet various commitments'—

which this Welsh Assembly Government requires the council to meet, but—

'which are not fully funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.'

Those are the words of Russell Goodway. He is probably not a hero to many Labour AMs here, but he is a Labour politician. Sir Harry Jones, the Labour leader of the Welsh Local Government Association, which has been mentioned in his debate, said recently that

'councils have to face the difficult choice between keeping council tax bills low and maintaining services.'

We know whose fault that is. The proper funding of school sixth forms and the teachers' workload agreement has become a serious concern, because they have not been fully funded. In 2000—I hope that Labour Members are listening because they may learn something about what the First Minister thinks—the First Minister said that council tax could and should be kept at reasonable levels. The more unacceptable they become—and they are—the more he runs away from responsibility. The line pedalled out now is that it is a matter for individual local authorities. That is not true. It is a matter of how much money goes from the Assembly Government to local authorities. That is what determines the level of council taxes. We all know that. All the opposition members accept that. You know it—you just will not vote for that because you know that it will hit you in the ballot box on local election day.

Meanwhile, the Liberal Democrats twist and turn depending on whether they are in power—

Yn wir, yng nghylchlythyr Cyngor Sir Caerdydd, *Capital Times*, dywedir:

Mae'n ofynnol i'r cyngor gyflawni gwahanol ymrwymadau—

y mae'r Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru hon yn mynnu y bydd y cyngor yn eu cyflawni, ond—

nas llawn gyllidir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Geiriau Russell Goodway yw'r rhain. Mae'n debyg nad yw'n arwr i lawer o ACau Llafur sydd yma, ond gwleidydd Llafur ydyw. Mae Syr Harry Jones, arweinydd Llafur Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, y cyfeiriwyd ato yn y ddadl hon, wedi dweud yn ddiweddar fod

cyngorau'n gorfod wynebu'r dewis anodd rhwng cadw biliau treth gyngor yn isel a chynnal gwasanaethau.

Gwyddom pwy sydd ar fai am hynny. Mae cyllido priodol ar gyfer cyfleusterau chweched dosbarth mewn ysgolion a'r cytundeb llwyth gwaith athrawon wedi dod yn destun pryder mawr, am nad ydynt wedi'u cyllido'n llawn. Yn 2000—gobeithiaf fod Aelodau Llafur yn gwrando gan y gallent ddysgu rhywbeth am farn y Prif Weinidog—dywedodd y Prif Weinidog y gellid ac y dylid cadw'r dreth gyngor ar lefelau rhesymol. Po fwyaf annerbyniol y byddant—ac felly y maent—mwyaf yn y byd y bydd ef yn cefnu ar ei gyfrifoldeb. Y safbwynt a bedlerir yn awr yw mai mater i awdurdodau lleol unigol ydyw. Nid yw hynny'n wir. Mater ydyw o faint yr arian a aiff oddi wrth Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i awdurdodau lleol. Hynny sy'n pennu lefel y trethi cyngor. Yr ydym oll yn gwybod hynny. Mae holl Aelodau'r gwrthbleidiau'n derbyn hynny. Gwyddoch chi hynny—ond ni phleidleisiwch o blaid hynny gan y gwyddoch y bydd yn eich taro ar ddiwrnod yr etholiadau lleol.

Yn y cyfamser, mae'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn troi'r naill ffordd a'r llall gan ddibynnu ar ba un a ydynt mewn grym—

Michael German: We are not in power.

Nick Bourne: You were in power here briefly, but perhaps you have forgotten. The rest of us have not. In 2000, Peter Black said that the days of barmy increases were over. Under the Lib/Lab coalition, council tax rose by 25 per cent—an average of £168. That is barmy in my book, but perhaps not in his. The Liberal Democrats said that local authorities were taking advantage of the generous settlement, but, out of office, they want to push up bills even further with a local income tax. We know that it would have a lower collection rate and that it would be unfair on hardworking people, families and pensioners. It is not what we need in Wales, or elsewhere for that matter. The mammoth council tax rises are yet another unacceptable face of a discredited Labour Party, and they are all partners in crime on that side of the Chamber. The blame lies squarely with the Welsh Assembly Government. We know that you will be happy to throw money at pet projects, such as the Assembly building, mini embassies, golden goodbyes, and having 2,000 additional people so far working in the quangos, a 65 per cent growth in civil servants. How that will help the poor, I do not know, but we know that bureaucracy is the sacred cow of socialism.

The First Minister is nowhere to be seen. When council taxes continue to rise, he states that it is a matter for local authorities. We would empower councils with greater freedom, and end the creeping centralisation and enable authorities—[*Interruption.*]

Yes, when we are in power. We would enable authorities to freeze council tax by ensuring that any additional requirements are fully funded, not partly funded. I urge Members to support the Welsh Conservatives' motion.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: If amendment 1 is carried, amendment 2 falls.

*Gwelliant 1: O blaid 27, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 22.
Amendment 1: For 27, Abstain 0, Against 22.*

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol o blaid:

Michael German: Nid ydym mewn grym.

Nick Bourne: Buoch mewn grym yma am gyfnod byr, ond efallai'ch bod wedi anghofio. Nid yw'r gweddill ohonom. Yn 2000, dywedodd Peter Black fod dyddiau'r codiadau afresymol ar ben. O dan y glymblaid Ryddfrydol-Lafur, cododd y dreth gyngor o 25 y cant—sef £168 ar gyfartaledd. Mae hynny'n afresymol yn fy ngolwg i, ond nid yn ei olwg ef efallai. Dywedodd y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol fod awdurdodau lleol yn manteisio ar y setliad hael, ond, a hwythau heb fod mewn grym, maent am gynyddu'r biliau ymhellach byth drwy gael treth incwm leol. Gwyddom y byddai iddi gyfradd gasglu is ac y byddai'n annheg â rhai sy'n gweithio'n galed, teuluoedd a phensiynwyr. Nid hynny y mae arnom ei angen yng Nghymru, nac yn unman arall o ran hynny. Mae'r codiadau enfawr yn y dreth gyngor yn agwedd annerbyniol arall ar Blaid Lafur anhygred, a chydbechaduriaid ydynt i gyd ar yr ochr honno i'r Siambr. Mae'r bai i gyd ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Gwyddom y byddwch yn fodlon taflu arian at eich hoff brosiectau, fel adeilad y Cynulliad, llysgenadaethau bach, taliadau ffarwél euraid, a chael 2,000 o bobl ychwanegol hyd yma'n gweithio yn y cwangos, cynnydd o 65 y cant yn nifer y gweision sifil. Pa gymorth y bydd hynny i'r tlodion, ni wn, ond gwyddom mai biwrocratiaeth yw eilun sosialaeth.

Nid oes golwg o'r Prif Weinidog yn unman. Pan ddeil trethi cyngor i godi, dywed mai mater i awdurdodau lleol ydyw. Byddem ni'n galluogi cynghorau drwy roi mwy o ryddid iddynt, ac yn rhoi pen ar y canoli cynyddol ac yn galluogi awdurdodau—[*Torri ar draws.*]

Ie, pan fyddwn mewn grym. Byddem yn galluogi awdurdodau i rewi'r dreth gyngor drwy sicrhau y llawn gyllidir unrhyw ofynion ychwanegol, nid eu cyllido'n rhannol. Anogaf Aelodau i gefnogi cynnig Ceidwadwyr Cymru.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Os derbynnir gwelliant 1, bydd gwelliant 2 yn methu.

Pleidleisiodd yr Aelodau canlynol yn erbyn:

The following Members voted for:

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda

*Derbyniwyd y gwelliant.
 Amendment carried.*

Methodd gwelliant 2.
 Amendment 2 fell.

*Gwelliant 3: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 36.
 Amendment 3: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 36.*

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 German, Michael
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

The following Members voted against:

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Bourne, Nick
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine
 Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Francis, Lisa
 Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene

Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 4: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 36.
Amendment 4: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 36.*

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

Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
German, Michael
Davies, Jocelyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Randerson, Jenny
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
Black, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Jones, Alun Ffred
Bates, Mick
Lloyd, David

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

5.40 p.m.

*Gwelliant 5: O blaid 13, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 36.
Amendment 5: For 13, Abstain 0, Against 36.*

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

Jones, Ieuan Wyn
Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
German, Michael
Davies, Jocelyn
Jones, Helen Mary
Randerson, Jenny
Burnham, Eleanor
Davies, Janet
Black, Peter
Ryder, Janet
Jones, Alun Ffred
Bates, Mick
Lloyd, David

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa
Gibbons, Brian
Graham, William
Gregory, Janice
Griffiths, John
Gwyther, Christine
Hart, Edwina
Hutt, Jane
Idris Jones, Denise
Isherwood, Mark
James, Irene
Jones, Ann
Jones, Carwyn
Jones, Laura Anne
Law, Peter
Lloyd, Val
Melding, David
Mewies, Sandy
Neagle, Lynne
Pugh, Alun
Sargeant, Carl
Sinclair, Karen
Thomas, Gwenda
Williams, Brynle

*Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.*

*Gwelliant 6: O blaid 5, Ymatal 8, Yn erbyn 36.
Amendment 6: For 5, Abstain 8, Against 36.*

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

Bates, Mick
Black, Peter
Burnham, Eleanor
German, Michael
Randerson, Jenny

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

Andrews, Leighton
Barrett, Lorraine
Bourne, Nick
Butler, Rosemary
Chapman, Christine
Cuthbert, Jeff
Davidson, Jane
Davies, Andrew
Davies, David
Davies, Glyn
Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
Essex, Sue
Francis, Lisa

Gibbons, Brian
 Graham, William
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 Isherwood, Mark
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, Val
 Melding, David
 Mewies, Sandy
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda
 Williams, Brynle

Ymataliodd yr Aelodau canlynol:
 The following Members abstained:

Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Lloyd, David
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn

Gwrthodwyd y gwelliant.
Amendment defeated.

Motion NDM1954 as amended:

the National Assembly for Wales notes that the rate of increase in council tax in Wales since 1999 has been significantly less than under the last Conservative Government. It reaffirms the support it gave for the local government settlement for 2004-05 which was agreed on 10 December 2003, recognising that this was a fair settlement which responded to the needs identified by local government and the priorities of the Assembly.

Cynnig NDM1954 wedi'i ddiwygio:

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn nodi bod cyfradd y cynnydd yn y dreth gyngor yng Nghymru ers 1999 wedi bod yn sylweddol is na'r gyfradd o dan y Llywodraeth Geidwadol ddiwethaf. Mae'n ailddatgan y cymorth a roddodd i'r setliad llywodraeth leol ar gyfer 2004-05 y cytunwyd arno ar 10 Rhagfyr 2003, gan gydnabod bod hwn yn setliad teg a oedd yn ymateb i'r anghenion a nodwyd gan lywodraeth leol ac i flaenoriaethau'r Cynulliad.

Cynnig wedi'i ddiwygio: O blaid 27, Ymatal 0, Yn erbyn 22.
Amended motion: For 27, Abstain 0, Against 22.

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

Andrews, Leighton
 Barrett, Lorraine
 Butler, Rosemary
 Chapman, Christine

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

Bates, Mick
 Black, Peter
 Bourne, Nick
 Burnham, Eleanor

Cuthbert, Jeff
 Davidson, Jane
 Davies, Andrew
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin
 Essex, Sue
 Gibbons, Brian
 Gregory, Janice
 Griffiths, John
 Gwyther, Christine
 Hart, Edwina
 Hutt, Jane
 Idris Jones, Denise
 James, Irene
 Jones, Ann
 Jones, Carwyn
 Law, Peter
 Lloyd, Val
 Mewies, Sandy
 Neagle, Lynne
 Pugh, Alun
 Sargeant, Carl
 Sinclair, Karen
 Thomas, Gwenda

Davies, David
 Davies, Glyn
 Davies, Janet
 Davies, Jocelyn
 Francis, Lisa
 German, Michael
 Graham, William
 Isherwood, Mark
 Jones, Alun Ffred
 Jones, Helen Mary
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn
 Jones, Laura Anne
 Lloyd, David
 Melding, David
 Randerson, Jenny
 Ryder, Janet
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn
 Williams, Brynle

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

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:** Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.41 p.m.
 The meeting ended at 5.41 p.m.*

**Aelodau a'u Pleidiau
 Members and their Parties**

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Glyn (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Dunwoody-Kneafsey, Tamsin (Llafur - Labour)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Essex, Sue (Llafur – Labour)
 Francis, Lisa (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Gwyther, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Idris Jones, Denise (Llafur – Labour)

Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Alun Ffred (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ann (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Carwyn (Llafur – Labour)
 Jones, Elin (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Laura Anne (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Law, Peter (Llafur – Labour)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Marek, John (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Pugh, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Randerson, Jenny (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Ryder, Janet (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Sargeant, Carl (Llafur – Labour)
 Sinclair, Karen (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Catherine (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Owen John (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymru – Welsh Conservatives)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)