



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

**Cofnod y Trafodion
The Record of Proceedings**

**Dydd Mawrth, 15 Gorffennaf 2008
Tuesday, 15 July 2008**

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

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

*Cyfarfu'r Cynulliad am 2 p.m. gyda'r Dirprwy Lywydd (Rosemary Butler) yn y Gadair.
The Assembly met at 2 p.m. with the Deputy Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) in the Chair.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: I call the Assembly to order. **Y Dirprwy Lywydd:**Galwaf y Cynulliad i drefn.

Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog Questions to the First Minister

Patient Services

Q1 William Graham: Will the First Minister make a statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to improving patient services in South Wales East? OAQ(3)1228(FM)

The First Minister (Rhodri Morgan): Work has now started on the new £54 million Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan to serve the people of Blaenau Gwent. It is part of the Gwent health community's Clinical Futures programme, which is the vehicle for improving patient services across South Wales East.

William Graham: We welcome the fact that there will be a new hospital in Ebbw Vale. That is excellent, and we concur with you on its name in particular. I am glad that wiser counsel has prevailed and that the name has not been extended to the Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust.

Some six weeks ago, attention was drawn in the Royal Gwent Hospital to high risk pregnancies and the fact that mothers are being sent to hospitals in Bridgend and Bristol to give birth. I know that the Minister is aware of the situation and is taking steps, but this is an urgent matter that occurs almost hourly. What steps will you take to alleviate the situation?

The First Minister: I believe that Edwina Hart, the Minister for Health and Social Services, issued a written statement saying that there was an unacceptably low level of staffing among midwives and indicating to Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust that it should up its game considerably in this area, mostly by way of recruiting additional midwives—I

Gwasanaethau i Gleifion

C1 William Graham: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i wella gwasanaethau cleifion yn Nwyrain De Cymru? OAQ(3)1228(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog (Rhodri Morgan): Mae gwaith yn awr wedi cychwyn ar yr Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan newydd gwerth £54 miliwn i wasanaethu pobl Blaenau Gwent. Mae'n rhan o raglen Dyfodol Clinigol cymuned iechyd Gwent, sef y cyfrwng ar gyfer gwella gwasanaethau i gleifion ledled Dwyrain De Cymru.

William Graham: Yr ydym yn croesawu'r ffaith y bydd ysbyty newydd yng Nglynebwy. Mae hynny'n rhagorol, ac yr ydym yn cytuno â chi o ran ei enw'n arbennig. Yr wyf yn falch bod y penderfyniad doeth wedi'i wneud o beidio ag ymestyn yr enw i Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent.

Tua chwe wythnos yn ôl, tynnwyd sylw yn Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent at feichiogrwydd risg uchel a'r ffaith bod mamau'n cael eu hanfon i ysbytai ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr a Bryste i roi genedigaeth. Gwn fod y Gweinidog yn ymwybodol o'r sefyllfa ac yn cymryd camau, ond mae hwn yn fater brys sy'n digwydd bron bob awr. Pa gamau a gymerwch i liniaru'r sefyllfa?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf fod Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, wedi cyhoeddi datganiad ysgrifenedig yn dweud bod nifer annerbyniol o isel o staff ymysg bydwagedd ac yn dweud wrth Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gofal Iechyd Gwent y dylai wella ei pherfformiad yn sylweddol yn y maes hwn, drwy recriwtio

think that the figure of 15 was suggested to it. I do not know what the follow-up to that is, but I will ensure that Edwina Hart writes to you to give you the absolutely latest sitrep on it.

Mohammad Asghar: I am concerned to read that people in Monmouthshire and Brecon cannot get medicine on bank holidays and Sundays, as, for a trial period, the rota system has been dropped. That could cause particular difficulties for the elderly and for children. There has been a strong reaction from the public and from Monmouth Town Council. Could you use your good offices to do something about this, so that this withdrawal of services can be reversed?

The First Minister: I have noted with great interest the supportive comments of the British Medical Association, which has said that GP practices that do not have sufficiently lengthy and convenient opening hours should quickly catch up with best practice in this area. Too many GP practices are having too many half days, and members of the BMA made some strong comments about this at the BMA's annual general meeting in Edinburgh last week. We support the BMA's line on this in terms of the colleagues who are letting the side down, which is how the BMA described it. We are supportive of the actions that the BMA is proposing to take to ensure that those with lagging practices catch up quickly to address the need for more convenient opening hours.

The Private Sector

Q2 David Melding: What measures are in place to encourage the development of the private sector within the Welsh economy? OAQ(3)1230(FM)

The First Minister: I think that you and I would agree that the private sector in Wales is not big enough; we need a bigger private sector. It has grown remarkably since 1999. It is 12 per cent up, compared with public sector growth of 8 per cent, but it is growing

mwy o fydwragedd yn bennaf—credaf fod y ffigur 15 wedi'i awgrymu iddi. Nid wyf yn gwybod beth ddigwyddodd wedi hynny, ond byddaf yn sicrhau y bydd Edwina Hart yn ysgrifennu atoch i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf bosibl ichi am y sefyllfa.

Mohammad Asghar: Yr wyf yn pryderu wrth ddarllen na all pobl yn sir Fynwy ac Aberhonddu gael meddyginiaeth ar wyliau banc nac ar ddydd Sul, gan eu bod wedi rhoi'r gorau i'r system rota am gyfnod prawf. Gallai hynny beri anawsterau penodol i'r henoed ac i blant. Bu ymateb cryf gan y cyhoedd a chan Gyngor Tref Trefynwy. A fyddech cystal â gwneud rhywbeth am y peth, er mwyn gwrthdroi'r weithred o dynnu'r gwasanaethau hyn yn ôl?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf wedi nodi â chryn ddiddordeb sylwadau cefnogol Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain, a ddywedodd y dylai practisau meddygon teulu nad ydynt yn agor am ddigon o oriau, neu am oriau digon cyfleus, wella'n gyflym nes eu bod cystal â'r arfer gorau yn y maes hwn. Mae gormod o bractisau meddygon teulu'n cael gormod o hanner diwrnodau, a gwnaeth aelodau Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain rai sylwadau cryf am hyn yng nghyfarfod cyffredinol blynyddol Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yng Nghaeredin yr wythnos diwethaf. Yr ydym yn cefnogi safbwynt Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yn hyn o beth o ran y gweithwyr sy'n siomi eu tîm, fel y dywedodd Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain. Yr ydym yn cefnogi'r camau y mae Cymdeithas Feddygol Prydain yn cynnig eu cymryd er mwyn sicrhau bod y meddygfeydd hynny sydd ar ei hôl hi'n gwella'n gyflym er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r angen am oriau agor mwy cyfleus.

Y Sector Preifat

C2 David Melding: Pa fesurau sydd ar waith i annog datblygu'r sector preifat yn economi Cymru? OAQ(3)1230(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf y byddech chi a mi'n cytuno nad yw'r sector preifat yng Nghymru'n ddigon mawr; mae angen sector preifat mwy arnom. Mae wedi tyfu'n aruthrol er 1999. Mae wedi tyfu 12 y cant, o'i gymharu â thwf y sector cyhoeddus, sef 8 y

at a rate that is 50 per cent faster than that of the public sector. However, it is simply not big enough, and we need to attend to that over the next few years.

David Melding: It is music to my ears that you have just made that simple statement, First Minister. I do not think that a member of your Government has yet said that he or she would like to see the size of the private sector in the Welsh economy, vis-à-vis the public, increase, and so it is appropriate that you have made that statement. Will you now revise the One Wales Government's terrible ideological commitment to exclude the possibility of the private sector helping us to deliver top-class NHS services? Do you not agree that that would send a positive signal to the sector that it can be a part of delivering excellent public services and a part of an expanding sector in our economy?

The First Minister: You are introducing an element of ideology, but I thought that we were both agreed on keeping that out. The private sector in Wales needs to be bigger, and we are agreed on that. That means that we need a bigger private sector in normal productive activity right across the economy. It is growing much faster than the public sector is, but it still needs to be bigger. Generally, the public sector in Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and England relates to the size of the population, because the number of schools, hospital, civil servants and local government offices relates to the number of people to serve. The big variable that causes differences in wealth is the size of the private sector. I thought that we were agreeing on that, but you are now bringing an ideological element into it, which I do not agree with.

Lesley Griffiths: Yesterday, JC Bamford Excavators Ltd announced the loss of 500 manufacturing jobs across the UK as a result of the global credit crisis and the rising cost of raw materials. As part of those losses, sadly, 50 jobs will be lost at JCB Transmissions in my constituency of Wrexham. That is a worrying development coming on the back of other recent job losses

cant, ond mae'n tyfu 50 y cant yn gyflymach na'r sector cyhoeddus. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n ddigon mawr, ac mae angen inni roi sylw i hynny dros y blynyddoedd nesaf.

David Melding: Yr oeddwn wrth fy modd i glywed y datganiad syml hwnnw gennych, Brif Weinidog. Nid wyf yn credu bod aelod o'ch Llywodraeth wedi dweud o'r blaen y byddai'n hoff o weld maint y sector preifat yn economi Cymru, o ran y cyhoedd, yn cynyddu, ac felly mae'n briodol eich bod wedi gwneud y datganiad hwnnw. A wnewch yn awr ddiwygio ymrwymiad ideolegol ofnadwy Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un i hepgor y posibilrwydd i'r sector preifat ein helpu i gyflwyno gwasanaethau GIG o'r radd flaenaf? Onid ydych yn cytuno y byddai hynny'n anfon arwydd cadarnhaol i'r sector y gall fod yn rhan o gyflwyno gwasanaethau cyhoeddus rhagorol ac yn rhan o sector sy'n tyfu yn ein heconomi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn cyflwyno elfen o ideoleg, ond yr oeddwn yn credu ein bod ill dau wedi cytuno i hepgor hynny. Mae angen i'r sector preifat yng Nghymru fod yn fwy, ac yr ydym yn cytuno ar hynny. Mae hynny'n golygu bod angen sector preifat mwy arnom mewn gweithgarwch cynhyrchiol normal ym mhob rhan o'r economi. Mae'n tyfu'n llawer cyflymach na'r sector cyhoeddus, ond mae angen iddo fod yn fwy o hyd. Yn gyffredinol, ceir perthynas rhwng maint sectorau cyhoeddus Cymru, yr Alban, Gogledd Iwerddon a Lloegr a maint y boblogaeth, oherwydd y berthynas rhwng nifer yr ysgolion, ysbytai, gweision sifil a swyddfeydd llywodraeth leol a nifer y bobl i'w gwasanaethu. Y newidyn mawr sy'n achosi gwahaniaethau mewn cyfoeth yw maint y sector preifat. Yr oeddwn yn credu ein bod yn cytuno ar hynny, ond yn awr yr ydych yn cyflwyno elfen ideolegol, ac nid wyf yn cytuno â honno.

Lesley Griffiths: Ddoe, cyhoeddodd JC Bamford Excavators Cyf golli 500 o swyddi gweithgynhyrchu ledled y DU o ganlyniad i'r argyfwng credyd byd-eang a'r ffaith bod cost deunydd crai'n codi. Fel rhan o'r colledion hynny, yn anffodus, collir 50 swydd yn JCB Transmissions yn fy etholaeth, sef Wrecsam. Mae hwnnw'n ddatblygiad sy'n peri pryder ac ystyried y swyddi eraill a gollwyd yn

at the plant. Will you assure me that the Welsh Assembly Government will continue to meet representatives of JCB and trade unions to discuss what help it can offer the company to assist it through this difficult phase, and to ensure that it maintains its operations in Wrexham in future?

The First Minister: JCB is one of the world's great names in manufacturing that happens to be British. Rolls-Royce plc aero engines and JCB are probably the only two great world names in manufacturing, and have been merged over the past 20 years or so, so it is important that JCB remains strong and well represented in Wales by its Wrexham gearbox factory. We understand the reasons for that announcement, as it is difficult to sell bulldozers in the current construction market, but it is sad. We want to see JCB healthy, and I agree about making sure that we liaise strongly with that company, because it is a pillar of the economy in Wrexham, Wales and the UK.

The Leader of the Opposition (Nick Bourne): Along with David Melding, I also welcome what you say, First Minister, about the need to grow the private sector, particularly in light of Peter Hain's recent comments in his pamphlet, 'Re-balancing the Welsh Economy'. In fairness, he said something similar to you, namely that the private sector is too small, and needs to grow significantly and at a much faster rate. I do not know whether you have seen the recent report by the Royal Bank of Scotland, but it states that, over the past three months, we have been losing more private sector jobs than we are creating, and the rate of private sector job losses has been accelerating. Lesley Griffiths just referred to some job losses in Wrexham, and she is absolutely right: 190 jobs were lost at Fenmarc Prepared Foods Ltd in April, 163 jobs were lost at Flexsys in May, and the JCB jobs that she has just referred to now come on top of that. That is in just one constituency. What are you doing about that haemorrhaging of private sector jobs, which appears to be accelerating?

The First Minister: I deprecate your use of the word 'haemorrhaging' when we know

ddiweddar yn y safle. A wnewch fy sicrhau y bydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n parhau i gyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr JCB ac undebau llafur i drafod pa gymorth y gall ei gynnig i'r cwmni i'w gynorthwyo drwy'r cyfnod anodd hwn, ac i sicrhau y bydd yn dal i weithredu yn Wrecsam yn y dyfodol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae JCB yn un o enwau mawr y byd gweithgynhyrchu sy'n digwydd bod yn Brydeinig. Mae'n debyg mai cwmni injans awyrennau Rolls-Royce ccc a JCB yw'r unig ddau enw mawr yn y byd gweithgynhyrchu, a chawsant eu huno dros yr 20 mlynedd diwethaf, felly mae'n bwysig bod JCB yn aros yn gryf, gyda chynrychiolaeth dda, yng Nghymru, drwy'r ffatri blychau gêr yn Wrecsam. Yr ydym yn deall y rhesymau am y cyhoeddiad hwnnw, gan ei bod yn anodd gwerthu teirw dur yn y farchnad adeiladu bresennol, ond mae'n drist. Yr ydym yn dymuno gweld JCB yn iach, a chytunaf am sicrhau ein bod yn cysylltu'n gryf â'r cwmni hwnnw, gan ei fod yn un o bileri economi Wrecsam, Cymru a'r DU.

Arweinydd yr Wrthblaid (Nick Bourne): Ynghyd â David Melding, yr wyf finnau'n croesawu'r hyn a ddywedwch, Brif Weinidog, am fod angen tyfu'r sector preifat, yn enwedig ac ystyried sylwadau diweddar Peter Hain yn ei bamffled, 'Ailgydbwyso Economi Cymru'. A bod yn deg, dywedodd rywbeth tebyg i chi, sef bod y sector preifat yn rhy fach, a bod angen iddo dyfu'n sylweddol ac yn llawer cyflymach. Ni wn a ydych wedi gweld yr adroddiad diweddar gan Fanc Brenhinol yr Alban, ond mae'n datgan ein bod, dros y tri mis diwethaf, wedi bod yn colli mwy o swyddi yn y sector preifat nag yr ydym yn eu creu, a bod cyfradd colli swyddi sector preifat wedi bod yn cyflymu. Mae Lesley Griffiths newydd gyfeirio at rai colledion swyddi yn Wrecsam, ac mae hi yn llygad ei lle: collwyd 190 o swyddi yn Fenmarc Prepared Foods Cyf ym mis Ebrill; collwyd 163 o swyddi yn Flexsys ym mis Mai, ac mae'r swyddi JCB y cyfeiriodd atynt yn awr yn ychwanegol i hynny. Mae hynny mewn un etholaeth yn unig. Beth yr ydych yn ei wneud am y gwaedlif hwnnw o swyddi sector preifat, sy'n gwaethygu i bob golwg?

Y Prif Weinidog: Anghymeradwyaf eich defnydd o'r gair 'gwaedlif' a ninnau'n

that a painful transition is under way and that certain parts of the economy, such as the construction industry, are having a severe downturn. That has affected JCB in particular. The Confederation of British Industry Wales tells me that it does not want any reference to the Welsh private sector that implies a juddering to a halt or a haemorrhaging of jobs. It says that, broadly speaking, despite the announcements that are made from time to time by firms—including, regrettably, AB Automotive, Flexsys, and Calco in Llanelli—job losses are going on at the same time as job creation, and the broad industrial scene in Wales remains remarkably resilient. That is the view of the CBI. Perhaps you should talk to it, Nick, as I presume that it would tell you exactly the same as it told me.

gwybod bod trawsnewidiad poenus yn digwydd a bod rhai rhannau penodol o'r economi, megis y diwydiant adeiladu, yn dioddef dirywiad difrifol. Mae hynny wedi effeithio ar JCB yn benodol. Mae Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain yng Nghymru'n dweud wrthyf nad yw am weld unrhyw gyfeiriad at sector preifat Cymru sy'n awgrymu ei fod yn stopio'n stond na bod gwaedlif o swyddi. Mae'n dweud, a siarad yn fras, er gwaethaf y cyhoeddiadau a wneir gan gwmnïau o bryd i'w gilydd—gan gynnwys, yn anffodus, AB Automotive, Flexsys, a Calco yn Llanelli—bod swyddi'n cael eu creu yn ogystal â'u colli, a bod yr olygfa ddiwydiannol gyffredinol yng Nghymru'n dal yn hynod o wydn. Dyna farn Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain. Efallai y dylech siarad ag ef, Nick, oherwydd yr wyf yn cymryd y byddai'n dweud yn union yr un peth wrthyf chi ag a ddywedodd wrthyf fi.

2.10 p.m.

Nick Bourne: The First Minister may not agree with them, but these are the facts: 17,000 jobs in the private sector in Wales have been lost in just over three months. That is serious, and that is just with large employers. He may not like the word 'haemorrhaging', but that is what the interpretation of the Royal Bank of Scotland's figures shows. We are losing jobs at a higher rate than any other region of the country. He must take this seriously. What discussions has he had with Westminster colleagues about the parlous economic situation in Wales? The situation is serious throughout the United Kingdom; the inflation figures published today are double what the Labour Party inherited when it came to power. What is he doing about the serious position with regard to private sector job losses? If he does not like the word 'haemorrhaging', let us say 'seriously losing jobs'; but haemorrhaging is what is happening.

Nick Bourne: Efallai nad yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cytuno â hwy, ond dyma'r ffeithiau: collwyd 17,000 o swyddi yn y sector preifat yng Nghymru mewn ychydig dros dri mis. Mae hynny'n ddifrifol, a'r cyflogwyr mawr yn unig yw hynny. Efallai nad yw'n hoff o'r gair 'gwaedlif', ond dyna beth y mae ffigurau Banc Brenhinol yr Alban yn ei ddangos. Yr ydym yn colli swyddi ar gyfradd uwch nag unrhyw ranbarth arall yn y wlad. Rhaid iddo gymryd hyn o ddifrif. Pa drafodaethau y mae wedi'u cael gyda'i gyd-Weinidogion yn San Steffan am sefyllfa economaidd enbyd Cymru? Mae'r sefyllfa'n ddifrifol ledled y Deyrnas Unedig; mae'r ffigurau chwyddiant a gyhoeddwyd heddiw'n ddwbl y rhai a etifeddodd y Blaid Lafur pan ddaeth i rym. Beth y mae'n ei wneud am y sefyllfa ddifrifol o ran colledion swyddi sector preifat? Os nad yw'n hoff o'r gair 'gwaedlif', gadewch inni ddweud 'colledion swyddi difrifol'; ond mae'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn waedlif.

The First Minister: In my earlier answer I mentioned that the figures published today—they are not our figures; they are Office for National Statistics figures—indicate that, between 1999 and 2007, there was a rise in private sector employment of 12 per cent, compared with a rise in public sector

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn fy ateb cynharach, nodais fod y ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd heddiw—nid ein ffigurau ni ydynt, ond ffigurau'r Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol—yn nodi, rhwng 1999 a 2007, y bu cynnydd o 12 y cant mewn cyflogaeth sector preifat, o'i gymharu â chynnydd 8 y cant mewn

employment of 8 per cent. So, public sector employment has gone up, but the rate of growth of private sector employment is 50 per cent higher. A rate of 12 per cent over eight years to 2007—we obviously do not have figures for 2008, as we are only halfway through the year—indicate a picture that is very different to the one that you are painting. Yes, there is a painful restructuring going on at the moment, but the overall figure for private sector employment came out this morning, and it shows an increase of 12 per cent since 1999.

Nick Bourne: What he does not go on to say is that the relative position is much weaker in Wales than in the rest of the United Kingdom on private sector jobs. He does not like to stare reality in the face, but the reality is that the private sector position in Wales is much weaker than in any other region or nation of the United Kingdom over the last 10 years. What is he doing on this, and what is he doing on representing the dangers facing the Welsh economy to the Prime Minister and Chancellor, under whose stewardship things have gone so badly wrong?

The First Minister: Again, that would contradict what the Confederation of British Industry told us at our meeting a fortnight ago, when it deprecated using words such as ‘parlous’ or ‘haemorrhaging’, which you have used. I understand that it is part of politics to trade such adjectives across the Chamber, but the CBI does not agree that that is an accurate, objective picture of what is happening in industry. That is not to say that there are no job loss announcements—yes, there are, yes, they are regrettable and yes, they are happening, because of the nature of the economy at the moment, more frequently than used to be the case. However, there are also job creation announcements; Admiral said recently that it would be happy to talk to staff losing their jobs at Firstplus in order to fill some of its vacancies.

cyflogaeth sector cyhoeddus. Felly, mae cyflogaeth sector cyhoeddus wedi cynyddu, ond mae cyfradd twf cyflogaeth sector preifat 50 y cant yn uwch. Mae cyfradd o 12 y cant dros wyth mlynedd hyd at 2007—yn amlwg, nid oes gennym ffigurau ar gyfer 2008, gan mai dim ond hanner ffordd drwy’r flwyddyn yr ydym—yn awgrymu darlun gwahanol iawn i’r un yr ydych chi’n ei beintio. Oes, mae proses ailstrwythuro boenus yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd, ond cyhoeddwyd ffigur cyffredinol cyflogaeth sector preifat y bore yma, ac mae’n dangos cynnydd o 12 y cant er 1999.

Nick Bourne: Ond nid yw’n mynd ymlaen i ddweud bod y sefyllfa gymharol yn llawer gwannach yng Nghymru nag yng ngweddill y Deyrnas Unedig o ran swyddi’r sector preifat. Nid yw’n hoff o wynebu realiti, ond y realiti yw bod sefyllfa’r sector preifat yng Nghymru lawer gwannach nag mewn unrhyw ranbarth neu wlad arall yn y Deyrnas Unedig dros y 10 mlynedd diwethaf. Beth y mae’n ei wneud am hyn, a beth y mae’n ei wneud o ran cyflwyno sylwadau am y peryglon sy’n wynebu economi Cymru gerbron Prif Weinidog y DU a’r Canghellor, gan fod pethau wedi mynd o’u lle cynddrwg dan eu stiwardiaeth?

Y Prif Weinidog: Eto, byddai hynny’n gwrthdweud yr hyn a ddywedodd Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain wrthym yn ein cyfarfod bythefnos yn ôl, pan anghymeradwyodd ddefnyddio geiriau megis ‘enbyd’ neu ‘gwaedlif’, fel a ddefnyddiwyd gennych. Yr wyf yn deall ei bod yn rhan o wleidyddiaeth i gyfnewid ansoddeiriau o’r fath ar draws y Siambr, ond nid yw Cydffederasiwn Diwydiant Prydain yn cytuno bod hwnnw’n ddarlun cywir, gwrthrychol o’r hyn sy’n digwydd mewn diwydiant. Nid yw hynny’n golygu nad oes dim cyhoeddiadau am golledion swyddi—oes, mae rhai, ydynt, maent yn anffodus ac ydynt, maent yn digwydd, oherwydd natur yr economi ar hyn o bryd, yn amlach nag y byddent yn arfer digwydd. Fodd bynnag, ceir cyhoeddiadau am greu swyddi hefyd; yn ddiweddar, dywedodd Admiral y byddai’n fodlon siarad â’r staff sy’n colli eu swyddi yn Firstplus er mwyn llenwi rhai o’i swyddi gwag.

You talk about the relative position, but, actually, you are quite wrong. There has been a 7 per cent increase in private sector employment in the UK as a whole since 1999, and there has been a 12 per cent increase in Wales. That is the picture shown in the figures published this morning.

Bethan Jenkins: A few months ago I had a meeting with the TISME group in south-west Wales—a group of businesspeople seeking to encourage links between universities on the patenting of new ideas from research in Swansea University, in particular, to help the academics sell their ideas. I have written to Ieuan Wyn Jones on this issue, but would you be interested in meeting those people to see what they have to offer and to see whether it would be viable for the future of higher education?

The First Minister: I think that we all agree that the higher education sector, containing such a substantial chunk of the kind of brain-power retained in Wales, has a great deal of potential for spinning-out companies at the cutting edge of technology. University-type institutions in west Wales, such as Swansea University, Swansea Metropolitan University, and Trinity College, Carmarthen, especially now that they have an arrangement for working together on commercialisation and as we now have the technium network, should be ideally placed to try to spin out more companies to create more jobs at the cutting edge.

The Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group (Michael German): One way in which you could help the private sector would be to bring forward your green jobs strategy—this is a dance that we have danced before. I asked you on 24 June whether the absence of robust statistics was getting in the way of publishing the strategy, and you said that:

‘you do not have to wait for that statistical work to be done before you can engage in a strategy for expanding the number of green jobs’.

Can you tell me when you will launch your green jobs strategy?

Yr ydych yn sôn am y sefyllfa gymharol, ond mewn gwirionedd, yr ydych yn anghywir. Bu cynnydd o 7 y cant mewn cyflogaeth sector preifat yn y DU gyfan er 1999, a bu cynnydd o 12 y cant yng Nghymru. Dyna'r darlun a ddangosir yn y ffigurau a gyhoeddwyd y bore yma.

Bethan Jenkins: Rai misoedd yn ôl, cefais gyfarfod â'r grŵp TISME yn y de-orllewin—grŵp o bobl fusnes yn ceisio annog cysylltiadau rhwng prifysgolion i godi patentau ar syniadau ymchwil newydd ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe, yn benodol, er mwyn helpu'r academyddion i werthu eu syniadau. Yr wyf wedi ysgrifennu at Ieuan Wyn Jones am y mater hwn, ond a fyddai gennych ddi-ddordeb mewn cyfarfod â'r bobl hynny i weld beth sydd ganddynt i'w gynnig ac i weld a fyddai'n ddichonadwy i ddyfodol addysg uwch?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf ein bod i gyd yn cytuno bod gan y sector addysg uwch, sy'n cynnwys cyfran mor sylweddol o'r math o bŵer ymennydd sydd wedi'i gadw yng Nghymru, lawer iawn o botensial o ran cynhyrchu cwmnïau technoleg arloesol. Dylai fod sefydliadau o fath prifysgol yn y gorllewin, megis Prifysgol Abertawe, Prifysgol Fetropolitan Abertawe, a Choleg y Drindod, Caerfyrddin, yn enwedig gan eu bod yn awr wedi trefnu gweithio gyda'i gilydd ar fasnacheiddio, a gan bod y rhwydwaith technium gennym, mewn sefyllfa ddelfrydol i geisio cynhyrchu mwy o gwmnïau i greu mwy o swyddi arloesol.

Arweinydd Grŵp Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru (Michael German): Un ffordd y gallech helpu'r sector preifat fyddai cyflwyno eich strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd yn gynharach—yr ydym wedi dawnsio'r ddawns hon o'r blaen. Gofynnais ichi ar 24 Mehefin a oedd absenoldeb ystadegau cadarn yn eich rhwystro rhag cyhoeddi'r strategaeth, a dywedasoeh:

‘nid oes yn rhaid ichi aros i'r gwaith ystadegol hwnnw gael ei gwblhau cyn ichi allu cael strategaeth ar gyfer cynyddu nifer y swyddi gwyrdd’.

A allwch ddweud wrthyf pryd y byddwch yn lansio eich strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd?

The First Minister: What I was saying was that it does not have to be labelled a green jobs strategy to generate more green jobs. Many of the actions that we have undertaken have done that. For example, we authorised the Forestry Commission to get windfarms on Forestry Commission land, given that we own the Forestry Commission in Wales. That was an example of a green jobs strategy. Those jobs do not necessarily have to fall under the heading of a green jobs strategy, but they do so in all but name.

Michael German: I realise that this session is 'First Minister's Questions', and not 'First Minister's Answers', but could you tell me, given that it is your proposal to have a green jobs strategy, when you will publish it? When will the strategy be brought forward?

The First Minister: You must not get obsessed with the rubric. Something may not come under the heading of a green jobs strategy, but that does not mean that you cannot create green jobs. That is what I said to you when you raised this issue previously, Mike. You are becoming obsessed over whether there is a published document called a green jobs strategy as distinct from decisions. We have got on with the decisions in relation to the Forestry Commission, for example, because that comes under our control. I am not sure what is upsetting you about that.

Michael German: It is just that I am supposed to scrutinise, First Minister. I am trying to get an answer on your policy. It is your policy to have a green jobs strategy. You said that you wanted one and that it was important to have that strategy. You have listed it among your policies. So why can you not tell us when you will have this strategy written down? If you need a strategy to drive forward your ambitions, and that is why it is to be written down, we want to see it so that we can scrutinise it. There is nothing sinister in that; we just want an answer.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn dweud nad oes yn rhaid iddi fod wedi'i labelu'n strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd i gynhyrchu mwy o swyddi gwyrdd. Mae llawer o'r camau yr ydym wedi'u cymryd wedi bod yn fodd i wneud hynny. Er enghraifft, rhoesom awdurdod i'r Comisiwn Coedwigaeth gael ffermydd gwynt ar dir y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth, gan ein bod yn berchen ar y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth yng Nghymru. Yr oedd honno'n enghraifft o strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd. Nid oes rhaid i'r swyddi hynny ddod dan bennawd strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd, ond maent i bob pwrpas.

Michael German: Sylweddolaf mai 'Cwestiynau i'r Prif Weinidog' yw'r sesiwn hon, ac nid 'Atebion y Prif Weinidog', ond a allech ddweud wrthyf, gan eich bod yn bwriadu cael strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd, pa bryd y cyhoeddwch hi? Pa bryd y rhoddir y strategaeth gerbron?

Y Prif Weinidog: Rhaid ichi beidio â phoeni gormod am y teitl. Efallai nad yw rhywbeth yn dod dan bennawd strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu na allwch greu swyddi gwyrdd. Dyna a ddywedais wrthyf pan godasoch y mater hwn o'r blaen, Mike. Yr ydych yn dechrau poeni'n ormodol ynghylch a oes dogfen wedi'i chyhoeddi o'r enw strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd, yn hytrach nag am benderfyniadau. Yr ydym wedi mynd ymlaen â'r penderfyniadau mewn cysylltiad â'r Comisiwn Coedwigaeth, er enghraifft, am fod hynny dan ein rheolaeth. Nid wyf yn sicr beth sy'n eich digio ynghylch hynny.

Michael German: Yr wyf i fod i graffu, Brif Weinidog, dyna'r cwbl. Yr wyf yn ceisio cael ateb am eich polisi. Eich polisi chi yw cael strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd. Dywedasoch eich bod am gael un a'i bod yn bwysig cael strategaeth o'r fath. Yr ydych wedi'i rhestru ymhlith eich polisiau. Felly pam na allwch ddweud wrthym pa bryd y byddwch yn peri i'r strategaeth hon gael ei hysgrifennu? Os oes arnoch angen strategaeth i hyrwyddo'ch uchelgeisiau, ac os hynny yw'r rheswm dros ei hysgrifennu, yr ydym am ei gweld fel y gallwn graffu arni. Nid oes dim sy'n sinistr yn hynny; dim ond ateb y mae arnom ei eisiau.

The First Minister: What you seem to be criticising is that I am referring to decisions that we have taken in advance of the publication of something called ‘the green jobs strategy’. Why should we have to wait for that when we can get on with the decisions now?

Hospital Hygiene

Q3 Brynle Williams: Will the First Minister make a statement on Welsh Assembly Government priorities for improving hospital hygiene in north Wales? OAQ(3)1221(FM)

The First Minister: The recent report, ‘Free to Lead, Free to Care’, is about, in part, the empowerment of ward sisters throughout Wales to deal with this matter by enabling them to address improvements in hospital cleanliness, and then there is the ‘mystery shopper’, that is, unscheduled visits by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales or by community health councils, which will go in to spot problems.

Brynle Williams: From my own experience, and from correspondence from constituents, it seems to me that there is little joined-up thinking on hygiene in some Welsh hospitals. Recently, my mother was prevented from being discharged from hospital on three consecutive occasions because of infection on the ward. Worse than that—I have mentioned this in the Chamber several times—when I visited her, I saw patients outside in their dressing gowns, dragging blankets on the floor behind them. That is totally inexcusable. On the one hand, patients cannot be discharged, and on the other people are allowed to carry in infection. I hope that the Government will do something about this.

The First Minister: I am sorry to hear about the situation that you described in the ward area or floor on which your mother was being cared for, and the impact that that had on discharge at the clinically appropriate time. I am sure that you will want to communicate directly with the Minister for Health and Social Services on that matter.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae’n ymddangos mai’r hyn yr ydych yn ei feirniadu yw fy mod yn cyfeirio at benderfyniadau yr ydym wedi’u gwneud cyn cyhoeddi rhywbeth o’r enw ‘y strategaeth swyddi gwyrdd’. Pam y dylem orfod aros am hynny a ninnau’n gallu bwrw ymlaen â’r penderfyniadau’n awr?

Hylendid Ysbytai

C3 Brynle Williams: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am flaenoriaethau Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer gwella hylendid ysbytai yn y gogledd? OAQ(3)1221(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae’r adroddiad diweddar, ‘Rhyddid i Arwain, Rhyddid i Ofalu’, yn ymwneud yn rhannol â grymuso prif nyrsys ward ledled Cymru fel y gallant ddelio â’r mater hwn drwy eu galluogi i roi sylw i welliannau yn hylendid ysbytai, ac wedyn mae’r ‘cwsmer cudd’, sef ymweliadau heb eu trefnu gan Arolygiaeth Gofal Iechyd Cymru neu gan gynghorau iechyd cymuned, a aiff i mewn i adnabod problemau.

Brynle Williams: O’m profiad i, ac ar sail gohebiaeth oddi wrth etholwyr, mae’n ymddangos i mi mai ychydig o feddwl cydgysylltiedig sydd ynghylch hylendid mewn rhai ysbytai yng Nghymru. Yn ddiweddar, rhwystrwyd fy mam rhag cael ei rhyddhau o’r ysbyty dair gwaith yn olynol oherwydd haint yn y ward. Yn waeth na hynny—yr wyf wedi crybwyll hyn yn y Siambr nifer o weithiau—pan euthum i’w gweld, gwelais gleifion y tu allan yn eu gynau tŷ, yn llusgo blancedi ar y llawr ar eu hôl. Mae hynny’n hollol anfaddeuol. Ar y naill law, ni ellir rhyddhau cleifion ac, ar y llaw arall, caniateir i bobl ddod â heintiau i mewn. Yr wyf yn gobeithio y bydd y Llywodraeth yn gwneud rhywbeth am hyn.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae’n ddrwg gennyf glywed am y sefyllfa a ddisgrifiasoch yng nghyffiniau’r ward neu ar y llawr lle’r oedd eich mam yn derbyn gofal, a’r effaith a gafodd hynny ar y gallu i’w rhyddhau ar adeg glinigol briodol. Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddwch am gysylltu’n uniongyrchol â’r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ar y mater hwnnw.

On the broader issue, we know that we need a cultural change among consultants—they need to learn to always wash their hands with alcohol gel between patients—and among visitors. Every time visitors go on to a ward and leave a ward, they need to remember to use the alcohol gel machine. We all forget from time to time, but we must ensure that we use it. Consultants, nurses, visitors, patients and everyone must never fail to use it. We do not want to get to a situation in which we have to seriously restrict visitors' hours because so much infection is being brought in.

Alun Ffred Jones: Un elfen sydd yn effeithio ar lanweithdra yw'r pwysau ar wasanaethau, nifer y cleifion a'r canran o welyau sydd yn cael eu defnyddio. Un gwasanaeth sydd o dan bwysau mawr yn Ysbyty Gwynedd yw'r uned dialysis. Deallaf fod cynlluniau i sefydlu uned arenau bellach tu allan i Ysbyty Gwynedd yn y gogledd-orllewin, lle mae gwir angen lleihau'r oriau teithio ar gyfer y cleifion. A ydych yn fodlon rhoi pwysau ar y gwasanaeth i sefydlu uned o'r fath, fel bod gwasanaeth cyflawn ar gael i bobl ar hyd a lled Cymru?

2.20 p.m.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn siŵr fy mod wedi clywed pob un o fanylion y sefyllfa yr ydych yn ei disgrifio. A ydych yn sôn am uned symudol ynteu uned barhaol, er enghraifft mewn ysbyty fel yr un newydd sy'n cael ei adeiladu yng nghyffiniau Porthmadog, i wasanaethu gorllewin Gwynedd? Yr uchelgais yw cael rhwydwaith o wasanaethau ac unedau dialysis lle nad oes rhaid i gleifion deithio mwy na'r lleiafswm angenrheidiol i'w cyrraedd.

Sandy Mewies: One of the most fundamental things that can be done to improve hygiene is to redesign nurses' uniforms and improve laundry facilities. Uniforms of the past were extremely difficult to clean; they were part of an exhibition to celebrate the NHS that I saw in Mold Community Hospital recently. Will you join

Ynghylch y mater mwy cyffredinol, gwyddom fod arnom angen newid mewn diwylliant ymysg meddygon ymgynghorol—mae angen iddynt ddysgu golchi eu dwylo â gel alcohol bob tro rhwng cleifion—ac ymysg ymwelwyr. Bob tro yr aiff ymwelwyr i ward a gadael ward, mae angen iddynt gofio defnyddio'r peiriant gel alcohol. Byddwn i gyd yn anghofio o bryd i'w gilydd, ond rhaid inni sicrhau ein bod yn ei ddefnyddio. Rhaid i feddygon ymgynghorol, nyrsys, ymwelwyr, cleifion a phawb ei ddefnyddio bob tro'n ddi-ffael. Nid ydym am fynd i sefyllfa lle y mae'n rhaid inni gyfyngu oriau ymwelwyr yn sylweddol am fod cynifer o heintiau'n cael eu cario i mewn.

Alun Ffred Jones: One issue that affects hygiene is the pressure on services, throughput and the percentage of beds used. One service under great pressure at Ysbyty Gwynedd is the dialysis unit. I understand that there are plans to establish a further renal unit outside Ysbyty Gwynedd in north-west Wales, where there is a real need to reduce patient travel time. Are you willing to bring pressure to bear on the service to establish such an unit, so that a full service is available for people in all parts of Wales?

The First Minister: I am not sure that I have heard all the details of the situation that you describe. Are you talking about a mobile unit or a permanent unit, for example at a location such as the new hospital being built in the Porthmadog area, to serve the western side of Gwynedd? The ambition is to have a network of renal units and services that patients do not have to travel more than the necessary minimum to access.

Sandy Mewies: Un o'r pethau mwyaf sylfaenol y gellir ei wneud i wella hylendid yw ailddylunio gwisgoedd nyrsys a gwella cyfleusterau golchi. Yr oedd gwisgoedd y gorffennol yn anodd iawn eu glanhau; yr oeddent yn rhan o arddangosfa i ddathlu'r GIG a welais yn Ysbyty Cymunedol yr Wyddgrug yn ddiweddar. A wnewch ymuno

me in congratulating those from Mold, and from all over Wales, who have celebrated 60 years of our wonderful non-privatised NHS?

The First Minister: Yes. I was a Member of Parliament when the NHS got pretty close to being privatised—it was, perhaps, the next thing to be privatised in the commission given to the Minister, John Moore, by Margaret Thatcher in 1987 or 1988, but it did not happen, possibly because of the Vale of Glamorgan by-election in 1989, where it was made quite clear that people would not accept privatisation of the NHS. Thank goodness for the good sense of the voters of the Vale of Glamorgan in May of that year.

The point that you make about nurses' uniforms is important. The recent all-Wales nursing uniform policy working group looked at this and recommended that we return to the culture of washing nurses' uniforms at 60 degrees C, and that uniforms did not need to be pulled over the head. It proposed a whole manner of different recommendations to ensure that nurses' uniforms were fit for purpose for the twenty-first century, did not spread infection and were easy to wash and sterilise.

Lesley Griffiths: Among the many recent measures announced by the Welsh Assembly Government to reduce the spread of hospital-acquired infection, could the announcement to provide separate bathroom facilities not only help to tackle this problem, but also prove particularly popular in restoring dignity to patients of both genders? Do you agree that, when it comes to healthcare in Wales, the Government is not only listening, but is acting decisively and swiftly to improve patient care?

The First Minister: Yes, indeed. The 107-room Aneurin Bevan Hospital in Blaenau Gwent will have en-suite bathrooms, so that the mixed-sex question does not arise. The question of allowing infections to spread around the ward as people move back and forth to the bathroom in the way that hospital patients have had to get used to will not come up either; that is not a problem in hospitals designed today.

â mi i longyfarch y rheini yn yr Wyddgrug, ac ym mhob rhan o Gymru, sydd wedi dathlu 60 mlynedd ein GIG gwych sydd heb ei breifateiddio?

Y Prif Weinidog: Gwnaf. Yr oeddwn yn Aelod Seneddol pan fu bron iawn i'r GIG gael ei breifateiddio—ef, efallai, oedd y peth nesaf i gael ei breifateiddio yn y comisiwn a roddwyd i'r Gweinidog, John Moore, gan Margaret Thatcher ym 1987 neu 1988, ond ni ddigwyddodd, efallai oherwydd is-etholiad Bro Morgannwg ym 1989, lle y'i gwnaethpwyd yn gwbl glir na wnâi pobl dderbyn preifateiddio'r GIG. Diolch byth am synnwyr cyffredin pleidleiswyr Bro Morgannwg ym mis Mai y flwyddyn honno.

Mae'r pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud am wisgoedd nyrsys yn un pwysig. Gwnaeth y gweithgor polisi diweddar ar wisgoedd nyrsys i Gymru gyfan edrych ar hyn ac argymhell y dylem fynd yn ôl i'r arfer o olchi gwisgoedd nyrsys ar 60 gradd C, ac nad oedd angen tynnu gwisgoedd dros y pen. Cynigiodd bob math o wahanol argymhellion i sicrhau bod gwisgoedd nyrsys yn addas i'r unfed ganrif ar hugain, nad oeddent yn lledaenu heintiau a'u bod yn hawdd eu golchi a'u diheintio.

Lesley Griffiths: Ymysg y nifer mawr o fesurau diweddar a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i leihau lledaeniad heintiau a gafwyd yn yr ysbyty, oni fyddai'r cyhoeddiad am ddarparu cyfleusterau ystafell ymolchi ar wahân nid yn unig yn gallu helpu i fynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon, ond bod yn neilltuoel o boblogaidd hefyd o ran adfer urddas cleifion o'r ddau ryw? A ydych yn cytuno, o ran gofal iechyd yng Nghymru, fod y Llywodraeth nid yn unig yn gwrando, ond yn gweithredu'n fuan ac yn benderfynol i wella gofal cleifion?

Y Prif Weinidog: Ydwyf, yn wir. Yn Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan ym Mlaenau Gwent, sydd â 107 o ystafelloedd, bydd ystafell ymolchi'n gysylltiedig â phob ystafell, fel na fydd mater wardiau cymysg yn codi. Ni fydd y cwestiwn o adael i heintiau ymledu yn y ward wrth i bobl fynd yn ôl ac ymlaen i'r ystafell ymolchi, fel y mae cleifion mewn ysbytai wedi gorfod dod i arfer â gwneud, yn codi ychwaith; nid yw hynny'n broblem mewn

ysbytai a ddylunnir heddiw.

Joyce Watson: We all know that an important part of any hospital is its cleaning staff—if we are talking about cleanliness, we have to talk about the cleaning staff. The ‘Free to Lead, Free to Care’ report made important recommendations on their role as part of the valued healthcare team. We all know that, in that report, an over-reliance on agency staff is cited as a barrier to improving morale and cleanliness. So, what steps have been taken to offer more permanent contracts to cleaning staff who will be subject to the new proficiency requirements?

Joyce Watson: Yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod mai un rhan bwysig o bob ysbyty yw ei staff glanhau—os ydym yn sôn am lanweithdra, rhaid inni sôn am y staff glanhau. Gwnaethpwyd argymhellion pwysig yn yr adroddiad ‘Rhyddid i Arwain, Rhyddid i Ofalu’ ar eu rôl fel rhan o’r tîm gofal iechyd gwerthfawr. Yr ydym i gyd yn gwybod bod yr adroddiad hwnnw’n cyfeirio at orddibyniaeth ar staff asiantaethau fel rhwystr rhag gwella morâl a glanweithdra. Felly, pa gamau sydd wedi’u cymryd i gynnig mwy o gontractau parhaol i staff glanhau a fydd yn gorfod ufuddhau i’r gofynion newydd ar fedruswydd?

The First Minister: The ‘Free to Lead, Free to Care’ report was about trying to empower ward sisters to have much more control over this policy and to regard the cleaners as part of an integrated team. They are not there to come in, do the job, disappear and then come back to do the same the following evening—they should be seen as part of the team. One of the recommendations of the ‘Free to Lead, Free to Care’ report is that ward sisters would have the power to work with cleaners as part of the team, rather than see them as some sort of external service, which is nothing to do with the provision of NHS services.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oedd yr adroddiad ‘Rhyddid i Arwain, Rhyddid i Ofalu’ yn ymwneud â cheisio grymuso prif nyrsys ward fel bod ganddynt fwy o reolaeth o lawer ar y polisi hwn ac fel eu bod yn gweld y glanhawyr yn rhan o dîm integredig. Ni ddylent ddod i mewn, gwneud y gwaith, diflannu ac wedyn dod yn ôl i wneud yr un peth y noson wedyn—dylid eu gweld yn rhan o’r tîm. Un o’r argymhellion yn yr adroddiad ‘Rhyddid i Arwain, Rhyddid i Ofalu’ yw y byddai prif nyrsys ward yn gallu cydweithio â glanhawyr fel rhan o’r tîm, yn hytrach na’u gweld yn rhyw fath o wasanaeth allanol, nad yw’n ymwneud o gwbl â darparu gwasanaethau GIG.

Gwaith Alwminiwm Dolgarrog

Dolgarrog Aluminium Works

C4 Gareth Jones: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am adfywiad economaidd dyffryn Conwy yn sgil cau gwaith alwminiwm Dolgarrog? OAQ(3)1233(FM)

Q4 Gareth Jones: Will the First Minister make a statement on the economic regeneration of the Conwy valley in the wake of the closure of the Dolgarrog aluminium works? OAQ(3)1233(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn siomedig na ddaeth y cwmni o Rwsia i aildechrau cynhyrchu dalenni alwminiwm ar y safle. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn falch bod Ainscough-Johnston Cyf wedi cymryd drosodd ar 1 Gorffennaf. Deallaf y bydd cyfarfod cyn diwedd y mis rhwng Ainscough-Johnston a’r grŵp gweithredu lleol.

The First Minister: I was disappointed that the Russian company did not come to start producing aluminium sheets again on the site. However, we are pleased that Ainscough-Johnston Ltd took over the site on 1 July. I understand that there will be a meeting before the end of the month between Ainscough-Johnston and the local action group.

Gareth Jones: Mae gwerthu gwaith Dolgarrog yn newyddion da i drigolion lleol

Gareth Jones: The sale of the Dolgarrog plant is good news for local people worried

sy'n poeni am y dyfodol. Mae'n amlwg bod gwaith sylweddol wedi digwydd y tu ôl i'r llenni. Croesawaf y gwerthu a rôl Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wrth sicrhau hynny. Yr wyf hefyd yn falch bod y Llywodraeth wedi dangos ffydd yn y cwmni a'i gynlluniau ar gyfer buddsoddi yn yr ardal. A gytunwch y bydd adfywiad llwyddiannus y dyffryn yn dibynnu ar ddenu cyflogaeth i safle Dolgarrog ac i adeilad newydd y Cynulliad yng Nghyffordd Llandudno? A allwch gadarnhau bod Llywodraeth Cymru'n Un wedi ymrwymo'n llwyr i greu cyflogaeth o'r newydd ar y ddau safle hollbwysig hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae colli 170 o swyddi mewn lle fel dyffryn Conwy yn gnoc sylweddol i'r ardal. Yr ydym yn gobeithio y bydd yr adfywiad yn economi canol dyffryn Conwy yn dechrau ym mis Gorffennaf 2008, gan fod y cwmni hwn, sy'n eithaf cyfoethog, a chanddo bocedi dwfn, yn gallu gweithio gyda ni a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy i adfywio'r ardal gyda swyddi, cyfleoedd hamdden, tai fforddiadwy ac unedau busnes newydd.

Mark Isherwood: Following the closure of this plant, you will know that the Assembly Government stated that it would ensure that no effort would be spared to give Dolgarrog a new future as an important provider of employment opportunities for the region. It has been made public that the new owners are looking to develop housing or holiday homes on the site. You referred to an action group, and I welcome the fact that that has been established. However, what are its proposals, and to what extent will the communities of the Conwy valley be able to influence the development on the site in the future?

The First Minister: I mentioned a mixture of affordable housing, tourism and leisure facilities and business units as the basis of the Ainscough-Johnston proposal. I do not think that it has absolutely fixed it or set it in concrete at this moment, but it hopes to explore that in a meeting later this month with the local action group.

Eleanor Burnham: While we welcome the wonderful news for Dolgarrog, I am sure that you are very aware that there is a lot of

about the future. It is clear that significant work was undertaken behind the scenes. I welcome the sale and the role of the Welsh Assembly Government in securing it. I am also pleased that the Government demonstrated its faith in the company and its investment plans for the area. Do you agree that the valley's successful regeneration will depend on attracting employment to the Dolgarrog site and to the new Assembly building in Llandudno Junction? Can you confirm that the One Wales Government is fully committed to creating new employment on these two vital sites?

The First Minister: Losing 170 jobs in an area like the Conwy valley is a significant blow. We hope that the regeneration of the economy of the middle part of the Conwy valley will begin in July 2008, because this company, which is fairly well off, and has deep pockets, can work with us and with the Conwy County Borough Council to regenerate the area with new jobs, leisure opportunities, affordable housing and business units.

Mark Isherwood: Yn dilyn cau'r gwaith hwn, gwyddoch i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ddatgan y byddai'n sicrhau y byddai pob ymdrech i sicrhau dyfodol newydd i waith Dolgarrog fel un pwysig o ran cynnig cyfleoedd gwaith ar gyfer y rhanbarth. Cyhoeddwyd bod y perchnogion newydd yn ystyried datblygu tai neu gartrefi gwyliau ar y safle. Cyfeiriasoch at grŵp gweithredu, a chroesawaf y ffaith bod hwnnw wedi'i sefydlu. Fodd bynnag, beth yw ei gynigion, ac i ba raddau y bydd cymunedau dyffryn Conwy'n gallu dylanwadu ar y datblygu ar y safle yn y dyfodol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dywedais mai cymysgedd o dai fforddiadwy, cyfleusterau twristiaeth a hamdden ac unedau busnes yw'r sail i gynnig Ainscough-Johnston. Nid wyf yn credu ei fod wedi pennu hynny'n derfynol ar hyn o bryd, ond mae'n gobeithio trafod hynny mewn cyfarfod yn ddiweddarach y mis hwn gyda'r grŵp gweithredu lleol.

Eleanor Burnham: Er ein bod yn croesawu'r newyddion gwych i Ddolgarrrog, yr wyf yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol iawn

concern across north Wales, beyond the Conwy valley. I seek reassurance, because my understanding is that, collectively, around 1,400 jobs have been lost across north Wales beyond the Conwy valley. I seek your assurance that your new head of the economic development portfolio, while not living in north Wales, will focus on north Wales, to stem any further loss of the most valuable manufacturing jobs, which, as you know, are extremely well paid. That is one of the biggest issues.

The First Minister: I certainly share your disappointment at the original loss of the 170 jobs when we failed to get the potential Russian buyers, who wanted to keep it as an aluminium sheet mill, to make the investment. It is sad that they walked away, but there was nothing that we could do about that in the end. However, we are pleased that another investor has come in. You made the point about another set of job losses, which were mentioned earlier by Lesley Griffiths and others, at JCB, Flexis, and so. That indicates that what I have said over the past few weeks about painful restructuring in the economy throughout most of the western world, certainly in Wales and the rest of Britain, is going on. On the other hand, unemployment remains low. Therefore, although there is never a good time to lose your job, the opportunities for getting other jobs remain reasonably good, except in sectors like private housebuilding.

2.30 p.m.

Gwasanaeth Band Eang

C5 Nerys Evans: Beth mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi bod yn ei wneud yn ystod y mis diwethaf i wella gwasanaeth band eang yng nghefn gwlad Cymru? OAQ(3)1220(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Sylweddolaf fod ardaloedd i gael yn y Gymru wledig lle nad oes band eang ar gael, neu lle mae'n gweithredu ar lefel go isel. Yr ydym yn parhau i weithio gyda'r rheoleiddiwr, Ofcom, a'r diwydiant cyfathrebu, gan gynnwys cwmnïau fel BT, i gael gwared ar y rhwystrau. Mae proses gaffael ar y gweill

bod llawer yn pryderu ledled y gogledd, y tu hwnt i ddyffryn Conwy. Ceisiaf sicrwydd, oherwydd yr wyf yn deall bod tua 1,400 o swyddi wedi'u colli, gyda'i gilydd, ledled y gogledd y tu allan i ddyffryn Conwy. Ceisiaf sicrwydd gennych y bydd eich pennaeth newydd ar y portffolio datblygu economaidd, er nad yw'n byw yn y gogledd, yn canolbwyntio ar y gogledd, er mwyn atal colli rhagor o'r swyddi gweithgynhyrchu mwyaf gwerthfawr, sydd, fel y gwyddoch, yn rhai sydd â chyflog da iawn. Dyna un o'r ystyriaethau pwysicaf.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn sicr, yr wyf yn siomedig fel chithau ynghylch colli'r 170 o swyddi'n wreiddiol pan fethasom â chael buddsoddiad gan y prynwyr posibl o Rwsia, a oedd am ei chadw'n felin llenni aliwminiwm. Mae'n beth trist iddynt gerdded i ffwrdd, ond nid oedd dim y gallem ei wneud am hynny yn y diwedd. Serch hynny, yr ydym yn falch bod buddsoddwr arall wedi dod i'r adwy. Gwnaethoch y pwynt am golli set arall o swyddi, y cyfeiriwyd atynt yn gynharach gan Lesley Griffiths ac eraill, yn JCB, Flexis, ac felly. Mae hynny'n dangos bod yr hyn yr wyf wedi'i ddweud dros yr wythnosau diwethaf am ailstrwythuro poenus yn yr economi ym mron bob rhan o'r byd gorllewinol, yn sicr yng Nghymru a gweddill Prydain, yn mynd ymlaen. Ar y llaw arall, mae diweithdra'n dal yn isel. Felly, er nad oes byth adeg dda i golli'ch swydd, mae cyfleoedd eithaf da o hyd i gael swyddi eraill, heblaw mewn sectorau fel adeiladu tai preifat.

Broadband Services

Q5 Nerys Evans: What has the Welsh Assembly Government been doing during the last month to improve broadband services in rural Wales? OAQ(3)1220(FM)

The First Minister: I recognise that there are areas in rural Wales where broadband is currently unavailable, or where it operates on a fairly low level. We are continuing to work with the regulator, Ofcom, and the communications industry, including companies like BT, to overcome the barriers. We are currently undertaking a Wales-wide

ledled Cymru i gael gwared ar y manau gwan.

Nerys Evans: Yr wyf yn parhau i aros am ateb ysgrifenedig i gwestiwn a ofynnais i chi ar 10 Mehefin. Yn amlwg, yr wyf yn croesawu'r cyhoeddiad heddiw y bydd BT yn buddsoddi £1.5 biliwn mewn opteg ffibr i ehangu'r darpariaeth ar draws Prydain. Er hynny, bydd pobl mewn cymunedau ledled Cymru yn methu â chael band eang o hyd. Bydd gwahaniaethau annerbyniol yn datblygu rhwng ein cymunedau, sef rhywbeth y mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn ceisio ei osgoi. Sut fydd ymestyn y ddarpariaeth opteg ffibr gan BT yn effeithio ar y broses dendro, os o gwbl? A yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn bwriadu edrych eto ar y diffiniad o isafswm cyflymder gwasanaeth band eang?

Y Prif Weinidog: Pob tro yr ydym yn trafod y mater hwn, yr wyf yn ceisio pwysleisio bod dwy broblem: mae problem gyda'r manau gwan lle nad oes dim gwasanaeth neu lle mae'n wan dros ben; ac mae pobl yn cymharu Prydain Fawr a Chymru â gwledydd eraill yn y byd lle mae cyflymder a chryfder y band eang yn uwch o lawer. Mae BT wedi dweud heddiw ei fod am sefydlu rhwydwaith band eang cyflym a chryf dros ben, felly y cwestiwn yw sut fydd hwnnw'n cydweddu â'n hamgylchiadau yng Nghymru. Mae'n rhy gynnar i ateb y cwestiwn hwnnw, ond mae'n galonogol gweld bod BT am fuddsoddi £1 biliwn ychwanegol—felly £1.5 biliwn i gyd—mewn rhwydwaith band eang. Hefyd, mae un ddraenen ymhlith y rhesod am fod BT eisiau taro rhyw fargen arbennig gydag Ofcom a chael cymorth gennym ni. Rhaid i ni weithio drwy'r manylion.

Alun Davies: I think it fair to say that the albeit welcome investment from BT today will simply take 40 per cent of British households in five years' time to where a lot of people around the world are already today. What it does, in my view, is widen the gulf between the haves and the have-nots when it comes to broadband. It emphasises the fact that we have a two-speed Wales when it comes to broadband, with those who have access to it and those who do not. First Minister, do you agree that it might now be time to start looking at BT's universal service obligation and to ensure that broadband

procurement process to tackle the broadband not spots.

Nerys Evans: I am still waiting for a written response to a question that I asked you on 10 June. Clearly, I welcome today's announcement that BT will invest £1.5 billion in fibre optics to enhance the provision across Britain. However, the people in communities across Wales will still be unable to access broadband. Unacceptable differences will develop between communities, which is something that the Assembly Government is trying to avoid. What impact will BT's expanding the fibre-optic provision have on the tendering process, if any? Does the Assembly Government intend to revisit the definition of the minimum speed of broadband services?

The First Minister: Every time we discuss this issue, I try to emphasise that there are two problems: there are problems with the not spots where there is no provision or where the service is very weak; and people compare Great Britain and Wales with other countries in the world that have much better broadband speed and strength. BT has said today that it intends to set up an extremely strong and fast broadband network, so the question is how that will fit in with our circumstances in Wales. It is too early to answer that question, but it is encouraging to see that BT intends to invest an additional £1 billion—bringing the total up to £1.5 billion—in the broadband network. In addition, there is one thorny issue in that BT wants to strike a special deal with Ofcom and have support from us. We will have to work through the details.

Alun Davies: Er bod croeso i'r buddsoddiad gan BT heddiw, yr wyf yn meddwl ei bod yn deg dweud mai'r cyfan y mae'n ei olygu yw ymhen pum mlynedd y bydd 40 y cant o gartrefi Cymru yn yr un sefyllfa ag y mae llawer o bobl ym mhedwar ban byd heddiw. Yn fy marn i, yr hyn y mae'n ei wneud yw lledaenu'r gagendor rhwng y rheini sydd â band eang a'r rheini heb. Mae'n pwysleisio'r ffaith bod gennym Gymru dau gyflymder yng nghyswllt band eang, gyda'r rheini sydd â mynediad ato a'r rheini heb. Brif Weinidog, a ydych yn cytuno y gallai yn awr fod yn hen bryd edrych ar rwymedigaeth gwasanaeth

access is a part of that?

The First Minister: That would be a pretty revolutionary step, to be honest, Alun, but it is a matter for Ofcom. BT has said that this investment has a degree of conditionality to it. In other words, BT is willing to make this commitment, but it is subject to the right regulatory environment and to whether we, in Wales, want to help or not. We have to work through the details of that. Some care has to be taken because BT, the legacy telephone company, has certain advantages, but Ofcom is there to make sure that there is a level playing field for the legacy telcos, like BT, and the newer providers that want to come in. Indeed, we want them to come in, to provide competition to bring the price down.

Paul Davies: Yn anffodus, mae rhai ardaloedd yn fy etholaeth i sy'n methu â derbyn band eang. Fel y gŵyr y Prif Weinidog, yn ystod y mis diwethaf, bu'r Swyddfa Bost yn ystyried cau nifer o swyddfeydd post yn yr ardal. Mae'r Swyddfa Bost yn dadlau y gall rhai o'r cymunedau hyn brynu eu gwasanaethau dros y rhyngwyd ar ôl i'w swyddfa bost gau ond ni fydd hyn yn bosibl oherwydd nid ydynt yn gallu derbyn band eang. O dan yr amgylchiadau, a wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddweud wrthym a yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi cynnal trafodaethau gyda'r Swyddfa Bost am hyn?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nac ydyw. Pan ydym yn mynd drwy'r broses gaffael o dendro a pharatoi'r hysbyseb ar gyfer cyfnodolyn hysbysebu contractau yr Undeb Ewropeaidd—sef yr atodiad contractau i'r *Official Journal of the European Union*—rhaid i ni ddisgrifio yr union math o gaffael yr ydym am ei wneud yn y maes hwn.

Amcangyfrifir fod gan 55 y cant o gartrefi yn y Gymru wledig fynediad at fand eang, ond y cwestiwn yw a yw hynny'n ddigon da. Mae rhai ardaloedd o sir Benfro yn gryf yn gyffredinol, ac felly hefyd Ynys Môn, sy'n fy synnu—efallai gymaint ag y mae'n eich synnu chi—ond rhaid ceisio dal i fyny fel nad ydym yn llusgo y tu ôl i'r ardaloedd mwy

cyffredin BT a sicrhau bod mynediad i fand eang yn rhan o honno?

Y Prif Weinidog: Byddai hwnnw'n gam eithaf chwyldroadol, a dweud y gwir, Alun, ond mae'n fater i Ofcom. Mae BT wedi dweud bod rhywfaint o amodoldeb yn perthyn i'r buddsoddiad hwn. Mewn geiriau eraill, mae BT yn fodlon gwneud yr ymrwymiad hwn, ond mae'n amodol ar yr amgylchedd rheoliadol iawn ac a oes arnom ni, yng Nghymru, eisiau helpu ai peidio. Rhaid inni weithio drwy fanylion hynny. Rhaid cymryd rhywfaint o ofal oherwydd bod gan BT, y cwmni ffôn gwreiddiol, rai manteision, ond mae Ofcom wrth law i sicrhau bod tegwch ar gyfer y cwmnïau ffôn gwreiddiol, megis BT, a'r darparwyr mwy newydd y mae arnynt eisiau dod i mewn. A dweud y gwir, mae arnom eisiau iddynt ddod i mewn, i ddarparu cystadleuaeth i ddod â'r pris i lawr.

Paul Davies: Unfortunately, some areas in my constituency are unable to access broadband. As the First Minister knows, during the past month, the Post Office has been considering closing many of the post offices in the area. The Post Office argues that some of these communities could purchase their services over the internet after their post office is closed, but that will not be possible as they cannot access broadband. Given the circumstances, will the First Minister tell us whether the Assembly Government has held any discussions with the Post Office on this matter?

The First Minister: No, it has not. When we undertake the procurement process of going out to tender and preparing the advertisement for the European Union's journal for advertising contracts—the contracts supplement to the *Official Journal of the European Union*—we have to describe precisely the procurement that we want.

It is estimated that 55 per cent of households in rural Wales currently have access to broadband, but the question is whether that is good enough. Some areas of Pembrokeshire have strong broadband connections, along with Ynys Môn, which surprises me—perhaps as much as it surprises you—but we must catch up and ensure that we do not lag

moethus hynny sydd â phoblogaeth uwch o lawer, fel dinasoedd mawr canolbarth, gogledd a de-ddwyrain Lloegr a chanolbarth yr Alban.

behind the more affluent areas that have bigger populations, such as the large cities of the midlands, north and south-east England and central Scotland.

Educational Standards

Q6 Andrew R.T. Davies: What impact is the Welsh Assembly Government having on educational standards in Wales? OAQ(3)1229(FM)

The First Minister: There has been a huge improvement in performance over key stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 since 1999, but we recognise that the transition from primary to secondary school—that is, from key stage 2 to 3—is not good, especially for boys, and particularly boys from less advantaged homes.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I want to concentrate on the languages aspect of education. Back in 2002, the Welsh Assembly Government and the then-Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, Jane Davidson, published the 'Languages Count' strategy, but sadly, there has been a remarkable decline in the numbers of students taking modern languages at GCSE. There has been a 50 per cent decline in the numbers studying German, a 33 per cent decline in those studying French, and a 40 per cent decline overall. Is it now time for the Welsh Assembly Government to revisit that strategy, which has evidently failed, and to try to engage with educational establishments to ensure that we open up opportunities for students to take modern languages at GCSE?

The First Minister: I was a modern languages student at A-level more than 50 years ago, so this is a subject close to my heart. In those days, people accepted the languages on offer at their schools, but now there can be problems if schools do not offer the languages that students are interested in. The two foreign languages traditionally taught in schools, French and German, have gone down the pan, as you described, but there is a huge increase in the number of pupils who want to learn Spanish. However, we do not always have sufficient numbers of teachers to do that, and some teachers still

Safonau Addysgol

C6 Andrew R.T. Davies: Pa effaith mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n ei chael ar safonau addysgol yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)1229(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Bu gwelliant enfawr mewn perfformiad dros gyfnodau allweddol 1, 2, 3 a 4 er 1999, ond yr ydym yn cydnabod nad yw pontio o'r ysgol gynradd i'r ysgol uwchradd—hynny yw, o gyfnod allweddol 2 i 3—yn dda, yn enwedig ar gyfer bechgyn, ac yn enwedig bechgyn o gartrefi llai breintiedig.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Yr wyf eisiau canolbwyntio ar agwedd ieithoedd addysg, Yn ôl yn 2002, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r Gweinidog dros Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes bryd hynny, Jane Davidson, y strategaeth 'Ieithoedd sy'n Cyfrif', ond yn anffodus, bu gostyngiad nodedig yn nifer y myfyrwyr sy'n astudio ieithoedd modern ar gyfer TGAU. Bu gostyngiad o 50 y cant yn y niferoedd sy'n astudio Almaeneg, gostyngiad o 33 y cant yn y rheini sy'n astudio Ffrangeg, a gostyngiad o 40 y cant yn gyffredinol. A yw yn awr yn hen bryd i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ailedrych ar y strategaeth honno, sydd yn amlwg wedi methu, a cheisio ymgysylltu â sefydliadau addysgol i sicrhau ein bod yn agor cyfleoedd i fyfyrwyr allu astudio ieithoedd modern ar gyfer TGAU?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr oeddwn yn fyfyrwr ieithoedd modern Safon Uwch dros 50 mlynedd yn ôl, felly mae hwn yn bwnc sy'n agos at fy nghalon. Yn y dyddiau hynny, yr oedd pobl yn derbyn yr ieithoedd a oedd yn cael eu cynnig yn eu hysgolion, ond yn awr ceir problemau os nad yw ysgolion yn cynnig yr ieithoedd sydd o ddiddordeb i'r myfyrwyr. Mae'r ddwy iaith dramor a ddysgir mewn ysgolion yn draddodiadol, Ffrangeg ac Almaeneg, wedi gostwng yn sylweddol, fel yr oeddech wedi'i ddisgrifio, ond ceir cynnydd enfawr yn nifer y disgyblion y mae arnynt eisiau dysgu Sbaeneg. Fodd bynnag,

want to teach the languages that they learned at college or university, namely French and German.

That is one problem. There are also other, newly popular languages such as Chinese and Russian, and we want to make them available to children, so there is an issue there. I do not know whether it would be appropriate to relaunch the strategy, but it would probably be quite a sound idea to modernise it.

Lorraine Barrett: The level of educational attainment in some of our nurseries is outstanding, as we see from the Estyn reports that are sent to Assembly Members. Will you join me in paying tribute to Carolyn Assante, the headteacher of Tremorfa nursery, who is leaving her post this week to take up a job in Ely, in your constituency, at the new integrated children's centre? I particularly want to pay tribute to Carolyn because Tremorfa nursery received an excellent inspection report this year, which stated that the quality of education was outstanding and that the headteacher provided inspirational leadership. As we are coming to the end of term, it may be appropriate to pay tribute to all the nursery schools that are achieving so much and are helping children to go on to attain even greater things in primary, secondary and higher education.

The First Minister: Thank you for that tribute. I, too, was inspired by Carolyn Assante when I visited Tremorfa infant school. She proves, if ever we needed proof, that leadership makes a difference. Such an outstanding, inspirational, charismatic leader makes a tremendous difference to the quality of education provided, and the more disadvantaged the area, the more the charismatic nature of the headteacher can make a real difference. I welcome her to my constituency, although, for the sake of clarity, I must say that I did not have any hand in her appointment.

2.40 p.m.

Kirsty Williams: Over the past 10 years, there have been undoubted improvements in the levels of attainment, but that progress has

nid oes gennym bob amser ddigon o athrawon i wneud hynny, ac mae ar rai athrawon eisiau parhau i addysgu'r ieithoedd yr oeddent wedi'u dysgu yn y coleg neu'r brifysgol, sef Ffrangeg ac Almaeneg.

Mae honno'n un broblem. Ceir hefyd ieithoedd sydd wedi dod yn boblogaidd yn ddiweddar megis Tsieinëeg a Rwsieg, ac mae arnom eisiau eu darparu i blant, felly ceir mater yn fan honno. Ni wn a fyddai'n briodol ail-lansio'r strategaeth, ond mae'n debyg y byddai'n syniad eithaf da ei moderneiddio.

Lorraine Barrett: Mae lefel y cyrhaeddiad addysgol yn rhai o'n meithrinfeydd yn neilltuol, fel y gwelwn o'r adroddiadau Estyn a anfonir at Aelodau Cynulliad. A wnewch ymuno â mi i roi teyrnged i Carolyn Assante, pennaeth meithrinfa Tremorfa, sy'n gadael ei swydd yr wythnos yma ar gyfer swydd yn Nhrelái, yn eich etholaeth, yn y ganolfan blant integredig newydd? Yr wyf eisiau rhoi teyrnged yn benodol i Carolyn oherwydd bod meithrinfa Tremorfa wedi cael adroddiad arolygiad ardderchog eleni, a ddywedodd fod ansawdd yr addysg yn neilltuol a bod y pennaeth wedi darparu arweinyddiaeth ysbrydoledig. A diwedd tymor ar ein gwarthaf, efallai ei bod yn briodol rhoi teyrnged i'r holl ysgolion meithrin sy'n cyflawni cymaint ac sy'n helpu plant i fynd ymlaen i gyflawni pethau gwell byth mewn addysg gynradd, uwchradd ac uwch.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi am y deyrnged honno, cefais innau hefyd fy ysbrydoli gan Carolyn Assante pan ymwelais ag ysgol fabanod Tremorfa. Mae hi'n profi, os bu erioed angen prawf arnom, bod arweinyddiaeth yn gwneud gwahaniaeth. Mae arweinydd mor neilltuol, ysbrydoledig a charismatig yn gwneud gwahaniaeth aruthrol i ansawdd yr addysg a ddarperir, a po fwyaf difreintiedig yw'r ardal, y mwyaf y gall natur garismatig y pennaeth wneud gwahaniaeth go iawn. Yr wyf yn ei chroesawu i'm hetholaeth, er, er mwyn bod yn glir, rhaid imi ddweud na chefais ddim i'w wneud â'i phenodi.

Kirsty Williams: Dros y 10 mlynedd diwethaf, bu gwelliannau diamau mewn lefelau cyrhaeddiad, ond mae'r cynnydd

stalled for certain age groups, which are still generally behind their equivalents in other countries and regions of the UK. That is especially true of 14 and 16-year-olds. There is a clear link between educational attainment and poverty, and reports have shown that just by tackling education measures alone, you will not have the impact that you need. What assessment have you carried out as a Government of the effectiveness of your community-focused schools programme, and do you believe that that scheme and the money that you have put into it are delivering for children?

The First Minister: I do not disagree with what you said about the stalling of progress after making massive progress, such as 12 percentage point increases in people getting satisfactory ratings at key stages 1 and 2, which is an outstanding achievement. However, you are right to say that it has been stalling. What have we done about that? We have a new 14-19 curriculum, as well as the new early years curriculum for three to seven-year-olds, so we are not being complacent about the need to re-inject an upward drive in educational standards. Community-focused schools are a part of that, because we want to involve adults, as parents, in those schools. Sometimes, they are nervous about the fact that they were not very successful at school, or did not have a good relationship with their teachers, which means that they do not like attending parent evenings, as they may think that some of that hostility remains. As a result, their children do not get the necessary back-up. Therefore, community-focused schools are the way to overcome that.

Janet Ryder: The foundation phase is the main Government initiative aimed at raising educational standards across the board, and outdoor play is a crucial element of it. However, several counties are struggling to find the capital to provide anything more than the minimum provision for outdoor play provision. Will you ask that the development of outdoor play areas for the foundation phase become a priority for the strategic capital investment board?

The First Minister: You are right to say that

hwnnw wedi pallu ar gyfer rhai grwpiau oedran, sydd yn gyffredinol yn dal ar ôl eu cyfoedion mewn gwledydd a rhanbarthau eraill yn y DU. Mae hynny'n arbennig o wir ar gyfer pobl ifanc 14 a 16 oed. Ceir cyswllt clir rhwng cyrhaeddiad addysgol a thlodi, ac mae adroddiadau wedi dangos na fydd mynd i'r afael â dim ond mesurau addysg yn arwain at yr effaith y mae ei hangen arnoch. Pa asesiad yr ydych wedi'i wneud fel Llywodraeth o effeithiolrwydd eich rhaglenni ysgolion bro, ac a ydych yn credu bod y cynllun hwnnw a'r arian yr ydych wedi'i roi iddo, yn darparu ar gyfer plant?

Y Prif Weinidog: Nid wyf yn anghytuno â'r hyn a ddywedsoch am y cynnydd yn pallu ar ôl cael cynnydd enfawr, megis cynnydd 12 pwynt canran mewn pobl yn cael sgôr boddhaol yng nghyfnodau allweddol 1 a 2, sy'n gyflawniad neilltuol. Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn iawn pan ddywedwch ei fod wedi pallu. Beth ydym wedi'i wneud am hynny? Mae gennym gwricwlwm 14-19 newydd, yn ogystal â'r cwricwlwm blynyddoedd cynnar newydd ar gyfer plant rhwng tair a saith oed, felly nid ydym yn hunanfodlon am yr angen i roi hwb o'r newydd i wthio safonau addysgol am i fyny. Mae ysgolion bro yn rhan o hynny, oherwydd mae arnom eisiau cynnwys oedolion, fel rhieni, yn yr ysgolion hynny. Weithiau maent yn nerfus am y ffaith nad oeddent yn llwyddiannus iawn yn yr ysgol neu nad oedd ganddynt berthynas dda â'u hathrawon, sy'n golygu nad ydynt yn hoffi mynychu nosweithiau rhieni, gan eu bod yn meddwl bod rhywfaint o'r elyniaeth honno'n dal yn parhau. O ganlyniad, ni chaiff eu plant y gefnogaeth angenrheidiol. Felly, ysgolion bro yw'r ffordd o oresgyn hynny.

Janet Ryder: Y cyfnod sylfaen yw prif fenter y Llywodraeth a anelir at godi safonau addysgol yn gyffredinol, ac mae chwarae yn yr awyr agored yn elfen hanfodol ohono. Fodd bynnag, mae nifer o siroedd yn ei chael hi'n anodd dod o hyd i'r cyfalaf i ddarparu dim mwy na'r ddarpariaeth sylfaenol ar gyfer darpariaeth chwarae yn yr awyr agored. A wnewch ofyn bod datblygu ardaloedd chwarae yn yr awyr agored ar gyfer y cyfnod sylfaen yn flaenoriaeth ar gyfer y bwrdd buddsoddi cyfalaf strategol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn iawn i

outdoor play areas are a key part of the early years curriculum. We want all schools to have an eco-school feel to them, by having a garden, an allotment, by planting trees or whatever in the school playground, as that is the basis for a large part of the early years curriculum. It is great to see tree-climbing being reintroduced to urban children, who have almost lost the art of climbing trees, although it is important for children's development. We did it in my generation without thinking about it, but now you have to inject it into the curriculum because of the changed way of life that is a part of society. I do not know whether it could ever become part of the strategic capital investment board, but we want to ensure that outdoor play areas are seen as a key part of the delivery of the early years curriculum.

ddweud bod ardaloedd chwarae yn yr awyr agored yn rhan allweddol o gwricwlwm y blynyddoedd cynnar. Mae arnom eisiau i bob ysgol gael teimlad eco-ysgol, drwy gael gardd, rhandir, drwy blannu coed neu beth bynnag yng nghae chwarae'r ysgol, gan fod hynny'n sail i ran fawr o gwricwlwm y blynyddoedd cynnar. Mae'n braf gweld dringo coed yn cael ei ailgyflwyno i blant trefol, sydd bron wedi colli'r grefft o ddringo coed, er ei fod yn bwysig i ddatblygiad plant. Yr oeddem yn ei wneud yn fy nghanedlaeth i heb feddwl amdano, ond nawr mae'n rhaid ichi ei roi yn y cwricwlwm oherwydd y newid mewn ffordd o fyw sy'n rhan o gymdeithas. Nid wyf yn gwybod a allai fyth fod yn rhan o'r bwrdd buddsoddi cyfalaf strategol, ond mae arnom eisiau sicrhau y caiff ardaloedd chwarae awyr agored eu gweld fel rhan allweddol o ddarparu cwricwlwm y blynyddoedd cynnar.

Waiting Times

Q7 Irene James: Will the First Minister make a statement on waiting times in the national health service in Wales? OAQ(3)1232(FM)

The First Minister: We are committed to further reducing waiting times for Welsh citizens so that, by the end of December 2009, the target maximum total wait from primary care referral to treatment, including the waiting time for specified diagnostic or therapy services, is 26 weeks.

Irene James: How close are we to meeting our 2007 manifesto pledge to achieve and maintain short maximum waiting times for cancer diagnosis and treatment?

The First Minister: The 62-day target and the 31-day target have been achieved 100 per cent in Gwent. However, for Wales as a whole, it stands at 98 per cent for the 62-day target, and 99 per cent for the 31-day target. We want everyone to make up that last 1 or 2 per cent, to catch up with Gwent and one or two other areas.

William Graham: Am I right in thinking that you are committed in 'One Wales' to

Amseroedd Aros

C7 Irene James: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am amseroedd aros y gwasanaeth iechyd gwladol yng Nghymru? OAQ(3)1232(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i leihau amseroedd aros ymhellach ar gyfer dinasyddion Cymru, er mwyn i'r targed cyfanswm amser aros hwyaf o gyfeirio o ofal sylfaenol i driniaeth, gan gynnwys yr amser aros ar gyfer gwasanaethau diagnostig neu therapi penodol, fod yn 26 wythnos erbyn diwedd mis Rhagfyr 2009.

Irene James: Pa mor agos ydym i wireddu ein haddewid ym maniffesto 2007 i gyflawni ac i gynnal amseroedd aros hwyaf byr ar gyfer diagnosis a thriniaeth canser?

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r targed 62 diwrnod a'r targed 31 diwrnod wedi cael eu cyflawni 100 y cant yng Ngwent. Fodd bynnag, ar gyfer Cymru yn ei chyfanrwydd, mae'n 98 y cant ar gyfer y targed 62 diwrnod, ac yn 99 y cant ar gyfer y targed 31 diwrnod. Mae arnom eisiau i bawb gyflawni'r 1 neu'r 2 y cant olaf hynny, er mwyn cyrraedd lefelau Gwent ac ambell i ardal arall.

William Graham: A wyf yn iawn yn meddwl eich bod wedi ymrwymo yn

meeting these targets by the end of this term?

'Cymru'n Un' i gyrraedd y targedau hyn erbyn diwedd y tymor hwn?

The First Minister: No, that is not correct, as it is earlier than that: it is by the end of next year. This is an error that appeared in the interim report of the Welsh Affairs Select Committee, and I have already written to Dr Hywel Francis, the Chair, to correct it. I do not know where it got that information from, but it said that we were committed to achieving the 26-week target by the end of this Assembly term, but we have committed to do so much earlier than that, by the end of December 2009. However, I have corrected that error.

Y Prif Weinidog: Nac ydych, nid yw hynny'n gywir, gan ei fod yn gynharach na hynny; erbyn diwedd y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae hwn yn wall a ymddangosodd yn adroddiad interim y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig, ac yr wyf eisoes wedi ysgrifennu at Dr Hywel Francis, y Cadeirydd, i'w gywiro. Nid wyf yn gwybod o lle cafodd y wybodaeth honno, ond dywedodd ein bod wedi ymrwymo i gyrraedd y targed 26 wythnos erbyn diwedd tymor hwn y Cynulliad, ond yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i wneud hynny yn gynharach o lawer na hynny, erbyn diwedd mis Rhagfyr 2009. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf wedi cywiro'r gwall hwnnw.

Helen Mary Jones: Will you join me in congratulating the staff who have worked so hard this year, as in previous years, to drive down waiting times? Can you give us your reassurance today that this will continue to be a priority for the One Wales Government, and that sufficient resources will continue to go into maintaining the performance once the targets are met?

Helen Mary Jones: A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y staff sydd wedi gweithio mor galed eleni, yn yr un modd â blynyddoedd blaenorol, i wthio amseroedd aros i lawr? A allwch ein sicrhau heddiw y bydd hyn yn parhau yn flaenoriaeth i Lywodraeth Cymru'n Un ac y bydd digon o adnoddau yn dal yn mynd i gynnal y perfformiad ar ôl cyrraedd y targedau?

The First Minister: Absolutely. There is no point in having a target to reach the 26 weeks for the patient journey for all referrals by 31 December 2009 just so that we can say, 'Okay, we have done that now, so we need not do it any longer', and to let it slide back to how it used to be.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yn bendant. Nid oes diben cael targed i gyrraedd 26 wythnos ar gyfer siwrnai claf ar gyfer pob cyfeiriad erbyn 31 Rhagfyr 2009 dim ond er mwyn inni allu dweud, 'Iawn, yr ydym wedi gwneud hynny'n awr, nid oes arnom angen gwneud hynny ragor', a'i adael i lithro yn ôl i fel yr arferai fod.

We certainly do not want to do that, and I agree with you that it is a tribute to the much better organisation of waiting times and waiting lists that there is now, in that people realise that there is a long tail, but it is about making sure that people in the long tail get seen at an early stage. The other big difference in the statistical data between Wales and England is that we count all referrals, whether they are from GPs, physiotherapists or other health professionals, or from one consultant referring you to see another consultant. That swells our waiting list size by 30 per cent compared with what would happen if we used the English method of only looking at GP referrals.

Yn sicr, nid ydym am wneud hynny, a chytunaf â chi ei bod yn deyrnged i'r llawer gwell trefnu ar amseroedd aros a rhestrau aros sy'n bodoli erbyn hyn, yn yr ystyr fod pobl yn sylweddoli bod cynffon hir, ond mae'n fater o wneud yn siŵr bod y bobl yn y gynffon hir yn cael eu gweld yn fuan. Y gwahaniaeth mawr arall yn y data ystadegol rhwng Cymru a Lloegr yw ein bod ni'n cyfrif pob achos sy'n cael ei gyfeirio, boed y rheini oddi wrth feddygon teulu, ffisiotherapyddion neu weithwyr iechyd proffesiynol eraill neu oddi wrth un ymgynghorydd yn eich cyfeirio i weld ymgynghorydd arall. Mae hynny'n cynyddu maint ein rhestr aros 30 y cant o'i chymharu â'r hyn a fyddai'n digwydd petaem

yn defnyddio dull Lloegr o edrych ar achosion sy'n cael eu cyfeirio gan feddygon teulu yn unig.

Emergency Services

Q8 Darren Millar: Will the First Minister make a statement on access to emergency services across Wales? OAQ(3)1237(FM)

The First Minister: Edwina Hart, the Minister for Health and Social Services, wrote to all Assembly Members on 6 June outlining progress with the implementation of the delivering emergency care strategy to cover emergency services and new initiatives in that field. She followed it up with a statement on 24 June.

Darren Millar: First Minister, the telephone box network across Wales plays a critical role in providing access to emergency services for those who need them. Will you join me in condemning British Telecom's plans to close over a quarter of its telephone box network in Wales without any regard for their critical role in providing access to emergency services? What representations has the Welsh Assembly Government made to BT on its closure programme?

The First Minister: You are right to say that the availability of a call box is sometimes be critical, because if you have a car accident, you do not have access to your own landline. I am aware that most people have mobile phones, but they do not always work in certain areas of Wales—we know that there are big patches where there is no mobile phone coverage. So, it is important that there is a reasonably accessible emergency phone line via the call boxes. I understand that BT has started to consult on this issue, but it has not made a final decision on it, so it is important that we get our views in quickly on this issue, and that we also persuade BT that it should look at areas of poor mobile phone coverage and have particular regard to the availability of the landline through the call box if it knows that mobile phone coverage is weak or non-existent in that area.

Gwasanaethau Brys

C8 Darren Millar: A wnaiff y Prif Weinidog ddatganiad am fynediad at wasanaethau brys ledled Cymru? OAQ(3)1237(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Ysgrifennodd Edwina Hart, y Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, at yr holl Aelodau Cynulliad ar 6 Mehefin i amlinellu'r cynnydd o ran rhoi'r strategaeth gofal brys ar waith i gwmpasu'r gwasanaethau brys a chynlluniau newydd yn y maes hwnnw. Dilynodd hynny gyda datganiad ar 24 Mehefin.

Darren Millar: Brif Weinidog, mae'r rhwydwaith blychau ffôn ar draws Cymru yn chwarae rôl dyngedfennol yn darparu mynediad at wasanaethau brys i'r rhai y mae eu hangen arnynt. A wnewch chi ymuno â mi i gondemnio cynlluniau British Telecom i gau dros chwarter ei rwydwaith blychau ffôn yng Nghymru heb roi unrhyw ystyriaeth i'w rôl dyngedfennol yn darparu mynediad at y gwasanaethau brys? Pa sylwadau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'u cyflwyno i BT ynglŷn â'i raglen gau?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych yn iawn i ddweud bod y ffaith bod blwch ffôn ar gael yn dyngedfennol weithiau, oherwydd os cewch chi ddamwain car, nid ydych yn gallu manteisio ar eich llinell tir eich hun. Yr wyf yn ymwybodol fod gan y rhan fwyaf o bobl ffonau symudol, ond nid ydynt bob amser yn gweithio mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru—gwyddom fod ardaloedd eang lle nad oes gwasanaeth ffôn symudol. Felly, mae'n bwysig fod lein ffon argyfwng gweddol hygyrch drwy gyfrwng y blychau ffôn. Deallaf fod BT wedi dechrau ymgynghori ynghylch y mater hwn, ond nid yw wedi penderfynu'n derfynol arno, felly mae'n bwysig inni gyflwyno ein barn yn gyflym ynglŷn â'r mater hwn, a'n bod hefyd yn perswadio BT y dylai edrych ar ardaloedd lle mae'r gwasanaeth ffonau symudol yn wael ac y dylai roi ystyriaeth arbennig i argaeledd y llinell tir drwy'r blwch ffôn os yw'n gwybod

bod y gwasanaeth ffonau symudol yn yr ardal honno yn wan neu nad oes signal o gwbl.

Leanne Wood: First Minister, my colleague Chris Franks and I have written to you and the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the case of the son of a constituent of mine, John Pritchard. Mathew Pritchard was discharged from hospital last Saturday after a spinal operation and collapsed in his home in Llantrisant. His partner called an ambulance, but it did not arrive until an hour and 15 minutes later. While the family praise the professionalism of the ambulance crews, they are angry that it took so long for an ambulance to arrive. What assurances can you give to Mathew Pritchard and his family regarding the Welsh ambulance service?

Leanne Wood: Brif Weinidog, mae fy nghyd-Aelod Chris Franks a minnau wedi ysgrifennu atoch chi a'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynglŷn ag achos mab un o'm hetholwyr, John Pritchard. Cafodd Mathew Pritchard ei ryddhau o'r ysbyty ddydd Sadwrn diwethaf ar ôl cael llawdriniaeth ar ei asgwrn cefn ond aeth yn sâl yn ei gartref yn Llantrisant. Galwodd ei gymar ambiwlans, ond ni chyraeddodd tan awr a 15 munud yn ddiweddarach. Er bod y teulu'n canmol proffesiynoldeb y criwiau ambiwlans, maent yn ddig iddi gymryd cyhyd i ambiwlans gyrraedd. Pa sicrwydd allwch chi ei roi i Mathew Pritchard a'i deulu ynglŷn â gwasanaeth ambiwlans Cymru?

The First Minister: If you have already raised this matter with the Minister for Health and Social Services, she will write you about it. You will be aware of the various statements that the Minister for health has made in terms of the adequacy of the response of the Welsh ambulance service. There are parts of Wales where it is pretty good, such as north-central north Wales, around Conwy and Denbighshire but, in south-east Wales and Powys, for example, it is very poor. I do not know whether that would cover the types of issues that you wish to raise at an individual level with the Minister, but I am sure that you will have every opportunity to raise it with Edwina Hart.

Y Prif Weinidog: Os ydych eisoes wedi codi'r mater hwn gyda'r Gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol, bydd yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn ag ef. Byddwch yn ymwybodol o'r gwahanol ddatganiadau y mae'r Gweinidog dros iechyd wedi'u gwneud am ddigonolrwydd ymateb gwasanaeth ambiwlans Cymru. Mae rhannau o Gymru lle mae'n bur dda, megis gogledd-canol gogledd Cymru, o amgylch Conwy a sir Ddinbych ond, yn ne-ddwyrain Cymru a Phowys, er enghraifft, mae'n wael iawn. Ni wn a fyddai hynny'n cwmpasu'r mathau o faterion yr ydych am eu codi ar lefel unigol gyda'r Gweinidog, ond yr wyf yn siŵr y cewch chi bob cyfle i godi'r mater gyda Edwina Hart.

Jenny Randerson: The Minister for health has given the ambulance service six months as a deadline for improvement. A lot of extra money has gone into the ambulance service, for which I am sure we are all grateful, but much of it has had to be spent on replacing equipment that was previously purchased and proved not to be fit for purpose. In England, some ambulance services have received an uplift of 5 per cent. Do you recognise, First Minister, that, in order to reach the Minister's deadline, the ambulance service must have additional funding?

Jenny Randerson: Mae'r Gweinidog dros iechyd wedi rhoi chwe mis i'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans fel terfyn amser iddo i wella. Mae llawer o arian ychwanegol wedi mynd i'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans, ac yr wyf yn siŵr ein bod i gyd yn ddiolchgar am hynny, ond bu'n rhaid gwario llawer ohono ar brynu offer newydd yn lle'r hyn a brynwyd gynt ac nad oedd yn addas i'w bwrpas. Yn Lloegr, mae rhai gwasanaethau ambiwlans wedi cael cynnydd o 5 y cant. A ydych yn cydnabod, Brif Weinidog, er mwyn i'r gwasanaeth ambiwlans gyrraedd terfyn amser y Gweinidog, ei bod yn rhaid iddo gael cyllid ychwanegol?

The First Minister: We certainly recognise the bad procurement that has occurred in the past, with regard to vehicles that could carry petrol or patient but could not carry petrol and patient. They were clearly not fit for service and, yet, they were ordered—we cannot understand how. Those vehicles must be, and are being, replaced with much better vehicles. I will have to ask the Minister for health to write to you on the question of whether or not it can achieve the improvement in six months within the budget that it has, as I do not know the precise details of the percentage increase that the service has received.

2.50 p.m.

Tlodi Tanwydd

C9 David Lloyd: Pa drafodaethau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'u cael gyda Llywodraeth y DU ynghylch tlodi tanwydd? OAQ(3)1223(FM)

Y Prif Weinidog: Cawsom gyfarfod yn ddiweddar, nid gyda Gweinidogion Llywodraeth y DU ond gyda'r Arglwydd Mogg, cadeirydd Ofgem, sef y corff sy'n rheoleiddio'r cyfleustodau ac sy'n setlo prisiau ynni yn y farchnad. Yn ystod y cyfarfod, trafodwyd pynciau llosg megis pam mae prisiau yng Nghymru yn uwch na'r rheiny yng ngweddill Prydain, a'r hyn a ellid ei wneud i ostwng y 10 y cant ychwanegol y mae prynwyr yng Nghymru yn ei dalu o'u cymharu â phrynwyr yn Lloegr.

David Lloyd: The prospect of further increases of up to 40 per cent in household energy bills will push many families to the brink. While I accept that there is no quick fix to the current energy crisis, the need to prevent households in Wales from plummeting into debt is immediate. Will you make representations to the UK Government requesting that it considers extending the winter fuel allowance so that, in addition to people aged 60 and over, it includes all low-income families in the United Kingdom?

The First Minister: I think that Jane Davidson, as the Minister with responsibility for this area, recently attended a fuel poverty

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydym yn sicr yn cydnabod bod caffael gwael wedi digwydd yn y gorffennol, o ran cerbydau a allai gario petrol neu glaf ond na allent gario petrol a chlaf. Nid oeddent yn amlwg yn ffit i gael eu defnyddio ond, eto, cawsant eu harchebu—ni allwn ddeall sut. Rhaid i'r cerbydau hynny gael eu disodli gan lawer gwell cerbydau, ac mae hynny'n digwydd. Bydd yn rhaid imi ofyn i'r Gweinidog dros iechyd ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r cwestiwn pa un y gall gyflawni'r gwelliant mewn chwe mis o fewn y gyllideb sydd ganddo, gan na wn i union fanylion y cynnydd canrannol y mae'r gwasanaeth wedi'i gael.

Fuel Poverty

Q9 David Lloyd: What discussions has the Welsh Assembly Government had with the UK Government regarding fuel poverty? OAQ(3)1223(FM)

The First Minister: We have held a meeting recently, not with UK Government Ministers but with Lord Mogg, the chair of Ofgem, which is the regulatory body for the utility companies, and which settles the market prices for energy. During the meeting, we considered burning topics such as why the prices in Wales are higher than those for the rest of Britain, and what could be done to reduce the additional 10 per cent that buyers in Wales pay when compared with buyers in England.

David Lloyd: Bydd y posibilrwydd o godiadau pellach o hyd at 40 y cant ym miliau ynni aelwydydd yn gwthio llawer o deuluoedd at ymyl y dibyn. Tra wyf yn derbyn nad oes ateb cyflym i'r argyfwng ynni presennol, mae'r angen i atal aelwydydd yng Nghymru rhag plymio i ddyled yn rhywbeth y mae angen rhoi sylw iddo ar unwaith. A gyflwynwch chi sylwadau i Lywodraeth y DU yn gofyn iddi ystyried ymestyn lwfans tanwydd y gaeaf fel ei fod yn cynnwys, yn ogystal â phobl 60 oed a throsodd, bob teulu ar incwm isel yn y Deyrnas Unedig?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf i Jane Davidson, fel y Gweinidog sy'n gyfrifol am y maes hwn, fynd i uwchgynhadledd ar dlodi

summit meeting. I will have to ask her exactly what was on the agenda at that meeting in terms of the impact of the prospective increases that we have heard about for the forthcoming winter, which seem fairly eye-watering, and what the response of the Government might be in terms of the winter fuel allowance.

Mark Isherwood: In discussing fuel poverty with the UK Government as well as with your colleagues here, will you give voice to concerns expressed by National Energy Action Cymru that, although we have big-vision fuel poverty targets, we need milestones so that we can scrutinise the process, and that we need key performance indicators focused on the poverty agenda?

The First Minister: I agree with the views expressed yesterday, I think, by Jenny Saunders, the chief executive of National Energy Action, whom I know well and of old. I think that there are some milestones in place now, namely that vulnerable households should be got out of fuel poverty by 2010—which is a tall order, given the rate of increase—and that all fuel poverty should be eradicated by 2018. We are looking to reach those milestones, with vulnerable households being addressed first, followed by all households. If National Energy Action has stated that we need further milestones, we will have to consider that. Perhaps I can ask Jane Davidson to write to you on that subject following her recent attendance at the fuel poverty summit with Westminster Ministers in London.

Peter Black: Will you explain how you are restructuring the home energy efficiency scheme so as to better target those who are in fuel poverty?

The First Minister: I think that we all accept that the home energy efficiency scheme has been an extremely good way of investing in warmer homes with lower fuel bills due to better insulation. However, we recognise that it is not sufficiently well targeted to the

tanwydd yn ddiweddar. Bydd yn rhaid imi ofyn iddi beth yn union oedd ar yr agenda yn y cyfarfod hwnnw o ran effaith y codiadau tebygol yr ydym wedi clywed amdanynt erbyn y gaeaf sydd i ddod, sy'n ymddangos yn ddigon poenus, a beth fydd ymateb y Llywodraeth efallai o safbwynt lwfans tanwydd y gaeaf.

Mark Isherwood: Wrth drafod tlodi tanwydd gyda Llywodraeth y DU yn ogystal â chyda'ch cyd-Weinidogion yma, a leisiwch chi'r pryderon a fynegwyd gan Gweithredu Ynni Cenedlaethol Cymru sy'n dweud, er bod gennym dargedau tlodi tanwydd sydd wedi'u seilio ar weledigaeth fawr, fod angen cerrig milltir arnom fel y gallwn graffu ar y broses, a bod angen dangosyddion perfformiad allweddol arnom sy'n canolbwyntio ar yr agenda tlodi?

Y Prif Weinidog: Cytunaf â'r farn a fynegwyd ddoe, yr wyf yn credu, gan Jenny Saunders, prif weithredwr Gweithredu Ynni Cenedlaethol, yr wyf yn ei hadnabod yn dda ac ers amser maith. Credaf fod rhai cerrig milltir eisoes wedi'u sefydlu, sef y dylai aelwydydd sy'n agored i niwed gael eu codi o dlodi tanwydd erbyn 2010—sy'n gofyn llawer, ac ystyried cyfradd y codiadau—ac y dylai'r holl dlodi tanwydd gael ei ddileu erbyn 2018. Yr ydym yn ceisio cyrraedd y cerrig milltir hynny, gyda sylw'n cael ei roi i aelwydydd sy'n agored i niwed yn gyntaf, ac yna bob aelwyd. Os yw Gweithredu Ynni Cenedlaethol wedi datgan bod angen rhagor o gerrig milltir arnom, bydd yn rhaid inni ystyried hynny. Efallai y caf ofyn i Jane Davidson ysgrifennu atoch ar y pwnc hwnnw yn dilyn ei phresenoldeb yn ddiweddar yn yr uwchgynhadledd ar dlodi tanwydd gyda Gweinidogion San Steffan yn Llundain.

Peter Black: A wnewch chi egluro sut yr ydych yn ailstrwythuro'r cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref er mwyn targedu'r rhai sydd mewn tlodi tanwydd yn well?

Y Prif Weinidog: Credaf ein bod i gyd yn derbyn bod y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref wedi bod yn ffordd eithriadol o dda o fuddsoddi mewn cartrefi cynhesach gyda biliau tanwydd is oherwydd gwell insiwleiddio. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn

genuinely fuel poor. It is not sufficiently means-tested in that sense. I do not often say that, but I think that we have to say it with regard to this particular scheme. Looking again at the home energy efficiency scheme in order to better target it is essential to ensure that it really is fit for purpose, particularly given the eye-watering fuel increases that are now on the stocks for next winter.

cydnabod nad yw'n cael ei dargedu'n ddigon dda at y rhai sydd o ddifrif yn dioddef tlodi tanwydd. Nid wyf yn dweud hynny'n aml, ond credaf ei bod yn rhaid inni ei ddweud mewn perthynas â'r cynllun neilltuol hwn. Ac edrych eto ar y cynllun effeithlonrwydd ynni cartref, er mwyn ei dargedu'n well mae'n hanfodol sicrhau ei fod yn wirioneddol addas i'w ddiben, yn enwedig ac ystyried y codiadau tanwydd poenus sydd yn yr arfaeth bellach ar gyfer y gwanwyn nesaf.

Datganiad a Chyhoeddiad Busnes Business Statement and Announcement

The Counsel General and Leader of the House (Carwyn Jones): There are no changes to report to this week's Government business. Business for the next three weeks is as set out in the draft business statement and announcement, which can be found in the agenda papers that are available to Members electronically.

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol ac Arweinydd y Tŷ (Carwyn Jones): Nid oes newidiadau i'w hadrodd ym musnes y Llywodraeth yr wythnos hon. Mae busnes ar gyfer y tair wythnos nesaf fel y mae wedi'i nodi yn y datganiad a chyhoeddiad busnes drafft, y gellir ei weld ymhlith y papurau agenda sydd ar gael i Aelodau'n electronig.

Nick Bourne: Will the Leader of the House ensure that there is a Government statement on any progress made in relation to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs office closure programme which, as he knows, is affecting all parts of Wales, including his own constituency of Bridgend? I have yet to find anyone in Wales who supports this, including Labour Assembly Members. Indeed, I am yet to find any Labour Members of Parliament who are in favour of it, yet it is still being driven forward. The costs that are claimed as being saved are, at best, suspect. It is hitting many employees, many of whom work part-time and women, and who will simply not move to other locations. It runs contrary to the Government's policy of dispersing jobs from Cardiff and other cities to other parts of Wales, which we support. It also runs counter to the green agenda, because it will increase the carbon footprint with people travelling, as members of the public will have to travel to get advice at different centres. In short, it is totally half-baked.

Nick Bourne: A wnaiff Arweinydd y Tŷ sicrhau y ceir datganiad Llywodraeth ar unrhyw gynnydd a wnaethpwyd mewn perthynas â rhaglen Cyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi i gau swyddfeydd sydd, fel y gŵyr, yn effeithio ar bob rhan o Gymru, yn cynnwys ei etholaeth ef ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr? Nid wyf eto wedi dod o hyd i unrhyw un yng Nghymru sy'n cefnogi hyn, yn cynnwys Aelodau Cynulliad Llafur. Yn wir, nid wyf eto wedi dod o hyd i unrhyw Aelodau Seneddol Llafur sydd o'i blaid, ond mae'n dal i gael ei yrru ymlaen. Mae'r costau yr honnir y byddir yn eu harbed, ar y gorau, yn amheus. Mae'n taro llawer o weithwyr, llawer ohonyn yn gweithio'n rhan-amser a menywod, na fyddant yn gallu symud i leoliadau eraill. Mae'n mynd yn groes i bolisi'r Llywodraeth o wasgaru swyddi o Gaerdydd a dinasoedd eraill i rannau eraill o Gymru, yr ydym yn ei gefnogi. Mae hefyd yn mynd yn groes i'r agenda werdd, oherwydd bydd yn cynyddu'r ôl-troed carbon gyda phobl yn teithio, gan y bydd yn rhaid i aelodau'r cyhoedd deithio i gael cyngor mewn canolfannau gwahanol. Yn fyr, mae'n gynnig rhwng hanner call a dwl.

The consultation ends in August. My fear is that this decision will be taken over the

Daw'r ymgynghoriad i ben ym mis Awst. Fy ofn yw y gwneir y penderfyniad hwn dros yr

summer—and it is a decision that no-one will want—and we will see massive job losses and the hardship that that will cause, particularly to people in some communities in the Valleys, where the hardship will be massive. I was speaking with unions over the weekend, and I heard that people who cannot read and who go in with tax forms that they cannot understand will be in a particularly vulnerable position. Is there anything that the Government is doing, and if so, what is being done? If it is not doing anything, will it do something while it still can, before it is too late?

Carwyn Jones: This is a non-devolved issue, but, first of all, we have looked to encourage as many major relocation moves to Wales as possible, and that has been successful. Secondly, we have been looking with UK Government departments at the impact of their programmes—and this is one of them—at an operational level in Wales. As a result, recent meetings between officials were held with HM Revenue and Customs to establish, at the very least, how information can be disseminated from HMRC to us. There has been discussion between our Government officials and HMRC on human resources matters, and, at the moment, we are looking at how we might be able to assist those who will be affected by the HMRC changes, and we will continue to hold a dialogue with HMRC in the future.

Lesley Griffiths: Leader of the House, will you join me in wishing the all-Wales convention well in its work over the coming months, and will you consider the possibility of setting aside Government time in Plenary, after our return from recess, to debate the issue of our respective party positions on the future of devolution for Wales? The Conservative peer, Lord Roberts of Conwy, recently finished his report on his party's policy on devolution, yet the contents of that report are so secret that the Conservative Party is not prepared to share with the Welsh people what its policy is. At its Welsh conference in March, David Cameron promised to find the right resting place for his

haf—ac mae'n benderfyniad na fydd neb yn ei ddymuno—a byddwn yn gweld y colledion swyddi enfawr a'r caledi y bydd hynny'n ei achosi, yn enwedig i bobl mewn rhai cymunedau yn y Cymoedd, lle bydd y caledi'n enfawr. Yr oeddw'n siarad â'r undebau dros y penwythnos, a chlywais y bydd y bobl nad ydynt yn gallu darllen a'r rhai sy'n mynd yno gyda ffurflenni treth nad ydynt yn gallu eu deall mewn sefyllfa neilltuol o fregus. A oes unrhyw beth y mae'r Llywodraeth yn ei wneud, ac os felly, beth sy'n cael ei wneud? Os nad yw'n gwneud dim, a wnaiff hi rywbeth tra mae hynny'n dal yn bosibl, cyn iddi fynd yn rhy hwyr?

Carwyn Jones: Mae hwn yn fater nad yw wedi cael ei ddatganoli, ond, yn gyntaf oll, yr ydym wedi ceisio annog cynifer â phosibl o gynlluniau mawr i adleoli i Gymru, ac mae hynny wedi bod yn llwyddiant. Yn ail, yr ydym wedi bod yn edrych, ynghyd ag adrannau Llywodraeth y DU, ar effaith eu rhaglenni—ac mae hon yn un ohonynt—ar lefel weithredol yng Nghymru. O ganlyniad, cynhaliwyd cyfarfodydd rhwng swyddogion yn ddiweddar gyda Chyllid a Thollau EM i sefydlu, o leiaf, sut mae lledaenu gwybodaeth oddi wrth Gyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi i ni. Bu trafodaeth rhwng ein swyddogion Llywodraeth ni a Chyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi am faterion adnoddau dynol, ac, ar hyn o bryd, yr ydym yn ystyried sut y gallem efallai helpu'r rhai y bydd y newidiadau gan Gyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi yn effeithio arnynt, a byddwn yn parhau i gynnal deialog â Chyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi yn y dyfodol.

Lesley Griffiths: Arweinydd y Tŷ, a wnewch chi ymuno â mi i ddymuno'n dda i Gonfensiwn Cymru Gyfan yn ei waith dros y misoedd i ddod, ac a wnewch chi ystyried y posibilrwydd o neilltuo amser Llywodraeth mewn Cyfarfod Llawn, ar ôl inni ddychwelyd wedi'r toriad, i drafod mater safbwyntiau ein gwahanol bleidiau o ran dyfodol datganoli i Gymru? Cwblhaodd yr arglwydd Ceidwadol, yr Arglwydd Roberts o Gonwy, ei adroddiad ar bolisi ei blaid ef ar ddatganoli yn ddiweddar, ond mae cynnwys yr adroddiad hwnnw mor gyfrinachol fel nad yw'r Blaid Geidwadol yn barod i rannu gyda phobl Cymru beth yw ei pholisi. Yn ei chynhadledd i Gymru ym mis Mawrth, addawodd David

party's policy on devolution. Do you agree that the time has come for the Welsh Conservatives to tell us where that policy is buried?

Carwyn Jones: We talk a lot, on this side of house, about openness of Government. The convention process is an open and democratic one—we have all seen the membership of the convention, and the convention's deliberations will be made public knowledge.

With regard to the Conservatives, the one thing that we can be grateful for is the fact that they have a policy at all, even if they choose to keep it secret, because, these days, the Conservative Party, as we know, is very much a policy-free zone.

Kirsty Williams: Minister, I ask you to liaise with your Minister for Rural Affairs to discuss the problems that have arisen over the re-opening of the organic farming scheme. There seems to have been some complication with the forms that needed to be filled in to be accepted into the scheme. Many farmers have filled in their single farm payment forms, thinking that that was what was required of them to enter the scheme, only to find subsequently that they should have filled in an expression of interest form back in the autumn. My understanding is that over 100 farmers are affected by this problem, and I wonder whether the Minister for Rural Affairs would provide a written statement on how your Government will tackle the scheme to allow all farmers who wish to do so to participate in the scheme, and help you to meet your stated Government target regarding the amount of land involved in organic production in Wales.

Carwyn Jones: It was made clear to farmers in the scheme literature that, if they wished to submit an application for the organic farming scheme, they had to do so by 15 May. That said, we are committed to the expansion of organic farming in Wales, and, subject to the scheme's budget allocation, we will look to support those farmers who did not submit an application form to join the scheme, but who

Cameron ddod o hyd i'r gorffwysfan iawn i bolisi ei blaid ar ddatganoli. A ydych yn cytuno bod yr amser wedi dod i'r Ceidwadwyr Cymreig ddweud wrthym ymhle mae'r polisi hwnnw wedi cael ei gladdu?

Carwyn Jones: Yr ydym yn siarad llawer, yr ochr hon i'r tŷ, am fod yn agored mewn Llywodraeth. Mae proses y confensiwn yn un agored a democrataidd—yr ydym i gyd wedi gweld aelodaeth y confensiwn, a bydd trafodaethau'r confensiwn yn cael eu gwneud yn wybodaeth gyhoeddus.

O ran y Ceidwadwyr, yr un peth y gallwn fod yn ddiolchgar amdano yw'r ffaith bod ganddynt bolisi o gwbl, hyd yn oed os ydynt yn dewis ei gadw'n gyfrinach, oherwydd, y dyddiau hyn, mae'r Blaid Geidwadol, fel y gwyddom, yn barth di-bolisi pendant iawn.

Kirsty Williams: Weinidog, gofynnaf ichi gysylltu â'ch Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig i drafod y problemau sydd wedi codi ynglŷn ag ailagor y cynllun ffermio organig. Mae'n ymddangos y bu rhyw gymhlethdod gyda'r ffurflenni y mae angen eu llenwi er mwyn cael eich derbyn i'r cynllun. Mae llawer o ffermwyr wedi llenwi eu ffurflen taliad sengl, gan gredu mai dyna oedd yn ofynnol ganddynt er mwyn cael ymuno â'r cynllun, dim ond i ddarganfod wedyn y dylent fod wedi llenwi ffurflen datgan diddordeb yn ôl yn yr hydref. Fy nealltwriaeth i yw bod y broblem hon wedi effeithio ar dros 100 o ffermwyr, ac ys gwn i tybed y wnâi'r Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig ddarparu datganiad ysgrifenedig ar sut y bydd eich Llywodraeth yn mynd i'r afael â'r cynllun i ganiatáu i bob ffermwr sy'n dymuno gwneud hynny i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun, a'ch helpu i gyrraedd y targed y mae eich Llywodraeth wedi'i ddatgan o ran faint o dir sydd mewn cynhyrchiant organig yng Nghymru.

Carwyn Jones: Fe'i gwnaethpwyd yn glir i ffermwyr yn llenyddiaeth y cynllun, os oeddent yn dymuno cyflwyno cais i'r cynllun ffermio organig, ei bod yn rhaid iddynt wneud hynny erbyn 15 Mai. Wedi dweud hynny, yr ydym wedi ymrwymo i ehangu ffermio organig yng Nghymru, ac, yn amodol ar ddyraniad cyllideb y cynllun, byddwn yn ceisio cefnogi'r ffermwyr hynny na

indicated on their single payment application form that they wish to claim organic payments and where all the eligibility conditions have been met. We will do what we can to assist those who may have found the situation confusing.

Chris Franks: We are faced with a slump in employment in the construction industry, and some estimate that there will be 60,000 job losses. The financial sector has entered a period of massive instability, and the proportion of 18 to 24-year-olds without a job is higher than in 1997. In view of the serious threat to the Welsh economy, can we have a Government debate to consider the need for additional economic powers to be allocated to the Assembly to help protect the people of Wales from the economic storms?

3.00 p.m.

You will be aware that it is the poorest families that are most affected by the rocketing costs of fuel, food and energy. The accountancy firm PricewaterhouseCoopers has reported that inflation for the poorest is higher than for any other section of society. How are we going to react to these circumstances and how will our commitment to tackling child poverty be affected? Will you give us an opportunity to debate these important matters?

Carwyn Jones: We should avoid giving the impression that, somehow, if more economic powers were transferred to the Assembly—fiscal levers, if I can put it that way—we would have avoided the situation that is affecting so many countries across the world. There is a fundamental reason as to why we find ourselves in this position. First, there is the utter recklessness of the American banks in lending to people who they knew full well would never be able to pay them back. They relied on repossessing people's properties, thinking that they could sell them on for a profit. When those properties began to dip in price, the whole structure began to fall apart. That situation was aided and abetted by many British banks that bought those questionable debts.

chyflwynasant ffurflen gais am ymuno â'r cynllun, ond a nododd ar eu ffurflen gais taliad sengl eu bod yn dymuno hawlio taliadau organig, lle mae'r holl amodau cymhwysio wedi cael eu bodloni. Gwnawn yr hyn a allwn i helpu'r rhai a oedd efallai wedi teimlo bod y sefyllfa'n ddryslyd.

Chris Franks: Yr ydym yn wynebu dirwasgiad mewn cyflogaeth yn y diwydiant adeiladu, ac mae rhai'n amcangyfrif y collir 60,000 o swyddi. Mae'r sector ariannol yn wynebu cyfnod o ansefydlogrwydd enfawr, ac mae'r gyfran o bobl ifanc 18 i 24 oed heb swydd yn uwch nag oedd yn 1997. Ac ystyried y bygythiad difrifol i economi Cymru, a gawn ni ddadl Llywodraeth i ystyried yr angen am ddyrannu pwerau economaidd ychwanegol i'r Cynulliad i helpu i warchod pobl Cymru rhag y stormydd economaidd?

Mi fyddwch yn ymwybodol mai'r teuluoedd tlotaf sydd yn dioddef effaith costau cynyddol tanwydd, bwyd ac ynni fwyaf. Mae'r cwmni cyfrifwyr PricewaterhouseCoopers wedi adrodd bod chwyddiant i'r tlotaf yn uwch nag i unrhyw adran arall o'r gymdeithas. Sut yr ydym yn mynd i adweithio i'r amgylchiadau hyn a sut yr effeithir ar ein hymrwymiad i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant? A roddwch gyfle inni drafod y materion pwysig hyn?

Carwyn Jones: Dylem ochel rhag rhoi'r argraff, rywsut, petasai mwy o bwerau economaidd wedi'u trosglwyddo i'r Cynulliad—trosolion cyllidol, os caf ei roi felly—y buasem wedi osgoi'r sefyllfa sydd yn effeithio ar gynifer o wledydd dros y byd. Mae rheswm sylfaenol pam yr ydym yn ein canfod ein hunain yn y sefyllfa hon. Yn gyntaf, dyna ddihidrwydd llwyr y banciau Americanaidd yn rhoi benthyg i bobl y gwyddent yn berffaith iawn na allent fyth dalu'n ôl iddynt. Yr oeddent yn dibynnu ar adfeddiannu eiddo pobl, gan feddwl y gallent eu gwerthu ymlaen am elw. Pan ddechreuodd pris yr eiddo hynny gwmpo, dechreuodd yr holl strwythur ddadfeilio. Cynorthwywyd ac ategwyd y sefyllfa honno gan lawer o fanciau Prydeinig a brynodd y dyledion amheus hynny.

Where we have a situation where banks are able to be so reckless as to put not only themselves but many ordinary people at risk, it shows that more regulation is needed at an international level in order to save the banks from themselves.

Andrew R.T. Davies: I heard what you said to Kirsty about the organic conversion scheme and about 15 May. I have also received many representations from constituents who elected to enter into that scheme. To a man and woman they indicated on their integrated administration and control system forms, as has been acknowledged by the divisional office, that they wanted to enter the organic scheme. However, a supplementary paper—a questionnaire—was included that seems to have thrown a spanner in the works.

It would be beneficial for Members if a statement could be released from the Minister for Rural Affairs to highlight where the Government will offer help to farmers who have taken the advice of the Organic Centre Wales in Aberystwyth and have had the consultants out, have acted in best faith and put practices in place in their businesses to adapt to the organic conversion scheme, but who, some two months later, are receiving letters informing them that they will not be accepted into the scheme and that the next opportunity will be some 12 months hence, when the new window will open on 15 May 2009. Therefore, will it be possible to have a written statement so that, over the summer months, when these issues are raised with us, we have clarity on where the Government is heading?

Carwyn Jones: I do not think that I can go beyond what I said originally. The intention is to do everything possible to assist. We will look to provide more detail in the near future. The Royal Welsh Show is almost upon us and I am sure that that will be an opportunity for these issues to be debated further.

Gareth Jones: Yng ngoleuni colli swyddi diweddar yn Nolgarrrog, a sinigiaeth ambell i blaid wleidyddol ynghylch unrhyw gynllun i ailddatblygu'r safle hwn a hefyd safle adeilad

Lle mae gennym sefyllfa lle mae banciau'n gallu bod mor ddi-hid nes peryglu nid yn unig eu hunain ond llawer o bobl gyffredin hefyd, mae'n dangos bod angen mwy o reoleiddio ar lefel ryngwladol er mwyn achub y banciau rhagddynt eu hunain.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Clywais yr hyn a ddywedasoch wrth Kirsty am y cynllun troi'n organig ac am 15 Mai. Yr wyf finnau hefyd wedi cael llawer o etholwyr yn dod ataf wedi iddynt ddewis ymuno â'r cynllun hwnnw. Nododd pob un copa walltrog ohonynt ar eu ffurflenni system integredig gweinyddu a rheoli, fel y mae'r swyddfa ranbarthol wedi cydnabod, fod arnynt eisiau ymuno â'r cynllun organig. Fodd bynnag, cynhwyswyd papur atodol—holiadur—sydd fel petai wedi taflu pawb oddi ar ei echel.

Byddai'n fuddiol i Aelodau pe gellid rhyddhau datganiad gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig i ddangos ble y gwnaiff y Llywodraeth gynnig cymorth i ffermwyr sydd wedi cymryd cyngor Canolfan Organig Cymru yn Aberystwyth ac wedi cael yr ymgynghorwyr allan, wedi gweithredu yn llawn ffydd ac wedi sefydlu arferion yn eu busnesau i addasu i'r cynllun troi'n organig, ond sydd, ryw ddau fis yn ddiweddarach, yn cael llythrau'n dweud wrthynt na chânt eu derbyn i'r cynllun ac mai ymhen rhyw 12 mis y daw'r cyfle nesaf, pan agora'r ffenestr newydd ar 15 Mai 2009. Felly, a fydd yn bosibl cael datganiad ysgrifenedig fel bod gennym, dros fisoedd yr haf, pan godir y materion hyn gyda ni, eglurder ynghylch ble mae'r Llywodraeth yn mynd?

Carwyn Jones: Nid wyf yn meddwl y gallaf fynd y tu hwnt i'r hyn a ddywedais yn wreiddiol. Y bwriad yw gwneud popeth posibl i gynorthwyo. Ceisiwn ddarparu mwy o fanylion yn y dyfodol agos. Mae'r Sioe Amaethyddol bron ar ein gwarthaf ac yr wyf yn siŵr y bydd hynny'n gyfle i drafod y materion hyn ymhellach.

Gareth Jones: In the light of the recent job losses in Dolgarrog, and the cynicism of some political parties regarding any scheme to redevelop this site and the National

y Cynulliad yng Nghyffordd Llandudno, gofynnaf i Lywodraeth Cymru'n Un wneud datganiad ar ei gweledigaeth a'i strategaeth ar gyfer adfywio llwyddiannus i Ddyffryn Conwy, datganiad a fydd yn uno'r gweithgareddau unigol, ond rhyng-ddibynnol, yr ydych yn gweithredu arnynt ar hyn o bryd mewn perthynas â'r safleoedd hyn. Byddai datganiad hefyd yn gallu dangos sut mae'r gweithgarwch hwn yn rhan o strategaeth gyfannol, goruwch, efallai, sy'n cynnwys y cynllun datblygu gwledig, cynllun gofodol Cymru, y strategaeth dwristiaeth ac eraill. Byddai'r fath ddatganiad yn dangos sut y mae'r holl weithgarwch hwn yn dod ynghyd ac yn gweithio er lles a dyfodol cynaliadwy i Aberconwy.

Carwyn Jones: Deallaf y problemau sydd wedi eu hachosi, nid yn unig yn ardal Dolgarrog ond hefyd yn Nyffryn Conwy yn ei gyfanrwydd, wrth gau y ffatri honno a oedd wedi bod yno am gymaint o flynyddoedd. Yr wyf yn gwybod i bopeth posibl gael ei wneud er mwyn ceisio sicrhau dyfodol y ffatri honno, ac yr oedd llawer o siarad ar ran y Gweinidog ac ar ran y swyddogion ynglŷn â darganfod ffordd ymlaen i'r ffatri.

Yr wyf yn siŵr y byddai Ieuan Wyn Jones yn gallu ateb eich cwestiynau ynglŷn â chynllun datblygu goruwch, fel y dywedasoch, i Ddyffryn Conwy yn ei gyfanrwydd. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn chwarae ei rhan drwy agor y swyddfa newydd yng Nghyffordd Llandudno. Bydd hynny'n hwb i'r economi lleol, gobeithio. Yr wyf yn siŵr, drwy ohebiaeth neu wrth ateb gwestiynau yn y Siambr, byddai'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog yn gallu rhoi rhagor o fanylion i chi ynghylch y sefyllfa ac ynghylch dyfodol economaidd Dyffryn Conwy.

Mark Isherwood: I would not endorse Chris Franks's call for a debate on the devolution of powers over the economy. However, I would call for a debate on the regulatory regime that applies to Wales's economy and how we should be working with the UK Government accordingly. The International Monetary Fund has said that the UK banking system is more exposed to the sub-prime market than any other, including that of the United States. That is partly because of our

Assembly site in Llandudno Junction, I ask the One Wales Government to make a statement on its vision and strategy for the successful regeneration of the Conwy valley, a statement which will unite the individual but interdependent activities that you are currently implementing in relation to these sites. A statement could also show how this activity is part of a comprehensive overarching strategy, which includes the rural development plan, the Wales spatial plan, the tourism strategy and others. Such a statement would show how all of these activities are coming together and are working for the benefit and sustainable future for Aberconwy.

Carwyn Jones: I understand the problems that have been caused, not only in the Dolgarrog area but also in the Conwy valley as a whole, with the closure of that factory, which had been there for so many years. I know that everything possible has been done to try to safeguard a future for that particular plant, and there were many discussions between the Minister and officials in trying to find a way ahead for the plant.

I am sure that Ieuan Wyn Jones could answer your questions about an overarching development plan, as you mentioned, for the Conwy valley as a whole. The Assembly Government is playing its part by opening a new office in Llandudno Junction. Hopefully, that will be a boost to the local economy. I am sure, through correspondence or through questions in Plenary, that the Deputy First Minister would be able to give you a fuller response regarding the position and regarding the economic future of the Conwy valley.

Mark Isherwood: Ni fyddwn yn ategu galwad Chris Franks am ddatganiad ar ddatganoli pwerau dros yr economi. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn alw am ddatganiad ar y drefn reoleiddio sy'n berthnasol i economi Cymru a sut y dylem fod yn cydweithio â Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i'r perwyl hwnnw. Mae'r Gronfa Ariannol Ryngwladol wedi dweud bod system fancio'r Deyrnas Unedig yn fwy agored i'r farchnad is-fenthyca nag unrhyw un arall, gan gynnwys system yr Unol

overseas investments and partly because our sub-prime lenders have a share in court activity repossession that is 10 times their share in the marketplace.

My second point relates to the Welsh Affairs Select Committee's report on cross-border services, which was published last week. Will the Assembly Government find time for a statement or debate on this report? It states, for example, that:

'Clinicians and patients remain concerned ... that any further divergence could lead to problems in accessing cross-border services in the future.'

My main point is to call for an urgent statement on the announcement that Denbighshire County Council is proposing to close Hyfrydle, the 52-week residential facility for children on the autistic spectrum who attend Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn. The Assembly Government has given it support in the past, providing land and finance. Evidence was presented to the cross-party autism group in Llandudno last Friday that parents, governors, teachers and many key agencies, including the health services and the police, had not been party to any formal consultation process, which raises questions about the evidence base upon which this decision has been taken.

Carwyn Jones: What you say about the lack of consultation would have to be looked at. You say that you have received representations in that regard, and that would have to be clarified. However, this is a matter for Denbighshire. It bears full responsibility for the situation at Hyfrydle. It is for the council to determine and answer for any decision that it takes.

The Welsh Select Affairs Committee's report is a parliamentary report and a matter for Parliament. The Assembly Government does not intend to allocate Government time for a debate. You quote selectively from the report's conclusions.

Daleithiau. Mae hynny'n rhannol oherwydd ein buddsoddiadau tramor ac yn rhannol oherwydd bod gan ein his-fenthycwyr gyfran yng ngweithgaredd adfeddiannu'r llysoedd sydd 10 gwaith eu cyfran yn y farchnad.

Mae a wnelo fy ail bwynt ag adroddiad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig ar wasanaethau traws-ffiniol, a gyhoeddwyd yr wythnos diwethaf. A wnaiff Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ganfod amser ar gyfer datganiad neu ddadl ar yr adroddiad hwn? Mae'n dweud, er enghraifft, fod:

Clinigwyr a chleifion yn dal i bryderu ... y gallai unrhyw ddargyfeiredd pellach arwain at broblemau cael gwasanaethau traws-ffiniol yn y dyfodol.

Fy mhrif bwynt yw galw am ddatganiad brys ar y cyhoeddiad bod Cyngor Sir Ddinbych yn bwriadu cau Hyfrydle, y cyfleuster preswyl 52 wythnos i blant ar y sbectrwm awtistig sy'n mynychu Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn. Mae Llywodraeth y Cynulliad wedi rhoi ei chefnogaeth yn y gorffennol, gan ddarparu tir a chyllid. Cyflwynwyd tystiolaeth i'r grŵp awtistiaeth trawsbleidiol yn Llandudno ddydd Gwener diwethaf nad oedd rhieni, llywodraethwyr, athrawon a llawer o asiantaethau allweddol, gan gynnwys y gwasanaethau iechyd a'r heddlu, wedi'u cynnwys mewn unrhyw broses ymgynghori ffurfiol, sy'n codi cwestiynau am y dystiolaeth y seiliwyd y penderfyniad hwn arni.

Carwyn Jones: Byddai'n rhaid edrych ar yr hyn a ddywedwch am y diffyg ymgynghori. Dywedwch fod pobl wedi dod atoch ynglŷn â hynny, a byddai'n rhaid cael eglurhad o hynny. Fodd bynnag, mater i Sir Ddinbych yw hyn. Hi sy'n gyfan gwbl gyfrifol am y sefyllfa yn Hyfrydle. Mater i'r cyngor yw penderfynu ac ateb dros unrhyw benderfyniad a wna.

Adroddiad seneddol a mater i Senedd y Deyrnas Unedig yw adroddiad y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig. Nid yw Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn bwriadu neilltuo amser y Llywodraeth ar gyfer dadl. Yr ydych wedi dethol eich dyfyniadau o gasgliadau'r adroddiad.

I have no reason to dispute what you say about the UK banking market being particularly vulnerable because of the credit crunch. To my mind, that is a case for more rather than less regulation. Less regulation allows banks to behave even more recklessly. There is a case for ensuring that, in future, we have a set of rules in place—at a UK level or internationally—to ensure that banks do not over-reach themselves. The party opposite has a fundamental belief in the free market. I understand that. However, it is not appropriate then to criticise the UK Government in assisting Northern Rock. If the Conservatives had been in Government they would have done nothing. That is what the free market means. If you are Northern Rock, and you want support, you would get nothing at all, because that is the discipline of the free market. I take with a pinch of salt what George Osborne said about what the UK Government did with Northern Rock being wrong, as the heart of Conservative philosophy is to let those who fail, fail, and not to provide any support at all.

Janet Ryder: Denbighshire County Council voted this morning to close the facility at Hyfrydle. It was not a majority decision. However, it has been taken. Will you please ask your fellow Ministers—this is difficult, as it falls under both education and health and social services—to investigate the manner in which this decision has been taken? Parents who have children attending that unit were not consulted, staff who were taken on the week before to work in the unit were not consulted, and counties that had arranged for children to start there in September were not told until the middle of last week that that facility would no longer be available to them.

3.10 p.m.

It was obvious that that decision had been made before it even went to the cabinet of Denbighshire County Council. Could you ask your fellow Ministers to investigate how the county reached that decision and under what circumstances? Could you also ask them to

Nid oes gennyf ddim rheswm i amau'r hyn a ddywedwch ynghylch bod marchnad fancio'r Deyrnas Unedig yn arbennig o fregus oherwydd yr argyfwng credyd. I'm meddwl i, mae hynny'n achos dros fwy yn hytrach na llai o reoleiddio. Mae llai o reoleiddio'n caniatáu i fanciau ymddwyn yn fwy di-hid fyth. Mae achos dros sicrhau bod gennym set o reolau yn y dyfodol—ar lefel Brydeinig neu'n rhyngwladol—i sicrhau nad yw banciau'n gorymestyn. Mae gan y blaid gyferbyn gred sylfaenol yn y farchnad rydd. Yr wyf yn deall hynny. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'n briodol wedyn iddi feirniadu Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig am gynorthwyo Northern Rock. Petai'r Ceidwadwyr mewn Llywodraeth ni fuasent wedi gwneud dim. Dyna beth yw ystyr y farchnad rydd. Os Northern Rock ydych chi, a bod arnoch eisiau cefnogaeth, ni chaech ddim o gwbl, oherwydd dyna ddisgyblaeth y farchnad rydd. Cymeraf gyda phinsiad o halen eiriau George Osborne fod yr hyn a wnaeth Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig gyda Northern Rock yn anghywir, gan mai calon athroniaeth Geidwadol yw gadael i'r rhai sy'n methu fethu, a pheidio â rhoi dim cymorth o gwbl.

Janet Ryder: Pleidleisiodd Cyngor Sir Ddinbych y bore yma dros gau'r cyfleuster yn Hyfrydle. Nid penderfyniad drwy fwyafrif ydoedd. Fodd bynnag, mae wedi'i wneud. A fydddech cystal â gofyn i'ch cyd-Weinidogion—mae hyn yn anodd, gan ei fod yn dod dan addysg a than iechyd a gwasanaethau cymdeithasol—ymchwilio i'r modd y gwnaethpwyd y penderfyniad hwn? Nid ymgynghorwyd â rhieni sydd â phlant yn mynychu'r uned honno, nid ymgynghorwyd â staff a gyflogwyd yr wythnos gynt i weithio yn yr uned, ac ni ddywedwyd wrth siroedd a oedd wedi trefnu i blant gychwyn yno ym mis Medi tan ganol yr wythnos diwethaf na fyddai'r cyfleuster hwnnw ar gael iddynt mwyach.

Yr oedd yn amlwg fod y penderfyniad hwnnw wedi'i wneud cyn iddo fynd i gabinet Cyngor Sir Ddinbych o gwbl. A allech ofyn i'ch cyd-Weinidogion ymchwilio i sut y daeth y sir i'r penderfyniad hwnnw a than ba amgylchiadau? A allech ofyn iddynt hefyd

reflect on the considerable investment that the Assembly has made into this brand-new facility to create a centre for autism in north Wales? Could they issue written statements over the summer so that every Assembly Member can be kept up to speed on what actions they intend to take on this matter?

Carwyn Jones: I fully appreciate Members' concerns. I know that this has caused great concern locally. It is a matter entirely for Denbighshire, which must take responsibility for it. We all know of the great difficulties that have occurred there and no doubt this decision will not endear the council to the local population or to those who live further away from Denbighshire. The matter will be raised with the Ministers for education and health and I will ask them to examine what they can do to allay Members' fears.

Darren Millar: I would be grateful if you could make time for a statement at the earliest opportunity on the Government's position on the timing of the Post Office Ltd's consultation on the reorganisation of the network in north Wales. It seems to me, and to others, that there has been a deliberate attempt by the Post Office to undertake a consultation over the summer—a time when many will be distracted by the holiday period. The people of north Wales deserve to know what representations the Welsh Assembly Government has made on this matter to the Post Office.

Carwyn Jones: This is a matter for the Post Office. As we have said many times before, this issue has not been devolved. I understand that the consultation period has been extended over the summer to allow more people the opportunity to put forward their points of view.

Datganiad ar Raglen Ddeddfwriaethol Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru 2008-09 Statement on the Welsh Assembly Government's Legislative Programme 2008-09

Y Prif Weinidog: Flwyddyn yn ôl, gosodwyd ein gweledigaeth yng nghytundeb 'Cymru'n Un' o Gymru wedi ei seilio ar egwyddorion o chwarae teg, lle mae pawb yn

fyfyrion ar y buddsoddiad sylweddol y mae'r Cynulliad wedi'i wneud yn y cyfleuster newydd sbon hwn i greu canolfan awtistiaeth yn y gogledd? A allent gyhoeddi datganiadau ysgrifenedig dros yr haf fel y gall pob Aelod Cynulliad gael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am yr hyn y bwriadant ei wneud ynglŷn â'r mater hwn?

Carwyn Jones: Yr wyf yn llawn sylweddoli pryderon Aelodau. Gwn fod hyn wedi peri pryder mawr yn lleol. Mater i Sir Ddinbych yn llwyr ydyw, a rhaid iddi hi gymryd y cyfrifoldeb amdano. Gwyddom i gyd am yr anawsterau mawr sydd wedi digwydd yno ac yn sicr ni wnaiff y penderfyniad hwn ddim i boblogeiddio'r cyngor ymysg y boblogaeth leol na rhai sy'n byw ymhellach i ffwrdd o sir Ddinbych. Caiff y mater ei godi gyda'r Gweinidogion dros addysg ac iechyd a gofynnaf iddynt archwilio beth y gallant ei wneud i leddfu ofnau Aelodau.

Darren Millar: Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech wneud amser ar gyfer datganiad ar y cyfle cyntaf ynghylch safbwynt y Llywodraeth ar amseriad ymgynghoriad Swyddfa'r Post Cyf ar ad-drefnu'r rhwydwaith yn y gogledd. Mae'n ymddangos i mi, ac i eraill, y bu ymgais fwriadol gan Swyddfa'r Post i gynnal ymgynghoriad dros yr haf—adeg pan fydd sylw llawer o bobl wedi'i dynnu gan y gwyliau. Mae pobl y gogledd yn haeddu gwybod pa sylwadau y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'u gwneud ar y mater hwn i Swyddfa'r Post.

Carwyn Jones: Mater i Swyddfa'r Post yw hwn. Fel yr ydym wedi dweud lawer gwaith o'r blaen, nid yw'r mater hwn wedi'i ddatganoli. Deallaf fod y cyfnod ymgynghori wedi'i estyn dros yr haf i ganiatáu i fwy o bobl gael cyfle i gyflwyno'u safbwyntiau.

The First Minister: A year ago, we set out our vision in the 'One Wales' agreement with Wales being based on the principles of fair play, where everyone can live free from the

gallu byw heb ofn tlodi ac anfanteision eraill. Gwnaed addewid i fynd i'r afael ag achosion tlodi ac anfanteision eraill ac nid y symptomau yn unig.

Rhoddasom ymroddiad i ddatblygu atebion penodol ar gyfer Cymru i fynd i'r afael â thlodi ymhlith plant. Y prynhawn yma, gofynnir i chi gefnogi Gorchymyn ar blant o dan anfantais, sydd yn cynnwys elfennau o weithio yn erbyn tlodi plant. Os bydd cefnogaeth gan y Cynulliad, bydd y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwnnw'n mynd gerbron y Senedd yn San Steffan. Mae hwnnw'n gam sylweddol tuag at gael y pwerau y mae arnom eu hangen i fynd i'r afael â'r problemau hyn yng Nghymru.

Y cam rhesymegol dilynol fyddai datblygu Mesur—Deddf o ran statws os nad enw—er mwyn rhoi cefnogaeth gryfach i deuluoedd a phlant sy'n dioddef o dlodi. O dan hwnnw, bydd gofyniad ar bob asiantaeth neu gorff cyhoeddus i ddangos sut y maent yn gweithio yn erbyn tlodi plant, drwy, er enghraifft, darparu gofal plant rhad ac am ddim ac yn darparu gwasanaethau eraill i helpu yn ystod blynyddoedd cynnar ein plant.

Some of our most vulnerable people are children and young people. In the last legislative programme, we promised, and have now delivered, an LCO on additional learning needs. We now intend to develop a Measure to utilise these powers to extend the range of individuals who may appeal to the special educational needs Welsh tribunal. This will respond to a proposal by the late Children's Commissioner for Wales, Peter Clarke, and also gives practical expression to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child by increasing the participation of young people in decisions that affect their education.

On older persons and other more dependent persons, 'One Wales' made clear our commitment to help people to be independent and to improve the care provided to vulnerable people by public, private and voluntary organisations. A key element of that agenda is to establish a fairer and more consistent approach to charging for non-

fear of poverty and other disadvantages. We gave a pledge to tackle the causes, not just the symptoms, of poverty and other disadvantages.

We made a commitment to develop specific solutions for Wales to tackle child poverty. This afternoon, you will be asked to support a legislative competence Order on disadvantaged children, which includes elements of counteracting child poverty. Subject to the Assembly's support, the legislative competence Order will then go before the Parliament in Westminster. This represents a significant step in gaining the powers that we need to tackle these issues in Wales.

The next rational step would be to develop a Measure—an Act in all but name—to provide greater support to children and families experiencing poverty. Under that Measure, each agency or public body will be required to show how they work to eradicate child poverty, for example, by providing free childcare and other services to assist children in the early years.

Plant a phobl ifanc yw rhai o'n pobl fwyaf bregus. Yn y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol ddiwethaf, addawsom, ac yr ydym bellach wedi sefydlu, Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Yn awr bwriadwn ddatblygu Mesur i ddefnyddio'r pwerau hyn i ehangu'r amrediad o unigolion a gaiff apelio i'r tribiwnlys anghenion addysgol arbennig Cymreig. Bydd hyn yn ymateb i gynnig gan ddiweddar Gomisiynydd Plant Cymru, Peter Clarke, a hefyd yn rhoi mynegiant ymarferol i Gytuniad y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau Plant drwy gynyddu cyfranogiad pobl ifanc mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio ar eu haddysg.

O ran pobl hŷn a phobl eraill fwy dibynnol, amlinellodd 'Cymru'n Un' ein hymrwymiad i helpu pobl i fod yn annibynnol ac i wella'r gofal a roddir i bobl agored i niwed gan gyrff cyhoeddus, preifat a gwirfoddol. Elfen allweddol o'r agenda honno yw sefydlu agwedd decach a mwy cyson at y taliadau a godir am ofal cymdeithasol amhreswyl.

residential social care. We therefore intend to develop proposals for an Assembly Measure to use the powers we have successfully gained through the domiciliary care legislative competence Order to establish a level playing field for charges for specified services levied by local authorities.

In the wake of the Beecham report, we have made a lot of progress in encouraging local authorities and other public bodies to work together. Our aim is to have effective and joined-up community planning to deliver high-quality, citizen-centred local services for Wales. Early in the autumn, we expect to introduce a Measure for local government that will link wellbeing and community planning with service improvement.

A stock of good-quality affordable homes is the foundation stone of thriving local communities and family life in all parts of Wales. The affordable housing LCO is currently in its final stages of pre-legislative scrutiny and the formal draft is expected to be ready in the autumn. Subject to that legislative competence Order being approved, we intend to develop a Measure within this legislative programme to give local authorities the power to apply to Welsh Ministers to designate areas of housing pressure where the right to buy may be suspended for a limited period of time.

In the programme that I am outlining today, we are also seeking further powers for the Assembly, so that, as a Government, we will be able to bring forward future legislation to respond to the needs of the people of Wales. The legislative competence Orders in this programme are about acquiring the legislative powers that then give the Assembly the flexibility to decide how best to legislate to tackle those issues in Wales. We will bring forward to the Assembly legislative proposals that underpin that agenda.

The Government of Wales Act 2006 sets out new routes for backbench Members, as well

Felly, bwriadwn ddatblygu cynigion ar gyfer Mesur Cynulliad er mwyn defnyddio'r pwerau yr ydym wedi llwyddo i'w cael, drwy gyfrwng y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch gofal cartref, i sicrhau chwarae teg o ran y taliadau am wasanaethau penodedig a godir gan awdurdodau lleol.

Yn sgil adroddiad Beecham, yr ydym wedi gwneud cryn gynnydd o ran annog awdurdodau lleol a chyrrff cyhoeddus eraill i gydweithio. Ein nod yw sicrhau cynllunio cymunedol effeithiol a chydgyssylltiedig er mwyn darparu gwasanaethau lleol o safon uchel yng Nghymru a'r rheini'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd. Yn gynnar yn yr hydref, disgwyliwn gyflwyno Mesur ar gyfer llywodraeth leol a fydd yn cysylltu lles a chynllunio cymunedol â gwella gwasanaethau.

Stoc o dai fforddiadwy o safon yw carreg sylfaen cymunedau lleol sy'n ffynnu a bywyd teuluoedd ym mhob cwr o Gymru. Mae'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch tai fforddiadwy wrthi'n mynd drwy gamau terfynol y craffu cyn deddfu a disgwyli'r drafft ffurfiol fod yn barod yn yr hydref. A bwrw y caiff y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwnnw'i gymeradwyo, bwriadwn ddatblygu Mesur yn y rhaglen deddfu hon i roi'r pŵer i awdurdodau lleol wneud cais i Weinidogion Cymru am gael dynodi ardaloedd tai dan bwysau lle y gellir atal yr hawl i brynu am gyfnod cyfyngedig.

Yn y rhaglen yr wyf yn rhoi braslun ohoni heddiw, yr ydym hefyd yn ceisio rhagor o bwerau i'r Cynulliad, er mwyn inni, fel Llywodraeth, allu cyflwyno deddfwriaeth yn y dyfodol a fydd yn ymateb i anghenion pobl Cymru. Mae a wnelo'r Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn y rhaglen hon â chael y pwerau deddfu a fydd wedyn yn rhoi'r hyblygrwydd i'r Cynulliad benderfynu sut orau mae deddfu er mwyn mynd i'r afael â'r materion hynny yng Nghymru. Byddwn yn cyflwyno cynigion deddfu i'r Cynulliad sy'n sail i'r agenda honno.

Yn Neddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, ceir llwybrau newydd sy'n galluogi Aelodau'r

as the frontbench, to bring forward legislative proposals. Where these contribute to the Government's agenda, we have been keen to work closely with Assembly Members to take their ideas forward. The discussions that have been held between the Deputy First Minister's office and Huw Lewis over provision of bus and coach services is a good example of this approach, as is Helen Mary Jones's legislative competence Order on carers, which will provide a platform for a full Government proposal in this field. Those are good examples of how Assembly Members can make a real difference in developing legislation that meets our specific needs. Wales has a higher proportion of people caring for others than any part of England, so we want to recognise and support the contribution made by Wales's unpaid carers. We intend to seek the powers, through a legislative competence Order, to legislate to provide support for carers by placing appropriate duties on public sector organisations.

The 'One Wales' programme gave prominence to celebrating Wales as a community of rich and diverse cultures. To support this, we intend to seek legislative powers for the Assembly in this area to develop Measures that place a statutory obligation on local authorities to promote culture and encourage partnership to deliver high-quality cultural experiences for their communities. This will put cultural services on a similar footing to other local authority statutory services. We hope that that will lead to improvements in provision across Wales. I think that it was the Reverend Eli Jenkins who once said, 'Praise the Lord! We are a musical nation'. We will be able to make that promise real in a way that I am sure you would have supported in your previous role in Newport, Deputy Presiding Officer, wanting the back-up for the cultural services that you made a reality, but without the statutory backing that we hope to provide.

We continue to provide support to make

meinciau cefn, yn ogystal â'r fainc flaen, gyflwyno cynigion deddfu. Lle'r oedd y rhain yn cyfrannu at agenda'r Llywodraeth, yr ydym wedi bod yn awyddus i gydweithio'n glos ag Aelodau'r Cynulliad i fwrw ymlaen â'u syniadau. Mae'r trafodaethau sydd wedi'u cynnal rhwng swyddfa'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog a Huw Lewis ynglŷn â gwasanaethau bysiau a bysiau moethus yn enghraifft dda o'r dull hwn. Enghraifft arall yw Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol Helen Mary Jones ynghylch gofalwyr. Bydd hwnnw'n cynnig llwyfan ar gyfer cynnig llawn gan y Llywodraeth yn y maes hwn. Mae'r rheini'n enghreifftiau da o sut y gall Aelodau'r Cynulliad wneud gwahaniaeth go iawn wrth ddatblygu deddfwriaeth sy'n ateb ein hanghenion penodol. Mae cyfran fwy o bobl yng Nghymru'n gofalu am bobl eraill nag a welir mewn unrhyw ran o Loegr, felly yr ydym am gydnabod a chefnogi cyfraniad gofalwyr di-dâl Cymru. Yr ydym yn bwriadu ceisio'r pwerau i ddeddfu, drwy gyfrwng Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, er mwyn rhoi cymorth i ofalwyr, drwy bennu dyletswyddau priodol ar gyfer cyrff y sector cyhoeddus.

Drwy raglen 'Cymru'n Un', rhoddwyd pwyslais ar ddatlu bod Cymru'n gymuned o ddiwylliannau cyfoethog ac amrywiol. Yn gefn i hyn, bwriadwn geisio pwerau deddfu ar gyfer y Cynulliad yn y maes hwn er mwyn datblygu Mesurau sy'n ei gwneud yn ddyletswydd ar awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo diwylliant ac annog partneriaeth er mwyn cynnig profiadau diwylliannol o safon i'w cymunedau. Bydd hyn yn golygu bod y gwasanaethau diwylliannol yn debyg o ran eu statws i wasanaethau statudol eraill awdurdodau lleol. Gobeithiwn y bydd hynny'n arwain at wella'r ddarpariaeth ledled Cymru. Credaf mai'r Parch Eli Jenkins a ddywedodd un tro, 'Praise the Lord! We are a musical nation'. Byddwn yn gallu gwireddu'r addewid hwnnw mewn modd yr wyf yn siŵr y byddech wedi'i gefnogi yn eich swyddogaeth flaenorol yng Nghasnewydd, Ddirprwy Lywydd, a chithau'n awyddus i gael cefnogaeth ar gyfer y gwasanaethau diwylliannol. Llwyddasoch i wireddu'ch cynlluniau, ond heb y gefnogaeth statudol y gobeithiwn ni ei darparu.

Yr ydym yn parhau i ddarparu cymorth er

Wales a prosperous society through enterprise and business growth, backed by enhanced skills for jobs. The success of our programmes in creating new jobs across Wales has also identified a shortage of skills at technical and paraprofessional levels. We therefore intend to seek legislative competence to enable the Assembly to legislate to provide for our further education institutions to have the power to award foundation degrees.

In agriculture, in order to be better able to promote and develop a specific sector, we will seek legislative powers over the red meat industry. This will give us a better ability to influence the future direction of the industry, increase efficiency, improve marketing and the ways in which it contributes to the sustainable development of Wales.

3.20 p.m.

I hesitate to say that the Assembly is getting used to the red meat of legislation, knowing that there are vegetarians among us who would not approve of that. However, they might approve of the idea that we are gradually obtaining our foundation degree as an Assembly, and as a law-making body representing a caring and cultural nation.

I believe that this announcement demonstrates that we are using the powers that the Assembly acquired as a legislature under the Government of Wales Act 2006. We are moving from the first legislative programme, for 2007-08, to the second, for 2008-09, and we are doing so in a way that reflects our wish to deliver practical benefits for the people of Wales. We have these two pipelines filling up with legislation—that is, the legislative competence Order pipeline on one side, which transfers powers from Westminster, with its permission, to enable us to legislate; and on the other side, having acquired that power, using that and other routes, we use it to make Measures, which are laws in all but name. We do not do that for the sake of making Measures, but for the sake of making a practical difference to the people of Wales.

mwyn gwneud Cymru'n gymdeithas sy'n ffynnu drwy gyfrwng menter a thwf busnesau, gyda gwell sgiliau ar gyfer swyddi'n gefn i hynny. Mae llwyddiant ein rhaglenni o ran creu swyddi newydd ledled Cymru hefyd wedi dangos bod prinder sgiliau ar lefel dechnegol ac ar lefel led-broffesiynol. Felly, bwriadwn geisio cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol er mwyn i'r Cynulliad allu deddfu fel y gall ein sefydliadau addysg bellach gael y pŵer i ddyfarnu graddau sylfaen.

Ym maes amaethyddiaeth, er mwyn inni allu hyrwyddo a datblygu sector penodol yn well, byddwn yn ceisio pwerau deddfu dros y diwydiant cig coch. Bydd hyn yn golygu y gallwn ddylanwadu'n well ar gyfeiriad y diwydiant yn y dyfodol, ei wneud yn fwy effeithlon, gwella'r marchnata a'r ffyrdd y mae'n cyfrannu at ddatblygu Cymru mewn modd cynaliadwy.

Petrusaf ddweud fod y Cynulliad yn dechrau cynefino â chig coch deddfwriaeth, gan wybod bod llysiuwyr yn ein plith na fyddent yn cymeradwyo hynny. Fodd bynnag, efallai y byddent yn cymeradwyo'r syniad ein bod yn graddol ennill ein gradd sylfaen fel Cynulliad, ac fel corff deddfu sy'n cynrychioli cenedl ddiwylliedig, llawn gofal.

Credaf fod y cyhoeddiad hwn yn dangos ein bod yn defnyddio'r pwerau a feddwyd gan y Cynulliad fel deddfwrfa dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006. Yr ydym yn symud o'r rhaglen deddfu gyntaf, ar gyfer 2007-08 i'r ail, ar gyfer 2008-09, ac yr ydym yn gwneud hynny mewn ffordd sy'n adlewyrchu'n dymuniad i sicrhau manteision ymarferol i bobl Cymru. Mae gennym y ddwy ffynnon hyn sy'n llenwi â deddfwriaeth—sef ffynnon y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar y naill law, sy'n trosglwyddo pwerau o San Steffan, gyda'i chaniatâd, er mwyn ein galluogi i ddeddfu; ac ar y llall, ar ôl inni gael y pŵer hwnnw, gan ddefnyddio'r llwybr hwnnw a llwybrau eraill, byddwn yn ei ddefnyddio i greu Mesurau, sef Deddfau, ym mhopeth ond enw. Nid creu Mesurau er mwyn creu Mesurau yr ydym, ond er mwyn gwneud gwahaniaeth ymarferol i bobl Cymru.

Today, we are showing how those pipelines are filling up with legislative competence Orders and Measures. This has been a learning curve for the Assembly as a scrutiny and legislative body, for us as Ministers and for our civil servants and lawyers as well. However, in following that steep learning curve, Wales is growing up as a nation, and this institution, which represents Wales, is growing up as a democratic, legislative body. Diolch yn fawr.

Nick Bourne: I thank the First Minister for his statement, laced as it was with similes and metaphors—some appropriate, some inappropriate. I have a few of my own, perhaps leaving Mike German with precious few on this occasion.

I noted the earlier question to the Leader of the House from Lesley Griffiths—it was interesting that the Labour Party was more interested in our policy, as an incoming Government, on the future of devolution than it was in the HMRC job losses. Does the First Minister feel that the development of devolution is a long-term process? Is he still on course to hold the referendum in 2011? Reading his statement, I have the distinct feeling that he regards devolution as very much long-term business, in terms of the legislative processes for LCOs and Measures. Perhaps he will deal with that at the outset.

Secondly, if he does regard this as a long-term process, and if he has not managed to hold the referendum by the time of the next election, is any work being undertaken by the present Labour Government at Westminster to streamline these legislative processes? I have been speaking with Cheryl Gillan, and she is looking at ways of improving joint working to streamline the current processes. The First Minister will be aware that some LCOs are stuck in the mud, although he did not much mention them in his statement; I will shortly come on to some of the dogs that did not bark.

There was no mention of the Welsh language LCO, which I find extraordinary given the

Heddiw, yr ydym yn dangos sut mae'r ffynhonnau hynny'n llenwi â Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a Mesurau. Mae'r llwybr hwn wedi bod yn ddringfa dysgu i'r Cynulliad fel corff craffu a chorff deddfu, i ni Weinidogion ac i'n gweision sifil a'n cyfreithwyr hefyd. Fodd bynnag, wrth ddilyn y ddringfa dysgu serth honno, mae Cymru'n aeddfedu fel cenedl, ac mae'r sefydliad hwn, sy'n cynrychioli Cymru, yn aeddfedu fel corff democrataidd sy'n deddfu. Diolch yn fawr.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad, gyda'i frodwaith o gymariaethau a throsiadau—rhai ohonynt yn briodol, eraill yn amhriodol. Mae gennyf ambell un fy hun, gan adael fawr ddim i Mike German y tro hwn, efallai.

Sylwais ar y cwestiwn cynharach i Arweinydd y Tŷ gan Lesley Griffiths—yr oedd yn ddiddorol bod gan y Blaid Lafur fwy o ddiddordeb yn ein polisi ni, a ninnau'n Llywodraeth yn yr arfaeth, ar gyfer dyfodol datganoli, nag yr oedd ganddi yn y swyddi a gollir yn swyddfeydd Cyllid a Thollau EM. A yw'r Prif Weinidog yn teimlo mai proses tymor hir yw datblygu datganoli? A yw'n dal ar drywydd cynnal y refferendwm yn 2011? Wrth ddarllen ei ddatganiad, caf y teimlad clir ei fod yn ystyried datganoli'n fusnes tymor hir i raddau helaeth iawn, o ran y prosesau deddfu ar gyfer Gorchmynion a Mesurau. Efallai y gwnaiff ymdrin â hynny i ddechrau.

Yn ail, os yw'n ystyried hyn yn broses tymor hir, ac os nad yw wedi llwyddo i gynnal y refferendwm erbyn yr etholiad nesaf, a oes unrhyw waith yn cael ei wneud gan y Llywodraeth Lafur bresennol yn San Steffan i symleiddio'r prosesau deddfu hyn? Yr wyf wedi bod yn siarad â Cheryl Gillan, ac mae'n edrych ar sut y gellid gwella'r cydweithio er mwyn symleiddio'r prosesau sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd. Bydd y Prif Weinidog yn gwybod bod rhai Gorchmynion wedi cloffi, er na chyfeiriodd fawr ddim atynt yn ei ddatganiad; deuaif yn ôl mewn munud at rai o'r cŵn nad oeddent yn cyfarth.

Nid oedd sôn am Orchymyn yr iaith Gymraeg, sydd yn rhyfeddol i mi, ac ystyried

importance attached to it in 'One Wales'. The words 'Welsh language' did not crop up in the statement at all. This LCO has been delayed time and again, and is now not mentioned. Given where we are on the Welsh language, and the perceived hurt of people in the Welsh-language community—first of all on the lack of backing for a Welsh-language daily newspaper, and then the lack of backing for a statutory right to free transport to Welsh-medium schools—this will feel like a further kick in the teeth. Indeed, it is a kick in the teeth for the whole nation, because both languages belong to all of us. Perhaps he will deal with that as my third point.

Fourthly—I notice that the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing is here—he might like to deal with the environmental protection LCO, which also appears to be stuck in the mud. Without wanting to mix my metaphors, he said, when he introduced this process last year, that he was going for the Molly Malone approach—sometimes wide, sometimes narrow. As far as the environmental protection LCO is concerned, it seems that Molly Malone has been put on an enforced diet, and that the narrow approach is very much favoured at Westminster. Perhaps he will tell us about that, because there is a lack of information in the statement, and any information that we get seems to indicate difficulties.

I will now move on to some of the detail in his statement and, of course, the devil is often in the detail. We will be supporting any sensible Measure and, from what he said, the Measure on child poverty, which was promoted by the late great Peter Clarke, sounds like something that we would certainly want to be involved in and to improve. We have a similar attitude towards a consistent approach to charging for non-residential social care. Both David Melding and Jonathan Morgan have done much pioneering work on support for carers, so we will certainly be supporting that.

I also wish to say, in passing, that he did not

y pwysigrwydd a roddir iddo yn 'Cymru'n Un'. Ni chlywyd y geiriau 'yr iaith Gymraeg' yn ei ddatganiad o gwbl. Mae'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn wedi'i ohirio dro ar ôl tro, ac erbyn hyn, ni chaiff ei grybwyll hyd yn oed. Ac ystyried lle'r ydym arni o ran y Gymraeg, a'r ffaith bod pobl y gymuned Gymraeg ei hiaith, i bob golwg, wedi'u brifo—yn gyntaf yn sgil y diffyg cefnogaeth i bapur dyddiol Cymraeg, ac yna'r diffyg cefnogaeth i hawl statudol i gael cludiant am ddim i ysgolion cyfrwng Cymraeg—bydd hyn yn teimlo fel ergyd arall. Yn wir, mae'n ergyd i'r genedl gyfan, oherwydd mae'r ddwy iaith yn eiddo inni i gyd. Efallai y gwnaiff ymdrin â hynny fel fy nhrydydd pwynt.

Yn bedwerydd—sylwaf fod y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai yma—efallai yr hoffai ymdrin â'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch diogelu'r amgylchedd, sydd hefyd i bob golwg wedi cloffi. Nid wyf am ddrysu fy nhrosiadau, ond dywedodd, pan gyflwynodd y broses y llynedd, ei fod yn bwriadu dilyn trywydd Molly Malone—weithiau'n llydan, weithiau'n gul. O ran Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch diogelu'r amgylchedd, mae Molly Malone i bob golwg wedi'i gorfodi i fynd ar ddeiet, a'r trywydd cul yw'r un a ffefrir i raddau helaeth yn San Steffan. Efallai y gwnaiff ddweud wrthym am hynny, oherwydd mae diffyg gwybodaeth yn ei ddatganiad, ac mae unrhyw wybodaeth yr ydym yn ei chael i bob golwg yn awgrymu bod anawsterau.

Symudaf ymlaen yn awr at rai o'r manylion yn ei ddatganiad ac, wrth gwrs, yn y manylion yn aml iawn y mae'r cythraul. Byddwn yn cefnogi unrhyw Fesur synhwyrol, ac, o'r hyn a ddywedodd, mae'r Mesur tloidi plant, a hyrwyddwyd gan y diweddar wron Peter Clarke, yn sicr i'w weld yn rhywbeth y byddem am fod yn rhan ohono ac am ei wella. Agwedd debyg sydd gennym at geisio dull cyson o godi taliadau am ofal cymdeithasol amhreswyl. Mae David Melding a Jonathan Morgan ill dau wedi gwneud llawer o waith arloesol ym maes cymorth i ofalwyr, felly, byddwn yn sicr yn cefnogi hynny.

Hoffwn ddweud hefyd, wrth fynd heibio, na

mention the work on proposed LCOs and Measures undertaken by two prominent backbench Members—Jonathan Morgan and Ann Jones—which appears to have been overlooked. [*Interruption.*] I see that Ann Jones is now entering the Chamber, to applause from this side of the Chamber at least. That was a timely entrance. I have to say, in Ann's defence, that that was not scheduled; we had not organised that.

Two other Measures that we will certainly be supporting relate to the red meat industry and to the awarding of foundation degrees, both of which—on the face of it, at least—look very sensible. However, as I have said to the First Minister, the devil will be in the detail.

I have another question on the cultural LCO that he mentioned and the Measures that may follow that. Possible legislation to place a statutory duty to promote culture on local authorities certainly seems sensible, but, again, there is no mention of the Welsh language. I hope that that it is going to be part of that duty. It seems extraordinary that it has not been mentioned. I do not know whether Plaid Cymru had seen this statement in advance, but I cannot believe that the Deputy First Minister would have let that one go through his hands. He is a keen cricketer and I would have thought that he would have seen this statement and seen some of the dangers here.

Lastly, I will ask the First Minister about the Measure that he talked about for local government, which may or may not be sensible, but it does require some scrutiny. The phrase 'citizen-centred local services for Wales' begs the question: what are they now? What does it mean when he says that it will link wellbeing and community planning with service improvement? It sounds a bit jargonistic. I wonder whether he has any more details about what that will mean in more precise terms, down to the brass tacks, so that we can look at that.

soniodd am y gwaith ar y Gorchmynion a'r Mesurau y mae dau Aelod amlwg ar y meinciau cefn—Jonathan Morgan ac Ann Jones—wedi ymgymryd ag ef, gwaith sydd i bob golwg wedi'i anghofio. [*Torri ar draws.*] Gwelaf fod Ann Jones yn dod i mewn i'r Siambr yn awr, ac yn cael ei chymeradwyo gan yr Aelodau ar yr ochr hon i'r Siambr o leiaf. Ar y gair. Rhaid imi ddweud, er amddiffyn Ann, nad oedd hynny'n fwriadol; nid oeddem wedi trefnu hynny.

Dau Fesur arall y byddwn yn sicr yn eu cefnogi yw'r rhai sy'n ymwneud â'r diwydiant cig coch ac â dyfarnu graddau sylfaen, gan fod y ddau ohonynt—ar y wyneb, o leiaf—i'w gweld yn synhwyrol iawn. Fodd bynnag, fel yr wyf wedi'i ddweud wrth y Prif Weinidog, yn y manylion y bydd y cythraul.

Mae gennyf gwestiwn arall ynglŷn â'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch diwylliant y cyfeiriodd ato a'r Mesurau a all ddilyn hwnnw. I bob golwg, mae'n sicr yn synhwyrol ystyried deddfwriaeth a fyddai'n gosod dyletswydd statudol ar awdurdodau lleol i hyrwyddo diwylliant. Ond, unwaith eto, nid oes sôn am y Gymraeg. Gobeithiaf fod hynny'n mynd i fod yn rhan o'r ddyletswydd honno. Mae'n ymddangos yn rhyfedd iawn nad oes sôn wedi bod am yr iaith. Ni wn a oedd Plaid Cymru wedi gweld y datganiad hwn ymlaen llaw, ond ni allaf gredu y byddai'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog wedi gadael i hynny lithro drwy ei ddwylo. Mae'n gricedwr brwd a byddwn wedi meddwl y byddai wedi gweld y datganiad hwn a gweld rhai o'r peryglon sydd yma.

Yn olaf, gofynnaf i'r Prif Weinidog am y Mesur y soniodd amdano ar gyfer llywodraeth leol, a all fod yn synhwyrol neu beidio, ond mae angen tipyn o graffu arno. Mae'r ymadrodd 'gwasanaethau lleol ar gyfer Cymru a'r rheini'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd' yn codi'r cwestiwn; pa fath o wasanaethau sydd gennym yn awr? Beth mae'n ei olygu pan ddywed y bydd yn cysylltu lles a chynllunio cymunedol â gwella gwasanaethau? Braidd yn jargonllyd, yn ôl pob golwg. Tybed a oes ganddo fwy o fanylion o gwbl am yr hyn y bydd hynny'n ei olygu'n fwy penodol, o safbwynt ymarferol,

I thank the First Minister for some of the content of his statement. As I said, we need some of the background on the transitional period—if it still is a transitional period. Are we looking at the streamlining of procedures? Perhaps I might have some detailed answers on those points that I have touched upon.

The First Minister: I thank the leader of the opposition, Nick, for the tone of his remarks. On the question of whether this is a long-term project, I do not know what the definition of 'long term' is. This is the way in which we are learning how to legislate. There could be a school of thought that said, 'Let us make sure that this is a hopeless failure because that, in a way, makes the case for a referendum, because a referendum on primary legislative powers would show that you would then have a much more simple method, with Scottish-style powers, and we would not need to ask Westminster for the transfer of powers'. I have never seen it that way.

I think that we, as an Assembly—as a scrutiny and legislative body—and as a Government, and civil servants, stakeholders out there who will be directly affected by the legislation and the lawyers who are going to be advising us on how to write these laws, all need to learn the game. That is why I emphasised that we are in our apprenticeship or foundation-degree stage, as an Assembly. We are completing year 1 and, today, we are kicking off year 2 and we are learning the game. We are still in our infancy as a legislative body. Therefore, the faster that we move up that learning curve, the stronger—not the weaker—the case will be for a referendum on full legislative powers. It should be based on the successful use of the powers in the Government of Wales Act 2006, not on the lack of success of using those powers.

On streamlining, I very much welcome what you said about work being done by Cheryl Gillan. I will talk to Paul Murphy, the Secretary of State, to learn what she has been offering by way of streamlined powers in Westminster. The more legislative competence Orders that we introduce, the

er mwyn inni edrych ar hynny.

Diolchaf i'r Prif Weinidog am rywfaint o gynnwys ei ddatganiad. Fel y dywedais, mae angen rhywfaint o gefndir y cyfnod pontio arnom—os yw'n dal yn gyfnod pontio. A ydym yn ystyried symleiddio'r prosesau? Efallai y caf ychydig o atebion manwl ynglŷn â'r pwyntiau hynny yr wyf wedi'u crybwyll.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolchaf i arweinydd yr wrthblaid, Nick, am nawws ei sylwadau. O ran ai prosiect tymor hir yw hwn ai peidio, ni wn sut y diffinnir 'tymor hir'. Dyma sut yr ydym yn dysgu sut mae deddfu. Efallai y byddai un ysgol yn dweud, 'Gadewch inni sicrhau bod hyn yn methu'n anobeithiol, oherwydd, mewn ffordd, bydd hynny'n ddadl o blaid refferendwm, oherwydd byddai refferendwm ynglŷn â phwerau deddfu sylfaenol yn dangos y byddai gennych wedyn ddull llawer symlach, gyda phwerau tebyg i rai'r Alban, ac ni fyddai angen inni ofyn i San Steffan drosglwyddo pwerau'. Nid felly yr wyf fi wedi gweld pethau erioed.

Credaf ein bod ni, fel Cynulliad—fel corff craffu a deddfu—ac fel Llywodraeth, a gweision sifil, ac fel rhanddeiliaid yn y byd mawr yr effeithir arnynt yn uniongyrchol gan y ddeddfwriaeth a'r cyfreithwyr a fydd yn ein cynghori ynglŷn â sut mae llunio'r deddfau hyn, i gyd yn gorfod dysgu'r gêm. Dyna pam y pwysleisiais ein bod yn brentisiaid neu'n gwneud ein gradd sylfaen, fel Cynulliad. Yr ydym yn cwblhau blwyddyn 1, a heddiw, yr ydym yn rhoi cychwyn ar flwyddyn 2 ac yr ydym yn dysgu'r gêm. Yr ydym yn dal yn ein babandod fel corff deddfu. Felly, cyflymaf y dringwn y ddringfa dysgu honno, cryfaf—nid gwanaf—y bydd y ddadl o blaid refferendwm ynglŷn â phwerau deddfu llawn. Dylid ei seilio ar ein llwyddiant i ddefnyddio'r pwerau a roddir drwy Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, nid ar ein methiant i ddefnyddio'r pwerau hynny.

O ran symleiddio, croesawaf yn fawr yr hyn a ddywedasoch am y gwaith y mae Cheryl Gillan yn ei wneud. Caf sgwrs â Paul Murphy, yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, i gael gwybod beth y mae hi wedi bod yn ei gynnig o ran symleiddio'r pwerau yn San Steffan. Po fwyaf o Orchmynion cymhwysedd

more scrutiny that is required by the Welsh Affairs Select Committee. That committee has to be able to schedule that work and it has other jobs to do, as well as helping us with or scrutinising our legislative competence Orders. So, there is a job in that, in that we have to fit our timetable in with Westminster's timetable.

You mentioned that some LCOs seem to be stuck in the slow lane. You are absolutely right about the Welsh-language legislative competence Order; that has proved to be more complicated than we thought it would be. I said, this time last year, when we introduced the first programme based on the Government of Wales Act 2006, that we hoped to get the listed volume of work done, but sometimes that work proves more complex than expected.

3.30 p.m.

It proves more complex because, when the civil servants and the lawyers get stuck into it, there is simply more work to be done. In some cases, it is better to spend an extra few months getting it right. We know what faulty legislation can do, and I have passed some myself by raising my hand in the House of Commons in the old days. The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, for example, was made in haste and repented at leisure. We do not want to make the same mistakes.

If we went along too hastily and got it wrong, as a legislative body in its early years, we might not recover from the blow to our reputation. It would be much more serious than if Parliament, having legislated for 1,000 years, got something wrong, because people would just say, 'Okay, do better next time'. If we got it wrong, the reputational hit would be that much worse, given our newness to this process.

However, you are right about the Welsh

deddfwriaethol a gyflwynwn, mwyaf o graffu y bydd ei angen gan y Pwyllgor Dethol Materion Cymreig. Rhaid i'r pwyllgor hwnnw allu amserlennu'r gwaith hwnnw ac mae ganddo dasgau eraill i'w gwneud, yn ogystal â'n cynorthwyo ni gyda'n Gorchmynion Cymhwysedd Deddfwriaethol neu graffu arnynt. Felly, mae hynny'n rhywbeth y mae angen mynd i'r afael ag ef, sef ei bod yn rhaid inni drefnu'n hamserlen i gydweddu ag amserlen San Steffan.

Soniasoch fod ambell Orchymyn i bob golwg yn cloffi yn y lôn araf. Yr ydych yn gwbl gywir am y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch yr Iaith Gymraeg; mae hwnnw, fel mae'n digwydd, yn fwy cymhleth nag yr oeddem wedi'i dybio. Dywedais, yr adeg hon y llynedd, pan gyflwynwyd y rhaglen gyntaf a oedd wedi'i seilio ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, ein bod yn gobeithio cwblhau'r rhestr gwaith, ond weithiau, mae'r gwaith hwnnw'n fwy cymhleth na'r disgwyl.

Mae'n gymhlethach oherwydd, yn syml iawn, pan mae'r gweision sifil a'r twrneiod yn mynd i'r afael â hyn mae mwy o waith i'w wneud. Mewn rhai achosion, mae'n well treulio ychydig fisoedd yn rhagor yn cael pethau'n iawn. Gwyddom beth y gall deddfwriaeth ddiffygiol ei wneud, ac yr wyf wedi pasio ambell un fy hun drwy godi fy llaw yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin yn yr hen ddyddiau. Cafodd Deddf Cŵn Peryglus 1991, er enghraifft, ei llunio ar frys, a daeth brychau i'r golwg bob yn dipyn. Nid oes arnom eisiau gwneud yr un camgymeriadau.

Petaem yn symud ymlaen yn rhy gyflym ac yn gwneud camgymeriad, fel corff deddfwriaethol yn ei flynyddoedd cynnar, mae'n bosibl y byddai'r ergyd i'n henw da'n ormod inni. Byddai'n llawer mwy difrifol na phetai'r Senedd, sydd wedi bod yn deddfu ers 1,000 o flynyddoedd, yn gwneud camgymeriad. Y cyfan a ddywedid bryd hynny fyddai, 'Iawn, gwnewch yn well y tro nesaf'. Petaem ni'n gwneud camgymeriad, byddai'r ergyd i'n henw da gymaint yn waeth, gan fod y broses hon yn newydd i ni.

Fodd bynnag, yr ydych yn llygad eich lle

language LCO. There is a Welsh phrase, *ar y gweill*, which means ‘on the knitting needles’, and the Welsh language LCO is still resting on the knitting needles or is still being knitted, as it were. It has proved more complicated than we expected. You also mentioned the environment legislative competence Order. We still hope to make progress by November, but you are right to say that the negotiations on that are stickier than those on almost any other legislative competence Orders that I can think of. However, we still hope to solve those problems over the next few months.

I am very pleased with what you said about the child poverty Measure, which we will be bringing forward, as well as the support for the carers, red meat, and foundation degree legislative competence Orders. You mentioned certain backbenchers; for reasons of time, I cannot cover every single one of the eight or nine Member proposed LCOs or Measures that have won different ballots. I picked out two, but you should not assume anything about the other six from that.

You asked for some assistance on the meaning of the phrase ‘citizen-centred services’. I suppose that it is a fair criticism to say that it sounds jargonistic. You may be right, and maybe we should accept that, but that is always the difficulty with legislation. I cannot think of any legislation that is easy to explain, other than really stupid legislation such as the Dangerous Dogs Act, which I voted for—but then again, perhaps that is the exception that proves the rule. It was easy to explain, but it was rubbish legislation.

‘Citizen-centred public services’ are meant to be about the implementation of the Beecham reforms. If the citizen requires services delivered in such a way as to require the input of a certain section of local government, the health service, and the police service, or perhaps the further education

yn glŷn â Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yr iaith Gymraeg. Mae’r Gorchymyn hwn yn dal ar y gweill, neu’n dal i gael ei wau, os ydych yn meddwl am hynny’n llythrennol. Mae wedi bod yn gymhlethach na’r disgwyl. Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at Orchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yr amgylchedd. Yr ydym yn dal i obeithio gwneud cynnydd erbyn mis Tachwedd, ond yr ydych yn llygad eich lle wrth ddweud bod y trafodaethau ynglŷn â hynny yn anos na’r trafodaethau a gafwyd ynglŷn ag unrhyw Orchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol eraill y gallaf feddwl amdanynt. Fodd bynnag, yr ydym yn dal i obeithio datrys y problemau hynny yn ystod y misoedd nesaf.

Mae’r hyn a ddywedasoch ynglŷn â’r Mesur tlodi plant, y byddwn yn ei gyflwyno, yn ogystal â’r gefnogaeth i’r Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol sy’n ymwneud â gofalwyr, cig coch a graddau sylfaen yn fy mhlesio’n fawr. Cyfeiriasoch at rai meincwyr cefn; mae amser yn brin, felly ni allaf ymdrin â phob un o’r wyth neu naw Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol neu Fesur arfaethedig gan Aelod sydd wedi ennill gwahanol bleidleisiau. Dewisais ddau, ond ni ddylech wneud unrhyw ragdybiaethau ynglŷn â’r chwech arall ar sail hynny.

Gofynasoch am rywfaint o gymorth ynglŷn ag ystyr yr ymadrodd ‘gwasanaethau sy’n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd’. Mae’n debyg bod dweud ei fod yn swnio’n dipyn o jargon yn feirniadaeth deg. Mae’n bosibl eich bod yn iawn, ac efallai y dylem dderbyn hynny, ond dyna’r anhawster bob amser gyda deddfwriaeth. Ni allaf feddwl am unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth sy’n hawdd ei hegluro, ar wahân i ddeddfwriaeth wirioneddol ynfyd fel y Ddeddf Cŵn Peryglus, y pleidleisiais o’i phlaid—ac eto, efallai mai dyna’r eithriad sy’n brawf ar y rheol. Yr oedd yn hawdd i’w hegluro, ond yr oedd yn ddeddfwriaeth dda i ddim.

Mae ‘gwasanaethau cyhoeddus sy’n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd’ i fod i ymwneud â gweithredu diwygiadau Beecham. Os yw’r dinesydd yn disgwyl i wasanaethau gael eu cyflenwi mewn ffordd lle mae angen mewnbyn gan ran benodol o lywodraeth leol, y gwasanaeth iechyd, a gwasanaeth yr

college, and so on, that is what should be done. We should ignore the boundaries, because we have the backing to get on with things. They could be the boundaries between two or three local authority areas, for instance, or those between local government, the social care element of the health service, and the police to deliver whatever is required, in crime reduction terms, to produce safer communities. Therefore, this is about trying to get people to think less about turf warfare and traditional geographical boundaries and just to think of the citizen. If the citizen needs it, get on with it and do it.

Alun Davies: It is appropriate that this statement is being made this afternoon, just a week after the first Welsh law for 1,000 years was passed. We should celebrate that. Like many others, I will be looking to see how this statement affects and impacts on the everyday lives of people, including those in the Mid and West Wales region that I represent. I welcome the fact that this Government is using its new powers creatively and imaginatively, looking for LCOs and Measures to implement Labour's manifesto commitments.

I particularly welcome the proposal to pass legislation on the right to buy, child poverty, local services, care, and special educational needs. I welcome the fact that you are looking for additional powers to support the needs of carers and that you are providing for a new culture duty, again, implementing Labour's manifesto commitments. All these issues will have an impact on the quality of life of the people whom I represent in mid Wales and those across the country. I hope, First Minister, that you can assure us all this afternoon that you will continue to place social justice and sustainable economic growth at the centre of your legislative programme.

heddlu, neu efallai'r coleg addysg bellach, ac yn y blaen, dyna beth y dylid ei wneud. Dylem anwybyddu'r ffiniau, oherwydd yr ydym wedi cael cefnogaeth i symud ymlaen gyda phethau. Gallent fod yn ffiniau rhwng dwy neu dair ardal awdurdod lleol, er enghraifft, neu'n ffiniau rhwng llywodraeth leol, elfen gofal cymdeithasol y gwasanaeth iechyd, a'r heddlu er mwyn cyflenwi beth bynnag y mae angen ei gyflenwi, o ran gostwng troseddu, er mwyn creu cymunedau diogelach. Felly, mae hyn yn ymwneud â cheisio cael pobl i beidio â meddwl cymaint am gecru ynglŷn â thiriogaeth a ffiniau daearyddol traddodiadol, a meddwl yn hytrach am y dinesydd. Os oes ar y dinesydd angen rhywbeth, ewch yn eich blaen a gweithredwch.

Alun Davies: Mae'n briodol bod y datganiad hwn yn cael ei wneud y prynhawn yma, wythnos yn unig ar ôl pasio'r deddf Gymreig gyntaf ers 1,000 o flynyddoedd. Dylem ddathlu hynny. Fel llawer o rai eraill, byddaf yn ceisio gweld sut y mae'r datganiad hwn yn effeithio ac yn dylanwadu ar fywydau bob dydd pobl, gan gynnwys y rhai hynny yn y rhanbarth yr wyf fi'n ei gynrychioli, sef Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru. Yr wyf yn croesawu'r ffaith bod y Llywodraeth hon yn defnyddio'i phwerau newydd yn greadigol, yn defnyddio'i dychymyg, ac yn chwilio am Orchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a Mesurau i weithredu ymrwymadau maniffesto Llafur.

Croesawaf yn arbennig y cynnig i basio deddfwriaeth yn ymwneud â'r hawl i brynu, tloidi plant, gwasanaethau lleol, gofal, ac anghenion addysgol arbennig. Yr wyf yn falch eich bod yn awyddus i gael pwerau ychwanegol i gefnogi anghenion gofalwyr a'ch bod yn darparu ar gyfer dyletswydd ddiwylliant newydd, unwaith eto, gan weithredu ymrwymadau maniffesto Llafur. Bydd yr holl faterion hyn yn effeithio ar ansawdd bywyd y bobl yr wyf yn eu cynrychioli yn y canolbarth a phobl ar hyd a lled y wlad. Yr wyf yn gobeithio, Brif Weinidog, y gallwch sicrhau pob un ohonom y prynhawn yma y bydd cyfiawnder cymdeithasol a thwf economaidd cynaliadwy yn dal i gael lle canolog yn eich rhaglen deddfwriaethol.

The First Minister: I am grateful for those remarks. You referred to the NHS Redress (Wales) Measure 2008 becoming law, but we have to get used to the fact that it carries the title 'Measure'. In Parliament, when something ceases to be a Bill, it has a name change: it becomes an Act. In the case of Measures, which are our equivalent laws, they do not. They start off as Measures and, once they are passed by the Privy Council, they continue to be called Measures, but they are Acts in all but name. I felt that we should have a lap of honour when the Privy Council announced last week that the NHS Redress (Wales) Measure had become a fully fledged Act in all but name, because it was the first law to be made in Wales for maybe 1,000 years, although we cannot be precise about that.

On how many people the Measure affects directly, it is very few, because 99.9 per cent of people who receive services from the NHS do not want redress, as they are happy with their treatment or with the initial complaints procedure. However, for the 0.1 per cent of people who are not happy, it will have a big impact because it simplifies their ability to seek redress. It is the same with the additional learning needs LCO. It affects a relatively small number of people, but it makes a huge difference to those people whom it does affect, because it gives them new legal rights. It gives children the right, as per the UN convention on the rights of the child, to take their case to a special educational needs tribunal.

Therefore, the theme of today's statement is using the new legislative powers to make a practical difference to a wide range of people, with particular emphasis on the more disadvantaged in society. The emphasis is on tackling child poverty or on general disadvantage, and on trying to promote the principle that I mentioned at the beginning of my remarks, namely a Wales based on *chwarae teg*—on the principle of fair play.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y sylwadau hynny. Cyfeiriasoch at Fesur Gwneud Iawn am Gamweddau'r GIG (Cymru) 2008 yn dod yn gyfraith, ond rhaid inni ddod i arfer â'r ffaith mai'r teitl 'Mesur' sydd ganddo. Yn y Senedd, pan mae rhywbeth yn gorffen bod yn Fesur, newidir ei enw: daw'n Ddeddf. Yn achos Mesurau, sef yr hyn sy'n cyfateb i gyfreithiau gennym ni, nid yw hynny'n digwydd. Maent yn dechrau fel Mesurau ac, ar ôl iddynt gael eu pasio gan y Cyfrin Gyngor, maent yn dal i gael eu galw'n Fesurau, ond maent yn Ddeddfau ym mhob ond ond enw. Teimlwn fod gennym le i ddathlu yr wythnos diwethaf pan gyhoeddodd y Cyfrin Gyngor bod y Mesur Gwneud Iawn am Gamweddau'r GIG (Cymru) wedi dod yn Ddeddf gyflawn ym mhopeth ond enw, gan mai hon oedd y gyfraith gyntaf i gael ei gwneud yng Nghymru ers 1,000 o flynyddoedd o bosibl, er na allwn nodi hynny'n fanwl gywir.

O ran nifer y bobl y mae'r Mesur yn effeithio'n uniongyrchol arnynt, nid yw'n llawer iawn, oherwydd nid yw 99.9 y cant o'r bobl sy'n cael gwasanaethau gan y GIG wedi cael cam. Maent yn fodlon â'u triniaeth neu â'r drefn gwyno gychwynnol. Fodd bynnag, bydd y Mesur yn cael effaith fawr ar y 0.1 y cant nad ydynt yn fodlon â'r gwasanaethau, oherwydd bydd yn haws iddynt sicrhau cyfiawnder. Mae'r un peth yn wir am y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol sy'n ymwneud ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Mae'n effeithio ar nifer cymharol fach o bobl, ond mae'n gwneud gwahaniaeth aruthrol i'r bobl hynny y mae'n effeithio arnynt, oherwydd mae'n rhoi hawliau cyfreithiol newydd iddynt. Mae'n rhoi'r hawl i blant, yn unol â chonfensiwn y Cenedloedd Unedig ar hawliau'r plentyn, fynd â'u hachos i dribiwnlys anghenion addysgol arbennig.

O ganlyniad, thema'r datganiad a wnaethpwyd heddiw yw defnyddio'r pwerau deddfwriaethol newydd i wneud gwahaniaeth ymarferol i ystod eang o bobl, gyda phwyslais penodol ar y bobl sydd dan yr anfantais fwyaf yn ein cymdeithas. Mae'r pwyslais ar fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant, neu ar anfantais yn gyffredinol, ac ar geisio hybu'r egwyddor y cyfeiriais ati ar ddechrau fy sylwadau, sef Cymru sy'n seiliedig ar

We want to help those who are lagging behind in accessing their rights or prosperity, and make them fully fledged members of the new Wales that we are seeking to create.

David Melding: First Minister, I reacted to your statement with one cheer and two moans, but let me start with the cheer. This is an historic process, albeit a flawed one. However, it is about the National Assembly making Welsh laws in Wales. We all sense that something significant is happening, and it would be churlish not to acknowledge that. You have been quite candid about some of the things that you intend to do as a Government, and they will receive a level of cross-party support, as is appropriate.

Moving on to my reservations, I will be neutral about the Measure that will promote joint working or ‘citizen-centred services’ until I see the detail, but if it is to create a duty for public bodies to co-operate I remind you that such a duty already exists, so quite what you intend to do in addition will be scrutinised carefully. However, it is certainly a challenge to get public authorities to work together effectively. It was probably one of the biggest challenges that we faced 20 years ago in improving public services. It remained a challenge 10 years ago, and it remains one even today. If there is some formula in this Measure, I would welcome it.

I suggest that the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, be remembered in any legislation on promoting business so that they can apply for smaller contracts or bigger contracts broken down. Perhaps this could be a vehicle for us to take a good look at our procurement process, not to fix the system so that we do not have European competition or whatever, but to invigorate and allow our SME sector to grow. If we have a large public sector—as we do, proportional to most other regions—we can

chwarae teg. Yr ydym yn awyddus i helpu pobl nad ydynt yn defnyddio’u hawliau’n llawn, neu sy’n llai ffodus, a’u gwneud yn aelodau cyflawn o’r Gymru newydd yr ydym yn ceisio’i chreu.

David Melding: Brif Weinidog, ymatebais i’ch datganiad ag un gymeradwyaeth a dwy gŵyn, ond gadewch imi ddechrau gyda’r gymeradwyaeth. Mae hon yn broses hanesyddol, er bod iddi ddiffygion. Fodd bynnag, mae’n ymwneud â’r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn gwneud cyfreithiau Cymreig yng Nghymru. Mae pob un ohonom yn synhwyro bod rhywbeth pwysig yn digwydd, a pheth anfoesgar fyddai peidio â chydabod hynny. Yr ydych wedi bod yn bur ddidwyll ynglŷn â rhai o’r pethau yr ydych yn bwriadu eu gwneud fel Llywodraeth, a byddant yn cael rhyw gymaint o gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol, fel sy’n briodol.

Gan symud ymlaen at fy nghwynion, byddaf yn ddiuedd ynglŷn â’r Mesur a fydd yn hybu cydweithio neu ‘wasanaethau sy’n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd’ nes gwelaf y manylion. Fodd bynnag, os yw’n mynd i greu dyletswydd i gyrff cyhoeddus gydweithio, rhaid imi eich atgoffa bod dyletswydd o’r fath yn bodoli’n barod. O ganlyniad, byddwn yn craffu’n ofalus ar union fanylion yr hyn y bwriadwch ei wneud yn ychwanegol at hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae cael awdurdodau cyhoeddus i weithio gyda’i gilydd yn effeithiol yn sicr yn her. Mae’n debyg mai hon oedd un o’r heriau mwyaf yr oeddem yn ei hwynebu 20 mlynedd yn ôl wrth geisio gwella gwasanaethau cyhoeddus. Yr oedd yn dal yn her 10 mlynedd yn ôl, ac mae’n dal yn her heddiw hyd yn oed. Os oes rhyw fformiwla yn y Mesur hwn, byddwn yn ei chroesawu.

Awgrymaf y dylid cofio am y sector preifat, yn enwedig busnesau bach a chanolig, mewn unrhyw ddeddfwriaeth sy’n ymwneud â hybu busnes er mwyn iddynt allu ymgeisio am gontractau llai neu gontractau mwy wedi eu rhannu’n llai. Efallai y gallai hyn fod yn ffordd inni edrych o ddifrif ar ein proses gaffael, peidio ag addasu’r system fel nad oes gennym gystadleuaeth Ewropeaidd neu beth bynnag, ond bywiogi’n sector busnesau bach a chanolig a chaniatáu iddo dyfu. Os oes gennym sector cyhoeddus mawr—fel sydd

use it for economic regeneration if we use the spending of that sector in a clever fashion that stimulates other parts of the economy.

My second moan is on affordable homes. The Wales Office Minister, Huw Irranca-Davies, was right to say that ending the right to buy is no magic bullet, and I want to see something more expansive. We know about the economic difficulties that we are likely to face, and we know that the construction industry is likely to suffer contraction, so now would be the time to look at the planning system and to modify it, to give communities the power to endorse social housing programmes, to agree to areas of land being made available, and to use the spare capacity in the construction industry to build those homes. Let us do something that is, literally, constructive and forward-looking, rather than try to turn the clock back on a piece of legislation that even pre-dated 1979 in some respects. I do not think that that is the right way to go.

3.40 p.m.

The First Minister: Thank you for your one cheer, David. To clarify, you may have a view about the local government Measure, but our view is that we do not have sufficient legal back-up to require the partners in a local service agreement to work together to deliver greater wellbeing. We hope to introduce that particular Measure early, and we hope that a committee can be established shortly after the Assembly returns from the summer recess to begin the scrutiny of that Measure. You can make those detailed points then about your belief that that duty already exists, but we do not think that it does—or at least not to a sufficient degree. When we bring forward Measures, perhaps having to be preceded by legislative competence Orders in the previous year, it may be because a bit of law exists, but the lawyers say that we do not really have a strong back-up for what we are trying to do, and so it would be far better if that law were properly codified, brought up to date, and made a bit broader. Then, no-one could be in

gennym, o'i gymharu â'r rhan fwyaf o'r rhanbarthau eraill—gallwn ein helpu i adfywio'r economi os defnyddiwn wariant y sector hwnnw mewn ffordd ddeheuig sy'n ysgogi rhannau eraill o'r economi.

Mae fy ail gŵyn yn ymwneud â chartrefi fforddiadwy. Yr oedd y Gweinidog o Swyddfa Cymru, Huw Irranca-Davies, yn llygad ei le pan ddywedodd nad yw dileu'r hawl i brynu'n ateb syml, a hoffwn weld rhywbeth ehangach. Gwyddom am yr anawsterau economaidd yr ydym yn debygol o'u hwynebu, a gwyddom fod y diwydiant adeiladu'n debygol o grebachu, felly dyma pryd y dylem fod yn edrych ar y system gynllunio ac yn ei haddasu, er mwyn galluogi cymunedau i gymeradwyo rhaglenni tai cymdeithasol, i gytuno i ryddhau darnau o dir, ac i ddefnyddio'r capasiti dros ben yn y diwydiant adeiladu er mwyn adeiladu'r cartrefi hynny. Gadewch inni wneud rhywbeth sydd, yn llythrennol, yn adeiladol ac yn edrych tua'r dyfodol, yn hytrach na cheisio troi'r cloc yn ôl ar ddarn o ddeddfwriaeth yr oedd rhai agweddau arni'n dyddio'n ôl i'r cyfnod cyn 1979 hyd yn oed. Nid wyf yn credu mai dyna'r cyfeiriad cywir i anelu ato.

Y Prif Weinidog: Diolch ichi am yr un gymeradwyaeth, David. Er mwyn gwneud pethau'n gliriach, efallai fod gennych chi farn ynglŷn â'r Mesur llywodraeth leol, ond ein barn ni yw nad oes gennym ddigon o gefnogaeth gyfreithiol i'w gwneud yn ofynnol i'r partneriaid mewn cytundeb gwasanaeth lleol weithio gyda'i gilydd er mwyn gwella lles pobl. Yr ydym yn gobeithio cyflwyno'r Mesur penodol hwnnw'n fuan, ac yr ydym yn gobeithio y gellir sefydlu pwyllgor ychydig ar ôl i'r Cynulliad ddychwelyd ar ôl toriad yr haf i ddechrau craffu ar y Mesur hwnnw. Gallwch wneud y pwyntiau manwl hynny ynglŷn â'ch cred bod y ddyletswydd honno'n bodoli'n barod bryd hynny, ond nid ydym yn credu ei bod yn bodoli'n barod—neu ddim i raddau digonol o leiaf. Pan fyddwn yn cyflwyno Mesurau, sy'n gorfod cael eu rhagflaenu o bosibl gan Orchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn ystod y flwyddyn flaenorol, gallai hynny fod oherwydd bod

any doubt as to the legal position. Sometimes, you are on a wing and a prayer, legally speaking, but you do not really want to be in that position as you do things as a Government, so it is better to have a clear legal power. If there is a difference in view, it may be no more than that we believe that, only through this Measure can we require local co-operation to deliver citizen-centred services, based on the Beecham principles.

darn o gyfraith yn bodoli, ond mae'r twrneiod yn dweud nad oes gennym gefnogaeth gref mewn gwirionedd i'r hyn yr ydym yn ceisio'i wneud, a byddai'n llawer gwell, o ganlyniad, petai'r gyfraith honno'n cael ei chodeiddio'n briodol, ei diweddarau, a'i hehangu i ryw raddau. Yna, ni fyddai unrhyw amheuaeth ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa gyfreithiol. Weithiau, yr ydych yn mentro ac yn gobeithio am y gorau, o safbwynt cyfreithiol, ond nid oes arnoch eisiau bod yn y sefyllfa honno mewn gwirionedd pan ydych yn gwneud pethau fel Llywodraeth, felly mae'n well cael pŵer cyfreithiol clir. Os oes gwahaniaeth barn, mae'n bosibl nad yw'n fwy na'r ffaith ein bod yn credu mai dim ond drwy'r Mesur hwn y gallwn fynnu cydweithio lleol er mwyn cyflenwi gwasanaethau sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd, ar sail egwyddorion Beecham.

Your point about small and medium-sized enterprises repeats the point that you made earlier during questions to me. Let us try to get the statistical picture clear: Wales does not have an over-large public sector relative to its population or to other regions. We have roughly the size of public sector that you would expect us to have; we just have a smaller private sector. In other words, with few exceptions, it is the size of a population that normally determines the size of a public sector in an area, because x number of people will require x number of teachers, local government officers, and other public servants. However, the difference with Wales is that we do not have a big enough private sector, and so we are glad that it has been growing.

Mae eich pwynt ynglŷn â busnesau bach a chanolig yn ailadrodd y pwynt a wnaethoch yn gynharach yn ystod y cwestiynau i mi. Gadewch inni geisio cael y darlun ystadegol yn glir: nid oes gan Gymru sector cyhoeddus rhy fawr o'i gymharu â'i phoblogaeth neu o'i gymharu â rhanbarthau eraill. Mae sector cyhoeddus Cymru, yn fras, o'r maint y byddech yn disgwyl iddi ei gael; ein sector preifat sy'n llai. Mewn geiriau eraill, gydag ambell eithriad, maint poblogaeth sydd fel rheol yn pennu maint sector cyhoeddus mewn ardal, oherwydd bydd ar x o bobl angen x o athrawon, swyddogion llywodraeth leol, a gweision cyhoeddus eraill. Fodd bynnag, y gwahaniaeth gyda Chymru yw nad oes gennym sector preifat digon mawr, ac yr ydym felly'n falch ei fod wedi bod yn tyfu.

Your point about using procurement to generate more jobs among small and medium-sized enterprises is very close to our hearts. As at this moment, we do not believe that we require the legal back-up to do that, because, even if we had it, we would not be able to say, 'We will have nothing to do with the European Union regulations on open competition and on having to advertise across Europe'. Therefore, we think that we can find other methods of encouraging public procurement in a way that will benefit SMEs and companies that are willing to take on people who have been out of work for six months, or offer apprenticeships, or do the other things that we want, without requiring

Mae eich pwynt ynglŷn â defnyddio'r broses gaffael i greu mwy o swyddi ymhlith busnesau bach a chanolig yn agos iawn at ein calonnau. Ar hyn o bryd, nid ydym yn credu bod arnom angen y gefnogaeth gyfreithiol i wneud hynny, oherwydd, hyd yn oed petai'r gefnogaeth gennym, ni fyddem yn gallu dweud, 'Ni fyddwn yn gwneud dim â rheoliadau'r Undeb Ewropeaidd ar gystadleuaeth agored ac ar orfod hysbysebu ar draws Ewrop'. Felly, credwn y gallwn ganfod ffyrdd eraill o annog caffael cyhoeddus mewn ffordd a fydd o fudd i fusnesau bach a chanolig a chwmnïau sy'n fodlon cyflogi pobl sydd wedi bod yn ddi-waith am chwe mis, neu gynnig

new legislation.

Your point about affordable homes is quite fair. We are not claiming that it is a magic bullet; we realise that it is a modest Measure. We think that it will be useful under certain circumstances in certain places in Wales where a dual housing market has arisen, where there are low wages but high house prices. In those cases where it is impossible for people on local wages to access the public sector housing stock, we think that it is better to suspend—for a time—the right to buy. However, we are not turning back the clock.

You also made a point about making use of the spare capacity caused by the collapse of the private housebuilding industry, along the Barratt, Wimpey or Redrow model that we are seeing, to get more social housing built. We are in talks along those lines, but that move would not require legislation.

Alun Ffred Jones: Croesawaf ddatganiad y Prif Weinidog, ond hoffwn ddechrau fy nghyfraniad drwy sôn am y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol sydd heb ei grybwyll ganddo, sef hwnnw sy'n ymwneud â'r iaith. Gan dderbyn sylwadau'r Prif Weinidog am yr angen i oedi i gael y ddeddfwriaeth yn gywir ac yn eang, teimlaf fod hynny hefyd yn tanlinellu cymhlethdod y broses bresennol. Wrth fynd heibio, ni fedrwn beidio â chlywed arweinydd y Torïaid yn sôn am ddeddfwriaeth iaith, ac yn cyfeirio at *Y Byd*. Tybed sawl Aelod o grŵp y Torïaid a oedd wedi tanysgrifio i'r papur, o gofio mai diffyg cefnogaeth oedd un o'r problemau gyda'r cynnig hwnnw.

I gyfeirio at rai o'r syniadau a gynigir yma, yr wyf yn croesawu'n fawr y bwriad i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant. Ar yr un pryd, yr wyf yn pwysleisio fy mod yn gobeithio y bydd y ddeddfwriaeth hon, pan ddaw ger ein bron, yn mynd i'r afael â thlodi plant ar hyd a lled Cymru. Er bod rhai ardaloedd lle mae'r broblem hon yn waeth na'i gilydd, y gwir amdani yw bod pocedi o dlodi'n bodoli ym mhob math o gymunedau gwledig a threfol ar

prentisiaethau, neu wneud y pethau eraill y mae arnom eu heisiau, heb orfod cael deddfwriaeth newydd.

Mae eich pwynt ynglŷn â chartrefi fforddiadwy yn ddigon teg. Nid ydym yn honni ei fod yn ateb syml; yr ydym yn sylweddoli nad yw'n Fesur ag iddo sylwedd mawr. Credwn y bydd yn ddefnyddiol mewn amgylchiadau penodol mewn lleoedd penodol yng Nghymru lle mae marchnad dai ddeuol wedi datblygu, lle mae cyflogau'n isel a phrisiau tai'n uchel. Yn yr achosion hynny lle mae'n amhosibl i bobl ar gyflogau lleol gael gafael ar dai sector cyhoeddus, credwn ei bod yn well inni ohirio—am gyfnod—yr hawl i brynu. Fodd bynnag, nid ydym yn troi'r cloc yn ôl.

Cyfeiriasoch hefyd at ddefnyddio'r capasiti dros ben a achoswyd o ganlyniad i'r cwmp yr ydym yn ei weld yn y diwydiant adeiladu tai preifat, a gwaith cwmnïau fel Barratt, Wimpey neu Redrow, er mwyn adeiladu mwy o dai cymdeithasol. Yr ydym yn cynnal trafodaethau ar y llinellau hynny, ond ni fyddai angen deddfwriaeth ar gyfer hynny.

Alun Ffred Jones: I welcome the First Minister's statement, but I want to begin my contribution by talking about the legislative competence Order that has not been mentioned by him, namely that relating to the Welsh language. While I accept the First Minister's comments about the need to take time to get the legislation right and to make it broad enough, I feel that that also underlines the complexity of the current arrangement. In passing, I could not fail to hear the leader of the Tories talking about language legislation and referring to *Y Byd*. I wonder how many Members of the Tory group subscribed to that paper, given that a lack of support was one of the problems with the proposal.

To refer to some of the ideas proposed here, I warmly welcome the intention to tackle child poverty. At the same time, I emphasise that I hope that this legislation, when it comes before us, tackles child poverty across Wales. Even though this problem is worse in some areas than in others, the truth is that there are pockets of poverty in all sorts of rural and urban communities across Wales.

hyd a lled Cymru.

Yr wyf hefyd yn croesawu'r bwriad i ddileu'r hawl i brynu dros dro mewn rhai ardaloedd, ac, unwaith eto, derbyniaf sylwadau'r Prif Weinidog mai un arf yn unig yw hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae'n werth pwysleisio bod y tai cyngor, at ei gilydd, eisoes wedi cael eu gwerthu mewn llawer o ardaloedd gwledig, yn enwedig y rhai sydd mewn pentrefi â safleoedd o harddwch o unrhyw fath neu mewn lleoedd sydd yn agos i lan y môr. O'r herwydd, mae diwygio'r drefn gynllunio yn dod yn bwysicach yn yr ardaloedd hynny na deddfwriaeth fel hyn. Dyna pam mae cynigion diweddaraf y Gweinidog i'w croesawu'n fawr iawn, er y byddwn yn dymuno gweld rhai newidiadau pellach. Bydd hwn yn sicr yn gyfraniad yn yr ardaloedd mwy poblog, lle mae gwahaniaeth mawr bellach rhwng prisiau tai a'r hyn mae pobl yn gallu ei dalu.

Yr wyf hefyd yn croesawu'r bwriad i roi hawl i golegau addysg bellach gynnig graddau sylfaen, gan nodi'n arbennig y gwaith ardderchog sydd yn cael ei wneud gan Goleg Menai yn y gogledd-orllewin i'r perwyl hwnnw. Wrth fynd i'r afael â thlodi ac amddifadedd, dylem sylweddoli mai'r peth pwysicaf y gallwn ei wneud yw rhoi sgiliau i bobl fel y gallant gystadlu yn y farchnad; yr ydym yn gwybod bod hyd yn oed y cwmnïau sydd yn gweithredu mewn ardaloedd ar hyd a lled Cymru yn aml yn ei chael yn anodd recriwtio ar gyfer eu swyddi.

Yn olaf, Brif Weinidog, yn y broses fel ag y mae, gan dderbyn bod iddi wendidau sylfaenol, mae rôl yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn eithriadol o bwysig, onid yw, fel cyswllt rhwng y Cynulliad ac adrannau San Steffan? Gan gydnabod bod rhai rhannau o'r drefn bresennol yn ei chael yn anodd delio gyda'r rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol—yr wyf yn cyfeirio at y Gorchymyn ynglŷn â'r amgylchfyd yr oeddwn i'n cadeirio'r pwyllgor craffu arno, sydd heb weld golau dydd ac sydd, hyd y gwn i, heb gael ei gyflwyno i sylw Aelodau Seneddol yn San Steffan—a yw'r Prif Weinidog yn cydnabod bod rôl Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru yn hollbwysig ar hyn o bryd a thra fydd y drefn bresennol yn gweithredu? Yn hynny o beth, mae'r cyswllt rhwng San Steffan a'r fan hon yn ddibynnol, i raddau

I also welcome the intention to temporarily suspend the right to buy in certain areas, and, once again, I accept what the First Minister said about that only being a tool. However, it is worth emphasising that council houses have mostly been sold off in many rural areas, especially in villages where there is any kind of beauty spot or in places close to the seaside. As a result, amending the planning process is becoming more important in those areas than this sort of legislation. That is why the Minister's most recent proposals are to be warmly welcomed, although I would like to see some further changes. This will certainly make a contribution in the most populated areas, where there is now a big gap between house prices and what people can pay.

I also welcome the intention to allow further education colleges to award foundation degrees, noting especially the wonderful work being done by Coleg Menai in north-west Wales in that regard. In tackling poverty and deprivation, we should realise that the most important thing that we can do is give people the skills that they need to compete in the market; we know that even companies that operate right across Wales often have difficulties in recruiting to fill vacant posts.

Finally, First Minister, in the process as it stands, accepting that it has fundamental weaknesses, the role of the Secretary of State is extremely important, is it not, as a link between the Assembly and Westminster? While accepting that some parts of the current system are finding it difficult to deal with the legislative programme—I am referring to the environmental Order on which I chaired the scrutiny committee, which has not seen that light of day and which has not, as far as I can tell, been laid before Members of Parliament in Westminster—does the First Minister accept that the role of Secretary of State for Wales is crucial at present, and for the duration of the current system? In that regard, the link between Westminster and this place depends,

helaeth, ar rôl yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr ydych wedi mynegi, unwaith eto, yr elfen o siom nad yw'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar yr iaith Gymraeg yn barod. Yr ydym yn gorfod derbyn bod mwy o waith i'w wneud. Fel yr wyf wedi dweud o'r blaen, a dywedaf eto yn awr: mae'n well pwylllo cyn deddfu er mwyn cael y ddeddfwriaeth fwyaf cywir posibl. Os yw'n fwy cymhleth nag oeddem yn disgwyl, yr ydym yn gorfod codi ein dwylo a dweud hynny, a bwrw ymlaen gyda'r gwaith am fisoedd ychwanegol angenrheidiol, er cymaint y siom nad ydym wedi cyrraedd y nod erbyn hyn, gan ystyried y bu inni ei gyhoeddi fel bwriad yr amser hwn llynedd. Mae cymhlethdod, ond yr ydym yn disgwyl cyrraedd y nod o fewn rhyw dri mis ar y mwyaf.

Clywais eich neges ar dlodi plant yn glir. Yr ydym i gyd yn derbyn bod tlodi plant ym mhob rhan o Gymru; mae hynny'n hollol gywir. Fodd bynnag, mae peth tystiolaeth bod tlodi plant yn gallu bod yn waeth mewn cymuned lle mae llawer o dlodi plant, felly yr ydych yn gorfod edrych ar y ddwy elfen. Ni allwch anghofio am dlodi plant lle'r ydych yn siarad am deuluoedd unigol sydd yn dlawd ac sydd â phlant, ble bynnag y maent yn byw, ond mae hefyd angen edrych ar broblemau lle mae rhyw fath o ganolbwynt neu *locus classicus* o dlodi plant yn yr un gymuned, achos bod hynny'n gallu dylanwadu ar yr awyrgylch lle mae'r plant hynny yn tyfu i fyny.

3.50 p.m.

Croesawaf yr hyn y dywedasoch ynghylch y farchnad ddeuol mewn rhai ardaloedd. Mae prynu tŷ yn gallu bod y tu hwnt i gyrraedd pobl leol mewn ardaloedd lle mae cyflogau yn isel ond mae prisiau tai yn uchel. Fel arfer, mae'r berthynas honno yn cydsynio ond, weithiau, mae'r cydsyniad yn torri i lawr, a derbyniwn fod rhannau o Gymru lle mae hynny'n digwydd a lle mae'n rhaid inni edrych am atebion penodol i'r broblem.

O ran graddau sylfaen yn ein colegau addysg bellach, fel Coleg Menai, mae'r berthynas rhyddfrait wedi bodoli ers peth amser

to a large extent, on the role of the Secretary of State.

The First Minister: You have again expressed disappointment that the legislative competence Order on the Welsh language is not ready. We have to accept that there is more work to be done. I have said it before, and I will say it again now: it is better not to move too hastily in making legislation in order to ensure that it is as well drafted as possible. If it more complicated than we expected, we have to put our hands up and say that, and take some necessary extra months over it, even though it is disappointing that we have not achieved the goal yet, given that we announced it as an intention this time last year. There is a complication, but we expect to achieve our aim within three months at the most.

I heard your message on child poverty clearly. We all accept that there is child poverty in every part of Wales; that is the case. However, there is some evidence that child poverty can be exacerbated in communities where there is a lot of child poverty, so you have to look at the two elements. You cannot forget about child poverty where you are talking about individual, poor families with children, wherever they live, but we also need to look at problems where there is some kind of concentration, or *locus classicus*, of child poverty in the same community, because that can have an influence on the environment in which those children grow up.

I welcome what you said about the dual market in some areas. Buying a house can be beyond the reach of local people in areas where salaries are low but house prices are high. There is usually a relationship between those two things, but it sometimes breaks down, and we accept that there are parts of Wales where that happens and where we have to look for specific solutions to the problem.

On foundation degrees in our further education colleges, such as Coleg Menai, the franchise relationship has existed for some

bellach, ond mae rhai colegau a phrifysgolion sydd wedi cynnig y rhyddfrait i'r colegau addysg bellach wedi tynnu yn ôl o wneud hynny, oherwydd nad ydynt yn gwneud digon o arian allan ohono neu nad oes digon o lif o fyfyrwyr yn dod i mewn sydd wedi dechrau gradd sylfaen mewn coleg addysg bellach ac sydd, wedyn, wedi trosglwyddo i'r brifysgol er mwyn cwblhau gradd anrhydedd yn y drydedd neu'r bedwaredd flwyddyn. Dyna paham y credwn y dylai fod hawl gan golegau addysg bellach, fel Coleg Menai, i gynnig graddau sylfaen yn y dyfodol, os oes ganddynt y gallu i wneud hynny, yn enwedig o ystyried y gystadleuaeth am swyddi. Gwyddom fod llawer mwy o siawns gennych o gael a chadw swydd os oes gennych sgiliau, ac mae gwneud gradd sylfaen yn un o'r llwybrau y gall pobl ddilyn er mwyn cael swydd dda.

Mae'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn hollol allweddol i'r broses, ac mae'n gwneud llawer mwy nag agor y drws yn unig, er bod hynny'n rhan o'r waith. Yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yw'r cysylltiad pennaf a gellir datrys problemau rhwng adrannau, os oes perthnasau anodd, drwyddo ef. Felly, mae'n helpu i wella'r berthynas rhwng adrannau ac i gael pob adran yn Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Unedig i ddeall beth yw datganoli yn gyffredinol a beth yw natur Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, a'r ffordd y dylai weithio o ran cael Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a thynnu'r gallu i ddeddfu i lawr o San Steffan mewn cydweithrediad â'r Llywodraeth yno.

Michael German: Thank you for your statement this afternoon, First Minister.

I would like to start by asking whether we will have this legislative list on an annual basis. We are used to a parliamentary process whereby the Government announces its legislation and gets it through, but where there is sometimes a bit of a problem with overhang, and you have to try again with items the following year. You used the analogy of pipelines, and it seems that some of the pipelines are blocked and need to be freed up to give us an opportunity to get on with this legislation. Of the six LCOs that were proposed in your last statement 12

time now, but some colleges and universities that have been offering the franchise to further education colleges have stopped doing that, because they are not making enough money out of it or they do not have an adequate flow of students coming in that started foundation degrees in a further education college and then transferred to the university to complete an honours degree in the third or fourth year. That is why we believe that further education colleges, such as Coleg Menai, should have a right to offer foundation degrees in the future, if they have the ability to do that, especially considering the competition for jobs. We know that you have much more chance of getting and keeping a job if you have skills, and doing a foundation degree is one of the paths that people can take to get a good job.

The Secretary of State is key to the process, and he does much more than just open the door, although that is part of the work. The Secretary of State is the main link and it is through him that problems between departments, if there are difficult relationships, can be solved. Therefore, he helps to improve the relationship between departments and to get every department in the United Kingdom Government to understand what devolution means in general and what the nature of the Government of Wales Act 2006 is and how it should work in terms of having legislative competence orders and drawing down the ability to legislate from Westminster in co-operation with the Government there.

Michael German: Diolch i chi am eich datganiad y prynhawn yma, Brif Weinidog.

Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ofyn a gawn y rhestr ddeddfwriaethol hon bob blwyddyn. Yr ydym wedi arfer â phroses seneddol lle y mae'r Llywodraeth yn cyhoeddi ei deddfwriaeth ac yn mynd â hi drwodd, ond lle y mae ychydig o anhawster weithiau o ran bargodi, a chithau'n gorfod rhoi ail gynnig ar eitemau y flwyddyn wedyn. Gwnaethoch gymharu hyn â'r syniad o biblinellau, ac mae'n ymddangos bod rhai o'r piblinellau wedi'u cau a bod angen eu gwagio er mwyn rhoi cyfle inni fwrw ymlaen â'r ddeddfwriaeth hon. O blith y chwe Gorchymyn cymhwysedd

months ago, only one has received Royal Assent, and we have only had one Measure.

My party and I would welcome any attempt to get as much legislative power as possible for the National Assembly, in the broadest possible way. To echo 'Molly Malone', the streets are broad and narrow, but they all seem to be fairly narrow, because every LCO that goes to Parliament seems to have been constrained, in an effort to reduce its impact. There are many people at the other end of the M4 who only want to see the Measures that you will propose to introduce by way of those LCOs. Therefore, there is a difficulty at the other end of the M4. I know that you know that some of your own colleagues are also causing difficulties in that respect, but there are also colleagues on the Conservative benches who are causing difficulties. It is important that we all make every effort to unblock those pipelines if we want them to flow properly.

If this is an annual statement, how are we going to manage with the legislative logjam, as only one of last year's six LCOs has been passed and only one Measure has become law? There will soon be a build-up as we move forward.

The second point that I would like to raise is on the issue of framework powers. There is a willingness on the part of many Members to seek whatever opportunity we can to associate ourselves with powers. You have mentioned an LCO proposal to allow further education colleges and institutions to award foundation degrees. That could well have been attached to the Bill that went through Parliament on learning and skills. That would have been an opportunity. Instead of announcing an LCO, you could have been announcing a Measure, and we could have had that during the course of this year. However, we have had to wait, because you have not taken full advantage of the framework powers. Given your knowledge of Bills and the process in Westminster, are you

deddfwriaethol a gynigiwyd yn eich datganiad diwethaf 12 mis yn ôl, dim ond un sydd wedi cael Cydsyniad Brenhinol, a dim ond un Mesur yr ydym wedi'i gael.

Byddai fy mhlaid a minnau'n croesawu unrhyw ymgais i gael cymaint o bŵer deddfwriaethol ag y bo modd i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, yn y modd mwyaf eang ag sy'n bosibl. Gan adleisio 'Molly Malone', mae'r strydoedd yn llydan ac yn gul, ond mae'n ymddangos bod pob un ohonynt yn eithaf cul, gan ei bod yn ymddangos bod pob Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol sy'n mynd i'r Senedd wedi cael ei gyfyngu, er mwyn ceisio lleihau ei effaith. Mae llawer o bobl ym mhen arall yr M4 nad ydynt ond am weld y Mesurau y byddwch yn cynnig eu cyflwyno drwy'r Gorchymynion hynny. Felly, mae anhawster ym mhen arall yr M4. Gwn eich bod yn gwybod bod rhai o'ch cymheiriaid hefyd yn achosi problemau yn hynny o beth, ond mae cymheiriaid hefyd ar feinciau'r Ceidwadwyr sy'n peri anawsterau. Mae'n bwysig i bob un ohonom wneud hynny a allwn i agor y piblinellau hynny os ydym am eu gweld yn rhedeg yn iawn.

Os mai datganiad blynyddol yw hwn, sut y byddwn yn dygymod â'r dagfa deddfwriaethol, gan mai dim ond un o'r chwe Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar gyfer y llynedd sydd wedi'i dderbyn a dim ond un Mesur sydd wedi'i wneud? Bydd tagfa cyn hir wrth inni symud ymlaen.

Mae'r ail bwynt yr hoffwn ei godi'n ymwneud â mater pwerau fframwaith. Mae llawer o Aelodau'n barod i geisio pa bynnag gyfle sydd ar gael i ymgysylltu â phwerau. Yr ydych wedi sôn am gynnig ar gyfer Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol i ganiatáu i golegau a sefydliadau addysg bellach roi graddau sylfaen. Byddai'n ddigon posibl atodi hynny i'r Mesur a aeth drwy'r Senedd ar ddysgu a sgiliau. Byddai hynny'n gyfle. Yn lle cyhoeddi Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, gallech fod wedi cyhoeddi Mesur, a byddem wedi gallu cael hwnnw yn ystod y flwyddyn hon. Fodd bynnag, bu'n rhaid inni aros, gan nad ydych wedi manteisio'n llawn ar y pwerau fframwaith. O gofio'ch gwybodaeth am Fesurau a'r broses yn San Steffan, a ydych yn

prepared to make a statement on the framework powers that you will be seeking? They are equally important and they are certainly a way of getting powers delivered here more quickly.

I accept that these problems are not necessarily of your making. However, they are problems that should be put right as rapidly as possible. They illustrate that the real problem is the technical methodology by which we have to acquire our powers. That is what is at the heart of this problem and the sooner we get on and have a referendum on this matter the better.

We welcome the powers that an affordable housing Measure would give to suspend right to buy temporarily. However, as you recognise, this is only a minor issue in the whole matter of how we get more affordable homes in Wales. I would have liked an announcement today about freeing up our housing associations to drive forward that investment in housing so that we could maximise the amount of money available to build affordable homes. You are going to face great difficulty with your target of building 6,500 affordable homes if you do not take those sorts of actions. The credit crunch is already undermining your target. Would you consider changes to planning legislation to reinforce the local affordable housing strategies that councils are now required to deliver? Would you give more weight, for example, to the section 106 agreements to introduce a community right to buy and to encourage more cross-sector working between local councils? You may be able to attach that to your Measure. I do not know whether you have that in mind. We would welcome a commitment to that and if your Measure on local authorities contained such matters, we would support it.

What we would have liked to have seen in your list of Measures is a follow-on from the LCOs. Last year we had LCOs and this year we have proposed Measures. We do not see Measures on the Welsh language, building regulations, or levies on plastic bags because of the logjam in the powers coming down to us. Do you have a timetable in mind that

barod i wneud datganiad am y pwerau fframwaith y byddwch yn eu ceisio? Maent yr un mor bwysig ac maent yn sicr yn fodd i gael pwerau yn y fan hon yn gynt.

Yr wyf yn derbyn nad chi sy'n gyfrifol am y problemau hyn, o reidrwydd. Serch hynny, maent yn broblemau y dylid eu datrys cyn gynted ag y bo modd. Maent yn dangos mai'r wir broblem yw'r fethodoleg dechnegol y mae'n rhaid inni gael ein pwerau drwyddi. Hynny sydd wrth wraidd y broblem hon a gorau po gyntaf inni fynd ymlaen a chael refferendwm ar y mater hwn.

Croesawn y pwerau y byddai Mesur tai fforddiadwy yn eu rhoi i atal yr hawl i brynu dros dro. Er hynny, fel yr ydych yn cydnabod, nid yw hyn ond yn un ystyriaeth fach yn holl fater y modd yr ydym i gael mwy o gartrefi fforddiadwy yng Nghymru. Byddwn wedi hoffi clywed cyhoeddiad heddiw ynghylch rhyddhau ein cymdeithasau tai i hyrwyddo'r buddsoddi hwnnw mewn tai fel y gallem sicrhau'r swm mwyaf posibl o arian i godi cartrefi fforddiadwy. Byddwch yn ei chael yn anodd iawn cyrraedd eich targed o godi 6,500 o gartrefi fforddiadwy os na chymerwch gamau o'r fath. Mae'r wasgfa gredyd yn tanseilio'ch targed eisoes. A fydddech yn ystyried newidiadau mewn deddfwriaeth gynllunio i ategu'r strategaethau tai fforddiadwy lleol y mae'n ofynnol i gynghorau eu cyflwyno'n awr? A fydddech yn rhoi mwy o bwys, er enghraifft, ar y cytundebau adran 106 i gyflwyno hawl i brynu ar sail gymunedol ac i hybu mwy o weithio ar draws sectorau rhwng cynghorau lleol? Efallai na fyddwch yn gallu atodi hynny i'ch Mesur. Nid wyf yn gwybod a ydych yn ystyried hynny. Byddem yn croesawu ymrwymiad i hynny a phe byddai'ch Mesur ar awdurdodau lleol yn cynnwys materion o'r fath, byddem yn ei gefnogi.

Yr hyn y byddem wedi hoffi ei weld yn eich rhestr o Fesurau yw dilyniant i'r Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Y llynedd yr oedd gennym Orchmynion ac eleni mae gennym Fesurau arfaethedig. Ni welwn Fesurau ar yr Gymraeg, ar reoliadau adeiladu, neu ar ardollau ar fapiau plastig oherwydd y dagfa wrth i'r pwerau ddod i

schedules LCOs for one year and Measures for the next, or are LCOs going to be two to three years in the making and a long time in the mix? If so, that will only demonstrate that, unlike Molly Malone, we lack the 'mussel' that we need to do the things that we need to do for the people of Wales.

The First Minister: Your last remarks undermine your own argument about how a legislative competence Order should work in terms of needing to say, having received the right to legislate via a legislative competence Order, exactly what we are going to do with that Order by way of the Measure that would follow it. What you are trying to do with a legislative competence Order is to persuade Westminster to accept something that is pretty novel for it, namely that it is better for us in the Assembly, in Cardiff bay, to legislate in an area than for Westminster to do it, even though Westminster may disagree with what we will probably do with the powers by way of subsequent Measures. Therefore, you cannot say that all we are going to do with that power is create such-and-such a Measure; that is what Westminster would like us to do. Westminster would like us to constrain the legislative competence Order so that it is simply the parent of the Measure that will follow on from it rather than a transfer of legislative competence. We have to get it to accept the principle that, even though it may disagree with the Measures, it is still right to transfer the legislative competence. It is more logical, because it fits in better with what we already do, so I would not want to seek that power.

4.00 p.m.

On framework powers and whether we have missed any tricks there, we may have done, but I cannot think of any examples. I am not sure about your point on foundation degrees and the current Education and Skills Bill in the Houses of Parliament. However, I take the point that we need to ensure that we get an early enough sight of what is in the Government's mind in order to know whether

lawr atom. A oes gennych amserlen dan sylw i drefnu Gorchmynion ar gyfer un flwyddyn a Mesurau ar gyfer y nesaf, neu a gymer ddwy neu dair blynedd i wneud y Gorchmynion ac a fydd yn cymryd llawer o amser i'w trafod? Os felly, y cwbl y bydd hynny'n ei ddangos yw nad ydym ni, yn wahanol i Molly Malone, yn meddu ar y nerth bôn braich y mae arnom ei angen i wneud y pethau y mae angen inni eu gwneud er mwyn pobl Cymru.

Y Prif Weinidog: Mae'r sylwadau olaf a wnaethoch yn tansilio'ch dadl am y modd y dylai Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol weithio o ran yr angen i ddweud, ar ôl cael yr hawl i ddeddfu drwy Orchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, beth yn union y byddwn yn ei wneud â'r Gorchymyn hwnnw drwy'r Mesur a fyddai'n ei ddilyn. Yr hyn y mae rhywun yn ceisio'i wneud â Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yw perswadio San Steffan i dderbyn rhywbeth sy'n eithaf newydd iddi, sef ei bod yn well i ni yn y Cynulliad, ym mae Caerdydd, ddeddfu mewn maes nag ydyw i San Steffan, er y gallai San Steffan anghytuno â'r hyn a wnawn â'r pwerau, yn ôl pob tebyg, drwy Fesurau a geir wedyn. Felly, ni ellir dweud mai'r cwbl a wnawn â phŵer o'r fath yw creu Mesur penodol; dyna'r hyn yr hoffai San Steffan inni ei wneud. Byddai San Steffan yn hoffi ein gweld yn cyfyngu'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol fel na fydd ond yn rhiant i'r Mesur a fydd yn ei ddilyn yn hytrach na throsglwyddo cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Rhaid inni beri iddi dderbyn yr egwyddor ei bod yn dal yn iawn trosglwyddo'r cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, er y gallai anghytuno â'r Mesurau. Mae'n fwy rhesymegol, gan ei fod yn cyd-fynd yn well â'r hyn yr ydym yn ei wneud eisoes, felly ni fyddwn yn chwennych y pŵer hwnnw.

Parthed pwerau fframwaith a ph'un ai a ydym wedi hepgor rhywbeth yn hynny o beth, mae hynny'n bosibl, ond ni allaf feddwl am ddim enghreifftiau. Nid wyf yn siŵr ynghylch eich pwynt ynglŷn â graddau sylfaen a'r Mesur Addysg a Sgiliau personol yn y Senedd. Fodd bynnag, yr wyf yn derbyn y pwynt bod angen inni sicrhau ein bod yn deall yr hyn sydd gan y Llywodraeth dan

we want framework powers attached to Bills, which would then save us a year in not having to get an LCO. You mentioned your disappointment in relation to a Welsh Language LCO, but I do not have anything to add on that.

I would like to respond to you, Mike, on a general issue: you said that only the NHS Redress Measure has gone through, based on framework powers given to us previously. It is easy to knock, but this body is still on a learning curve and growing up as a law-making body. That applies to us, to backbenchers, party leaders, lawyers, civil servants and everyone else. We are all learning the game, which is pretty revolutionary for this body as a legislature.

Parliament has been around for centuries, but even in the mere 21 years in which I have been an MP or an AM, I have seen huge changes in how legislation is made, because of dissatisfaction with the process. We have moved to having draft legislation in year one, followed by the real legislation in year two. That was unheard of in 1987, but was regarded as obligatory, and sensibly so, by the late 1990s. Then there was the idea that if you missed the deadline when the spill-over period finishes in November, you lost the Bill—that was regarded as a canon of parliamentary law, set down in *Erskine May* 150 years ago. Now you can have a special measure and carry on and finish it in the new legislative year.

So, there are all sorts of ways in which Parliament makes changes and people say, ‘Well that is just Parliament making changes and that is very sensible’, but we are still learning the game. So, I do not consider it to be a condemnation of the procedures as inadequate that we only have one Measure out of the Measures that we wanted to be passed and that we are hitting a sticky wicket

sylw yn ddigon cynnar fel y byddwn yn gwybod a ydym yn dymuno cael pwerau fframwaith ynghlwm wrth Fesurau, a byddai hynny yn ei dro'n arbed blwyddyn inni gan na fyddai angen Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Cyfeiriasoch at eich siom parthed Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch yr Iaith Gymraeg, ond nid oes gennyf ddim i'w ychwanegu ynghylch hynny.

Hoffwn ymateb i chi, Mike, ar fater cyffredinol: dywedasoch mai dim ond y Mesur Gwneud Iawn am Gamweddau'r GIG a aeth drwodd, ar sail pwerau fframwaith a roddwyd inni'n flaenorol. Mae'n hawdd beirniadu, ond mae'r corff hwn yn dal i ddysgu ac mae'n tyfu fel corff sy'n gwneud deddfau. Mae hynny'n berthnasol i ni, i'r rheini ar y meinciau cefn, i arweinwyr y pleidiau, i gyfreithwyr, i weision sifil ac i bawb arall. Dysgu'r gêm ydym oll, ac mae hynny'n eithaf chwyldroadol i'r corff hwn fel deddfwrfa.

Mae'r Senedd wedi bod mewn bodolaeth am ganrifoedd, ond hyd yn oed yn yr 21 mlynedd cwta y bûm i'n AS neu'n AC, gwelais newidiadau enfawr yn y ffordd y caiff deddfwriaeth ei gwneud, oherwydd anfodlonrwydd ynghylch y broses. Bellach cawn ddeddfwriaeth ddrafft yn y flwyddyn gyntaf, a deddfwriaeth wirioneddol yn yr ail flwyddyn. Nid oedd dim sôn am hynny yn 1987, ond ystyriwyd ef yn rheidrwydd, a synhwyrol oedd hynny, erbyn diwedd y 1990au. Yr oedd syniad pe na baech yn gallu cadw at y terfynau amser pan fyddai'r cyfnod dros ben yn diweddu ym mis Tachwedd, y byddech yn colli'r Mesur—ystyriwyd hynny'n un o ganonau cyfraith y Senedd, a osodwyd yn *Erskine May* 150 o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Bellach gallwch gael mesur arbennig a bwrw ymlaen a'i orffen yn y flwyddyn ddeddfwriaethol newydd.

Felly, mae'r Senedd yn gwneud newidiadau mewn nifer o ffyrdd a bydd pobl yn dweud, ‘Wel, dyna'r Senedd yn gwneud newidiadau a synhwyrol ddigon yw hynny’, ond dysgu'r gêm yr ydym o hyd. Felly, ni ystyriaf mai condemnïad o'r gweithdrefnau fel rhywbeth annigonol yw'r ffaith nad oes gennym ond un Mesur o blith y Mesurau yr oedd arnom eisïau eu pasio a'n bod yn profi trafferthion

on one or two of the LCOs. I stated this time last year what I hoped for during the 12 months—or year, let us say; let us keep it general. The parliamentary year can last 18 months, which reminds me of Alun Cairns's famous question about quinquennial reviews—he asked how often quinquennial reviews were held. It was a good question, actually. Everyone laughed, thinking, 'Well, of course, it is five years.', but, in fact, sometimes it is not every five years, but every three, four, six or eight years. So, quinquennial reviews are not necessarily quinquennial. Similarly, a parliamentary year does not mean 12 months—it means 18 months, followed by two lots of 12 months, then followed by six months. So, there is a rhythm that Parliament has grown accustomed to over the years, but we have not yet got used to such a rhythm. When we said that it was annual, we did not know that that meant 12 months. We hope that by the end of 15 months, around November, we will have caught up with much of the ground that we have lost while we try to find out how long it takes to get LCOs through.

Joyce Watson: I welcome our legislative programme and the broad thrust of looking at the most vulnerable in society, the business sector, education and agriculture. I do not want to spend time repeating what has already been said, so as the Labour spokesperson for rural affairs, I will particularly welcome the proposed LCO on a red meat levy board. That will be welcome in the agricultural sector.

The LCO will provide the legislative competence to allow the Assembly to make a Measure conferring levy-raising powers directly on Welsh Ministers, and will give direct accountability to the Welsh Assembly Government rather than the UK Government. It will mean that the Assembly Government will be able to replace the existing levy-raising Assembly Government sponsored

ynghylch un neu ddau o'r Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Yr adeg hon y llynedd disgrifiais yr hyn yr oeddwn yn gobeithio amdano yn ystod y 12 mis—neu flwyddyn, dyweder; beth am siarad mewn termau cyffredinol. Gall y flwyddyn seneddol barhau am 18 mis, ac mae hynny'n fy atgoffa am gwestiwn enwog Alun Cairns ynglŷn ag adolygiadau pum mlynedd—gofynnodd pa mor aml y caiff adolygiadau pum mlynedd eu cynnal. Yr oedd yn gwestiwn da, a dweud y gwir. Chwarddodd pawb, gan feddwl, 'Wel, pob pum mlynedd wrth gwrs.', ond, mewn gwirionedd, weithiau ni chânt eu cynnal bob pum mlynedd, ond yn hytrach bob tair, pedair, chwech neu wyth mlynedd. Felly, nid yw adolygiadau pum mlynedd o angenrheidrwydd yn adolygiadau pum mlynedd. Yn yr un modd, nid yw blwyddyn seneddol yn parhau am 12 mis—mae'n 18 mis, a dau gyfnod o 12 mis yn dilyn, a chwe mis yn dilyn wedyn. Felly, mae rhythm i'w gael y mae'r Senedd wedi dod yn gyfarwydd ag ef dros y blynyddoedd, ond nid ydym ni wedi ymgyswddo â rhythm o'r fath eto. Pan ddywedasom ei fod yn flynyddol, ni wyddem ei fod yn golygu 12 mis. Ar ôl i 15 mis ddod i ben gobeithir, a hynny tua mis Tachwedd, y byddwn wedi adennill peth o'r tir a gollwyd tra byddwn yn ceisio dysgu pa mor hir y cymer i basio Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol.

Joyce Watson: Yr wyf yn croesawu ein rhaglen deddfwriaethol a'r nod bras o edrych ar y rhai mwyaf agored i niwed mewn cymdeithas, y sector busnes, addysg ac amaethyddiaeth. Nid wyf am dreulio amser yn ailadrodd pethau sydd eisoes wedi eu dweud, ac felly fel llyfarydd Llafur ar faterion gwledig, estynnaf groeso neilltuol i'r Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol arfaethedig ynghylch bwrdd ardollau cig coch. Bydd croeso mawr i hynny yn y sector amaethyddol.

Bydd y Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn rhoi cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol i ganiatáu i'r Cynulliad wneud Mesur a fyddai'n rhoi pwerau i godi ardollau'n uniongyrchol i Weinidogion Cymru, a bydd yn rhoi atebolrwydd uniongyrchol i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn hytrach na Llywodraeth y DU. Bydd yn golygu y bydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn

public body, which was intended to be an interim measure until these powers were conferred on the Welsh Ministers. It will allow a made-in-Wales approach to promote and develop a specific industry. It will enable us to better influence the future direction of the industry, increase its efficiency and improve marketing and the services that the industry provides. It will improve the ways in which it contributes to the sustainable development of Wales. I welcome it.

The First Minister: I am grateful for your remarks. We had to create, or agree to the existence of, an Assembly Government sponsored body when various changes were made in England, because we had no alternative. However, we wanted to seek, at the earliest opportunity, to put that right by having the legislative power to act directly rather than via a quango type of set-up. The red meat levy LCO will do exactly that. I think that it will be widely welcomed in the industry. Many people will say that the devil is in the detail, but part of the scrutiny responsibilities of this body is to get stuck into that detail. However, we believe that the detail will show that it will benefit the red meat industry and all of its consumers in Wales.

Alun Cairns: First, I would like to thank the First Minister for reminding me of yet another embarrassing moment that happened some considerable time ago.

In relation to the statement, I am grateful for the reference that the First Minister made to the additional learning needs LCO. I note that, within the statement, he talks about using the powers to extend the range of individuals who may appeal to the special educational needs tribunal. I take it that he is referring to the consultation that went out on 28 May—‘Voices and Choices’—and the version for young people and children that went out on 2 June. The consultation responses are not expected until 3 October, so will this Measure be brought forward

gallu disodli'r corff cyhoeddus presennol sy'n codi ardollau dan nawdd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, a fwriadwyd yn fesur dros dro nes câr'r pwerau hynny eu rhoi i Weinidogion Cymru. Bydd yn caniatáu i hybu a datblygu diwydiannau penodol mewn modd sydd yn perthyn i Gymru. Bydd yn fodd inni ddylanwadu'n well ar gyfeiriad diwydiant at y dyfodol, cynyddu ei effeithlonrwydd a gwella marchnata a'r gwasanaethau y mae'r diwydiant yn eu darparu. Bydd yn gwella'r ffyrdd y medr gyfrannu at ddatblygu cynaliadwy yng Nghymru. Yr wyf yn ei groesawu.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich sylwadau. Bu'n rhaid inni greu, neu gytuno i fodolaeth, gorff dan nawdd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad pan wnaethpwyd amrywiol newidiadau yn Lloegr, oherwydd nid oedd dewis arall gennym. Fodd bynnag, yr oeddem am geisio, a hynny cyn gynted ag y byddai modd, unioni hynny drwy sicrhau'r pŵer deddfwriaethol i weithredu'n uniongyrchol yn hytrach na drwy dulliau cwango. Bydd y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch ardoll cig coch yn gwneud hynny'n union. Credaf y bydd croeso mawr iddo yn y diwydiant. Bydd llawer o bobl yn siŵr o ddweud y bydd angen dwys ystyried y manylion, ond un rhan o gyfrifoldebau craffu'r corff hwn yw mynd i'r afael â'r manylion hynny. Fodd bynnag, credwn y bydd y manylion yn dangos y bydd o fudd i'r diwydiant cig coch a phawb sy'n ei fwyta yng Nghymru.

Alun Cairns: Yn gyntaf oll, hoffwn ddiolch i'r Prif Weinidog am fy atgoffa ynghylch rhywbeth arall a achosodd gryn embaras a ddigwyddodd gryn amser yn ôl.

O ran y datganiad, yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am y cyfeiriad a wnaeth y Prif Weinidog at y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Nodaf, yn y datganiad, ei fod yn sôn am ddefnyddio'r pwerau i ymestyn ystod yr unigolion a gaiff apelio i dribiwnlys anghenion addysgol arbennig. Tybiaf mai cyfeirio y mae at yr ymgynghori a aeth rhagddo ar 28 Mai—‘Lleisiau a Dewisiadau’—a'r fersiwn ar gyfer pobl ifanc a phlant a aeth allan ar 2 Mehefin. Ni fydd yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghori ar gael tan 3

regardless of the consultation responses? The Assembly Government should be given credit for prioritising special educational needs by making it the subject of the first LCO, but, if you speak to parent groups and charitable organisations that represent individuals and pupils with special educational needs, this provision would not have been their priority. Although it is important, in reality, it will affect less than a handful of children, because the complex needs of some pupils with special educational needs means that they will not have the capacity to represent themselves at the tribunal. Therefore, why has this taken the priority when it will have an important impact on only a small number of pupils, and there are far bigger issues that need to be addressed in relation to the new powers that the Assembly has gained?

The First Minister: There will be different views on this. We do not know yet how many people will want to exercise the right to go directly to a special needs tribunal. However, you will remember that the late Peter Clarke, our first children's commissioner, believed very strongly that children, as a matter of right, side by side with parents or others, should be able to go to the tribunal themselves, and that it was contrary to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child that young people did not have the right to take part in a decision that affected their educational rights through the SEN tribunal appeal mechanism. You may say that there are other priorities, and no doubt there are. I said earlier, in response to a question from one of my Labour colleagues, that we have to accept that, sometimes, legislation makes a big difference to a small number of people; at other times, it may make a small difference to a large number of people. That does not mean that you should not do it. We will be very interested to hear from bodies that say that we could legislate on a different priority in relation to special needs. That is fine; we will listen to that. However, I do not think that that is a reason for not proceeding with this Measure, which brings us in line—we think—with the right interpretation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Hydref, felly a gaiff y Mesur hwn ei ddwyn ymlaen er gwaethaf yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghori? Dylid canmol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad am roi blaenoriaeth i anghenion addysgol arbennig drwy eu gwneud yn destun i'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol cyntaf, ond, os siaradwch â grwpiau rhieni a mudiadau elusennol sy'n cynrychioli unigolion a disgyblion sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig, ni fuasai'r ddarpariaeth hon yn flaenoriaeth ganddynt. Er ei fod yn bwysig, mewn gwirionedd, ni fydd yn effeithio ar fwy na dyrnaid o blant, oherwydd bydd yr anghenion cymhleth sydd gan rai disgyblion sydd ag anghenion addysgol arbennig yn golygu na fyddant yn gallu eu cynrychioli eu hunain yn y tribiwnlys. Felly, pam y rhoddwyd blaenoriaeth i hyn ac ystyried na fydd yn effeithio ond ar nifer fach o ddisgyblion, ac mae materion llawer pwysicach y mae arnynt angen sylw o ran y pwerau newydd y mae'r Cynulliad wedi eu hennill?

Y Prif Weinidog: Bydd safbwyntiau gwahanol ynglŷn â hyn. Nid ydym yn gwybod eto faint o bobl a fydd yn dymuno gweithredu eu hawl i fynd yn syth i dribiwnlys anghenion arbennig. Fodd bynnag, byddwch yn cofio bod y diweddar Peter Clarke, ein comisiynydd plant cyntaf, yn credu'n gryf iawn y dylai fod hawl gan blant, ochr yn ochr â rhieni neu eraill, i fynd i'r tribiwnlys eu hunain, a'i bod yn groes i Gonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn nad oedd gan bobl ifanc yr hawl i gymryd rhan mewn penderfyniad a effeithiai ar eu hawliau addysgol drwy drefn apelio'r tribiwnlys anghenion addysgol arbennig. Gallwch ddweud bod blaenoriaethau eraill i'w cael, ac nid oes amheuaeth nad oes. Dywedais ynghynt, wrth ateb cwestiwn gan un o'm cyd-Aelodau Llafur, ei bod yn rhaid inni dderbyn, weithiau, bod deddfwriaeth yn gwneud gwahaniaeth mawr i nifer fach o bobl; ar adegau eraill, gall wneud gwahaniaeth bach i nifer fawr o bobl. Nid yw hynny'n golygu na ddylech ei wneud. Bydd diddordeb mawr gennym glywed gan gyrff a fydd yn dweud y gallem ddeddfu ar flaenoriaeth wahanol parthed anghenion arbennig. Mae hynny'n iawn; byddwn yn gwrando ar hynny. Fodd bynnag, ni chredaf fod hynny'n rheswm dros beidio â bwrw ymlaen â'r Mesur hwn, a fydd

yn ein gosod yn unol—credwn—â'r dadansoddiad cywir o Gonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd ar Hawliau'r Plentyn.

4.10 p.m.

Helen Mary Jones: I thank the First Minister for his statement and welcome the content of the legislative programme. I would like to make a further reference to a matter that we have already discussed that is not in the programme, namely a Welsh language competence Order. Can you confirm, First Minister, that, if further negotiations are successful during the course of this year, it would be possible for the Assembly Government to bring that legislative competence Order to the Assembly this year? If an agreement were reached in the autumn, for example, would it be possible to insert it into the programme at that stage? In informing us of the position on that, would you join me in welcoming the news that, today, Welsh has achieved co-official status in the European Union following the finalisation of the agreement between the UK Government and the EU Council of Ministers? Will you join me in congratulating the Deputy Minister for Heritage and our Presiding Officer on the part that they have played in that process?

I welcome the proposed child poverty Measure. As you will be aware, First Minister, the Children and Young People Committee is doing some scrutiny work on child poverty at the moment, specifically looking at the contribution that the education service can make to tackling child poverty. We are finding that, although there is a lot of excellent policy out there, delivery is not consistent, and I therefore welcome the proposal to bring forward a Measure placing a duty in this regard on public bodies. I ask the Government to consider including among those public bodies not only schools, which I assume will be included as a matter of course, but education authorities, and, specifically, school governing bodies, so that they can take a lead on this important issue.

Thank you for your mention of my proposed legislative competence Order. It is always good to get a mention in dispatches. In that context, I would like to pay tribute to all the

Helen Mary Jones: Hoffwn ddiolch i'r Prif Weinidog am ei ddatganiad ac yr wyf yn croesawu cynnwys y rhaglen deddfwriaethol. Hoffwn gyfeirio drachefn at fater yr ydym wedi ei drafod eisoes nad yw wedi ei gynnwys yn y rhaglen, sef Gorchymyn cymhwysedd ynghylch yr Iaith Gymraeg. A allwch gadarnhau, Brif Weinidog, petai trafodaethau pellach yn llwyddiannus eleni, y byddai'n bosibl i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad ddwyn y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwnnw gerbron y Cynulliad eleni? Pe cytunid yn yr hydref, er enghraifft, a fyddai'n bosibl ei gynnwys yn y rhaglen bryd hynny? Wrth ein hysbysu ynglŷn â'r sefyllfa yn hynny o beth, a wnewch ymuno â mi i groesawu'r newyddion bod y Gymraeg, heddiw, wedi ennill statws cydsyddogol yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yn sgil cwblhau'r cytundeb rhwng Llywodraeth y DU a Chyngor Gweinidogion yr Undeb Ewropeaidd? A wnewch ymuno â mi i longyfarch y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dreftadaeth a'n Llywydd ar eu rhan hwythau yn y broses honno?

Yr wyf yn croesawu'r Mesur arfaethedig ar dlodi plant. Fel y gwyddoch, Brif Weinidog, mae'r Pwyllgor Plant a Phobl Ifanc yn gwneud ychydig o waith craffu ar dlodi plant ar hyn o bryd, ac yn benodol mae'n ystyried y cyfraniad y gall y gwasanaeth addysg ei wneud at fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant. Er bod llawer o bolisiâu rhagorol i'w cael, cawn nad oes cysondeb yn y cyflenwi, ac felly yr wyf yn croesawu'r cynnig i wneud Mesur a fydd yn rhoi dyletswydd ar gyrff cyhoeddus yn hyn o beth. Gofynnaf i'r Llywodraeth ystyried cynnwys ymhlith y cyrff cyhoeddus hynny nid yn unig yr ysgolion, y tybiaf y cânt eu cynnwys fel mater o gwrs, ond awdurdodau addysg hefyd ac yn benodol felly, gyrff llywodraethol yr ysgolion, fel y gallant arwain ar y mater pwysig hwn.

Diolch yn fawr i chi am grybwyll fy Ngorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol innau. Mae wastad yn braf gweld bod sôn am rywun mewn adroddiadau fel petai. Yn

individual carers and their carers organisations—they have been enormously helpful to me in the process of drafting my LCO, and I know that they have also had a lot of input into the work of the Deputy Minister, Gwenda Thomas, and her team, on the proposed Government LCO. As you will be aware, my LCO would give carers the right to be informed of their right to an assessment. Can you confirm that the Government LCO would go further than that, and would allow the Government to place a responsibility on public bodies to meet that assessed need? That would go further than my LCO.

I must say that I am grateful to the Minister for her co-operation on this, and I am optimistic that, subject to detailed negotiations, I will be able to withdraw my LCO and give my full support to the Government. In doing so, I am sorry to miss out on the opportunity of laying an Order, but I am not sorry to miss all the work that is involved. There is a question over why we need to seek a LCO to take statutory action in fields such as health and social care, which are already fully devolved. In that regard, I look forward to a successful referendum on law-making powers, and I wonder whether you would agree, First Minister, that the people of Wales will be much more likely to vote 'yes' in that referendum if they can see that the whole of the Assembly—Government, committees, and individual Members—are using our current law-making powers to the full.

The First Minister: I am glad that you made that last remark about using powers to the full. That is part of the learning process by which we will gain the confidence as a country to see that, at certain times, it is better to have Welsh-made laws that suit Welsh circumstances and are proposed in Wales, scrutinised in Wales, and amended in

hynny o beth, hoffwn roi teyrnged i'r holl ofalwyr unigol a mudiadau'r gofalwyr—buont yn gymorth mawr imi wrth imi ddrafftio fy Ngorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, a gwn eu bod wedi cyfrannu'n helaeth hefyd at waith y Dirprwy Weinidog, Gwenda Thomas, a'i thîm, ar Orchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol arfaethedig y Llywodraeth. Fel y gwyddoch, byddai fy Ngorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn rhoi'r hawl i ofalwyr gael gwybod am eu hawl i asesiad. A allwch gadarnhau y byddai Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol y Llywodraeth yn mynd yn bellach na hynny, ac y byddai'n caniatáu i'r Llywodraeth roi cyfrifoldeb ar gyrrff cyhoeddus i gyflawni'r anghenion aseddig hynny? Byddai hynny'n mynd yn bellach na'm Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol i.

Rhaid imi ddweud fy mod yn ddiolchgar i'r Gweinidog am ei chydweithrediad yn hyn o beth a'm bod yn ffyddiog, yn ddibynnol ar drafodaethau manwl, y byddaf yn gallu tynnu yn ôl fy Ngorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a chynnig fy nghefnogaeth lawn i'r Llywodraeth. Wrth wneud hyn, yr wyf yn flin fy mod yn colli'r cyfle o sefydlu Gorchymyn, ond nid wyf yn flin o gwbl o golli'r holl waith sydd ynghlwm wrtho. Erys cwestiwn o hyd ynghylch pam y bydd angen inni wneud cais am Orchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol er mwyn cymryd camau statudol mewn meysydd megis iechyd a gofal cymdeithasol, meysydd sydd eisoes wedi eu llwyr ddatganoli. Yn hyn o beth, yr wyf yn edrych ymlaen at refferendwm llwyddiannus ar bwerau deddfu, a thybed a fydddech yn cytuno, Brif Weinidog, y bydd pobl Cymru'n llawer mwy tebygol o bleidleisio o blaid yn y refferendwm hwnnw os gwelant fod y Cynulliad cyfan—y Llywodraeth, y pwyllgorau a'r Aelodau unigol—yn defnyddio'r pwerau deddfu sydd gennym ar hyn o bryd yn eu llawnder.

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn falch i chi wneud y sylw hwnnw ynglŷn â defnyddio pwerau yn eu llawnder. Mae hyn yn rhan o'r broses ddysgu a fydd yn fodd inni ennill hyder fel gwlad i weld, ar rai adegau, ei bod yn well cael deddfau a wnaethpwyd yng Nghymru sy'n addas at amgylchiadau Cymru ac sydd wedi eu cynnig yng Nghymru, y bu

Wales. Part of that process is the ability of backbenchers to bring forward legislative competence Orders or Measures if they win a ballot. I cannot say that we will adopt every one of them and say, 'Look, with a tweak, we could take this over.', but, from time to time, we will. Your LCO is an example of that, and you are right to say that the Government's intentions go wider than your original proposals. Yours was a suitably diffident measure, in line with your personality, and we decided that you needed to come out of your shell a bit, and knock a few fours and sixes across the field. You are right in what you say. My understanding is that Gwenda and her team intend to seek powers that enable us to legislate to provide support for carers by placing appropriate duties on public sector organisations, exactly as you have described—going beyond knowing about the needs assessment and requiring those bodies to do something about it.

The point about the Government adopting and changing, or tweaking, a ballot-winning legislative competence Order or Measure is an important one, and we hope that we can bring it to a successful conclusion. It will be a device that involves backbenchers as well as the frontbench. It will not happen on every occasion, but there will be times when we will want to do that.

On the Welsh-language legislative competence Order, I cannot really comment until we have done the work. What has happened since the Welsh Language Act was passed in 1993 is that an immensely greater degree of complexity has developed in terms of what would fall within the definition of a public body or a private company carrying out functions of a public character. I think that that is the problem. In 1993, people thought of the private sector as being on one side and the public sector as being on the other side, but since then, in the intervening 15 years, things have become enormously more complicated; it is trying to unravel those complications that has caused the

craffu arnynt yng Nghymru, ac a ddiwygiwyd yng Nghymru. Rhan o'r broses honno yw gallu'r aelodau meinciau cefn i wneud Gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol neu Fesurau os enilliant bleidlais. Ni allaf ddweud a fyddwn yn mabwysiadu pob un gan ddweud, 'Ylwch, o roi plwc bach i hwn, gallwn ei gyflawni.', ond, o dro i dro, gwnawn hynny. Mae eich Gorchmyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol chwithau'n enghraifft o hynny, ac yr ydych yn llygad eich lle pan ddywedwch fod bwriadau'r Llywodraeth yn ehangach na'ch cynigion gwreiddiol. Yr oedd eich mesur yn un addas o wylaidd, yn unol â'ch personoliaeth, a phenderfynom fod angen i chi ddod allan o'ch cragen rhyw ychydig, a rhoi ergyd go iawn i'r bel a sgorio chwech. Yr ydych yn iawn yn yr hyn a ddywedwch. Yn ôl a ddeallaf mae Gwenda a'i thîm yn bwriadu ceisio pwerau a fydd yn ein galluogi i ddeddfu i roi cymorth i ofalwyr drwy osod dyletswyddau ar gyrff y sector cyhoeddus, yn union fel yr ydych wedi ei ddisgrifio—gan fynd ymhellach na gwybod am yr asesiad angen a mynnu bod y cyrff hynny'n gwneud rhywbeth yn ei gylch.

Mae'r pwynt ynghylch y Llywodraeth yn mabwysiadu ac yn newid, neu'n addasu, Gorchmyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol neu Fesur a allai ennill pleidlais yn un pwysig, a gobeithiwn ddwyn hynny i ddiwedd glo llwyddiannus. Bydd yn cynnwys aelodau'r meinciau cefn yn ogystal ag aelodau'r Llywodraeth. Ni fydd yn digwydd bob tro, ond bydd adegau pan fyddwn am wneud hynny.

O ran y Gorchmyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch yr Iaith Gymraeg, ni allaf wneud sylwadau nes inni wneud y gwaith. Yr hyn sydd wedi digwydd ers pasio Deddf yr Iaith Gymraeg yn 1993 yw bod yr hyn a fyddai wedi cael ei gwmpasu gan y diffiniad o gorff cyhoeddus neu gwmni preifat yn cyflawni swyddogaethau o natur gyhoeddus wedi mynd yn llawer iawn mwy cymhleth. Credaf mai dyna'r broblem. Yn 1993, yr oedd pobl yn meddwl am y sector preifat ar un ochr a'r sector cyhoeddus ar yr ochr arall, ond ers hynny, yn ystod y 15 mlynedd a aeth heibio, mae pethau wedi mynd yn fwyfwy cymhleth; ceisio datgymalu'r cymhlethodau hynny sydd wedi

delays. We do not want anybody to say afterwards, 'You never thought of that kind of circumstance', or, 'You never thought of that particular type of body that is right on the cusp of what is public and what is private'.

You are right to say that today is a historic day, given the establishment of the right to use the Welsh language in the Council of Ministers. We hope that that will go from the Council of Ministers to include relevant correspondence with the European Commission and the European Parliament and so on. We have to meet the cost of the interpreters, and they have to be interpreters who meet the full standard of competence for EU interpreters, which I am told is a pretty massive test. However, it is important that we realise that it is a historic day for one of the smaller languages of Europe—that it can be used in communication in Brussels and has been accepted as having co-official status. I must admit that I have found Jack Straw to be extremely helpful on this matter, all along. When we kick-started this process—it must be some two or three years ago now—we were really very pleasantly surprised that they said, 'Yes, we want to go for this'. I recognise what you have said about more recent ministerial involvement.

As regards the question of the moves that we are now making on child poverty, across a wide range of areas, but especially with the new child poverty legislative competence Order, the requirement will be on public bodies. On the definition of 'public body', it will mainly involve the education field, but not exclusively, because it will include the social care fields as well. You are right that there is inconsistent delivery and, when we have a requirement on bodies, we believe that it will raise the standards to the best standards of today. Early years will be very much a key part of it, because if you solve disadvantage at an early stage, there are immense benefits later on, when they become teenagers or fully grown adults.

Eleanor Burnham: Yr wyf yn pryderu am y diffygydd datblygiad ar yr iaith Gymraeg. Wrth

achosi'r oedi. Nid ydym am i neb ddweud wedyn, 'Ni wnaethoch feddwl am sefyllfa felly', neu 'Ni wnaethoch feddwl am y math arbennig hwnnw o gorff sydd ar y ffin o ran yr hyn sy'n gyhoeddus a'r hyn sy'n breifat'.

Yr ydych yn gywir i ddweud bod heddiw'n ddiwrnod hanesyddol, o gofio bod yr hawl i ddefnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg yng Nghyngor y Gweinidogion wedi'i sefydlu. Gobeithiwn y datblyga hynny o Gyngor y Gweinidogion i gynnwys gohebiaeth berthnasol gyda'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd a'r Senedd Ewropeaidd ac ati. Rhaid inni dalu cost y cyfieithwyr ar y pryd, a rhaid iddynt fod yn gyfieithwyr sy'n diwallu safonau cymhwysedd llawn cyfieithwyr yr UE sydd, fel y deallaf, yn brawf mawr iawn. Fodd bynnag, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn sylweddoli bod hwn yn ddiwrnod hanesyddol i un o ieithoedd llai Ewrop—y gellir ei defnyddio i gyfathrebu ym Mrwsel a'i bod wedi'i derbyn fel iaith a chanddi statws cyd-swyddogol. Rhaid imi gyfaddef fod Jack Straw wedi bod o gymorth mawr gyda'r mater hwn, ar hyd y daith. Pan gychwynnwyd y broses hon—rhaid bod hynny rhyw ddwy neu dair blynedd yn ôl bellach—cawsom ein siomi ar yr ochr orau iddynt ddweud, 'Ie, yr ydym am fynd ar drywydd hyn'. Cydnabyddaf yr hyn yr ydych wedi'i ddweud am gyfraniad gweinidogol mwy diweddar.

O ran y camau yr ydym yn eu cymryd yn awr o ran tlodi ymhlith plant, ar draws ystod eang o feysydd, ond yn arbennig o fewn y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, bydd y gofyniad ar gyrff cyhoeddus. O ran y diffiniad o 'gorff cyhoeddus', bydd yn cynnwys maes addysg yn bennaf, ond ni fydd yn unigryw i'r maes hwnnw, oherwydd bydd yn cynnwys y meysydd gofal cymdeithasol hefyd. Yr ydych yn iawn i ddweud bod darpariaeth anghyson a, phan fydd gofyniad ar gyrff, credwn y bydd yn codi safonau i'r safonau gorau sy'n bodoli. Bydd y blynyddoedd cynnar yn rhan allweddol ohono, oherwydd os ydych yn datrys anfantais yn gynnar, mae manteision enfawr yn ddiweddarach, pan fyddant yn eu harddegau neu wedi tyfu'n oedolion.

Eleanor Burnham: I am concerned about the lack of progress on the Welsh language.

gwrs, yr wyf yn croesawu'r statws cyd-swyddogol sydd gennym yn awr yn Ewrop.

I am absolutely delighted about the LCO on additional learning needs—I chaired the committee on that first LCO—but I probably share some of Alun Cairns's concerns. I am sure that you will say a few more words on that. Peter Clarke was right that young children need to participate in decisions that affect their education, as we have been hearing—Helen Mary alluded to it—in the Children and Young People Committee.

I am also absolutely delighted that you are promoting citizen-centred local service delivery. However, I notice that most of your expectations relate to delivery by the local authorities. I am intrigued, and interested in whether they will be able to deliver in the face of increased financial pressures. I know that this is not a debate on budgets and that this is about legislative competence, or whatever—this will be my last comment; thank you for allowing me to speak, Dirprwy Lywydd—but this is a complicated morass and I look forward to having a much simpler, clearer and clarified system. The people of Wales who are listening to our debates probably cannot get their heads around the mystique and the warm words that we are speaking, when all they want is the delivery. Surely, we will soon have primary powers in Wales and it will all become extremely clear.

The First Minister: You noted agreement with the points that Alun Cairns made, that I do not agree with, that there might be higher priorities elsewhere and that that is an argument for not passing the additional learning needs LCO. I do not agree with that last part. We are doing other things, via the vulnerable children legislative competence Order, which is coming up for scrutiny and approval in the Assembly—we hope that it will be approved. We have mentioned the wider issues about child poverty that will be in a Measure that we hope to pass as a consequence of having the ability to legislate in that area.

Of course, I welcome the co-official status that we now have in Europe.

Yr wyf yn falch iawn ynglŷn â'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch anghenion dysgu ychwanegol—cadeiriais bwyllgor ar y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol cyntaf hwnnw—ond yr un yw fy mhryderon i a rhai o bryderon Alun Cairns. Yr wyf yn siŵr y dywedwch ychydig yn rhagor o eiriau ar hynny. Yr oedd Peter Clark yn iawn i ddweud bod angen i blant ifanc gyfranogi mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio ar eu haddysg, fel yr ydym wedi bod yn clywed—a chyfeiriodd Helen Mary ato—yn y Pwyllgor ar Blant a Phobl Ifanc.

Yr wyf hefyd wrth fy modd eich bod yn hybu darparu gwasanaethau lleol sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd. Fodd bynnag, sylwaf fod y rhan fwyaf o'ch disgwyliadau yn ymwneud â gwasanaethau a ddarperir gan yr awdurdodau lleol. Mae gennyf chwilfrydedd a diddordeb mewn gweld a allant ddarparu gwasanaethau yn wyneb pwysau ariannol cynyddol. Gwn nad dadl ar gyllidebau yw hon ac mai dadl am gymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ydyw, neu beth bynnag—dyma fy sylw olaf; diolch ichi am ganiatáu imi siarad, Ddirprwy Lywydd—ond mae hon yn gors gymhleth ac edrychaf ymlaen at gael system llawer symlach, cliriach ac eglurach. Mae'n siŵr na all pobl Cymru sy'n gwrando ar ein dadleuon amgyffred y dirgelion a'r geiriau cynnes a lefarwn, pan mai'r cyfan y maent am ei gael yw darpariaeth. Oni fydd gennym bwerau sylfaenol yng Nghymru cyn bo hir a fydd yn gwneud popeth yn gwbl eglur?

Y Prif Weinidog: Dywedasoeh eich bod yn cytuno â'r pwyntiau a wnaeth Alun Cairns, pwyntiau na chytunaf i â hwy, sef y gallai fod blaenoriaethau eraill mewn mannau eraill a bod hynny'n ddadl dros beidio â phasio'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch anghenion dysgu ychwanegol. Ni chytunaf â'r rhan olaf honno. Yr ydym yn gwneud pethau eraill, drwy'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch plant sy'n agored i niwed, sydd ar fin mynd drwy broses graffu a chael ei gymeradwyo yn y Cynulliad—gobeithiwn y caiff ei gymeradwyo. Yr ydym wedi sôn am y materion ehangach ynghylch tloedi ymhlith

plant a fydd mewn Mesur y gobeithiwn ei basio o ganlyniad i feddu ar y gallu i ddeddfu yn y maes hwnnw.

4.20 p.m.

There is a wide range of issues in relation to vulnerable children, as well as on child poverty, so it is a broad front of action. I do not believe that one can pick out one particular right to appear before an SEN tribunal, and say, 'If that is all that you are doing, then that is only relevant to a tiny minority'. That may be the case, but it is not all that we are doing; we are trying to take forward the anti-child-poverty agenda on a broad front.

Mark Isherwood: In your statement, you state that:

'A stock of good-quality affordable homes is the foundation of thriving local communities and healthy family life'.

I agree 100 per cent plus with that. The Leader of the House, Carwyn Jones, has stated that what is important is that the law that we produce is sound, rather than producing several laws that are flawed. Why, therefore, the gesture politics of the affordable housing LCO? The Deputy Minister for Housing told the LCO committee last week that the policy intention has not changed. However, as we have heard, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Huw Irranca-Davies, stated that the plan to suspend the right-to-buy scheme in housing hot spots was not a magic bullet, and may never be used. That fully matches the evidence given to committee, which confirmed that suspending the right to buy will not increase the supply of social housing in the short term, although it is intended to be a short-term measure. Indeed, people remain in occupation of those houses for 15 years or so, by which time properly funded housing associations could have replaced them many times over.

You have a policy to deliver 6,500 new affordable houses by 2011. We are into the second year already, and only a few hundred

Mae ystod eang o faterion yn ymwneud â phlant sy'n agored i niwed, yn ogystal â thlodi ymhlith plant, felly mae'n ystod o gamau cyffredinol. Ni chredaf y gall rhywun ddewis un hawl penodol i ymddangos gerbron tribiwnlys AAA, a dweud, 'Os dyna'r cyfan yr ydych yn ei wneud, yna dim ond i leiafrif bach y mae hynny'n berthnasol'. Efallai fod hynny'n ir, ond nid dyna'r cyfan a wnawn; ceisiwn ddatblygu'r agenda gwrthlodi ymysg plant yn gyffredinol.

Mark Isherwood: Yn eich datganiad, nodwch mai:

Stoc o gartrefi fforddiadwy o safon yw sylfaen cymunedau lleol ffyniannus a bywyd teuluol iach.

Cytunaf yn llwyr â hynny. Mae Arweinydd y Tŷ, Carwyn Jones, wedi nodi mai'r hyn sy'n bwysig yw bod y gyfraith a lunnir gennym yn gadarn, yn hytrach na chreu sawl cyfraith ddiffygiol. Pam, felly, ffug wleidyddiaeth y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch tai fforddiadwy? Dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Dai wrth y pwyllgor Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yr wythnos diwethaf nad yw'r bwriad o ran polisi wedi newid. Fodd bynnag, fel y clywsom, dywedodd yr Is-ysgrifennydd Gwladol, Huw Irranca-Davies, nad bwled hud oedd y bwriad i atal y cynllun hawl i brynu mewn ardaloedd lle ceir problemau o ran tai, ac na ellid ei ddefnyddio byth. Mae hynny'n cyfateb yn union i'r dystiolaeth a roddwyd i'r pwyllgor, a gadarnhaodd na fydd atal y cynllun hawl i brynu yn cynyddu'r cyflenwad o dai cymdeithasol yn y tymor byr, er mai mesur tymor byr y bwriedir iddo fod. Yn wir, mae pobl yn parhau i fyw yn y tai hynny am 15 mlynedd neu fwy, ac yn yr amser hwnnw byddai cymdeithasau tai wedi'u hariannu'n briodol wedi gallu disodli llawer ohonynt sawl gwaith drosodd.

Mae gennych bolisi i ddarparu 6,500 o dai newydd, fforddiadwy erbyn 2011. Yr ydym eisoes yn yr ail flwyddyn, a dim ond ychydig

have been delivered. How will you achieve your goal, when housing associations tell me—and, presumably, you—that their plans are going up in smoke as developers and mortgage lenders withdraw from this market? As we know, that has been confirmed by another developer in south Wales announcing today that it is stopping development on two sites, and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors saying that house sales are at their lowest level since records began in 1978.

After the last housing crisis in the early 1990s, the then Government, which happened to be Conservative, announced an additional £35 million social housing grant in Wales, recognising the gravity of the situation, and its possible implications in terms of poor health, educational failure and missed opportunities for economic and social regeneration. Will you recognise that the scale of the crisis is at least as grave, and that we need to react proportionately if we are not to suffer far graver social costs?

Related to that, and the broader issues about child poverty, you rightly state that we need to tackle the causes as well as the symptoms of child poverty. I find that phrase familiar, as I have used it many times myself in the Chamber.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Order. Can we have questions, rather than speeches, please?

Mark Isherwood: How will you deal—not only at a Welsh level, but by developing your strategy and policy with the UK Government—with the findings of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation over successive years? It has found links with barriers to work, the recent increase in child poverty, and the credit crunch, despite mortgage regulation being in place, which was not enforced. How will you work with the poverty fighters and social entrepreneurs who work in our communities to develop and deliver strategic and measurable action plans—the plans that are needed to take real social regeneration forward?

gannoedd sydd wedi cael eu hadeiladu. Sut y bwriadwch gyrraedd eich nod, pan ddywed cymdeithasau tai wrthyf—ac, mi dybiaf, wrthyf chithau—fod eu cynlluniau'n chwalu wrth i ddatblygwyr a benthycwyr morgeisi gilio o'r farchnad hon? Fel y gwyddom, cadarnhawyd hynny gan ddatblygwr arall yn y de a gyhoeddodd heddiw ei fod yn rhoi'r gorau i ddatblygu ar ddau safle, a chan Sefydliad Brenhinol y Syrfewyr Siartredig a ddywedodd fod gwerthiannau tai ar eu hisaf ers i'r cyfraddau ddechrau gael eu cofnodi yn 1978.

Ar ôl yr argyfwng tai diwethaf ddechrau'r 1990au, cyhoeddodd y Llywodraeth ar y pryd, llywodraeth Geidwadol fel mae'n digwydd, £35 miliwn o grant tai cymdeithasol yng Nghymru, gan gydnabod difrifoldeb y sefyllfa, a'i goblygiadau posibl o ran salwch, methiant addysgol a cholli cyfleoedd adfywio economaidd a chymdeithasol. A gydnabyddwch fod maint yr argyfwng o leiaf yr un mor ddirifol, a bod angen inni ymateb yn gymesur os ydym am osgoi dioddef costau cymdeithasol llawer mwy difrifol?

Yn gysylltiedig â hynny, a'r materion ehangach ynghylch tlodi ymhlith plant, dywedwch, a hynny'n gywir, fod angen inni fynd i'r afael ag achosion tlodi ymhlith plant yn ogystal â'r symptomau. Mae'r ymadrodd hwnnw'n gyfarwydd imi, gan fy mod wedi ei ddefnyddio droeon fy hun yn y Siambr.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Trefn. A gawn ni gwestiynau, yn hytrach nag areithiau, os gwelwch yn dda?

Mark Isherwood: Sut yr ymdriniwch—nid yn unig ar lefel Cymru, ond drwy ddatblygu eich strategaeth a'ch polisi gyda Llywodraeth y DU—â chanfyddiadau Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree dros y blynyddoedd i ddod? Canfu gysylltiadau gyda rhwystrau at waith, y cynnydd diweddar mewn tlodi ymysg plant, a'r argyfwng credyd, er gwaethaf y ffaith bod trefniadau rheoleiddio morgeisi ar waith, na chawsant eu gorfodi. Sut y gweithiwrch gyda'r rhai sy'n ymladd tlodi ac entrepreneuriaid cymdeithasol sy'n gweithio yn ein cymunedau i ddatblygu a darparu cynlluniau gweithredu strategol a mesuradwy—y cynlluniau sydd eu hangen er

mwyn datblygu adfywio cymdeithasol go iawn?

The First Minister: You seem to think that we have claimed that we are proposing the affordable housing legislative competence Order, and the right-to-buy issue, as a silver bullet—we have never claimed that this is a silver bullet. It is a small measure, designed to achieve solutions where you have a dual housing market, where wages are low, but house prices are high. The unaffordability problem, which you might get across the country as a whole, can be doubled or trebled in certain areas, because of that strange dual housing market that we recognise in certain parts of Wales. Therefore, we are not claiming that it is a silver bullet.

We are not going to have a debate on the wider issue of affordable housing this afternoon, in the middle of the legislative programme debate, but the disappearance of wholesale money-market-based mortgages, which took 60 per cent of the money coming into the markets up until last July, has meant that only 40 per cent of the money is left—the old building society stock of money, if you like. That is a pretty massive blow to the housing market, and is causing an acute crunch at present, in terms of first-time buyers being unable to access mortgages. The demand is there, but they just do not have the mortgage finance to be able to get there, and the readjustment that is taking place is painful for everyone involved. On whether it will ultimately create spare capacity in the industry and how you access that spare capacity—which is roughly what previous Governments did in the 1970s and 1980s—in building labour, and so on, to get involved in social housing provision or social housing modernisation, is a matter to which we will return at another time.

On the issue of child poverty and getting at the causes and not the symptoms, we have read the Joseph Rowntree Foundation report and we have looked at the data showing that, according to the latest figures available, there has been a 1 per cent rise in child poverty; that is regrettable after the 8 per cent drop achieved in Wales in the previous seven or eight years—any rise in child poverty is

Y Prif Weinidog: Ymddengys eich bod yn credu inni honni ein bod yn cynnig y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch tai fforddiadwy, a'r mater hawl i brynu, fel bwled arian—nid ydym erioed wedi honni mai bwled arian yw hyn. Mesur bach ydyw, wedi'i gynllunio i sicrhau atebion pan fydd gennych farchnad dai ddeuol, lle mae cyflogau'n isel, ond lle mae prisiau tai yn uchel. Gellir dyblu neu dreblu'r broblem anfforddiadwyedd, sy'n broblem y gellir ei gweld ledled y wlad, mewn rhai ardaloedd, oherwydd y farchnad dai ddeuol ryfedd honno a welwn mewn rhai rhannau o Gymru. Felly, ni honnwn fod hyn yn fwled arian.

Nid ydym am gael dadl ar fater ehangach tai fforddiadwy y prynhawn yma, yng nghanol y ddadl ar y rhaglen ddeddfwriaethol, ond mae diflaniad morgeisi cyfanwerthu sy'n seiliedig ar y farchand arian, a gymerodd 60 y cant o'r arian a oedd yn dod i mewn i'r marchnadoedd tan fis Gorffennaf diwethaf, wedi golygu mai dim ond 40 y cant o'r arian sy'n weddill—hen stoc arian y cymdeithasau adeiladu, os hoffech. Mae hynny'n ergyd enfawr i'r farchand dai, ac mae'n achosi argyfwng difrifol ar hyn o bryd, gan nad yw'r rhai sy'n prynu am y tro cyntaf yn gallu cael morgeisi. Mae'r galw yno, ond nid yw'r cyllid morgeisi ganddynt i gyrraedd yno, ac mae'r ymaddasu sy'n digwydd yn boenus i bawb dan sylw. O ran a fydd yn creu adnoddau yn y diwydiant yn y pen draw a sut i gael gafael ar yr adnoddau hynny—sef yr hyn a wnaeth Llywodraethau'r gorffennol yn yr 1970au a'r 1980au yn fras—o ran gweithwyr adeiladu, ac ati, i fod yn rhan o'r ddarpariaeth tai cymdeithasol neu i foderneiddio tai cymdeithasol, mae hwnnw'n fater y bydd yn rhaid inni ddychwelyd ato ryw bryd eto.

O ran tlodi ymhlith plant a mynd at wraidd yr achosion yn hytrach na'r symptomau, yr ydym wedi darllen adroddiad Sefydliad Joseph Rowntree ac yr ydym wedi edrych ar y data sy'n dangos, yn ôl y ffigurau diweddaraf sydd ar gael, bod cynnydd o 1 y cant mewn tlodi ymhlith plant; mae hynny'n resyn ar ôl y gostyngiad o 8 y cant a gyflawnwyd yng Nghymru dros y saith neu'r

regrettable. We will be working with the Westminster Government in terms of its control over the tax credit and benefits system, and many other areas of activity. We want a complementary Welsh approach that does things that Westminster does not want to do, to get falling child poverty back on track after this regrettable recent increase.

Nick Ramsay: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the statement. I concur with others who have given the statement a tentative welcome. I will focus on the statement's impact on local government. I am particularly pleased to see a reference to citizen-centred services, in line with the principles set out in the Beecham review. As the First Minister will be aware, there have been some concerns about the possible impact of reorganisation within local government; I think that we would all concur with the principles of Beecham as the direction in which we want to go.

On the First Minister's comments on the need to encourage local authorities to promote culture, that is a noble aim and a good ambition with which we would all agree. However, does he not believe that a statutory requirement would break the bank for our local authorities, at a time when they have to deal with a tight financial settlement? Does his Government intend to discuss this issue with the Welsh Local Government Association to ensure that something can be done on what is a good ambition, to produce the results that we want to see in terms of promoting culture, and to ensure that this does not cause more hardship for local authorities?

The First Minister: I am grateful for your tentative welcome. I had the opportunity to tell an audience last week that local government and allied public services, such as further education colleges, the four constabularies in Wales, the fire service and the health service, should be working very much to the Beecham agenda. They should not think that they can park all of that because there is a local government reorganisation pending, when there is not.

wyth mlynedd flaenorol—gresynnir wrth unrhyw gynnydd mewn tlodi ymhlith plant. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda Llywodraeth San Steffan o ran ei reolaeth dros y system credydau treth a budd-daliadau, a sawl maes gweithgaredd arall. Yr ydym am gael ymagwedd Gymreig gyflenwol sy'n gwneud pethau nad yw San Steffan am eu gwneud, i sicrhau bod tlodi ymhlith plant yn parhau i ostwng ar ôl y cynnydd diweddar anffodus hwn.

Nick Ramsay: Diolch ichi am y cyfle i wneud sylwadau ar y datganiad. Cytunaf ag eraill sydd wedi croesawu'r datganiad yn betrus. Canolbwyntiaf ar effaith y datganiad ar lywodraeth leol. Yr wyf yn falch iawn o weld cyfeiriad at wasanaethau sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd, yn unol â'r egwyddorion a amlinellir yn adolygiad Beecham. Fel y gŵyr y Prif Weinidog, bu rhai pryderon ynghylch effaith bosibl ad-drefnu o fewn llywodraeth leol; credaf y byddem oll yn cytuno ag egwyddorion Beecham fel y cyfeiriad yr hoffem anelu ato.

O ran sylwadau'r Prif Weinidog ar yr angen i annog awdurdodau lleol i hybu diwylliant, mae hynny'n amcan wych ac yn uchelgais dda y byddem oll yn cytuno â hi. Fodd bynnag, oni chreda y byddai gofyniad statudol yn gwneud i'r hwch fynd drwy'r siop o ran ein hawdurdodau lleol, ar adeg pan mae'n rhaid iddynt ymdrin â setliad ariannol tynn? A yw ei Lywodraeth ef yn bwriadu trafod y mater hwn gyda Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru i sicrhau y gellir gwneud rhywbeth mewn perthynas ag uchelgais dda, i sicrhau'r canlyniadau yr hoffem eu gweld o ran hybu diwylliant, a sicrhau nad yw hyn yn achosi rhagor o galedi i awdurdodau lleol?

Y Prif Weinidog: Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich croeso petrus. Cefais gyfle i ddweud wrth gynulleidfa yr wythnos diwethaf y dylai llywodraeth leol a gwasanaethau cyhoeddus cysylltiedig, fel colegau addysg bellach, pedwar heddlu Cymru, y gwasanaeth tân a'r gwasanaeth iechyd, fod yn gweithio yn unol ag agenda Beecham. Ni ddylent feddwl y gallant roi'r gorau i hynny oll oherwydd bod ad-drefnu llywodraeth leol ar y gorwel, pan nad yw hynny'n wir. Yr ydym yn sicr yn

Beecham is very much where we are at, and I am grateful for your agreement. In fact, I think that a representative of Monmouthshire County Council welcomed it at that meeting; he asked if he should be reassured, and I said that he should be reassured but not complacent. I was not saying that they should sit back and not deliver on the Beecham agenda, because there is a window of opportunity to get on with delivering citizen-focused services. We want to give a statutory backing to that by requiring co-operation, whether it is co-operation across territorial lines, such as three local authorities doing together what one local authority cannot do alone, or joint action with the police, the health authority or other public agencies.

On the cultural duty, there is no intention to resile from the principle that, if we put new duties on local government—in this case, putting cultural services on the same footing as what are now statutory services—there would have to be recompense to take account of the costs involved. How much it would cost and how we would negotiate that is where the consultation with the Welsh Local Government Association would become relevant.

dilyn Beecham, ac yr wyf yn ddiolchgar am eich cytundeb. Yn wir, credaf i gynrychiolydd o Gyngor Sir Fynwy ei groesawu yn y cyfarfod hwnnw; gofynnodd a ddylai fod yn dawel ei feddwl, a dywedais y dylai fod yn dawel ei feddwl ond na ddylai fod yn hunanfodlon. Nid oeddwn yn dweud y dylent eistedd yn ôl a pheidio â chyflawni agenda Beecham, oherwydd mae cyfle i barhau â'r gwaith o ddarparu gwasanaethau sy'n canolbwyntio ar y dinesydd. Yr ydym am roi cefnogaeth statudol i hynny drwy ofyn am gydweithrediad, bod yn gydweithrediad ar draws ffiniau tiriogaethol, fel tri awdurdod lleol yn gwneud rhywbeth na all un awdurdod lleol ei wneud ar ei ben ei hun, neu gamau ar y cyd gyda'r heddlu, yr awdurdod iechyd neu asiantaethau cyhoeddus eraill.

O ran y ddyletswydd ddiwylliannol, nid oes bwriad i gilio oddi wrth yr egwyddor y byddai'n rhaid rhoi iawndal i lywodraeth leol os rhoddwn ddyletswyddau newydd arni—yn yr achos hwn, rhoi'r un statws i wasanaethau diwylliannol â gwasanaethau statudol—er mwyn ystyried y costau cysylltiedig. Byddai'r ymgynghoriad gyda Chymdeithas Lywodraeth Leol Cymru yn berthnasol o ran pennu'r gost a sut y byddem yn negodi hynny.

*Daeth Peter Black i'r Gadair am 4.29 p.m.
Peter Black took the Chair at 4.29 p.m.*

Dadl o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 22.34 ar Orchymyn Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru (Cymhwysedd Deddfwriaethol) (Lles Cymdeithasol a Meysydd Eraill) 2008

Standing Order No. 22.34 Debate on the National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and Other Fields) Order 2008

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Gwenda Thomas): Cynigïaf fod

The Deputy Minister for Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): I propose that

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 22.34:

the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order No. 22.34:

yn cymeradwyo Gorchymyn Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru (Cymhwysedd Deddfwriaethol) (Lles Cymdeithasol a Meysydd Eraill) 2008. (NDM3990)

approves the draft the National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and Other Fields) Order 2008. (NDM3990)

Mae'n bleser a brait cael gosod drafft terfynol Gorchymyn Cynulliad Cenedlaethol

I am delighted and privileged to lay the final draft of the National Assembly for Wales

Cymru (Cymhwysedd Deddfwriaethol) (Lles Cymdeithasol a Meysydd Eraill) 2008, a adwaenir fel y Gorchymyn plant sy'n agored i niwed a thlodi plant.

(Legislative Competence) (Social Welfare and other Fields) Order 2008 referred to as the vulnerable children and child poverty Order before you today.

4.30 p.m.

Mae'r Gorchymyn hwn yn un o'r meysydd allweddol yng ngweledigaeth Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc, a nodir yn 'Cymru'n Un', ac mae'n defnyddio dull Cymreig o gyflwyno atebion Cymreig. Diben hwn fydd ymdrin â thlodi plant ac allgáu cymdeithasol yn achos rhai o'r plant a'r teuluoedd mwyaf difreintiedig yng Nghymru.

This Order is a key plank of the Assembly Government's vision for children and young people, as set out in 'One Wales', and takes a Welsh approach to delivering Welsh solutions. Its purpose will be to tackle child poverty and social exclusion for some of the most disadvantaged children and families in Wales.

Subject to the final agreement of Members today and, subsequently, both Houses of Parliament, it will provide the Assembly with broad powers to pass Measures across a wide spectrum in the field of social welfare and in a limited capacity in other areas, including education, training, recreation and sport for children and young people up to 25 years of age. It will enable us to provide support to those families and children in the greatest need, who, without additional support, would be disproportionately disadvantaged. The Order demonstrates our seriousness about, and our commitment to, improving the lives of vulnerable children and families in Wales, and I know that Members share that commitment.

Yn amodol ar gytundeb terfynol yr Aelodau heddiw ac, wedyn, gytundeb dau Dŷ'r Senedd, bydd yn rhoi i'r Cynulliad bwerau eang i basio Mesurau ar draws rhychwant helaeth ym maes lles cymdeithasol ac mewn capasiti cyfyngedig mewn meysydd eraill, gan gynnwys addysg, hyfforddiant, adloniant a chwaraeon i blant a phobl ifanc hyd at 25 oed. Bydd yn ein galluogi i ddarparu cymorth i'r teuluoedd a'r plant hynny sy'n fwyaf eu hangen, a fyddai, heb gymorth ychwanegol, yn wynebu anfantais anghymesur. Mae'r Gorchymyn yn dangos gymaint o ddifrif ydym ynglŷn â gwella bywydau plant a theuluoedd bregus yng Nghymru, a'n hymrwymiad i hynny, a gwn fod yr Aelodau'n rhannu'r ymrwymiad hwnnw.

The appearance of the Order before you today differs from the first draft tabled more than a year ago. However, the extent of the apparent difference is deceptive, and the Order remains wide-ranging. Its principal aim is to give the Assembly the powers to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people. This may cross over non-devolved areas, and it requires the collaboration of agencies such as the police and others involved in youth justice. Members will appreciate, therefore, that the Order has required comprehensive engagement with many Whitehall departments to provide them with assurances that the National Assembly will not have competence to impose duties in respect of non-devolved matters.

Mae ymddangosiad y Gorchymyn ger eich bron heddiw yn wahanol i'r drafft cyntaf a gyflwynwyd fwy na blwyddyn yn ôl. Fodd bynnag, mae maint y gwahaniaeth ymddangosiadol yn dwyllodrus, ac mae'r Gorchymyn yn dal yn eang ei gwmpas. Ei brif nod yw rhoi i'r Cynulliad y pwerau i ddiogelu a hyrwyddo lles pob plentyn ac unigolyn ifanc. Gallai hyn groesi meysydd nad ydynt wedi cael eu datganoli, ac mae'n golygu bod rhaid wrth gydweithrediad asiantaethau fel yr heddlu ac eraill sy'n ymwneud â chyfiawnder ieuencid. Bydd yr Aelodau'n gwerthfawrogi, felly, fod y Gorchymyn wedi golygu ymwneud cynhwysfawr â llawer o adrannau Whitehall er mwyn rhoi sicrwydd iddynt na fydd gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol gymhwysedd i orfodi dyletswyddau mewn perthynas â materion nad ydynt wedi cael eu datganoli.

The process of scrutiny has been rigorous, and I have been struck by the enthusiasm and receptiveness of people across Wales and England in supporting the aims of the Order, particularly the significant advantages that consolidating the law will bring, and the early actions that we propose to take through Measure powers to deliver Wales-specific policies that reflect Welsh solutions. The Order has also been commended on the innovative way in which it will enable us to deliver Welsh solutions to problems, such as the intelligent way in which it allows us to deliver additional sums into the child trust funds of children in Wales.

I welcome and commend the Assembly committee and the Welsh Affairs Select Committee's comprehensive examination of the Order and their reports and recommendations, which have been given thoughtful consideration. The Order before the Assembly today reflects the outcomes of that consideration and, as a result, refinements have been made to the Order and the supporting explanatory memorandum to bring greater clarity on the points raised by the respective committees. The main effect has been to define more precisely in the Order those matters in which the National Assembly for Wales will have enhanced competence, to clarify their application as far as non-devolved bodies are concerned, and to place a stronger focus on the functions of public authorities in Wales in respect of their duties to safeguard the wellbeing of children and young people.

Other changes aim to provide a clearer interpretation of definitions and to extend competence beyond social welfare to include the areas of education, training, recreation and sport. That recognises the important interplay that these issues have on the wellbeing of children and young people. The inclusion of matters under these other fields in the Government of Wales Act 2006 will ensure that our current and future anti-poverty programmes, such as Flying Start and Cymorth, are included and allow greater flexibility in the development of future Measures.

Bu'r broses graffu yn un fanwl, ac fe'm trawyd gan frwdfrydedd ac eangfrydedd pobl ar draws Cymru a Lloegr wrth gefnogi amcanion y Gorchymyn, yn enwedig y manteision sylweddol a ddaw yn sgil cyfnerthu'r gyfraith, a'r camau cynnar y ydym yn bwriadu eu cymryd drwy bwerau Mesur i ddarparu polisiau penodol i Gymru sy'n adlewyrchu atebion Cymreig. Mae'r Gorchymyn wedi cael ei ganmol hefyd am y ffordd arloesol y bydd yn ein galluogi i ddarparu atebion Cymreig i broblemau, megis y ffordd ddeallus y mae'n caniatáu inni roi symiau ychwanegol yng nghronfeydd ymddiriedolaeth plant yng Nghymru.

Yr wyf yn croesawu ac yn cymeradwyo archwiliad cynhwysfawr pwyllgor y Cynulliad a'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig o'r Gorchymyn a'u hadroddiadau a'u hargymhellion, y rhoddwyd ystyriaeth ofalus iddynt. Mae'r Gorchymyn gerbron y Cynulliad heddiw yn adlewyrchu canlyniadau'r ystyriaeth honno ac, o ganlyniad, mae'r Gorchymyn a'r memorandum esboniadol ategol wedi cael eu mireinio i roi mwy o eglurder yng nghyswllt y pwyntiau a godwyd gan y gwahanol bwyllgorau. Y brif effaith fu diffinio'n fanylach yn y Gorchymyn y materion hynny y bydd gan Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru gymhwysedd ychwanegol ynddynt, egluro sut y cânt eu cymhwysu yng nghyd-destun cyrff nad ydynt wedi cael eu datganoli, a rhoi ffocws cryfach ar swyddogaethau awdurdodau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru o safbwynt eu dyletswyddau i ddiogelu lles plant a phobl ifanc.

Mae newidiadau eraill yn ceisio darparu dehongliad cliriach o ddiffiniadau ac ymestyn cymhwysedd y tu hwnt i les cymdeithasol i gynnwys meysydd addysg, hyfforddiant, adloniant a chwaraeon. Mae hynny'n cydnabod y cydadwaith pwysig a gaiff y materion hyn ar les plant a phobl ifanc. Bydd cynnwys materion o dan y meysydd eraill hyn yn Neddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn sicrhau bod ein rhaglenni gwrth-dlodi cyfredol a rhaglenni i'r dyfodol, megis Dechrau'n Deg a Cymorth, yn cael eu cynnwys ac y byddant yn caniatáu mwy o hyblygrwydd wrth ddatblygu Mesurau yn y dyfodol.

A key feature that has been consistently discussed throughout the pre-scrutiny of the Order is whether it would provide scope to bring forward a Measure to ban the physical punishment of children living in Wales. I am pleased to see that there continues to be majority cross-party support for the policy position in Wales that the corporal punishment of children is unacceptable in all settings, including the home. Members will be aware that a lot of work is being done in Wales to mitigate this situation through the promotion of positive parenting.

We have made our policy position and our views on the competence offered to Wales under Schedule 5 to the Act known to Westminster. The scrutiny of the Order has provided the Assembly Government with the opportunity to reinforce its commitment to this agenda and its support for the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child's call for a global ban on physical punishment. However, I can confirm that the Order before you today does not allow the National Assembly to impose obligations on the general public to safeguard children from harm and neglect, and would not provide scope to allow the Assembly to bring forward a Measure in that area. I know that Members are disappointed about that, but our immediate priority is to secure powers for the Assembly that will enable us to consolidate and reform the law relating to vulnerable children and to strengthen preventative measures and tackle child poverty.

Tackling poverty and social exclusion among children and young people is central to the Assembly Government's aims of improving the quality of life and promoting social inclusion and equality of opportunity for every community in Wales. The Order and its broad coverage will allow the Assembly to pass Measures based on Welsh priorities and policies, according to Welsh timescales. I very much welcome, and am excited about, the opportunities that the Order will provide for Wales. In anticipation of these enhanced powers, we are currently consulting on the priority initiatives in relation to child poverty and strengthening support to families that we will want to bring forward in a Measure. The statement on 20 February by my colleague,

Un nodwedd allweddol a drafodwyd yn gyson drwy gydol y cyfnod o graffu ymlaen llaw ar y Gorchymyn oedd a fyddai'n fodd i ddod â Mesur gerbron i wahardd cosbi plant sy'n byw yng Nghymru yn gorfforol. Yr wyf yn falch o weld bod cefnogaeth draws bleidiol fwyafrifol o hyd i'r safbwynt polisi yng Nghymru fod cosbi plant yn gorfforol yn annerbyniol ym mhob man, gan gynnwys y cartref. Bydd yr Aelodau'n ymwybodol fod llawer o waith yn cael ei wneud yng Nghymru i liniaru'r sefyllfa hon drwy hyrwyddo rhianta cadarnhaol.

Yr ydym wedi gwneud ein safbwynt polisi a'n barn am y cymhwysedd a gynigir i Gymru dan Atodlen 5 o'r Ddeddf yn hysbys i San Steffan. Mae'r craffu ar y Gorchymyn wedi rhoi'r cyfle i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i atgyfnerthu ei hymrwymiad i'r agenda hon a'i chefnogaeth i alwad Pwyllgor y Cenedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn am waharddiad byd-eang ar gosbi corfforol. Fodd bynnag, gallaf gadarnhau nad yw'r Gorchymyn ger eich bron heddiw yn caniatáu i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol osod rhwymedigaeth ar y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol i ddiogelu plant rhag niwed ac esgeulustod, ac na fyddai'n fodd i ganiatáu i'r Cynulliad ddod â Mesur gerbron yn y maes hwnnw. Gwn fod Aelodau yn siomedig ynglŷn â hynny, ond ein blaenoriaeth ar hyn o bryd yw sicrhau pwerau i'r Cynulliad a fydd yn ein galluogi i gyfnerthu a diwygio'r gyfraith yn ymwneud â phlant sy'n agored i niwed ac i gryfhau mesurau ataliol a mynd i'r afael â thlodi plant.

Mae mynd i'r afael â thlodi ac allgáu cymdeithasol ymysg plant a phobl ifanc yn ganolog i amcanion Llywodraeth y Cynulliad o wella ansawdd bywyd a hyrwyddo cynhwysiant cymdeithasol a chyfle cyfartal i bob cymuned yng Nghymru. Bydd y Gorchymyn a'i gwmpas eang yn caniatáu i'r Cynulliad basio Mesurau sy'n seiliedig ar flaenoriaethau a pholisïau Cymru, yn unol ag amserlenni Cymru. Yr wyf yn croesawu'n fawr, ac yn llawn cyffro, ynglŷn â'r cyfleoedd y bydd y Gorchymyn yn eu darparu i Gymru. I baratoi ar gyfer y pwerau ychwanegol hyn, yr ydym wrthi ar hyn o bryd yn ymgynghori ynghylch y cynlluniau blaenoriaeth yn ymwneud â thlodi plant a chryfhau'r cymorth i deuluoedd y byddwn

the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, set out our vision in this area, and I know that a further statement is imminent.

The Assembly Government's plan to rationalise and consolidate the law is highly popular, and has gained significant support across a wide range of electors. This is highly symbolic, but also a challenge. It will provide many practical and other benefits, and will result in a single comprehensive piece of law specific to children and young people in Wales. It will provide us with the freedom to bring forward coherent policies that are best suited to Wales and may result in a different and, we hope, more positive experience and outcome for children and young people in Wales. I therefore commend the Order to you and ask for your approval.

Lesley Griffiths: I am pleased to participate in today's debate by virtue of my role as temporary Chair of the Proposed Vulnerable Children LCO Committee. Members will be aware that Karen Sinclair is the permanent Chair of the committee, and I am sure that Members will join me in wishing her well at this difficult time. We thank her for her work in chairing the vast majority of the committee's meetings during the early stages of discussion on the LCO.

The committee was established to consider and report on the proposed Order relating to vulnerable children and child poverty. As a committee, we considered the general principles of the proposed Order and looked closely at how it was drafted to determine whether its terms were appropriately drawn. We held a wide consultation, and many witnesses gave written and oral evidence, which helped us to formulate our report. Their knowledge and expertise was invaluable, and I am sure that I speak on behalf of all committee members when I say that we are extremely grateful to everyone who gave evidence.

The committee agreed with the general

am ddod â hwy gerbron mewn Mesur. Nododd y datganiad ar 20 Chwefror gan fy nghyd-Weinidog, y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol, ein gweledigaeth yn y maes hwn, a gwn fod datganiad pellach ar fin cael ei gyhoeddi.

Mae cynllun Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i resymoli a chyfnerthu'r gyfraith yn hynod o boblogaidd, ac mae wedi ennill cefnogaeth sylweddol ar draws ystod eang o etholwyr. Mae hyn yn dra symbolaidd, ond mae hefyd yn her. Bydd yn darparu llawer o fanteision ymarferol a manteision eraill, a bydd yn arwain at un darn gynhwysfawr o gyfraith yn benodol ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Bydd yn rhoi inni'r rhyddid i ddod â'r polisiau cydlynol gerbron sy'n fwyaf addas i Gymru a gallai arwain a brofiad a chanlyniad gwahanol a, gobeithio, mwy positif i blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru. Cymeradwyaf y Gorchymyn ichi felly a gofynnaf am eich cymeradwyaeth chi.

Lesley Griffiths: Yr wyf yn falch o gymryd rhan yn y ddadl heddiw oherwydd fy rôl fel Cadeirydd dros dro y Pwyllgor ar y Gorchymyn Arfaethedig ynghylch Plant sy'n Agored i Niwed. Bydd yr Aelodau'n gwybod mai Karen Sinclair yw Cadeirydd parhaol y pwyllgor, ac yr wyf yn siŵr y gwnaiff yr Aelodau ymuno â mi i ddymuno'n dda iddi ar yr adeg anodd hon. Diolchwn iddi am ei gwaith yn cadeirio'r mwyafrif helaeth o gyfarfodydd y pwyllgor yn ystod cyfnodau cynnar y drafodaeth ynghylch y Gorchymyn.

Cafodd y pwyllgor ei sefydlu i ystyried ac adrodd ar y Gorchymyn arfaethedig yn ymwneud â phlant sy'n agored i niwed a thlodi plant. Fel pwyllgor, ystyriasom egwyddorion cyffredinol y Gorchymyn arfaethedig ac edrychasom yn fanwl ar y ffordd yr oedd wedi cael ei ddrafftio i benderfynu a oedd ei delerau wedi cael eu llunio'n briodol. Cynaliasom ymgynghoriad eang, a rhoddodd llawer o dystion dystiolaeth ysgrifenedig a llafar, a fu'n help inni i lunio ein hadroddiad. Yr oedd eu gwybodaeth a'u harbenigedd yn amhrisiadwy, ac yr wyf yn siŵr fy mod yn siarad ar ran holl aelodau'r pwyllgor wrth ddweud ein bod yn hynod o ddiolchgar i bawb a roddodd dystiolaeth.

Cytunodd y pwyllgor ag egwyddorion

principles of the proposed Order, but recommended a number of amendments, and I want to make reference to three of those recommendations today.

4.40 p.m.

The committee recommended that specific reference should be made to whistleblowing and advocacy in relation to dealing with complaints made by, or on behalf of, children. The acting Children's Commissioner for Wales felt strongly that those specific terms should feature, as they are essential safeguards in promoting and protecting the rights and welfare of children. We also felt that the proposed Order should include a reference to the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, owing to its significance in defining the essential rights of a child. In light of the Welsh Assembly Government's target to eradicate child poverty in Wales by 2020, Members recommended that the proposed Order include the term 'child poverty' as it was such a central theme of the proposed Order.

It is important that Members note that several of our witnesses gave evidence about the removal of the defence of the reasonable punishment of children. In our report, we called on the Welsh Assembly Government to clarify its position on the scope of the proposed Order in that regard. The Deputy Minister wrote to the committee stating that the UK Government was insistent that the Order should not confer legislative competence on the Assembly to allow the removal of that defence, that the relevant matter should be redrafted to make it clear that it does not cover that, and that, if it was not amended, the whole of the LCO could be in danger.

The committee was disappointed that so few of the recommendations of our first report were taken on board in the draft Order. Of particular concern was the issue of banning the physical punishment of children, particularly, as the Deputy Minister stated, as there is long-standing cross-party support for that in the Assembly. I believe that it is the will of the Assembly. I put on record that I sincerely hope that the Assembly will return

cyffredinol y Gorchymyn arfaethedig, ond argymhellodd nifer o welliannau, ac yr wyf am gyfeirio at dri o'r argymhellion hynny heddiw.

Argymhellodd y pwyllgor y dylid cyfeirio'n benodol at chwythu'r chwiban ac eiriolaeth mewn perthynas â delio â chwynion a wneir gan, neu ar ran, plant. Teimlai Comisiynydd Plant dros dro Cymru yn gryf y dylai'r termau penodol hynny ymddangos, gan eu bod yn fesurau diogelu hanfodol er hyrwyddo ac amddiffyn hawliau a lles plant. Teimlem hefyd y dylai'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig gynnwys cyfeiriad at gonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar hawliau'r Plentyn, oherwydd ei arwyddocâd yn diffinio hawliau hanfodol plentyn. Yng ngoleuni targed Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i ddileu tlodi plant yng Nghymru erbyn 2020, argymhellodd yr Aelodau y dylai'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig gynnwys y term 'tlodi plant' gan ei fod yn thema mor ganolog yn y Gorchymyn arfaethedig.

Mae'n bwysig fod yr Aelodau'n nodi i lawer o'n tystion roi tystiolaeth am gael gwared â'r amddiffyniad o gosbi plant yn rhesymol. Yn ein hadroddiad, galwasom ar Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i egluro ei safbwynt o ran cwmpas y Gorchymyn arfaethedig yn y cyswllt hwnnw. Ysgrifennodd y Dirprwy Weinidog at y pwyllgor yn datgan bod Llywodraeth y DU yn mynnu na ddylai'r Gorchymyn roi cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol i'r Cynulliad i ganiatáu cael gwared â'r amddiffyniad hwnnw, y dylai'r mater perthnasol gael ei ailddrafftio i'w gwneud yn glir nad yw'n cynnwys hynny, a, phe na bai'n gael ei newid, y gallai'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol cyfan fod mewn perygl.

Yr oedd y pwyllgor yn siomedig fod cyn lleied o'r argymhellion yn ein hadroddiad cyntaf wedi cael eu derbyn yn y Gorchymyn drafft. Yr oedd mater gwahardd cosbi plant yn gorfforol yn peri pryder neilltuol, yn arbennig, fel y dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog, gan fod cefnogaeth drawsbleidiol i hynny wedi bodoli ers tro yn y Cynulliad. Credaf mai dyna ewyllys y Cynulliad. Yr wyf am gael cofnodi fy mod yn gobethio'n

to that issue at an appropriate time. I believe that we were right to ask for it and I hope that the matter is not over with. The committee was disappointed that the request for a general competence to be conferred in the area of vulnerable children and child poverty came down to what the Assembly might wish to do with that competence by way of a future Measure, and that that request was therefore turned down by the UK Government.

Following the publication of the committee's report on the Order, the Deputy Minister laid a revised proposed Order, which was substantially different from the one that the committee had scrutinised. The committee, therefore, met to discuss the revised proposed Order and concluded that, as it was significantly amended, there were several areas that had not been scrutinised and, therefore, the committee would be unable to report on the revised proposed Order due to its not having the appropriate evidence base. Following that, the scrutiny of the revised proposed Order would have to be carried out by the Welsh Affairs Select Committee, and that has been done. Unfortunately, we were unable to carry out joint scrutiny as two committees, which is disappointing.

Finally, I thank the Deputy Minister for her co-operation and for giving due consideration to the committee's report.

David Melding: I want to make it clear that the Conservative group will support the amended LCO as laid by the Deputy Minister, although I echo the comments of the temporary Chair of the committee that this has been a messy process. I also take this opportunity to commend the work of Karen Sinclair, who has chaired the committee with great ability.

The committee came up with constructive conclusions and recommendations, and it is a pity that most of them were not taken forward. I will not reiterate what has been said, but I will focus on some areas that indicate concern about the whole process, which we would want to avoid in the future. I

ddiffuant y gwnaiff y Cynulliad ddychwelyd at y mater hwnnw ar yr adeg briodol. Credaf ein bod yn iawn i ofyn amdano a gobeithiaf nad dyna ddiwedd ar yr mater. Yr oedd y pwyllgor yn siomedig fod y cais am gyflwyno cymhwysedd cyffredinol ym maes plant sy'n agored i niwed a thlodi plant wedi cael ei farnu ar sail yr hyn y byddai'r Cynulliad yn dymuno ei wneud yn y dyfodol efallai â'r cymhwysedd hwnnw, a bod y cais hwnnw wedi cael ei wrthod felly gan Lywodraeth y DU.

Yn dilyn cyhoeddi adroddiad y pwyllgor ar y Gorchymyn, cyflwynodd y Dirprwy Weinidog Orchymyn arfaethedig diwygiedig, a oedd yn sylweddol wahanol i'r un yr oedd y pwyllgor wedi craffu arno. Cyfarfu'r pwyllgor, felly, i drafod y Gorchymyn arfaethedig diwygiedig a daeth i'r casgliad, gan ei fod wedi cael ei ddiwygio'n sylweddol, fod amryw o feysydd nad oedd wedi craffu arnynt ac na fyddai'r pwyllgor, felly, yn gallu adrodd ar y Gorchymyn arfaethedig diwygiedig gan nad oedd ganddo'r sylfaen tystiolaeth briodol. Yn dilyn hynny, byddai'n rhaid i'r craffu ar y Gorchymyn arfaethedig diwygiedig gael ei gynnal gan y Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig, ac mae hynny wedi digwydd. Yn anffodus, ni fu modd inni graffu ar y cyd fel dau bwyllgor, ac mae hynny'n siomedig.

Yn olaf, diolchaf i'r Dirprwy Weinidog am ei chydweithrediad ac am roi ystyriaeth ddyledus i adroddiad y pwyllgor.

David Melding: Yr wyf am ei gwneud yn glir y bydd y grŵp Ceidwadol yn cefnogi'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol diwygiedig fel y'i cyflwynwyd gan y Dirprwy Weinidog, er fy mod yn adleisio sylwadau Cadeirydd dros dro'r pwyllgor y bu hon yn broses aflêr. Achubaf ar y cyfle hwn hefyd i gymeradwyo gwaith Karen Sinclair, sydd wedi cadeirio'r pwyllgor yn fedrus iawn.

Lluniodd y pwyllgor gasgliadau ac argymhellion adeiladol, ac mae'n drueni na chafodd y rhan fwyaf ohonynt eu symud ymlaen. Nid ailadroddaf yr hyn sydd wedi cael ei ddweud, ond canolbwyntiaf ar rai meysydd sy'n dangos pryder ynghylch yr holl broses, y byddem ni am eu hosgoi yn y

welcome, in general, the LCO as it appears before us, because the powers contained in it should sit with the Assembly, and there is no doubt that it could enable us to bring forward imaginative Measures on many important areas relating to vulnerable children and to child poverty.

It is a pity that the Order was revised substantially just after the committee had conducted its work, and that it was not then in a position to scrutinise the LCO unless we received another mandate from the Assembly, which would have slowed down the process.

In the end, it proved impossible to work with the Welsh Affairs Committee, because of the difficulties of timetabling that work. It is something that we should seek to avoid in the future, especially with an LCO of this importance. This is not one of those technical, minor LCOs that some Members of Parliament—if we are to believe the gossip columns—have been criticising us for, accusing us of lacking an expansive vision. This is expansive, and it relates to our commitment to improve the lives of the most vulnerable children in our society. That is an area that we would need to improve upon.

I was sorry that much of this debate focused on the possibility or otherwise of a future Measure coming forward, as a result of this LCO, relating to physical chastisement. It would have been more appropriate for Parliament to have given us the powers in this LCO. It would have been up to Parliament in the future to legislate on what reasonable chastisement is, if it so wished, but given our modest control over creating penalties, power in this area could have been transferred to us, and that would have advanced this social question dramatically in the UK. If we had been able to take the lead—and I am speaking in a personal capacity, as the Welsh Conservative group does not have a political position on this—where we would have led, the other nations of the United Kingdom would have followed

dyfodol. Croesawaf, yn gyffredinol, y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol fel y mae'n ymddangos ger ein bron, oherwydd dylai'r pwerau sy'n gynwysedig ynddo orffwys gyda'r Cynulliad, ac nid oes amheuaeth y gallai ein galluogi i ddod â Mesurau llawn dychymyg gerbron mewn llawer o feysydd pwysig yn ymwneud â phlant sy'n agored i niwed a thlodi plant.

Mae'n drueni i'r Gorchymyn gael ei adolygu'n sylweddol yn union ar ôl i'r pwyllgor wneud ei waith, ac nad oedd mewn sefyllfa wedyn i graffu ar y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol oni bai inni gael mandad arall gan y Cynulliad, a fyddai wedi arafu'r broses.

Yn y diwedd, profodd yn amhosibl gweithio gyda'r Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig, oherwydd anawsterau amserlennu'r gwaith hwnnw. Mae'n rhywbeth y dylem geisio'i osgoi yn y dyfodol, yn enwedig gyda Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol mor bwysig â hyn. Nid yw hwn yn un o'r mân orchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol technegol hynny y mae rhai Aelodau Seneddol—os ydym i gredu'r colofnau clecs—wedi bod yn ein beirniadu yn eu cylch, gan ein cyhuddo o beidio bod â gweledigaeth eang. Mae hwn yn eang, ac mae'n ymwneud â'n hymrwymiad i wella bywydau'r plant mwyaf bregus yn ein cymdeithas. Mae hwnnw'n faes lle byddai angen inni wella.

Yr oedd yn flin gennyf fod rhan helaeth o'r ddadl hon wedi canolbwyntio ar bosibilrwydd neu ddiffyg posibilrwydd cyflwyno Mesur yn y dyfodol, o ganlyniad i'r gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn, ynglŷn â chosbi corfforol. Byddai'n fwy priodol petai'r Senedd wedi rhoi'r pwerau inni yn y gorchymyn hwn. Mater i'r Senedd yn y dyfodol fuasai deddfu ar beth yw cosb resymol, pe dymunai, ond ac ystyried ein rheolaeth gymedrol dros greu cosbau, gallasid trosglwyddo grym yn y maes hwn i ni, a byddai hynny wedi symud y cwestiwn cymdeithasol hwn ymlaen yn ddramatig yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Pe buasem wedi gallu cymryd yr awenau—ac yr wyf yn siarad yn bersonol, gan nad oes gan y grŵp Ceidwadol Cymreig safbwynt gwleidyddol ar hyn—lle buasem ni wedi arwain, byddai gwledydd

quickly.

However, I agree with the pragmatic decision that the Deputy Minister made, as I believe that the LCO would have been denied us at the Westminster end, had we not agreed to this, so there is not a scintilla of criticism here of the position that the Welsh Assembly Government has adopted. It had to accept that there would be no progress unless we gave this undertaking.

On a more positive note, we have heard that the Government intends to advance on the issue of child poverty. We will scrutinise that Measure, always with the intention of improving it. We believe that it is an appropriate agenda for the National Assembly and one that should be given the highest priority.

However, at some point in the future, we should look at a Measure on the office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, principally to bring the office up to the best international standards. The office operates functionally at a high standard—there is no question of that—but it should be accountable to the National Assembly, and the commissioner should be formally appointed by the National Assembly, and it should not relate to the Welsh Assembly Government. I am sure that the Welsh Assembly Government will see the virtue in that, having brought forward an imaginative policy many years ago in establishing the office in the first place, which was followed by the other countries of the UK. It is time that we went one step further and achieved a gold standard in terms of the office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

That said, we are prepared to support this LCO; I endorse it and hope that it receives cross-party support.

Kirsty Williams: The Welsh Liberal Democrats will support the Order, and we welcome the drawing down of powers in this area.

As the Deputy Minister stated earlier, law in this area is fragmented and dispersed among

eraill y Deyrnas Unedig wedi dilyn yn fuan.

Fodd bynnag, cytunaf â'r penderfyniad pragmataidd a wnaeth y Dirprwy Weinidog, gan y credaf y byddai San Steffan wedi gomedd inni gael y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol pe na baem wedi cytuno i hyn, felly nid oes rithyn o feirniadaeth yma o'r safbwynt y mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi'i fabwysiadu. Bu'n rhaid iddi dderbyn na symudid ymlaen o gwbl oni roddem yr ymgymeriad hwn.

Ar nodyn mwy cadarnhaol, yr ydym wedi clywed bod y Llywodraeth yn bwriadu symud ymlaen ar fater tlodi plant. Byddwn yn craffu ar y Mesur hwnnw, gyda'r bwriad yn wastad o'i wella. Credwn ei fod yn agenda priodol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ac yn un a ddylai gael y flaenoriaeth uchaf.

Fodd bynnag, ar ryw bwynt yn y dyfodol, dylem edrych ar Fesur ynghylch swydd Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, yn bennaf er mwyn codi'r swydd i'r safonau rhyngwladol gorau. Mae'r swydd yn gweithredu'n ymarferol ar safon uchel—nid oes amheuaeth ynglŷn â hynny—ond dylai fod yn atebol i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, a dylai'r comisiynydd gael ei benodi'n ffurfiol gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, ac ni ddylai fod yn gysylltiedig â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Yr wyf yn siŵr y gwel Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru y rhinwedd yn hynny, a hithau wedi cyflwyno polisi dychmygus lawer blwyddyn yn ôl wrth sefydlu'r swydd yn y lle cyntaf, a ddilynwyd gan wledydd eraill y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae'n bryd inni fynd gam ymhellach a sicrhau safon aur yn nhermau swydd Comisiynydd Plant Cymru.

Wedi dweud hynny, yr ydym yn barod i gefnogi'r gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn; yr wyf yn ei ategu ac yn gobeithio y caiff gefnogaeth drawsbleidiol.

Kirsty Williams: Bydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru'n cefnogi'r Gorchymyn, a chrosawn y tynnu pwerau i lawr yn y maes hwn.

Ys dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn gynharach, mae'r gyfraith yn y maes hwn yn

a number of existing Acts. There is benefit in taking the opportunity to bring laws that affect children in Wales into one comprehensive piece of legislation. However, as we have heard from other speakers, the process has not been without difficulty. I would like to associate my comments with those made by Lesley Griffiths with regards to Karen Sinclair and her chairing of the committee, and my party wishes her well at this difficult time.

The process does have to be looked at. We must have a robust mechanism by which we can scrutinise LCOs should they be subject to amendment. That has been a problem for the housing LCO as well as for this one. The decision that the Business Committee has made to date, which would put the matter in the hands of the Presiding Officer alone is not a robust position to take. We need to look carefully at setting up a mechanism—

Alun Davies: Thank you for giving way. I agree with the point that you are making. Would you not agree that the best way to address this would be to ensure that the committee owns the process of the LCO and that the committee takes the decision on being content with the process rather than allowing the Presiding Officer to take that decision?

4.50 p.m.

Kirsty Williams: I am so glad that the Presiding Officer is not here, and I am banking on the fact that he will not check the Record, and that if he does he will have forgotten what I am about to say by September, but I could not agree with you more.

David Melding: You will not be called to speak for a while now.

Kirsty Williams: This should be the preserve of the committee and the committee members who are looking at the piece of legislation. They are the people who are best placed to judge whether or not any changes to the Order have been substantial. I suspect that

dameidiog ac yn wasgaredig ymysg nifer o Ddeddfau presennol. Mae mantais mewn cymryd y cyfle i ddod â deddfau sy'n effeithio ar blant yng Nghymru i mewn i un darn cynhwysfawr o ddeddfwriaeth. Fodd bynnag, fel y clywsom gan siaradwyr eraill, ni fu'r broses heb ei hanawsterau. Hoffwn gysylltu fy sylwadau â'r rhai a wnaethpwyd gan Lesley Griffiths ynglŷn â Karen Sinclair a'i chadeiryddiaeth ar y pwyllgor, ac mae fy mhlaidd yn dymuno'n dda iddi ar yr adeg anodd hon.

Mae'n rhaid edrych ar y broses. Rhaid inni gael peirianwaith cadarn ar gyfer craffu ar Orchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol os byddant yn destun gwelliant. Bu hynny'n broblem gyda'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ynghylch tai yn ogystal â hwn. Nid yw'r penderfyniad y mae'r Pwyllgor Busnes wedi'i wneud hyd yma, a fyddai'n rhoi'r mater yn nwylo'r Llywydd yn unig, yn safbwynt cryf i'w gymryd. Mae angen inni edrych yn ofalus ar sefydlu peirianwaith—

Alun Davies: Diolch am ildio. Cytunaf â'r pwynt yr ydych yn ei wneud. Oni chytunech chi mai'r ffordd orau i ymdrin â hyn fyddai sicrhau bod y pwyllgor yn berchen ar broses y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol a bod y pwyllgor yn gwneud y penderfyniad ynghylch bod yn fodlon â'r broses yn hytrach na chaniatáu i'r Llywydd wneud y penderfyniad hwnnw?

Kirsty Williams: Yr wyf mor falch nad yw'r Llywydd yma, ac yr wyf yn dibynnu ar y ffaith na wnaiff wirio'r Cofnod, ac os gwnaiff, y bydd wedi anghofio am yr hyn yr wyf ar fin ei ddweud erbyn mis Medi, ond ni allwn gytuno mwy â chi.

David Melding: Ni chewch eich galw i siarad am sbel yn awr.

Kirsty Williams: Dylai hyn fod yn eiddo'r pwyllgor a'r aelodau pwyllgor sydd yn edrych ar y darn o ddeddfwriaeth. Dyna'r bobl sydd yn y sefyllfa orau i farnu a fu unrhyw newidiadau i'r Gorchymyn yn rhai sylweddol ai peidio. Amheuf na chewch chi

both you and I will not be called to speak for several months to come.

However, the process has to be considered again. People have been polite about the Welsh Affairs Committee this afternoon. Apparently it was not possible to timetable a joint meeting with it, but remarkably it was possible for an invitation to be extended to us to go and watch it do its work. I do not think that I need to say more on that.

*Daeth y Dirprwy Lywydd (Rosemary Butler) i'r Gadair am 4.51 p.m.
The Deputy Presiding Officer (Rosemary Butler) took the Chair at 4.51 p.m.*

The Minister had kind words to say about the committee's work and how hard we worked, but it is a pity that she did not take on board more of the suggestions that the committee made. They were not put forward to embarrass the Government, to make it look bad or to put it in a difficult position. Having heard the evidence that we heard, we genuinely felt that our suggestions were useful additions that could have been made to the Order.

I share David Melding's frustration on the physical chastisement issue. It cannot be right that we will not have those powers. David is right: we had the opportunity to take a bold step in Wales that would have led to change across the nation, but the Minister had to deal with the reality in which she was placed by London and, like David, I feel that she had little choice but to proceed as she has, but it is a matter of regret.

We have a continuing problem with child poverty in Wales. Twenty-eight per cent of children live in poverty, and that figure has remained the same for the last two years. We had an additional 3,000 families with dependent children registered as homeless last year alone, and 15 per cent of our children are living in workless households. I trust that the Measures that will arise out of these new powers will help us to address that. However, let us be realistic—it is through the tax and benefits system that we will truly address the most pressing issues of poverty and, although we can get social services, the education service and all the other services to

na minnau ein galw i siarad am fisoedd lawer i ddod.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n rhaid ystyried y broses eto. Mae pobl wedi bod yn gwrtais am y Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig y prynhawn yma. Yn ôl pob tebyg ni fu'n bosibl trefnu amser ar gyfer cyd-gyfarfod ag ef, ond yn rhyfeddol bu'n bosibl estyn gwahoddiad i ni fynd i'w wyllo wrth ei waith. Nid wyf yn meddwl bod angen imi ddweud mwy am hynny.

Yr oedd gan y Gweinidog eiriau caredig i'w dweud am waith y pwyllgor ac mor galed y buom yn gweithio, ond mae'n drueni na dderbyniodd ragor o'r awgrymiadau a wnaeth y pwyllgor. Ni chawsant eu cynnig er mwyn peri embaras i'r Llywodraeth, i wneud iddi edrych yn ddrwg nac i'w rhoi mewn sefyllfa anodd. Wedi clywed y dystiolaeth a glywsom, teimlem yn wirioneddol fod ein hawgrymiadau'n ychwanegiadau buddiol y gallasid eu gwneud i'r Gorchymyn.

Rhannaf rwystredigaeth David Melding ar fater cosb gorfforol. Ni all fod yn iawn na chawn y pwerau hynny. Mae David yn iawn: cawsom y cyfle i gymryd cam eofn yng Nghymru a fuasai wedi arwain at newid ar draws y genedl, ond yr oedd yn rhaid i'r Gweinidog ddelio â'r realiti yr oedd Llundain wedi ei gosod ynddi ac, fel David, teimlaf nad oedd ganddi fawr o ddewis ond bwrw ymlaen fel y gwnaeth, ond y mae'n destun gofid.

Mae gennym broblem barhaus gyda thlodi plant yng Nghymru. Mae 28 y cant o blant yn byw mewn tlodi, ac mae'r ffigur hwnnw wedi aros yn ei unfan ers dwy flynedd. Bu gennym 3,000 o deuluoedd ychwanegol â phlant dibynnol wedi'u cofrestru'n ddi-gartref y llynedd yn unig, ac mae 15 y cant o'n plant yn byw ar aelwydydd lle nad oes neb yn gweithio. Hyderaf y bydd y Mesurau a gyfyd o'r pwerau newydd hyn yn ein helpu i fynd i'r afael â hynny. Fodd bynnag, gadewch inni fod yn realistig—trwy'r system dreth a budd-daliadau yr awn i'r afael go iawn â materion mwyaf pwysfawr tlodi ac, er y gallwn gael y gwasanaethau cymdeithasol, y gwasanaeth

work more closely together, it is that mechanism that will make a real difference.

I concur with David's comments on the children's commissioner, but I know that my colleague, Eleanor Burnham, should she be lucky enough to catch the Deputy Presiding Officer's eye, wishes to expand on that.

Finally, we welcome the Order despite its limitations and the problems with process that we have experienced, and we trust that the Minister will be quick to bring forward the Measures that will arise out of it.

Nerys Evans: Croesawaf y ddadl hon oherwydd, o ran egwyddor, yr ydym am weld llawer o Orchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn cael eu cymeradwyo er mwyn ymestyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol y Cynulliad. Ategaf y diolch a roddwyd i Karen Sinclair am ei gwaith yn cadeirio'r pwyllgor.

Er i mi fod yn aelod o'r pwyllgor a oedd yn craffu ar y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ar blant sy'n agored i niwed, nid wyf am fanlyu ar ei gynnwys. Fel sydd wedi'i grybwyll, yr oedd y Gorchymyn arfaethedig yr oeddem ni yn craffu arno am fisoedd yn wahanol i'r Gorchymyn o'n blaenau heddiw—mae hyd yn oed yr enw yn wahanol.

Dywedais eisoes fy mod yn cefnogi'r Gorchymyn gan fy mod yn cefnogi'r egwyddor o drosglwyddo grym. Hoffwn ganolbwyntio ar y broses mewn tri phwynt penodol. Bu'r pwyllgor yn clywed tystiolaeth werthfawr oddi wrth nifer o sefydliadau, gan gynnwys Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, Cymdeithas Mabwysiadu a Maethu Prydain, Achub y Plant, Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru, Barnardo's, Plant yng Nghymru a Mind, gan argymhell newidiadau yn sgîl y dystiolaeth ddefnyddiol honno i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad. Fodd bynnag, un neu ddau o argymhellion y pwyllgor yn unig a dderbyniwyd gan y Llywodraeth. Yn ogystal â hynny, yr oedd y Gorchymyn wedi newid gymaint, yr oedd y pwyllgor yn teimlo'n gryf nad oedd modd cynnig unrhyw sylwadau pellach arno. Derbyniaf fod gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad berffaith hawl i newid yr LCO

addysg a'r holl wasanaethau eraill i gydweithio'n agosach, y peirianwaith hwnnw fydd y peth a wnaiff wahaniaeth go iawn.

Yr wyf yn cyd-fynd â sylwadau David am y comisiynydd plant, ond gwn fod fy nghyd-Aelod, Eleanor Burnham, os bydd yn ddigon ffodus i ddal llygad y Dirprwy Lywydd, yn dymuno ymhelaethu ar hynny.

Yn olaf, croesawn y Gorchymyn er gwaethaf ei gyfyngiadau a'r problemau gyda'r broses a brofwyd gennym, a hyderwn y bydd y Gweinidog yn gyflym i ddwyn ymlaen y Mesurau a gyfyd ohono.

Nerys Evans: I welcome this debate because, as a matter of principle, we want to see many legislative competence Orders being approved in order to extend the Assembly's legislative competence. I echo the thanks given to Karen Sinclair for her work in chairing the committee.

Even though I was a member of the committee that scrutinised the vulnerable children legislative competence Order, I do not want to go into detail on its content. As has been mentioned, the proposed Order that we scrutinised for months is not the one before us now—even the name has changed.

I have already said that I support the Order because I support the principle of transferring power. I would like to concentrate on the process in three specific points. The committee heard valuable evidence from a number of organisations, including the Children's Commissioner for Wales, the British Association for Adoption and Fostering, Save the Children, the Welsh Local Government Association, Barnardo's, Children in Wales and Mind, and suggested changes to the Assembly Government as a result of that useful evidence. However, the Government only accepted one or two of the committee's recommendations. In addition, the Order changed so much that the committee felt strongly that it could not offer any further comment on it. I accept that the Assembly Government has every right to change the proposed LCO, but we must

arfaethedig, ond mae'n rhaid i ni gwestiynu pwrpas cynnal cyfarfodydd o fis Medi hyd Ionawr gan gymryd tystiolaeth werthfawr oddi wrth fudiadau a sefydliadau sydd wedi ystyried, dadansoddi, a chyflwyno sylwadau ac argymhellion ar yr LCO os mai bwriad Llywodraeth y Cynulliad oedd cyflwyno LCO hollol wahanol.

As the committee agreed that we were unable to comment on the new LCO, which was changed from the vulnerable children LCO to one on social welfare and other fields, and we did not feel that it was fair to ask organisations, charities, and so on to submit more evidence and recommendations within the tight deadlines, we felt that, as an absolute minimum, we should hold joint scrutiny sessions with the Welsh Affairs Committee, as we have heard this afternoon. After setting a date for one joint scrutiny session, the Welsh Affairs Committee informed us, with only two days' notice, that it had postponed the meeting and that it believed it to be more 'appropriate' for us to attend its committee on another date as observers only. Therefore, the only scrutiny that has been carried out on this LCO has been in one meeting of the Welsh Affairs Committee. That is totally unacceptable and is a reflection of the inadequacies of the current situation. I would also like to question the advice of that committee that it was somehow inappropriate for us to carry out joint scrutiny and that it was more appropriate for us to attend its meeting as observers.

Finally, as David mentioned, this LCO received attention at the end of the last year with regard to the possibility of the Assembly's gaining powers to ban the smacking of children. When the Government of Wales Act 2006 was at the Bill stage in Westminster, we heard from our then, beloved Secretary of State, Peter Hain, that LCOs would transfer powers without there being a need for detail on future Measures that would flow from the transfer of competence. The committee received evidence from organisations and charities that showed that there was a clear consensus regarding the need to ensure that the draft LCO was wide enough to enable the Assembly to draw up future Measures to ban

question the purpose of holding meetings from September until January, taking valuable evidence from organisations that have considered, analysed and submitted comments and recommendations on the LCO, if the intention of the Assembly Government was to table a completely different LCO.

Gan i'r pwyllgor gytuno na allem roi sylw ar y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol newydd, a newidiwyd o'r gorchymyn ar blant bregus i un ar les cymdeithasol a meysydd eraill, ac nad oeddem yn teimlo ei bod yn deg gofyn i gyrff, elusennau ac ati gyflwyno mwy o dystiolaeth ac argymhellion o fewn y terfynau amser tynn iawn, teimlem y dylem o leiaf gynnal sesiynau cyd-graffu gyda'r Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig, fel y clywsom y prynhawn yma. Ar ôl pennu dyddiad ar gyfer un sesiwn cyd-graffu, dywedodd y Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig wrthym, heb ddim ond deuddydd o rybudd, ei fod wedi gohirio'r cyfarfod ac y credai y byddai'n fwy 'priodol' inni ymweld â'i bwyllgor ar ddyddiad arall fel arsylwyr yn unig. Felly, yr unig graffu sydd wedi'i wneud ar y gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn yw mewn un cyfarfod o'r Pwyllgor Materion Cymreig. Mae hynny'n gwbl annerbyniol ac yn adlewyrchiad o ddiffygion y sefyllfa bresennol. Hoffwn hefyd gwestiynu cyngor y pwyllgor hwnnw ei bod rywsut yn amhriodol inni graffu ar y cyd a'i bod yn fwy priodol inni fynd i'w gyfarfod fel arsylwyr.

Yn olaf, fel y soniodd David, cafodd y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn sylw ddiwedd y llynedd gyda golwg ar y posibilrwydd i'r Cynulliad gael pwerau i wahardd taro plant. Pan oedd Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 yn Fesur yn mynd drwy San Steffan, clywsom gan ein hoff Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ar y pryd, Peter Hain, y byddai gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn trosglwyddo pwerau heb fod angen manylu ar Fesurau a lifai yn y dyfodol o'r trosglwyddo cymhwysedd. Cymerodd y pwyllgor dystiolaeth gan gyrff ac elusennau a ddangosodd fod consensws clir ynglŷn â'r angen i sicrhau bod y gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol drafft yn ddigon eang i alluogi'r Cynulliad i

smacking children in Wales. The London Government said that it would stop playing and would take its ball home unless the LCO was narrowed so that it did not include the possibility for us to decide in the Assembly to ban the smacking of children in Wales. I understand the position that the Welsh Assembly Government was put in. In order not to jeopardise the entire LCO and transfer of competence, the Assembly Government narrowed the LCO to suit Westminster, even though the Assembly Government's legal advice contradicted that of the Westminster Government—the Assembly has already set a precedent by passing legislation to stop physical punishment in care homes and so on.

The Deputy Minister said in her opening remarks that the Welsh Assembly Government has made its voice heard in Westminster. She is right that there has been a consensus in Wales, but it is disappointing that the Welsh Assembly Government did not stand up to Westminster on this issue. It is not only a constitutional issue, but is something that would benefit the children of Wales.

This situation should not be allowed to set a precedent. The Westminster Government should not be allowed to hold the Welsh Assembly Government or the National Assembly for Wales's LCOs to ransom because it does not agree politically with any potential Measures that may, or may not, be passed in the future. It is an unacceptable situation. I hope that the Westminster Government heard the same message coming loud and clear from the Welsh Assembly Government.

As stated, we completely support this LCO. As the Deputy Minister said, we need the powers in Wales to create legislation to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families in Wales.

Eleanor Burnham: I speak as the Welsh Liberal Democrats' spokesperson on children and young people, and not as a member of the LCO committee. However, I would like to commend and thank Karen Sinclair and

lunio Mesurau yn y dyfodol i wahardd taro plant yng Nghymru. Dywedodd Llywodraeth Llundain y byddai'n rhoi'r gorau i chwarae ac yn mynd â'i phêl adref oni chai'r gorchymyn ei gulhau fel na fyddai'n cynnwys y posibilrwydd i ni benderfynu yn y Cynulliad i wahardd taro plant yng Nghymru. Deallaf y sefyllfa y rhoddwyd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ynddi. Er mwyn peidio â pheryglu'r holl orchymyn a'r trosglwyddiad cymhwysedd, culhaodd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad y Gorchymyn i blesio San Steffan, er bod cyngor cyfreithiol Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn groes i eiddo Llywodraeth San Steffan—mae'r Cynulliad eisoes wedi gosod cynsail drwy basio deddfwriaeth i atal cosb corfforol mewn cartrefi gofal ac ati.

Dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog yn ei sylwadau agoriadol fod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi sicrhau y clywid ei llais yn San Steffan. Mae hi'n iawn y cafwyd consensws yng Nghymru, ond mae'n destun siom na safodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yn erbyn San Steffan ar y mater hwn. Nid mater cyfansoddiadol yn unig mohono, ond rhywbeth a fyddai er budd i blant Cymru.

Ni ddylid caniatáu i'r sefyllfa hon osod cynsail. Ni ddylid caniatáu i Lywodraeth San Steffan ddal Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru na gorchmynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru yn wystl oherwydd nad yw'n cytuno'n wleidyddol ag unrhyw ddarpar Fesurau y gellid eu pasio, neu beidio, yn y dyfodol. Mae'n sefyllfa annerbyniol. Gobeithiaf y clywodd Llywodraeth San Steffan yr un neges yn dod yn glir ac yn hygryw oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Fel y dywedais, yr ydym yn cefnogi'r gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn yn llwyr. Fel y dywedodd y Dirprwy Weinidog, mae arnom angen y pwerau yng Nghymru i greu deddfwriaeth i wella bywydau plant a theuluoedd bregus yng Nghymru.

Eleanor Burnham: Siaradaf fel llefarydd Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru ar blant a phobl ifanc, ac nid fel aelod o bwyllgor y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Fodd bynnag, hoffwn gymeradwyo Karen

wish her all the best. I am sure that Lesley has done a wonderful job in the meantime.

It is obvious that, in the context of Wales, this LCO is desperately needed. The context is that 28 per cent of children in Wales live in poverty; there has been no improvement in child poverty figures in the last two years. More than 15 per cent of children live in workless households, and more than 20 per cent live with a disabled parent. There were also around 3,000 new homeless households with dependent children in 2007. I know that those aspects are at the heart of that which the Deputy Minister is trying to do. However, I share the concerns that have already been voiced about the changes in the LCO as it progressed, particularly with regard to the details concerning the smacking of children, which were taken out.

I would like to draw your attention to a few points that the children's commissioner has been campaigning on with regard to better and improved powers, believing that the Government of Wales Act 2006 provided the Assembly Government with the opportunity to lead by example by reviewing the powers, and ensuring that Wales is at the forefront of global best practice. The children's commissioner believes that this LCO may provide an opportunity for such a review.

5.00 p.m.

Many other points have been made, and I know that we probably do not have time to discuss them all. However, the suggestion that we have the power to intervene or assist in legal proceedings before any court or tribunal is admirable. The children's commissioner would also like to see the age bands correspond with those in the LCO, because at present, the children's commissioner's remit only covers care leavers up to the age of 25, and does not extend to all young people. That is an important issue, and I can see that the Deputy Minister is listening to that point.

Sinclair a dymuno'r gorau iddi. Yr wyf yn siŵr bod Lesley wedi gwneud gwaith ardderchog yn y cyfamser.

Mae'n amlwg, yng nghyd-destun Cymru, fod angen dirfawr am y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn. Y cyd-destun yw bod 28 y cant o blant yng Nghymru'n byw mewn tloedi; ni fu dim gwelliant yn ffigurau tloedi plant yn y ddwy flynedd diwethaf. Mae mwy na 15 y cant o blant yn byw mewn aelwydydd lle nad oes neb yn gweithio, ac mae mwy nag 20 y cant yn byw gyda rhiant anabl. Yr oedd hefyd oddeutu 3,000 o deuluoedd digartref newydd gyda phlant dibynnol yn 2007. Gwn fod yr agweddau hynny wrth graidd yr hyn y mae'r Dirprwy Weinidog yn ceisio'i wneud. Fodd bynnag, rhannaf y pryderon sydd eisoes wedi'u lleisio ynglŷn â'r newidiadau yn y gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol wrth iddo fynd yn ei flaen, yn enwedig parthed y manylion ynghylch taro plant, a dynnwyd allan.

Hoffwn dynnu eich sylw at ychydig o bwyntiau y mae'r comisiynydd plant wedi bod yn ymgyrchu arnynt o safbwynt pwerau gwell, gan gredu bod Deddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006 wedi rhoi cyfle i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad arwain drwy esiampl drwy adolygu'r pwerau, a sicrhau bod Cymru ar flaen y gad o ran arferion gorau byd-eang. Cred y comisiynydd plant y gall y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn gynnig cyfle ar gyfer adolygiad o'r fath.

Mae llawer o bwyntiau eraill wedi'u gwneud, a gwn nad oes gennym amser, mae'n debyg, i'w trafod i gyd. Fodd bynnag, mae'r awgrym bod y pŵer gennym i ymyrryd mewn achosion cyfreithiol sydd gerbron unrhyw lys neu dribiwnlys neu gynorthwyo gydag achosion o'r fath, yn beth rhagorol. Byddai'r comisiynydd plant hefyd yn hoffi gweld y bandiau oedran yn cyfateb â'r rheini yn y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, oherwydd ar hyn o bryd, nid yw cylch gorchwyl y comisiynydd plant ond yn ymwneud â phobl sy'n gadael gofal hyd at 25 oed, ac nid yw'n ymestyn i bob person ifanc. Mae hynny'n fater pwysig, a gallaf weld bod y Dirprwy Weinidog yn gwrando ar y pwynt hwnnw.

Will the Assembly Government ensure that the LCO is used correctly and effectively to update the children's commissioner's powers, so that Wales stays at the forefront of providing the best possible services for children? That is absolutely essential. I also believe that the Assembly Government must ensure that it puts enough funding into the current initiatives. Just the other day, at an event hosted by a worthy organisation called Family and Friends in Wrexham, a lecturer from Keele University made some pertinent points on this issue, and suggested that we need to integrate the many initiatives out there, and ensure that funding is available for them.

I believe that the Welsh Affairs Select Committee raised the question of the formal definition of whistleblowing in the Order, saying that the children's commissioner had mentioned complaints about not safeguarding the rights of children. The report questioned the fact that whistleblowing is not referred to in the revised Order. In a memorandum to the Assembly committee, the commissioner stated that it was vital that that function be retained.

Finally, the Welsh Affairs Select Committee recommends that the Order should do nothing to weaken the existing powers of the children's commissioner in relation to whistleblowing. It is a very important point.

Ann Jones: I put on record my thanks to Karen and the committee for the way in which the legislative competence Order has been produced. It contains some very good things, and will help to safeguard vulnerable children. Unfortunately, there was a decision today by Denbighshire County Council to close its 52-week residential centre at Hyfrydle. This LCO has come too late for children there. The council's decision was taken in the light of what I believe to be untested evidence, and I hope that any Measure arising from this LCO will look at the information that local authorities use in making their plans for children—and for vulnerable children in particular—so that we

A wnaiff Llywodraeth y Cynulliad sicrhau bod y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol yn cael ei ddefnyddio'n gywir ac yn effeithiol i ddiweddarau pwerau'r comisiynydd plant, er mwyn i Gymru aros ar flaen y gad o ran darparu'r gwasanaethau gorau posibl ar gyfer plant? Mae hynny'n gwbl hanfodol. Credaf hefyd ei bod yn rhaid i Lywodraeth y Cynulliad sicrhau ei bod yn bwydo digon o arian i'r cynlluniau sydd gennym eisoes. Dim ond y diwrnod o'r blaen, mewn digwyddiad a gynhaliwyd gan fudiad clodwiw o'r enw Teulu a Ffrindiau yn Wrecsam, gwnaeth darlithydd o Brifysgol Keele ychydig o bwyntiau perthnasol am y mater, gan awgrymu bod angen inni integreiddio'r llw o gynlluniau sydd ar waith, a sicrhau bod arian ar gael ar eu cyfer.

Credaf i'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig holi ynglŷn â diffiniad ffurfiol chwythu'r chwiban yn y Gorchymyn, gan ddweud bod y comisiynydd plant wedi crybwyll cwynion ynglŷn â pheidio â diogelu hawliau plant. Yr oedd yr adroddiad yn cwestiynu'r ffaith nad oes cyfeiriad at chwythu'r chwiban yn y Gorchymyn diwygiedig. Mewn memorandwm i bwyllgor y Cynulliad, dywedodd y comisiynydd ei bod yn hanfodol cadw'r swyddogaeth honno.

Yn olaf, mae'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig yn argymhell na ddylai'r Gorchymyn wneud dim i wanhau'r pwerau sydd gan y comisiynydd plant ar hyn o bryd o ran chwythu'r chwiban. Mae'n bwynt pwysig iawn.

Ann Jones: Cofnodaf fy niolch i Karen ac i'r pwyllgor am y ffordd y mae'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol wedi'i lunio. Mae'n cynnwys nifer o bethau da iawn, a bydd yn gymorth i ddiogelu plant agored i niwed. Yn anffodus, heddiw, penderfynodd Cyngor Sir Ddinbych gau ei ganolfan breswyl 52-wythnos yn Hyfrydle. Mae'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn wedi dod yn rhy hwyr i'r plant yno. Gwnaeth y cyngor ei benderfyniad yng ngoleuni'r hyn sydd, yn fy marn i, yn dystiolaeth sydd heb ei phrofi, a gobeithiaf y bydd unrhyw Fesur sy'n codi o'r Gorchymyn hwn yn edrych ar y wybodaeth a ddefnyddia awdurdodau lleol wrth lunio'u cynlluniau ar

can stop decisions such as this.

It was a split decision, and I am sorry to say that there are Members opposite on the Tory benches who have colleagues in that council cabinet who, disgracefully, voted to close the centre. It has only been open six months. I would like to see a Measure come through whereby, when the Assembly Government has—

The Deputy Presiding Officer: Will you take an intervention?

Ann Jones: Yes.

Mark Isherwood: I endorse your comments, and I confirm that I called on the Conservative members of that cabinet to do otherwise.

Ann Jones: I am glad that you did so. However, you need to go back to them and ask why they have done this on the basis of information that I believe is incorrect.

Turning back to the Order, how we will address some of the issues that I have just raised about Hyfrydle—for vulnerable children, and children on the autistic spectrum? How will we ensure that parents can look forward to a safe environment for their children? Parents of vulnerable children do not take the decision to place them in a residential home lightly. It is not an easy decision to put your child into residential care, and they should be supported, not thwarted like the parents in Denbighshire.

My other point is on child-proofing. I would like to see more Measures child-proofed in relation to child poverty, but also in relation to their impact on children more generally. We must look at where we are taking our young people, and how we deal with them. We need not demonise young people all the time, and I hope that that will be reflected in the Measures arising from this Order. I place on record my thanks to the Deputy Minister for the way that she has taken this forward.

gyfer plant—ac ar gyfer plant agored i niwed yn enwedig—er mwyn inni allu atal penderfyniadau fel hyn.

Yr oedd y farn wedi'i holli, ac mae'n ddrwg gennyf ddweud bod Aelodau gyferbyn ar feinciau'r Torïaid y mae ganddynt gyfeillion yng nghabinet y cyngor hwnnw, a bleidleisiodd, rhag eu cywilydd, o blaid cau'r ganolfan. Dim ond ers chwe mis y mae ar agor. Hoffwn weld Mesur yn dod drwodd, pan fydd gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad—

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: A wnewch dderbyn ymyriad?

Ann Jones: Gwnaf.

Mark Isherwood: Atefaff eich sylwadau, a gallaf gadarnhau imi alw ar aelodau Ceidwadol y cabinet hwnnw i wneud fel arall.

Ann Jones: Yr wyf yn falch ichi wneud hynny. Fodd bynnag, mae angen ichi fynd yn ôl atynt a gofyn pam eu bod wedi gwneud hyn ar sail gwybodaeth sydd, mi gredaf, yn anghywir.

A dychwelyd at y Gorchymyn, sut yr awn i'r afael â rhai o'r materion yr wyf newydd eu codi am Hyfrydle—ar gyfer plant agored i niwed, a phlant ar y sbectwm awtistig? Sut y byddwn yn sicrhau y gall rhieni edrych ymlaen at amgylchedd diogel ar gyfer eu plant? Nid ar chwarae bach y bydd rhieni plant agored i niwed yn penderfynu eu rhoi mewn cartref preswyl. Nid penderfyniad rhwydd yw rhoi eich plentyn mewn gofal preswyl, a dylid eu cefnogi, nid gwneud pethau'n anos iddynt fel sydd wedi digwydd i rieni Sir Ddinbych.

Mae a wnelo fy mhwynt arall ag ystyried yr effaith ar blant. Hoffwn weld yr effaith ar dlodi plant yn cael ei hystyried mewn rhagor o Fesurau, ond hefyd bod eu heffaith ar blant yn cael ei hystyried yn fwy cyffredinol. Rhaid inni ystyried i ble'r ydym yn mynd â'n pobl ifanc, a sut yr ydym yn ymdrin â hwy. Nid oes angen inni wneud pobl ifanc yn esgymun o hyd, a gobeithio yr adlewyrchir hynny yn y Mesurau a fydd yn codi o'r Gorchymyn hwn. Hoffwn gofnodi fy niolch i'r Dirprwy Weinidog am y ffordd y mae

wedi bwrw ymlaen â hyn.

The Deputy Minister for Social Services (Gwenda Thomas): I am very grateful to Members for their considered and helpful contributions this afternoon. Kirsty made a positive point about the issue of the consolidation of the law. I am grateful to you for that, Kirsty. Ann Jones mentioned the issue in Denbighshire, which we heard about earlier this afternoon. I am not going to comment specifically on that issue now, but we do share the concerns expressed. The point that was made about demonising children is very important. I meet children and young people throughout Wales and a common theme that is brought to me is that they do not want to be demonised and they do not feel that they deserve to be. I think that a strong message to the press and the media, from the Chamber this afternoon, is very appropriate.

Lesley, David, Kirsty, Nerys and Eleanor all mentioned the scrutiny process. I assure Members that the Order before you today has been improved as a result of the changes and it continues to provide a broad scope to allow us to achieve our aims. The process of developing legislative competence Orders is a new one and there is no precedent for this kind of Order. As has already been said, it is a learning process for all concerned. We have ensured that the whole process concerning this Order has been transparent. When the LCO was amended, I wrote to AMs and the Proposed Vulnerable Children LCO Committee, as Lesley has said, to explain the changes made to the LCO. Although the LCO committee did not choose to comment at that stage, it was given an opportunity to do so when the Business Committee referred the revised LCO back to the committee for further consideration. However, the Business Committee has since determined that, as a general principle, further committee scrutiny is not necessary in cases where the version of the LCO presented to Parliament is different from that introduced in the Assembly, since the Assembly will have an opportunity to consider the final draft LCO in Plenary. In future, it will be for the Presiding Officer to determine whether or not an LCO has undergone significant changes and would

Y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Gwenda Thomas): Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar iawn i'r Aelodau am eu cyfraniadau meddylgar a buddiol y prynhawn yma. Gwnaeth Kirsty bwynt cadarnhaol ynglŷn ag atgyfnerthu'r gyfraith. Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar ichi am hynny, Kirsty. Crybwyllodd Ann Jones y broblem yn Sir Ddinbych, y clywsom amdani'n gynharach y prynhawn yma. Nid wyf am sôn yn benodol am hynny yn awr, ond yr ydym yn cytuno â'r pryderon a fynegwyd. Mae'r pwynt a wnaethpwyd am wneud plant yn esgy mun plant yn bwysig iawn. Byddaf yn cyfarfod â phlant a phobl ifanc ledled Cymru ac un thema gyffredin a godir gyda mi yw nad yw nad ydynt am gael eu gwneud yn esgy mun a'u bod yn teimlo nad ydynt yn haeddu hynny. Credaf ei bod yn briodol iawn anfon neges gref i'r wasg ac i'r cyfryngau, o'r Siambr y prynhawn yma.

Soniodd Lesley, David, Kirsty, Nerys ac Eleanor i gyd am y broses craffu. Gallaf sicrhau'r Aelodau bod y Gorchymyn sydd ger eich bron heddiw wedi'i wella yn sgil y newidiadau a'i fod yn dal i gynnig cwm pas eang a fydd yn caniatáu inni wireddu'n hamcanion. Proses newydd yw'r broses datblygu Gorchymynion cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol ac nid oes cynsail ar gyfer y math hwn o Orchymyn. Fel y dywedwyd eisoes, proses dysgu yw hon i bawb sy'n ymwneud â hi. Yr ydym wedi sicrhau bod y broses drwyddi draw yng nghyswllt y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol hwn wedi bod yn dryloyw. Pan ddiwygiwyd y Gorchymyn, ysgrifennais at ACau ac at Bwyllgor y Gorchymyn arfaethedig ar gyfer Plant agored i Niwed, fel y mae Lesley wedi'i ddweud, i esbonio'r newidiadau i'r Gorchymyn. Er nad oedd pwyllgor y Gorchymyn yn dewis cynnig sylwadau bryd hynny, rhoddwyd cyfle iddo wneud hynny pan gyfeiriodd y Pwyllgor Busnes y gorchymyn diwygiedig yn ôl at y pwyllgor iddo'i ystyried eto. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Pwyllgor Busnes wedi penderfynu ers hynny, fel egwyddor gyffredinol, nad oes angen rhagor o graffu gan y pwyllgor lle bydd fersiwn y Gorchymyn a gyflwynir gerbron y Senedd yn wahanol i'r fersiwn a gyflwynir yn y Cynulliad, oherwydd y caiff y Cynulliad

warrant further legislative committee scrutiny.

On the issue of the UN convention, which was brought up by Lesley, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child deals with a range of rights that apply to children and young people, not all of which come within the National Assembly's devolved competence—examples include situations when children may be accused, immigration, and the age at which children can be recruited to the armed forces. That was why there was no designated reference to the UN charter.

Lesley, you also mentioned whistleblowing. In matter 15.7, which relates to functions of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, the Order does cover review and monitoring arrangements for dealing with complaints and representations made by or on behalf of children and young persons. That would, of course, cover complaints made by employees who are whistleblowers. Whistleblowing arrangements are also an aspect of safeguarding children from harm and neglect and so come within matter 15.2. That, therefore, does cover whistleblowing. Lesley, David and Kirsty mentioned child poverty. To define child poverty in the LCO would have restricted the competence conferred by the LCO. If you would like more details on that, I will write to you on that issue, because I am very aware of the time.

On the issue of smacking, I am very disappointed that we got to the stage that we did. Nevertheless, our focus at this stage is on securing the powers that we need to tackle child poverty and consolidate and reform the law relating to vulnerable children. The proposed Order will enable us to achieve those objectives. The absence of a specific exception does not mean that the Welsh Assembly Government accepts that the Assembly could never acquire the power to legislate to ban the physical punishment of children. As far as we are concerned, the

gyfle i ystyried y Gorchymyn drafft terfynol yn y Cyfarfod Llawn. Yn y dyfodol, y Llywydd a fydd yn penderfynu a yw Gorchymyn wedi newid yn sylweddol ac a fyddai angen i'r pwyllgor deddfu graffu arno eto.

O ran mater confensiwn y CU, a godwyd gan Lesley, mae Confensiwn y CU ar Hawliau'r Plentyn yn ymdrin ag ystod o hawliau nad ydynt ond yn berthnasol i blant a phobl ifanc, ac nid yw'r rheini i gyd yn dod o fewn cymhwysedd datganoledig y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Enghreifftiau o hyn yw sefyllfaoedd pan gaiff plant eu cyhuddo efallai, mewnfudo ac ar ba oedran y ceir recriwtio plant i'r lluoedd arfog. Dyna pam nad oedd cyfeiriad penodol at siarter y CU.

Lesley, soniasoch hefyd am chwythu'r chwiban. Ym mater 15.7, sy'n ymwneud â swyddogaethau Comisiynydd Plant Cymru, mae'r Gorchymyn yn ymwneud â'r trefniadau ar gyfer adolygu a monitro er mwyn ymdrin â chwynion a wneir gan blant a phobl ifanc neu ar eu rhan. Byddai hynny, wrth gwrs, yn cynnwys cwynion a wneir gan weithwyr sy'n chwythu'r chwiban. Mae trefniadau chwythu'r chwiban hefyd yn agwedd ar ddiogelu plant rhag niwed ac esgeulustod ac felly'n dod o fewn mater 15.2. Felly, mae hynny'n cynnwys chwythu'r chwiban, Lesley. Crybwyllodd David a Kirsty dlodi plant. Petaem wedi diffinio tlodi plant yn y Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol, byddai hynny wedi cyfyngu ar y cymhwysedd a roddid drwy'r Gorchymyn cymhwysedd deddfwriaethol. Os hoffech gael rhagor o fanylion am hynny, ysgrifennaf atoch yn ei gylch, oherwydd yr wyf yn ymwybodol iawn o'r amser.

O ran taro plant, yr wyf yn siomedig iawn ein bod wedi cyrraedd y fan lle y gwnaethom. Fodd bynnag, ar hyn o bryd, yr ydym yn canolbwyntio ar sicrhau'r pwerau y mae eu hangen arnom i fynd i'r afael â thlodi plant ac i atgyfnerthu a diwygio'r gyfraith sy'n ymwneud â phlant agored i niwed. Bydd y Gorchymyn arfaethedig yn ein galluogi i wireddu'r amcanion hynny. Nid yw'r diffyg eithriad penodol yn golygu bod Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n derbyn na allai'r Cynulliad byth gael y pŵer i ddeddfu er mwyn gwahardd cosbi plant yn gorfforol.

matter is left for another day. As I have already said to the Assembly committee, given the views expressed on many sides of the Assembly that the Assembly should be able to legislate on this issue, I have no reason, at this stage, to rule it out expressly.

5.10 p.m.

On the issue of the children's commissioner, and to refer, David and Eleanor, to the question of accountability, to clarify the current position on accountability, as I see it, the commissioner is not accountable to the Welsh Assembly Government—the Welsh Assembly Government and others are accountable to the commissioner for the impact of our actions on children. The Order does not build in any presumptions about who the children's commissioner should be accountable to. The determination of the functions, remit and accountability of the Children's Commissioner for Wales are matters for a future Measure.

I believe that I have covered most of the points raised, but I will check the record and attempt to do so if I have not. To conclude, I wish to pay tribute to the Assembly committee, and the Welsh Affairs Select Committee, for their comprehensive scrutiny, which has played an important role in shaping the Order that we have before us today. I also wish to add my personal thanks and best wishes to Karen. I also wish to express my thanks and gratitude to all the organisations and individuals who have contributed to the process with great enthusiasm, and with the positive aim of improving lives for children and young people in Wales, to ensure that the Order can provide sufficient scope to allow us to respond to those expectations.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is that the motion be agreed. Is there any objection? I see that there is not. In accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is therefore agreed.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

O'n safbwynt ni, mae'r mater wedi'i adael tan ddiwrnod arall. Fel yr wyf eisoes wedi'i ddweud wrth bwyllgor y Cynulliad, ac ystyried y farn a fynegwyd ar lawer ochr o'r Cynulliad y dylai'r Cynulliad allu deddfu ar y mater hwn, nid oes gennyf ddim rheswm, ar hyn o bryd, i'w ddiystyru'n benodol.

O ran mater y comisiynydd plant, gan gyfeirio, David ac Eleanor, at fater atebolrwydd, er mwyn egluro'r sefyllfa bresennol ynglŷn ag atebolrwydd fel y'i gwelaf, nid yw'r comisiynydd yn atebol i Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru—mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac eraill yn atebol i'r comisiynydd am effaith ein gweithredoedd ar blant. Nid yw'r Gorchymyn yn cynnwys unrhyw ragdybiaethau ynglŷn ag i bwy y dylai'r comisiynydd plant fod yn atebol. Materion ar gyfer Mesur yn y dyfodol fydd penderfynu ynglŷn â swyddogaethau, cylch gorchwyl ac atebolrwydd Comisiynydd Plant Cymru.

Credaf imi ymdrin â'r rhan fwyaf o'r pwyntiau a godwyd, ond edrychaf ar y cofnod a cheisio gwneud hynny os nad ydwyf. I gloi, dymunaf roi teyrnged i bwyllgor y Cynulliad, ac i'r Pwyllgor Dethol ar Faterion Cymreig, am eu gwaith craffu cynhwysfawr, sydd wedi chwarae rhan bwysig wrth lunio'r Gorchymyn sydd gennym ger ein bron heddiw. Dymunaf hefyd ychwanegu fy niolch personol a'm dymuniadau gorau i Karen. Yr wyf hefyd am fynegi fy niolch a'm gwerthfawrogiad i bob sefydliad ac unigolyn sydd wedi cyfrannu mor frwd at y broses, a gyda'r nod cadarnhaol o wella bywydau plant a phobl ifanc Cymru, er mwyn sicrhau bod modd i'r Gorchymyn gynnig digon o gwmpas inni allu ymateb i'r disgwyliadau hynny.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw ein bod yn derbyn y cynnig. A oes unrhyw wrthwynebiad? Gwelaf nad oes. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, derbynnir y cynnig.

Cymeradwyo Cyllideb Atodol Approval of a Supplementary Budget

The Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery (Andrew Davies): I propose that

the National Assembly for Wales, in accordance with Standing Order No. 27.21, approves the supplementary budget for the financial year 2007-08 laid in the Table Office by the Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery on Tuesday, 24 June 2008. (NDM3976)

This motion is the third supplementary budget for the financial year 2007-08. This is a technical budgetary exercise, which makes two changes to the supplementary budget approved by the Assembly on 11 March. Given the time, I will not go into any great detail, but the first point refers to the merger of the central administration and other ministerial services budgets, or ambits, retrospectively for 2007-08. The experience of the first year of operation under the Government of Wales Act 2006 has led us to conclude that the inclusion of a number of small ambits has not helped the effective management of Assembly Government resources, which is why we propose to merge those two ambits.

The second point refers to a small adjustment in the text of the children, education, lifelong learning and skills income ambit. The adjustment explicitly covers income in respect of student loans, and brings the text into alignment with that included in the 2008-09 final budget, approved by the Assembly on 22 January.

I wish to respond to the key points that the Finance Committee made in its report on this supplementary budget. I very much welcome the committee's report, and I am pleased to note that it is content for the other ministerial services and central administration ambits to be merged. It concludes that the Assembly should agree to the supplementary budget motion. The report asks for more information about the overspend on the E.coli inquiry; I

Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid a Chyflenwi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Andrew Davies): Cynigiau fod

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 27.21, yn cymeradwyo'r gyllideb atodol ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol 2007-08, a osodwyd yn y Swyddfa Gyflwyno gan y Gweinidog dros Gyllid a Chyflenwi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus ddydd Mawrth, 24 Mehefin 2008. (NDM3976)

Y cynnig hwn yw'r drydedd gyllideb atodol ar gyfer blwyddyn ariannol 2007-08. Ymarfer cyllidebu technegol yw hwn, sy'n newid y gyllideb atodol a gymeradwywyd gan y Cynulliad ar 11 Mawrth mewn dwy ffordd. A chofio faint o'r gloch yw hi, nid wyf yn bwriadu manylu'n fawr, ond mae'r pwynt cyntaf yn cyfeirio at uno cyllideb neu gwmpas y weinyddiaeth ganolog a chyllideb neu gwmpas y gwasanaethau gweinidogol eraill, yn ôl-weithredol ar gyfer 2007-08. Yn sgil ein profiad ym mlwyddyn gyntaf ein gweithredu dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Cymru 2006, yr ydym yn casglu nad yw cynnwys nifer o gwmpasau bychain wedi bod o gymorth i reoli adnoddau Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn effeithiol, a dyna pam y bwriadwn gyfuno'r ddau gwmpas hyn.

Mae'r ail bwynt yn cyfeirio at addasiad bychan yn nhestun y cwmpas ar gyfer incwm plant, addysg, dysgu gydol oes a sgiliau. Mae'r addasiad yn ymwneud yn benodol ag incwm ar gyfer benthyciadau myfyrwyr, ac mae'n cysoni'r testun â'r testun a oedd yng nghyllideb derfynol 2008-09, a gymeradwywyd gan y Cynulliad ar 22 Ionawr.

Dymunaf ymateb i'r pwyntiau allweddol a wnaeth y Pwyllgor Cyllid yn ei adroddiad am y gyllideb atodol hon. Croesawaf adroddiad y pwyllgor yn fawr iawn ac yr wyf yn falch o nodi ei fod yn fodlon i gwmpas y gwasanaethau gweinidogol eraill a chwmpas y weinyddiaeth ganolog gael eu huno. Mae'n casglu y dylai'r Cynulliad dderbyn y cynnig ynglŷn â'r gyllideb atodol. Mae'r adroddiad yn gofyn am ragor o wybodaeth ynglŷn â'r

will be more than happy to provide this in writing as part of my formal response to the committee's report.

The report also asks that the Government seeks the committee's views before making any further changes of this nature in the future; again, I am happy to commit to doing so. Finally, the Finance Committee report indicates that it would not normally expect a supplementary budget to be tabled after the year end; I agree, and I would not anticipate such supplementary budgets in future years. However, I note that, in this case, the Finance Committee has concluded that it is content to recommend that the Assembly agree to the supplementary budget motion.

Angela Burns: The Finance Committee was a little concerned to receive this supplementary budget motion, which seeks, as the Minister has explained, to authorise expenditure after the year to which it relates. In many ways, the specific issues here are not major, and the Finance Committee, as the Minister has already stated, has no difficulty with the proposals to remedy the Government's overspend, or the merging of the other ministerial services ambit and the central administration ambit. In the circumstances, this seems sensible.

However, this raises more fundamental questions. The Finance Committee notes that the latest supplementary budget motion would not have been necessary had the March supplementary budget motion not reduced the authorised amount of resources for other ministerial services. It has therefore had to conclude that the Government was unaware of the total level of E. coli expenditure for 2007-08 until just before, or possibly even after, the end of the inquiry. Therefore, the committee has asked to be told the reasons for the overspend and why it was not discovered until late in the day.

We do not object in principle to merging the two smaller ambits, and we are content for this to be done. However, it is disappointing

gorwario ar yr ymchwiliad E.coli. Byddaf yn fwy na bodlon darparu'r wybodaeth hon ar ffurf ysgrifenedig fel rhan o'm hymateb ffurfiol i adroddiad y pwyllgor.

Mae'r adroddiad yn gofyn hefyd ar i'r Llywodraeth geisio barn y pwyllgor cyn newid dim arall o'r natur hwn yn y dyfodol; unwaith eto, yr wyf yn fodlon ymrwymo i wneud hynny. Yn olaf, mae adroddiad y Pwyllgor Cyllid yn awgrymu na fyddai fel arfer yn disgwyl gweld cyllideb atodol yn cael ei gyflwyno ar ôl diwedd y flwyddyn; Cytunaf, ac ni fyddwn yn rhagweld cyllidebau atodol o'r fath yn y dyfodol. Fodd bynnag, nodaf, yn yr achos hwn, fod y Pwyllgor Cyllid wedi casglu ei fod yn fodlon argymhell bod y Cynulliad yn cytuno i'r cynnig ynglŷn â'r gyllideb atodol.

Angela Burns: Yr oedd y Pwyllgor Cyllid yn bryderus braidd o dderbyn y cynnig hwn ynglŷn â'r gyllideb atodol, sy'n ceisio, fel y mae'r Gweinidog wedi esbonio, awdurdodi gwariant ar ôl y flwyddyn y mae'n berthnasol iddo. Mewn llawer ffordd, nid yw'r materion penodol sydd dan sylw yma'n rhai pwysig, ac nid oes gan y Pwyllgor Cyllid, fel y mae'r Gweinidog wedi'i ddweud eisoes, anhawster gyda'r cynnig i wneud iawn am orwario'r Llywodraeth, na'r cynnig i gyfuno cwmpas y gwasanaethau gweinidogol eraill a chwmpas y weinyddiaeth ganolog. Dan yr amgylchiadau, mae hyn i bob golwg yn synhwyrol.

Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn codi cwestiynau mwy sylfaenol. Mae'r Pwyllgor Cyllid yn nodi na fuasai angen y cynnig diweddaraf ar gyfer cyllideb atodol oni bai fod y cynnig ar gyfer cyllideb atodol ym mis Mawrth wedi lleihau'r swm o adnoddau a awdurdodwyd ar gyfer y gwasanaethau gweinidogol eraill. Felly, bu'n rhaid iddo gasglu nad oedd y Llywodraeth yn ymwybodol o gyfanswm y gwariant ar E. coli ar gyfer 2007-08 tan ychydig cyn, neu o bosibl ychydig ar ôl, diwedd yr ymchwiliad. Felly, mae'r pwyllgor wedi gofyn am y rhesymau dros y gorwariant a pham na chanfuwyd hynny tan yn hwyr yn y dydd.

Ni wrthwynebwn uno dau faes llai mewn egwyddor, ac yr ydym yn fodlon i hyn gael ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, mae'n siomedig bod yn

that it has been done as a consequence of an overspend, and the committee is concerned that this does not signal a general approach to reducing transparency in the budget-setting process.

There is also a principle that the Government should seek authorisation from the Assembly for the use of resources. This is an important control, which should not be undermined, and the accounting officers have a duty to operate within the resource limits that have been authorised by the Assembly. Therefore, we are not normally content for a supplementary budget motion to be tabled after the year end, particularly when its sole purpose is to give retrospective authorisation to excessive expenditure, or to simply tidy-up before the accounts are audited.

At the end of the day, we are considering this motion because of poor financial management, on which, in other cases, the Assembly might have sought a report from the auditor general and a view from the Audit Committee before retrospectively authorising the amounts involved. Nonetheless, as we have already indicated to the Minister, given the nature and the small amount of the overspend, the Finance Committee is content to recommend that the Assembly agrees the supplementary budget motion.

As a Member I would like to say that today's debate illustrates the importance of having a Finance Committee to ensure that such issues are identified and properly scrutinised before being approved by the Assembly.

Nick Bourne: I thank the Minister for what he said, but I will pull him up on one or two points. He did not represent the whole truth when he suggested that we were having this supplementary budget debate to just merge ambits because they were small; the reason that we are looking at this is because there has been an overspend on one of those ambits. We are being asked to give retrospective authorisation—which he did not mention—to that overspend by merging two ambits.

The Chair is quite right that concerns were expressed in the Finance Committee and, although it is a relatively small amount, there

rhaid iddo gael ei wneud o ganlyniad i orwariant, ac mae'r pwyllgor yn awyddus i sicrhau nad yw hyn yn arwydd cyffredinol o leihau tryloywder y broses pennu cyllidebau.

Yn ogystal mae egwyddor y dylai'r Llywodraeth ofyn am awdurdod gan y Cynulliad i ddefnyddio adnoddau. Mae hyn yn rheolaeth bwysig, na ddylid ei thanseilio, ac mae dyletswydd ar swyddogion cyfrifyddu i weithredu o fewn y cyfyngiadau adnoddau a awdurdodwyd gan y Cynulliad, Felly, nid ydym fel arfer yn fodlon i gynnig ynghylch cyllideb atodol gael ei gyflwyno ar ôl diwedd y flwyddyn, yn arbennig os rhoi awdurdod ôl-weithredol ar gyfer gwariant gormodol yw ei unig bwrpas, neu i dacluso pethau cyn i'r cyfrifon gael eu harchwilio.

Yn y pen draw, yr ydym yn ystyried y cynnig hwn oherwydd rheolaeth ariannol wael, lle y byddai'r Cynulliad, mewn achosion eraill, wedi gofyn am adroddiad gan yr archwilydd cyffredinol ac wedi gofyn barn y Pwyllgor Archwilio cyn awdurdodi'r symiau dan sylw yn ôl-weithredol. Serch hynny, fel yr ydym eisoes wedi dweud wrth y Gweinidog, o gofio natur y gwariant ar swm bach, mae'r Pwyllgor Cyllid yn fodlon argymhell bod y Cynulliad yn cytuno ar y cynnig ynghylch cyllideb atodol.

Fel Aelod hoffwn ddweud fod y ddadl hon heddiw'n dangos pwysigrwydd cael Pwyllgor Cyllid i sicrhau y caiff materion o'r fath eu nodi ac y creffir arnynt yn briodol cyn cael eu cymeradwyo gan y Cynulliad.

Nick Bourne: Diolchaf i'r Gweinidog am yr hyn a ddywedodd, ond codaf un neu ddau o bwyntiau gydag ef. Ni ddywedodd yr holl wir pan awgrymodd ein bod yn cael y ddadl hon ynghylch cyllideb atodol dim ond er mwyn uno meysydd gan eu bod yn fach; y rheswm yr ydym yn edrych ar hyn yw oherwydd gorwariant yn un o'r meysydd hynny. Gofynnir inni awdurdodi'r gorwariant hwnnw yn ôl-weithredol—na soniodd amdano—drwy uno dau faes.

Mae'r Cadeirydd yn gywir i ddweud y mynegwyd pryderon yn y Pwyllgor Cyllid ac, er mai swm cymharol fach ydyw, dylai'r

is an issue that it should have been picked up during the year that it was heading for an overspend, so that this supplementary budget would not have been necessary. I appreciate the point that this question could perhaps be answered separately, because there may be a lengthy explanation, but we need to ask why this overspend was not picked up during the course of the year. Although it is not a massive overspend in absolute or relative terms, it is considerable.

So, subject to that, we are content to accept the finding that this is not a massive amount and we will support the motion, but it raises more fundamental issues. As the Chair correctly said, in merging these ambits we must be aware that we are making the budget less transparent than it would be if they were small ambits, and that is something that, in general terms, we should guard against as an Assembly.

Jenny Randerson: This report is a shot across the bows for the Minister. The Finance Committee has been gentle this time, but the warning is that we will not be gentle in the future. We believe that rigour should be built into the system, should this type of muddle and confusion happen again.

The muddle is that, in March, the supplementary budget reduced the budget heading that the Minister is now seeking to increase by moving money into it. So, in March, we reduced that budget heading by £700,000—or we approved that recommendation from the Welsh Assembly Government—and now there is an overspend of £400,000. I am pleased that the Minister will write to us to explain why the E. coli inquiry overspent by that amount of money and why it was evidently such a surprise. It would have been helpful if he had been able to explain that to us today, and I would invite him to address that issue in the Chamber, so that we can understand immediately the key issues behind it.

5.20 p.m.

That aside, there is also the issue of retrospective action, which is never good accounting practice. I think that we have

gorwariant fod wedi cael ei ragweld yn ystod y flwyddyn, gan osgoi'r angen am y gyllideb atodol hon. Gwerthfawrogaf y pwynt y gellid ateb y cwestiwn hwn ar wahân o bosibl, oherwydd efallai fod esboniad hirfaith, ond mae angen inni ofyn pam na ragwelwyd y gorwariant hwn yn ystod y flwyddyn. Er nad yw'n orwariant enfawr yn nhermau absoliwt neu gymharol, mae'n sylweddol.

Felly, yn amodol ar hynny, yr ydym yn fodlon derbyn y canfyddiad nad yw hwn yn swm enfawr a chefnogwyr y cynnig, ond mae'n codi materion mwy sylfaenol. Fel y dywedodd y Cadeirydd, a hynny'n gywir, wrth uno'r meysydd hyn rhaid inni fod yn ymwybodol ein bod yn gwneud y gyllideb yn llai tryloyw nag y byddai pe byddent yn feysydd bach, ac mae hynny, yn gyffredinol, yn rhywbeth y dylem fod yn wylidwrus ohono fel Cynulliad.

Jenny Randerson: Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhybudd i'r Gweinidog. Bu'r Pwyllgor Archwilio yn garedig y tro hwn, ond y rhybudd yw na fyddwn yn garedig yn y dyfodol. Credwn y dylid cynnwys trylwyredd yn y system, rhag i'r math hwn o gymysgedd a dryswch ddigwydd eto

Y gymysgedd yw, i'r gyllideb atodol, fis Mawrth, leihau'r gyllideb y mae'r Gweinidog bellach yn ceisio ei chynyddu drwy symud arian iddi. Felly, fis Mawrth, gostyngwyd y gyllideb honno £700,000—neu cymeradwyasom yr argymhelliad hwnnw gan Lywodraeth y Cynulliad—ac yn awr mae gorwariant o £400,000. Yr wyf yn falch y bydd y Gweinidog yn ysgrifennu atom i esbonio pam y gorwariwyd y swm hwnnw gan yr ymchwiliad E. coli a pham yr oedd yn amlwg yn gymaint o syndod. Byddai wedi bod yn ddefnyddiol petai wedi gallu esbonio hynny inni heddiw, a byddwn yn ei wahodd i fynd i'r afael â hynny yn y Siambr, er mwyn inni allu deall ar unwaith y prif faterion y tu ôl iddo.

Gan roi hynny o'r neilltu, ceir hefyd y cam ôl-weithredol, nad yw byth yn arfer cyfrifyddu da. Credaf inni ei gwneud yn glir

made it clear that we would not be content for this to happen again. The amounts of money are small this time, which is probably why we have been gentle on the Minister, but, in future, there must be more effective and stringent accounting practices if the Assembly is to be confident that money is being spent effectively and efficiently.

The Minister for Finance and Public Service Delivery (Andrew Davies): I am grateful to Jenny for being gentle with me. [*Laughter.*] I have not noticed any difference in the tone in which she addresses me, whether it is gentle or not.

I have been clear about why we are requesting a supplementary budget. I am sorry that I did not go into any detail, but it was suggested that it would be a brief debate. As I have said, I have already committed to writing to Members as a formal part of responding to the committee's report. One of the reasons for the supplementary budget was the overspend on the E. coli inquiry, which was due to many manual creditor claims being received after the inquiry came to an end. We accept that there are lessons to be learned in terms of accounting officer practice. In my discussions with the finance director, I have made clear that we need those lessons to be learned and that this is not acceptable. I do not want to repeat this exercise in the future, asking for retrospective approval by the Assembly. As I have said, I will put this in my full report to the Chair of the committee, and I will also circulate it so that all Members, whether they are members of the committee or not, are aware of the reasons behind this decision.

The Deputy Presiding Officer: The proposal is that the motion be agreed. Are there any objections? I see that there are none. In accordance with Standing Order No. 7.35, the motion is therefore agreed.

*Derbyniwyd y cynnig.
Motion carried.*

The Deputy Presiding Officer: That brings today's proceedings to a close.

na fyddem yn fodlon i hyn ddigwydd eto. Mae'r symiau'n fach y tro hwn, ac mae'n debyg mai dyma pam y buom yn garedig wrth y Gweinidog, ond, yn y dyfodol, rhaid cael arferion cyfrifyddu mwy effeithiol a llym os yw'r Cynulliad am fod yn hyderus bod arian yn cael ei wario'n effeithiol ac yn effeithlon.

Y Gweinidog dros Gyllid a Chyflenwi Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus (Andrew Davies): Yr wyf yn ddiolchgar i Jenny am fod yn garedig wrthyf. [*Chwerthin.*] Nid wyf wedi sylwi ar wahaniaeth yn y ffordd y mae'n fy nghyfarch, p'un a yw'n garedig ai peidio.

Yr wyf wedi bod yn glir ynghylch pam y gofynnwn am gyllideb atodol. Mae'n ddrwg gennyf na fanylais, ond awgrymwyd y byddai'n ddadl fer. Fel y dywedais, yr wyf eisoes wedi addo ysgrifennu at yr Aelodau fel rhan ffurfiol o ymateb i adroddiad y pwyllgor. Un o'r rhesymau dros y gyllideb atodol oedd y gorwariant ar yr ymchwiliad E. coli, a ddeilliodd o nifer o hawliadau gan gredydwyr a ddaeth i law ar ôl i'r ymchwiliad ddod i ben. Derbyniwn fod gwersi i'w dysgu o ran arferion swyddog cyfrifyddu. Yn ystod fy nhrafodaethau â'r cyfarwyddwr cyllid, yr wyf wedi pwysleisio bod angen i'r gwersi hynny gael eu dysgu ac nad yw hyn yn dderbyniol. Nid wyf am ailadrodd yr ymarfer hwn yn y dyfodol, a gofyn am gymeradwyaeth ôl-weithredol gan y Cynulliad. Fel yr wyf wedi dweud, byddaf yn cynnwys hyn yn fy adroddiad llawn i Gadeirydd y pwyllgor, ac fe'i hanfonaf at yr holl Aelodau, p'un a ydynt yn aelodau o'r pwyllgor ai peidio, er mwyn iddynt fod yn ymwybodol o'r rhesymau y tu ôl i'r penderfyniad hwn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Y cynnig yw bod y cynnig yn cael ei dderbyn. A oes gwrthwynebiad? Gwelaf nad oes. Yn unol â Rheol Sefydlog Rhif 7.35, felly, caiff y cynnig ei dderbyn.

Y Dirprwy Lywydd: Daw hynny â chyfarfod heddiw i ben.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 5.22 p.m.
The meeting ended at 5.22 p.m.*

**Aelodau a'u Pleidiau
Members and their Parties**

Andrews, Leighton (Llafur – Labour)
 Asghar, Mohammad (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Barrett, Lorraine (Llafur – Labour)
 Bates, Mick (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Black, Peter (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Bourne, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Burnham, Eleanor (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Burns, Angela (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Butler, Rosemary (Llafur – Labour)
 Cairns, Alun (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Chapman, Christine (Llafur – Labour)
 Cuthbert, Jeff (Llafur – Labour)
 Davidson, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Alun (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew (Llafur – Labour)
 Davies, Andrew R.T. (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Davies, Jocelyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Davies, Paul (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Elis-Thomas, Dafydd (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Evans, Nerys (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Franks, Chris (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 German, Michael (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Graham, William (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Gregory, Janice (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, John (Llafur – Labour)
 Griffiths, Lesley (Llafur – Labour)
 Gibbons, Brian (Llafur – Labour)
 Hart, Edwina (Llafur – Labour)
 Hutt, Jane (Llafur – Labour)
 Isherwood, Mark (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 James, Irene (Llafur – Labour)
 Jenkins, Bethan (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 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, Gareth (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Helen Mary (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Jones, Ieuan Wyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Law, Trish (Annibynnol – Independent)
 Lewis, Huw (Llafur – Labour)
 Lloyd, David (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Lloyd, Val (Llafur – Labour)
 Melding, David (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Mewies, Sandy (Llafur – Labour)
 Millar, Darren (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Jonathan (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Morgan, Rhodri (Llafur – Labour)
 Neagle, Lynne (Llafur – Labour)
 Ramsay, Nick (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 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, Gwenda (Llafur – Labour)
 Thomas, Rhodri Glyn (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)
 Watson, Joyce (Llafur – Labour)
 Williams, Brynle (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Welsh Conservatives)
 Williams, Kirsty (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru – Welsh Liberal Democrats)
 Wood, Leanne (Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales)